

AITOS - BG	Contact
Municipality of Aitos 8 500, Aitos, Tsar Osvoboditel 3 str., Bulgaria	Mariana Dimova – Deputy Mayor Tel.: +359 558 22670 E-mail: mar9dim@abv.bg
DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL SITUATION, CHALLENGES, ACTIVITIES	
<p>Population: 26 008, with more than 3000 Roma</p> <p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level of unemployment • The level of education is very low • The level of Bulgarian language is very low – it is a big problem for most of the Roma • Roma people don't have health insurances and their access to health services is not good • Early marriages and pregnancy • Large families who are unable to take good care of their children. <p>Activities:</p> <p>Social Inclusion Project – Integrated services for children up to 7 years and their families. The aim of project is to work with the most vulnerable families and children at risk and to ensure services for them such as: educational, health services, additional extra school curricula activities for children;</p> <p>Action Plan for Roma Integration - The main aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overcoming social isolation of the most vulnerable groups among Roma • Working with people at risk and motivating/enabling them to solve the problems • Anti-discrimination activities related to more tolerance in our society to Roma and people in vulnerable situation 	
ISSUES TO BE TACKLED IN THE FRAME OF THE TWINNING	
<p>The main focus would be education: to overcome the low level of education among young Roma, to improve the quality of education for Roma – to find more attractive approaches for working with Roma students, to motivate Roma families and Roma parents that the education is the most important thing for success of their children and the education is the only way to change the situation.</p> <p>Ideas for local activities in Aitos:</p> <p>Professional campaign targeted towards Roma children and Roma parents that education is very important for their future various of activities for motivation Roma children and their parents to continue education in secondary schools ;</p> <p>Discussions at schools with Roma students and their teachers; presenting positive Roma examples (Roma students, Roma journalists and etc.) at school;</p> <p>Establishment of Roma parents' Self-help Clubs with active Roma parents – club of Roma active parents that can motivate other Roma parents and etc.;</p> <p>Mentoring programme for Roma students who want to continue their education after 7th or 8th grade – support and information;</p> <p>Extra-curriculum activities in schools, additional lessons to improve Bulgarian language skills</p>	