

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN SERBIA: from practice to policy to practice

Tünde Kovács Cerović Faculty of philosophy university of belgrade



Content of presentation: Process and status Examples of challenges Lessons learned



2004-2008

 Int'l assistance Decade of Roma Integration starts

Pilots

• Learning-oriented, child centered...

• First draft strategy on IE

Pilots started 2003

Inclusive education



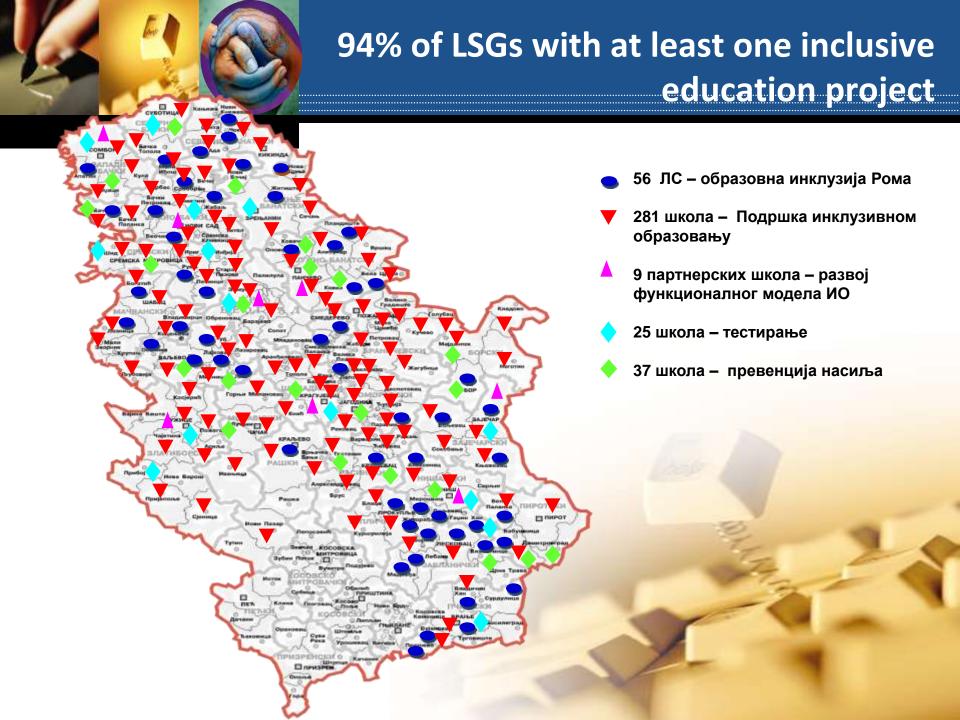


Inherited deadlocks	New solutions
Enrollment and curriculum policy supports segregation of children with special educational needs	New inclusive enrolment, curriculum (IEP) and assessment policy + support systems
High dropout, mostly children from vulnerable groups, no support	Roma pedagogical assistants
No monitoring mechanisms of discrimination, segregation and social inclusion	Monitoring through self-evaluation, external ev framework, school inspectors, targeted research and Ombudsman (partially)
Centralized funding system which does not follow needs of children	Per capita system of financing education (not yet)
Dysfunctional network of schools	School network optimization Redefinition of special schools
Sector divide between health, education and social sectors	Inter-sector cooperation at national and local level



• Implementation supports:

- Grants: 314 schools (30%)+ 56 municipalities
- Training (cca 200): all schools information training, grant schools and PA schools school based skills training through 6 packages, cca 18.000 teachers, 900 other professionals
- Guidebooks, manuals (8), web-based materials
- Pedagogical assistants (178), municipal Roma mentors (28)
- Network of professionals(80), on-line assistance
- Network of inclusive model schools (14)
- MoE advisors (from all RSAs)
- Inter-sectoral committees (152)





Monitoring schemes

- Rapid assessment
- National survey
- Parliamentary committee on the right of the child (continuous monitoring)
- Evaluation of trainings
- More than 20 research studies from 2009
- Framework for monitoring IE



2010 / UNICEF/



2010-11 / MoE - DILS



National Assembly



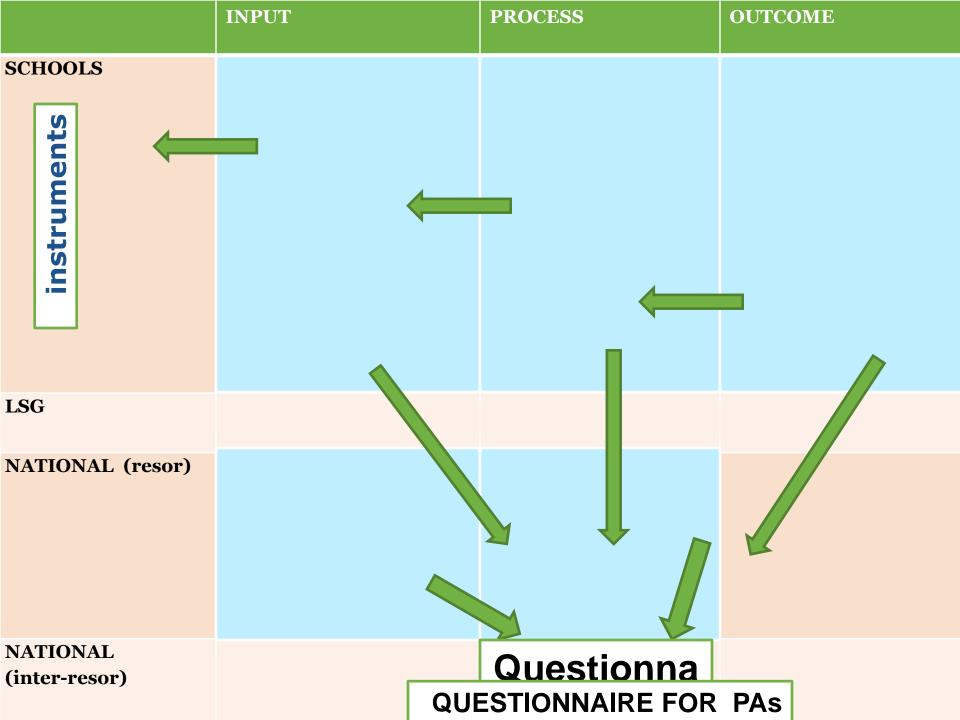
2012/CEP



donor pooling



2013/Institute for Psychology





EXAMPLES

- 1.Pedagogical assistants
- 2.School grants how schools discovered horizontal learning



Pedagogical assistants: barriers

- Starting questions
 - Why for Roma? Why Roma?
 - Why in classroom? Why continuous?

Structural barriers

- Whose responsibility in the ministry?
- How to select the RPAs? Mistakes?
- How to contract? How to inform schools?

Financial barrier

- Who should pay? How much?
- How not to forget?



Pedagogical assistants: Now

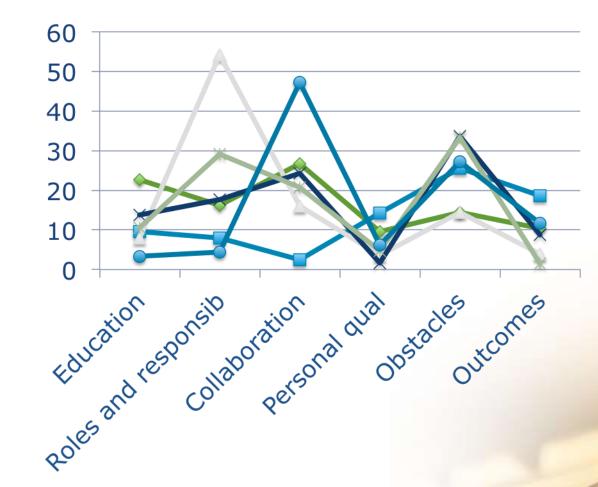
- 174 RPAs employed in schools
 - Regulated status
 - Salaries through schools
 - Change Agents

Professionalism

- 30 ECTS training
- Association, website
- High commitment
- Narratives of social transformation



Major organizational principles by genre



- →Narrative of personal journey to becoming
- a PA
 Narrative observing
 a Roma child in
 education
 Letter to a future PA
- **Policy documents
- Message to all teachers
- Group discussion of the public story



2. School grants – how schools discovered horizontal learning

- 1st group of grants for schools with previous experience to improve their practice in IE (9+25)
- 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} groups (130 each), 6 + 6 months
- Training of staff
- Further support based on request from network of professionals (internet, phone, visits)
- Schools wanted to SEE HOW IT WORKS
- First group of schools offered to be visited (lots o f preparation, lots of anxieties, lots of satisfaction
- Pacama a cohool improvement practice



Lessons learned 1: timeline 10+ years

pilot	2002 2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
policy									
legislation									
implementation /prep				- 4					
implementation					27	V			
Implementation /supp						E			
monitoring						3			
fine-tuning			1	1	L		4		



Lessons learned 2: network of supporters crucial

pilot	2002 2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
policy				+	+					
legislation							1			
implementation /prep						+				
implementation					de p	4	V	1		
Implementation /supp						100				
monitoring				4		-				
fine-tuning		3		X	F		-	/		



Lessons learned 3: legal frame complex

- Other areas (social and health sector) different dynamics of legal changes
- Network of bylaws needed
 - Assessment of educational, social and health needs
 - Individual Educational Plans
 - Pedagogical Assistants
- Synergy with other bylaws needed

(virtually all bylaws revised: licensing, teacher professional development, assessment, teaching time, class construction...)



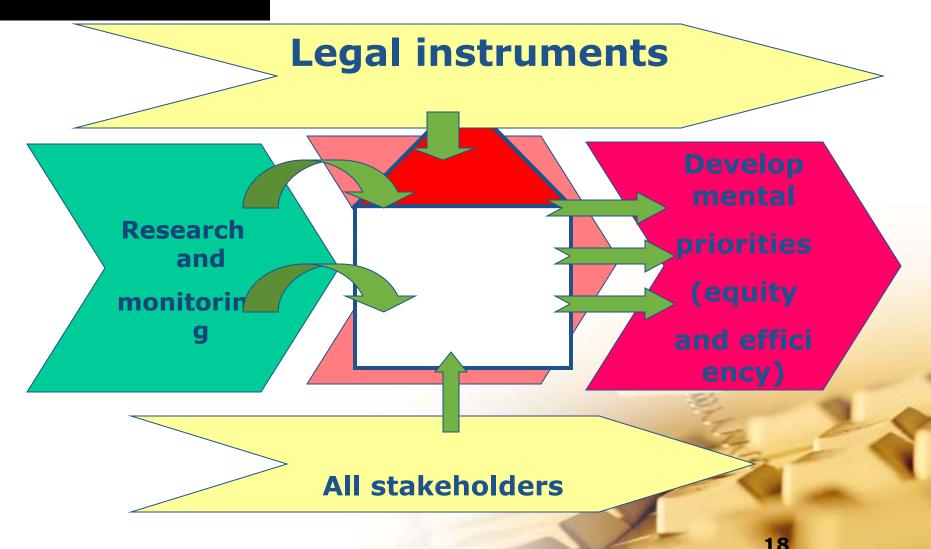
Lessons learned 4. Biggest challenges

- Teachers' incentives (norms, advancement...)
- Teachers' competencies
- Data collection systems (invisible children)
- Specialised support institutions
- Monitoring quality and reform of inspection

Research lagging behind:

- Only recently started (became an attractive topic)
- Oppinions collected, not effects
- Samples not stratified according to intervention target





Lessons learned 5: complete mobilization needed



Lessons learned: IE can help in organizing the learning niche

LEARNING STUDENTS

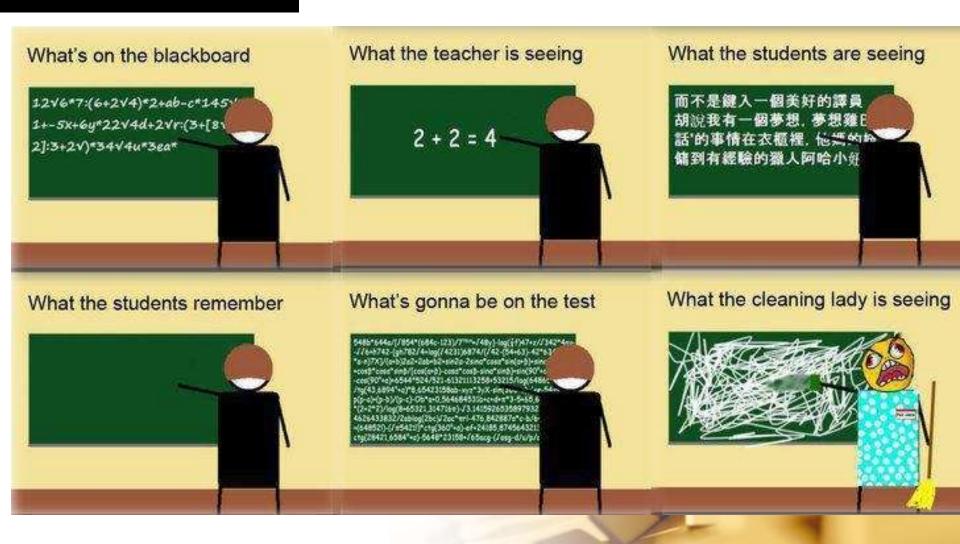
LEARNING OF TEACHERS

LEARNING OF SCHOOLS

LEARNING OF THE SYSTEM



The mutiperspectivity joke





Thank you for your attention

(tkovacs@f.bg.ac.rs)