



20th NEWSLETTER

ON SOCIAL INCLUSION AND POVERTY REDUCTION

INTRODUCTION

New website and visual identity of the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the new website of the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit.

The new visual identity of the Unit, the new content and a more modern approach to presenting the information deserve a new address - as of now you may read about the social inclusion process at: <http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/>. Our previous website www.inkluzija.gov.rs is no longer available and redirects to the new website.

We are inviting you to explore our new Internet home. Some content categories ([News](#), [Success Stories](#), [Documents and Publications](#)) may be searched: chronologically, by fields of activity and by key words.

You may read the latest blog posts at the Social Inclusion Blog at the new address: www.socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/blog

We are encouraging you to share with us, as before, the information on your work in the domain of social inclusion and poverty reduction, to share it further through available channels.

Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit

NEWS

Economic Development and Employment

- ▶ Public Call for Grants under the Program of Support for Innovative Clusters 2014
- ▶ SCTM Conference on programme-based budgeting held
- ▶ Unemployment rate in Serbia twice that of the EU
- ▶ Training for development of business plans in support of Roma employment
- ▶ Training for persons with disabilities – web skills, entrepreneurship and journalism school

Social Welfare and Healthcare

- ▶ Results of the latest Serbian population health survey
- ▶ Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys 2014 (MICS 5) reveal limited progress for children and women in Serbia
- ▶ EUR 80 million in grants to Serbia to remove the consequences of floods
- ▶ Working group for consumer protection and health under Chapter 28 founded
- ▶ Negative population growth in Serbia, positive in the EU

Education

- ▶ Call for scholarships to Roma secondary school pupils for the school year 2014/15
- ▶ TALIS survey results published
- ▶ Serbia participating in "Horizon 2020"
- ▶ Reduced administrative burden on teachers – instructions and presentation
- ▶ Call for student scholarships and loans by September 30, 2014

Vulnerable Groups and Human Rights

- ▶ Semi-annual statistics on trafficking in human beings published
- ▶ Elections for national minority councils called
- ▶ Convention on preventing violence against women comes into effect
- ▶ Competition and tenders within the project "Improvement of Human Rights and Minority Protection in SEE"
- ▶ Call for training for CSOs dealing with Roma integration

EU Integration

- ▶ Government adopts the revised National Programme for Adoption of EU Acquis
- ▶ Slight drop of EU membership support
- ▶ Results of the public call for selection of Sector Civil Society Organisations (SECO)
- ▶ EC announces a call for operational grants under IPA CSF (deadline: 22/09/2014)

EU News

- ▶ Online consultations on the development of social economy in Europe
- ▶ Migrants two times more unemployed than EU citizens
- ▶ The number of illegal border crossings from the Balkans into the EU on the rise
- ▶ Croatia gets a law on partnership of same-sex marriages
- ▶ EC gives up the Directive on Maternity Leave

ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIAL INCLUSION UNIT

Publications under the project "Absolute Poverty and Trends in Poverty Measurement in the Republic of Serbia"

The Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit has published two studies within the first component of the project "Absolute Poverty and Trends in Poverty Measurement in the Republic of Serbia". The project responds to an absence of official data on absolute poverty since 2010, and the need to understand new trends in measurement of poverty and their impact on the Republic of Serbia.

The study "Poverty Measurement - Theoretical Concepts, State of Affairs and Recommendations for the Republic of Serbia" aims to present different concepts and methods for measuring poverty and to suggest options for monitoring thereof in Serbia. [The study is available HERE.](#)

The analysis "Poverty in Serbia in 2011, 2012 and 2013" offers a detailed overview of the profiles of the poor and trends of (in)equality in 2011, 2012 and 2013 with an emphasis on the main factors of risk of poverty. [The analysis is available here.](#)

Workshop on Youth Employment Initiatives

The Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs and the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, in cooperation with the European Commission, organised a **Workshop on Youth Employment Initiatives in Serbia**.

The challenge of youth employment was identified as a priority in the Draft Employment and Social Reform Programme, and the Workshop on Youth Employment Initiatives was part of the drafting process. Strategic options and measures that could be implemented in the context of the Republic of Serbia were discussed at the event.

The presentations are available for download [HERE](#).

Consultations on Draft National Report on Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction 2011-2014 completed

The Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Public Administration and Local Government, Dr Kori Udovički invited all stakeholders to take part in consultations related to the draft Second National Report on Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction in the Republic of Serbia 2011-2014.

The Report on Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction in the Republic of Serbia contains an overview of legal and strategic frameworks in relevant sectors, an analysis of the current situation, overview of the measures and programmes implemented, conclusions and main directions for future actions.

Download the draft Report here: [Draft Second Report on Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction in the Republic of Serbia 2011-2014](#)

Public call for the best feature on youth entrepreneurship announced (deadline: 15/10/2014)

The Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, Smart kolektiv and Erste Bank published a call for journalists for the best story on youth entrepreneurship in Serbia in the period 1 December 2013 – 1 October 2014.

The public call is open for all the journalists of printed and electronic media registered on the territory of the Republic of Serbia and the awards will be awarded for features in four categories: best TV report, best radio report; best journalistic report and the best story published on the Internet (page on social networks, interactive media content, blog, quiz, application, game ...).

The deadline for submission is 15 October 2014. [For more information click HERE.](#)

READ MORE...

- ▶ Guidelines for Involvement of Civil Society Organizations in the Adoption of Regulations Adopted
- ▶ Report on CSO Sustainability Index in Serbia 2013 presented
- ▶ UNDP Human Development Index: Serbia ranks 77th
- ▶ Purchase of village households for beneficiaries of "Let's Build a Home Together"
- ▶ Android application "Safe" – for enhanced security of women
- ▶ Public call for self-employment of single mums published (deadline: 21/09/2014)

You may follow the news on social inclusion and poverty reduction regularly at:

<http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/>

SOCIAL INCLUSION BLOG

Snježana: Feel the freedom of movement



Accessibility of public transport to persons with disabilities is a grave problem in our country, but as my experience teaches me, we are not alone in it. Public transportation has not been entirely resolved even in some countries that are far ahead of us in rights and quality of life of persons with disabilities. With respect to the countries in the region, the situation varies. I think that the most progress was made in Slovenia and Croatia. I think, but I might be wrong that Belgrade is the only city in Serbia that has the problem of transportation of persons with disabilities resolved to some extent. However, in

addition to metropolitan transport, the problem is bigger for inter-city and international carriers. This was the reason for our little delegation including myself, Vidan Danković from the Association for Revision of Accessibility and Miomirka Grcić as my assistant to take a trip to London in June.

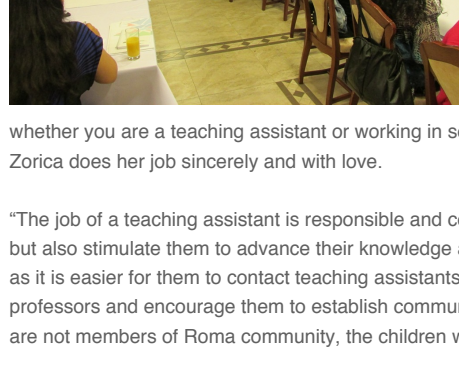
We faced first problems already when organising the trip as we had to find an airline that provided the

service of using oxygen bottles on their flight. Most of the low-budget airlines do not have this service or may allow personal device to be taken on board. However, the airlines that do have oxygen bottles charge them from EUR 50 to 150 per flight. I do not understand why they charge for something that already exists in every airplane, but neither why is there a limit to the number of persons with disabilities on flights. So it often happens that you need to postpone your flight or take it earlier, if all the seats are filled on the flight you wanted to take. Be that as it may, we still embarked the plane to London.

The complete text is available [HERE](#). Other blog posts by our authors are available at: www.socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/blog

SUCCESS STORY

Work with children is most gratifying



"It is nice in this job when you see the children advancing, satisfied and when they come to tell you how a class went" Snežana Đorđević, special pedagogue working as a teaching assistant in the primary school Knez Sima Marković in Barajevo told us.

For Zorica Jovanović, teaching assistant at the primary school Milan Hadžić in Vojka, success is that she can help in the education sector, as she believes this is one of the crucial ways for the Roma population to get included in the system. "No matter whether you are a teaching assistant or working in some other job, it is up to you how you will do it", and Zorica does her job sincerely and with love.

"The job of a teaching assistant is responsible and complex. We help the children master the curriculum, but also stimulate them to advance their knowledge and keep on. We sometimes work with parents also, as it is easier for them to contact teaching assistants. We refer them to the homeroom teachers or professors and encourage them to establish communication. In addition, we work with the children who are not members of Roma community, the children with developmental problems and make field visits".

The complete text is available [HERE](#). For more success stories please visit: <http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/category/casestudy/>

You have received this Newsletter because you are subscribed to the mailing list of the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit. If you wish to unsubscribe, please click [HERE](#).