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Project: “Roma Influencers breaking the circle of early marriages
and early motherhood in Roma communities”



ROMA INFLUENCERS NETWORK/2024-1-EL01-KA220-ADU-000247507



www.romainfluencersnetwork.eu



romainfluencersnetwork@gmail.com



Roma Influencers Network



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Intermediate Evaluation Report

Author: CESIS – Centro de Estudos para a Intervenção Social

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I. Introduction

1.1. The evaluation and its objectives

The present report is integrated in the European Project Roma Influencers Network - breaking the circle of early marriages and early motherhood in Roma communities (Grant Agreement n. 2024-1-EL01-KA220-ADU-000247507) in the framework of the Programme ERASMUS+.

Roma Influencers Network project centres on early marriage and early motherhood in Roma communities and is focused on empowering and awareness raising of the Roma community, especially women and girls. The main purpose is to suggest ways to change behaviours and attitudes in order to overcome, reduce or eliminate the practice and its harmful impacts.

This report forms part of the project monitoring process and is the result of Work Package 1 (Project Management), which is led by KLIMAKA (Greece) and operated by CESIS (Portugal).

The evaluation involved all partners from the four countries that make up the consortium and are involved in the project's various activities: Greece, Ireland, Portugal and Romania. This represents a total of five entities, as Portugal is represented by both CESIS and CooperActiva.

The project has an approved proposal which outlines the strategic framework, objectives, and expected results. As an internal evaluation carried out within the partnership, it is a process that promotes and facilitates mutual learning and knowledge exchange. The continuous approach allows the project's development to be



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evaluated in order to provide the partnership with the necessary feedback and obtain contributions for management activities.

In the context of the project, the evaluation has the following **main objectives**:

- To improve the decision-making process concerning the project's implementation.
- To generate information on degree of compliance with the planned activities/deliverables/results.
- To produce information about the fulfilment of the project objectives.
- To produce information about participants and their adherence to the project activities and challenges of change.
- To be aware of the obstacles to implementing the project and, on the other hand, its success factors.
- To understand the impact of the project among partners, direct participants and stakeholders.

The monitoring and evaluation of the project is carried out at three different dimensions: Operationalisation, implementation and Impact.

As for the monitoring of the **operationalisation of the Project**, it covers the:

- Management procedures and the decision-making process in the consortium.
- Dissemination strategies of the Project.
- Partnership building.
- Support from the management leader.

The monitoring of the **implementation of the Project** assesses the:

- Degree of implementation of the activities foreseen in the different WPs.



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- Number and characteristics of the recipients of the activities implemented (comparison with initial targets, possible deviations and respective causes).
- Adhesion of the recipients to the activities implemented.
- Identification of any factors that are hindering the fulfilment of activities as planned.
- Success factors to the development of the project.

The evaluation of **impact** is focus on the direct outcomes of the project at the level of:

- The partners.
- The recipients of the actions.
- The stakeholders (if any).
- Observed outcomes compared with the initial objectives (effectiveness).
- Sustainability of the activities engaged.

The quality criteria used as basis for the evaluation process are: effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability.

- Effectiveness regards the extent to which the activity's objectives are attained.
- Efficiency intends to analyse how the inputs to the activity convert into results. This may include the adequacy and timeliness regarding the way the activity was prepared and put into practice.
- Impact regards the possible effects produced by the activity either they are positive or negative, short, medium or long-term, direct or indirect, intended or unintended.
- Sustainability refers to the way the impacts continue over time after the activity has been implemented.



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All the information collected is based on specific instruments that are sent to the partners on specific phases of the project development. Evaluation will be based on a mix of qualitative and quantitative approach.

1.2. The evaluation process

As previously mentioned, all partners from the four participating countries were invited to take part in the evaluation process at various stages. Within the project it was developed the document 'Evaluation methodology and Tools' with the definition of the monitoring and the methodological strategy to be use during the project. This instrument established a consistent and evidence-based approach for performance assessment. It also contains the different tool to be used to collect the information to allow the project evaluation.

The 'Communication Strategy and Plan' is also a calendar tool aiming to guide all dissemination and visibility activities through scheduling, which specifies the type of dissemination and the month in which it should take place. It provides a general overview of what is to be done and when

CESIS was responsible for gathering information, disseminating the results, and contributing to management-related activities.

The partner entities involved are:

- KLIMAKA (Greece)
- CAIRDE (Ireland)
- CESIS – (Portugal)
- COOPERACTIVA (Portugal)
- SASTIPEN (Romania)



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The evaluation materials were made available online through Google Forms, enabling each partner to easily access and complete the various instruments. Once all partners had submitted their responses, the collected data were analysed. The results derived from the application of the different instruments were subsequently shared during the transnational meetings.

A set of evaluation instruments was adopted. The table below presents the main assessment tools, organised according to the different Work Packages (WPs).

Table 1– Evaluation instruments and timetable

WP	Activities	Evaluation dimension	Tools
1	Management	Operationalisation Implementation	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Questionnaire to partners c) Gantt Chart d) Budget (total, per Partner, and per Work Package) e) Communication Strategy and Plan
2	Research	Operationalisation Implementation	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Questionnaires to partners c) Deliverables produced
2	Training Roma Influencers	Implementation Impact	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Participants' characterisation and perceptions identification Form c) Evaluation of the training by participants d) Evaluation of the training by project team e) Deliverables produced
2 and 3	Transnational activity of trained Roma Influencers	Implementation Impact	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Satisfaction of Roma Influencers with transnational dimension c) Satisfaction of stakeholders d) Deliverables produced
3	Awareness raising campaigns in Roma settlements	Implementation Impact	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Satisfaction of participants c) Satisfaction of stakeholders



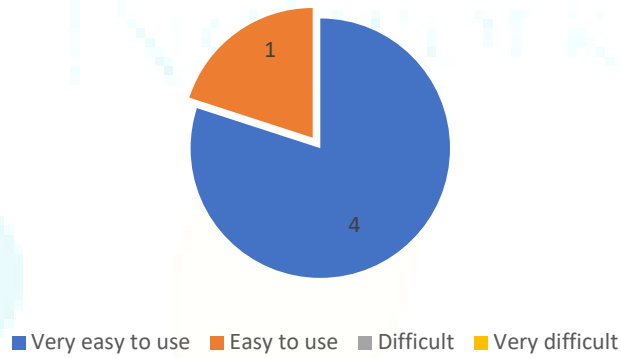
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			d) Satisfaction of partners e) Deliverables produced
3	Policy recommendations	Implementation Impact	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Satisfaction of stakeholders c) Satisfaction of partners d) Deliverables produced
4	Training of new Influencers	Implementation Impact	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Satisfaction of participants c) Participants' characterisation and perceptions identification Form d) Deliverables produced
4	National workshops	Implementation Impact	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Satisfaction of stakeholders c) Satisfaction of partners d) Deliverables produced
4	Good Practices Guide	Implementation Impact	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Satisfaction of stakeholders c) Satisfaction of partners d) Deliverables produced
5	Roma Festivals	Implementation Impact	a) Key Performance Indicators Boardchart b) Satisfaction of participants c) Satisfaction of partners d) Deliverables produced

As with all other activities, the evaluation process itself was also subject to assessment by the partners. The focus was placed on the accessibility of the assessment tools that had been designed and implemented. When addressing this question, the partners responded positively. Indeed, when asked to rate the ease of use on a scale ranging from “very easy” to “very difficult,” all entities reported that the tools were easy to use.

Figure 1 - Partners' opinions on the ease of access to the evaluation instruments (in absolute numbers)



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II. Operationalisation – evaluation of management and partnership building

This dimension of the evaluation process concerns project coordination and management across multiple aspects, as well as partnership dynamics and each partner's involvement in project activities. The evaluation is based on anonymous responses to the assessment instrument administered in July 2025 (without identifying the respondent's country). As established in the evaluation design, the partnership's monthly collection of quantitative indicators will also be analysed.

2.1. Management procedures

The project held its first face-to-face meeting in November 2024, with the participation of all partner entities. It took place at the CooperActiva premises in the municipality of Amadora, on the outskirts of Lisbon, Portugal.

Since then, it has become standard practice to hold online transnational meetings every two months (or more frequently if required), with a total of seven held until October 2025¹. A schedule of these meetings was initially shared with the partners to facilitate the planning of their activities. The agenda for each meeting is circulated in advance, and all entities have been represented at every session.

¹ The project envisages 12 transnational online meetings held in every two months and two Transnational Project Meetings in person until 2026. The first took place in Lisbon in November 2024 and the second in Dublin in October 2025.



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Table 3 – Partners’ rating of the partnership’s functioning (in absolute numbers)

	Very good	Good
1. Communication and coordination between partners	5	-
2. Process of problem-solving	4	1
3. Overall functioning of the partnership	5	-
4. Knowledge of what is the role and what is expected from the organisation	5	-

2.3. Dissemination strategy

The project has planned a series of dissemination activities across the different WPs. These activities include press releases, newsletters, social media posts, targeted emails, infographics, and uploads to websites and digital platforms. Each partner country is responsible for carrying out its respective dissemination activities.

The left column of the table below lists the dissemination activities planned for WP1 and WP2, as the remaining Work Packages had not yet started at the present point in the project’s development. By the end of September, the dissemination activities carried out by the partners are also included in the table, demonstrating a strong collective effort to achieve the dissemination objectives.

Most of the newsletters were elaborated by Greece and Romania. In Portugal it was produced an article in a national reference newspaper.



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Table 4 – Activities planned and done on dissemination in WP1 and WP2

	Activities planned	Activities performed until September 2025
WP1 – Project Management	4 press releases 4 newsletters Target email messages Social media posts	10 newsletters 390 target emails 116 posts on social media 41 infographics
WP2 - Breaking the circle of early Marriages and early motherhood in Roma communities	4 press releases 4 newsletters Target email messages Social media posts	13 newsletters and press releases 133 posts on social media 66 infographics

In addition to the planned activities, the partners also produced 41 infographics under WP1, using information on early marriage and early motherhood, as well as 66 infographics under WP2 related to the dissemination of the national and comparative research reports. These infographics were made available on each partner’s social media channels and also account for the high number of posts.

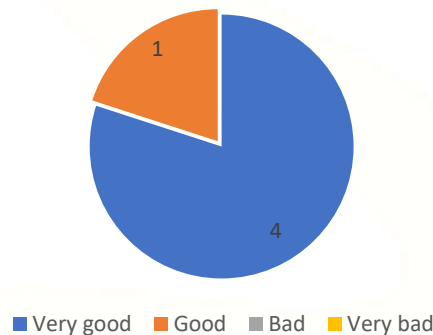
III. Implementation

3.1. Level of implementation of activities

As outlined in the application, the project comprises several activities distributed across different WPs. At the time of writing this report, only the activities included in WP1 and WP2 had been carried out, in accordance with the initial project timetable. All activities foreseen have been implemented, albeit with minor adjustments to the schedule. Therefore, there are no discrepancies between what was planned and what has been achieved.

The project’s strong performance in fulfilling the planned activities is reflected in the partners’ satisfaction. As can be seen in the figure below, only one partner rated the fulfilment of activities as “good”, while all the others rated this aspect of the project as “very good”.

Figure 2 - Partners’ satisfaction regarding the accomplishment of the project activities (in absolute numbers)

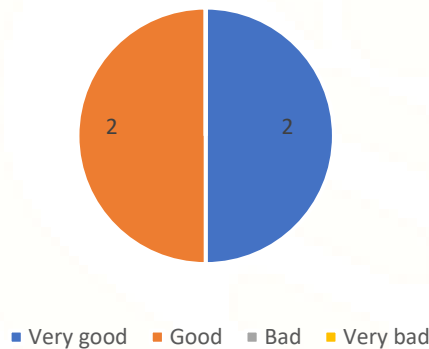


3.2. About the research process

The first activity to be carried out under Work Package2 was empirical research among Roma women on the central theme of the project: early marriage and motherhood. The research was led by CESIS and implemented in each participating country. As part of the project, the research itself, and more clearly the way in which it was conducted, was evaluated by the partnership.

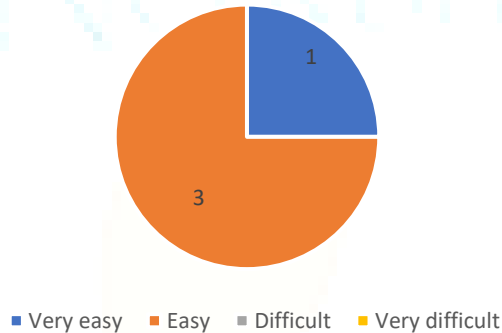
In general, it can be said that the partners' satisfaction with this specific activity is positive, as reflected in the figure above.

Figure 3 - Partners' satisfaction regarding the research process in each country (in absolute numbers)



Regarding the use of the assessment instruments, they were also considered easily accessible and user-friendly.

Figure 4 - Partners' opinion regarding the use of assessment instruments (in absolute numbers)



One of the results of WP2 was the preparation of national reports for the four countries involved, as well as a comparative report that aimed to identify points of convergence and divergence between them. The focus of this report was to understand early marriage and early motherhood, particularly among Roma women and girls in each partner country.

The four national reports were based on the legal framework, national and international concepts, and the policies implemented to prevent early marriage and early motherhood. They also included an analysis of the interviews with Roma women conducted in each country.

All members of the teams who had read the reports, were involved in the project, and had participated in WP2 activities—either directly or indirectly—were asked to complete the evaluation questionnaire (referred to as Annex 3). The questionnaire aimed to gather their perspectives on the results and was launched in May 2025. It was divided into two parts: one related to the national reports and another to the comparative report.

A total of 10 responses were received for the national reports and 9 for the comparative report. The evaluation questionnaire was based on anonymous responses (with no identification of the respondent's country).

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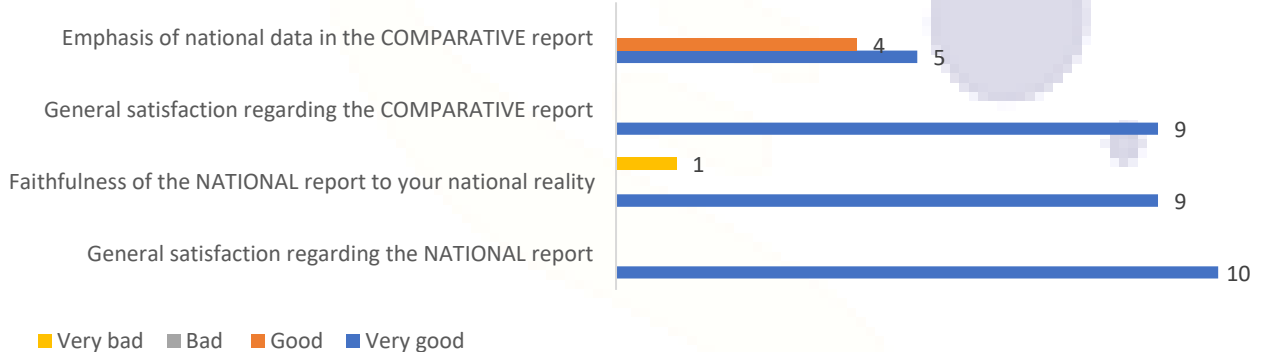


Regarding the assessment of overall satisfaction with the national reports, all respondents expressed a very positive opinion. The faithfulness of each national report to the respective partner’s reality was also viewed positively. This aspect, however, received one very negative opinion.

The comparative report also received a generally very positive evaluation from all participants. In addition, a positive opinion was expressed regarding the emphasis placed on each partner’s national data in this report.

It is important to note that the national reports were prepared based on the information provided by the partners. It was a participatory process, particularly during the revision stages that were requested. Changes were made to incorporate the partners’ suggestions, and the process was concluded once all proposed revisions had been implemented.

Figure 5 - Partners’ satisfaction regarding the national and the comparative reports (in absolute numbers)



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Table 5 – Age of the participants (in absolute numbers)

	18-24 years	25-29 years	> 30 years
Greece	2	-	4
Ireland	1	1	3
Portugal	1	1	4
Romania	1	1	6

Regarding marital status, most participants live with a partner, either in marriage or cohabitation. There are eight single women and one widow.

Table 6 – Marial status of the participants (in absolute numbers)

	Married	Widow	Cohabiting	Single
Greece	5	0	0	1
Ireland	1	0	2	2
Portugal	0	0	5	1
Romania	1	1	1	5
Total	7	1	8	9

Most of the participating women are married or cohabiting. Some live only with their husbands or partners, while others share a household with their in-laws or parents.

Four women live only with their children, others live alone, and there are also young single women who still live with their parents.

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Table 7 – Family composition of the participants (in absolute numbers)

	Greece	Ireland	Portugal	Romania	Total
Living with her husband / partner	4	2	3	-	9
Living with her parents and my husband / partner	-	-	-	1	1
Living with her parents-in-law and my husband / partner	1	1	2	1	5
Living alone with children	-	1	1	2	4
Other	1	1	-	4	6

Most of the women participating in the training have children; six (from Romania, Greece, and Ireland) report not having any. Regarding the age at which they had their first child, only three women had their first child at the age of 25 or older, while a considerable number (11) became mothers before the age of 18. This is particularly evident in Greece and Portugal.

Table 8 – Age of participants at birth of first child (in absolute numbers)

	Greece	Ireland	Portugal	Romania	Total
< 15 years	1	-	1	-	2
16-17 years	2	3	4	-	9
18-20 years	-	1	-	4	5
21-24 years	-	-	-	-	0
> 25 years	1	-	1	1	3
No children	2	1	-	3	6

3.3.1.2. Participant’s opinion on marriage and motherhood

As previous mentioned participants were asked for their opinion was marriage and motherhood.

The table below shows that motherhood is considered more important by women than marriage. A total of 14 women consider motherhood to be very important, while only eight regard marriage as very important; there are even two women (in Portugal) who consider it to be of no importance at all.

Greek participants are those for whom marriage is more important, whereas Portuguese women are the ones who most frequently consider motherhood to be very important.

Table 9 – Importance of marriage and motherhood in a woman life, by the participants (in absolute numbers)

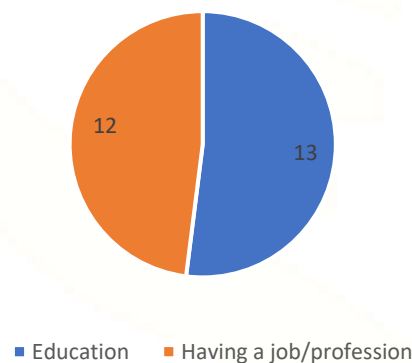
	Marriage					Motherhood				
	Greece	Ireland	Portugal	Romania	Total	Greece	Ireland	Portugal	Romania	Total
Very important	5	1	-	2	8	5	1	6	2	14
Important	1	1	4	4	10	1	3	-	6	10
Less important	-	3	-	2	5	-	1	-	-	1
Not important	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-

3.3.1.3. What participants consider important to prepare the future

The responses suggest that Roma women place the greatest importance on education and employment as key factors for their future development and empowerment. This indicates an awareness of the transformative potential of these areas in improving their living conditions and social inclusion.

In contrast, traditional aspects such as marriage, family relationships, and childbearing were not mentioned, suggesting that these are viewed as less relevant to their personal advancement and autonomy, at least when the women are able to express themselves freely and without external pressure.

Figure 6 - Most important aspect that a women should pay attention to prepare their future, by the participants (in absolute numbers)



The relationship between education and employment is very close, as expressed in the following statement from a Roma woman participant: *“I just want to point out that it is very difficult to get married at a young age when you don't have a job and, at the same time, have children. What example can I set for them without an education? What good can I offer them in the future? Many young mothers without partners have child*



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benefits as their only income, and that does not bring hope or a good life. Poverty affects them greatly. Having a job — and obtaining it through the knowledge acquired from education — is an opportunity to offer them something better.”

Participants were also asked to share their views on various aspects related to their lives, as well as their beliefs and social values.

The information collected highlights the right to education for both boys and girls and, moreover, the right of girls to enjoy their childhood and continue their studies until reaching adulthood. These two aspects received unanimous agreement, as all participants considered them to be correct.

Fewer participants agreed with the statement that early motherhood can negatively affect the health of both mother and child; six women explicitly disagreed with this idea.

Table 10- Opinions of the participants on education, marriage and motherhood before training (in absolute numbers)

	Correct	Incorrect
Education (being at school) is a right of every child, boys or girls	25	-
Education (being at school) is a right specially for boys	4	21
Education is an obligation without meaning	1	24
The age at marriage does not matter	3	22
Girls have the right to play and go to school until the adulthood age (18 years old)	25	-
It is important to marriage at an early age	1	24
It is important to have children at an early age	1	24
Being a mother at an early age can be harmful for the baby health	19	6
Being a mother at an early age can be harmful for the mother health	19	6

3.4. Evaluation of the Roma Influencers training

3.4.1. Evaluation by the participants

By the end of the training, participants were asked to complete an evaluation. The objective was to obtain feedback from the women who took part in the training, not only in terms of overall satisfaction but also regarding the content, the extent to which their expectations were met, relationships with peers and trainers, and the perceived impact of the training on their lives.

A total of 25 responses were collected from the Roma women participants. The evaluation questionnaire was administered at the end of the training.

In general, participants were very satisfied with the training, with 18 of them stating that they *“liked it a lot.”* Only one participant responded that she *“liked it more or less.”*

In both Portugal and Romania, all participants stated that they *“liked it a lot.”* The only less positive response came from a Greek participant, and there were no negative responses.

Table 11 - Assess of general satisfaction regarding Roma Influencers training, by the participants (in absolute numbers)

	I liked it a lot	I liked it	I liked more or less
Greece	2	2	1
Ireland	3	4	-
Portugal	6	-	-
Romania	7	-	-



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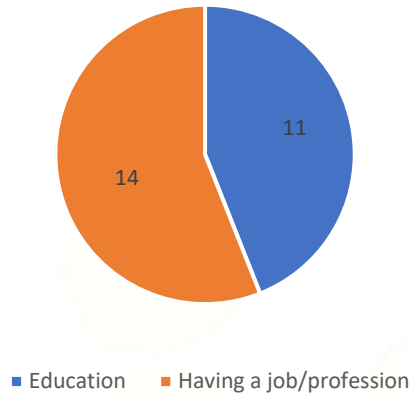
In terms of expectations, almost all participants indicated that the training met their expectations. Only two Irish participants reported that her expectations were only “partially” met.

Participants were also invited to comment on different aspects of the training—such as the relevance of the content, the activities undertaken, the quality of debates, and interpersonal relations—and to rate each according to a four-point scale (1 = minimum, 4 = maximum). Overall, evaluations were highly positive, with the highest score recorded across all criteria except for the interest in debates, which received a single negative assessment.

Table 12 - Evaluate of the Roma Influencers training in its different aspects, by the participants (in absolute numbers)

	Minimum	2	3	Maximum
1. Interest of the contents	-	1	5	19
2. Interest of the activities carried out	-	1	5	19
3. Interest of the debates	1	1	4	19
4. Dynamics used	-	1	5	19
5. Relationship with trainers	-	-	4	21

Figure 7 - Most important aspect that a women should pay attention to prepare their future, by the participants (in absolute numbers)



3.4.2. Evaluation by the professionals

The training of the Roma Influencers was also evaluated by the trainers who delivered any of the modules (for example, psychologists, social workers, medical staff, nursing staff, and other professionals), as well as by members of the project team who coordinated the training programme. The evaluation focused on overall satisfaction, expectations, participation, relationships, and the extent to which the training influenced participants regarding the main issues of the project, namely early marriage and early motherhood.

The evaluation questionnaire was also made available at the end of the training. It received 21 responses from trainers. The distribution is as follows:

- 10 from Greece
- 2 from Romania

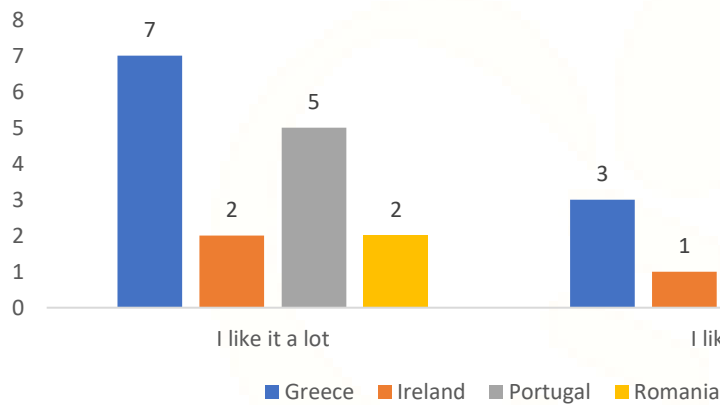
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- 6 from Portugal
- 3 from Ireland

The findings indicate an absence of negative feedback. The most positive evaluations were recorded in Portugal and Greece, demonstrating high levels of satisfaction among the different professionals involved in the training.

Figure 8 - General satisfaction regarding Roma Influencers training, by the professionals (in absolute numbers)



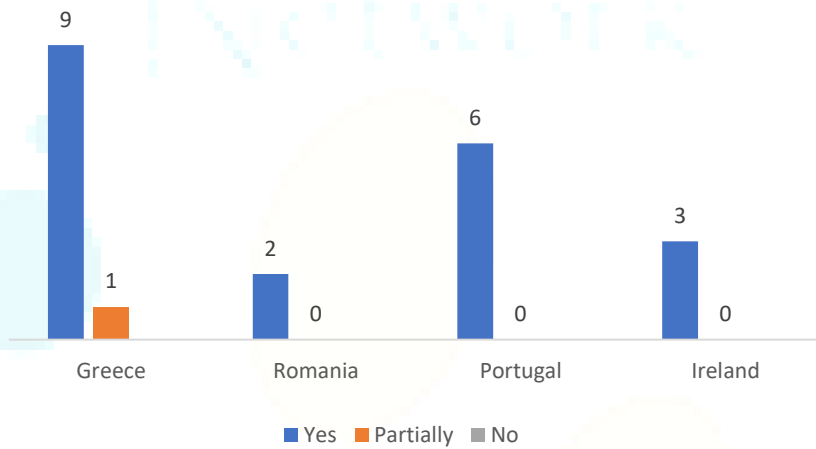
The assessment of professionals’ expectations regarding the training mirrors that of the trainees. In other words, the majority of professionals also stated that their initial expectations were met. Once again, Greece was the only country reporting such responses: one professional indicated that expectations were only “partially” met.



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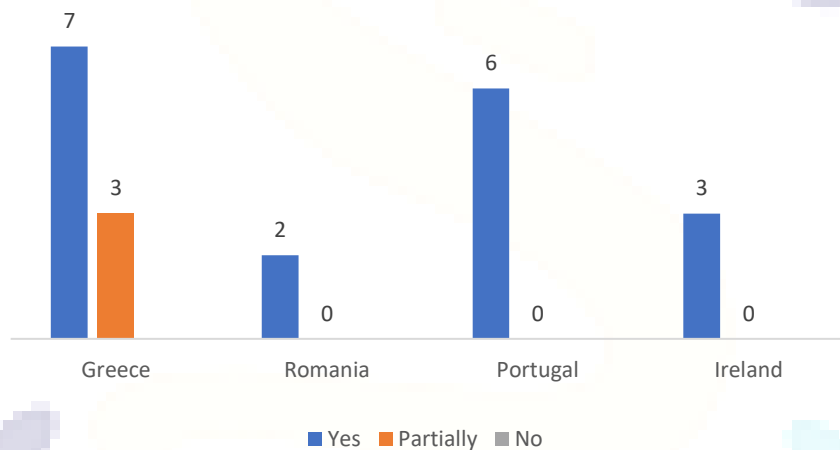


Figure 9 – Correspondence between training and professionals' expectations (in absolute numbers)



The evaluation of the expectations about the trainees is similar to the previous indicator with the majority of the professionals considering that the trainees met their expectations. Here too, Greece is the only country where opinions were recorded regarding expectations being 'partially' met.

Figure 10 - Correspondence between trainees and professionals' expectations (in absolute numbers)



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In addition to expectations, a further set of indicators was considered in this assessment. Using broadly the same criteria applied to the trainees, professionals were asked to evaluate the relevance of the content and activities undertaken, as well as the relational and participatory environment during the training.

The table below shows the respondents' ratings on a scale from 1 to 4, where 1 represents the minimum and 4 the maximum score. As can be seen, almost all indicators received the highest rating, with particular emphasis on the quality of the trainers' work.

The indicators with lower, though still positive, ratings are related to the Interest of the debates, the dynamics used and the participation of the trainees, which may not have occurred as expected. This last aspect was the only one to receive a score of 2.

Table 13 - Evaluation of the training across different aspects

	Minimum	2	3	Maximum
1. Interest of the contents	0	0	5	16
2. Interest of the activities carried out	0	0	5	16
3. Interest of the debates	0	0	9	12
4. Dynamics used	0	0	8	13
5. Participation of the trainees	0	1	7	13
6. Relationship between the trainees	0	0	5	16
7. Relationship between the trainees and the trainers	0	0	5	16
8. Quality of the work done by trainers	0	0	3	18

IV. Difficulties and success factors

In the different phases and activities of a project it is possible the identification of success factors, but also difficulties. In this project the partners could also identify both factors.

Regarding the project's development, all partners were able to identify success factors. Most of these factors are related to good communication, the absence of conflicts, the support provided by the coordination team, mutual respect, and effective collaboration.

Table 14 – Success factors for the project's development, according to the partners

- Unified vision, shared goals and values, no conflicts
 - Open, honest, and consistent communication, regular feedback, transparency
 - Trust and Respect, integrity, reliability, and commitment to the shared goals, contributions and perspectives
 - All partners adapt to changing circumstances and challenges and they are flexible and have willingness to learn from mistakes, and a commitment to finding solutions together
 - All partners experience positive outcomes and growth as a result of the collaboration
-
- Very good coordination, involvement and motivation of partners, relevance of the subject
-
- The WPs are on time with National reports disseminated, educational materials supplied etc
-
- Effective collaboration with local stakeholders and community mediators. International collaboration and mutual learning
-
- The project coordination has always ensured control over the tasks to be performed, reminding the partnership in a timely manner
 - Care is taken to ensure that the to-do list is delivered so that there are no delays, which has been the case
 - The project coordination has always been fully available

Also important is the reference to the success factors identified by the partners in relation to the research process. Regarding this issue, the importance of the trust



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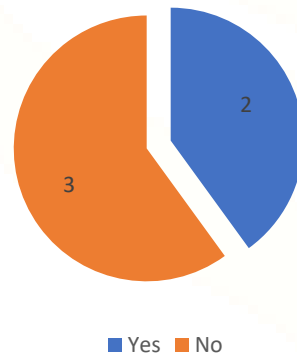
relationships established with the Roma women is evident, and this can be one of the key elements of the project.

Table 15 - Success factors in the research process identified by the partners

- Awareness raising of Roma community on the issue of early marriages and early motherhood,
- Trust relationships between them and the interviewers were developed,
- Their positive reaction towards the process,
- They felt that they have the power to influence their children.
- The previous working relationship with women from the Roma community facilitated the research process.
- Basically, all the participants share the same advice on how to combat this problem, and the problem is education both at home and promoting young people to continue studying

Similarly to what happened with the success factors, the different partners were also able to identify obstacles to the project’s development. This question received positive responses from only two partners.

Figure 11 - Existence of obstacles to project implementation according to the partners (in absolute numbers)



The obstacles identified were mostly related to the availability of Roma women to participate in the planned activities, particularly in the interview process and training sessions. There were also issues concerning the team and the political environment. No difficulties were reported in relation to coordination or partnership.



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Table 16 – Obstacles to project implementation identified by the partners

- Availability of Roma women to participate in the project.
- Current political situation is not favourable
- Lack of consistent staff or team fluctuation.
- Limited availability of Roma influencers due to work, school, or family responsibilities during training periods.

This concern regarding Roma women’s participation was also raised in connection with the research process—particularly during the interviews—as partners noted that many girls may have been reluctant to speak openly about their experiences, given that early marriage is perceived as normal or even expected within their communities.



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V. Results

5.1. Overall accomplishment

By the end of September, tangible progress could be observed in the project’s development. WP1 and WP2 were implemented during this period, and, as illustrated in the table below, all planned activities were successfully completed. These results were made possible through effective coordination, strong inter-partner collaboration, and a shared commitment to meeting project deadlines.

Table 17 - Planned and implemented activities in WP1 and WP2

	Planned	Implemented
WP1 – Project Management	-Project’s logo/Poster/Brochure	✓
	-Virtual Transnational Project Meetings	✓
	-Monitoring reports	✓
	-Dissemination activities (post, newsletters, infographics...)	✓
	-Evaluation forms for WP1 and WP2 sent to the partners	✓
	-Evaluation reports	✓
WP2 - Breaking the circle of early marriages and early motherhood in Roma communities	2.1-1st Project Transnational Meeting in Lisbon – Portugal	✓
	2.2-4 National reports (EN and translated in all languages)	✓
	2.2-1 Comparative reports (EN and translated in all languages)	✓
	2.2- Dissemination of the reports	✓
	2.3- Development of Educational and Training Material	✓

	2.4-Training courses for Roma women and girls to be Roma Influencers in the 4 countries	✓
	2.5-Transnational virtual meeting of trained Roma Influencers from the 4 countries	✓

5.2. Specifics accomplishments

Some results can be evaluated by taking into consideration the information provided by the participants. This is the case of Activity 2.4 – Training of Roma Influencers in four countries.

Focusing on this specific activity, the objective of the training, as already mentioned, is to suggest ways to change behaviours and attitudes in order to overcome, reduce, or eliminate the phenomenon of early marriage and early motherhood and their harmful impacts.

On this matter, both Roma women and trainers had the opportunity to evaluate the contribution of this activity to different aspects.

Regarding the trainees, the evaluation focused on the contribution of the training to their personal development, their acquisition of knowledge, and their increased awareness of the issues of early marriage and early motherhood.

These aspects were also positively evaluated, and the added value of the training was recognised, with almost all trainees responding “yes.”



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Table 18 - Contribution of the training according to the participants

	Yes	A little	No
Training contributed to your personal development	23	-	2
Training contributed to the acquisition of new knowledge	25	-	-
Training increased/strengthened your social awareness about the negative impacts of early marriage	24	-	1
Training increased/strengthened your social awareness about the negative impacts of early motherhood	25	-	-

Given the previous responses, it is not surprising that the vast majority of women (23) stated that this training had changed something in their lives.

When asked about the changes they experienced, participants identified several areas of transformation, listed below. One of the most significant changes was the acquisition of knowledge. Empowerment, new experiences, and new perspectives on the issues of early marriage and early motherhood were also mentioned.

Table 19 – Voices of Roma Participants Identifying Major Changes in Their Lives Through the Training

I feel stronger and more empowered!

I learned the message to change behaviours in our community.

To see people interested in Roma community.

I learned to influence my children and relatives about the consequences of early marriage and early motherhood.

I decide not to marry until I get a job.

I feel proud of my identity.

I met other story Roma women who inspired me.

I discovered that I enjoy helping others.

It gave me purpose.

I learned how to support another young girl.

I feel more confident now when I spoke in front of others.

This training opened my eyes about the rights we have as Roma women.



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I heard about a girl my age and from the same culture who became a doctor — it was amazing.

This course was very good. I learned a lot.

I was struck by the reality faced by women in other countries; it is very harsh and sad.

Now I see things in a different way.

We learned new things about different countries that we didn't know before — we gained more knowledge.

I learnt a lot. I enjoyed the experience.

Knowledge. I learned new things. I saw things I had never seen before and visited places I would never have known about if it hadn't been for the training.

I learned things I didn't know before — for example, during the visits. I also learned new things from the nurse, things I hadn't known before.

In order to identify changes in the participants' perceptions of education and childhood, as well as of marriage and motherhood, they were invited, at the conclusion of the training, to express their views on the same aspects they had previously commented on before the training.

The responses collected indicate progress in several areas. Most of these women continue to acknowledge the importance of education, particularly for Roma girls. Their statements also suggest that early marriage and motherhood are no longer regarded as highly as in the past, and that becoming a mother at a young age is increasingly perceived as potentially detrimental to both mother and child.

Furthermore, by the end of the training, a greater number of women expressed the belief that early motherhood can adversely affect both the infant's well-being and the mother's health.

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Table 20 – Opinions of the participants on education, marriage and motherhood after the training (in absolute numbers)

	Correct	Incorrect
Education (being at school) is a right of every child, boys or girls	24	1
Education (being at school) is a right specially for boys	5	20
Education is an obligation without meaning	3	22
The age at marriage does not matter	4	21
Girls have the right to play and go to school until the adulthood age (18 years old)	22	3
It is important to marriage at an early age	-	25
It is important to have children at an early age	-	25
Being a mother at an early age can be harmful for the baby health	21	4
Being a mother at an early age can be harmful for the mother health	24	1

This may represent the beginning of a shift in mentality that is gradually emerging within Roma communities. Although it will take time for this change to become widespread, it requires encouragement and the presence of individuals capable of leading the way.

With regard to the trainers, it is worth noting that they also perceived the training as a valuable experience for Roma women. In their view, the programme contributed not only to the participants’ personal development but also to their acquisition of knowledge. Moreover, it fostered greater awareness of issues such as early marriage and motherhood.



Table 21 - Contributions of the training, according to the professionals

	Yes	No
Training contributed to the personal development of the trainees	20	1
Training contributed to the acquisition of new knowledge	21	0
Training increased/strengthened social awareness about the negative impacts of early marriage	21	0
Training increased/strengthened social awareness about the negative impacts of early motherhood	21	0

The results are positives, especially because it concerns a community that still holds rigid views on the issues of marriage and motherhood.

After the training, these women had the opportunity to meet each other virtually, which was a unique opportunity for many of them. Their informal feedback shows that they enjoyed the experience, with some of them saying that it was very exciting.

5.3. Quantitative indicators

In terms of quantitative approach of the project evaluation it was possible to collect some key performance indicators by WP:

Table 22 – Evaluation of the key performance indicators

Work Package	Key performance indicators	
WP 1	No. of people trained/ from the Roma Community	25 Roma women
	Technical and Financial Reports	16 reports (four per partner country)
	No. of events, products, deliverables, site visits.	- 7 transnational meetings (1 face to face) - 7236 site visits

Work Package	Key performance indicators	
WP 2	No. of people attending the Transnational Meeting in Lisboa - Portugal	16 partners from 4 countries
	No. of National Researches	4 reports
	No. of National Researches diffused	4 reports
	No. of comparative report diffused	1 report
	No. of press releases and newsletters	13
	No. of recipients of press releases and newsletters	27013
	No. of social media posts	133
	No. of Roma women & girls trained	25 Roma women
	No. of software learned	5
	No. of people attending the Transnational Virtual Meeting of 20 Influencers	6 from Ireland 6 from Portugal ?? from Greece ?? from Romania

5.4. Deliverables of the project

The project involves the production of several deliverables throughout its implementation. By October 2025, some deliverables had been already produced under WP2.

Table 23 – Deliverables produced until October 2025

	Deliverables
WP2 - Breaking the circle of early marriages and early motherhood in Roma communities	4 National reports (EN and translated in all languages)
	1 Comparative reports (EN and translated in all languages)
	Educational and Training Material in 4 countries

With the ongoing progress of the project and the implementation of activities under the remaining WPs, additional deliverables will be produced and addressed in a subsequent phase of the evaluation.



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VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, the main results of the activities carried out to date can be summarised as follows:

MANAGEMENT

- The results indicate that the responsible entity has effectively coordinated the project, ensuring clear communication and sound management of the planned activities.
- The partnership has also been viewed very positively overall, as has the evaluation process.

RESEARCH PROCESS

- Overall, the process of interviewing Roma women went well. The women reported feeling empowered and valued.
- However, some fear and shame were evident in the responses, due to concerns that their answers might become known within the community. This also led some women to decline to participate.
- The evaluation of both the national and comparative reports was generally positive. The results show that, in general, all partners were satisfied with the national reports — except in one case, where concerns were raised about how accurately the report reflected the national reality. One individual expressed a particularly negative view.
- The comparative report also received positive feedback, both in terms of its overall quality and the way it highlighted each partner's national data.

TRAINING ROMA INFLUENCERS

- All Roma women completed the training programme in full.
- The participants recognised the added value of the training, particularly its contribution to their personal development, increased knowledge, and greater awareness of issues related to early marriage and early motherhood.
- Most of the women expressed a high level of satisfaction with the training, frequently stating that they "*liked it a lot*".
- The content, activities and interactive methods used, as well as the debates and the relationship with the trainers, received very positive evaluations.
- Overall, the trainers working with the Roma women were positively assessed in all four countries. They felt the training had a meaningful impact on the participants — not only in terms of knowledge acquisition, but also in encouraging a different perspective on early marriage and early motherhood.

TRANSNATIONAL VIRTUAL MEETING OF WITH ROMA INFLUENCERS

- The meeting brought together Roma women from various countries, who participated in the training, providing a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas. It was a meaningful experience for the participants and a unique occasion.



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