

# Roma Inclusion and Empowerment

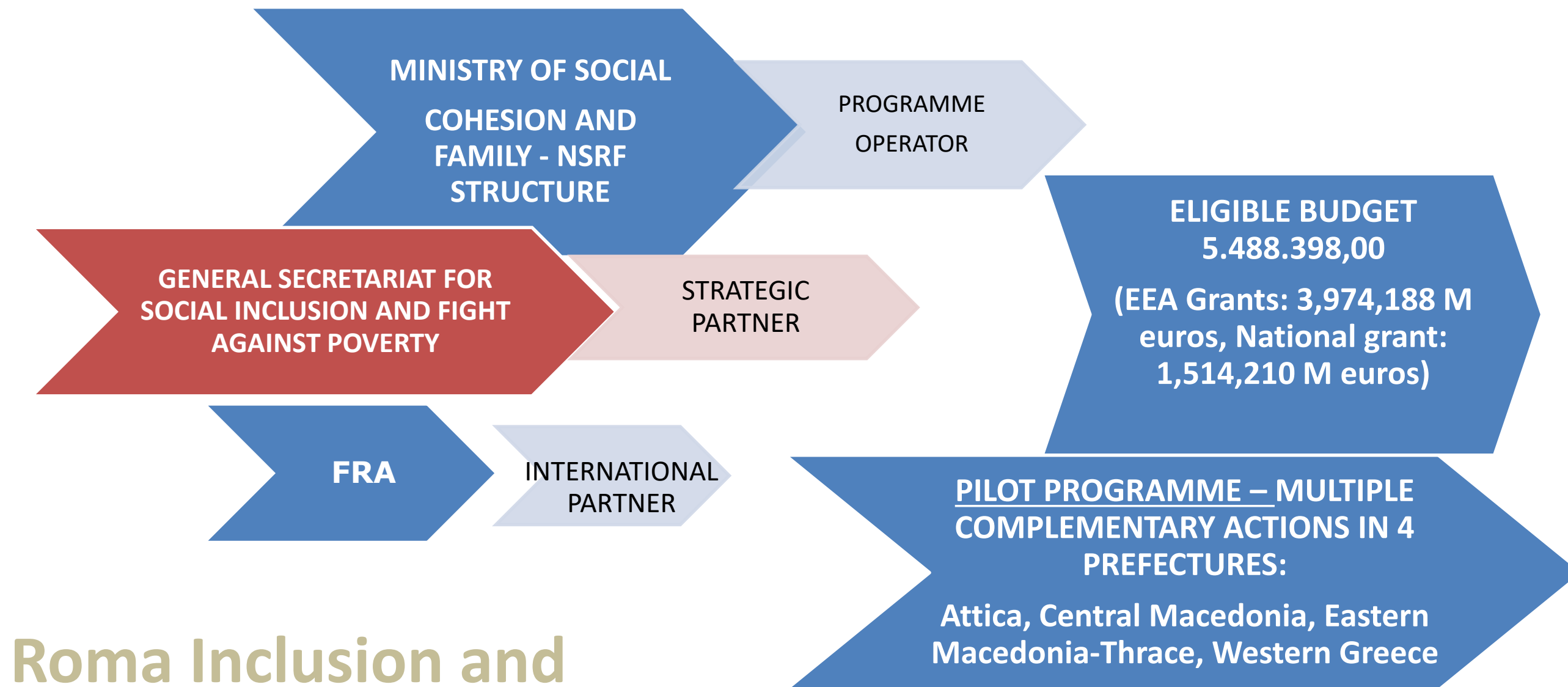
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## Roma Inclusion and Empowerment 2014-2021

**AIM :** Contribution to the goals of NRIS, dealing with multiple forms of deprivation, promoting their integrated unity in the social, economic, political and cultural life of the country by targeted interventions in the areas of health care, education, employment, improving Roma living conditions, strengthening and upgrading the skills of the most vulnerable and strengthening access to general inclusion policies

# INTRODUCTION

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- *GOALS of Programme – in line with the goals of National Roma Inclusion Strategy 2021-2030 (NRIS)*

## ➤ Content of Actions- Formulated after consultation procedures with:

- ❖ Strategic Partner – Secretariat General for Social Inclusion and Fight against Poverty (NRIS implementation, strategic goals)
- ❖ Roma Civil Society Organizations (proposals, co-configuration, improvement)
- ❖ International Partner- FRA (context, tools)
- ❖ FMO Representatives (search for solutions, directions, dialogue)
- ❖ NFP EEA GRANTS (directions, support, advise, confirmation)

## ✓ Programme Structure

- ❖ 2 P.D.P.s + 3 SGSs

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIONS –

REINFORCING EACH OTHER – for maximum achievements

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# MAIN CHALLENGES

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- Pandemic COVID-19
- Administrative Restructuring
- Bureaucratic delays & strict legislative framework
- Programme complexity and in a part involvement of different funding sources
- Time
- Some P.P.'s weakness

# PATH TO IMPLEMENTATION



□ All Projects ended 30-4-2024

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# *CONTEXT OF IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS in a nutshell*



## *TASK FORCE UNITS bridging the gap*

25 experts (Including 4 Roma mediators)  
on the field in 4 prefectures with high  
concentration of Roma population  
– monitoring/ implementation of the  
NRSI and related policies  
– informing and empowering Roma  
communities for active participation  
towards social integration  
- innovative interventions to strengthen  
the participation of public institutions



## *INTEGRATED pilot scheme for Roma inclusion in KATERINI area*

### *Soft measures*

to support access to education,  
health, employment, cultural/athletic  
activities, integration, actions to  
remove stereotypes and interface with  
the local community



## *Roma women and youth*

### *Empowerment*

for personal development, counseling,  
employment



## *Supporting Roma Children in attending*

### *Summer Camps*

in an equal way along with other  
children

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## PDP #1 Achievements (some...)

- On-site Visits to Roma Settlements -ongoing communication with Roma communities to deal with emergencies (eg vaccination of COVID 19, floods in Thessaly, fires in Attica)
  - 20 experts of Regional task Force Units trained
- 3 policy recommendations to the General Secretariat Social Solidarity and Fight Against Poverty, in the fields of Employment, Education (Pillar II NRIS) and Addressing Roma people civil registry (Pillar IV NRIS)
- 69 Municipal staff ( mainly Roma branches), trained in developing individualized integration plans, mapping Roma settlements / contribution to design local action plans with particular focus on Consultation procedures with Roma local Communities/Interventions to deal with municipal issues
- Mapping of Roma organizations, Tool for mapping training needs of mediators, Networking meetings and support to Roma Organizations
- Informative educational material and monitoring tools and guides for teachers about education and school leakage /meetings with educational institutions
- Contribution to implementation of all Actions of the programme/ co-operation with P.P.s



**Regional- Local level / NRIS monitoring- implementation / active participation in communities/ innovative interventions/policies- measures to integration**

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# PDP #2 Achievements

SOFT MEASURES to Pelekas community like:

- ❖ Study Centre : -30 pupils of primary education  
-15 students of secondary education
- ❖ Athletic Activities: -15 children (7 girls-8 boys) attended  
swimming lessons  
- 22 young roma men  
“Roma of katerini” football team
- ❖ Psychological Empowerment: 26 young women
- ❖ Cultural Activities (eg visits to schools, municipal library)

**Study Centre/ Football Team / Swimming lessons / Visits to library-schools/psychological empowerment**

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# SGS1 Achievements

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## Group of Actions #1

Activities for information-awareness raising-combating stereotypes

- ❖ Videos, TV Spots, documentaries, articles, informative events, awareness campaigns TV-Social media, leaflets, newsletters, training guide for women and young Roma, Roma culture heritage book
- ❖ Personalized consultation – self esteem, early motherhood issues, birth control, early marriages, health, vaccination, prevention of school drop-outs

## Group of Actions #3

Consultancy Activities

- ❖ Psycho-social counselling, personal development, personalized professional and business consulting
- ❖ 563 persons empowered
- ❖ 34 business plans conducted

## Group of Actions #2

Empowerment of Roma citizens organizations

Possible P.P.s applied # but failed to pass evaluation criteria

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# SGS2 #Achievements

- ❖ Implemented - summer 2023
- ❖ 70 Roma children, aged 6-12 years, participated
- ❖ 3 summer camps (Chalkidiki, Kavala, Korinthia)
  - ❖ Provision of swimming equipment, clothing etc
  - ❖ consulting services+ 3 experiential preparatory workshops to inform, attract, introduce, prepare and finally achieve smooth integration of children in the camps /119 families participated
- ❖ Both parents and children participated/provided in the settlements
- ❖ Transportation to and from camps/support to children by Intercultural Education Teachers in camps



**Happy children/participation to camps/socialization**

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# SIZE OF REACHED OUT

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5.244  $b^*$

1290  $w^{**}$

SGS1

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## $b^*$ = All benefited from actions

Estimated number of people reached out by SGS1 Actions (young men, women, young women/ Different deliverables eg social media campaigns, but countable number of unique entries OR participation of other members of a family in activities, but 1 calculated direct beneficiary

## $w^*$ = Women direct beneficiaries

Number of women that participated face to face in activities- records from P.P.s

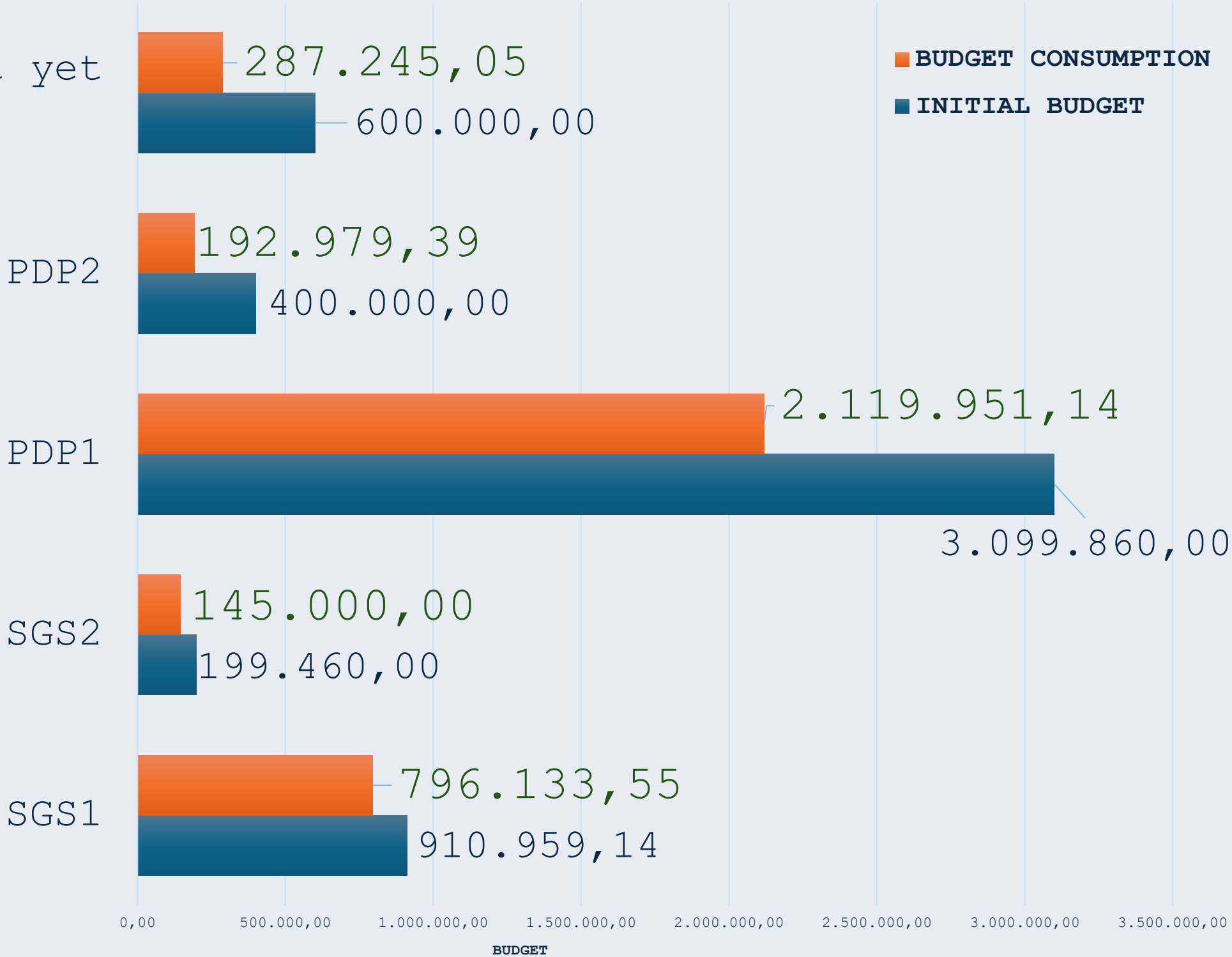
# OUR NUMBERS

so far...

Management Cost / not yet completed

Until final closure

PROJECTS



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## What went wrong...

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- PDP2 # relocation in “Pelekas” + vocational training
- SGS3 # did not implement
- Billateral # did not implement
- SGS 1 # Group of Actions 2 Roma Organizations capacity building

## Some main Lessons Learned

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- Tailor made approaches ≠ one fits for all
- Building strong local collaborative relationships - working with the community, local organizations, community leaders, and stakeholders = understanding better community needs, gaining trust, ensuring effective implementation
- Early and comprehensive planning, with stakeholder participation
- Focus on sustainability, involvement of institutional bodies
- Regular feedback and adaptation of the programs to better meet the needs of the community



# Let's take this forward together.

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WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME NEW EEA  
GRANTS PERIOD!

# Let's take this forward together.

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THANK YOU!!

NSRF STRUCTURE – Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family  
Programme Operator “Roma Inclusion and Empowerment”  
EEA GRANTS 2014-2021

<https://eeagrants-roma.gr>