



**MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
Republic of Bulgaria**

**Pilot Integrated Housing Scheme - the combination of
Operational Programme Regional Development and
Operational Programme Human Resources Development**

An example from Bulgaria

**EURoma meeting
Madrid, 13 December 2012**

www.mrrb.government.bg
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OPRD background information (1)

OPRD General Objective: Enhancing the quality of life and working environment with better accessibility to basic services and creating new opportunities for improved regional competitiveness and sustainable development

Budget: ≈1 361 mln. euro (EU contribution)

Managing Authority: MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Two priority axes resolve problems relating to the provision of appropriate and adequate infrastructure for marginalised groups including roma (Priority axis 1 “Sustainable and integrated urban development” - educational, social, cultural and urban environment infrastructure and Priority Axis 4 “Local Development and Cooperation” – educational infrastructure)

Key project selection criteria under OPRD – addressing the needs of disadvantaged groups including roma



OPRD background information (2)

- **Educational infrastructure improved** – 5 schemes launched, total € 214,70 mln. contracted – 9 792 representatives of marginalised groups benefit from provision of better access to state and municipal educational infrastructure- nurseries and kindergartens, primary and secondary schools
- **Social Infrastructure improved** – 2 shemes launched, total € 11,86 mln. contracted, - 16 759 representatives of marginalised groups benefit from improved social infrastructure (specialized care institution)
- **Cultural infrastructure improved** – 2 scheme launched, € 26,06 mil. contracted - 1700 representatives of marginalised groups benefit from renovated buildings of cultural institutions
- **Urban environment improved** – 2 schemes launched, total € 124,8 mln. Contracted - 92 401 representatives of marginalised groups benefited from the renewed urban environment - regeneration and creation of public recreation areas, e.g. parks, children playgrounds



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – main steps – establishment of working group (WG) (1)

- Established **Interinstitutional Working Group** with the Council of Ministers under the leadership of the Minister of EU Funds Management for elaboration of a **Concept for integrated project under OPHRD and OPRD for construction of homes for vulnerable groups**
- The working group consists representatives of the Council of Ministers responsible for monitoring and coordination of the EU funds, representatives of MA of OPRD and MA of OPHRD and key ministries dealing with integration of marginalised groups
- Approach based upon the **design** elaborated under the Scheme for Deinstitutionalization of Children in Bulgaria – **a joint initiative of OPRD (ERDF) and OPHRD (ESF)**



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – main steps – identifying integrated projects by WG(2)

Main tasks of the Working Group with the Council of Ministers:

- **to make selection of integrated projects (preselection of project ideas)** – with the aim to create a pilot design for providing contemporary social homes
- **to determine pilot municipalities** - specific beneficiaries under the OPRD and OPHRD schemes for providing contemporary social homes
- to elaborate **selection criteria** for the representatives of vulnerable groups to be accommodated in the built/rehabilitated social homes



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – main steps – identifying integrated projects by WG(3)

Key criteria for selection of integrated projects elaborated by the Working Group with the Council of Ministers:

- **analysis of status and needs of the target group** – data about the population living in poverty and isolation, employment status, level of education
- **desegregation feature of projects:**
 - Availability of existing housing or lands (municipal property) - location/s of housing construction to be outside the segregated area inhabited by the target group
 - establishment of new segregated areas is not eligible
 - provision of social homes **with technical infrastructure and access to social, healthcare and educational infrastructure** (school, hospital, etc.)



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – main steps – identifying integrated projects by WG(4)

Key criteria for selection of integrated projects elaborated by the Working Group with the Council of Ministers:

- **integrated approach** – obligatory combination between investment component (OPRD) and “soft measures” (including OPHRD opportunities):
 - **provision of public services** (administrative, healthcare, educational or social) guaranteeing social inclusion of the target group
 - **prerequisites for employment** of the target group representatives in working capacity age
- **obligatory participation and active commitment of the community**, i.e. projects are to be implemented in partnership with NGO/s working at local level



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – main steps – identifying integrated projects by WG (5)

Eligible target groups of integrated projects are to include representatives of at least 2 of the specified groups:

- Homeless people and/or such dwelling in very bad living conditions;
- Parents of children, including minors, large families, children with poor health and disabilities;
- People at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Roma community are not exclusively targeted. Eligible target groups are all vulnerable groups identified in the target areas



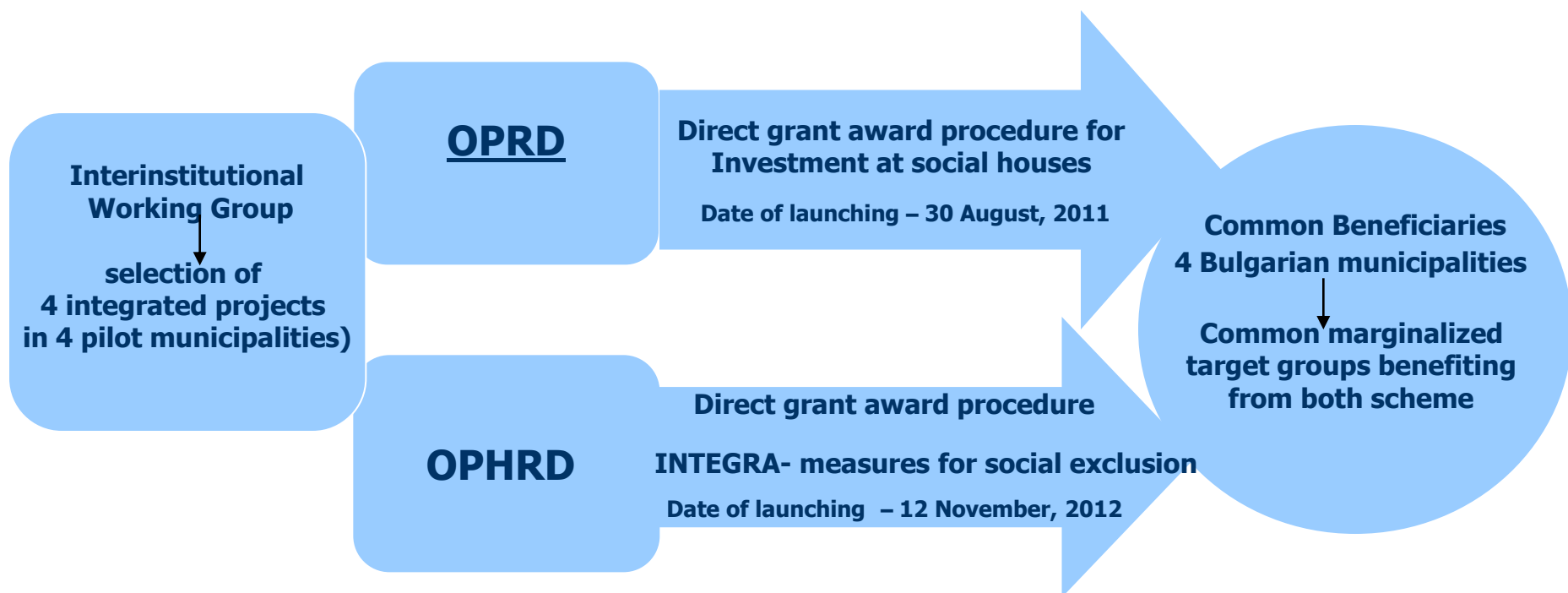
Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – main steps – identifying integrated projects by WG (6)

Main stages of the work of the Council of Ministers' Working Group:

- **On 15.06.2011 was launched the collecting of project ideas by the Council of Ministers for selection of integrated projects providing contemporary social homes to vulnerable groups**
- **By the deadline 14.07.2011 – were received 36 project ideas out of a total of 86 eligible municipalities**
- **On 15.08.2011 by the Minutes of the Working Group's session:**
 - **4 municipalities (integrated projects) are approved for beneficiaries under OPRD and OPHRD - Burgas, Vidin, Devnya, Dupnitsa**
 - **3 reserve municipalities (in case of release of sufficient financial resources): 1. Varna Municipality, 2. Peshtera Municipality and Tundja Municipality**

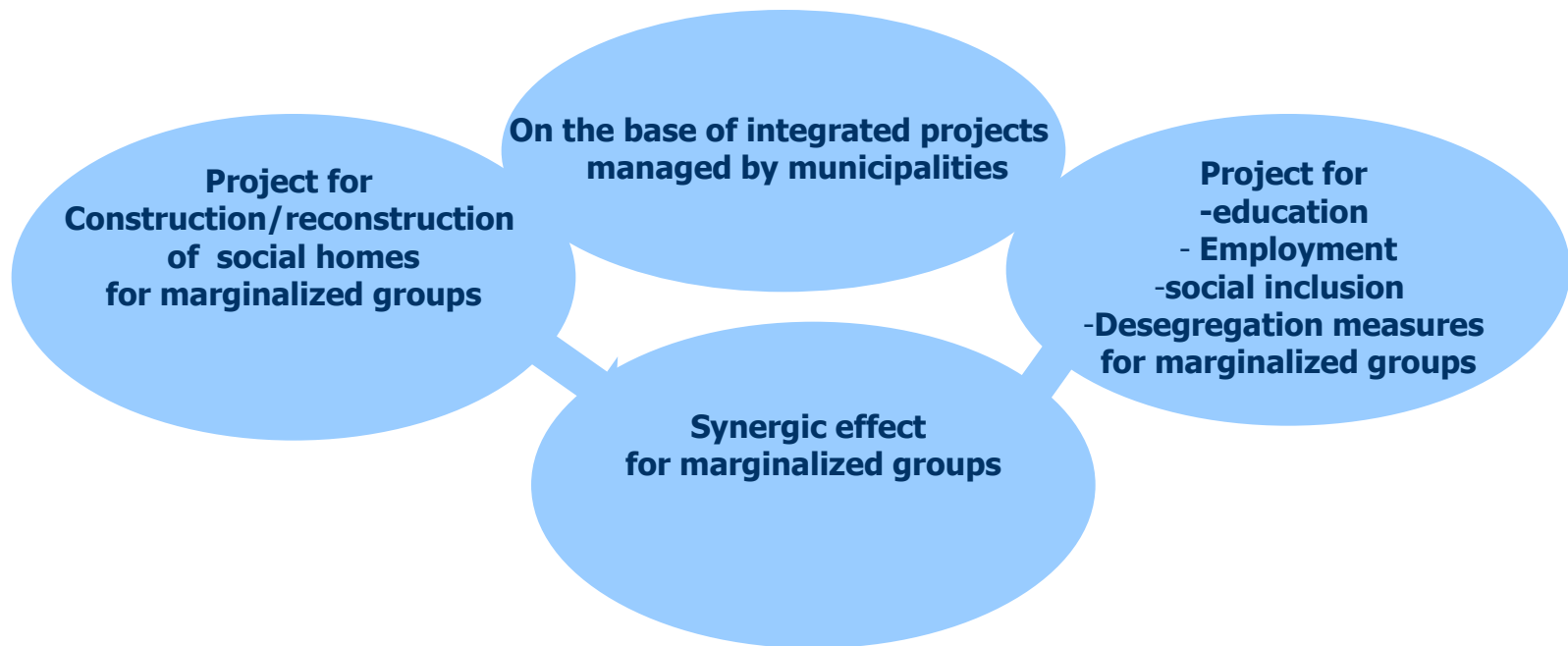


Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – main steps – launch of the 2 schemes (7)





Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – main steps – added value (8)



OPRD housing intervention is complemented with OP HRD action in the fields of employment, education, social inclusion and desegregation measures – more effective and efficient help to marginalized groups which increasing added value of project results

Interaction between both funds - 4 pilot projects financed from two different structural funds - Sustainable effect in construction of homes for vulnerable groups



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – contribution of OPRD - Scheme for social housing (1)

Priority axis 1 “Sustainable and integrated urban development”

Operation 1.2. “Housing”

Scheme “Support for provision of contemporary social homes for accommodating vulnerable, minority and low-income groups of the population, as well as other deprived groups”

- Date of launching the scheme – **30 August, 2011**
- Total amount of the scheme – **€ 8 million**
- Deadline for submission of project proposals – **01 March, 2012**
- Beneficiaries – **4 pilot municipalities selected by the Interinstitutional Group with the Council of Ministers**



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – contribution of OPRD - Scheme for social housing (2)

Eligible activities for funding under OPRD Scheme

- Establishment of a **new housing** intended for social homes in 100% municipal property areas where representatives of the target group are to be accommodated
- **Reconstruction and renovation of the existing housing**, 100% municipal property intended for social homes
- **Delivery of adequate equipment and furniture** for social homes related to provision of basic living conditions
- **Improvement of the access for people with disabilities** to the social homes
- **Public works measures for the surrounding area** of the newly built/renovated social homes.



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – contribution of OPRD - Scheme for social housing (3)

Important requirements for projects under OPRD Scheme

- **integrated approach** – OPRD interventions are to complement activities providing education, employment, healthcare, social inclusion of the target group – **OPHRD contribution**
- **clear selection criteria** for the target group representatives to be accommodated in the social homes provided by the project;
- **clearly described obligations** to be undertaken by the target group representatives after their accommodation in social homes provided by the project;
- **clearly described monitoring rules** for observation of the undertaken obligations and commitments on behalf of the target group.



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – contribution of OPRD - Scheme for social housing (4)

Envisaged investments under OPRD within the framework of the selected pilot municipalities – provided 443 individual social housing

Burgas Municipality – construction of 5 multifamily building (a minimum of 150 homes) for 90 representatives of vulnerable groups

Vidin Municipality – reconstruction of a total of 50 existing homes (9 blocks of flats) and construction of 4 buildings (30 new homes) for 381 representatives of vulnerable groups

Devnya Municipality – renovation and reconstruction of multifamily building (33 existing homes) for 165 representatives of vulnerable groups

Dupnitsa Municipality – construction of new 15 multifamily buildings (180 homes) for 195 families of the target group



Integrated projects under OPRD and OPHRD – contribution of OPRD - Scheme for social housing (5)

Envisage period for completion of projects for construction/reconstruction of social housing - end 2014 –beginning 2015

Social housing in Dupnica



Social housing in Devnya





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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