

## RESULTS OF SUPPORT TO ADDRESSING COVID-19 CONSEQUENCES IN SUBSTANDARD ROMA SETTLEMENTS



19

PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED



16

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS



3

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENTS



233,335

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION

## RESULTS BY AREAS AND TYPE OF SUPPORT

### EDUCATION SUPPORT

**592**  
BENEFICIARIES

### ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES

**1,401**  
BENEFICIARIES

SUPPORT TO CHILDREN **432**

STRENGTHENING PARENTS **75**

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS **522**

### IMPROVING SANITATION CONDITIONS

**384**  
BENEFICIARIES

### ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

**333**  
BENEFICIARIES

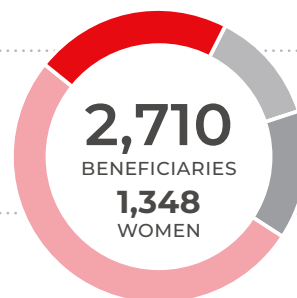
TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT **143**

SAFETY AT WORK AND SOURCES OF INCOME **63**

VACCINATION **932**

ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER **283**

BETTER SANITARY CONDITIONS **156**



Through the Swiss PRO Programme, the Swiss Government has supported LSGs and CSOs to implement 19 projects in the period from May 2021 to April 2022 aimed at **mitigating COVID-19 consequences in substandard Roma settlements**. Through the implementation of social inclusion policies and practices, the access to public services has been enhanced and the needs have been fulfilled for **over 2,700 citizens**.

# IMPROVING ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES

## ACCESS TO EDUCATION

9  
PROJECTS

592  
BENEFICIARIES

CITY / MUNICIPALITY OF IMPLEMENTATION	LEAD APPLICANT (CSO OR LSG) / IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S)	CONTRIBUTION	PROJECT TITLE / PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<b>Bor</b>	<p>Association "Kokoro"</p> <p>Roma initiative for Youth "Gipsy Soul"</p> <p>Centre for Social Work Bor</p>	<p>Swiss PRO <b>12,793 EUR</b></p> <p>Co-funding -</p> <p>Total Value <b>12,793 EUR</b></p>	<p><b>Support for a better tomorrow</b></p> <p>Improved access to education for 58 children and youth from three substandard Roma settlements (Sever, Stari Centar and Staro Selište) in Bor, through support provided with English language learning, mathematics, physics, chemistry, IT courses, psychological support, informational and educational workshops and professional orientation, which improved their academic performance and enabled them to continue education, in addition to their personal, emotional and social development. Additionally, 41 parents were strengthened to support children in distance learning.</p> <p><b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> 99</p>
<b>Vranje</b>	<p>Association "Bakija Bakić"</p>	<p>Swiss PRO <b>12,681 EUR</b></p> <p>Co-funding <b>1,280 EUR</b></p> <p>Total Value <b>13,961 EUR</b></p>	<p><b>Providing support for Roma children in maintaining continuity in education during COVID-19</b></p> <p>Support to children with education including 25 Roma children between 7 and 14 years of age, primary school students from a substandard settlement in the village Pavlovac, whose academic performance was lower and school attendance irregular, through mentorship support in mathematics and Serbian, as well as the provision of resources for distance learning, which contributed to their better mastering of the school curriculum. In addition to mentorship support, working with children improved their psychological competencies relevant for education, such as increased self-confidence, responsibility and work habits, creativity and socialisation.</p> <p><b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> 25</p>
<b>Niš</b>	<p>Association for Development of Children and Youth – OPEN CLUB</p> <p>Roma Association "Flower Heart" with support of the City of Niš</p>	<p>Swiss PRO <b>12,360 EUR</b></p> <p>Co-funding -</p> <p>Total Value <b>12,360 EUR</b></p>	<p><b>On the Way to the Shelter</b></p> <p>Improved access to education for children from substandard Roma settlements in Niš, particularly the so-called street kids, through mentorship support in learning, educational and creative workshops and psycho-social assistance to children and their parents. The activity was implemented in the premises of the Roma Cultural Centre run by the Town Niš, and the intervention was a transitional measure that would lead to the establishment of a drop-in centre for the children. In addition, the children improved their knowledge on preventive measures during the COVID-19 pandemic through health workshops encouraging behavioural changes.</p> <p><b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> 29</p>
<b>Vranje</b>	<p>Centre for Social Integration Vranje</p> <p>City of Vranje</p>	<p>Swiss PRO <b>12,752 EUR</b></p> <p>Co-funding -</p> <p>Total Value <b>12,752 EUR</b></p>	<p><b>Support for Social Cohesion of Roma Children</b></p> <p>Support to social inclusion for 14 preschool Roma children, between 5 and 7 years of age, living in the informal settlement Raška in Vranje, through various workshops focusing on strengthening their cultural and hygiene competencies, which would facilitate their inclusion in the preschool and school systems. The parents were provided with handbooks on working with children, so they can improve their parental competencies in transferring knowledge in a creative manner.</p> <p><b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> 26</p>
<b>Novi Pazar</b>	<p>The Muslim Humanitarian Society "Merhamet-Sandžak"</p>	<p>Swiss PRO <b>12,795 EUR</b></p> <p>Co-funding -</p> <p>Total Value <b>12,795 EUR</b></p>	<p><b>Learning and development support for Roma children as a response to COVID-19</b></p> <p>Improved access to education for 30 Roma children from the informal Roma settlement Blaževo in Novi Pazar, by organising workshops for the development of digital competencies, as well as providing IT equipment to strengthen the capacities of Roma children to attend online classes and avoid early school dropout.</p> <p><b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> 30</p>
<b>Vranje</b>	<p>The Association of Persons with Paraplegia "Vranje"</p> <p>The Primary and Secondary School "Vule Antić"</p>	<p>Swiss PRO <b>12,775 EUR</b></p> <p>Co-funding -</p> <p>Total Value <b>12,775 EUR</b></p>	<p><b>Support in the area of education to Roma children with disabilities living in the substandard settlements in the Pčinja District</b></p> <p>Improved access to education for 35 Roma children of school age with developmental disabilities, by providing mechanisms for distance learning and training to improve their employability within the school for primary and secondary education, Vule Antić, in Vranje, educating children and youth with developmental disabilities.</p> <p><b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> 35</p>
<b>Trstenik</b>	<p>Municipality of Trstenik</p> <p>Association "Roma Cultural Centre"</p>	<p>Swiss PRO <b>11,089 EUR</b></p> <p>Co-funding <b>1,280 EUR</b></p> <p>Total Value <b>12,369 EUR</b></p>	<p><b>Support to students of substandard Roma settlements in taking entrance and remedial exams in the municipality of Trstenik during COVID-19 pandemic</b></p> <p>Improved access to education for 72 Roma children living in informal settlements in Trstenik, by organising online training for taking entrance and correctional exams for primary and secondary school students, as well as providing mechanisms for distance learning. In addition, parents were strengthened to provide support to their children with learning.</p> <p><b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> 94</p>

## IMPROVING ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES ACCESS TO EDUCATION

 **9**  
PROJECTS

 **592**  
BENEFICIARIES

CITY / MUNICIPALITY OF IMPLEMENTATION	LEAD APPLICANT (CSO OR LSG) / IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S)	CONTRIBUTION	PROJECT TITLE / PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<b>Bela Palanka</b>	Romano Drom	Swiss PRO <b>12,624 EUR</b> Co-funding - Total Value <b>12,624 EUR</b>	<b>Support to endangered Roma children in the municipality of Bela Palanka</b> Support provided to the education of 80 Roma school children by providing mentorship support and mechanisms for distance learning, which has improved their academic performance and facilitated their pursuit of further desired professional education.
			<b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>80</b>
<b>Vrnjačka Banja</b>	Municipality of Vrnjačka Banja Association "KORTEKS"	Swiss PRO <b>11,089 EUR</b> Co-funding <b>1,450 EUR</b> Total Value <b>12,539 EUR</b>	<b>To be Roma</b> Support provided to the education of 69 children in their final year of primary school through mentorship and resources for distance learning, alongside workshops on public health and COVID-19. Additionally, sanitary and hygiene conditions were improved for the 10 most vulnerable Roma families in the villages Vrnjci, Gračac and Podunavci, who were equipped with water heaters and washing machines, which contributed to better health protection for these families.
			<b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>174</b>

## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

 **4**  
PROJECTS

 **333**  
BENEFICIARIES

CITY / MUNICIPALITY OF IMPLEMENTATION	LEAD APPLICANT (CSO OR LSG) / IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S)	CONTRIBUTION	PROJECT TITLE / PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<b>Vladičin Han</b>	The Association of Roma intellectuals	Swiss PRO <b>12,769 EUR</b> Co-funding - Total Value <b>12,769 EUR</b>	<b>Rebuilding the Socio-Economic Relations in the Roma Community</b> A total of 30 Roma youth under 30 years of age improved their knowledge through professional training on fruit and vegetable processing, equipment and advice on starting their own businesses in the area of agriculture, which improved the economic status of 30 Roma families.
			<b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>50</b>
<b>Leskovac</b>	The Romani renewal of the cooperation and alternative - ROSA	Swiss PRO <b>12,509 EUR</b> Co-funding - Total Value <b>12,509 EUR</b>	<b>Economic Empowerment of Roma Men and Women: Improving Employment and Self-Employment Capacities</b> A total of 103 young Roma were strengthened through professional training, while 10 best trainees under 30 years of age were provided with equipment to start their own businesses.
			<b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>103</b>
<b>Leskovac</b>	Vučje-Porečje	Swiss PRO <b>12,733 EUR</b> Co-funding - Total Value <b>12,733 EUR</b>	<b>Even After the Pandemic, We are Staying with Collectors</b> Increased safety at work and support provided to renew livelihood sources for 53 secondary raw material collectors Roma from substandard settlement Podvrčje within two secondary raw material collector cooperatives through legalised work methods. Safety at work was improved by providing complete protective equipment, while they were given the opportunity to increase their income with the provision of baling press machines, which increased the price of secondary raw materials. In addition, the project contributed to the development of the Local Waste Management Plan 2021-2030, in the part recognising the role of waste collectors.
			<b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>53</b>
<b>Niš and Pirot</b>	Republic Union of Waste Collectors Association "Amala" from Niš Association "Amala 1" from Pirot	Swiss PRO <b>12,667 EUR</b> Co-funding <b>1,049 EUR</b> Total Value <b>13,716 EUR</b>	<b>Business Instead of Garbage</b> Established innovative way of collecting secondary raw materials using the application <i>odnesi.co</i> which are safe to human health and ensure the collection of larger quantities of waste. In addition to renewing livelihood sources for 10 secondary raw material collectors in substandard settlements in Niš and Pirot, and introducing them into the legal waste management system flows, citizens were also provided with the opportunity to use the service for free. Additionally, a humanitarian service was established for donating furniture, home appliances, clothes, shoes and food, and around 100 most vulnerable families from substandard settlements in Niš and Pirot received this type of donation.
			<b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>127</b>

## IMPROVING ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES ACCESS TO EDUCATION

 **3**  
PROJECTS

 **1,401**  
BENEFICIARIES

CITY / MUNICIPALITY OF IMPLEMENTATION	LEAD APPLICANT (CSO OR LSG) / IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S)	CONTRIBUTION	PROJECT TITLE / PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<b>Kruševac</b>	Health Workers Association of National Association of Rasina District  Roma Association "Romani Cikna"	Swiss PRO <b>12,228 EUR</b> Sufinansiranje <b>391 EUR</b> Ukupna vrednost <b>12,619 EUR</b>	<b>We also Have a Right to Lead a Healthy Life!</b> Improved availability of healthcare and social protection services, raised awareness of the COVID-19 pandemic and encouraged behavioural changes of 30 families in an informal settlement in Kruševac. A total of 94 beneficiaries were introduced to and trained to use digital technologies, with the aim to enable their access to healthcare and social protection services, while health examinations were organised for older and chronic patients, with the team made up of a social worker, psychologist, doctor and nutritionist providing advice during their field visits.  <b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>94</b>
<b>Novi Pazar</b>	City of Novi Pazar  Association "Open hand"	Swiss PRO <b>12,369 EUR</b> Sufinansiranje <b>1,565 EUR</b> Ukupna vrednost <b>13,934 EUR</b>	<b>Improving the provision of health services in Roma settlement Blaževo in Novi Pazar</b> Improved provision of healthcare services in the Roma settlement Blaževo in Novi Pazar for 72 Roma families (with nearly 400 members), through medical examinations, lectures and the provision of hygiene product packages.  <b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>375</b>
<b>Valjevo 20 LGs</b>	Association of Coordinators for Roma Issues	Swiss PRO <b>10,869 EUR</b> Sufinansiranje - Ukupna vrednost <b>10,869 EUR</b>	<b>Immunisation for Inclusion</b> Support provided to the immunisation process of Roma citizens living in informal settlements in 20 towns and municipalities. Over 9,000 citizens of substandard settlements were informed about the significance and use of vaccines, with over 2,500 expressing their willingness to take the vaccine, and 932 beneficiaries vaccinated.  <b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>932</b>

## IMPROVING SANITATION CONDITIONS

 **3**  
PROJECTS

 **384**  
BENEFICIARIES

CITY / MUNICIPALITY OF IMPLEMENTATION	LEAD APPLICANT (CSO OR LSG) / IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S)	CONTRIBUTION	PROJECT TITLE / PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<b>Kragujevac</b>	Global Centre for Integration Kragujevac  City of Kragujevac	Swiss PRO <b>12,637 EUR</b> Co-funding - Total Value <b>12,637 EUR</b>	<b>Together for a Healthier and Tidier Life for Roma in Korman</b> Improved sanitary conditions for 23 Roma households in the substandard settlement Korman near Kragujevac, through the provision of waste containers, rubbish bins and bags in coordination with the PUC Šumadija, complete disinfection, pest and rat control in cooperation with the Public Health Institute, and improved access to the settlement by securing the existing bridge with handrails on both sides. In addition, the residents were educated on healthcare and socio-economic issues, as well as on the importance of healthy living and hygiene for health, especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.  <b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>70</b>
<b>Lebane</b>	YUROM Centre  Roma Association "Avutnipe", Lebane	Swiss PRO <b>10,833 EUR</b> Co-funding - Total Value <b>10,833 EUR</b>	<b>Water and Sewage, in the First Place!</b> Improved sanitary conditions by providing access to water for the residents of four Roma settlements in Lebane (Bošnjaci 1, Bošnjaci 2, villages Čenovac and Štulac) by developing technical documentation for water supply and sewage systems, as well as digging the wells with drinking water.  <b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>283</b>
<b>Zaječar</b>	Roma Association Zaječar  City of Zaječar  Public Health Institute "Timok" Zaječar	Swiss PRO <b>12,763 EUR</b> Co-funding <b>2,175 EUR</b> Total Value <b>14,938 EUR</b>	<b>Health Connects Us!</b> Improved sanitary conditions and health protection by ensuring access to water for members of six Roma families in the village Rgotina, with construction works on a permanent water supply system connection, in coordination with the PUC Waterworks, construction of bathrooms and septic tanks.  <b>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b> <b>31</b>

Total Swiss PRO contribution: **EUR 233,335**

Total co-funding: **EUR 9,190**

**TOTAL FUNDING: EUR 242,525**