



European
Commission



The European Union and Roma – Factsheet Italy

<http://ec.europa.eu/justice/roma-integration/italy/>

4 April 2014

1. Key Information

Roma population	
Estimate in National Roma Integration Strategy	Approximately 130 000 – 150 000
Council of Europe Estimate	Approximately 150 000 (data from 2012) i.e. 0.25% of the population

National Strategy	http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/italy/national-strategy/national_en.htm
Funding	http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/italy/index_en.htm

2. National Roma Integration – 2014 review

	Key steps taken since 2011	Identified Gaps
Education	<p>Measures planned to reduce early school leaving rate in Campania, Apulia, Calabria, and Sicily.</p> <p>National project launched in 2013 involving 13 large municipalities, aimed at increasing school attendance of Roma children in primary and secondary schools.</p>	Adequate funding should be secured.

<p>Employment</p>	<p>Promoting vocational training and job orientation.</p> <p>The national working group on labour has been developing projects targeting Roma people and aiming to prevent early school leaving, integrating migrants, fighting undeclared work, promoting access to services, promoting self-employment.</p> <p>Creation of a national integration website to improve access for foreign nationals to services such as education, work, housing and childcare.</p> <p>http://www.integrazionemigranti.gov.it/en/Pages/home.aspx</p>	<p>Promising initiatives should be extended.</p> <p>Fight discrimination in the labour market.</p>
<p>Health</p>	<p>The national health system provides universal access to healthcare (including Roma people), prevention and uniform criteria for quality services throughout the country.</p> <p>Additional financial allocations in 2012 and 2013 to a national health institute, created to improve migrants' health and to fight poverty-related diseases.</p> <p>Project "TroVARSI" – Vaccinations for Roma and Sinti – started in 2013, and aims at better protecting Roma children from diseases that can be prevented by ordinary vaccination.</p>	<p>The impact of these measures needs to be assessed and further targeted actions considered.</p>
<p>Housing</p>	<p>Efforts to overcome the "camps-system" were made in various areas of the country.</p>	<p>Develop further efforts to overcome the camps-system.</p>
<p>Anti-discrimination</p>	<p>The 'Campaign Dosta! 2012-2013' aims at raising awareness and combating anti-Roma prejudice.</p>	<p>Enforce anti-discrimination legislation.</p> <p>Tackle prejudices against Roma, including through working with the media.</p> <p>Combat anti-Roma rhetoric and hate speech.</p>
<p>Funding</p>	<p>Roma inclusion has been supported by national and EU funds.</p> <p>In the 2007-2013 financial period, Italy allocated 8.7 % (~€ 602 million) of its total European Social Fund (ESF) budget to the integration of disadvantaged people.</p>	<p>Sustainable financing including from national funds should be secured for the implementation of the strategy.</p> <p>As of now, Italy should allocate at least 20% of its total ESF to fighting social exclusion and poverty</p>

Priorities for the future (Commission recommendation)

Implement Roma integration measures effectively.
Secure adequate and sustainable funding.
Improve coordination between the national and local authorities involving civil society.

3. Contacts

Contact Points

National Roma Contact Point

National Office Against Racial Discrimination
<http://www.unar.it>

Managing Authorities for ESF (European Social Fund) funded projects

Ministry of Labour and Social Policies - Directorate-General for Vocational Guidance and Training Policies
Tel: +39 (0)6 4683 5828
Fax: +39 (0)6 4683 4272
<http://www.lavoro.gov.it/lavoro/Euopalavoro>

Managing Authorities for ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) funded projects

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/manage/authority/authorities.cfm?lan=EN&pay=it

Fundamental Rights Agency Country Report:

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2012/situation-roma-11-eu-member-states-survey-results-glance>

4. Promising practices

Improving the employment of Roma

The IRIS project (Roma Integration through Sport) by the local committee Uisp Cirié Settimo in Chivasso is aiming at countering Roma stereotypes. The IRIS project aims at contributing to the integration of Roma people, and particularly Roma children through sport.

The target group of the project are Roma and non Roma children aged 10 – 18 in areas with a high Roma population. Partner associations involved in the IRIS Project are the Courage Foundation from Plovdiv (Bulgaria), the National Roma Center Saint George from Sofia (Bulgaria), ISCA International Sport and Cultural Association from Denmark, and the associations Sport for All of Ilfov County and Suceava (Romania). The project is partly financed by the European Social Fund.

<http://www.uisp.it/settimocirie-eu/?p=341>