

## “Transnational Cooperation on Roma Community and Social Exclusion. New opportunities for the upcoming period of Structural Funds (2007-2013)”

**This working seminar** is the first step to set up an exchange and learning network to tackle problems faced by the Roma community in many European countries.

The Structural Funds 2007-2013 reinforce the principle of transnationality and/or territorial cooperation. In this regard, we offer an opportunity to establish a European network amongst all the organizations administering and developing interventions under the structural funds aimed at improving the Roma community's social inclusion.

The ESF Administrative Unit in Spain and the Fundación Secretariado Gitano (FSG), with the support of the FIIAPP, organise this seminar in Madrid. The seminars' main purpose is to lay the grounds for a future and stable cooperation for the following 6 years.

This first meeting's aim is to gather in-depth knowledge of the activities of the Structural Funds foreseen in each Member state targeting the Roma community; to investigate the exchange opportunities of the transnationality and/or territorial cooperation priority; and, finally, to put forward cooperation proposals between Member states.

The working language of the conference will be English.

### Thursday, 7th June

- 13.00-14.00 Welcome Address:**
- Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Mr. Vladimir Spidla
  - Spanish Minister for Work and Social Affairs Mr. Jesús Caldera Sánchez-Capitán
- 14.00-15.00 Lunch at the meeting venue**
- 15.00-15.30 Opening**
- Representative from the Spanish Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
  - Representative from the FIIAPP
  - Representative from the FSG
- 15.30-16.30 The Structural Funds opportunities and social inclusion policies aimed at the Roma community in the European Union**
- Representative from the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. Action against Discrimination, Civil Society
  - Representative from the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. Unit ESF Coordination
  - Representative from the European Commission, DG Regional Policy, European Territorial Co-operation
- The Spanish experience in the use of the Structural Funds in favour of the Roma community (2000-2006)**
- FSG Adviser. Representative from the EC High-level Group on social inclusion of ethnic minorities
- 16.30-16.45 Coffee-break**
- 16.45-19.00 Round of interventions from the participating Member States to inform about their perspectives on the Roma community and the Structural Funds (2007-2013)**
- 21.00 Dinner and Cultural Evening**

### Friday, 8th June

- 9.00-11.00 The Spanish Operational Programme “Fight against Discrimination” (2000-2006) and the Roma community.**
- Ideas for transnational outputs:
- The ACCEDER programme: access of the Roma community to the labour market
  - Monitoring and evaluation:
  - Monitoring Centre on Roma community labour insertion
  - Research “Employment and the Roma community”
  - Awareness-raising actions: media campaign “Get to know them before judging them”
  - Other initiatives
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee-break**
- 11.30-13.30 The opportunity offered by the Transnational Cooperation: Proposals for Transnational Cooperation (2007-2013). Open discussion**
- Introduction by ESF Spanish Administrative Unit
- 13.30-14.30 Lunch at the meeting venue**
- 14.30-15.30 Further Discussion**
- 15.30-15.45 Concluding remarks**
- 15.45-16.00 Closing of the seminar**