

Raluca Maria POPA

Title of Research Proposal:

The Accountability of EU Funding to Romani Women's Issues and Priorities

PROJECT TIMELINE:

May-June, 2006

I will start the project by conducting extensive documentation and desk research. The main purpose of the desk research will be to elaborate the methodology for monitoring EU funding for its accountability to promoting the goals of social inclusion and gender equality particularly for Romani women. Following the elaboration of the methodology, I will write a **short brochure** outlining its main guidelines.

During the initial two months, I will also identify the relevant EU funding opportunities for Roma, mainly in the employment priority area of the Decade for Roma Inclusion.

This stage will be greatly aided by the recent availability of a special website on "EU and the Roma":

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/fundamental_rights/roma/index_en.htm

Mostly during the month of May, I will design the **interview guide I** for EU Commission management and coordinating personnel. I will also establish contacts for interviews.

June, July and September, 2006

I will carry out **three research trips** to Brussels of 3, 5 and respectively 3 days. The purpose of the research trips is to conduct the interviews, as well as witness the daily work of EU management and coordinating personnel, in charge with allocating and administering the relevant EU funds. Each research trip will be followed by a period of transcribing the interviews, follow-up communication with the interviewees and establishing new contacts.

I will also **monitor the design of the relevant EU funds**, under the financial perspective 2007-2013 for their accountability to Romani women's issues and priorities – as outlined by the methodology. I will read through the documents outlining the areas of funding, priorities, funding criteria, procedures for grant applications, grant-giving and evaluation of implementation.

August, 2006

I will design the **questionnaire on accessibility and evaluation of EU funding** for activists, advocates and practitioners working for governmental agencies, NGOs and think-tanks in Hungary, Romania and Slovakia, who have had some experience with administering, using or trying to access EU funding for programs directed to Romani women.

September - October, 2006

This period is allocated to distributing the questionnaire, collecting and recording the data. The application of the questionnaire will be followed by an analysis of the data. The analysis will lead to the elaboration of a draft of **intermediary research findings** and the 20-pages **Policy Paper**.

November – January, 2006

Following the application of the questionnaire, I will design the **interview guide II**, for Romani women activists and advocates and start establishing contacts for the field research in Romania, Hungary and Slovakia. I will carry out one field research trip in each country and each trip will have five days. The purpose of the research trips is to conduct in-depth interviews with Romani women activists and Romani women's advocates in Hungary, Romania and Slovakia. Each field research trip will be followed by a period of transcribing the interviews and research notes and follow-up communication with interviewees.

During this period, I will also write the final **Policy Paper** and draft the **Advocacy Plan**.

February, 2007

The month of February is dedicated to writing the **Research Report** presenting the main findings and policy recommendations.

March, 2007

I will translate a summary of the report (30 pages) into Romanian (myself), Hungarian and Slovak (with the help of translators). The report and translations of summary will be published in electronic format (CD).

This month is mostly occupied with the **implementation of the Advocacy Plan** – dissemination of results, networking with relevant European Commission bodies, governmental agencies and Romani activists, presentation of research results at conferences.

April, 2007

Further **implementation of the advocacy plan**.

Activity	Month											
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Documentation and desk research												
Elaboration of monitoring methodology												
Writing of methodology brochure												
Design interview guide I												
Monitor the design of relevant EU funds												
1st research trip to Brussels X3days												
2nd research trip to Brussels X5days												
Transcribing interviews and notes												
Follow-up communication												
Design questionnaire												
3rd research trip to Brussels X3 days												
Distribution of questionnaire												
Collecting and recording the data												
Analysis of questionnaire data												
Drafting intermediary research findings and Policy Paper (PP)												
Review PP with Group Advisor												
Design interview guide II												
Field research in Romania X5days												
Field research in Hungary X5days												
Field research in Slovakia X5days												
Submit final Policy Paper												
Drafting the Advocacy Plan												
Writing the Research Report												
Translations of research summary												
Implementation of Advocacy Plan												