



# Annual Programme Report No.1 EEA Grants 2009-2014

## Programme CZ05 – National, Regional and Local Initiatives to reduce Inter-Group Inequalities and to Promote Social Inclusion

Reporting period: 22.2.2013 – 31.12.2013

Programme Operator: Ministry of Finance – National Focal Point

Programme Partner: N/A

Donor Programme Partner: N/A

**Content:**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Executive summary.....                           | 2 |
| 2. Programme area specific developments.....        | 2 |
| 3. Reporting on Programme outcome.....              | 3 |
| 3.1. Progress on horizontal concerns.....           | 3 |
| 4. Reporting on outputs.....                        | 4 |
| 4.1. Selected projects.....                         | 4 |
| 4.2. Pre-defined project.....                       | 4 |
| 5. Project selection.....                           | 4 |
| 6. Progress of bilateral relations.....             | 4 |
| 7. Monitoring.....                                  | 6 |
| 8. Need for adjustments.....                        | 6 |
| 9. Risk management.....                             | 6 |
| 10. Information and publicity.....                  | 6 |
| 11. Cross - cutting issues.....                     | 7 |
| 12. Attachments to the Annual Programme Report..... | 7 |
| SIGNATURE:.....                                     | 8 |
| Annex 1: Risk assessment of the programme.....      | 1 |

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## 1. Executive summary

The Programme agreement of CZ05 was signed on October 31 2013. The proposal for the PDP was under preparation to be submitted in the Programme Operator's information system CEDR and was in its finalization phase by the end of the year. Otherwise, little activity was recorded as the delays in approval and submission was mainly caused by elaboration of Manuals and setting up of information systems. Manual of the Intermediary (Programme partner) is being finalized and shall be issued in the early 2014. The cooperation with the Intermediary is excellent.

The Programme is in its initial, mostly administrative phase, thus, no specific results regarding the outputs, outcomes, horizontal concerns or monitoring could be provided in this report.

The bilateral indicators have been thoroughly discussed and agreed on with the Programme partner. So far no additional bilateral contact workshops or events were organized as a part of the Programme, since the Programme has not been launched yet. Nevertheless, the project partner participated in a number of bilateral events while preparing the pre-defined project.

A risk analysis has been elaborated together with the Programme partner. It should be noted, that from all 15 Programmes implemented in the Czech Republic, the CZ05 ranked as 2nd least risky right after the CZ01 Technical assistance + Bilateral Fund (both with low level of risks). As the main risks were identified the Setup of the programme implementation system, where not all implementation documents have been issued by the end of the monitored period, and related to possible Time delay in the Programme implementation.

In 2013, protests against Roma people have occurred in a number of cities and towns in the Czech Republic. Street protests were accompanied by intense hate speech on the Internet a spread of hoaxes. The protests were largely covered by national media. Despite the fact, that a special governmental taskforce was set up in order to react and resolve the situation, these events further underline the need for sustained and effective communication campaign via the Programme CZ05.

## 2. Programme area specific developments

The National strategy (2013-2014) for police work in relation to minorities was approved by the Minister of Interior on 13 May 2013 and the strategy continues to work on the adaptation of the police in the conditions of growing social diversity and equip police officers with adequate social skills so as to be able to work effectively in relation to minorities, including foreigners, and the quality and equal access to them;

There has been a spark of radical protests targeting Roma communities in a number of Czech cities and towns, particularly during summer 2013. Street protests were accompanied by intense hate speech on the Internet a spread of hoaxes. The protests were largely covered by national media.

Except for few civil initiatives there was no response by political or cultural elites that would condemn the hatred and violence towards the Roma minority.

A special governmental taskforce was set up in order to react and resolve the situation. The taskforce resolution from December 11, 2013 orders the Office of the Government, ministries and prime minister to react in coordinated and effective manner through media to counter false and fictitious rumours

about the Roma and about measures and provisions taken to prevent further escalation of social and ethnic tensions.

While the police taskforce may provide for enhanced security, the main aim of the overall strategy is the achievement of co-existence without conflict between the numbers of Roma communities and the rest of the society. These events further underline the need for sustained and effective communication campaign.

### **3. Reporting on Programme outcome**

The Programme agreement of CZ05 was signed on October 31 2013. There have been no outcomes of the Programme as it is in its initial, mostly administrative phase. This is related to the risks management, please see chapter 9.

#### **3.1. Progress on horizontal concerns**

**Progress towards horizontal concerns**

**Respect of human rights, multicultural dialogue incl. integration of national minorities**

Protecting human rights and empowering vulnerable groups, such as minorities and the Roma population, is a horizontal concern for the EEA and Norway Grants in Czech Republic. The Programme CZ05 directly contributes to

- improvement of the young people's awareness about the issues of hate violence, which is a response to the increasing number of ethnically motivated attacks and the increasing intolerant sentiments in the population;
- to strengthening the capacities of local actors for effective prevention and combating the manifestations of extremism and racism;
- transfer of good practice and increase of awareness about successful social inclusion between representatives of local authorities and the general public, which will lead to a broader support of implementing efficient policies of social inclusion of the excluded, including the Roma.

Recent development in the area, especially the rise of extremism and several violent incidents and street protests during the summer 2013, has not only underlined the need for such a programme as CZ05, but has also provided for a good timing and focus on the target group of the campaign, which is soon to be realized, due to massive media coverage. It will serve as an answer (or an alternative) the efforts of the extremists, the negative media images and the spread of hate speech, and thus will the campaign within the CZ05 significantly contribute to horizontal concerns related to fundamental values such as promoting tolerance, multicultural understanding, respect for the rights of minorities including the Roma, and combating hate speech, extremism and racism. So far, intensive cooperation with other bodies involved, including the institutions and NGO's dealing with Roma issues (e.g. InJustitia, Romea.cz, Romano Vodori and People in Need), has been ongoing and these stakeholders welcome the campaign as a help and stimulus in their own programmes, projects , campaigns and day-top day work. But the main progress will be recorded after the programme launch.

## 4. Reporting on outputs

### 4.1. Selected projects

Not relevant.

### 4.2. Pre-defined project

The proposal for the PDP was under preparation to be submitted in the Programme Operator's information system CEDR and was in its finalization phase by the end of the year. Otherwise, little activity was recorded as the delays in approval and submission was mainly caused by elaboration of Manuals, setting up of information systems and other causes described in other chapters of this Report, mainly Risk management and related Annex 1.

## 5. Project selection

Not relevant.

## 6. Progress of bilateral relations

The bilateral indicators have been thoroughly discussed and agreed on with the Programme partner. They include Number of project partnership agreements in the public sector (1), and Level of satisfaction with the partnership (perceived as stimulating / enriching / enabling).

So far no additional bilateral contact workshops or events were organized as a part of the Programme, since the Programme has not been launched yet. Nevertheless, the project partner participated in a number of bilateral events while preparing the pre-defined project. This included:

**Workshop for bloggers and online human rights activists on how to combat hate speech online, Budapest 22 - 24/10/2012** - The aim of this 3-day workshop was to provide young bloggers and activists with better understanding of what hate speech means and how could it be fought with available online and offline tools. The Campaign No Hate speech Movement by Council of Europe was introduced.

**Workshop on Roma Inclusion, Brussels 25/10/2012** - Presentation of projects and initiatives focused on Roma inclusion planned for implementation in member states via the EEA mechanism.

**Conference "Tackling hate speech: Living together online", Budapest 27 - 28/11/2012** - Workshop organized by the Council of Europe focusing on tactics and strategies to fight hate online.

**Right-wing Extremism and Hate Crime in Europe, Oslo 14 - 15/5/2013, organised by NMFA, EEA and Norway Grants**

**Combating discriminatory attitudes, racist violence, hate speech and hate crime against Roma, Budapest 4 - 6/9/2013** - Topical meeting of the Council of Europe CAHROM group aiming on setting a

definition of the "Antiganism" term and means to mitigate it. As an outcome, the expert guidelines were elaborated for the member states.

Workshops and other events organized by the campaign team:

**Hatefree Culture workshop for local organisers of the One World Film Festival, Czech Republic, 16/11/2013** - 4-hour workshop focused on tactics on how to fight hate speech online and how to facilitate a discussion about stereotypes.

**HateFree Culture workshop at the Barcamp Against Hate Event (DOX Gallery), Prague 2/3/2013** - Presentation of campaign plan and discussion about the role of art and artists in the fight against hate and violence, where NGO representatives, students, marketers and other public were present and engaged.

**No Hatespeech Movement Czech Republic, Prague 26/11/2013** - Our campaign presented at the workshop of the Council of Europe campaign

Consultations with relevant local initiatives throughout the project preparation period:

**InJustitia** - only and leading NGO that provides awareness about hate violence as well as professional legal support to hate-crime victims (<http://en.in-ius.cz/>)

**Romea.cz** - Leading Roma news agency

**Romano Vodori** - Magazine for multicultural youth

**IQ Roma Service** - Brno based NGO providing support and services to social excluded Roma communities

**Slovo 21** - NGO providing mainly capacity building to young Roma with special focus on artistic and creative production

**Konexe** - Initiative supporting local Roma communities especially during outbreaks of hate and violence, protests and demonstrations

**People in Need** – the biggest NGO in the Czech Republic with strong social inclusion program ([peopleinneed.cz](http://peopleinneed.cz))

Part of the campaign team actively participated in two recent most high profile online and offline initiatives countering the rise of anti-Roma sentiments: "Čechy v ČR nechceme" ([stopcechum.cz](http://stopcechum.cz)) and [Nicheznazor.cz](http://Nicheznazor.cz)

Coordinator of the campaign is on board of advisors of No Hatespeech Movement campaign (International campaign by the Council of Europe) and where future collaboration was repeatedly discussed.

Meeting with NROS team that administrates the EEA Fund for Nonprofit Nongovernmental Organisations for better synergy of programmes.

As the campaign is targeting hate - violence towards any other minority, not just Roma, campaign objectives and tools with the Prague Pride organisers ([www.praguepride.cz](http://www.praguepride.cz)) were repeatedly discussed.

Educational activities had been discussed at a special Roundtable where representatives of most relevant educational NGOs were present and provided feedback to our plans.

Introduction to representatives of mayors and other local stakeholders took place during the Monitoring

group meeting in August 2013. The activity coordinator also discussed the campaign goals in the field with mayors and other municipal actors.

Meetings were taking place in the offices of the afore-mentioned initiatives. The campaign goals and strategic ideas were introduced in order to collect feedback and ideas for further planning. Terms of future cooperation were agreed, nevertheless, no specific official documents were signed.

## 7. Monitoring

The Monitoring Plan of the Programme assumed the first year of implementation to be the 2012. In fact, the Programme was approved as late as 22 February 2013. In this APR, the Monitoring plan 2013 was also not applicable due to the fact that the final PDP proposal was still to be submitted in the PO Information system even at the end of the year 2013.

Following its assessment and based on information therein, the PO will decide on the suitable date of the OSM.

## 8. Need for adjustments

Not relevant – no changes were considered, except the fact that delays in the approval of the Programme/PDP shortened the time for actual implementation.

## 9. Risk management

A risk analysis has been elaborated by the Programme operator. It should be noted, that from all 15 Programmes implemented in the Czech Republic, the CZ05 ranked as 2nd least risky right after the CZ01 Technical assistance + Bilateral Fund (both with low level of risks). As the main risks were identified the *Setup of the programme implementation system*, where not all implementation documents have been issued by the end of the monitored period, and related possible *Time delay in the Programme implementation*.

In the case of Programme setup, Manual of the Programme operator is being finalized and shall be issued in the early 2014.

The realization of the programme, and especially the realization of Pre-Defined project (PDP), might be endangered by delay in the approval of both at the national level. Further delays might result in non-fulfilment of the PDP indicators. The mitigation measures are accelerated approval procedures, successful tender (monitored by the NFP) and careful monitoring of the PDP time schedule during its implementation.

## 10. Information and publicity

The Ceremonial launch of the Programme – based on the approval of the PDP, it is expected the Ceremonial Launch of the Programme will be coupled with the Ceremonial conference of the PDP “Campaign against racism and hate violence.” The expected date is February 2014. Expected number of

participant will be 50-70 (representatives of the NGO sector and other relevant institutions), the place is to be announced.

Web pages and social media – the Programme and PDP has been continuously publicized via :

- o Web pages of the National Focal Point: [www.eeagrants.cz](http://www.eeagrants.cz)
- o Web pages of the CZ05 Programme Operator : <http://www.eeagrants.cz/cs/programy/ehp-fondy-2009-2014/cz05-socialni-zaclenovani>
- o Facebook, Twitter: Profile “EHP a Norské fondy”

## 11. Cross - cutting issues

The Ministry of Finance identified the risks in the Programme and the stakeholders are able to manage them (see the Risk Analysis). The Programme is still in its initial phase, thus the contribution to Cross-cutting issues has not been significant.

**Good governance:** The Programme adheres to the principles of good governance.

**Social sustainability:** The cooperation and information transfer between the NFP, the Office of the Government – Agency for Social Inclusion and other stakeholders is above the standard and provide for highly coordinated strategy for social inclusion, especially for Roma inclusion in the Czech Republic. The sustainability is thus enhanced through coordinated efforts of the whole sector. The aim of the predefined project is a better awareness and change in the attitudes to the manifestations of racism and hate violence, especially of the young generation. By increasing the competencies of local actors (teachers, police and local authorities) the continuation of the set processes will be ensured even after the project ends. We expect the awareness activities and the media campaign to continue even after the project ends.

**Economic sustainability** - no specific measures were realized during the monitored period. In the years 2012 – 2015 the project “Campaign Against Racism and Hate Violence” will be implemented. This will establish activities, which we expect to continue even after the project ends (e.g. the use of the web site by municipalities, new educational programmes for schools and the police). After the project ends, we expect a return to the normal mode, where the campaign against racism will be supported by the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic as in 2009.

**Gender equality** – no specific measures were realized during the monitored period. The equal representation of women and men will be taken into consideration during the preparation of the media campaign (selection of campaign faces, spot screenplays, documentary movie, etc.) and in the other educational activities, especially in supporting the civic education.



## 12. Attachments to the Annual Programme Report

**Annex 1: Risk assessment of the programme**




**SIGNATURE:****For Programme Operator**

*I certify that I am duly authorised to sign this Annual programme report and that I have thoroughly reviewed the progress of the programme, reporting on outcomes and outputs, risk management provided in this report and the information are correct and accurate.*

|                     |   |  |      |     |       |      |
|---------------------|---|--|------|-----|-------|------|
| <b>Name</b>         | Zuzana Kudelová   | <b>Optional second signature</b>   |      |     |       |      |
| <b>Position</b>     | Deputy Head of the Department<br>of International Relations                         | Martina Bečvářová  |      |     |       |      |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic   | Head of the Monitoring Unit<br>Ministry of Finance of the Czech<br>Republic        |      |     |       |      |
| <b>Signature</b>    |  |  |      |     |       |      |
| <b>Date</b>         | Day   | Month  | Year | Day | Month | Year |
|                     | 17  | 02   | 14   | 10  | 02    | 2014 |

**For the National Focal Point**

The National Focal Point certifies that the status of reporting of the programme described above is accurate.

|                     |  |                                  |      |     |       |      |
|---------------------|--|----------------------------------|------|-----|-------|------|
| <b>Name</b>         | Eva Anderová   | <b>Optional second signature</b> |      |     |       |      |
| <b>Position</b>     | Deputy Minister of Finance   |                                  |      |     |       |      |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic  |                                  |      |     |       |      |
| <b>Signature</b>    |  |                                  |      |     |       |      |
| <b>Date</b>         | Day  | Month                            | Year | Day | Month | Year |
|                     | 13   | 02                               | 2014 |     |       |      |

Annex 1: Risk assessment of the programme

| Type of objective <sup>1</sup>              | Cohesion (Programme)                              | Programme absorption   | Capacity | Legislation changes  | Time risk - delay in commitment and disbursement of funds  | Specific programme risk (risk identified in PP relating to PRG outcomes)   |
|---|---|--|----------|--|--|--|
| Risk  | Irrelevant, the Programme is composed of one PDP. | The PDP is not directly linked to legislation. The area of Roma issues is, however, a part of political parties' election programs, so it can, to a limited degree, influence the governmental strategy. | low      | low  | The Legal act on the award of the grant has not been issued yet, the PRG also contains tenders. The PDP is not according to the planned schedule, new schedule had to be taken over. PDP The delay might significantly endanger the fulfillment of planned PDP indicators. | Failing cooperation with other ministers, lack of trust of regions, NGOs, etc., in the planned activities.   |
| Description of risk in the reporting period | low   | low  | low      | All legislative proposals will be monitored in advance and evaluated with regard to their impact on the PDP realization. In case of need, changes will be implemented to reflect the actual legislation. | The mitigation measures are accelerated approval procedures, successful tender (monitored by the NFP) and careful monitoring of the PDP time schedule during its implementation.   | All relevant stakeholders will participate in the preparation of the PDP. Representatives of ministers, NGOs, regions, etc., will be invited to the Steering |
| Likelihood <sup>2</sup>                     | high  | low  | low      | low  | high   | middle   |
| Impact <sup>3</sup>                         | low   | high   | low      | low  | low  | middle   |
| Importance <sup>4</sup>                     | n/a   | low  | low      | low  | low  | middle   |
| Mitigation planned/done                     |   |  |          |  |  |  |

<sup>1</sup> The risks should be categorised in one of 3 ways, depending on whether it poses a risk to the cohesion objective, the bilateral objective, or is more of an operational issue.

<sup>2</sup> Likelihood is described as Low, Middle or High according to its scoring gained in the risk analysis. (Low: 1-2, Middle:3-4, High:5)

<sup>3</sup> Impact is described as Low, Middle or High according to its scoring gained in the risk analysis. (Low: 1-2, Middle:3-4, High:5)

<sup>4</sup> Importance is counted as Likelihood multiplied by Impact and described as Low, Middle or High according to its scoring gained in the risk analysis (Low: 1-8, Middle: 9-15, High: 16-25).

| Type of objective <sup>1</sup> | Risk  | Description of risk in the reporting period   | Likelihood <sup>2</sup> | Impact <sup>3</sup> | Importance <sup>4</sup> | Mitigation planned/done   |
|--------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---|
|                                |   |   |                         |                     |                         | will be invited to the Steering committee in order to have part in the effective steering of the project. |
| Bilateral outcome(s):          | Bilateral relations                                     | The international cooperation is related only to participation in the final conference.   | Low                     | Low                 | low                     | N/A   |
| Operational issues:            | Management and control structures, programme management | The Manual of the Programme Operator has not been issued, but is in the final phase of its elaboration. Cooperation within the PO is excellent. | low                     | high                | middle                  | Regular check and update of PO Manual. Regular meetings, Steering committee and other meetings.           |
|                                | Programme implementation set up                         | Some of the Manuals and guidelines are not available at present   | high                    | high                | high                    | Issuance of the PO Manual and other relevant guidelines.  |
|                                | Reports and irregularities within programme             | No irregularities has been reported   | low                     | high                | low                     | Consistent verification of monitoring reports, on-the-spot monitoring, audits.                            |
|                                | Programme audits/controls                               | No audit or control has been performed so far.  | high                    | middle              | middle                  | Regular monitoring, on-the-spot visits and audits.  |
|                                | Information system                                      | The NFP created information and monitoring system CEDR, which is in the testing phase.  | middle                  | middle              | middle                  | Breakdowns and failures will be minimized by intensive cooperation with the contractor.                   |
|                                | Corruption risk   | The NFP system of control and tender procedures are well set.   | Middle                  | Middle              | middle                  | Thorough verification of procedures, evaluation, etc.   |