

Project name: Educated Roma Women, Empowered Roma Communities!

Project promotor: Roma Alliance "Kali Sara"

Partner:

- Institute of Foreign Languages, University of Island, Roma in the Centre Initiative, Iceland

Project implementation period: 1.2.2021. – 31.01.2024.

Total project value: € 223,286.05, of which € 149,999.51 was provided through financial support from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway within the European Economic Area and Norwegian grants

Contact person for more information: Suzana Kunac

Links to relevant websites: <http://kalisara.hr/>, <https://www.facebook.com/SRRHKS/>

Project summary:

The Roma Association in the Republic of Croatia "Kali Sara" as the most active Roma association that gathers the largest number of members of the Roma community in partnership with the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute for Foreign Languages and their initiative Roma in the Center from Iceland, implements the project Educated Roma Women, Empowered Roma Communities!

According to the National Strategy for Roma Inclusion for the period from 2013 to 2020, Roma women are one of the most excluded groups; there is a traditional division of roles in Roma families; the attitude towards women is patriarchal; women are often marginalized and discriminated against; due to their subordinate position they do not have the ability to plan a family. According to the results of the research (Klasnić, Kunac, Rodik, 2020), 17% of illiterate Roma women, while in the general population there are only 0.13% (DSZ, 2016). For 27% of young Roma women in the Republic of Croatia, the key reasons that lead to school dropout are marriage, pregnancy and becoming a parent (15%). Of Roma women who have children, 50% of them gave birth to their first child at a minor age, and 17% at the age of 16.

Since one of the important strategic goals of the Roma Association in the Republic of Croatia "Kali Sara" is aimed at systematically promoting the education of Roma men and women, the primary goal of the project is to increase the coverage of young Roma women in completing primary and secondary education. 200 young Roma women from 6 counties will be empowered and educated about women's human rights, especially the right to life without violence, sexual and reproductive rights and health, and will be more motivated to continue their education. Also, the project aims to raise the capacity of Roma associations, members of the Council of the Roma National Minority for advocacy and cross-sectoral cooperation to prevent and support Roma women in cases of forced marriages and underage pregnancies, as well as other forms of gender-based violence.