

Roma Early Childhood Inclusion+

Launch of the '***Special Report on Roma
Inclusion
in Early Childhood Education and Care***'
Czech Republic
November 2015

Context and Justification

- **A timely intervention (OSF, REF and UNICEF)**
- **National debate on educational inclusion and preschool reforms**
- **Low profile of ECEC for young Roma children**
- **Robust international evidence and scrutiny**
- **Progress made to date.**

Recommendations

- **Need for comprehensive reforms in (the 3 'Ps') - policy, provision and practice**



Many professional groups need to be involved

Key recommendations (1)

- Reaffirm Government commitment to ECEC
- Establishment a National Preschool (ECEC) Working Group
- Give families entitlements to quality, equitable, and inclusive ECEC services for children age 0 to 3 and age 3 to 6, irrespective of their needs, socio-economic backgrounds, or ethnic status.



Key recommendations (2)

- Move towards a professional consensus on 'inclusive education'
- Rapid and adequate expansion of crèches and kindergartens
- An obligatory meaningful element to all teachers' and assistants' training on the theory and practice of inclusive education.

Key recommendations (3)

- Recruit teachers/directors of Roma heritage to the Czech Schools Inspectorate
- Increase the appointment in kindergartens and schools of Roma teachers and or assistants/mediators
- Establish universal entitlement to quality, equitable, and inclusive ECEC services.

Key recommendations (4)

- Ensure that **within one year** the pre-primary preparatory year is implemented **only** within kindergartens and mainstream basic schools
- No educational institution to organise itself in any ways that result in ethnically segregated schools, classes or groups
- Adopt routine procedures to help eliminate bias in the selection of pupils to kindergartens and schools.

Key recommendations (5)

- Organise institutional provision in a way that eliminates ethnic segregation
- Collect educational data that allows for ethnic disaggregation and analysis
- Ensure that national, local, and social media comply with national and international laws on anti-discrimination.



OSF, REF and UNICEF invite:

- The Government of the Czech Republic to give serious consideration to these recommendations-
- We commend them to you! Thank you for listening.

