



CENTER OF RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION CRIS

183, Marginenii de Jos, Prahova County, Romania
Phone: +40732 592 006/+40720 710 151
e-mail: office@asociatiacris.ro
web: www.asociatiacris.ro

Together we will succeed!
Tolerance for a world full of **color!**

TO: Local Council of Ploiesti City
Ploiesti City Hall

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATIONS

for improving the situation of Roma communities Mimiú and Catun from Ploiesti City

The letter of recommendations is based on the conclusions of the training of 26-28 May 2017, organized in Sinaia with representatives of 10 Roma NGOs from Prahova county and of the event "Antigypsyism - combating the negative attitudes about Roma in Romania", events organized by the Center of Resources for Social Inclusion CRIS within the "Annual Work Program 2017" project funded by the European Roma Grassroots Organization Network with the support of the European Commission.

Following the training of 26-28 May 2017, it was found that none of the participating Roma NGOs were consulted on the writing of the Local Development Strategies (LDS) of the Local Action Groups (LAG), which are being implemented in Prahova County, are not involved in animating the LAG territory and are not involved in implementing these Local Development Strategies. Also, following the visits we made to 14 Local Action Groups in the South Muntenia and South-East Regions, it was found that Roma were not consulted in the writing of Local Development Strategies, and the measures for Roma were budgeted with up to 3% of the strategy's budget.

On September 6, 2017, Center of Resources for Social Inclusion CRIS organized the event "Anti-gypsyism - combating negative attitudes about Roma in Romania". The event, the first of its kind in Romania, was organized in Ploiesti, at the Central Hotel. European, national and local decision-makers, representatives of the embassies of Sweden, France, Italy and the United States of America, representatives of the most well-known Roma and non Roma NGOs in the country and abroad, met with representatives and members of local Roma communities in order to identify challenges and solutions to combat Roma discrimination and to contribute to the improvement of the situation of Roma communities, including the Roma communities Mimiú and Catun from Ploiesti, in all areas of public life.

A special interest was shown by the Romanian Presidency, which, in a letter addressed to the organizers, wanted to know the conclusions of the event.

Among the key speakers of the event was Mr. Adrian Florin Dobre, Mayor of Ploiesti. In this context, Mr. Adrian Florin Dobre, spoke about the development of a Local Development Strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion in the Marginalized Urban Areas of Ploiesti, and among other things he said: "We can solve this problem only through communication and through a very well-defined strategy" and showed openness emphasizing that understanding and mutual tolerance



This recommendation paper has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation "EaSI" (2014-2020). For further information please consult: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>

The information contained in this invitation does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission.

Centre of Resources for Social Inclusion CRIS carried out this work as partner of ERGO Network www.ergonetwork.org.





CENTER OF RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION CRIS

183, Marginenii de Jos, Prahova County, Romania
Phone: +40732 592 006/+40720 710 151
e-mail: office@asociatiacris.ro
web: www.asociatiacris.ro

Together we will succeed!
Tolerance for a world full of color!

might be from his point of view, one of the best ways for an entire society, to move forward in a normal and correct direction.

Mr. Dobre also stressed the importance of this type of meeting that should be done more often to facilitate dialogue between the local level and the municipality. At the end of the speech, Mr. Adrian Florin Dobre assured the audience about the support Roma in Ploiesti will have from the Ploiesti City Hall.

According to the press release of the Ploiesti City Hall from September 4, 2017, on 31st August 2017, at the office of the Managing Authority of the Human Capital Operational Program, the Mayor of Ploiesti, Mr. Adrian Florin Dobre signed the Funding Contract between the Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and the European Funds as Managing Authority of the Human Capital Operational Program and Ploiesti Municipality, having as main goal the granting of a non-reimbursable fund for the implementation of the project "O 9 sansa!", supporting the marginalized community in Ploiesti City by developing a Local Development Strategy (LDS) to combat poverty and social exclusion in marginalized urban areas (MUA) in Ploiesti, funded by the Human Capital Operational Program 2014-2020, Axis Priority 5 - Local Development under Community Responsibility (LDCR), Specific Objective 5.1: "Reducing the number of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion in marginalized communities (Roma and non-Roma) in cities / municipalities with more than 20,000 inhabitants, with focusing on those belonging to the Roma minority by implementing integrated measures / operations in the context of the community led development mechanism. "

The Letter of Recommendations primarily focuses on the local dimension of the development and implementation of the Local Development Strategy to combat poverty and social exclusion in marginalized urban areas (MUA) in Ploiesti, especially in the Roma communities Mimiui and Catun which we know very well and in which we have been working for two years with the children in the third grade at the School no.19 Ploiesti.

Center of Resources for Social Inclusion CRIS notes that although the very existence of this funding contract signed by the City Hall is an achievement in itself and represents a turning point for the marginalized communities in Ploiesti and we especially hope for the Roma communities Mimiui and Catun, to develop and implement the Local Development Strategy requires a participatory process to ensure that the needs of the two Roma communities are clearly reflected in the intervention measures and the budget of this strategy.

In addition, we believe that Roma in Mimiui and Catun must be precisely defined as the target group of the strategy so that addressing the problems they face and the proposed measures to solve them will be beneficial for the entire community.



This recommendation paper has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation "EaSI" (2014-2020). For further information please consult: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>

The information contained in this invitation does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission.

Centre of Resources for Social Inclusion CRIS carried out this work as partner of ERGO Network www.ergonetwork.org.





CENTER OF RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION CRIS

183, Margineni de Jos, Prahova County, Romania
Phone: +40732 592 006/+40720 710 151
e-mail: office@asociatiacris.ro
web: www.asociatiacris.ro

Together we will succeed!
Tolerance for a world full of color!

RECOMMENDATIONS for the elaboration and implementation of the Local Development Strategy (LDS) to combat poverty and social exclusion in marginalized urban areas (MUA) in Ploiesti, focusing on the Roma communities Mimiui and Catun:

- **Coherent design of intervention measures:** The City Hall of Ploiesti should take into account the internal heterogeneity of Roma communities by adopting cross-sectorial approaches and by ensuring that no Roma sector is left out of the scope of the Local Development Strategy. The City Hall of Ploiesti should be consistent in designing the Strategy, based on reliable data and evidence.
- **The Role and stronger participation of Roma:** The City Hall of Ploiesti should ensure the participation of Roma civil society and Roma communities in the elaboration of the Local Development Strategy, especially in its conception, implementation and monitoring.
- **Centralization of Antigypsyism:** Antigypsyism manifestations, including institutional racism, should be tackled transversely through the Local Development Strategy intervention measures, while specific reactive and preventive measures (information and awareness campaigns to combat discrimination, etc.) should be included in the strategy.

Recommendations for inclusion in the Local Development Strategy of specific investment measures to combat poverty and social exclusion of Roma in the Mimiui and Catun communities

- **Investments in housing infrastructure** - rehabilitation / modernization of social housing.
- **Investments in the educational infrastructure** - rehabilitation / modernization of the School no.19 in Ploiesti and the school's sports field; rehabilitation / modernization of the kindergarten within the School no.19, Ploiesti.
- **Investments in health infrastructure** - development of healthcare services for members of Roma communities Mimiui and Catun in Ploiesti: free medical analyzes at least once a year during the implementation of the strategy for those who are not insured / registered with the family doctor, to prevent the onset and / or spread of contagious diseases and an individual community medical clinic with medic, community health nurse, health mediators, to be constructed.
- **Investments in the community infrastructure** - asphaltting of all streets in the Roma communities of Mimiui and Catun in Ploiesti; connection to the water supply and sewerage network of all Roma households in the Roma communities of Mimiui and Catun in Ploiesti; connection to the natural gas supply network of Roma households not yet connected in the Roma communities of Mimiui and Catun in Ploiesti.
- **Education** - increasing access to and participation in early childhood education and secondary education of Roma children in Mimiui and Catun through educational programs developed in School No.19 in Ploiesti, in order to reduce the early school drop-outs.



This recommendation paper has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation "EaSI" (2014-2020). For further information please consult: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>

The information contained in this invitation does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission.

Centre of Resources for Social Inclusion CRIS carried out this work as partner of ERGO Network www.ergonetwork.org.





CENTER OF RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION CRIS

183, Marginenii de Jos, Prahova County, Romania
Phone: +40732 592 006/+40720 710 151
e-mail: office@asociatiacris.ro
web: www.asociatiacris.ro

Together we will succeed!
Tolerance for a world full of color!

- **Facilitating the access to the labor market** of people able to work in the Roma communities of Mimiui and Catun in Ploiesti, by implementing specific measures in the field of employment: second chance programs for completion of studies, professional qualification, labor market prospecting, social economy projects, labor market insertion, etc.

We believe that after every one of you will read this letter again, you will not only say how well I am not a Roma, how well I do not live in Catun or Mimiui and that you will understand for the good of the entire Ploiesti community you need to make a change in the Roma communities of Mimiui and Catun as soon as possible, because you have what you need to do it, because you have with whom to do it and because it is primarily your duty as an elected local official to do it.

Kind regards,
President,
Rodica Elena Tudor



This recommendation paper has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation "EaSI" (2014-2020). For further information please consult: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>

The information contained in this invitation does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission.

Centre of Resources for Social Inclusion CRIS carried out this work as partner of ERGO Network www.ergonetwork.org.

