

Roma and Sinti on the road to a better well-being



MDM- Dokters van de Wereld



- International humanitarian organisation
- Fight for the right and access to healthcare for the most vulnerable

Initiative Roma project



- Médecins du Monde (MDM) France ,
Romeurope Project 1997-2007
- MDM Netherlands and the National Sinti
en Roma Organisation (L.S.R.O)

Médecins du Monde International Projects



- Romeurope project , focus on housing, mother and childcare en access to healthcare
- Medical mobile teams, for Roma families who have little access to health.
- Rehabilitation projects, for sanitation en clean drinking water.
- Social participation projects, education and social support

MDM France



Mobile Clinic





Project example Romania and Bulgaria

- Survivors of Gross Human Right abuses
Project goal: increase the long- term capacity of NGO's and Roma leaders to evaluate NAP's and to develop benchmarks for successful Roma integration into health systems.



Project example Romania



- Tuberculosis and Hiv/Aids
- Project Goal: Improve access and completion of TB treatment for Roma communities, reduce new infections.

Situation in the Netherlands



- The Roma and Sinti represent a group of
- 5 000 – 10.000 people , legal and illegal
- Roma and Sinti are not officially recognize as a minority
- The main part of the Roma and Sinti live in caravans, mobile homes on small local government areas in the southern provinces of the Netherlands,



Specific problems 1

- Socio-economic living conditions not always sufficient
- Lack of places of residence
- Disturbed interethnic relationships with neighbouring residents
- Little/no integration in Dutch society.
- Majority are living below poverty level.
- They face discrimination, criminalisation and stigmatisation *Source: Forum report (2003), interviews with the key persons of the communities and institutions).*



Specific problems 2

- The illiteracy rate is high (60%)
- lot of unemployment (estimated rate of unemployment in the Netherlands is 90%).
- life expectancy is 15% below Dutch average,
- the child mortality rate is twice as high and
- psychological problems concerning Second World War are common



Specific problems 3

- On a national level there are only a few institutes and policy rules/guidelines that address these group and its problems.
- the National Roma and Sinti organisation (LSO) is very motivated to give a strong support and cooperation for further research by focus groups among Roma and Sinti themselves.

Project Roma and Sinti in the Netherlands



Roma and Sinti on their way to a better well-being

- Goals:
- Effective, efficient and sustainable health promotion program .
- Empowerment of National Roma/Sinti organization

Exploratory mission

- 1.