Roma education: the role of the Structural Funds

Policy Framework
• Europe 2020 Strategy

• EC proposals for future Regulations

• EC Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies
EU2020 Strategy

• Europe 2020 is the EU's growth strategy for the coming decade: smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

• The Union has set five ambitious objectives - on employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and climate/energy - to be reached by 2020.

• Each Member State has adopted its own national targets in each of these areas.
5 targets for the EU2020 Strategy

1. Employment
   − 75% of the 20-64 year-olds to be employed

2. R&D / innovation
   − 3% of the EU's GDP (public and private combined) to be invested in R&D/innovation

3. Climate change / energy
   − Greenhouse gas emissions 20% (or even 30%, if the conditions are right) lower than 1990
   − 20% of energy from renewables
   − 20% increase in energy efficiency

4. Education
   − Reducing school drop-out rates below 10%
   − At least 40% of 30-34–year-olds completing third level education

5. Poverty / social exclusion
   − At least 20 million fewer people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion
EU Cohesion Policy
Proposals from the European Commission

• Menu of thematic objectives in line with the Europe 2020 Strategy

• Investments in:
  – Research and innovation
  – Information and communication technologies (ICT)
  – Competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
  – Shift towards a low-carbon economy
  – Climate change adaptation & risk prevention and management
  – Environmental protection & resource efficiency
  – Sustainable transport & removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures
  – Employment & supporting labour mobility
  – Social inclusion & combating poverty
  – Education, skills & lifelong learning
  – Institutional capacity building & efficient public administrations
Regulation of the ESF. Scope of support

Thematic objectives and investment priorities:

(a) Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility
(b) Investing in education, skills and life-long learning through:
   – Reducing early school-leaving and promoting equal access to good-quality early-childhood, primary and secondary education;
   – Improving the quality, efficiency and openness of tertiary and equivalent education with a view to increasing participation and attainment levels:
   – Enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems;
(c) Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty
(d) Enhancing institutional capacity and efficient public administration
Setting Roma integration goals

1. Access to education
2. Access to employment
3. Access to healthcare
4. Access to housing and essential services
EC Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020

- Access to education:

  Member States should, as a minimum, ensure primary schools completion. They should also widen access to quality early childhood education and care and reduce the number of early schools leavers from secondary education pursuant to the Europe 2020 Strategy. Roma youngsters should be strongly encouraged to participate also in secondary and tertiary education.