



I AM ROMA Project:
Changing Mindsets

Second Transnational Exchange Workshop

22 – 25 May 2012, Timisoara, ROMANIA



Evaluation of Timisoara Workshop and next steps



2

I AM ROMA Project: Changing Mindsets

Summary of Timisoara Workshop

The workshop organised in Timisoara, Romania on 22-25 May 2012 has represented the occasion to engage 'I AM ROMA' partners in a peer review process allowing them to share their local experiences, good practices along with getting feedback from their peers. With 40 participants, the second Peer Review workshop of I AM ROMA Project focused on the theme of Education and on the peer review of I AM ROMA campaigns by project partners and external evaluators. The workshop addressed the challenges facing Roma children in mainstream education and special schools and sought to foster interaction and experience and knowledge transfer among I AM ROMA Partners.

Following a welcome speech, Mr. Haroon Saad, Director of LUDEN, opened the workshop session on Wednesday 23 May 2012 by setting up the context and the manifold challenges faced by the Roma Community in Europe. He also insisted on the importance of "changing mindsets", not only among the general population but also within the Roma Community itself. He then invited the participants and experts to share their sound and constructive experience during I AM ROMA '**Peer review workshop**', building on the following key elements:

- **The European perspectives** on Roma children in Education, which were presented by Caroline Sykora, Eurochild and World Bank expert. Her presentation emphasized on the Roma child perspectives, their limitations and her key recommendation. She also gave examples of successful actions in pointing out the importance to foster exemplary initiatives – such as the participation of children for instance – and to scale up and invest the successful projects.

- **Experience sharing with Roma and non-Roma Students and Teachers.** Teachers from mainstream education (Alina Ardelean) and special schools (Camelia Carabas) along with one Roma (Sorinel Dumitru) and non-Roma (Cornelia Kirali) students shared their own experiences with the audience. The teachers reported their difficulties to maintain a good level of education among Roma children and the decision of many localities to send pupils to special schools. Despite several programmes of intervention implemented by School's headmasters, too much miscommunication remains between the population and the Roma Community. Sorinel, a school mediator from Constanza, called for the nomination of an officer, a contact person representing Roma interests in the decision-making process, being also an interface between the school and the Roma Community. He also insisted on the importance for the teachers to get to know the Roma Community, their customs, habits and their vision in order to change mindsets.

- **The Focus on turning strategy into action on the ground:** Ian Poitier reminded the audience the paramount importance of following a strategic methodology in the development of I AM ROMA local campaigns based on 9 key steps. He also insisted on the key challenge of ensuring a long-term impact of their campaigns in order to sustain the impact of the local actions beyond the life of the project.

- **Case studies from the Intercultural Institute of Timisoara.** Daniela Craciun, Romina Matei and Eugen Gherga presented some of the project activities run by IIT (media activities and youth initiatives) aiming at combating discrimination towards Roma people.

- **Working groups and peer review sessions followed by an evaluation of a Jury of Roma and experts.** In order to bring together different visions and explore some key issues more deeply, the participants were divided into groups to exchange on their local campaigns and the challenges they were facing at the local level. A Jury of Roma and experts chaired by Haroon Saad evaluated the Presentations of the 'Progress-Problems-Prospect' reports of the partners according to a list of agreed criteria (ability to replicate, involvement of Roma, sustainability, innovation and impact)

- **Study visits in Roma Community.** Two study visits have been organised on Tuesday 22 May 2012 and on Friday 25 May 2012. On arrival day, the group visited the District Freidorf before engaging in an inspiring discussion with the Priest of the District. The last day of the Workshop was dedicated to the visit of the district Kuntz and the Resource Centre for Social Entrepreneurship which also seeks to empower Roma community.



3

I AM ROMA Project: Changing Mindsets

Evaluation of Timisoara Workshop

Only two-third of the participants (23 persons) completed the Evaluation form and few persons wrote comments on the last page of the evaluation forms. This has to be considered before reading the following results. Please do not hesitate to comment further and propose your suggestions, ideas to improve the upcoming dissemination workshop as well as the management of "I AM ROMA" Project.

Qualitative results of the Survey

1. What the respondents valued the most:

- **The involvement of Roma (3):** 'The idea of the evaluation of IAM ROMA partners by Roma people' 'Roma people involved in project management' 'Roma School mediator'
- **Peer Review Process and experience sharing with partners (5):** 'learning from peers, group discussion' 'sharing, feedback, discussion', 'exchange of information on campaigns', 'view other projects running' 'interaction in the group, the idea of evaluation'
- **Campaigns examples :** 'Case study of Timisoara' (3) 'IIT project in schools', 'Presentation of Sintra Municipality actions' (2) 'Presentation of EDA actions', 'Presentation of Heraklion actions', 'Presentation of Romani CRISS actions', 'case studies'
- **Diversity of interventions (1)**
- **Roma Child perspectives (1)**
- **Visit of Roma neighbourhoods (1)**

2. What was less relevant for some of you

- **Some of the presentations from Project Partners (6)**
- **Contextualisation (2) :** 'General discussions about facts which we know', 'the reference to international documents'
- **Results from small group discussions (1)**

3. Your suggestions for the upcoming dissemination workshop and for an enhanced project management:

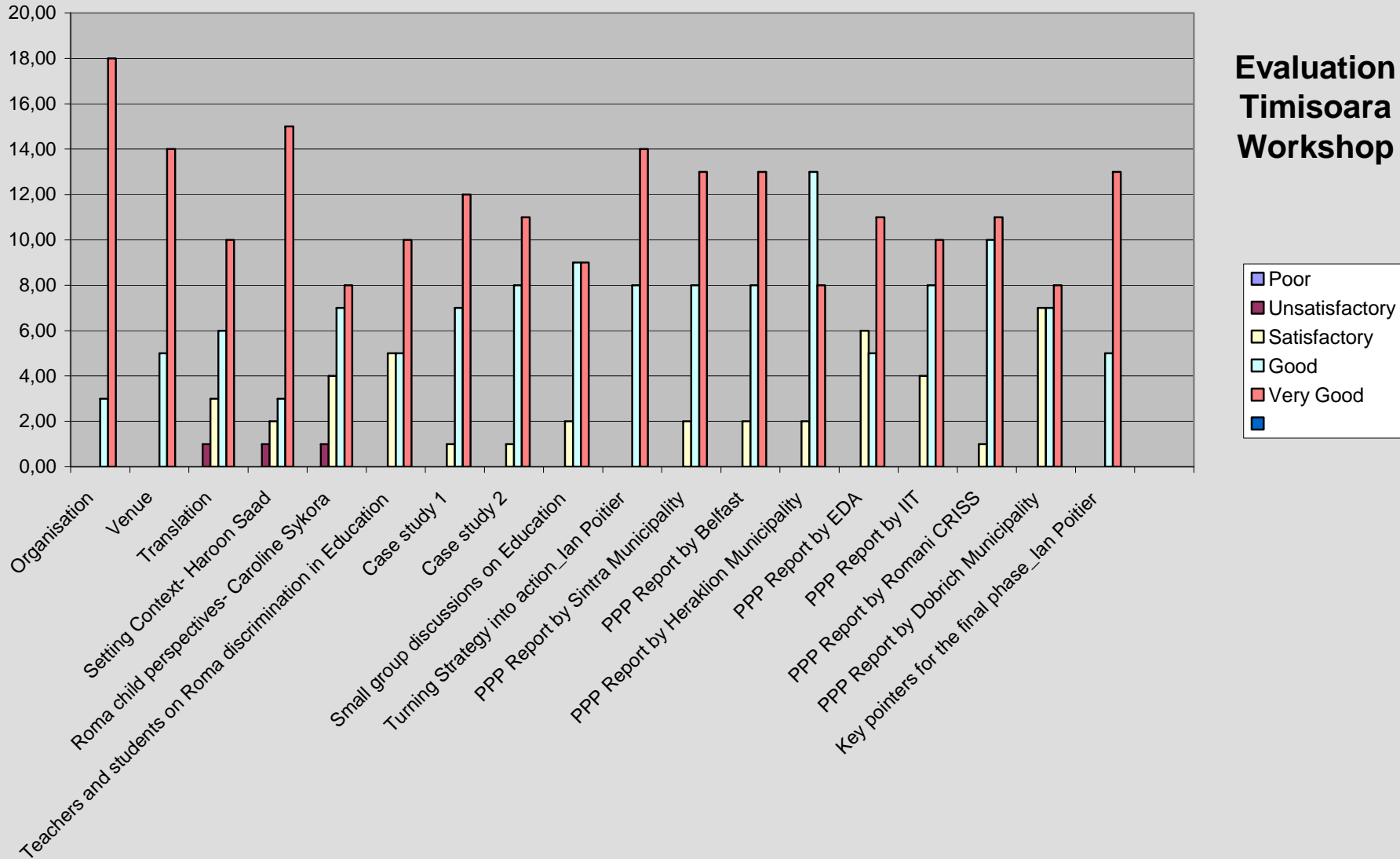
- **Better organisation and time management especially for the last session (4) :** 'Have better time keeping' (1), 'keep the time tighter' (1) 'the last session should be more structured' (1) 'equal time for presentation of Partners' progress otherwise Peer review is not so balanced (1)
- **Better translation (3) :** 'For Romanian to English, the translation was not very good, with sudden breaks', and 'Improve the quality of translation, 'have a good translation'
- **Better disposition of the Room (1)**
- Be more concrete, skip the context part in the Presentation of local actions (1)

Quantitative results of the Survey



I AM ROMA Project: Changing Mindsets

Evaluation Timisoara Workshop





**I AM ROMA Project:
Changing Mindsets**

Next steps

1. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT:



Updated declaration on Staff, timesheets and payslips sent to me by the **20th of June 2012 at the latest** at the following address:

48 rue du Vieux Marché au Grains, 1000 Brussels, BELGIUM

- ⊛ **Declaration on staff updated** with an increase in staff cost of 1990€ corresponding to a total of 22 000€ per partner (Except for Sintra)
- ⊛ All timesheets until end of **May 2012**
- ⊛ All payslips



Peer Review 2, Timisoara: All Expenses Claims forms with receipts and boarding passes sent to me by the **20th of June 2012 at the latest** at the following address:

48 rue du Vieux Marché au Grains, 1000 Brussels, BELGIUM

- ⊛ The Expenses Claim Forms (+ receipts and boarding passes) of ***Sintra Municipality, European Development Agency, Romani CRISS and Intercultural Institute of Timisoara delegations are still missing***



Local Actions, 1st Prefinancing: All Expenses Claim Forms corresponding to the ***first prefinancing request of 12. 000€*** to be sent by email first and **by post before the 30th of June** at the following address: ***48 rue du Vieux Marché au Grains, 1000 Brussels, BELGIUM***

- ⊛ The Expenses Claim Forms of ***Heraklion Municipality, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Romani CRISS, Intercultural Institute of Timisoara and European Roma Employment Agency are missing***



Local Actions, 2nd Prefinancing: All ***second prefinancing requests of 12. 000€*** to be sent (using the form of the first prefinancing request) by email first and **by then post before the 30th of June** at the following address: ***48 rue du Vieux Marché au Grains, 1000 Brussels, BELGIUM***

6



**I AM ROMA Project:
Changing Mindsets**

2. LOCAL MAPPING + LAG PRESENTATION + LOCAL ACTION PLAN



LOCAL MAPPING + LAG PRESENTATION + LOCAL ACTION PLAN sent to me **in one document** by email in word version by the **30th of June 2012 at the latest**, with the following structure and elements:

- ⊗ **Part I - Local Mapping:** A local mapping exercise showing the situation of Roma in the Partners' locations and "capturing" what is currently being undertaken and what is "working"
- ⊗ **Part II- The LAG:** Presentation of the profiles with the rationale for the creation of the LAG and the evidence of the involvement of the Roma Community
- ⊗ **Part III-** The Local Action Plan which should comprise:
 - **1.** The capacity building programme: A report on the capacity- building programme targeting local/regional key actors responsible for anti-discrimination policies and participants from Roma organisations.
 - **2.** A well-planned and consistent Long Term strategy for the local campaigns and key actions using Local /Regional media to get the message across to the general public. This entails the presentation of:
 - a) The campaign material
 - b) The campaign plan
 - c) The evidence of the local/ regional/ national impact and media coverage
 - d) The review of the campaign by the local action group

The 3rd part of the revised Local Action Plans shall be focusing around some key issues:

- I. What is the problem that the LAG wishes to tackle in relation to the sub-theme?
- II. What action(s) are currently undertaken to address this problem?
- III. What action have you identified to improve/create new solutions?
- IV. Which type of indicators did you use to monitor and validate your action?
- V. Which costs do you foresee for this action? Which is the timetable for its implementation?
- VI. What help do you need from the attached experts and the other participants of the project?

This final version had to be produced before 2 April 2012 but I am still waiting for most of your documents.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL THE ABOVE ELEMENTS ARE CONTAINED IN A HIGHLY QUALITATIVE DOCUMENT

7



**I AM ROMA Project:
Changing Mindsets**

3. WEBSITE



All missing information on your LAG sent to me by email by the **6th of July 2012 at the latest**

- ⊗ Some LAG profiles are missing
- ⊗ Some LAG profiles' pictures are missing
- ⊗ Some Partner's and LAG presentations are missing

4. "I AM ROMA" NEWSLETTER



Update on your local actions sent to me by email for the **6th of July 2012 at the latest** with the following information :

- ⊗ State of Progress *of your local campaigns since April 2012*
- ⊗ Upcoming events *until the Dissemination Workshop (January 2013)*

5. DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP IN BRUSSELS



The dissemination Workshop will be organised in January 2013 in Brussels. However, the date of the plenary session at the Committee of the Regions will not be available before October 2012.

**PLEASE BEAR IN MIND THAT I LEAVE THE OFFICE AT THE END OF JULY 2012, SO IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO RESPECT ALL THE DEADLINES SPECIFIED ABOVE
THANKS A LOT FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING,**

Morgane