

Agency for social inclusion as a Czech government tool to influence municipal policies

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- *„a tool of the Government of the Czech Republic to support municipalities in the process of social integration.“*
- Target group – municipalities and other institutions

What's in the name

- „in Romani localities“ – how much ethnic it should be?
- 2008 Džamila Stehlíková
- Social inclusion discourse as more effective

Text suggested by researches	Final version
<p>Although the respondents acknowledge, that there are not enough jobs in the region, they add „<i>if one wants, he/she can find work</i>“ (professional from the social services) and by that they dispute the structural causes of unemployment. According to them, the people that don't want to work are very often Roma. Usually and according a mainstream opinion, the person is unemployed because there are „no jobs“ in the region, but a Romani citizen is unemployed because s/he „does not want to work“ and so is individually responsible for his/her unemployment.</p>	<p>Structural causes of unemployment, the fact that there are „no jobs“ in the region, are disputed in the case of Roma by the thesis of not wanting to work and individual responsibility for their unemployment.</p>
<p>In the socially excluded localities with a large number of Romani population</p>	<p>In the socially excluded localities</p>

In between municipalities and the government

- Too much critique „not beneficial“
- Political side of research
- Motivation through money

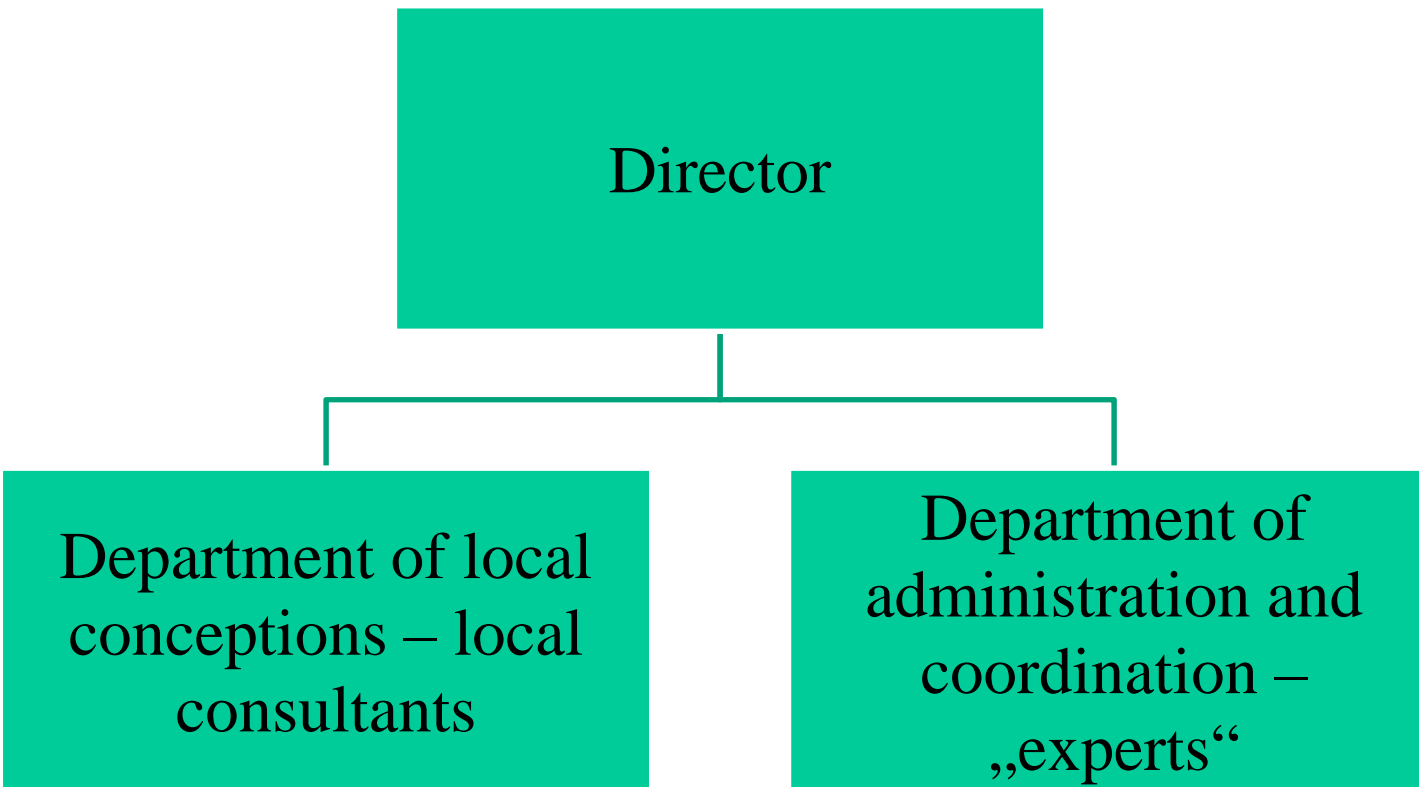
- *Strategy of fight against social exclusion for 2011-2015*

- Inclusion discourse
- expertise

The organizational chart:

Local consultants: municipalities

Experts: ministries, support consultants



Problematics of social inclusion research

- Linear
- often „ethnocentric“
- Deficient lives needing „repair“ (from my organization)
- Does not give a voice

Functioning of the Agency

- 10 new localities/year
- Competition process
- 3 years

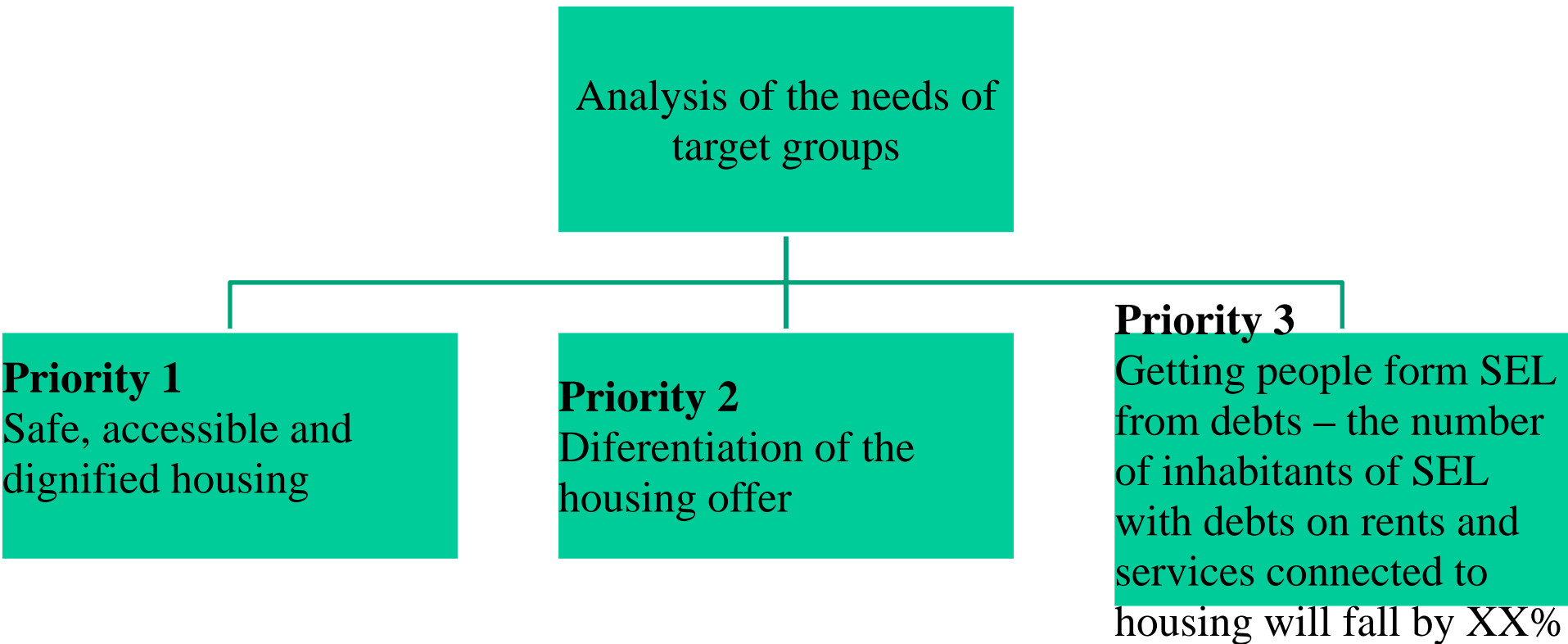
Main tools: local partnership, situational analysis, strategic plan and counseling



Analytical phase

- Creating local partnership
- Situational analysis
- Drafting the strategic plan
- Strategic plan is ratified by the municipality

Strategic plan example, housing subgroup



Concretization of goals

Long-term goals under priority 1:

- 1.1 26 municipal flats in xx are reconstructed
- 1.2 12 municipal houses in xx are reconstructed
- 1.3 Devastation of empty flats is diminished by shortening of the time of their new allocation.
- 1.4 There are minimum 5 concierge places created
- 1.5 The devastation of empty flats gets down by 15% in comparison with the 2007-2009 trend
- 1.6 The system offering flats for repair including rules for some costs of reconstruction being amortized from the rent.

Short-term goals under 1.1:

- 1.1.1 – prepare the project of reconstruction
- 1.1.2 - the reconstruction is agreed by the municipality and provider chosen
- 1.1.3 – realization of the reconstruction

Realization phase – projects, policy change

Project	Stadium	Finances CZK	Type of activity	No. of persons supported
House of the social services Betlehem Cheb	In realization	19 999 303 (800 000 EUR)	Space for social services	4 200
Center of social services Golden hill	In preparation	18 600 000	Space for social services	Not specified yet
Individual project Cheb	In realization	23 465 376	Terrain social work	820
			Low-threshold club	
			Early care	
			Crisis help	
			Professional counseling	
Job and counseling center Cheb	In realization	5 711 543	Job counseling and requalification	60

Decide about your career	In preparation	3 120 706	Career counseling	265
Club for pre-school children and their parents from socio-culturally disadvantaging environment	In preparation	2 574 765	club	15
Tutoring of children	Basic idea	Not specified	tutoring	Not specified
Support of disadvantaged children in standard schooling: pre-school club, support of pupils, parents' activation	In preparation	2 571 259	1. Pre-school club, 2. Cooperation with maternity schools and preparatory classes, 3. Educational and hobby activities with school children, 4. Parent's center	139

Evaluation?

- Ability to bring funds, projects, create services...
- Successful in „quantitative indicators“

X how to measure soft changes in policies and people's lives

future?

Need to actively bring policies to the municipal levels

- <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/> (in Czech)
- <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/dokumenty/strategie-boje-proti-socialnimu-vylouceni/strategy-for-combating-social-exclusion-for-the-period-2011-2015/details> (Strategy in English)