

# Table of contents

List of abbreviations	4
Executive Summary	5
1. Context of the evaluation	11
1.1. Objectives, scope and deliverables of the evaluation	11
1.1.1. Objectives	11
1.1.2. Evaluation questions	11
1.1.3. Deliverables	12
1.2. Methodology	12
1.2.1. Evaluation Framework	12
1.2.2. Evaluation tools	13
1.2.3. Structuring recommendations	14
1.3. Context of the evaluation	15
1.3.1. The Romanian National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013	15
1.3.2. Situation of vulnerable groups at the time of drafting the NSRF	16
1.3.3. Overview of current situation of vulnerable groups	17
2. Evaluation results	19
2.1. Evaluation Question no. 1	19
2.1.1. EQ 1.1: Which are the areas / topics aimed at equal opportunities relevant for the Structural Instruments?	19
2.1.2. EQ 1.2: Which is the national legal framework relevant for the equal opportunities?	32
2.1.3. EQ 1.3 Are there any European regulations or policies on equal opportunities which have not been mainstreamed into the national legislation?	38
2.2. Evaluation Question no.2	43
2.2.1. EQ 2.1: How have the European and national provisions been mainstreamed into various stages of the Programmes related to the cohesion policy, co-financed through ESF, ERDF and the Cohesion Fund in Romania?	43
2.2.2. EQ 2.2: What other topics relevant to equal opportunities have been promoted / mainstreamed in the various OPs?	82
2.2.3. EQ 2.3: Are there any good practices in the mainstreaming of the equal opportunities principle into the Structural Instruments framework?	86
2.3. Evaluation Question no. 3	91
2.4. Evaluation Question no. 4	109
2.4.1. EQ 4.1: Which are the specific projects directed or dedicated to vulnerable groups?	109

2.4.2.	EQ 4.2: Which of the specific projects directed or dedicated to vulnerable groups are identified as (having a potential of) good practices?	115
3.	Conclusions and recommendations	118
	Annex 1: Evaluation Framework	141
	Annex 2: Reference Framework of trends, policies, agreements related to vulnerable groups	145
	Annex 3: Lists of 35 KAIs analyzed under EQ2	172
	Annex 4: Check Lists used under EQ2	178
	Annex 5: EQ2.3 Best, faulty practices and benchmarking	181
	Annex 6: EQ3 Barriers in access to Structural Instruments financing	207
	Annex 7: EQ3 Benchmarking from Member States	208
	Annex 8: EQ4 Best practice projects	217
	Annex 9: Glossary of areas/topics relevant for equal opportunities	249
	Annex 10: Inventory of targeted projects	254

## List of abbreviations

AIR	Annual Implementation Report
CF	Cohesion Fund
CFR	National Company for Railways
CPA	Certifying and Paying Authority
EC	European Commission
EO	Equal Opportunities
EON	Equal Opportunities Network
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESF	European Social Fund
ETC	European Territorial Cooperation
EU	European Union
FID	Framework Document of Implementation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
I&P	Information & Publicity
IB	Intermediate Body
KAI	Key Area of Intervention
MA	Managing Authority
MC	Monitoring Committee
MC CSI	Managing Committee for Coordination of Structural Instruments
MD	Monitoring Department
ND	Non-discrimination
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSRF	National Strategic Reference Framework
OP	Operational Programme
OP DAC	Operational Programme Development of Administrative Capacity
OP TA	Operational Programme Technical Assistance
PA	Priority Axis
ROP	Regional Operational Programme
SI	Structural Instruments
SME	Small Medium Enterprise
SMIS	Single Management Information System
SOP ENV	Sectoral Operational Programme Environment
SOP HRD	Sectoral Operational Programme Human Resources Development
SOP IEC	Sectoral Operational Programme Increase of Economic Competitiveness
SOP T	Sectoral Operational Programme Transport
TA	Technical Assistance
VG	Vulnerable Groups