



## Roma Health Conference

### Past and future projects and policies: how to impact Roma health most effectively?

December 12-13, 2005, Bucharest, Hotel Marriott

#### A G E N D A

##### Conference objectives:

- To share with government representatives and other stakeholders the conclusions and recommendations of the OSI study on Roma Health Mediator programs in Bulgaria, Finland and Romania
- To discuss opportunities and challenges raised by Roma Health Mediator programs
- To assess the effectiveness of current policy frameworks regarding broader issues related to Roma health
- To discuss and agree upon next concrete steps on the implementation of the Decade National Action Plans on health

#### 1<sup>st</sup> day, December 12<sup>th</sup>

**9.00-9.30 Registration**

**9.30-10.00 Opening ceremony**

Chaired by Mrs. Mariea Ionescu, Co-ordinator of the Decade of Roma Inclusion Program

##### **Opening remarks and Keynote addresses:**

Mr. Marko Bela, Vice Prim-minister, Government of Romania

Mr. Iulius Rostas, Deputy Director, Roma Initiatives Office, Open Society Institute

Mr. Virgil Paunescu, State Secretary, Ministry of Health of Romania

Mr. Cristian Vlădescu, President of the National House of Health Insurance

Mr. Stephan Muller, Facilitator: Framework of the meeting and objectives

**10.00-11.30 Session 1: Health mediators between necessity and innovation**

Moderator: Mr. Stephan Muller, OSI Consultant

### **Presentations:**

Mediating Roma Health: Policy and Program Opportunities (OSI study)

*Mrs. Marta Schaaf, OSI Consultant*

Successes and obstacles to health mediator work

*Mrs. Georgiana Mihai, Romani CRISS, Romania*

Draft Recommendation on better access to health care for Roma and Travelers in Europe

*Mr. Dezideriu Gergely, Vice-President of the MG-S-Rom, Specialist Group on Roma and Travelers of the Council of Europe*

PHARE Roma Health programming in Bulgaria

*Mr. Boyan Zahariev, Consultant, Bulgaria*

An institutional standpoint on the health mediators

*Mrs. Hanna Dobranauteanu, Romanian Ministry of Health*

### **Comments, Questions and Answers**

**11.30-12.00 Coffee Break**

**12.00-14.00 Session 2: Health systems and policies: the challenge of adequate inclusion**

#### **Moderated Panels:**

##### **Health and gender intersection: Romani women's health in the context of multiple discrimination and exclusion**

Moderator: Eszter Kismodi, World Health Organisation (WHO)

Presentations: *Beata Olahova, League of Human Rights Advocates (LHRA), Slovakia*  
*Sebihana Skenderovska, DROM, Macedonia*

##### **Roma at the intersection of other vulnerable groups**

Moderator: Monica Ciupagea, OSI International Harm Reduction Development Program

Presentations: *Marian Ursan, ARAS, Romania*  
*Elena Kabakchieva, Health and Social Development Foundation, Bulgaria*

##### **Health systems and cultural sensitivity: tackling prejudices and discrimination against Roma**

Moderator: Iulius Rostas, Deputy Director

Presentations: *Petar Antic, Minority Rights Center, Serbia and Montenegro*  
*Jeanette Gronfors, Finland*

### **Comments, Questions and Answers**

**14.00–15.00 Lunch**

**15.00-16.00 Session 3: Break-out groups**

**Groups 1&2:** Health and gender intersection: Romani women's health in the context of multiple discrimination and exclusion

Facilitators: Eszter Kismodi, WHO  
Beata Olahova, LHRA, Slovakia

**Groups 3&4:** Roma at the intersection of other vulnerable groups  
Facilitators: Monica Ciupagea, OSI  
Marian Ursan, ARAS, Romania

**16.00-16.30 Coffee Break**

**16.30-17.45 Session 4: Reports from break-out groups  
Conclusions for the 1<sup>st</sup> day**

Moderator: Mr. Stephan Muller  
Rapporteur: Ms. Marta Schaaf

**18.00 Reception**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> day, December 13<sup>th</sup></b>
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**9.30-11.00 Session 5: Roma health/Programming in countries  
Updates from national governments**

Moderator: Mr. Stephan Muller

**11.00–11.30 Coffee break**

**11.30-13.30 Session 6: Best Practices on Roma Health**

**Moderated Panels:**

**Partnerships between governments and civil society for Roma health within and beyond Health Mediator Programs**

Moderator: Mariana Buceanu, National Agency for Roma

Presentations: *Osman Balic, YUROM*  
*Milena Milieva, World without Borders, Stara Zagora (tbc)*

**How can doctors and mediators work together for Roma health empowerment?**

Moderator: Alka Dev, Doctors of the World

Presentations: *Marta Schaaf, OSI Consultant*  
*George Radulescu, Doctors of the World*

**How to ensure an accurate reflection of their health status and access to health care when collecting data on Roma**

Moderator: Stefan Muller, OSI Consultant

Rapporteur: AR Secretariat  
Presentations: *Eszter Kismodi, World Health Organization*  
*Savelina Danova, European Roma Rights Centre*

**13.30–14.30 Lunch**

**14.30–15.30 Session 7: Facilitated Break-out groups**

**Groups 1&2:** Partnerships between governments and civil society

Facilitators: Mariana Buceanu, National Agency for Roma / Cristi Mihalache, OSI

**Groups 3&4:** Doctors and mediators work towards Roma health empowerment  
Facilitators: Alka Dev, Doctors of the World (DoW) / Marta Schaaf, OSI Consultant

**15.30–16.00 Coffee break**

**16.00–16.40 Session 8: PLENARY SESSION: Reports back from break out groups**

Moderator: Mr. Stephan Muller

**16.40–17.30 Conclusions and recommendations**

Moderator: Mr. Stephan Muller

Rapporteur: Mrs. Marta Schaaf

**17.30 Closing remarks:**

*Mrs. Mariea Ionescu, State Secretary, President of National Agency for Roma,  
Acting Coordinator of the Decade of Roma Inclusion Program*

*Mr. Marko Bela, Vice Prim-Minister*

*Mr. Iulius Rostas, Deputy-Director of OSI Roma Initiatives Office*