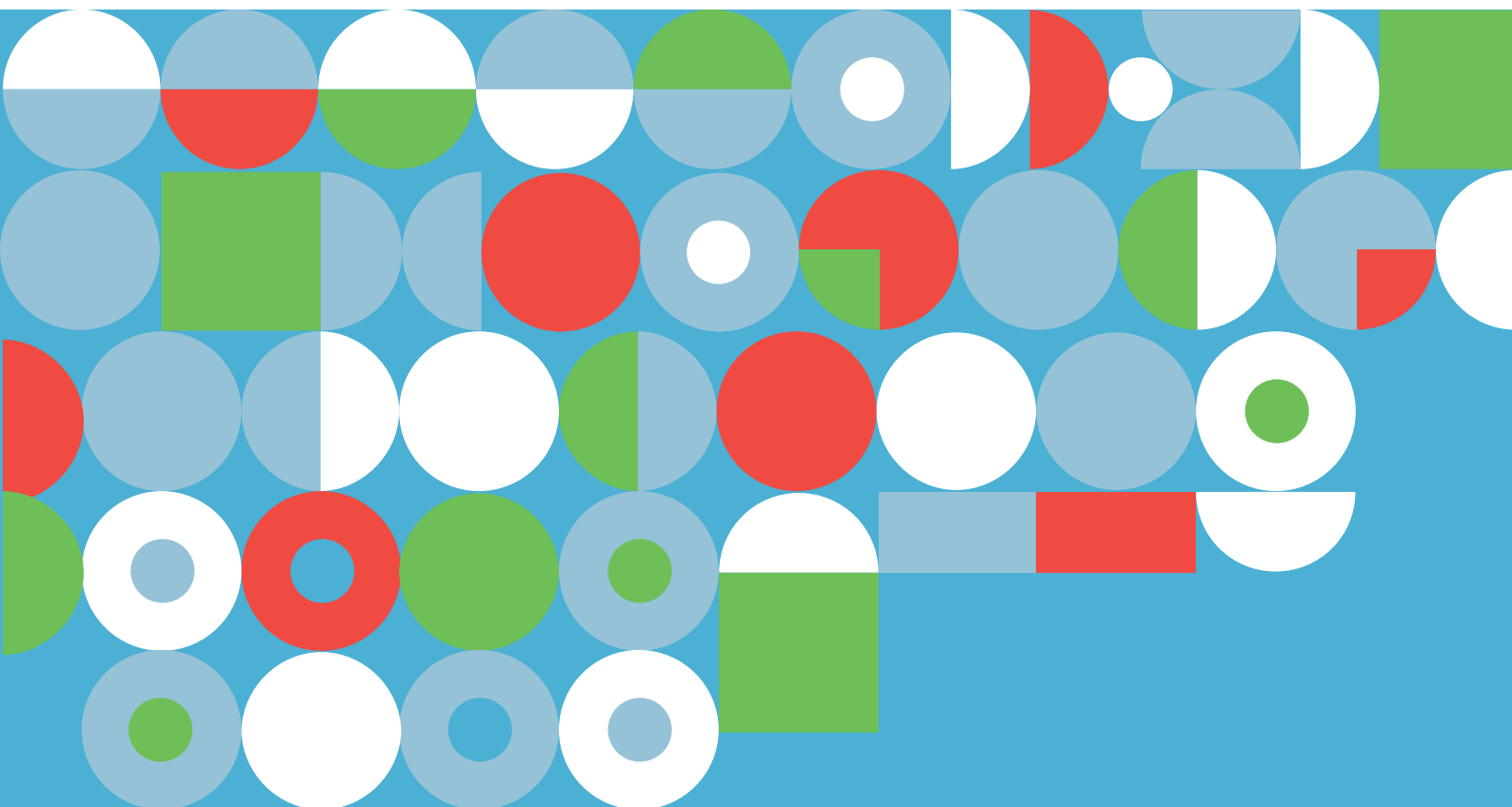


PROGRESS REPORT

on the Implementation of the Medium-Term Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024



Republika e Kosovës - Republika Kosovo - Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria - Vlada - Government

Zyra e Kryeministrit/ Kancelarija Premijera/ Office of the Prime Minister
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2022–2024

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for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali
Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024

**Republic of Kosovo, Government,
Office of the Prime Minister,
Office of Good Governance**

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List of Abbreviations

KAPS	Kosovo Academy for Public Safety
EARK	Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo
CRA	Civil Registration Agency
KAS	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
EU	European Union
CEB	The Social Development Bank for Europe
MED	Municipal Education Directorate
KIPA	Kosovo Institute for Public Administration
NIPHK	National Institute of Public Health of Kosovo
MAC	Municipal Action Committee
KFOS	Kosovo Foundation for an Open Society
PCSFS	Prishtina Council for Social and Family Services
LPD	Law on Protection against Discrimination
MLGA	Ministry of Local Government Administration
MESTI	Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation
ALMM	Active Labor Market Measures
MCR	Ministry of Communities and Returns
MCYS	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
MESPI	Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure
MPB	Ministry of Internal Affairs and Public Administration
MLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MH	Ministry of Health
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
VTC	Vocational Training Center in Kosovo
EVTC	Education and Vocational Training Centers
MFMC	Main Family Medicine Centers
MFHC	Main Family Health Centers
CSW	Centers for Social Work

RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
SFCPD	Scheme for Families with Children with Permanent Disabilities
ESML	Electronic System of the Ministry of Labour
EMIS	Education Management Information System
SAS	Social Assistance Scheme
AI	Administrative Instruction
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VoRAE	Voice of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians
WBIF	Western Balkans Investment Framework
OCA	Office of Community Affairs
OGG/OPM	Office of Good Governance / Office of the Prime Minister

1 Introduction

This Mid-Term Report has been drafted by the Office for Good Governance/Office of the Prime Minister (OGG OPM) for the implementation of the Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities in the Republic of Kosovo for the years 2022–2026 and the Action Plan for the years 2022–2024, and includes the implementation period for 2022–2024.

The Office for Good Governance/Office of the Prime Minister, according to its mandate, plays an important role in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Action Plan. The drafting of this report was supported by the project “Roma Integration III,” funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe.

For the first time, an annual report on the implementation of the Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024 was drafted for the year 2022, followed by the same in 2023. This Mid-Term Report covers the implementation years of the Action Plan over three (3) years, namely 2022, 2023 and 2024.

The Report presents the situation of the Roma and Ashkali communities in Kosovar society through the assessment of the implementation of the activities of the Action Plan for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026 and the improvement of their educational, socio-economic, cultural and health situation.

On 20 July 2022, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, in its 89th meeting, approved the **Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities in the Republic of Kosovo for the years 2022–2026 and the Action Plan for the years 2022–2024**.

The Strategy aims to effectively increase the provision of opportunity, equal access and participation in inclusive quality education; increase equal access to sustainable employment and reduce poverty; improve health and increase equal access to quality health services; increase equal access to sustainable housing, essential services and public infrastructure; and prevent and combat discrimination, racism, hate speech, hate crimes, segregation, prejudice, stereotypes and bullying against the Roma and Ashkali communities. Among

other objectives, the Strategy and the Action Plan aim to implement the commitments stemming from the Poznań Declaration, with the purpose of integrating Roma within the framework of the EU enlargement process. The Strategy and the action plan are also drafted based on the EU Framework for Roma Integration, and five areas of action are defined and addressed in the Strategy: **education, employment, social welfare, health, housing and discrimination**.

Monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan is a key issue to ensure an overview of the situation of the Roma and Ashkali communities and their relationship with Kosovo institutions in the five defined areas. All governmental institutions, both central and local, in accordance with their responsibilities and legal mandate, are obligated to undertake the necessary measures for the implementation of the obligations defined in the Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities for the years 2022–2026, and consequently also of the Action Plan 2022–2024. An important part of monitoring the implementation is also the monitoring of the implementation of the Local Action Plans (LAPs).

The budget is one of the important aspects of the implementation for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities in the Republic of Kosovo for the years 2022–2026 and the Action Plan for the years 2022–2024. By approving the Action Plan, Kosovo institutions have committed to allocating a budget based on the provisions of the Action Plan.

The Mid-Term Report on the implementation of the Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of the Roma and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024, through the reporting of data from the competent institutions, reflects the situation and the manner in which the Strategy and the Action Plan have been implemented, and the extent to which their implementation has had an effect on advancing the rights of these communities in the years 2022, 2023 and 2024.

The purpose of this Report is also to highlight the activities that have been undertaken and continue to be undertaken toward achieving the objectives set out in the five areas of the Strategy for the Advancement

of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities in the Republic of Kosovo for the years 2022–2026 and the Action Plan for the years 2022–2024: education, employment and social welfare, health, housing and combating discrimination. In addition, the aim of this Report, besides the evaluation made in the five sectors based on the objectives of the Action Plan, also relates to the identification of problems and challenges in the implementation of the activities included in the Action Plan.

The fulfillment of the purpose of this Report, as well as the issues identified in it and in previous reports, may

serve as a guide for identifying key aspects related to the advancement of the rights of the Roma and Ashkali communities in the Republic of Kosovo.

The purpose of this Report is also realized in light of the commitments of the Poznań Declaration and aims to highlight the work of Kosovo institutions toward fulfilling the commitments arising from the Poznań Declaration.

2 Contact Points for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026

The Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024 has defined the monitoring process. Reporting is also an important part of this Strategy, with the aim of presenting and demonstrating real data on implementation of this document.

In connection with monitoring the implementation of the Strategy and action plan, among other provisions, page 59 states: *“The monitoring and evaluation of the achievement of objectives and the effectiveness of relevant activities are an integral part of the Strategy and key components of its implementation process. Monitoring and evaluation will serve to follow the progress of implementation of the Strategy, to measure during the process the degree of achievement of its objectives, to assess the need for and determine the direction of adjustments, especially regarding the activities. The monitoring process will be carried out by the OGG in cooperation with the responsible institutions and with broad participation of stakeholder groups”.*

The designated municipal officer is the contact person in the municipality for communication between the municipality and the OGG/line ministries regarding matters related to the implementation of the Action Plan at the central level. For the activities foreseen in the central-level Action Plan to be implemented by the line ministries in the municipalities, the designated municipal officer has facilitated communication between the responsible municipal institutions and the ministry and will be part of all direct correspondence between municipal institutions and the ministry for such matters.

The contact points and the main ministries, with whom ongoing collaboration and meetings have taken place for the implementation of the Action Plan for the advancement of the rights of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, are: MESTI, MOH, MESPI, MLSW, ECAP, KIPA, KSA, AGE, MCYS; and the municipalities through the line ministries. The OGG has held continuous meetings with the contact points over the three years of implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan.

3 Report Methodology

The Report on the implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities follows a methodology structured in alignment with the Strategy, providing data that identifies the implementation of this document in the areas of education, social welfare, health, housing and protection from discrimination.

These data are presented in the report, in narrative or quantitative form, as well as in statistical form, according to the Strategic objectives and specific strategies of the strategy and action plan.

The Report has been drafted based on data collected from central institutions and local-level institutions. For the implementation and advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024, data were collected from: **The Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI), the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure (MESPI), the Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers (MFLT), the Ministry of Health (MoH), several relevant municipalities, and the Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo (EARK); in some cases, also from other municipalities and institutions, such as the Kosovo Security Force (KSF), the Academy of Justice (AJ), the Kosovo Academy for Public Safety (KAPS), the Kosovo Institute for Public Administration (KIPA), etc.**

The data presented in this Report are data and information officially received from the institutions of Kosovo. No methodology involving the referencing of external documents or other reports was used in the drafting of this report, due to the fact that the report was written based on the official data reported by the contact points.

The structure of the treatment of the collected data has been constructed as follows:

1. Reporting has been carried out for each field that is part of the advancement of the Rights of Roma

and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024;

2. The structure and reporting of the data are linked to the Strategic Objectives and specific objectives of the Strategy, based also on the activities of the Action Plan;
3. Other activities that relate to the objectives of the Strategy and Action Plan and that have directly or indirectly impacted the implementation of the Strategy and its Action Plan have been reported and elaborated;
4. Specific recommendations have been provided, mainly related to the non-fulfillment of certain objectives or the improvement of the implementability of the Action Plan;
5. Challenges have been presented, which were noted only in cases of non-implementation of the Action Plan;
6. At the end of each activity, a conclusion is provided on the level of fulfillment of the activity, such as: “fulfilled,” “partially fulfilled,” etc. The conclusion is based on actual assessments of the reporting evidence.
7. For each area of implementation, recommendations are provided.
8. The data collection was carried out by the OGG/OPM in close cooperation with the respective institutions, where meetings and consultations were held through various forms. The data reflected within this report, according to the clarification provided by the institutions, include, in addition to the Roma and Ashkali communities, also the Egyptian community in the Republic of Kosovo.

4 Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting Period

For the implementation of the Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma and Ashkali Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024, all actions of the responsible and supporting institutions have been presented, based on the Action Plan.

The reporting of the relevant institutions, ministries, and designated agencies, under the supervision of the OGG, has been carried out over the years and those data have been compiled in this Report. The report presents the data based on the indicators marked in the action plan 2022-2024 as well as the reports that have been made.

The data collection for the implementation of the Action Plan has been conducted through the institutions as well as during the workshop held from 17–19 December 2024, in which all institutions (contact points) that report on an ongoing basis participated. The workshop was supported by KFOS.

Nevertheless, in narrative form, for each area, reporting has been carried out based on the activities of the Action Plan, and in cases where there were challenges in implementation or non-implementation of activities, recommendations have been presented for each area.

The presentation of data in the structure of the report has been done in such a way that for each activity, reporting is shown for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024. In this way, the reader will have the opportunity to compare the data across the years regarding the progress in the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan. However, the comparison is also reflected in the statistical presentation of the mid-term Report.

The data reporting and monitoring have been carried out for the three (3) communities: Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian.

5 Presentation of Selected Achievements in the Fields of the Action Plan Through Statistics

The following section presents some key achievements in the areas of implementation of the Strategy as expressed in statistics. However, in all cases, it has not been possible to generate statistics, because the actions in fulfilling the Strategy and Action Plan have also required narrative descriptions and not only statistical ones.

FIELD OF EDUCATION

Enrollment of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children in public school institutions:

- 2022 - 6362 pupils;
- 2023 - 6434 pupils;
- 2024 - 6049 pupils;

Organization of teaching in the Roma language for 2022–2024:

- 210 pupils, in three municipalities (Prizren, Podujeva, Novo Berda)

Scholarship distribution for members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities

- Year 2022 – 498 pupils and 26 students;
- Year 2023 – 467 pupils and 55 students;
- Year 2024 – 417 scholarships for students;

Mentoring of students from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities

- Year 2022 – 600 pupils
- Year 2023 – No overall figure reported
- Year 2024 – 100 students

Benefit from textbook reimbursement for pupils of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities

- In 2024, 5,729 pupils benefited from reimbursement

Enrollment in learning centers

- By 2024, a total of 56 centers had enrolled learners, and 9 were in the process of enrolling.

Support for learning centers

- Year 2022 – 200,000 Euros allocated by MEST in 2022, 14 NGOs maintaining supported centers
- Year 2023 – 200,000 Euros allocated by MEST in 2023, 7 beneficiary NGOs, with a total of 21 learning centers
- Year 2024 – 250,000 Euros allocated by MEST in 2024, 9 beneficiary NGOs with 30 learning centers

Organization of awareness campaigns for Roma and Ashkali parents regarding the importance and opportunities of early childhood education:

- Over the three years (2022, 2023, 2024), 8 information sessions were reported, in 7 municipalities and 7 learning centers

EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Promotion of registration and participation in vocational training according to labor market needs

- In 2022, 104 members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were included in training.
- In 2023, 57 members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were included in training.
- In 2024, 24 members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were included in training.

Number of members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities included in wage subsidy programs

- Year 2022 – 26 persons
- Year 2023 – 23 persons
- Year 2024 – 16 persons

Engagement of Roma and Ashkali community members in internships in workplaces and in central and local-level institutions

- Year 2022 – 3 persons
- Year 2023 – 10 persons
- Year 2024 – 2 persons

Increase in employment of Roma and Ashkali communities through employment mediation

- Year 2022 – 55 beneficiaries
- Year 2023 – 104 beneficiaries
- Year 2024 – 99 beneficiaries

Financial support for Roma and Ashkali communities through inclusion in Social Welfare Schemes

- Year 2022 – 52 children in family and alternative care; 113 children supported with a €100 payment through the scheme for families of children with disabilities
- Year 2023 – 79 children in family and alternative care; 122 children supported with a €100 payment through the scheme for families of children with disabilities
- Year 2024 – 74 children in family care; 130 children supported with a €130 payment through the scheme for families of children with disabilities

Provision of social assistance for Roma and Ashkali families through the Social Assistance Scheme

- Year 2022 – 3,000 families with 14,100 family members were beneficiaries
- Year 2023 – 2,820 families with 12,247 family members were beneficiaries
- Year 2024 – 2,637 families with 12,294 family members were beneficiaries

Beneficiaries from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities through Emergency Schemes, by family

- Year 2022 – 39 families
- Year 2023 – 19 families
- Year 2024 – 8 families

FIELD OF HEALTH

Provision of mobile mammography in 5 municipalities for women from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities

- Year 2022 – 24 women benefited
- Year 2023 – 46 women benefited
- Year 2024 – 86 women benefited

Implementation of home visits for mothers and children as well as other vulnerable groups

- Year 2022 – 3,288 persons benefited
- Year 2023 – 266 persons, in only 3 (three) municipalities
- Year 2024 – 1,242 persons benefited in several municipalities

Participation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in child vaccination

- In 2022, through the door-to-door campaign, a total of 14,664 children were vaccinated
- 237 children were vaccinated through MFMC

Awareness lectures on health promotion and prevention of chronic and infectious diseases and nutrition

- Year 2022 – No accurate reporting
- Year 2023 – 24 awareness lectures reported
- Year 2024 – 92 awareness lectures reported

FIELD OF HOUSING

Strengthening municipal capacities for use of the electronic platform with data on social housing

- The activities for advancing the platform include 100,000 euros allocated in the year 2025

Persons from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities who benefited from free legal aid from the AFLA

- 2022 – 428 members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities
- 2023 – 508 members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities
- 2024 – 420 members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities

Support for renovation, reconstruction and provision of building materials for homes on private plots of land belonging to Roma and Ashkali communities

- From €1 million allocated for social housing, the beneficiaries included: 10 Roma, 10 Ashkali and 20 Egyptians.

Improvement of existing infrastructure in Roma and Ashkali community settlements where such needs are identified through feasibility studies

- 107 houses have been constructed, and 75% of the beneficiaries in this category are members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

PROTECTION AND COMBATING OF DISCRIMINATION

Periodic identification and assessment of the training needs of civil servants in Kosovo at central and local levels to build professional capacities in the field of prevention and combating of discrimination

- Trainings have been held on “Introduction to Antipsychism,” which was dedicated to public officials.

Capacity building through the provision of basic, advanced, and specialized training to strengthen professional capacities in the field of prevention and combating of discrimination and racism against members of the Roma and Ashkali communities for: Kosovo Police; Correctional Service; Probation Service; Kosovo Customs; Emergency Management Agency; Kosovo Police Inspectorate; as well as private physical and legal persons

- In 2022: KAPS conducted training sessions on 6 different topics with 597 participants.
- 2023: Participants in trainings included: Kosovo Police – a total of seven (7) Roma and Ashkali, and three (3) from the Egyptian community; Kosovo Correctional Service – one (1) participant from the Egyptian community.

- 2024: Altogether 28 participants from the Rom, Ashkali and Egyptian communities included in the police field operations training, in the “Police Officer” training.

Obligation to create the national platform for protection against discrimination for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities

- The national platform was created in 2022 and continues to exist with the support of partners through the OGG.
- By December 2024, 52 cases of discrimination had been reported on the national platform, and 18 cases were successfully addressed.

Technical Group for protection from discrimination of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities

- In 2022, three meetings were held
- In 2023, three meetings were held
- In 2024, four meetings were held

Establishment of the Working Group on Early Marriages

- To combat this negative phenomenon in society, an Inter-Institutional Working Group was established for the prevention and reporting of early marriages in the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, by Government Decision No. 41/178 dated 13 December 2023.

6 Implementation of the Action Plan in the Field of Education and the Progress

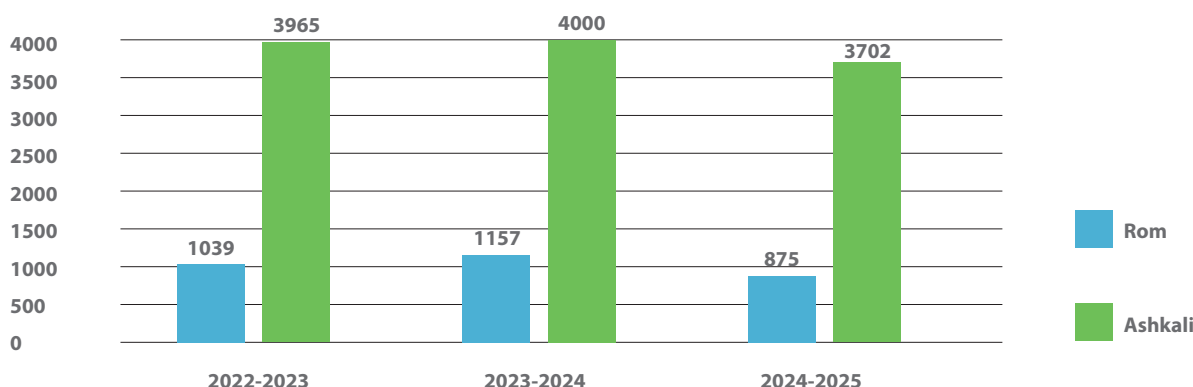
Within the framework of the Strategy for the Advancement of the Rights of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities 2022–2026 and the Action Plan, the field of education identifies the following specific objectives: **Awareness-raising and promotion of the importance of education and the inclusion of children from the Roma and Ashkali communities at all levels of education and among all relevant stakeholders; Improvement of academic performance of Roma and Ashkali students through specialized supplementary programs and affirmative measures in education;**

1. Regarding the activity of monitoring and implementing the Administrative Instruction on easing the criteria for the enrollment of Roma and Ashkali children in public pre-school institutions: the implementation of the Administrative Instruction on easing the enrollment criteria for Roma and Ashkali children in public pre-school institutions has been monitored. According to data from the monitoring of the implementation of this Instruction and from the MEST system (SMIA), in the school year 2022–2023, the number of enrolled pupils from Roma and Ashkali communities was **6,362 (Roma 1,039; Ashkali 3,965; Egyptian 3,306)**. This number for 2023–2024 was **6,434 (Roma 1,157; Ashkali 4,000; Egyptian 4,000)**, whereas for 2024–2025 it was **6,049 (Roma 875; Ashkali 3,702; Egyptian 1,472)**. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

2. The prevention of school dropout among children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities is an important issue of the Strategy, and for this reason, School Dropout Prevention Teams (SDPT) have been operational. In 2022, the central dropout prevention team, in cooperation with NGOs, managed to prevent five (5) pupils in the municipality of Prizren from dropping out of school. In 2023, MEST supported the functioning of the teams and the drafting of municipal plans for 15 municipalities and continuously provided specific recommendations for identified cases concerning school dropout prevention. In relation to the fulfillment of this activity, MEST provided several modules as follows: *Prevention of discrimination in schools; Promotion of gender equality; Prevention of hate speech; Prevention of domestic violence; Prevention of child trafficking; Prevention of sexual harassment; Youth Initiative Program- Y Youth; Prevention of early marriages; Prevention of child labor.* In 2024, MEST did not report on this activity with concrete figures related to dropout. However, in November 2024, MEST began drafting the guideline for the prevention of early marriages. These guidelines will be dedicated to parents, schools, and NGOs. **Conclusion: The specific activity was fulfilled in 2022 and 2023, whereas in 2024 there is no reporting.**

3. The organization of supplementary instruction in the Roma language has been partially imple-

Number of pupils by ethnic affiliation



mented despite MEST's readiness to provide support. In 2022, only the municipality of Prizren had applied for supplementary instruction in specific subjects in the Roma language. Meanwhile, in 2023, the situation improved. Thus, in 2023, supplementary instruction in the Roma language continued to be organized in the municipality of Prizren, specifically in four schools with the participation of 100 pupils. Also in 2023, it was reported that the municipality of Novo Berde had organized supplementary instruction in the Roma language, involving 13 pupils, 7 boys and 6 girls, as well as 2 teachers. Supplementary classes for children from Roma and Ashkali communities was also organized by the municipality of Podujeva, involving 97 children, 62 boys and 35 girls and 4 teachers. In 2024, Roma language instruction continued to be organized in the municipality of Prizren, in four schools with the participation of approximately 100 pupils. There is no information on instruction being implemented in more than one municipality. **Conclusion: The activity has not been fully implemented in all 4 municipalities.**

4. **Allocation of 500 scholarships for children from Roma and Ashkali communities:** In 2022, 498 scholarships were awarded to pupils from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities who met the criteria. The total amount distributed is 149,400.00 euros. In addition, 26 first-year students benefited from scholarships awarded by MEST in the amount of €1,000 per student, with a total value of €26,000. In 2023, MEST planned 500 scholarships totaling €150,000, while for the academic year 2023/24, 467 pupils benefited. Also during 2023, 55 scholarships were awarded to members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities through an agreement between MESTI and MLGA. Monitoring of these students will be conducted by VORAE, Roma Versitas, and in cooperation with the "Ukshin Hoti" University of Prizren. In 2024, 417 scholarships were awarded. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

5. **Mentoring of 50 students from the communities continued:** In 2022, the INCLUDE Project awarded grants to two (2) NGOs to carry out mentoring for 600 upper secondary school pupils, including scholarship recipients from MESTI. In 2023, according to MEST data, student mentoring from the communities was implemented by the NGO Roma Versitas Kosova. According to the reports

from the municipalities, in addition to the data accepted by MESTI, it turns out that 20 individuals from the Ashkali community, 2 from the Egyptian community, and 5 from the Roma community have benefited from mentoring in the municipality of Podujeva. In 2024, student mentoring was carried out by the NGO VORAE, where mentoring was provided to 110 students (all active students). **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

6. **Promotion of educational and vocational training opportunities (promotional materials), and career orientation for 9th-grade pupils:** In 2022, MESTI organized a career orientation campaign, which is held every school year. During 2023, awareness campaign planning was carried out by Save the Children. In 2024, the implementation of the project "**Empowerment of sustainable Communities of Kosovo through better access**" has started, aiming to support these communities in education and professional skills development and students in grades 6-9 for career guidance. In 2025, financial support is planned from the project for pupils in compulsory education in grades 6-9 and for students in vocational secondary schools: *The provision of financial assistance for 300 pupils from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities who are at risk of dropping out of lower secondary schools for financial reasons and the provision of financial assistance for 150 pupils from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities who are at risk of dropping out of vocational schools for financial reasons.* **Conclusion: The activity was partially fulfilled only in 2024-2025.**
7. **The provision of school materials for pupils from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in social assistance cases was carried out with the support of MESTI:** In 2022, MESTI provided free school textbooks for all pupils from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. In 2023, specifically for the 2023/2024 school year, it reimbursed parents with financial means to provide school textbooks and learning materials for grades 1-5 and 6-9, for pupils in compulsory education. For grades 1-5, €50 per pupil was reimbursed, and for grades 6-9, €30 was reimbursed for learning materials. In this case, children from the Roma and Ashkali communities also benefited. In 2024, MESTI reimbursed parents with financial means to provide school textbooks and learning materials for grades 1-9. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

8. **Support in the registration of 20 learning centers:** During 2022, 20 additional learning centers were registered and by 2022, a total of 38 learning centers had been registered. By 2023, 52 learning centers had been registered. Since December 2023, around 21 learning centers began applying for re-registration. Also, in 2023 4 learning centers for the Roma and Ashkali communities were supported in the municipality of Podujeva. In 2024, it was reported that 56 centers had been registered, while 9 were in the process of registration. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
9. **Support for 30 registered learning centers based on the administrative instruction:** For the year 2022, MESTI allocated a budget in the amount of €200,000 for the support of NGOs managing learning centers that support pupils from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. Based on the call for funding of NGOs managing learning centers, 15 NGOs applied and 5 were selected as beneficiaries, with 14 learning centers that met the criteria. In 2022, also through the INCLUDE project, grants were awarded to NGOs for organizing summer and winter schools for pupils from these communities. In 2023, according to Administrative Instruction 19/2018, a call was announced for the funding of NGOs managing learning centers that support pupils from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities and contribute to educational achievement. The planned budget was in the amount of €200,000.00. In this call, 7 NGOs were awarded funding, with a total of 21 learning centers. For the year 2024, MESTI announced a call for the funding of NGOs managing learning centers that support pupils from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities and others, who contribute to educational achievement. The planned budget was in the amount of €250,000.00. In this call, 9 NGOs were awarded funding, with a total of 30 learning centers. The planned budget for this call was allocated, fully spent. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
10. **Regarding the revision of existing curricula and textbooks in the Roma language and the drafting of new textbooks in the Roma language:** In 2022, a meeting was held with representatives of the Roma community and experts in the Roma language regarding existing curricula and textbooks in the Roma language. In 2023, according to data from MESTI, this process had not yet begun, as it was planned to start in 2024 with the support of the Council of Europe (CoE) through a new four (4) year project. There is still no exact date for when this project will officially begin. In 2024, MESTI held a three-day workshop to review the requirements arising for the revision of the curricula and textbooks of the Roma language and culture. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**
11. **Organization of awareness campaigns for Roma and Ashkali parents regarding the importance and opportunities of early childhood education:** In 2022 meetings were held reporting on the facilitations provided by the applicable Administrative Instruction for the enrollment of Roma and Ashkali children in pre-school institutions. In 2023, four informative sessions were organized with parents from the communities regarding the facilitations provided by the Administrative Instruction for the inclusion of children in pre-school institutions, with the aim of informing them about the rights of Roma and Ashkali communities in pre-school institutions. The sessions were held in 3 municipalities: Fushë Kosovë, Gjakovë, and Ferizaj. In 2024, four informative sessions were organized with parents from the communities regarding the facilitations provided by the Administrative Instruction for the inclusion of children in pre-school institutions, with the aim of informing Roma and Ashkali community parents about enrolling their children in pre-school institutions. The sessions were held in 4 municipalities and in 7 learning centers, as follows: Prizren, Gjakove, Ferizaj, Istog. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled, only in 2023 and 2024.**
12. **The revision/completion of the school textbooks Society and Environment through the approach of including the cultural and historical dimensions of non-majority communities, with the aim of eliminating exclusionary and discriminatory language:** In 2022, two manuals were drafted and approved by MESTI on democratic culture, addressing bullying in schools, and environmental protection. Also in 2022, trainings were organized in schools where the manuals were presented. In 2023, MESTI supported research on the language used in school textbooks. In relation to this activity, the Ombudsperson Institution (OI) also conducted and published an ex officio report on the language used in lower secondary school textbooks, in August 2023. In this OI report, it was

found that the texts are not discriminatory. Furthermore, the OI sent a notification email to MESTI stating that the same research will continue for the textbooks of grades 10, 11 and 12. In 2024, a Cooperation Agreement was signed between MESTI and the NGO VoRAE for the development of educational materials on the history, traditions, and culture of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, and these materials will be included as an annex to the teaching materials, while with the revision of the textbooks, the same materials will be included in the revised textbooks. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

13. The preparation of materials and textbooks that can be distributed as separate modules for the history and culture of the Roma and Ashkali communities in elective subjects recorded results in 2022 and 2023. A proposal for a support program was developed by the INCLUDE project. A training program was developed on building a democratic and inclusive learning community in schools and was later accredited by MESTI. Also, two manuals, one for teachers and school principals and another for trainers, were developed and published in Albanian, English, and Serbian. In 2023, in cooperation with the OSCE, a handbook on Interculturalism in Education was drafted, and in relation to this, training sessions will also be organized with teachers. Among other things, the following modules were also developed by MESTI: Prevention of discrimination in schools; Promotion of gender equality; Prevention of hate speech; Prevention of domestic violence; Prevention of child trafficking; Prevention of sexual harassment; Youth initiative program – “Y Youth”; Prevention of early marriages; Prevention of child labor. In 2024, regarding this activity, only the agreement signed between MESTI and VoRAE was reported. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled but similar to the above activity.**

6.1. CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

1. Regarding the activity of subsidizing kindergarten fees to increase the inclusion of Roma and Ashkali children in new kindergartens to be built in municipalities with a higher concentration of these communities, it should be noted that a challenge in implementation has been the subsidizing of kindergarten fees to increase the inclusion of Roma and Ashkali children in the new kindergartens that will be built in the respective municipalities.

This objective was not fulfilled in 2022, 2023, or 2024, because according to MESTI, municipalities did not apply for such a process. Therefore, this issue, which pertains to Specific Objective 1.1, over the course of three years can be marked as a challenge in the implementation of the Strategy for the advancement of the rights of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

2. The functioning of the dropout prevention teams has also been a challenge in itself, in terms of their non-functioning. From the reporting results, it appears that the teams do not operate in the expected manner. Thus, in 2023/2024, it was reported that 54 pupils dropped out of school, at levels from grades 1–12, of whom 50 dropped out in grades 1–9.
3. The mentoring of Roma and Ashkali pupils and students has not shown satisfactory progress, or the reporting mechanism is ineffective.
4. The research of educational needs for adults from the Roma and Ashkali communities remains an unfulfilled activity for the advancement of the rights of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. In 2022, 2023 and 2024, no detailed report was ever submitted that presents these needs.
5. The organization of awareness campaigns in schools related to the promotion of opportunities in vocational education has been weak and mostly covered by NGO activities and without visible institutional support.
6. The organization of literacy programs is carried out in Prishtina, but no accurate information is reported on the number of participants. This activity is partially implemented based on individual or group requests at the municipal level. Literacy activities and curricula were organized, from which 27 members of the Roma and Ashkali communities benefited in the municipality of Podujeva in 2023, whereas in 2022 there were no data reported regarding literacy activities. Therefore, the satisfactory implementation of this activity remains a challenge, both in terms of reporting and in terms of implementation. In 2024, MESTI did not report any concrete data related to this activity.
7. The increased inclusion of Roma and Ashkali community members in vocational training programs

has also been a challenge in itself. In 2022, no data were available regarding this activity, while in 2023, 19 participants from the Roma and Ashkali communities were reported in these programs in the municipality of Podujeva. In 2024, research and planning were conducted, and in cooperation with Save the Children, the implementation of the project **“Empowering Vulnerable Communities in Kosovo through Better and Equal Access to the Labor Market”** began in 2024 in relation to this activity. Overall, the activity is not satisfactorily fulfilled.

8. A challenge in itself, for the years 2022 and 2023, was the revision of existing Roma language curricula and textbooks and the drafting of new textbooks. This is because, in 2022, only one meeting was held, while in 2023 no data were reported, and in 2024, a cooperation agreement between MESTI and the NGO VoRAE was reported; however, no concrete progress in this process was reported, only these accompanying activities.
9. The provision of mediator positions in education in a minimum of 7 municipalities with a higher concentration of Roma and Ashkali communities, in order to reduce non-enrollment and dropout, and to raise awareness about the importance of education and against discrimination, is an activity not implemented in the years 2022, 2023 and 2024.

6.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In the context of the implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan for the advancement of the rights of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, it is recommended that steps be taken by institutions, specifically MESTI and the municipalities, for the subsidizing of kindergarten fees, with the aim of increasing the inclusion of children from these communities in kindergartens.
2. The school dropout prevention teams should be more functional and effective in carrying out their duties and should report on concrete results. This has not happened so far.
3. More effective reporting is needed regarding the mentoring of pupils and students from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, including from the respective NGOs that implement this activity,

by creating a more efficient system in both implementation and reporting and monitoring.

4. It is recommended that there be a thorough research study by NGOs, with institutional support, that identifies the educational needs of adults from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
5. The participation of the Roma and Ashkali communities in vocational training and education programs must be increased. So far, no activity has been reported that realistically enables this.
6. The activity of revising textbooks in the Roma language and drafting curricula in the Roma language has not been implemented. There have only been some accompanying activities. NGOs, together with MESTI, must report progress on the implementation of this important activity in the coming years.
7. It is recommended that more meetings and information sessions be held regarding early childhood education for members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. NGOs should undertake more such promotional activities that facilitate and contribute to the implementation of this important activity of the Strategy and the Action Plan.
8. The activity of ensuring mediator positions in education should be reviewed. MESTI, the municipalities, and NGOs representing the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities must present the real reason why this activity has not been fulfilled and must also engage in fulfilling the activity, with the aim of preventing dropout.
9. It is recommended that more awareness campaigns be organized with the parents of children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities regarding early childhood education, and these sessions should be supported by NGOs in cooperation with institutions.
10. Some of the reported activities in fulfilling the Strategy and the Action Plan do not resolve the issue to which the activity is dedicated, but are rather accompanying activities in the undertaking of actions. Likewise, there are also cases where the spent budget was not reported.

7 Implementation of the Action Plan in the Field of Employment and Social Welfare

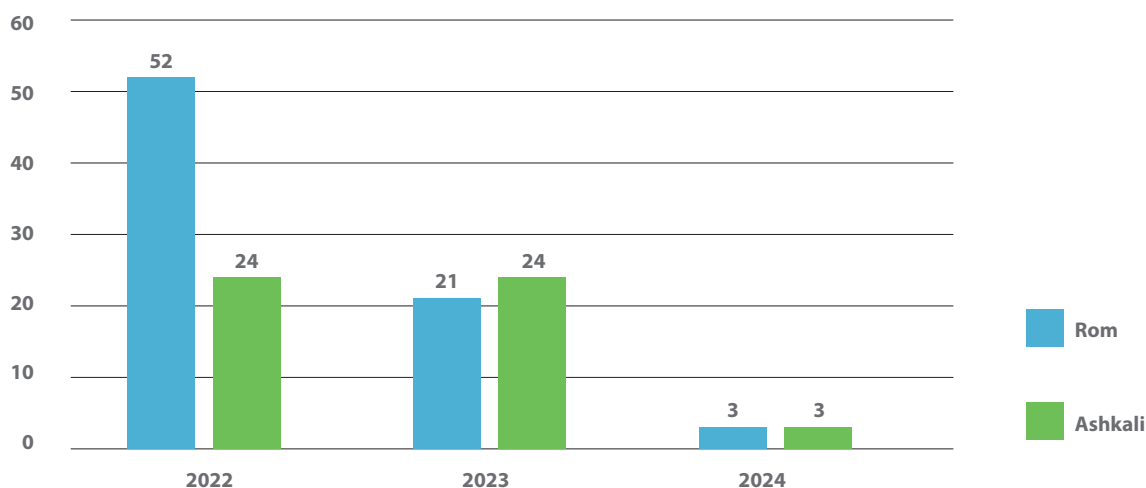
Within the framework of fulfilling the objectives: **1. Improving access to equal participation in the labor market through the placement of Roma and Ashkali community members in municipal employment offices and vocational training programs; 2. Increasing participation and employment opportunities through awareness-raising among employers and Roma and Ashkali community members, as well as incentive measures for employers; and Inclusion of Roma and Ashkali communities in employment in central and local public institutions, according to quotas set by law**, in the field of employment and social welfare, during the years 2022–2024, there has been progress in the fulfillment of the activities and the Action Plan, and this progress has also been reflected in the efficiency of budget expenditure.

1. Encouraging registration and participation in vocational training in accordance with labor market needs: In 2022, the EARK reached an agreement with VoRAE and other organizations, enabling the dissemination of information on employment services and vocational training. As a result, in 2022, a total of 104 persons from the communities were included in vocational training, namely: 52 Roma, 24 Ashkali, and 28 Egyptians. During 2023, a total of 57 candidates benefited from participation in vocational training at the Vocational Education and Training Centers (VETCs),

of whom 21 were Roma, 24 Ashkali and 12 Egyptians. The budget is not allocated by community, but the estimated cost for the individuals included in training is around €12,000. During 2024, a total of 24 candidates benefited from participation in vocational training at VETCs, of whom 3 were Roma, 3 Ashkali, and 18 Egyptians. The budget is not allocated by entity, but the estimated cost for the individuals included in training is around €6,000. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

2. Analysis of the impact of wage subsidy on the long-term employment of Roma and Ashkali communities in the private sector: Not implemented. However, regarding this activity, some related actions have been reported. In 2022, the number included in wage subsidy was 26 persons, of whom: 7 Roma, 10 Ashkali, and 9 Egyptians. During 2023, 23 persons were included in the active measure; wage subsidy, of whom 5 Roma, 6 Ashkali and 12 Egyptians. The budget for the engagement of 23 persons for six (6) months in wage subsidy was €23,460. During 2024, 16 persons were included in the active measure; wage subsidy, of whom 2 Roma, 10 Ashkali and 4 Egyptians. The budget for the engagement of 16 persons for six months in wage subsidy was €33,600. **Conclusion: The activity is indirectly fulfilled; no analysis exists.**

Participation in vocational training



3. Engagement of Roma and Ashkali community members in internships, employment, and in central and local level institutions:

Regarding the engagement of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian community members in practical work in public institutions, EARK engaged community members with payment in internships, employment, and in institutions at central and local levels. In 2022, there were 3 beneficiaries: 1 Roma, 1 Ashkali, 1 Egyptian. During 2023, 10 persons were included in the active measure; internship, of whom 1 Roma, 5 Ashkali and 4 Egyptians. The budget for the engagement of 10 persons for six (6) months in internship was €10,200. During 2024, 2 persons were included in the active measure; internship, of whom 2 Ashkali. The budget for the engagement of 2 persons for one year in internship was €4,080. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled..**

4. Engagement of Roma and Ashkali community members in on-the-job training:

In 2022, 3 members of the Ashkali community were engaged in on-the-job training. In 2023, 18 members of the Roma and Ashkali communities were engaged in on-the-job training in the Municipality of Podujeva. In this regard, no other reports were provided. In 2024, there were no individuals engaged. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

5. Allocation of amounts for the Roma and Ashkali communities from the self-employment/startup grants fund, with a focus on the empowerment of women in business and employment:

In 2022, there were no reported activities. In 2023, one (1) million euros were allocated for

grants by the Ministry for Communities and Returns for NGOs that have projects for the employment of Roma and Ashkali communities. On the other hand, two (2) million euros from this Ministry were allocated for farmers and small startup businesses, and from this grant 111 members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities benefited. In 2024, no result was reported for this activity. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled and only in 2023.**

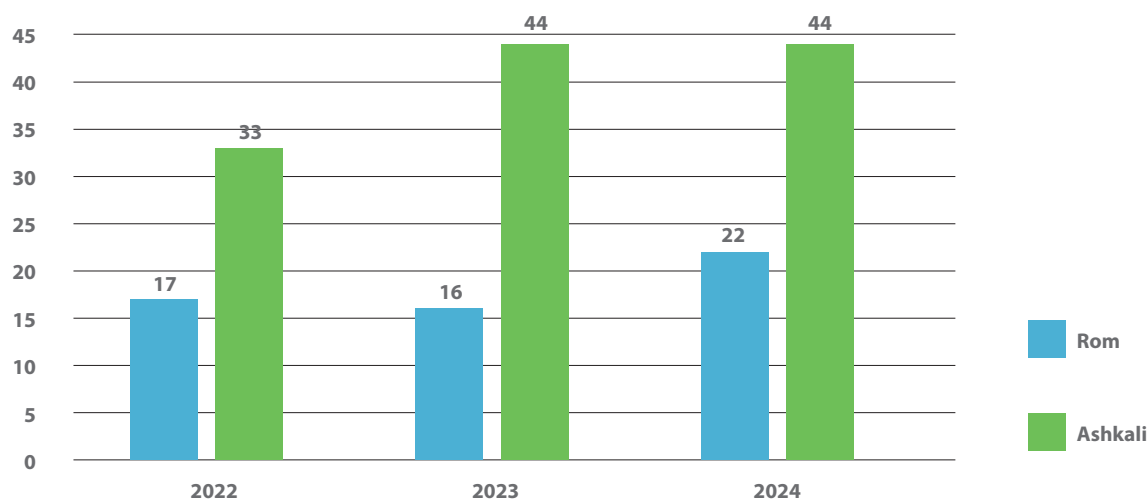
6. Increase in employment of Roma and Ashkali communities through employment mediation:

In 2022, beneficiaries from the communities were in total 55, namely 17 Roma, 33 Ashkali and 25 Egyptians. Whereas in 2023, according to EARK data, 104 persons were mediated into employment, of whom 16 Roma, 44 Ashkali, and 44 Egyptians. During 2024, 99 persons were mediated into employment, of whom 22 Roma, 44 Ashkali, and 33 Egyptians. However, the number of mediators is not presented, as foreseen by the Strategy and the Action Plan. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

7. Regarding the awareness campaign for the provision of employment services through SIMP, the Employment Management Information System, through campaigns:

In 2022, according to the Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo (EARK), with the aim of informing citizens about the provision of employment services through the Employment Management Information System (EMIS), job fairs were held, where employment and vocational training ser-

Increase in employment through mediation



vices were also presented. In 2023, in cooperation with representative associations of the Roma and Ashkali communities, members of these communities were informed and encouraged to participate in and benefit from the services and active labor market measures implemented by EARK. No concrete statistics have been reported on the fulfillment of this activity under strategic and specific objective 1, except for the Municipality of Podujeva, where 12 members of the Roma and Ashkali communities were included. In 2024, a job fair was held, which also included the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

8. **Regarding the organization of informative meetings with representatives of the Roma and Ashkali communities:** In 2022, on 5 July 2022, the Kosovo Academy for Public Safety (KAPS) carried out the promotion of special training programs on community rights with the support of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in Kosovo. The workshop was held to encourage young people from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities to apply to the Kosovo Police recruitment call. 30 participants from the Roma and Ashkali community took part in this activity. In 2023, according to data from EARK, for vocational training, VoRAE organized informative meetings in rural areas to include members of the communities in training at the CVT. In 2024, many employment offices held organized meetings with representatives of the communities. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled, though not to a satisfactory extent.**

9. **Regarding the capacity building of social workers on the importance of combating discrimination, equal treatment, and access to sustainable solutions for beneficiaries in social services in the 7 regions of Kosovo:** In 2022, more than 60 trainers of social family services were trained, who will develop materials/modules and provide training for providers of social and family services regardless of ethnicity. During 2023, the GCSFS, which has the mandate to develop social workers and professionals, providers of social and family services, with the support of the Non-Governmental Organizations QKRMT and Save the Children, developed and organized training sessions with 6 modules.

In total, during the years 2023 and 2024, a total of 517 providers of social and family services from the public and non-governmental sectors were trained, with 6 training modules, regardless of ethnicity, for all social workers in Kosovo. Of these, 501 were Albanian, 15 Serbian, and 1 from the Ashkali community. Meanwhile, from this total number, 10 professionals, providers of social family services with disabilities, also attended the training. **Conclusion: The activity is not fulfilled.**

Financial support to the Roma and Ashkali communities through inclusion in Social Welfare Schemes: This is an implemented activity. In 2022, based on data from the Social Services database, a total number of 49 children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were placed in kinship foster care, while 3 children were placed in alternative family foster care outside the family. Also, payments were made under the Scheme for Families of Children with Permanent Disabilities aged 1–18 for 113 children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, with a monthly payment of €100. In 2023, based on data from the Social Services database, a total number of 74 children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were placed in kinship foster care within the family, while 5 children were placed in alternative family foster care outside the family. Of the total 74 children, 21 were Roma, 30 Ashkali, and 23 Egyptian; the monthly payment was €150 per child. In alternative family foster care outside the family, 5 children from the Roma community were housed, and the monthly payment for these children during 2023 was €350 per month. The same applies to alternative foster care outside the kinship circle—until June, €250 per month were paid, and starting from June 2023, €350 per month, with a total spent budget of €18,500. The budget planned specifically for the Roma and Ashkali communities in kinship foster care is defined in the Action Plan of the Strategy, while the budget spent during 2023 was €114,700, since until June, 74 children in kinship foster care were paid €100 per month, whereas from June the increased payment of €150 began. Also, payments were made under the Scheme for Families of Children with Permanent Disabilities aged 1–18 for 122 children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, with a monthly payment of €100. Of the total number, 122 children are beneficiaries, of whom 38 are Roma, 62 Ashkali and 22 Egyptian children. The budget spent only for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities for the year 2023 is €146,400.

In 2024, a number of 74 children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were placed in kinship foster care within the family. Of the total 74 children, 20 are Roma, 28 Ashkali, and 26 Egyptian; the monthly payment is €150 per child. There are currently no children from these communities in alternative foster care outside the family. The budget planned specifically for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in kinship foster care is included in the Action Plan, while the budget spent for this scheme during 2024 is €133,200. Also, payments were made under the Scheme for Families of Children with Permanent Disabilities aged 1–18 for 130 children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, with a monthly payment of €120. Of the total 130 children: 40 are Roma, 65 Ashkali and 25 Egyptian. The budget planned for this scheme is foreseen in the Action Plan, while the budget spent only for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities for the year 2024 is €187,200.

Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.

Regarding the provision of institutional care services for the communities: In 2022, 24-hour residential services were provided for the elderly and persons with disabilities by the Special Institute in Shtime, the Home for the Elderly in Prishtina, and thirteen (13) Community Homes located across the municipalities of Kosovo. From these residential services, more than 273 residents/clients placed in these institutions benefited from all communities, regardless of ethnicity, and of these, 11 were from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. In 2023, within the framework of this activity, 24-hour residential services were provided for the elderly and persons with disabilities by the Special Institute in Shtime, the Home for the Elderly in Prishtina, and thirteen (13) Community Homes located across the municipalities of Kosovo. From these residential services, more than 275 residents placed in these institutions benefited from all communities regardless of ethnicity. From the Roma community, 8 residents benefited: 7 in residential institutions for persons with disabilities and mental retardation, and 1 (one) in the home for the elderly, while there were no beneficiaries from the Ashkali and Egyptian communities in 2023. In 2024, within the framework of service provision, 24-hour residential services were provided for the elderly and persons with disabilities by the Special Institute in Shtime, the Home for the Elderly in Prishtina, and thirteen (13) Community Homes located across the municipalities of Kosovo. From these residential services, more than 275 residents/clients placed in these institutions ben-

efited from all communities regardless of ethnicity, and only from the Roma community there were 8 residents: 7 in residential institutions for persons with disabilities and mental retardation, and one in the home for the elderly, whereas there are currently none from the Ashkali and Egyptian communities. From the overall budget, the amount spent for these persons is €96,000. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

1. With regard to the support of NGOs licensed by the respective ministry in the provision of social and family services for the Roma and Ashkali communities, in 2022 there were 54 beneficiary organizations in the amount of €2,304,545.10. For the year 2023, there were no licensed Non-Governmental Organizations from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the provision of social and family services, due to their non-application for licensing. The budget planned only for the Roma and Ashkali communities regarding this activity for the year 2023 was €100,000, whereas there was no budget spent. In 2024, there is one licensed Non-Governmental Organization from the Roma community, CONCORDIA in Prizren, which provides social services for the rehabilitation of children with internet addiction, antisocial behavior, school dropout, as well as counseling and training for parenting. Counseling and support are also provided in empowering the family in overcoming family and socio-economic difficulties. The financial support for this organization from the Ministry of Justice (MD) for the year 2024 was €17,000. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

2. **Regarding the signing of 10 Memorandums between NGOs and Shelters for strengthening cooperation and the rehabilitation of children:** in 2022, no activity related to the signing of memorandums was reported. During 2023, the Ministry of Justice entered into cooperation agreements and contracts for the purchase of services for the protection and shelter of victims of domestic violence with all shelters at the national and regional level. All these shelters, during 2023, sheltered and provided necessary services to victims of domestic violence of all ages from all communities living in Kosovo. During 2023, 81 victims sheltered in these shelters were from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. In 2024, the Ministry of Justice entered into contracts for the provision of services for the protec-

tion and shelter of victims of domestic violence with shelters for domestic violence in all regions of Kosovo. All these shelters during 2024 sheltered and provided necessary services to victims of domestic violence of all ages and nationalities. 68 victims sheltered in these shelters were from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The Ministry of Justice, for the year 2024, provided financial support through a public call for 48 licensed NGOs that provide social and family services, of which 9 are domestic violence shelters that house victims of domestic violence regardless of ethnicity, and the amount of support from the Ministry of Justice for the 48 licensed NGOs was €1,533,000.00. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

3. The provision of social assistance to families from the Roma and Ashkali communities who have not managed to find employment

has continued to be implemented. Around 3,000 families with 14,100 family members have benefited from the Social Assistance Scheme from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities for the year 2022. Around 3,000 families from these communities have benefited from energy subsidies for the payment of electricity debt. In 2023, 2,820 families with 12,247 family members benefited from the right to the Social Assistance Scheme from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities for the year 2023. Of the total 2,820 beneficiary families: 1,379 are Roma families with 6,703 members; 1,002 are Ashkali families with 4,494 members; and 439 are Egyptian families with 2,050 members. In 2024, 2,637 families with 12,294 family members benefited from the right to the Social Assistance Scheme from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities for the year 2024. Of the total 2,637 families with 12,294 members: 976 are Roma families with 4,342 members; 1,241 are Ashkali families with 5,980 members; and 420 are Egyptian families with 1,972 members. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

4. Regarding the provision of emergency assistance to members of the Roma and Ashkali communities: In 2022, a total of 39 families from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities benefited from this scheme. In 2023, 2,820 families from these communities benefited from subsidies for settling electricity debt as well as from the Social Assistance Schemes. Regarding emergency assistance, a total of 19 families from the Roma, Ashka-

li and Egyptian communities benefited from this scheme during 2023. In 2024, a total of 8 families from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities benefited from this scheme. The budget allocated specifically for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities is €10,000 per year, while the budget spent is €1,600. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

5. Regarding the participation and employment of members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in public institutions,

there have been partial reports. In the years 2022, 2023, and 2024, the mechanism for the promotion and encouragement of employment was created, and likewise, in 2024, the KAS published the data from the population census. With the adoption of the Law on Public Officials, progress was marked in the area of employment of Roma and Ashkali communities in public institutions. The Regulation on the Recruitment of Public Officials was approved by the Government of the Republic of Kosovo on 27 October 2023. **Article 13.4 of this regulation allows for the announcement of recruitment competitions exclusively for under-represented communities.** It is reported that the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo requested that by the end of January 2024, ten (10) job positions be identified, which will be announced for the communities. From the reported data, it should be noted that currently, the communities are represented in the KSF with 182 military personnel, or expressed in percentage, 4.3%. Of all community members, 40 are from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, specifically, 27 Ashkali, 10 Egyptian, and 3 Roma. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

6. A success in the field of employment has been reported as the work of the Inter-Institutional Team for the Promotion of Employment, and a concrete result was the 2023 report of the Inter-Institutional Team for the Promotion of Employment, a team managed by the OGG/OPM. Knowing that the Inter-Institutional Team worked together to fulfill the quota of 10% of positions in central institutions, for the broader recruitment of communities in the Security Agencies and the KSF.

- 7. Initiation and promotion of special training programs on the rights of communities:** Regarding the above-mentioned training programs, the following training programs are available at

the IKAP: **Human rights in Kosovo and the European system for the protection of human rights; The rights of communities in Kosovo; and Introduction to Antigypsyism..** During 2024, IKAP delivered the training “Introduction to Antigypsyism” (a one-day training) for 14 participant groups. This training was attended by 350 civil servants (226 women and 124 men), of whom 93 were from central-level institutions and 257 from local level. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

8. An achievement in the field of employment during the years 2022, 2023, and 2024 was also the adoption of Regulation (GRK) No. 15/2023 on the Procedure for Admission to the Civil Service, Article 13 – Reserved quotas and affirmative measures. This regulation will help ensure that members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities are admitted to the public sector.

7.1. CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

1. In general, there have been challenges in organizing informative meetings, and in all these years, there has not been satisfactory fulfillment of this activity, as the target number of 15 meetings foreseen in the Strategy’s Action Plan has not been reached. In the case of these meetings or awareness campaigns in the field of employment, the impression is created that some activities were either not fulfilled or not efficiently reported.
2. Workshops and activities related to awareness-raising in the field of employment should be held exclusively for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
3. Regarding the informing and awareness-raising of the communities through various campaigns on the possibility of receiving and types of social services, no figure or number of informative activities has been reported. It has only been stated that within all CSWs, relevant leaflets exist and that some meetings and roundtables have been held.
4. Regarding the organization of regular meetings of the Case Management Assistance Roundtables (CMARs), despite the legal obligation to hold 4 meetings per year, no specific number of CMAR meetings has been reported.

5. In terms of the inclusion of women in the support for startup businesses, it has not been reported that any women from the communities have benefited from this support. This activity has stalled in terms of fulfillment.

7.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. There should be a more inclusive implementation of the participation of Roma and Ashkali communities in on-the-job training. In general, reports have only been made for participation in training in one municipality. NGOs should engage so that, in cooperation with the competent institutions, they provide more such training.
2. More concrete and emphasized measures should be undertaken to fulfill strategic and specific objective 1, for the inclusion of Roma and Ashkali women in business, through support and grants for startup businesses. The budget has not been sufficiently utilized in relation to the activity “Allocation of amounts for the Roma and Ashkali communities from the self-employment/startup grant fund, with a focus on empowering women in business and employment,” because this allocation was reported with results only in 2023.
3. It is recommended that the number of employment mediators be reported. There is no number of employment mediators presented, and concrete institutional measures should be taken in this regard.
4. Accurate data have not been reported regarding awareness-raising activities for the provision of employment services through the EMIS via campaigns. It is recommended that institutions (EARK) and NGOs organize such campaigns and activities more frequently than in the past three years.
5. The assessment of the current situation and employment potential among the Roma and Ashkali communities has not been carried out, and it is recommended that this activity be reviewed or implemented in later periods of the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan.
6. Workshops and activities related to awareness-raising in the field of employment should be held exclusively for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

7. It is recommended that there be more informative activities for the communities regarding access to social service activities. This should be done in close cooperation between NGOs and competent institutions.
 8. It is recommended that NGOs and the Roma and Ashkali communities engage in a more inclusive manner so that more NGOs are licensed to provide social and family services.
 9. Regarding the capacity-building of social workers on the importance of combating discrimination, ensuring equal treatment, and access to sustainable solutions for beneficiaries, during these years, only 1 member of the Ashkali community has benefited; therefore, it is recommended that there be greater advocacy from NGOs and institutions to increase this participation.
 10. It is recommended that the Office for Good Governance/Office of the Prime Minister (OGG/OPM) publish annual reports, in cooperation with the competent Ministry of Internal Affairs, on the employment of members of the Roma and Ashkali communities in public institutions.
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8 Implementation of the Action Plan in the Field of Healthcare

The implementation of the specific objectives in the field of healthcare such as: 1. Improving access to quality healthcare services for members of the Roma and Ashkali communities; 2. Improving the health of members of the Roma and Ashkali communities through awareness-raising and health promotion; 3. Improving the quality of healthcare services through the awareness-raising of public healthcare staff regarding equal treatment and the elimination of discrimination against the Roma and Ashkali communities; 4. strategic Objective – Improving the health of members of the Roma and Ashkali communities and increasing equal access to quality healthcare services, have been largely fulfilled, but there have also been challenges in implementation.

1. Regarding the provision of mobile mammography in five municipalities: In 2022, mobile mammography services were provided in the municipalities of: Fushe Kosove – 144 visits, Podujeva – 4 visits, Rahovec – 392 visits. Women from the Roma and Ashkali communities also benefited from these services in these municipalities. In Gjiilan, 19 women from the Roma and Ashkali communities benefited from this service, while in Gjakove, 5. In 2023, the situation is as follows: MFMC Fushe Kosova has reported that 6 mammograms were performed for women of the Roma and Ashkali community. From MFMC Ferizaj, activities were implemented in providing static mammography services, where a total of 15 Roma women and 25 women from the Ashkali community benefited. MFMC Obiliq reported that, in cooperation with the DHSW Prishtina, patients from the Municipality of Obiliq were referred for mammography to the MFMC Prishtina. The MFMC Fushe Kosove reported that 6 mammographies were performed for women from the Roma and Ashkali community. There was no report from the FMC on the beneficiaries of mammography services. In 2024, 20 women from the Ashkali community benefited through FMC Obiliq; in FMC Gjakovë, 66 women from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities underwent mobile mammography. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

2. Regarding the implementation of home visits for mothers and children as well as other vulnerable groups: There have also been reports from MFMCs in the respective municipalities. In 2022, the MFMC in Ferizaj reported that home visits for mothers and children were provided to 49 children aged 0–3 from the Roma and Ashkali communities, and to 1 pregnant woman. MFMC Obiliq reported that a total of 926 children from the Roma and Ashkali communities benefited from the aforementioned visits. MFMC Prizren reported that the visits for mothers and children included a total of 113 mothers and children from these communities. MFMC Podujevë conducted 123 visits and services. MFMC Rahovec carried out 500 visits. MFMC Pejë reported 19 beneficiaries; MFMC Gjakovë – 429 home visits; MFMC Mitrovicë – 19 children aged 0–3 were visited. The Division for Primary Care at the Ministry of Health reported that during 2022, under the program of home visits for children aged 0–3 from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, a total of 1,538 children were visited for the first time, while 206 pregnant women from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were visited for the first time. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

3. In 2023, MFMC Fushë Kosovë; MFMC Podujevë; MFMC Mitrovicë; MFMC Pejë; and the National Institute of Public Health of Kosovo (NIPHK) reported that a total of 648 visits were conducted for mothers and children aged 0–3. These data are not disaggregated by ethnicity. MFMC Ferizaj reported that visits were conducted involving a total of 100 members of the Roma community and 86 members of the Ashkali community. In total, 3,833 visits were reported. MFMC Obiliq reported a total of 475 visits conducted at the institution, with 83 beneficiaries from the Roma community. MFMC Peje reported that for the implementation of this activity, a total of 760 visits were conducted, however, in the interview sheet for home visits, there was no ethnic disaggregation for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

4. In 2024, visits benefiting members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were as follows: MFMC Peja – 35 visits; MFMC Fushe Kosove – 284 children and 46 pregnant women; MFMC Podujeva – 67 children and 3 pregnant women; MFMC Ferizaj – 75 children and 25 pregnant women; MFMC Obiliq – 84 children; MFMC Lipjan – 194 children; MFMC Gjakova – 370 children and 59 pregnant women. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
5. **Encouraging Roma and Ashkali families to regularly follow vaccination schedules:** This is a very important activity in the field of health, and regarding this activity, the respective MFMCs have reported. In 2022, awareness lectures were held to encourage the regular following of schedules in municipalities such as: Ferizaj, Obiliq, Fushe Kosove, Rahovec, Podujeve, Gjiilan, and Gjakove, where leaflets were also distributed. A total of 143 mobile vaccination sessions were conducted in 16 municipalities for children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. In 2022, MFMC–Obiliq reported 16 participants in lectures, and 56 children were included in vaccination. Also in 2022, MFMC–Prizren held 2 meetings conducted by the head of vaccination in the community; MFMC Rahovec – only 4 families agreed to vaccinate their children; MFMC–Pejë reported that 3 meetings were held by the head of vaccination with the communities, aimed at encouraging vaccination. The NIPHK reported that – through the “door-to-door” campaign, 9,149 children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were visited – 2,548 children (48% girls) were identified as unvaccinated and were vaccinated through the “catch-up vaccination” mobile campaign. – Of them, 458 children were vaccinated with the MMR vaccine.
6. In 2023, MFMC Gjiilan, with the support of the organization Balkan Sunflower, conducted door-to-door visits for the vaccination of children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. Ten (10) children from these communities were involved in this process, as others vaccinate their children in the parallel Serbian health system. According to data from NIPHK, in 2023, through the door-to-door campaign, with the aim of vaccination, 1,287 Roma and Ashkali families were involved. From these families, 5,515 children from the Roma and Ashkali communities were involved in this process. MFMC Obiliq reported that 118 Roma individuals benefited from the vaccination campaign, while MFMC Pejë reported that in 2023, this number reached 154 persons from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. In 2024, at the MFMCs of: Fushë Kosovë, Podujevë, Ferizaj, Pejë, Lipjan, and Gjakovë, a total of 237 children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were vaccinated. Also, during 2024, the NIPHK, in cooperation with PHC institutions and supported by UNICEF and the organization Balkan Sunflower Kosova (BSFK), implemented the “door-to-door” campaign to raise awareness among Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities regarding regular vaccination, as well as for the identification of unvaccinated children. Throughout the year, a total of 6,648 field visits were conducted in 14 municipalities, during which information was shared with parents about vaccination and vaccination cards were checked. Furthermore, informative sessions were held with parents from these communities on the importance of vaccination, facilitated by healthcare professionals from vaccination teams. In total, 20 informative sessions were conducted, with the participation of 389 parents. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
7. **Regarding the establishment of the Patients’ Council,** that has occurred in several municipalities. In 2022, the Patients’ Council was established only in Rahovec. In 2023, according to the data reported for this activity, it appears that the MFMC in Lipjan established the Patients’ Council, which includes one member from the Roma and Ashkali communities. The same occurred at the MFMC in Rahovec, and two other MFMCs are in the process of establishing this Council, which will also include members of the Roma and Ashkali communities. In 2024, the Patients’ Council was established in the municipality of Pejë; in the municipality of Ferizaj, it is reported that the council is in the reporting process; in the municipality of Obiliq, the Patients’ Council was established; the municipality of Lipjan has also established its Patients’ Council. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**
8. **Regarding awareness-raising lectures for health promotion and the prevention of chronic and infectious diseases,** as well as nutrition, in 2022, lectures were reported by institutions together with NGOs. In 2023, various lectures were held at the MFMC in Ferizaj on different infectious diseases in schools, where students from

the Roma and Ashkali communities are also present. MFMC – Obiliq, 268 participants took part in the lectures. MFMC – Prizren conducted 3 awareness-raising lectures. MFMC – Peja conducted 3 awareness-raising lectures. The NGO AMC – Action for Mothers and Children – conducted PAP smear screening at MFMC V, where women from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities had the opportunity to undergo the PAP test free of charge. An awareness campaign was also conducted with parents and children with disabilities who are registered in the NGO Pema. With the NGO Syri i Vizionit, an awareness campaign was conducted in the community on non-communicable chronic diseases in the neighborhoods of Lagjja & Shtatori, Cige Brestovike and Vitimirice. MFMC – Gjakova 13 sessions with 20 participants. In 2023, according to the results reported by the Ministry of Health, the NIPHK held 20 lectures as part of fulfilling this activity. The total number of participants was 218 (138 men and 80 women). Meanwhile, it has been reported that lectures on fulfilling this activity have been held by the MFMCs of Gjilan, Fushe Kosova, Podujeva and Ferizaj. Meanwhile, the MFMC Podujeva also held a roundtable discussion. On the other hand, MFMC Ferizaj reportedly held 4 lectures on the importance of child vaccination, attended by 20 participants from the Roma community and 60 from the Ashkali community. MFMC Pejë also organized 4 lectures in cooperation with Syri i Vizionit and AQH. In 2024, NIPHK held 30 awareness-raising lectures. From the MFMCs of Fushë Kosovë, Podujevë, Pejë, Lipjan, and Gjakovë, 92 awareness-raising lectures were held. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

9. **Regarding the activity of awareness roundtables on the consequences of early marriage and childbirth, family planning, and STIs:** In 2022, roundtables and workshops were held in the municipalities of: Ferizaj, Podujeve and Rahovec. Likewise, NIPHK conducted two-day workshops in four municipalities (Fushe Kosove, Lipjan, Gjilan, Gjakove). In Rahovec and Podujevë, informational materials related to this activity were distributed. In 2023, such roundtables and activities corresponding to the fulfillment of this activity were organized by the MFMC in Gjilan, where roundtables and lectures were held; MFMC Fushë Kosovë held lectures, as noted above; MFMC Mitrovicë held a total of 5 roundtables with 120 participants, while NIPHK was reported

to have held 5 roundtables. MFMC Ferizaj held lectures and roundtables fulfilling this activity, with participation from 10 members of the Roma community and 30 members of the Ashkali community. It was also reported that MFMC Obiliq held lectures, with 40 participants from the Roma community in a total of 3 lectures and roundtables. In 2024, NIPHK held 9 two-day trainings with students; MFMC Fushë Kosovë held three (3) activities; awareness activities were also held by MFMC Ferizaj, Lipjan and Obiliq. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

10. **Regarding the activity of distributing informational material on family planning and reproductive health:** There has been partial reporting, mainly in certain municipalities and in cooperation with the MFMCs. In 2022, informational materials were distributed in Podujeve, Gjilan, Viti, etc. Lectures and various activities were also held related to this activity. MFMC – Podujeve distributed informational materials and engaged in direct communication with the respective community on family planning and reproductive health, as well as the topics of: COVID-19 protection, family planning, hygiene, etc., and 86 leaflets were distributed. MFMC – Gjilan – Leaflets were also distributed to the Roma and Ashkali communities on family planning by the education group at the MFMC. MFMC – Gjakove – Community meetings in October 2022 included a presentation lecture, distribution of brochures, and scheduling of appointments for mammography and PAP test. In 2023, in order to fulfill this activity under specific objective 2, the Ministry of Health reported that the Health Education Commission at the NIPHK reviewed and approved the materials, while the distribution was done by donors and primary healthcare – data from NIPHK. In line with this, MFMC Obiliq reported that 400 informational materials were distributed. In 2024, the NIPHK distributed 225 brochures on sexual and reproductive health to trained students. No brochures were distributed by the MFMCs. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**
11. **Regarding the awareness campaign on the importance of regular immunization (distribution of leaflets and organization of mobile teams):** In 2022 MFMC – Ferizaj held 4 lectures with groups from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, and organized three mobile vaccination teams in two city neighborhoods in-

habited by citizens from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. MFMC – Fushë Kosovë reported that 10 vaccination campaigns were held in the community, of which 3 were door-to-door, and 7 took place in the community center. MFMC – Podujevë reported that 39 informational leaflets were distributed against COVID-19. NIPHK conducted two trainings with community representatives on regular vaccination and COVID-19 vaccination. NIPHK also conducted lectures and informative sessions with parents from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities regarding the importance of vaccination, breastfeeding, and routine check-ups, as well as mobile vaccination sessions. MFMC – Gjakove – Community gathering through mediators, importance of vaccination, and distribution of educational materials. MFMC – Mitrovicë – 5 lectures were held, MFMC – Obiliq reported that 116 children from the communities were vaccinated with regular childhood vaccines. NIPHK – A total of 24 informative sessions/lectures were held with parents and legal guardians in 16 municipalities regarding the importance of vaccination, as well as nutrition and routine check-ups. Over 650 parents participated in these sessions, facilitated by family doctors from the Primary Healthcare system. A total of 143 mobile vaccination sessions were conducted for Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian children. **In 2023**, MFMC Fushe Kosove reported that 3 roundtables were organized, benefiting 40 persons from the Roma and Ashkali communities. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health reported that MFMC in Obiliq held five (5) discussions, attended by 102 Roma individuals. **In 2024**, the MFMCs in the municipalities of: Peje, Ferizaj, Podujeve, Obiliq, Lipjan, and Gjakove reported that lectures were held and leaflets distributed. As part of the support for supplementary vaccination for children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, NIPHK, in cooperation with the non-governmental organization BSFK, organized vaccination sessions in 14 different municipalities. According to NIPHK, during 2024, a total of 2,154 children aged 0–6 who were previously identified through the “door-to-door” campaign were vaccinated. In addition, 136 girls aged 12–13 were identified and vaccinated with the HPV vaccine, which has been included in the regular vaccination calendar. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

12. Regarding the provision of training for professional healthcare staff on non-discrimination

in the provision of medical services: In 2022, no activity of this nature was recorded and no training was held with healthcare professionals. In 2023, the Ministry of Health held five (5) discussion roundtables with healthcare professionals (nurses) at the primary level concerning the presentation of the Law on Protection from Discrimination and the right to health, a human right protected by International Conventions. The roundtables were held at the level of Primary Care, since the patient’s first contact with the doctor is at the level of primary healthcare. These roundtables were also held at the level of MFMCs, as follows: MFMC – Lipjan; MFMC – Rahovec; MFMC – Istog; MFMC – Fushe Kosove; MFMC – Obiliq. The MH reports that the roundtables included 80 healthcare professionals with the professional designation: head nurse and nurses. At these roundtables, the participants’ request was that this topic continue to be presented in all municipalities so that a larger number of professionals can be included in such trainings, as it is a topic of importance to their daily work. Regarding the number of roundtables held for the fulfillment of this activity, it is reported that MFMC Peje held four (4) roundtables with 10 participants, while MFMC Obiliq held 6 trainings, with 70 participants. In 2024, with the aim of improving quality in the provision of healthcare services, five (5) presentation and discussion roundtables were held with healthcare professionals at the primary level, with financial support from the AQH project, where the Law on Protection from Discrimination was presented. The roundtables included 55 healthcare professionals at the level of head nurse and nurses. Their request was that this topic continue to be presented in all municipalities so that a greater number of nurses may be included in such trainings, as it is a topic of importance to their daily work. In 2023–2024, a total of 135 nurses from municipal MFMCs participated in these presentations on this discussion topic. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

13. Organization of awareness campaign initiatives on patient rights and responsible complaint mechanisms for the Roma and Ashkali communities, addressed to healthcare workers and members of the communities: Reporting for this activity is also incomplete and partial, as it has only been partially implemented. In 2022, it was reported that MFMC – Ferizaj held awareness lectures on breast cancer and STIs in schools

where there are also students from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, and with women from the communities in the village of Dubrave. MFMC – Podujeve held direct educational meetings with medical teams in settlements inhabited by the community, regarding topics such as hygienic and sanitary conditions. MFMC – Gjilan, together with the association “Gruaja Hyjnore” (“Divine Woman”), conducted a campaign on the prevention and mitigation of chronic diseases and nutrition. MFMC – Gjakove held a roundtable with 10 people and a lecture on Family Planning and cervical cancer. In 2023, the Ministry of Health reported that roundtables were held with Roma and Ashkali communities, attended by citizens of these communities. The topics that dominated these roundtables were: the presentation of the Law on Protection from Discrimination, the right to file a complaint, and the right to health as a human right protected by the Constitution and International Conventions. Regarding these roundtables and their implementation, the Ministry of Health reported that they were held in three (3) municipalities, respectively in: MFMC – Lipjan; MFMC – Podujeve; MFMC – Peje. The roundtables included 50 citizens from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities: heads of NGOs from these communities. Additionally, MFMC – Peje, in cooperation with PRAK, AQH, and Syri i Vizionit, conducted four (4) roundtables with a total of 47 participants from the Roma and Ashkali communities. MFMC – Obiliq reported that it held one (1) training of this nature, benefiting 25 persons from the Roma and Ashkali communities. In 2024, participation in the **“Western Balkans Summit Against Racial Discrimination”** held on 26 November in Prishtine initiated a similar awareness campaign directed at the managerial and other staff of the MFMC, as well as through other meetings held against antigypsyism. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

8.1. CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

1. The research on the health status and satisfaction with the receipt of healthcare services among the Roma and Ashkali communities has faced implementation challenges and, as such, has never been carried out to date. Only MFMC in Ferizaj reported having conducted a survey on patient satisfaction in 2023, but not exclusively for the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities.

2. Regarding the organization of coordination meetings between the Ministry of Health, donors, and NGOs engaged in health-related activities, challenges have generally been reported, and meetings between the Ministry and donors were not held exclusively for the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. Meetings with donors were primarily initiated by NGOs representing these communities and, as such, occurred in municipalities and some MFMCs.
3. Regarding the activity of translating promotional materials for awareness-raising into the Romani language, in 2022, there was no activity or material translated. In 2023, the Ministry of Health had no concrete data confirming that promotional materials had been translated for awareness-raising in the Romani language in the health sector. As a result, this activity during 2022, 2023, and 2024 has not been fulfilled.
4. A challenge in itself has also been the reporting of data by MFMCs, as well as by other responsible institutions. In most cases, the data were incomplete. From the reports on the implementation of the plan by the Ministry of Health, in most cases, the exact spending of the budget was not reported.

8.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that the NIPHK, in cooperation with NGOs and civil society representing the rights of the Roma and Ashkali communities, carry out research on the satisfaction with healthcare services for the Roma and Ashkali communities.
2. NGOs of the Roma and Ashkali communities should engage in organizing more campaigns and meetings with donors, with the aim of implementing the Strategy and Action Plan.
3. It is recommended that promotional materials be translated into the Romani language, with the purpose of raising awareness in the field of healthcare. This recommendation should be fulfilled by NGOs, with the support of institutions. In this regard, it is recommended that the relevant municipalities, where the Roma community resides, include Romani language translators in their staff.

4. The Ministry of Health and other relevant institutions, in cooperation with donors, with the aim of supporting the Roma and Ashkali communities, should organize more training for professional healthcare staff on non-discrimination and equal treatment of the Roma and Ashkali communities, with the purpose of fulfilling the specific objective.
 5. Citizens should be recorded by ethnicity in the records of MFMCs during home visits.
 6. The Patients' Council should be established in all relevant municipalities, including members of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities.
 7. The distribution of informational materials on family planning and reproductive health is an unfulfilled activity, which should also be supported by NGOs in order for it to be fulfilled to the necessary extent.
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9 Implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan in the Field of Housing

To fulfill the strategic objective in the field of housing, within the framework of the Strategy, the following specific objectives are foreseen: **1. Ensuring sustainability and defining concrete steps to systematically improve the housing conditions for the Roma and Ashkali communities. 2. Raising awareness and consciousness among members of the Roma and Ashkali communities in resolving housing issues. 3. Improving the comfort and quality of life for the Roma and Ashkali communities through the improvement of existing infrastructure as well as accompanying infrastructure for better access to essential services. 4. Equal access and improvement of quality housing services for the Roma and Ashkali communities through awareness-raising of public staff responsible for housing programs. 5. Formalization of informal settlements of the Roma and Ashkali communities through the revision of existing urban plans and concrete inclusion in new urban plans, as well as providing alternatives for the reorganization of existing settlements. 6. Equal access to essential services, including water, sewage, waste collection services, and the combating of spatial segregation as a result of environmental discrimination in the field of housing.**

The strategic and specific objectives in the field of housing, in terms of implementing the Action Plan, have been fulfilled as follows:

- 1. Organization of informative sessions for the Roma and Ashkali communities regarding current social housing programs and the application process:** The MESP reported that meetings and relevant sessions with NGOs were held, during which the promotion of social housing programs took place. These were held primarily with NGOs. However, the exact number of informative sessions has not been reported. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled, but without reporting of accurate data.**
- 2. Strengthening the capacities of municipalities for the use of the electronic platform with data on social housing:** MESPI reports that this activity was implemented in 2023. In May 2023, municipal officials were trained. With the Adequate Social Housing Project, this platform has been upgraded through the E-Kosova system, enabling citizens to access property information using an ID card. Terms of reference have been drafted, and the platform will be further upgraded in 2025. The budget allocated for 2025 is 100,000 euros. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
- 3. Creation of the prioritized needs list for social housing at the municipal and central level:** According to MESP, this activity has not yet been fulfilled. This list will be created with the advancement of the electronic platform through E-KOSOVA and may be considered as fulfilled or in the process of being fulfilled in 2025. **Conclusion: The activity is not fulfilled as of 2024.**
- 4. The activity of providing free legal aid for Roma and Ashkali communities during the legalization process through the Legal Aid Agency, NGOs, the Ombudsperson, etc.** With ATRC, in November 2024, a project began to provide free legal aid in neighborhoods 28 and 29 in Fushe Kosove, Obiliq, Gjakove and Prizren. The free legal aid will be provided for property-related matters. Regarding the benefit from free legal aid over the years, members of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities have received aid from the Legal Aid Agency as follows: 2022 – 428 beneficiaries, 2023 – 508 beneficiaries, 2024 – 420 beneficiaries. It should be clarified that not all of these individuals received assistance specifically related to legalization. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
- 5. Organization of a campaign to promote the housing rights of all citizens of Kosovo without exception:** According to MESPI, such activities have taken place and were organized by the NGO VoRAE. However, the number of meetings and activities was not reported. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
- 6. Regarding the creation of 5 mobile teams to assist with the completion of property-related**

documentation in 15 municipalities, and the facilitation of property legalization procedures at the local and central levels: Municipalities, in cooperation with the NGOs VoRAE and Advancing Together, and SHPRK, are providing relevant assistance for the completion of property documentation. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

7. Inclusion of communities in planning for the resolution of housing issues at the local and central level: Partially fulfilled. With the drafting of the Law on Special Housing Programs, a step forward has been taken. By 2024, there are 17 three-year housing programs, which include the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

8. Regarding the specific inclusion of Roma and Ashkali communities in three-year social housing plans: MESPI reports that in the 17 social housing programs that have undergone legality review at MESPI through the MLGA, the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have been included. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

9. Regarding support for the renovation, reconstruction, and provision of construction materials for houses in need on the private plots of the Roma and Ashkali communities, or parts of houses such as toilets and bathrooms: It has been reported that MLGA has allocated 3 million euros for these activities. Meanwhile, 1 million euros have been allocated for social housing, from which 10 Roma, 10 Ashkali, and 20 Egyptians have benefited for the construction of new residential houses. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

10. Improvement of existing infrastructure in settlements of the Roma and Ashkali communities where such needs are identified through a feasibility study: According to MESP, it is reported that 107 houses have been constructed. 75% of the beneficiaries in this category are members of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

11. Research on housing conditions in relation to minimum housing standards: This activity has been fulfilled through the feasibility study approved in 2023, and this requirement has been

included in the Law on Affordable Social Housing. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

12. Pilot of settlement transformation in the first year with 1,200 m² including 12 housing units and 300 m² of space for businesses, and promotion of the model for settlement transformation with institutions and citizens: VoRAE has developed a program for the transformation of housing facilities for communities, but no further data have been reported regarding this activity.

9.1. CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

1. In the field of housing, the exact number of informative sessions related to the Roma and Ashkali communities, regarding current social housing programs, has not been reported.
2. No concrete figures have been provided on how many municipalities are being assisted by mobile teams to facilitate the legalization of properties at the local and central level for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
3. According to the Law on Financing of Special Housing Programs, municipalities have the responsibility to draft three-year plans equally for all communities present in the municipality. For their implementation, according to the Law on Financing of special housing programs must be reported by March 31 of the following year. However, according to the MESPI data, very few municipalities report on the implementation of projects within the framework of the three-year housing programs.
4. The drafting and approval of the Feasibility Study for Adequate Social Housing in the Republic of Kosovo has also been done. The following recommendations emerged from the Feasibility Study:
 - 4.1. There is a clear lack of effectiveness and coordination by national/local authorities, which leaves beneficiaries uninformed of social housing opportunities and without adequate support.
 - 4.2. The current Social Housing buildings are in poor condition and are in urgent need of renovations. Regular monitoring and main-

tenance are almost non-existent, with unclear division of responsibilities, staff, and allocated budgets.

4.3. Three (3) year housing programs are not regularly prepared by municipalities and are not reported to the MESPI. Each municipality should appoint at least one officer to handle all needs and applications for social housing.

4.4. There is a need for a better local data management system to collect, maintain, and analyze applicant data for housing, and to better meet their requirements.

4.5. More funding is needed in this sector, supported by clear development plans and programs. 95% of municipalities highlighted finances as the biggest obstacle to the functioning or development of the social housing sector.

5. A challenge in itself for the MEEI will be the implementation of the recommendations arising from the feasibility plan.

6. Another challenge in the field of housing remains the legalization of settlements of the Roma and Ashkali communities, as well as their relocation, based on the parameters and the action plan.

3. Projects for the transformation of settlements for Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities are encouraged to continue, with support from donors and NGOs, as well as through concrete support from institutions. These projects should be prioritized and receive institutional support.

4. MESPI shall undertake concrete actions within its powers to improve the housing conditions of the Roma and Ashkali communities.

5. All municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo must draft three-year housing programs, as an obligation stemming from the Strategy.

6. Priority should be given to the recommendations arising from the Feasibility Study for Adequate Social Housing in the Republic of Kosovo, as reported by the MESPI.

7. It is recommended that the MEEI as the central institution, but also the municipalities of Kosovo, prioritize the fulfillment of obligations from the Poznan Declaration, in order to legalize the settlements of Roma and Ashkali communities.

8. It is recommended to have a more sustainable coordination between the central and local level, aiming at implementing projects in the housing field.

9.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended to create a priority list for social housing and implement it within 2025–2026.

2. It is deemed necessary to continue free legal aid for housing issues, and the FLAA, in cooperation with NGOs VoRAE, Advancing Together, and others, should continue their cooperation in providing free legal aid, with special emphasis on the legalization of housing.

9. Preparation of the manual for adequate social housing for Roma and Ashkali communities should be carried out.

10. Upon the initiation of implementation of the new Law on Social and Affordable Housing, the MEEI should undertake more urgent measures in implementing the affirmative provisions of this law, regarding Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

10 Implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan in the Field of Protection from Discrimination

The specific objectives, regarding the field of protection from discrimination and the implementation of the action plan, are: **1. Combating discrimination and racism systematically through the development and implementation of inclusive policies at all stages and levels of policies, programs, and projects; 2. Reducing the phenomenon of racism and discrimination and increasing the quality of life for the Roma and Ashkali communities systematically through the development of legislative proposals for equality, participation, inclusion, and the fight against racism and discrimination; 3. Increasing accountability and punishment of perpetrators of discrimination and raising awareness among members of the Roma and Ashkali communities about the importance and method of reporting cases of discrimination, racism, harassment, hate speech and violence, and bullying; 4. Increasing the inclusion of Roma and Ashkali communities through awareness-raising of the public and public officials on racism and anti-discrimination against the Roma and Ashkali communities, as well as the promotion of the history and cultures of the Roma and Ashkali communities; 5. Supporting and advancing the work of the Technical Group for Protection from Discrimination of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, established by the Government, to address complaints from members of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities regarding discrimination against them, as well as to carry out public awareness activities for the prevention of discrimination against members of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities.** These objectives were fulfilled in 2022, 2023, and 2024 as follows:

1. **Regarding the trainings developed with judges, prosecutors, and lawyers, in 2022, trainings were held in the field of protection from discrimination.** Judges and prosecutors participated in the trainings, and these trainings were continuously organized by the Justice Academy. A total of 51 judges and 18 administrative staff participated in the trainings. In 2023, three trainings were held for judges, prosecutors, and professional associates. In 2024, three trainings were held for judges, prosecutors, and professional associates. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
2. **Regarding the identification and periodic assessment of the needs for capacity building of civil servants of Kosovo at the central and local level for enhancing professional capacities in the field of prevention and combating of discrimination:** In 2022, two trainings were organized, with 32 participants. Likewise, trainings were also conducted in 2023, with the support of non-governmental organizations. In 2024, a training on Introduction to Antigypsyism was held. A total of 350 participants attended these trainings. From the central level, 93, and 257 from the local level. Among them, 256 were women and 124 men. Of the participants, 28 were from lower and middle management levels, and 322 were from the professional level. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**
3. **The development of capacities, provision of basic, advanced, and specialized trainings for enhancing professional capacities in the field of prevention and combating of discrimination and racism against members of the Roma and Ashkali communities for: The Kosovo Police; the Correctional Service; the Probation Service; Kosovo Customs; the Emergency Management Agency; the Police Inspectorate of Kosovo; as well as private physical and legal persons:** This is an activity that has been implemented, primarily within the respective curricula of law enforcement institutions and within trainings and programs accredited by the APS. In 2022, APS implemented 6 topics with 597 participants. 2023: Participants in trainings included: Kosovo Police – a total of seven (7) Roma and Ashkali, and three (3) from the Egyptian community; Kosovo Correctional Service – one (1) participant from the Egyptian community. 2024: A total of 28 participants from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities were included in trainings in the field of police activity. All of them participated in the three-month 'Police Officer' training. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

4. Regarding the organization of awareness campaigns for members of the Roma and Ashkali communities about domestic violence and gender-based violence. The AGE, continuously in 2022 and 2023, organized awareness campaigns through video spots. The re-broadcasting of the video spot was carried out on RTK and it was discussed to have a new video spot aired in 2025. The OGG/OPM in cooperation with AGE prepared and distributed 150 leaflets on early marriages in 2024. A total of 150 leaflets in Albanian and Serbian languages. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

5. The establishment of a mechanism for the identification, prevention, reduction, and protection of persons whose birth has not been registered requires systematic institutional addressing. The draft law on civil status was finalized in 2022–2023. Regarding the fulfillment of this activity, the Civil Status Directorate has continuously been part of processes to facilitate procedures for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The new draft law on civil status foresees the creation of an inter-institutional mechanism for the registration of births and deaths through official channels, and the drafting, in coordination with municipalities, for the prevention and registration of all unregistered citizens. **Conclusion: The activity is partially fulfilled.**

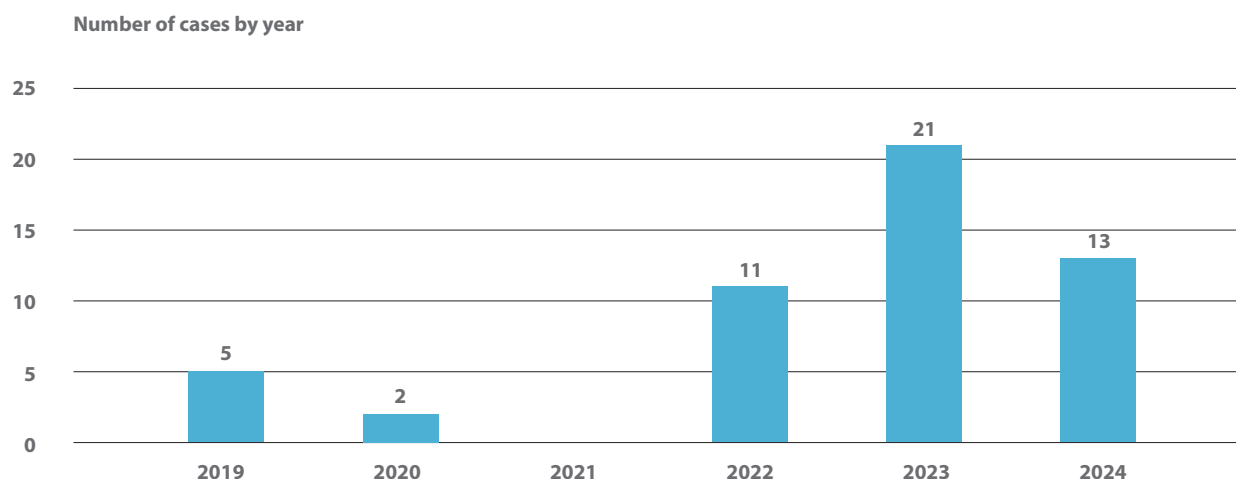
6. Regarding the obligation to establish the national platform for protection from discrimination for the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities: It should be noted that this plat-

form has been created and is managed by the OGG/OPM. Since 2022, when this platform began operating, a platform administrator and a legal expert have been engaged to handle submitted cases. As of 1 December 2024, 52 cases have been submitted and addressed through the platform, of which 18 cases have been successfully addressed, while 25 of them did not result in discrimination. There have been ongoing cases referred to the national platform, and these cases have been referred and addressed in coordination with the Technical Group. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

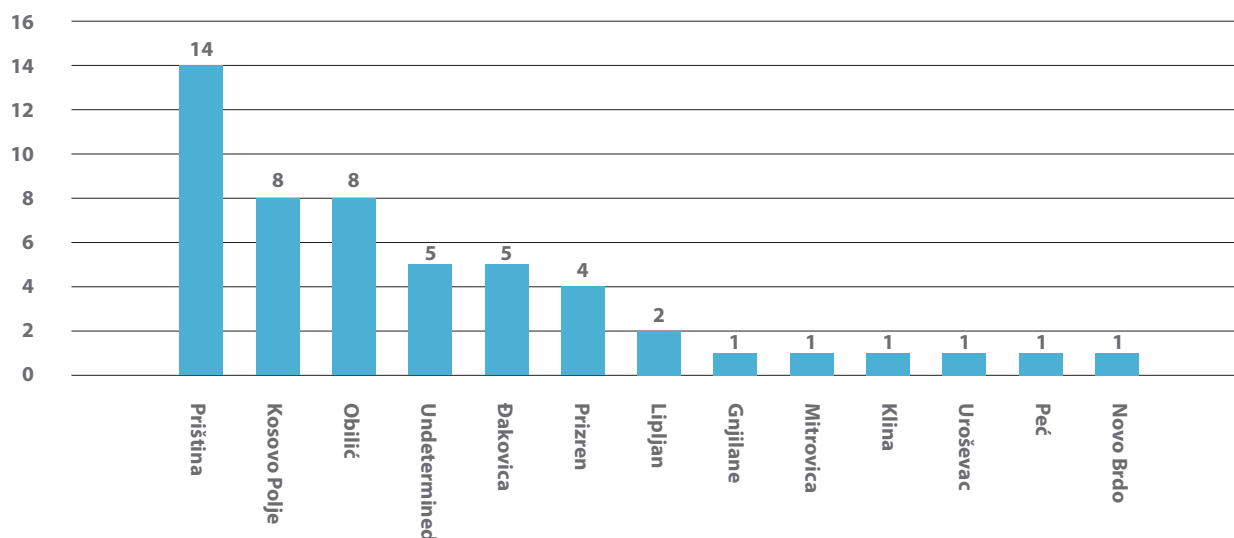
7. The Technical Group for the protection from discrimination of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities: This group has been highly functional and coordinated with institutions to combat discrimination against the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. This group has held regular meetings, and in 2022 held 3 meetings, in 2023 held 3 meetings, and in 2024 held 4 meetings, including roundtables. The Technical Group has continuously addressed and provided recommendations to institutions for combating discrimination through the national platform. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

8. The organization of sessions and information campaigns on how to report cases of discrimination, racism, harassment, hate speech, violence, and bullying for members of the Roma and Ashkali communities and NGOs. This activity has generally been fulfilled by the OGG/OPM. Information sessions were organized on how to

Reported cases of discrimination against Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities by year



Reported cases by municipality where discrimination occurred



report cases of discrimination, racism, harassment, hate speech and violence, and bullying for members of the Roma and Ashkali communities and NGOs at the central and local levels during October and November 2022, where 500 leaflets and 50 posters were distributed regarding the purpose and use of the platform. Meetings were organized in 5 regions of Kosovo. This campaign continued in 2023, with the broadcasting of video spots and the organization of roundtables. In 2024, regional meetings were organized to present the report on the implementation and advancement of the rights of the Roma and Ashkali communities, during which the National Platform for the discrimination of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities was also promoted, along with a demonstration on how to report through the Platform. The meetings were organized on: 16 April 2024 – Prizren; 18 April 2024 – Peje; 22 April 2024 – Gjiilan; 26 June 2024 – Prishtine. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

- 9. Regarding the activity of promotion and awareness-raising about the history, culture, and recognition of the Roma and Ashkali communities:** During 2022, a total of 6 organizations/cultural operators of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities were funded by the MCYS, with a total amount of: €28,432.50.

Based on final data according to the results of the public calls: Art and TK (first call); Art and Culture (second call); Cultural Mobility; Book publishing–purchase–

magazines–author; announced by the Department of Culture/MCYS for 2023 for financial support of cultural project proposals, a total of 18 (eighteen) projects were financially supported in the field of art and culture (cultural heritage) for NGOs and individuals.

The total amount for project subsidies for the year 2023 (NGOs and individuals) is: €101,700.00.

MCYS support continued also in 2024, with the subsidization of various projects of NGOs and individuals for the promotion and awareness-raising about the history, culture, and recognition of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. During 2024, a total of 13 organizations/cultural operators of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities were funded by MCYS, with a total amount of €120,100.00.

In the framework of fulfilling this activity, according to data from the MCYS, the following have also been organized: 1. The organization of inclusive cultural-artistic activities: musical, theatrical, and folkloric performances; visual activities – exhibitions, ballet, documentary films, fairs with handicrafts, cooking, and the presentation of food as a cultural value; organization of debates, roundtables, and trainings on various awareness-raising topics of interest; 2. The organization of cultural events in honor of the Roma flag day (International Roma Day – 8 April) and the Ashkali national flag day – 15 February; through these events, the aim is to contribute to the promotion of the mentioned communities and to the preservation and cultivation of cultural and national identity in the

country; 3. Support of activities in the field of cultural heritage: on the culture, language, history, traditions, and customs of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities; 4. Support of activities in the field of publications (book publishing, magazines, translations into/from the Romani language, enrichment of libraries/literature); 5. Development and strengthening of capacities in sports for the Roma and Ashkali communities; 6. Support of activities in the field of youth for the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities; 7. Support of cultural activities and the marking of special days of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

10. The promotion of the history and culture of the Roma and Ashkali communities through national television programs with participation from municipal public officials/political representatives: This activity, as such, is part of the legal mandate of the Office for Good Governance (OGG), and OGG has continuously conducted promotional activities, appearing in various programs, where the topic has been the promotion of the culture and history of the Roma and Ashkali communities. However, no statistics have been reported regarding the fulfillment of this activity. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

11. The strengthening of capacities for the SOP and GRB through trainings, as an activity, has been fulfilled: From 2022 to 2024, it has been reported that the MLGA, in cooperation with UN WOMEN, has drafted 16 action plans (Standard Operating Procedures). It has also been reported that trainings were held for capacity building in Standard Operating Procedures and trainings on Gender Responsive Budgeting. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

12. The Office for Good Governance (OGG) has continuously worked on the implementation of the action plan. In September and October 2024, OGG/OPM in cooperation with the Council of Europe and the Roma Integration III project, revised the action plan for the implementation and advancement of the rights of the Roma and Ashkali communities for the years 2025 and 2026. **Conclusion: The activity is fulfilled.**

13. Another issue related to protection from discrimination is early marriages within the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. To

combat this negative phenomenon in society, the Inter-institutional Working Group for the prevention and reporting of early marriages of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities was established by Government Decision no. 41/178, dated 13 December 2023. Within this group, research and action plans are being developed to prevent early marriages in these communities, and the reported cases of this phenomenon are being addressed.

14. An important activity for protection from discrimination was carried out on 26 November 2024, and this activity pertains to the **Western Balkans Conference against Racial Discrimination**. The conference was opened by the Prime Minister of Kosovo, Mr. Albin Kurti. This event included participation from Western Balkan countries, where the summit recommendations were published, also addressing the topic of discrimination.

15. OGG/OPM also published the report on the implementation of the Poznan Declaration.

16. In the ongoing efforts of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo toward the advancement of the rights of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, a joint seminar was organized by the Office of the Prime Minister in cooperation with the European Union on the topic **"Policies for the Advancement of the Rights of the Roma and Ashkali Communities in Kosovo"** on 5 June 2024.

17. In line with the fulfillment of the Action Plan, the Office for Good Governance/Office of the Prime Minister, in cooperation with the Ministry of Local Government Administration and with the support of the OSCE, organized a municipal meeting for the implementation of policies for the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities with the Municipal Action Committees on 28 March 2024. This meeting brought together officials at both the central and local levels, with the purpose of informing and discussing the implementation and monitoring of policies for the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities with the Municipal Action Committees.

18. OGG/OPM participated in the Regional Roma Housing Conference in Tirana on 12–13 June 2024, organized by the Roma Integration Project III.

19. Also, within the framework of activities and fulfillment of the action plan, the “Roundtable on Mentoring University Students from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian Communities” was organized by the Office for Good Governance/Office of the Prime Minister in coordination with Advisor Elizabeth Gowing. This activity was held on 27 March 2024.

10.1. CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

1. It has not been reported that trainings were held for notaries, administrators, and bankruptcy trustees, as these are conducted upon request from the liberal professions.
2. Regarding the activity of organizing awareness campaigns to raise public and public officials’ awareness about racism and anti-discrimination toward the Roma and Ashkali communities, the AGE has reported that this activity has been postponed to 2025 because it was not implemented during the years 2022, 2023, and 2024.
3. Regarding the activity of organizing awareness trainings for civil servants about the importance of tolerance and inclusion of the Roma and Ashkali communities in society, AGE has reported that this activity has also been postponed to 2025 for implementation.
4. In general, the activities related to the objective of protection from discrimination have been inclusive, and some of them need to be reviewed and made more concrete. In this specific case, promotional and awareness-raising activities as such should be consolidated into a single activity.

10.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. As for the trainings that will be held for public officials and civil servants, it is recommended that the trainings focus on combating and preventing discrimination.
2. There is a need for stronger coordination between civil society and institutions to encourage reporting of discrimination through the national

platform for protection from discrimination for the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities.

3. They are encouraged to continue undertaking campaigns to promote the Technical Group for the Rights of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, with the aim of fulfilling the commitments arising from the Poznan Declaration.
4. They are encouraged to continue advocacy actions that serve to more broadly promote the National Platform for Protection from Discrimination of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities.
5. Competent actors are encouraged to continue undertaking more advocacy campaigns to raise awareness among the Roma and Ashkali communities regarding the reporting of discrimination cases.
6. They are encouraged to continue undertaking more concrete actions to combat hate speech against the Roma and Ashkali communities.
7. Civil society organizations and the OGG/OPM, through meetings with the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, are encouraged to continue reporting non-anonymously cases of discrimination against them, through the national platform for the protection from discrimination of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities.
8. OGG and civil society, in the coming years, should undertake a series of advocacy meetings with members of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities to raise awareness among community members about protection from discrimination and its reporting.
9. OGG and civil society organizations should prepare an annual advocacy plan to promote the historical and cultural values of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, as well as to prevent and combat discrimination against them.
10. The Western Balkans Summit against Racial Discrimination should continue to be held annually.

11 Impact of the Action on the Advancement of the Rights of the Roma and Ashkali Communities in Kosovo and its Connection to the Poznan Declaration

In general, based on the reported data on the implementation of the action plan for the advancement of the rights of the Roma and Ashkali communities for 2022–2026 and the Action Plan 2022–2024, it is observed that there has been progress and attention given to the advancement of the rights of these communities in Kosovo, based on the provisions of the Poznan Declaration, with the aim of Roma integration.

There is no doubt that the conclusions related to the fulfillment of the objectives and activities of the Action Plan must be reviewed in terms of their measurement against the provisions of the Poznan Declaration.

Regarding the increase in the employment rate of the Roma and Ashkali communities in the public sector, as an objective of the Poznan Declaration, it is worth emphasizing that the year 2023 marked an important development due to the adoption of the Law on Public Officials and the Regulation on the Employment of Public Officials, which defines employment quotas for communities in the Republic of Kosovo and guaranteed positions in the public sector.

Regarding housing, based on the provisions of the Poznan Declaration, the Government of Kosovo, specifically the MFLT, has signed an international agreement, which aims to ensure housing for the Roma and Ashkali communities, and in this regard, this international agreement, as reported by the MESPI, is expected to significantly fulfill the provision of the Poznan Declaration.

Regarding the issue of education, the institutions of Kosovo, specifically the MESTI and local institutions, have made maximum efforts toward the integration of Roma and Ashkali, with the aim of ensuring the teaching process, alternative education, or minimizing school dropouts. Nevertheless, it is crucial to persist with rigorous work in the years ahead to decrease school abandonment rates and boost enrollment to 90% in primary education and 50% in secondary education.

The Ministry of Health and its subordinate institutions have continued to strongly support the implementation of the action plan for the advancement of the rights of the Roma and Ashkali communities during the years 2022, 2023 and 2024. However, work still remains to be done toward the drafting of specific laws aimed at covering health insurance, as required by the respective declaration.

In the field of protection from discrimination, significant steps have been taken in the years 2022, 2023 and 2024. The addressing of cases by the Technical Group and the National Platform for Protection from Discrimination of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities has achieved a high level of protection from discrimination for these communities, as defined by the Poznan Declaration. In 2023, for the first time, within the cases reported to the Technical Group, a judgment by the competent court achieved protection from discrimination for members of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. The National Platform, throughout the years 2022, 2023, and 2024, successfully addressed more than eighteen (18) cases involving non-discrimination, out of a total of 52 reported cases as of 2024.

In conclusion, the main achievements in the implementation of the action plan for the advancement of the rights of the Roma and Ashkali communities 2022–2026 and the action plan 2022–2024 are:

Field of Education:

- Enrollment of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children in public school institutions;
- Registration of learning centers for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;
- Financial support for learning centers for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;

- Allocation of scholarships for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;
- Mentorship of students from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities.

Employment and Social Welfare:

- Encouragement and participation of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities in trainings for labor market needs;
- Wage subsidization;
- Engagement of members of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities in workplace internships;
- Increase in the employment of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities through mediation;
- Financial support through inclusion in social assistance schemes.

Field of Health:

- Provision of mobile mammography services;
- Implementation of home visits;
- Increase in the number and participation in vaccination;
- Organization of promotional and awareness-raising activities in the field of health, where beneficiaries were members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

Field of Housing:

- Feasibility Study for Adequate Social Housing in Kosovo (UN-Habitat);
- Feasibility Study for Affordable Housing (IFC);
- Adoption of the Law on Social and Affordable Housing in first and second reading on 5 December

2024, which includes affirmative measures for the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities;

- Adoption of Law No. 08/L-302 on the Ratification of the Agreement with the Council of Europe Development Bank for a loan of 25 million euros;
- WBIF – Grant of 2 million euros for Technical Assistance in project implementation.
- Drafting of Terms of Reference for the Electronic Register of Social and Affordable Housing;
- Call for expressions of interest for the Adequate Social Housing project in the Municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo, opened in 2024.
- Signing of the Memoranda of Understanding with the 27 Municipalities (Prishtina, Mitrovica North, Drenas, Zubin Potok, Dragash, Shtime, Kamenica, Malisheva, Skenderaj, Ferizaj, Mamusha, Gjilan, Peja, Hani i Elezit, Mitrovica South, Klina, Lipjan, Fushe Kosovo, Istog, Vushtrri, Decan, Junik, Gjakova, Podujeva, Novoberde, Obiliq, Rahovec) that have expressed interest in the Adequate Social Housing Project, in 2024;
- Establishment of the Project Management Unit (PMU);
- Engagement of the team of experts for the Affordable and Social Housing project;
- Public call for the allocation of locations by municipalities in 2024, and response to the public call by 13 municipalities of Kosovo, assessment of applications, and drafting of Terms of Reference;
- Drafting and submission of conceptual projects in the municipalities of Peja, Gjilan, Podujeve, Kamenice, Istog, and provision of Construction Conditions;
- Drafting and submission of main projects in the municipalities of Peja, Gjilan, Podujeve, Istog, and in process of obtaining Construction Permits;
- Affordable and social housing projects have been tendered in 4 municipalities.

Protection and combating of discrimination:

- Establishment and operationalization of the national platform for the protection from discrimination of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;
 - Establishment of the working group against early marriages;
 - Drafting of the report on the implementation of the Poznan Declaration;
 - Organization of summits and other activities for protection from and combating of discrimination;
 - Drafting of the new draft law on Protection from Discrimination;
 - Review of the action plan for the implementation of the advancement of the rights of the Roma and Ashkali communities 2022–2024.
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