

RUSE MUNICIPALITY

Information on project Integrated approach of Ruse Municipality for integration of Roma and other vulnerable groups on the territory of municipalities in Ruse Region

The project is part of the Bulgarian-Swiss Cooperation Programme under the Programme for the promotion of the social integration of Roma and other vulnerable groups. The partnership agreement was signed by Mayor Plamen Stoilov and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Ivaylo Kalfin and the Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation in Bulgaria H.E.Denis Knobel on 23.06.2015.

Ruse Municipality is one of the 4 municipalities, approved for financing, after having passed all stages of approval in competition with 19 Bulgarian municipalities.

The project "Integrated approach of Ruse Municipality for integration of Roma and other vulnerable groups on the territory of municipalities in Ruse Region" amounts to 2 458 984 BGN and will be implemented within 3 years.

The main objective of the projective is to improve the life of Roma and other vulnerable minority communities and to create the right conditions for their integration. In order to achieve this, with the allocated funds, Ruse Municipality will modernise kindergartens and schools in Roma neighbourhoods, to make them an attractive place for the Roma children.

The project activities include providing counseling for Roma parents, enhancing the professional skills of pedagogical specialists for work in multicultural and multiethnic environment, increasing the access to and the quality of health services, creating modern conditions for raising and educating the children from the Roma community and other vulnerable groups.

The project is implemented in partnership with 3 municipalities – Ivanovo, Borovo and Vetovo, on the territory of which part of the activities will be implemented, the other partners are "Angel Kanchev" University of Ruse, "Medika Expert" Medical Centre, Association of General Practitioners, Association "Centre Dinamika", Association "Equilibrium" and Association "Bulgarian-Romanian Trans-border Mediation Institute".

The Programme for promotion of the social inclusion of Roma is implemented together with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Science and Ministry of Health and is coordinated by a management unit, administered by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.



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The Swiss party is financing 85% of the total budget (8 088 500 swiss francs), and the Bulgarian - 15%.

The programme supports the efforts of the Bulgarian government in the implementation of the National Strategy of the Republic of Bulgaria for Roma integration 2012-2020r. The main goal of the programme is to improve the living conditions of the people from the Roma community by providing easier access to services in the field of healthcare, education, strengthening cultural and social integration in the Roma community.