

EURoma +: Reinforcing policy learning for Roma inclusion

Next steps and working plan:
Proposals of future actions within
the project



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Key ideas from this morning (1): the context

- We are in a key moment: the conception and the planning process of the next programming period
- Policy decisions and policy commitment is crucial and is needed: an appropriate connection between the NRIS (policy tool) and the SF (financial tool).
- It is not only matter of willingness but also it requires a proper understanding of the subject:
 - Shared analysis and diagnosis
 - Appropriate conditions for actions need to be created
- We need to take stock from previous lessons and incorporate them to the planning process: the Partnership Contracts and the Operational Programmes
- There is a need for support in this process and the project can contribute to provide this support
- We need to demonstrate impact through development of indicators, thematic concentration and integrated approach



Key ideas from this morning (2): the challenges

Long list of obstacles. 4 areas in which we need to resolve obstacles.

1. Policy approach. Horizontal and vertical levels. Fragmentation of policies in most countries.
2. Management system. Need for integrated operations, partnership approach, involving more actors, long-term approach, complementarity of projects.
3. Implementation mechanisms, need to simplification of cost options, adapt measures to different circumstances, delay in beginning and implementation project.
4. Issues related to evaluation and monitoring. Gathering information and collecting data. Indicators and difficulty of reporting on results. Need to improve incentives for participation. Importance of transferring knowledge.



Objectives and potential contribution of the project

Increasing the impact and effectiveness of the Structural Funds for Roma inclusion in the next programming period

Fostering political
commitment

Creating appropriate
inter-connection
between the NRIS and
the Cohesion Policy

Improving the planning
process

Ensuring that the lessons
learnt during the current
period are incorporated
in the policy decisions
process.

Facilitating mutual
learning, exchange and
providing support.



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Objectives of this session

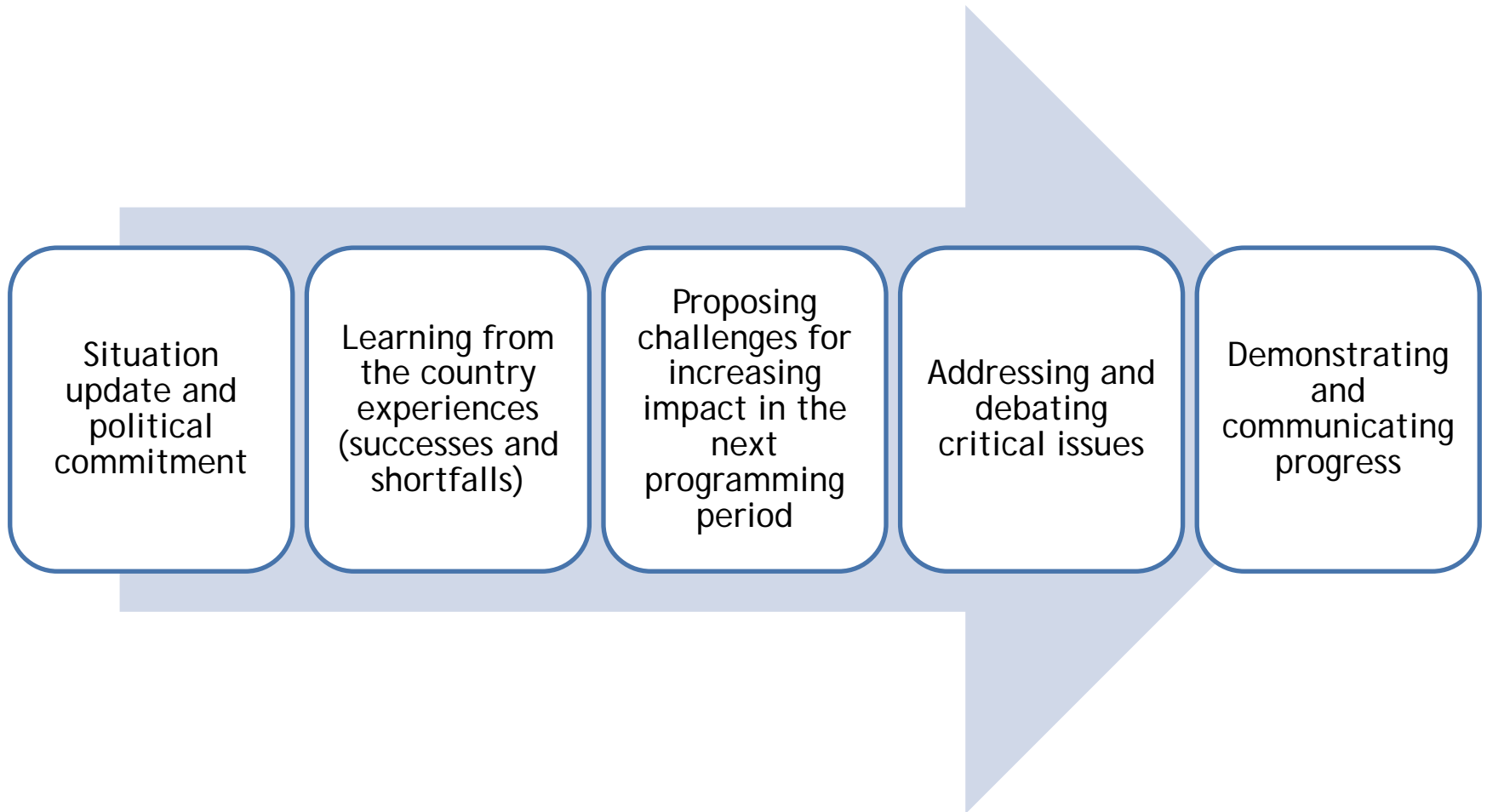
To present in detail the activities proposed for the project

To achieve consensus on the implementation process of the project (development of the foreseen activities)

- To identify the expected outcomes for the activities
- To suggest potential contents for the transnational mutual learning workshops
- To agree on the objectives and working methods of the country-by-country baseline analysis and the joint report



The project cycle



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The main actions of the project

Activities	Outcomes
First Steering Group Meeting (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Current situation from the participant countries is updated•Political commitment to achieve the project's goals is demonstrated
Country-by-country meetings (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Lessons learnt during the current programming period are identified•Joint report providing proposals based on the elements that have proved to be successful
2/3 Transnational mutual learning workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Key topics related to Roma policies and SF are addressed•Existing experiences are shared and tested, and mutual learning is facilitated
Second Steering Group Meeting (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Assessment of the impact of the project (analysis of PCs and OPs and the extent to which proposals have been incorporated)



First Steering Group Meeting (2013)

Aim and countries participating

Aim of the meeting: to gather decision makers so as to

- Confirm their commitment to the project and building a strong and sustainable partnership
- Achieve a consensus regarding the key elements of the Network: specific objectives and activities as well as expected results and outputs
- Define the contents and method for the country-by-country meetings
- Identify the detailed contents of the transnational workshops
- Agree on the Network management and decision making process

Countries participating

- Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia, Spain, Romania.



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First Steering Group Meeting (2013)

Participant's profile, working method and expected outcomes

Participants profile

- Heads of ESF Managing Authorities
- National Contact Points for Roma Inclusion,
- Representatives from different DGs from the Commission, notably DG Employment, DG Education and DG Regional Policy,
- Other relevant stakeholders may be invited.

Working method

- Inputs
- Round of presentations by participant countries
- Open debates

Expected outcomes

- Current situation from the participant countries is updated
- Political commitment to achieve project's goals is demonstrated



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Country-by-country meetings (2013)

Aim, working method and participants' profile

Aim of the meetings

- To draft a baseline analysis regarding the planning process in each of the participating countries.
- To deepen the discussion on the subjects addressed today (explicit but not exclusive, national-local, integrated approach, partnerships, alignment between policies and funds, Roma involvement, evaluation mechanisms).
- To understand the Roma issues, adjust and concretise EU principles and messages.

Working method

- A working guide (template) will be provided in order to harmonize the country meetings contents so as to compare final results

Participants' profile

- Key players in the SF planning and implementation and in the Roma policies (a small group of participants)
- The Technical Secretariat will also participate in the meeting in order to draft the report.
- Suggested number of participants: between 5 or 6 players from ESF, ERDF, RNCP, and other relevant actors.



Country-by-country meetings (2013)

Expected output and calendar

Expected output

- Joint report based on country by country meetings. The report could include:
 - An analysis of the main advances as well as existing difficulties and how are addressed
 - Proposals and recommendations based on mutual learning
 - The state-of-play in each country, including the key areas which should be addressed, and the types of actions which could be undertaken to improve the situation.

Calendar

- Second part of 2013.



2-3 Transnational mutual learning workshops

Objective, topics and working method

Objective

- To discuss in more depth key areas in which further efforts are needed and where exchange of information and mutual learning between Member States could be beneficial.

Potential topics

- The concrete topics will be identified and selected according to the baseline analysis although they could potentially contribute to discuss:
 - The effective combination of EU Funds for Roma inclusion, with a special focus on the territorial and integrated approaches
 - Complementarities and synergies between target and mainstreaming services in the SF

Working method

- A handbook will be prepared for each seminar
- Plenary and discussions in small groups to facilitate the exchange of information and mutual learning



2-3 Transnational mutual learning workshops

Participants, expected outcomes, location and calendar

Participants

- Medium-level officials from the ESF and ERDF MA representing the Heads of Unit
- National Contact Points for Roma Integration
- Representatives from the authority in charge of the NRP as well as representatives from the key ministerial departments (mainly education, employment, housing, health care and social services)
- Different DGs from the Commission, notably DG Employment, DG Justice, DG Education, DG Agriculture and DG Regional Policy
- Technical Secretariat.
- Other relevant stakeholders may be invited.

Expected outcomes

- Facilitate mutual learning through encouraging transnational cooperation
- Reflecting and discussing on the specific topics -current experiences, challenges faced, possible solutions, etc
- Exploring and testing of ideas, experiences, and practices as well as learning from each other on strategies

Location

- To be held in one of the country of the Network partners

Calendar

- First part of 2014



Second Steering Group Meeting (2014)

Objective, working method and expected outcomes

Objective: gathering decision makers in order to

- Present the results of the project of the participating Member States.
- Describe the extent to which participant countries have integrated the proposals/recommendations made in the analysis in their Partnership Contracts and Operational Programmes.
- Assess different ways of continuing the cooperation
- Identify strategies to ensure that project's results reach other Member States

Working methods

- Country presentations in plenary presentations and debates

Expected outcomes

- Assessment of the impact of the project (analysis of PCs and OPs and the extent to which proposals have been incorporated)



Second Steering Group Meeting (2014)

Participants, location and calendar

Participants

- Heads of ESF Managing Authorities
- National Contact Points for Roma Inclusion,
- Representatives from different DGs from the Commission, notably DG Employment, DG Justice, DG Education, DG Regional Policy and DG Agriculture,
- Other relevant stakeholders may be invited

Location

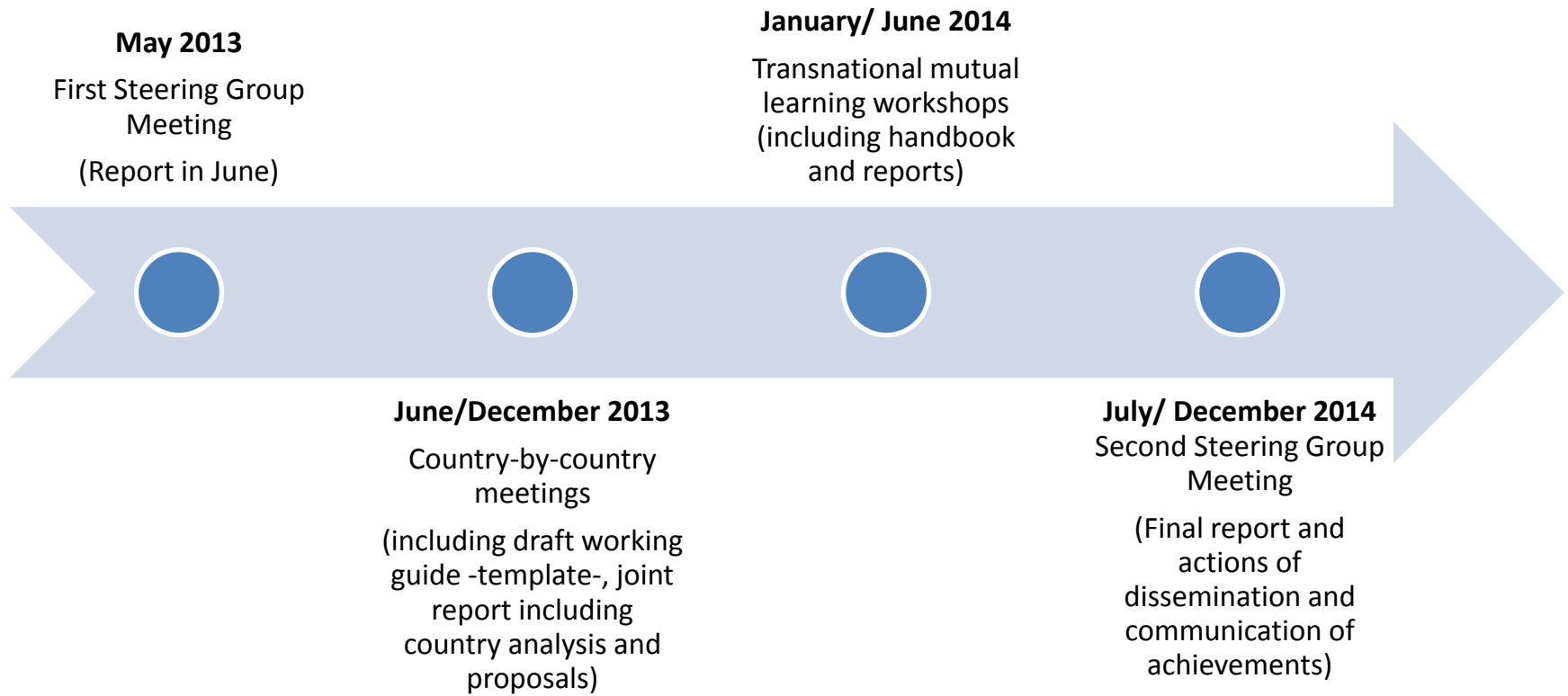
- Brussels (trying to coincide, either before or after, with ESF Committee meetings)

Calendar

- Second half 2014



Calendar



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Summary of outputs

