



Enhancing the effective realization of Roma children' compulsory school education as the most efficient tool towards the mid-term improvement of the situation of Roma communities, and added value of ensuring access to vocational education for Roma youth

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Education system in BiH

- The education sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina reflects the State Constitution
- BiH consists of two entities (Republika Srpska and Federation of BiH) and Brčko District of BiH
- Republika Srpska has one ministry of education. Federation of BiH consists of ten cantons where each canton has their own ministry of education. Brčko district has it's own government in which is the Department for Education



- 12 institutions have **full and undivided competencies** in education
- The Federal Ministry of Education and Science coordinates activities within the Federation of BiH, between ten cantons
- **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH** – state level ministry responsible for carrying out activities and tasks within the jurisdiction of BiH related to defining basic principles of coordination of activities, harmonization of plans of entity bodies and defining strategy at the international level, including, among others, education



Roma in Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Largest national minority in the country
- According to the census in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2013. about 12.583 citizens declared them as Roma (6.511 male and 6.072 female)
- It is estimated that there are much more Roma in BiH – between 25.000 and 50.000
- Roma live in 6 out of 10 cantons, in Republika Srpska and Brčko District of BiH



Education of Roma in BiH

- Education is the key to successful social inclusion, demarginalization and economic independence
- In order to overcome social exclusion and reduce poverty, in 2010. Council of Ministers of BiH, on the initiative of Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees BiH, adopted the Revised Action Plan of Roma Educational Needs of BiH (RAP)
- In 2016. Council of Ministers of BiH recommended to educational authorities to create action plans with precise measures for most efficient inclusion of Roma in educational system



Involvement of Roma in educational system

School year	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Primary school	1.248	2.078	2.051	1.842	1.917
Completed Primary school	28	88	243	151	190
Secondary school	137	92	108	112	169
Completed Secondary school	30	29	43	38	53
Higher education	10	8	5	7	4*

According to the Report on the Implementation of the Revised Action Plan of Roma Educational Needs 2016/2017 it was not possible to determine the actual number of Roma children included in educational system. One of the main reasons is that many of them don't declare themselves as Roma.

*Incomplete data. Only in Tuzla Canton 3 students are enrolled in University.



School dropouts

- Migrations
- Economic reasons
- Illness
- Distance
- Marriage
- Unsupportive parents
- Lack of interest

	Primary school	Secondary school
2012/2013	/	13
2013/2014	64	1
2014/2015	127	0
2015/2016	145	15
2016/2017	42	45



Barriers to education

- Extreme poverty of Roma families
- Frequently changing place of residence
- Inability to understand the importance of education
- Insufficient financial resources for education
- Romani language not included in schools
- Lack of scholarships provided by responsible authorities
- Unwelcoming school environments



Mesaures to encourage education

- Individual consultations with parents and children
- Free textbooks, meals and transportation
- Additional classes
- Cooperation with social workers
- Visiting families at home
- Education of teachers
- Employment of referents for Roma issues (TK, BD BiH)
- Supporting engagment of Roma mediators (FBiH)
- Promoting equality and diversity in schools
- Strengthening awareness of the importance of education



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Two Secondary
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Everything is possible



Thank you for your attention

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