

## Good Practice Summary

**Brief description of the existing problem:** Based on data from national, regional and local studies there is a trend of increasing disparities in living conditions of Roma groups and disadvantaged persons compared to the living conditions of the general population. Poverty vulnerable, minority and socially disadvantaged groups of the population significantly increased in times of crisis, the problems with separate and isolated neighborhoods and communities grow simultaneously. As a general problem for all regions seems to be growing social-economic and cultural isolation of these communities, not only in Bulgaria but also in all countries in Europe. This would lead to serious stratification of society and create a new, highly alienated and hostile class, which could cause severe social conflicts. The majority of the representatives of these disadvantaged groups consider themselves poor, even destitute. As the first and main reason is the lack of an employment and income, and secondly the poor living conditions or the absence of any dwelling, followed by lack of equal educational opportunities, lack of utilities. The lack of employment and income are dictated in part by lack of education and occupation for many of these groups, but on the other are associated with loss or not creating time to work habits and discipline, and inability to adapt to modern dynamic conditions. In most cases often concerns and psychological problem that has expanded and has influenced the whole professional life and realization of the individual representative of the vulnerable or risk group. With respect to the displayed problem with the deterioration of living conditions of the majority of members of disadvantaged groups, particularly minority and disadvantaged groups standing problem of avalanche construction of illegal buildings used for housing and seizure of land state, municipal or private property. At the same time claims for providing infrastructure (access to water and electricity, cable TV, sidewalks, streets, street lighting, recreational areas, etc.) To these illegal homes are increasingly without the state, municipalities and utilities to be able to administer revenues from them.

The majority of these buildings, especially in the segregated neighborhoods of minority groups are built with available materials - adobe/raw bricks, wood and wooden boards, nylon and any other waste and hazardous materials). The so called "tradition" among some members of minority groups as of early marriages and creating large families, mostly with very low social status cause overcrowding of the majority of homes. This creates conditions for "reconciliation" with poverty, poor living conditions and "merger with the total mass" of uneducated and dropped out of school or the labor market.

### **Proposed solutions:**

#### **1. Preparation activities:**

- 1.1. Separation of the property provided for development as private property - private municipal property.
- 1.2. Preparation of standard designs for single and multifamily housing - social housing.
- 1.3. Setting up a unit to manage and implement the project.
- 1.4. Exploring the main social-economic issues related to access to social housing and lack of motivation to improve housing conditions for marginalized groups.
- 1.5. Preparation of a new methodology for social service community-based assessment of individual needs and survey results in 1.4.
- 1.6. Develop and implement a methodology for identifying potential users/tenants of social housing in the target group.
- 1.7. Election of persons from the target group to be involved in the project and defining their roles.
- 1.8. Training and retraining of persons from the target group, according to their assigned roles in the project.

#### **2. Actual implementation of activities to build up social housing.**

- 2.1. Construction of social housing.
- 2.2. Construction of a municipal road and engineering infrastructure around social housing.
- 2.3. Construction supervision and author's supervision.
- 2.4. Commissioning of newly built social housing.
3. Finalization of the project and ensuring the prerequisites for achieving sustainable results
- 3.1. Conclusion of leases of newly built social housing with representatives of the target groups, accommodating 150 families.
4. Audit of the project and monitoring of the implementation

- Timeframe, dates, important milestones: 2012-2015

- Results achieved, monitoring

Built 15 multifamily buildings;

Supply and installation of equipment and furniture social housing needed to ensure quality living conditions for the target group;

Accommodated in a newly built houses 150 families from the target group;

460 direct users of the project;

Potential for re-use and improvement: The project "Home for everyone" is intended as introductory and fundamental part in the implementation of a major program of Dupnitsa Municipality for social inclusion, spatial integration and equal access to adequate housing for people in disadvantaged. With the realization of this project is implemented major investment part of the program. The results of the project remain the property of the municipality of Dupnitsa, as constructed homes are registered as private municipal property. Rental relations that are established with representatives of the target group defined for the project beneficiaries will include provisions to this effect, and provided commitments to protecting and maintaining the environment of living, including general and adjacent parts to the property as and the requirement for inclusion in the proposed measures for education and employment provided by the municipality.