



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme



# Local Partnership

example of a good practice related to  
Travellers and Roma

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Presentation for Lifelong Learning program LdV – Partnership Project  
“Improving Employment Opportunities in the Labour Market for Marginalised Communities”

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# Local Partnership

- a platform to coordinate representatives of autonomy, state administration, non-profit sector and other members engaged in social inclusion process in municipalities
- Members meet several times a year on regular basis and prepare strategic and specific plans in support of social inclusion. Agency for Social Inclusion understands local partnership to be its fundamental activity.



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# Agency for social inclusion

- Czech government's tool to support municipalities in social inclusion process
- Its mission:
  - supporting municipalities in providing equal conditions
  - helping those in risk of social exclusion
  - connecting offices and establishing successful coordination between public and non-profit sectors

## Provides aid in the following areas mainly:

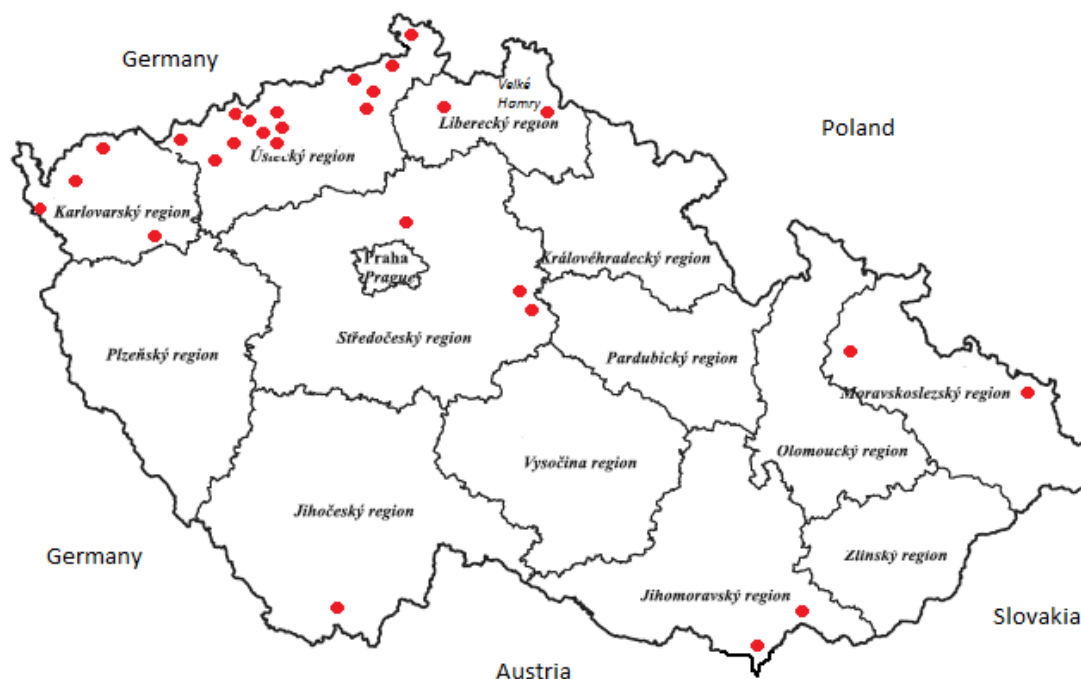
- education and employment field, social services, housing
- Distribution of European funds, state budget funds, regional grant programs and more
- Communication with state administration central offices especially those responsible for social inclusion
- Outlining ideas in areas of legislation, grants and social policies based on good examples originating from work in localities.



# Socially excluded localities

**Agency for Social Inclusion** is currently in operation in a total of 26 socially excluded municipalities throughout the Czech Rep  
It has operated in 40 socially excluded localities since 2008

Liberec region- local partnerships in Ralsko ( Česká Lípa region ) and Velké Hamry (Jablonec nad Nisou region ) have been in operation since 2013



# Social exclusion

- Citizens considered socially excluded are those with difficulty reaching institutions and services and who are excluded from social network and lack social contacts outside the excluded locality.
- Society drop out typically happens when several reasons that can cause life crises accumulate : loss of job, insolvency, housing difficulties, children's learning difficulties, illness...
- Social exclusion is closely linked to long term unemployment.

# Social exclusion

- ethnicity plays a specific role in social exclusion
- It is ( on many occasions incorrectly) assumed by a great number of Czech citizens that social exclusion is a matter of ethnic origin in the first place, not a social problem. However, presently it is an obvious fact that those socially excluded are not all Roma people.
- According to 2006 Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs research there are approx 80 000 inhabitants in socially excluded communities out of which a quarter cannot be considered Roma people. There are approx 170 000 Roma people in the Czech Rep.
- On the other hand social exclusion in the Czech Rep is partly a matter of ethnic origin (high number of Roma people) due to partial discrimination and negative attitude from the rest of the society. See job opportunities, education, housing.

# Local partnership support fields

Ideally, the inclusion process has to take place in many areas simultaneously. With a number of measures to be taken at more levels : autonomy, schools, police and further institutions including non-governmental sector. Those measures have to be coordinated throughout towns and villages. The better the coordination the more effective the measures are.

Most significant areas:

**Housing**

**Employment**

**Education**

**Social services**

**Safety**

**Family and social childcare**



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# Housing

Poor quality housing localities, unsuitable infrastructure and access to extended urban complex. Successful and long term integration in the job market is more difficult for the those inhabitants.

Main challenge is the lifetime and condition of housing buildings, flats are often used by a higher number of residents than recommended or there are no rental contracts, residents have insufficient legal protection. Housing stock owners' debts are hard to recover.



## Measures

- Clear, transparent and non discriminating conditions when allocating public housing
- Using the institute of Particular beneficiary
- Establishment and support of crises housing
- Creating a system of Permeable housing
- Processing Background analysis to establish municipal housing policy
- programs preventing loss of housing



# Education



Socially excluded children or children from culturally different environment often fail to complete primary education, let alone secondary education. Some have to be segregated to a parallel system of special education for mentally disadvantaged children often without a future prospect of rejoining the educational mainstream or studying at a secondary level. Some skip school and do not get on with their teachers. They do not get support from school or family either.

## Measures

***Inclusive education reform*** : each child is a personality with abilities, talents and specific features and is to be provided with a learning environment stimulating their development.

Pre-school education

Answering individual needs, building up responsibility

Assisted learning

School aids and preparation

Cooperation with families

Supporting self-respect and self-recognition

School and classroom atmosphere

School personnel policy

Career choice support

Truancy



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# Social services

- to establish an effective local social service network
- guarantee cooperation between social service providers and other subjects.

## Measures

- Outreach programs
- Social activation services for families with children
- Outreach services and youth drop-in centres
- Case management in social services
- Health social assistance



# Employment

High unemployment rates reach up to 90 or 100% in some socially excluded localities. Such high unemployment rate and long-term or repeated unemployment has a serious impact on the inhabitants.



In addition to material poverty there are social consequences ( exclusion from social and economic life) and psychological consequences ( loss of effort in job seeking, loss of work habits, succumbing to addictions). These consequences decrease the chances of a successful job market integration. Such situation is described as factual unemployment.

Once people from excluded communities work, their position in the job market is mostly marginal. They perform seasonal jobs based on unprotected labour relations.

Their earnings are low and they are under a constant threat of losing their job.

# Employment

## Measures

- tools for active employment policy:  
( retraining, investment incentives, socially beneficial job vacancies, community services and more),  
taking the advantage of public service work  
career consultancy, motivation programs,  
social entrepreneurship, support of small and medium  
businesses,  
use of the institution specific conditions when allocating public  
orders.



# Security

## Measures:

Assistance in dealing with police and institutions

Coordinated platforms for solving security problems in excluded areas

Coordinated methods during extremist demonstrations in excluded areas

Programs of prevention

Regulation of slot machines



# The family and social-legal protection of children

The life of children in socially excluded areas differs from the life of their peers

## The major problems:

Limited living area

Numerous families

Lack of privacy

Insufficient conditions for studying

Low and poor level of education

Low income of the family

Addictions – drugs, alcohol

Non-legal way of living

It all results in warping the child's moral and life values

Since the lack of free time spend meaningfully with the family, the child tends to copy the behavior of parents in his/her free time – by experimenting with drugs, visiting the gambling clubs, vandalism or committing small crimes.



# The family and social-legal protection of children

## Institutional treatment

Children adopt social habits and standards of the major society, although distorted by the standards of the institutional environment. After acquiring legal age, the children return to their families.

## Measures

- Social housing
- Socially activated services for families
- Nursery centers and pre-school clubs
- Targeted healthcare clubs for children and adolescents
- Truancy prevention
- Case management
- Teams for children and early intervention system
- Health/social assistant
- Socio-pathological preventive programs and probation programs



# Thank you for your attention.

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