



*The Permanent Representative of Italy
to the International Organizations
Geneva*

N. 1572

Geneva, 5 November 2020

Dear Ms. Balbin,

Following UN letter (UA ITA/4/2020), dated September 8, 2020, I have the honour to submit Italy's reply to Joint Communication by five UN Special Procedures that have requested Italian Authorities to provide them with information about the situation of Castel Romano settlement.

By this reply (which also includes 20 Annexes in Italian), we take the opportunity to reiterate our firm willingness to continue full and extensive cooperation with all UN Special Procedures Mandate-Holders.

Should additional information be made available, allow me to ensure you that we will promptly share it with you.

Please accept, Ms. Balbin, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Gian Lorenzo Cornado

Ms. Beatriz BALBIN
Chief of the Special Procedures Branch
OHCHR
GENEVA

To the attention of *UN Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context; the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.*

ITALY



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

**ITALY'S REMARKS,
IN RESPONSE TO THE JOINT URGENT APPEAL
(UA ITA 4/2020), DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 2020**

November 5, 2020

Italy's Remarks

Further to letter, dated September 8, 2020, by UN Special Procedures (Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context; the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation), we are in a position to provide the following remarks:

Introduction¹

The Roma settlement of Castel Romano, called "the Village of Solidarity" since its establishment in 2004, built to accommodate one thousand people, is divided into four sectors, called "M", "K", "D" and "F", respectively.

The first three sectors are arranged parallel to Regional Road No.148, called "Pontina", while the "F" sector is located in a more internal position with respect to the aforementioned roadway (as already inhabited by the inhabitants of the former Roma settlement of Tor dei Cenci in Via Pontina 601).

The entire area occupied by this settlement (which counts about 450 people, including children) is currently under judicial seizure for environmental crimes, as delegated to the Local Police of *Roma Capitale*, under criminal proceedings No.49487/19 RGNR PM and criminal proceedings No. 13992/20 RG GIP, for environmental disaster.

The situation of Castel Romano settlement was examined several times over the last three months during the meetings of the Provincial Committee for the Order and Public Safety, held at the Prefecture of Rome since, following the above-mentioned seizure, it has emerged the need to strengthen security services.

In particular, in order to prevent the reiteration of the criminal conduct in environmental matters, which led to the criminal seizure, the Local Police, as early as the beginning of last July, secured the aforementioned area by placing physical barriers (*newjersey*) along certain perimeter points, with the aim of banning vehicles from entering the settlement and the subsequent spillage of waste or other waste material. In addition, this site is currently guarded 24 hours a day by personnel of the Local Police of *Roma Capitale*, jointly with the surveillance carried out by the military of the Armed Forces engaged in the Operation Safe Roads, by order of Police Headquarters in Rome.

With specific regard to sector "F", occupied by about 120 people, the Public Attorney, responsible of the proceedings, has ordered the removal from the area under reference for hygienic-sanitary reasons, the execution of which will be evaluated at a forthcoming meeting of the Provincial Committee for the Order and Public Safety.

Finally, it should be noted that the entire settlement is located within the Natural Reserve, called "*Decima/Malafede*", for the protection of which the President of Latium Region issued an Ordinance, on 7 July 2020, to "*proceed with the complete implementation of the organisational and functional*

¹(Source : Ministry of Interior)

actions for the definitive closure of Castel Romano Solidarity Village and the clearance of the entire area, as well as the restoration of the places to their original state".

The above measure is based on the results of various inspections, carried out in the previous months (12 March 2020, 3 April 2020, and 23 June 2020), by the inspectors of ASL Roma 2 (local Health-Care Offices) that found the Village to be in a situation of extreme environmental degradation, due to the lack of "*conditions complying with minimum health and safety criteria for the occupants of the settlement*".

O. No.1²

Castel Romano settlement dates back to the year 2005.

At the beginning of the year 2011, by adopting the National Strategy for Inclusion of the Roma, Sinti and Caminanti (RSC) communities, 2012 – 2020, the Italian Government fully implemented EC Communication No.173/2011.

The above National Strategy has been implemented, at a local level, thanks to the current Administration of *Roma Capitale* (that took office in June 2016), by *Memoria di Giunta* (Statement in writing of the Municipality's Executive), dated November 18, 2016 (Annex No.1).

In line with the "National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti, 2012-2020", *Roma Capitale's* Executive (*Giunta Capitolina*) approved, by Resolution No.117 dated December 16, 2016 (Annex No.2), the establishment of the "*City's Working Group for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations*", for the purposes of consultation, study and exchange of views/information-sharing about relevant *Roma Capitale's* actions; and consultations have been launched accordingly, as indicated in UNAR's Note (Annex No.3).

Among the most significant Deliberations, mention may be made of the following:

- Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.105, dated 26 May 2017, which approved *Roma Capitale's* Guidance Plan for the inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations"(hereinafter, PIRSC), as "aimed at gradually overcoming the residential areas of the settlements, collection centres and solidarity villages in the Capitoline territory, through the measures identified in Annex No.1/A of the aforementioned measure ("*Pilot and temporary measures to support Roma, Sinti and Caminanti people in a situation of vulnerability to exit from the settlements and the equipped villages of Rome Capitale*"). By the above measure, the interventions and actions envisaged by the Guidance Plan were authorized, in order to be implemented in the settlements, called "La Barbuta" and "La Monachina", respectively: these ones have been designed as pilot management measures to overcome the settlements (Annex No.4).
- Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No. 70, dated 14 April 2018, by which technical-administrative simplification measures were introduced to supplement those ones already contained in the aforementioned PIRSC (Annex No.5).
- Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.80, dated May 7, 2019, on "*New interventions to implement Roma Capitale's* Guidance Plan for the Inclusion of Roma,

² (Source: Roma Capitale)

Sinti and Caminanti Populations", by which it was approved the extension of the support measures provided for by "the Guidance Plan of Roma Capitale for the inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations, referred to in DGC No.105/2017 and subsequent Deliberations of *Giunta Capitolina* No.146/2017 and No.70/2018, aimed at promoting access to social, health-care and educational services, to facilitate schooling and effective school attendance, as well as labour and housing inclusion of those inhabitants of the following settlements: Castel Romano, Candoni, Salviati 1 and 2, Monachina, Lombroso, La Barbuta / Ciampino, Salone, and Gordiani (Annex No.6).

Q. No.2³

As can be inferred from reply to Q.No.1 above, the current Administration of *Roma Capitale* has been in office since June 2016. Therefore, for the previous periods, reference is to be made to the Italian Government and the previous municipal Administrations' rounds-related measures.

The novelty of the current municipal Administration consists of its substantial adhesion to the National RSC Inclusion Strategy and the promotion of the individual resources, the autonomy and self-determination of the inhabitants of the settlements and equipped villages.

Over the years, the inhabitants reportedly adopted mutual abusive behaviours, including waste dumping and the stashing of stolen cars, mainly charred ones.

It should be noted that the collection and sale of ferrous materials and second-hand objects often constitutes the family economy of inhabitants. These activities are carried out informally, while the dumping of waste materials is an illegal activity.

With respect to the collection of ferrous materials, the Municipality of Rome (*Roma Capitale*) has facilitated the regularization of this activity. Please kindly refer to the Note on Revolving Fund, with Prot. No. QE 82030 of October 26, 2018 (Annex No.7).

Starting from the year 2017, it was approved a program of interventions, as identified by Note RA71592, dated November 15, 2017 (Annex No.8). Furthermore, the inhabitants or external persons, as reportedly introduced in the settlement by inhabitants themselves, continued to accumulate waste materials in two specific areas of Castel Romano, reportedly aimed to that end, as widely described - following preventive seizure pursuant to Art.321 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (R.G.N.R. n. 49847/19) - in the Report to the Public Prosecutor's Office (RA/40100, dated August 7, 2020 (Annex No.9)).

The dumping led to believe this settlement as an unauthorized landfill made up of burnt and sometimes dangerous waste as the result of criminal actions carried out by unknown persons under investigation, who, with their own actions have outraged: the territory of the Natural Reserve; the non-conniving inhabitants; and the children. This settlement is the recipient of the ordinary waste daily collection exercise by AMA (standing for, the Municipal Company for the Environment); and there have been various extraordinary interventions for the removal of waste in area D and in the pathway close to this settlement. A specific intervention was the cleaning of the cemetery of burnt cars, which were present in a pathway and in an escarpment close to this settlement. To this end, 120 vehicles were assigned (Document No. QE/2019/84997, dated November 19, 2019) (Annex No.10).

³ (Source: Roma Capitale)

As for the ordinary cleaning, the rubbish bins at this settlement are systematically left empty by the inhabitants, who continue to reportedly deliver waste of all kinds in the area concerned. The seriousness of this hygienic-environmental situation was already addressed in 2017, as inferred by Note with Prot. No. QE 2017/22582, dated March 16, 2017 (Annex No.11) and detailed in Note with Prot. No. RA 2017/40764, dated June 26, 2017 (Annex No.12).

Reportedly, there were also episodes of damage and safety-related problems by Castel Romano village's inhabitants, as indicated in Note RA/40764, dated June 26, 2020 (Annex No.13).

There were also numerous services supply-related interventions, following a fire in the electrical substation occurred, on February 9, 2018: a replacement service was put in place with generators (for a total cost of € 319,305.13, VAT included) and repair by the SIMU Department (cost of € 34,453.68), which was followed by a new damage case, occurred on June 14, 2018, with subsequent repair by SIMU (cost of € 7,297.40).

To date, problems related to electricity persist in this Village as indicated by Note with Prot. No. QE 47853, dated July 30, 2020 (Annex No.14) relating to electrical connection and waste removal.

The Local Police recently (Note with Prot. No. QE 20801, dated March 30, 2020 (Annex No.15)) reported that the drinking fountains were vandalized and the taps removed, thus highlighting a behaviour being not respectful of both the rules and co-existence with the other inhabitants of this settlement.

As for the water supply (Castel Romano Village) since 2011 (the connection agreement dates back to December 2010), the cost, as of September 15, 2020, has been amounting to **€ 2,438,516.47**.

Q.No.3⁴

During the interviews with the operators of the Municipality of Rome, the inhabitants reportedly showed awareness of the serious risk to which they are exposed: Yet, most of the residents have remained on site, despite the fact that many of them meet the requirements to apply for the aid provided for the disadvantaged population by the municipal social services and / or to apply for social housing. Some of them have begun joining the Solidarity Pact.

At the environmental and hygienic-sanitary level, the cleaning of area F and of the remaining areas D, K, and M have been planned, and AMA has been requested for an estimate for extraordinary cleaning. At present, the above cleaning operation has been started. Please kindly refer to the earlier mentioned Note RA/40100 to the Public Prosecutor's Office, dated August 7, 2020 (Annex No.8).

Q.No.4⁵

Since the whole area of Castel Romano is under judicial seizure, the exit-related interventions envisaged by the relevant Roma Plan have been necessarily regulated upon making it necessary to move people from area F, within a set time, as long as they are the most exposed to toxic arsons and illegal landfill.

⁴ (Source: Roma Capitale)

⁵ (Source: Roma Capitale)

Q.No.5⁶

As known, UNAR (standing for, the National Office against Racial Discrimination of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers) is the National Roma Contact Point for the implementation in Italy of the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti (RSC), 2012-2020. Within the scope of its competences, UNAR coordinates the actions and projects that address the RSC communities in Italy, in agreement with the local Institutions and the competent Ministries.

With regard to the initiatives relating to its specific responsibilities, UNAR is in a position to report on developments of initiatives already underway or new projects promoted in the field of social housing, in accordance with the principles on housing-related rights and social protection of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti (RSC), as well as the most recent measures and operational plans for social and socio-economic inclusion as implemented in accordance with the National Inclusion Strategy of the RSC (2012-2020).

Covid-19 health-related emergency and the support to RSC communities

During the COVID-19 health-related emergency - starting in particular from March 2020 onwards -, the RSC has represented a particularly vulnerable group that, in some settlements characterized by overcrowding and precarious sanitary conditions, encountered specific difficulties in the access to basic goods-related supply. It should be recalled that by Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers, dated March 9, 2020, the Italian Council of Ministers had introduced measures that considerably limited the movement of citizens within the national territory, thus preventing the normal performance of daily activities.

The specific situation of housing distress during the Covid-19 health-related emergency made the continuation of the inclusion and integration processes already underway even more difficult.

The situation of generalized crisis determined by the long phase of social distancing to limit the pandemic risk has been the subject of numerous reports, from both the NGOs participating in the National RSC Platform (established by UNAR) and the other Associations operating throughout the national territory, indicating the socio-economic, housing and health-related impact caused by the isolation of RSC families living in the most marginal settlements.

In particular, the spread of COVID-19 and the consequent and necessary restrictive provisions have exacerbated subsistence problems of the people who live in the settlements (recognized, spontaneous, micro-areas, collective centres), by specifically affecting the most marginalized groups or those ones most at risk of discrimination among the RSC.

Hence, it is emerged the extreme hardship of RSC families and children living in marginal settlements and / or characterized by critical issues with respect to their legal status (the so-called *de facto* stateless persons: people without citizenship and residency enrolment, thereby at risk of being excluded from any types of support.

Against this background, it is to be mentioned the UNAR-promoted P.A.L. project, standing for "Pilot interventions for the establishment of Working Groups and Networks of stakeholders involved, in various capacities, with the RSC community, in order to encourage the participation of Roma in social, political, economic and civic life", funded by the NOP (standing for, National Operational Programme)-Inclusion (Axis 3 - Ob. spec 9.5 - Action 9.5.4), operational in eight metropolitan cities

⁶ (Source: UNAR)

(Rome, Milan, Bari, Naples, Catania, Messina, Genoa and Cagliari). In tandem with the other actions already implemented by UNAR and financed by the NOP Inclusion, this has made it possible to reach out to the RSC, also through an array of actions aimed at both formal and informal settlements, in conjunction with the Municipalities concerned and the NGOs active at a grass-root level.

Alongside the main activities of the P.A.L. project, which will be spelled out below, the health-related emergency made it necessary to expand the P.A.L. project's scope and made it possible to promote a series of low-threshold interventions through the distribution of basic goods (drinking water, foodstuffs, etc.), health devices (sanitizing gels, face masks, hygiene products) and information, awareness-raising and support interventions, to facilitate access of hard-to-reach people to ordinary and extraordinary measures implemented at a national level through the Municipalities and Regions. The initiatives focused on the cities of Rome, Milan, Naples, and Giugliano, where the RSC settlements showed a major urgency within the framework of the pandemic-related emergency.

a) As regards the Municipality of **Rome**, the implementer was Associazione 21Luglio and the following interventions are to be reported:

- Based on the identified needs, actions targeted in particular families with children, aged 0-3. Thanks to the resources of this project, from May 2020 up to date, 630 baby packs have been packaged and distributed, on a weekly basis, of which 240 in Castel Romano Village, 260 in Salone Village, 130 in the informal settlement "Tor Cervara". The activities have continued to be carried out until September 2020;
- In order to counter forms of anti-gypsyism, the related packaging activity involved both Roma and non-Roma people. With support from a nutritionist and a paediatrician, this activity consisted in five different types of packages for children in accordance with their respective age group: each package, prepared according to the weekly needs, contains diapers; wipes; powdered milk, when necessary; baby food; flour; pasta.

Stakeholders involved: Caritas of Rome and Diocese of Rome.

b) As regards the city of **Milan**, the implementer of the relevant activities was the *Casa della Carità* and among the relevant actions mention has to be made of the following:

- Establishment of a coordination working group to detect the most vulnerable situations and needs of Roma and Sinti families;
- Realization of an assessment of Roma and Sinti families living in conditions of greater vulnerability, such as the families in occupied social housing solutions, those living in unauthorized settlements, and caravans;
- Mapping of the needs of families, which highlighted food needs, educational aid-related needs relating to distance learning, and products for children, aged 0-3 (milk, diapers);
- Interventions implemented in response to food needs, both by organizing the distribution of parcels to the settlements, and by delivering to the beneficiaries' homes shopping purchased online by the third sector stakeholders.

Stakeholders involved: Naga, Sant'Egidio, Caritas, ERRC, Opera Nomadi, Ass. Casavola, Upre Roma.

c) As regards the cities of **Giugliano and Naples**, the implementer of the activities concerned was Associazione 21 Luglio and the following is to be reported:

- Detection of needs and coordination activities with local stakeholders of the third sector;

- Distribution of food packages. In Giugliano, products for personal hygiene and house cleaning were added to foodstuffs. In Naples, some families were provided with recreational and educational material.

Stakeholders involved:

Naples: *Chi rom e..... chi no*, The Sisters of Providence; The Jesuit community of Scampia; The Lasallian community; Magma.

Giugliano: Arrevutammoce NGO and the Lasallian community.

For an overview of relevant nationwide initiatives, please kindly refer to Information as annexed below.

Q.No.6⁷

The measures of *Roma Capitale*'s Roma Plan are as follows: a) Procurement, through the private real estate market, of dwellings for beneficiaries holding the minimum economic requirements to bear the related expenses; b) Motivational and material support to families in the autonomous search for housing solutions; c) Finding dwellings through Associations or others, for those families in particularly vulnerable situations that are unable to access other housing solutions in the short term; d) Assisted voluntary returns.

A municipal support plan has been envisaged by the Social Policies Department – Reception Directorate SOS, as well as the use of the provisions of DGC No.169/2020, such as the Social Housing (ERP) *reserve* of 15% envisaged by Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.38 of July 9, 2020 (Annex No.16).

Q.No.7⁸

The inhabitants of the settlements are the beneficiaries of the social interventions carried out by the RTI that won the public tender indicated by DD with Prot. No. QE1426/2019 and thus started the above service, on February 21, 2020.

During the lockdown due to COVID-19, the delivery of the so-called shopping vouchers to the majority of families living in the settlement took place thanks to SPE, RTI and the RSC Office (<https://www.comune.roma.it/web/it/ufficio-speciale-rom-sinti-caminanti.page>).

The RTI carried out a social mapping exercise; and from June 4, 2020 talks have started in view of the signing of the Agreements (Social Responsibility Pacts) by inhabitants living in area F and former Tor Pagnotta, at the Headquarters in Via Montuori 5, at the presence of the RTI operators involved. Accordingly, mention is to be made of the following: about 100 interviews per year, of which about 45 in-depth ones by subject (housing-related application / legal advice for documents); and over 1,000 contacts (Annex No.17).

Requests for help due to COVID could be submitted to the Department of Social Policies, directly at local Districts, and even sent via newsstands, as described in the Municipality website:

⁷ (Source: Roma Capitale)

⁸ (Source: Roma Capitale)

<https://www.comune.roma.it/web/it/notizia.page?contentId=NWS575260> and available from 27 April 2020.

COVID related news has always been available on the main page of the Municipality (<https://www.comune.roma.it/web/it/welcome.page>) and on the specific *Roma aiuta Roma* website for COVID health emergency, being on the main page of *Roma Capitale*. <https://www.comune.roma.it/romaiutaroma/>

Italian municipalities could provide store credits (*buono spesa*) during the emergency, to buy food and other essential goods. In Rome these were vouchers (each for the value of 20 Euros) and/or food packs.

The Special Office officers went to the settlement and brought the vouchers in person in order to ensure that all those in need were reached. The application for help could also go through the specific Municipality App. On the city's official website the amount and typology of the help offered are listed:

<https://www.comune.roma.it/romaiutaroma/it/aiuto-per-buoni-spesa.page>

Citizenship Income (RdC Reddito di Cittadinanza) remained active for all those people demonstrating the needed economic requirements (reference is the ISEE Declaration 2019 as submitted in January 2020).

With exceptional timing, the Municipality of Rome, through a number of Determinations issued by the Department of Social Policies Director Mr. G. S. DD QE/913/2020 dated 31/3/2020 and DD QE/942/2020 dated 2/4/2020 indicated that *Roma Capitale* extended COVID-related help also to undocumented and to all those resident even for temporary emergency reasons (for example those who remained stuck in the city during lockdown).

Residents could go to the Municipal District while all the others had to go to the Department to ask for it

https://www.comune.roma.it/web-resources/cms/documents/Determina_21444_02_04_2020_LD000001_buoni_spesa.pdf

By 15 March, 2020, the Municipality had already started preparing the different options to help not only the settlement's residents, but the disadvantaged in general. Examples are the following: A partnership agreement was signed with NGO INTERSOS to have all homeless and irregular migrants (including occupants from informal dwellings tested for COVID. Relevant protocol attached – Annex No. 18).

Children under the age of 5 have been considered as a valid criterion to deliver vouchers also to those entrusted of the Citizenship Income Measure (RdC, Reddito di Cittadinanza). As a whole, *Roma Capitale* has invested for the disadvantaged during the COVID emergency an overall total of 13MEuro in voucher and food help.

Q. No.8⁹

The actions aimed at facilitating inclusion pathways are aimed at all individuals/families living in the Equipped and Tolerated Villages of *Roma Capitale*.

⁹ (Source: Roma Capitale)

Relevant actions are envisaged by Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.105/2017 et ff., on the "*Guidance Plan of Roma Capitale for the inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Populations*". The extension of the pilot measures, introduced by Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.70/2018, refers to the four (EU) Axes: Health; Education; Employment; and Housing.

The measures contained in the Guidance Plan are aimed at those people who sign the Social Solidarity Pact and are in a situation of effective socio-economic disadvantage, as certified by income and property assessments and following technical-professional evaluation by the Social Service.

The inclusion pathways aimed at achieving a sufficient degree of autonomy that allows the exit from the "settlement" are structured in individualized plans shared and defined on the basis of the skills and the development of skills and competences, as well as through careful and in-depth social mapping.

At present, the Villages in which the measures envisaged by *Roma Capitale's* Plan have been implemented are the following:

La Barbuta: 36 Pacts signed - 37 families being assignees of public housing;

Monachina: 14 Pacts signed;

Castel Romano: 15 Pacts signed - 19 families being assignees of public housing.

Q. No.9¹⁰

The inhabitants of the settlement under reference have access to all measures reserved for the indigent population. In particular, they can apply for social housing in accordance with the following regional legislation: a) Latium Region's Act No.12/1999; Implementing Regulation No.2, dated 30 September 2000, for the rental of social housing solutions owned or otherwise falling within the availabilities of *Roma Capitale*; 3) Act of Latium Region No.12 of 6 August 2012.

The relevant Municipal Competition's General Notice, dating back to the year 2012, is still in force. It facilitates the inhabitants of the settlements with the 18 points provided for those who "*live with their respective family in collection centres, public dormitories or in any other suitable facilities provided provisionally by recognized and authorized voluntary bodies, organizations and associations in charge of public assistance, with continuous stay for at least one year on the date of submitting the application*". A further effort was made by the signatories of the Pacts concerned to find a dwelling in the private market to take advantage of the contribution provided for by the *Roma Capitale's* relevant Plan.

Q.No.10¹¹

The provisions of Law-Decree No.18/2020 and subsequent amendments provide for a suspension of executing dispossession and eviction from illegally occupied properties.

The case under reference, namely the removal of people living in area F of Castel Romano Solidarity Village, does not fall within the above provision. This is not an eviction case. It results in the application of interdiction measures (*misura interdittiva*) to protect public health and safety, as issued for urgent hygienic-sanitary reasons and for the protection of environmental health.

¹⁰ (Source: Roma Capitale)

¹¹ (Source: Roma Capitale)

With the aim at evicting from area F of the Castel Romano Solidarity Village, no measures have been adopted by *Roma Capitale*, yet.

All occupants of the aforementioned area were invited, for their own protection, on July 2, 2020, as well as on July 25, 2020 (communications regularly notified to the competent offices), to spontaneously leave the settlement, due to the urgent and serious sanitation-related situation.

The competent health-care offices (ASL RM 2 and ASL Roma 2 Prevention Department) have already requested by Notes with Prot. No.0047461 of 12 March 2020 (Annex No.19) and Prot. No.0049489, dated 17 March 2020 (Annex No.20), the adoption of an order of eviction (*Ordinanza sindacale di sgombero*) due to an extremely serious environmental and health pollution-related situation linked, among other things, to the continuous dumping and burning of waste in the whole settlement, which is under judicial seizure; and the Mayor has been appointed guardian with the task of preventing the perpetuation of the causes of environmental pollution.

The current national legislation (Article 50 of Unified Text on Local Authorities, acronym in Italian, TUEL) provides for the Mayor to adopt urgent health-care related orders, also in derogation from the current legislation, to counter emergency cases and exceptional situations such as the one that the investigations of the Judicial Authority have indicated in the case under reference. The measures to be taken are thus those ones provided for in the cases concerning all resident citizens with assistance and relocation interventions to be carried out with support from the Social Operating Room (*Sala Operativa Sociale*) and low-threshold assistance measures for those people entitled to them.

Relevant measures of *Roma Capitale* (available in Italian) under Ms. V. Raggi's mayorship:

Annex No.1 – *Memoria* (Statement in writing) di *Giunta Capitolina*, dated November 18, 2016;
Annex No.2 - Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.117, dated December 16, 2016
Annex No.3 - Consultations in view of Roma Plan (January 31, 2017);
Annex No.4 - Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.105, dated May 26, 2017;
Annex No.5 - Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.70, dated April 14, 2018;
Annex No.6 - Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina* No.80, dated May 7, 2019;
Annex No.7 - Rotating Fund with Prot. No. QE 82030, dated October 26, 2018;
Annex No.8 - Interventions Planning, dated November 15, 2017;
Annex No.9 – Report to the Public Prosecutor's Office in Rome (RA/40100, dated August 7, 2020);
Annex No.10 – Removal, 120 vehicles QE/2019/84997, dated November 19, 2019;
Annex No.11 – Hygienic-sanitary situation, dated March 16, 2017;
Annex No.12 – Situation in the settlements, dated June 26, 2017;
Annex No.13 – Security related Issues, dated June 26, 2017;
Annex No.14 – Electricity and waste removal, dated July 30, 2020;
Annex No.15 – Robbery and damage to water fountain, dated July 23, 2020;
Annex No.16 – Deliberation of *Giunta Capitolina*, No.38, dated July 9, 2020;
Annex No.17 – Data on social interventions for the inhabitants;
Annex No.18 – Specific Protocol – Intersos;
Annex No.19 – Department on Prevention ASL, dated March 12, 2020;
Annex No.20 - Department on Prevention ASL, dated March 17, 2020.

Conclusion

The Italian Authorities take this opportunity to reaffirm their broad commitment to fully cooperating with UN Special Procedures and all other relevant international mechanisms.

The Municipality of Rome (*Rome Capitale*) remains at your full disposal for a possible visit, meeting or a conference call.

The Italian Authorities will remain seized of the matter and will send further information should it be made available.

Annex on relevant measures across the country

Mapping the transition towards formal housing solutions

Following previous activities and with the specific aim of monitoring the local interventions aimed at overcoming settlements, UNAR has further developed, by means of an agreement with ISTAT (standing for National Office of Statistics), an action aimed at carrying out a quantitative-qualitative investigation to define the number and the modalities through which - starting from the launch of the National Strategy - people belonging to the RSC communities have left the so-called settlements to move to other housing solutions. This project, financed with resources from within the NOP Inclusion, relies on the support of the Statistical Working Group and the presence of a representative

from the national RSC Platform. By accurate data, the survey closed a knowledge gap concerning the housing problems experienced by Roma communities, with a view to overcoming it.

Among the main areas of the survey, which in February 2020 involved 745 Municipalities with over 15,000 inhabitants, 126 cities declared that they had a total of 373 formal and / or informal settlements. Of these, 42 cities started, between 2012 and 2020, 96 housing-related projects aimed at the transition towards formal housing.

- Project “Housing-related transition” (UNAR-ISTAT) (Started on February 28, 2018; Concluded on February 28, 2020; Budget 200,000.00 Euros – Specific Objective 11.1, NOP Inclusion 2014-2020).

The coordination of interventions for the RSC communities through the Local Action Plans (P.A.L.)

The aforementioned P.A.L. project, on "Pilot interventions for the establishment of working groups and networks of stakeholders involved in various capacities with the RSC community, in order to facilitate the participation of Roma in social, political, economic and civic life" – a part of the specific intervention aimed at the already mentioned support to RSC settlements in order to respond to the COVID-19 emergency - has provided, during 2019-2020, to provide technical support to the Administrations involved (the eight metropolitan cities of Rome, Milan, Bari, Naples, Catania, Messina, Genoa, and Cagliari) in order to facilitate the inclusion of RSC communities and their participation in social, political, economic and civic life and to promote models and guidelines for Local Action Plans and sectorial local networks.

The local WGs had the two-fold aim of ensuring a synergistic and homogeneous implementation of the National Strategy at a territorial level and of carrying out information, awareness-raising and monitoring actions.

The WGs are the venue for planning "Local Action Plans".

The project activities were presented at a meeting that was held on 13 February 2019 in Rome (at the CESVI), to provide: an initial overview of the different territorial contexts involved in the project and related to the characteristics of Roma and Sinti population; and a research by which to collect quantitative and qualitative data about the needs, the stakeholders, the policy tools, and the initial results of relevant actions.

During 2020, the WGs held nine face-to-face meetings while seven were held online, and saw the participation of a total of 177 local stakeholders.

Detailing the P.A.L. Project, “Local Action Plans” (Started in 2018; To be concluded in 2020; Amount: 550,000.00 Euros) To facilitate the complex governance process of the National Inclusion Strategy, with a focus on the local level, it was launched in 2018, within the NOP Inclusion framework, the public project called "PAL" (Local action plans), as promoted by UNAR, for the implementation of "Pilot interventions for the establishment of local WGs and networks of citizens and persons in charge of local administrations". The aim of this project, entrusted by a public tender procedure to a consortium of four NGOs, is to set up and foster dialogue and coordination within the WGs at the Municipalities concerned (Rome, Cagliari, Milan, Genoa, Naples, Bari, Messina and Catania), to promote a synergy between relevant policies and interventions, as well as Roma’s participation in social, political, economic and civic life.

National Contact Point's coordination activity with local Authorities, with regard to RSC's access to housing

In order to make a concrete contribution to overcome Roma settlements - the latter to be intended as places of isolation and physical and relational degradation - UNAR as the National Contact Point for the implementation of the National Strategy for the inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Communities (RSC), 2012-2020, has put forward projects-related proposals and monitored on-going initiatives for the advancement towards non-mono-ethnic housing solutions, as developed on the basis of territorial consultation and dialogue among the various relevant social stakeholders and the direct participation of the beneficiaries concerned.

Among the relevant projects, from 2016 until 2020, UNAR - in coordination with the Territorial Agency for Cohesion and with the Metropolitan Cities (being the Managing Authority and the intermediate body of the NOP Metro, respectively) - has promoted the correct use of available resources for housing policies aimed at RSC communities, through the NOP Metro, in parallel with the interventions falling within NOP Inclusion and the Regional Operational Plans, through the Inter-institutional WG on the RSC housing issue, periodically gathered. Meetings were held until 2020, with the participation of central Administrations and the main Italian metropolitan cities, with the aim of boosting local policies concerning Roma living in larger urban areas. The meetings of the aforementioned PAL project fulfil this crucial function.

To ensure greater coordination between the central and local levels, UNAR is about to launch by the end of 2020, in collaboration with the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces, the project, called P.A.R. (standing for, Regional Action Plans), which envisages to provide the Regions (in light of what has been done with the municipal level through the PAL project) with direct technical support for: planning; a more effective access to financial resources (available from within ordinary and community funds, both direct and indirect ones); and better operational regional coordination of social and economic inclusion-related measures for the RSC communities and those ones most at risk of social vulnerability. This initiative is the result of a discussion started in 2018, when the issues related to the Housing-Axis of the RSC Strategy were dealt with in a synergic way with the local actors in an *ad hoc* meeting, held on November 27, 2018, which involved about 20 representatives of the Regions and of the major metropolitan cities, through the analysis of critical issues and good practices.

The search for collaboration between the different levels of government with shared objectives made it possible to plan measures, in line with the National Strategy. The above meeting was followed by the elaboration of the earlier mentioned pathway aimed to Regional Action Plans, to be developed through a European tender to be published in five Italian Regions (Calabria, Emilia Romagna, Lazio, Puglia, Sardinia). These Regions have formally adhered to the proposal and will participate in the relevant activities, which provide mechanisms for planning interventions aimed at: improving the local and regional intervention-related capacity; the increase in the capacity-building of Associations; and the involvement of Roma and Sinti mediators and facilitators.

<p>Detailing the P.A.R. Project, standing for “Regional Action Plans” (Estimated start: end of 2020; End: 2021; Amount: 800,000.00 Euros, plus VAT). Based on the governance model of the P.A.L. project, UNAR has undertaken the necessary procedures to provide, also regional authorities, with similar support and coordination. This project, called P.A.R. (Regional Action Plans), financed with resources from NOP Inclusion, will start in the next biennium, 2021-2022, and will concern the</p>

Regions that want to make use of this instrument to set up and foster regional working groups for dialogue purposes, as also envisaged in the National RSC Inclusion Strategy.

RSC Platform and Forum, responsibilities and consultations modalities on housing

With regard to civil society participation in the RSC inclusion process, UNAR has prepared an operational tool for dialogue with the RSC and sectorial Associations, as well as the central and local public Administrations involved in the National Roma, Sinti, Caminanti Inclusion Strategy.

The RSC National Platform – the national follow-up to the European Roma Platform, promoted by the European Commission - was established in 2017, following an expression of interest and the admission of 79 Associations from all over the national territory (http://www.unar.it/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Decreto_Piatiaioa-Forum_RSC.pdf).

Among the objectives of this Platform, mention has to be made of the promotion and establishment of networks and of the RSC Communities Forum, which is at the core of the Platform (the Forum is foreseen by the National Strategy "with functions of interplay, relationship and consultation with the NCP and the national Working Groups, both with respect to the implementation of the National Strategy and its periodic review and evaluation" (See the National Strategy, para.2.3.2, p.34).

The Forum is made up of 25 NGOs that, in the expression of interest, have self-declared: to be mainly composed of RSC people and to express a common position on some relevant issues to be put forward to the competent Institutions, including the housing issue and the overcoming of the settlements.

The National RSC Platform designed by public vote held in 2017 the delegates for each area of intervention, including with regard to housing.

The Platform and the Forum met constantly (14 meetings since 2017), with discussion of specific situations and critical issues at both a national and local level, including the issue of eviction and the necessary housing alternatives for people living in the settlements.

In November 2019, during a plenary meeting, a consultation on some key issues was launched: the result is the acquisition of the contribution from 15 stakeholders to the RSC Platform that also provided specific indications on housing and eviction, besides highlighting critical issues and proposals that could inspire the elaboration of Guidelines as part of the post-2020 National Strategy.

The National Operational Plan – Metropolitan Cities, 2014 – 2020 (NOP Metro)

The interventions for the housing inclusion of RSC communities focus on action 3.2.1 of the Expected Result RA 9.5., on “Accompaniment pathways to housing of marginalized communities”. This Action is based on an integrated approach that places housing at the core, through the use of different types of intervention, in constant interaction with projects in the field of education, health, regularization of the Roma legal status, employment, and active inclusion. In practical terms, this Action provides for an accompanying pathway to housing that is being implemented by the Municipalities concerned, and which is based on:

- 1) The analysis of the needs of each family in view of the correct identification of the support necessary for housing inclusion;
- 2) The preparation of an individualised pact for housing inclusion;

- 3) The search for a housing solution mainly through the identification of a dwelling in the private market;
- 4) The provision of a contribution to the rental as part of the accompanying pathway;
- 5) The implementation of accompanying services both with regard to the family/individual belonging to the Roma population and to the community - to encourage a broader inclusion process.

The resources, allocated to Action 3.2.1., amount to € 9,203,039.00 as shared among the cities of Rome, Genoa, Venice, Cagliari, Naples, Reggio Calabria, Catania, and Palermo.

The Territorial Cohesion Agency, being the Managing Authority, is responsible for the management and implementation of the Operational Program and updates the implementation status of the interventions.

Housing-related interventions at a local level

UNAR, through one of its projects entrusted to the Research Institute on Population and Social Policies of the National Research Council, elaborated, between 2019 and 2020, an Evaluation Plan on the Italian Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Inclusion Strategy, 2012-2020, by collecting information about a significant number of projects/interventions by local Administrations. This survey paid specific attention to: the situations and projects relating to housing and alternative solutions to the settlements; the school dropout rate; the livelihoods of women and girls - all areas that were specifically monitored at a national level, with attention to the housing situation.

ABRUZZO/MOLISE - A multi-year project with Caritas of Teramo Atri, called "Men free themselves together" was signed at the Municipality of Teramo, in order to improve integration through: a working group, specific educational support measures both at school and at home, as well as the activation of training courses.

CALABRIA - Calabria Region approved, on the occasion of the Regional Council's session of November 19, 2019, the new Act, entitled "Integration and promotion of the Roma minority and amendment to Regional Law No.19, dated April 19, 1995".

CAMPANIA – The Municipality of Naples is involved in the P.A.L. project.

EMILIA-ROMAGNA - The Municipality of Bologna has been implementing the National Strategy with solutions alternative to the settlements, besides promoting self-financed housing solutions (Regional Law No.14/2015) and signing the "National Project for the inclusion and integration of RSC children" as included in the 2014/2012 National Operational Plan (PON) "Inclusion". Moreover, this Municipality approved a local program to identify small Roma and Sinti communities in order to provide them with housing solutions alternative to the settlement, such as temporary housing for vulnerable people, regional housing projects or private houses to be rent.

The Municipality of Budrio has planned interventions to prevent RSC school dropout. In San Lazzaro di Savena, an integrated team that meets monthly has been tasked with finding housing solutions alternative to "the living in the settlements/fields". This team facilitated access to public housing for six families. Health-care and education courses have been planned for each family.

In Correggio, a social inclusion project was carried out by the Social Services of the local Authority in collaboration with local voluntary organizations aimed at facilitating children's school attendance and developing adults' knowledge of the social facilities available.

In Guastalla, in 2005, in light of the project financed by the Municipality and Emilia Romagna Region, an area was equipped with technologies such as water and gas supply pipes, water purifier and electricity supply. This was developed following indications from Opera Nomadi (a charity association active in the protection of RSC communities). Each RSC family has been asked to contribute with 10 Euros, per month.

By using the funds allocated by Regional Act No.11/2015, the Municipality of Ferrara dismantled large settlements and promoted the establishment of micro-areas. Moreover, it outlined and implemented the relevant project.

The Municipality of Faenza signed a project with Emilia-Romagna Region, to promote school inclusion and to find housing solutions alternative to the settlement. All RSC families live in public housing or Church-owned homes. Moreover, mention has to be made of the waste management project, called "*Protocol between the Romagna Faentina Union and the Consorzio Equo in Turin*", funded by the Region. This has been underway since 2017, in order to offer job opportunities and educational interventions; as part of this project, three people joined work paths, and school attendance by pupils is constant (three pupils regularly use the school bus).

The Council of the Municipality of Rimini approved a program to find alternative solutions to the existing large settlement by assigning equipped micro-areas to six Italian Sinti families and public housing to four families, respectively.

In Ravenna, adults are self-employed workers and children attend compulsory school under the care of local social services, to avoid school drop out. Most families were granted public housing between 2005 and 2011, following the dismantling of the existing settlement.

FRIULI VENEZIA-GIULIA The Municipality of Trieste outlined the "Micro Habitat Areas" project, to implement the National Strategy, as carried out by the Municipality itself, the Local Health-Care Service, and ATER (for municipal housing).

The Municipality of Udine has taken initiatives to eradicate school drop-out (cultural mediators, after-school activities, on-site teachers and vocational training for young people under the age of 21). This Municipality launched the project "European Roma-net", in close collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, the local health-care service, and various NGOs, with the aim of reducing the number of people in the settlements and to avoid eviction besides fostering wide social inclusion.

In accordance with Regional Act dated March 14, 1988, the RSC communities were authorized to purchase agricultural lands, owned by the Municipality, to install mobile homes.

In Pordenone, several families live in formal houses, some in public housing (ATER).

LATIUM REGION - On November 18, 2016 the Municipality of Rome approved an "Inclusion Project" aimed at finding alternative solutions to six Roma settlements (with the participation of UNAR, the Region and the National Association of Italian Municipalities), including through a European call for tenders.

The "Working group for the inclusion of cities" was approved by Decision of the *Giunta Capitolina* No.117 dd., dated December 16, 2016. This includes the "Working Group for the educational inclusion and health situation of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti", jointly with the local health-care

authorities: Rm1, Rm2, Rm3, as well as the National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty (acronym in Italian, INMP). The goal is to prevent socio-health exclusion of the RSC population.

As earlier mentioned, the "Guidance Plan" of *Roma Capitale* was approved by Decision No. 105, dated May 16, 2017, to dismantle the settlements and find alternative solutions, as well as to implement the National Strategy. In this context, a project was developed in order to find between November 2017 and December 2021 alternative solutions to Castel Romano village. At the same time, the NOP Metro "Metropolitan Cities" 2014-2020 project was initiated by launching tenders, with the two-fold aim of dismantling "La Barbuta" and "Monachina" settlements and finding relevant alternative solutions.

LOMBARDY - An agreement, called "Project 2013-2014 for Roma Sinti and Caminanti", was signed by the Municipality of Milan and the Prefecture, in order to promote access to housing, the requalification of occupied areas and employment-related policies. Detailed information was provided on regular school attendance of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children and the prevention of school dropout in the Municipalities of Fagnano Olona, Cairate, Solbiate Olona, Cassano Magnago, Lonate Pozzolo, Saronno, Tradate, Gorla Minore, Cislago, Gerenzano, Monza Brianza.

LIGURIA - The Municipality of Genoa has developed: local socio-pedagogical projects of educational inclusion for children, as well as extracurricular inclusion paths; actions to promote preventive measures (family counselling, awareness-raising projects on the health risks associated with alcohol and drug addiction) as agreed upon by the Municipality itself and the local health-care unit (acronym in Italian, ASL); local social services to take care of families with children and the elderly. Moreover, with the aim of promoting children's rights, an MoU was signed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and the Municipality, in accordance with Act No. 185/1997.

The above MoU is renewed every three years. In the period 2017-2020, 81 schools and Roma and Sinti pupils, aged between 6 and 14, were involved. There are also pre-schooling projects for children, aged 3 - 5. A further project, as agreed upon by the Ministry of Labour and the Municipality, called "from the settlement to the house", funded by the Ministry following the flood that occurred in 2014, aims to involve families in housing projects through incentives, such as the house rental paid for one year. Some Sinti families in La Spezia Municipality moved into "temporary dwellings" pending the granting of public housing in accordance with local procedures, while other families already benefit from "ATER houses".

MARCHE - The various groups of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti families that stay in the Municipality of Fano (Pesaro-Urbino) are accommodated in private apartments or social housing units.

PIEDMONT - The Municipality of Alessandria has been included in the areas that need priority interventions as envisaged by Regional Resolution No.22-7099 establishing a "Regional Panel on the inclusion and social integration of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti". The Municipality of Asti has developed the "wild flowers" and "wild flowers 1" projects, in order to eradicate school dropout.

The Municipalities of Alessandria and Vercelli released data relating the rate of school attendance of RSC pupils in compulsory school. In particular the Municipality of Vercelli reported that many RSC adults are included in the local social care services and are entitled to receive the guaranteed minimum income for social inclusion (acronym in Italian, REI).

APULIA - The Municipality of Bari approved a local action plan for the social inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti, by DG No.718/2017. A national pilot project is also underway in the territory of the aforementioned Municipality.

The above project (by the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Education, University and Research, and the Istituto degli Innocenti of Florence) aims to counter school drop out and is currently being tested in two settlements.

In Barletta, a municipal area set up on lands confiscated to organized crime (D.G. 236/2015) was structured in three housing modules equipped with services and utilities and formally assigned by the Municipality under reference. In this Municipality, children are monitored by the competent Court, thanks to a specific support guardian.

SARDINIA - The Municipality of Sassari implements a project of assisted voluntary repatriation and reintegration through funds from the Ministry of the Interior and IOM's cooperation, as well as the search for housing solutions as an alternative to settlements. A protocol was also signed with the local health authority Olbia 2 for health checks (vaccinations and infection prevention). The "Roma" project, which is in place, deals with social and labour inclusion and is funded through Regional Operational Plan Sardinia. RSC people have been included into labour market.

The dismantling of the relevant settlement should take place, together with the search for alternative medium-term and definitive housing solutions (such as mobile homes on owned land and so on). In 2018, some family groups left the settlement (and they were placed on their own land with a mobile home). In the near future, more family groups will have to leave the settlement (Several family groups will settle on their own land with a mobile home and a few more will move to apartments).

In the Municipality of Alghero, Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children are monitored by the local social services. School is guaranteed. Between January 2015 (year of dismantling the settlement) and February 2017, through funding from Sardinia Region, eleven projects were launched regarding housing inclusion. Moreover, an awareness-raising activity is underway to facilitate mutual understanding within the new housing contexts.

In the Municipality of Porto Torres, Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children are monitored by local social services. The school and the school bus service are insured. The current settlement should be dismantled and alternative solutions should be found thanks to a project and funding from Sardinia Region, in order to find alternative housing solutions (in this context, the delegates of the relevant communities would be involved).

In the Municipality of Oristano, various groups of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti families benefit from social inclusion income and support for active inclusion. Children regularly attend school. An educational project has been launched for children with disabilities. Numerous family groups are supported by social services in the procedures for allocating social housing

TUSCANY - The interventions implemented at a regional level after 2014 referring to the previous period but still in progress are the following: a large group of families was granted public housing in compliance with the local criteria; the implementation of the 2007/2010 Regional Integrated Social Plan continued to be carried out as indicated in the "Action Plan aimed at finding ordinary housing solutions to be meant as an alternative to the living of Roma and Sinti communities in the settlements"; the implementation of specific actions continued as required by Regional Law No.2/2000, on "Actions aimed at finding alternative solutions to life in settlements of Roma and Sinti communities", namely by the assignment of equipped areas to live in, the renovation of existing buildings, and the granting of public housing, as well as by the Integrated Regional Plan for health and social sector, 2012-2015, et ff..

More specifically, Tuscany Region's Act No.2/2000 (Actions for Roma and Sinti) - which aims to find alternatives to settlements through equipped residential areas, renovation of buildings and the use of social housing -, and the 2012-2015 regional integrated health and social sector plan et ff. are still being implemented. And numerous extraordinary programs aimed at finding accommodation in the free market are being tested.

In the province of Lucca, various social housing units have been assigned, in accordance with regional Act No.96/1996, which allows access to ordinary tenders for the allocation of public social housing.

In particular, the following actions were implemented in the Municipality of Lucca: "Prima la casa" project, approved by Decision of Tuscany Region No. 2798/2015, aimed at the allocation of seven social housing units; the renewal of two housing units in the historic center for those family groups that have left the settlement (Regional Executive Decision No.752/218 and Decision No. 269/2018). Important actions by the municipal social services to protect children are to be reported too: educational and school support services.

The Municipality of Massa Carrara has launched specific inclusion actions. A project for alternative housing solutions was launched, jointly with Michelucci Foundation of Florence, which led to the assignment of social housing units or the purchase of land for campers and caravans. In October 2018, this Municipality presented a new project to the Region for the school inclusion of children, aged 6 - 16.

VENETO - The Municipality of Padua has undertaken specific actions to support the education and inclusion of RSC children. Many families live mainly in public housing built on municipal or private sites. In the event of an eviction, specific attention is paid to vulnerable people who have been granted temporary accommodation; multiple actions are carried out in order to optimize health and social services. 30 lodgings have been built on a municipal site through the project funded by the Municipality and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies.

In Treviso, most families live in public housing made available to them as alternative solutions to the settlement. In Castelfranco Veneto, initiatives will be undertaken to encourage schooling, to provide both the elderly and persons with disabilities with professional training, besides taking them to the workplace, in collaboration with the local health-care units.

The Municipality of Montebelluna has launched three social integration projects involving the largest number of communities, mainly aimed at children's social inclusion.

In the Municipalities of Cavarzese and Santa Maria di Sala, in the province of Venice, RSC families live in public housing or in their own homes.

Additional project of a national relevance which concerns those metropolitan areas more largely characterized by the presence of RSC

During the period 2019 - 2020, various initiatives have been completed in all Axes of the RSC National Strategy. It is to be recalled that a significant part of the actions at a national level is carried out within the ordinary responsibilities of UNAR and its Contact Center for the collection and management of complaints of discrimination, by which it has been set up a contact center to report hate crimes besides providing support and legal assistance to victims. Also an Observatory on the media and the Internet to train Roma youth and to monitor, remove or report hate speech is to be mentioned.

Among the actions promoted by UNAR, mention has to be made of the following:

- Project and dissemination of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti culture - *Formez PA Nazionale*
- Evaluation plan elaborated by CNR-Irpps for UNAR on the Italian Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Inclusion Strategy, 2012-2020;
- Project for the elaboration of a statistical informational framework on social hardship and housing situation of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti people (RSC);
- Statistical project on housing inclusion paths for Roma, Sinti and Caminanti - ISTAT populations;
- TO.BE.ROMA project (Towards a Better Cooperation and Dialogue Between Stakeholders Inside The Nrp) UNAR project;
- Project of the National Institute for the promotion of the health of migrant populations and for the fight against poverty-related diseases (INMP), at a national and local level, in: Rome, Bari, Cagliari, Catania, Genoa, Messina, Milan, Naples;
- Project of the Right to School, Right to the Future, of the Saint Egidio Community;
- Project FUTUROMA, European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture Venice - National project for the inclusion and integration of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children, Ministry of Education, Rome, Bari, Bologna, Catania, Florence, Genoa, Messina, Milan, Naples, Palermo, Reggio Calabria, Turin, Venice;
- Project *PROMuovere* (Promoting) the inclusion - Anna Ruggiu Foundation in Cagliari #SilenceHate. Digital youth against racism COSPE Onlus - Cooperation for the Development of emerging countries, Florence.

On a more specific note, additional initiatives, focussed on RSC culture and remembrance and on access to health, are to be highlighted:

- “Culture and remembrance” project with Formez PA (Start: 2018; End: 2020; Amount: 300,000 Euros). Starting from the assumption that the remembrance of Porrajmos (a word that in Romani language indicates the persecutions and extermination of about 500,000 Roma and Sinti during the Nazi-Fascist period) is a fundamental step for the social and cultural recognition of this minority, as well as to reduce the high rate of anti-Gypsyism that characterizes our society. Within this framework, a "remembrance pathway" has been launched. It traces the most significant moments and places to be linked to Porrajmos in Italy (the places of detention and sorting of RSC communities operational during the Second World War) and in Europe (notably, Auschwitz). This project is implemented by means of an agreement with Formez PA and provides for specific training and awareness-raising, throughout the country.
- “Health” project with INMP (Start: 2019; End: 2021; Amount: 950,000 Euros). In order to effectively implement the "Action Plan for RSC’s Health" (elaborated and approved in 2015 as part of the National Health WG), UNAR has launched a research / action - in collaboration with INMP (National Institute for Migration and Poverty of the Ministry of Health) - with the aim of making access to health-care as equal as possible, especially in the contexts of extreme vulnerability - as is the case with the settlements. At the end of the first line of activity dedicated to study and training, the project will include a second work-stream - same amount of resources and duration - aimed at testing the models so developed, nationwide.

