

ROMA WITH AN EDUCATION,
ROMA WITH A FUTURE.



2010
European Year
for Combating
Poverty and
Social Exclusion



EUROPEAN UNION

European Social Fund
Investing in jobs and skills



Fundación
Secretariado
Gitano

Headquarters
C/ Ahijones, s/n
28018 Madrid (Spain)
Tel. + 34 91 422 09 60
fsg@gitanos.org

www.gitanos.org

WHEN I GROW UP
I WANT TO BE...



**Whatever your dream may be,
finish Secondary school.**



OUR FOCUS ON EDUCATION

The Fundación Secretariado General Gitano (FSG) is a Spanish non profit social organisation working throughout Spain and Europe for the integral advancement of the Roma community based on respect for and support of cultural identity.

From the very beginning, back in the 1960s, we have been pioneers in working to enhance the educational situation of the Roma community and that work continues to the present. Education, together with employment and housing, is one of our priorities and that is because education is key to the social inclusion of the Roma community, in breaking the vicious circle of poverty and especially because it is vital to the personal and professional development of Roma youth.

TIMES ARE CHANGING

The Roma community has made important progress over the last thirty years in Spain. It has advanced from exclusion to enrolment in school. The fact that 94% of Roma children start school at the compulsory age or earlier is an accomplishment. An accomplishment for all. But now we face new challenges.

In the knowledge-based society in which we live, it is unacceptable that 80% of the Roma youth who begin Compulsory Secondary Education drop out before completing it. Our main efforts focus on combating early school dropout because those who lack skills will remain more vulnerable and be condemned to inequality.

OUR ACTION. CHANGING REALITY

We have implemented the Promociona Programme **with a view to encouraging Roma young people to successfully complete their secondary school studies** and to increasingly motivate more to enrol in post-compulsory education. This represents an ambitious step towards excellence and inclusive and compulsory education, an initiative included among the actions supported by the Structural Funds (Multi-regional Operational Programme Fight Against Discrimination, European Social Fund). It is currently being carried out in 17 cities and over the next several years will spread to more cities and towns around Spain.

Promociona offers high quality remedial support for young students. Realities are changing thanks to steady and ongoing work with students, families and schools.

We are in a position to change the future. We need everyone to become involved.



Promociona



OUR AWARENESS-RAISING CAMPAIGN

Our aim is to stress the responsibility of all public institutions and to get Roma families and youth to value education.

To that end we launched a new awareness-raising campaign that is both original and motivating. In the first stage we focus on Roma families and later we design specific actions for young people, for the educational community in general and for the overall public opinion.

We have begun with the campaign entitled WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE... through which we enter into the world of Roma children's dreams to send a specific message: "Whatever your dream may be, finish Secondary School".

Our awareness-raising van called the foto-furgo allows us to visit many Spanish neighbourhoods and to take pictures of the children that reflect their dreams for the future, what they want to be when they grow up.

The campaign will include high-quality publicity spots along with graphics, merchandising articles, posters, leaflets, videos... A web-blog will keep us up to date as to the whereabouts of the foto-furgo while it unveils the dreams of Roma children.

