



**DIHAL's SLUM CLEARANCE DIVISION
WISHES YOU ALL THE BEST FOR 2018**



no. 32

The “illegal camps/ slum clearance” newsletter gives an account of DIHAL’s (the French Interdepartmental Delegation for Accommodation and Access to Housing) actions in anticipation and support of dismantling illegal camps and slum clearance. It gives more information on current events in this field. It is intended for DIHAL’s departmental correspondents and its partners. To subscribe, unsubscribe, or send us contributions about initiatives carried out in your area, write to us at: pointcontact.campements@developpement-durable.gouv.fr



Headlines

Montpellier: launch of an initiative to integrate the inhabitants of the slum area of Celleneuve by means of housing

On 21 November, the Prefect of Hérault, Pierre Pouëssel, and the Mayor and President of the city of Montpellier, Philippe Saurel, jointly announced that some of those living in the slum area of Celleneuve would be moved in the spring of 2018 to a purpose-built transition village. **This involves 168 people, and includes 32 families.** A large number of these people are already well on the way to having access to common law rights, as 21 households are considered ready for integration by the NGO working in the slum area, with 8 households being in employment, 3 being self-employed, 1 with a promise of a job and 1 with one of its family members in receipt of compensation from the Employment Agency. To implement this project, inspired by policies in place in Toulouse and Strasbourg, **the Mayor of Montpellier is making freely available a plot of land of 3000 to 4000m², on which 28 bungalows will be built, including 1 of 45m² to be used as a restaurant and social area.** This move will enable those living in the slum area to have the benefit of infrastructures and services to supply their basic needs (water,



Philippe Saurel and Pierre Pouëssel at the press conference on 21 November (Photo: Camille Vittet)

electricity, household waste collection and school transport) and social support, the final objective being not that they should settle in the village, but that it will help them towards permanent employment and housing. To facilitate this access, measures are currently being devised jointly by the stakeholders involved to provide enhanced social support for households which will be directed by the SIAO towards this housing, made available by social housing organisations.



Regional news

Saint-Étienne: "From the street to a home", a programme of integration for 4 families

In the Department of the Loire, on the initiative of the Departmental Directorate for Social Cohesion, the Soliha association (Solidarity for housing) has since 2016 been working on an experiment to achieve social and professional integration by housing **four families who had been living in slums for several years**. This action is part of an approach by a wide range of partners, and is supported by the Departmental Council, the Caf (Benefits Office), National Education, the Employment Agency, health insurance, and the NGOs, Habitat et Humanisme (Housing and Humanity), the Food Bank, the Cercle Emmanuel (Emmanuel Circle), Solidarité Roms (Solidarity with the Roma), Night Shelter and the French Red Cross. The project has set itself overall integration objectives for these families, in the areas of employment, mastery of the French language, health, housing, schooling, empowerment and integration into local life. The results, presented to a steering committee on 19 December last year, are very



Stakeholders of the experimental action (photo Soliha Loire)

positive. Indeed, **objectives have been 75% fulfilled in the area of employment, 60% for mastery of the French language, 70% for housing, 90% for school enrolment and attendance of the children, 60% for empowerment in managing budgets and administration**. One can see effective **integration in 7 out of 8 adults**. What may be even more important, this action will, after evaluation, make it possible to enhance the methodology of the integration project for people living in the slums, for the benefit of future actions.

Île-de-France: collective operational preparations for work developed for slum-dwellers

Four collective operational preparations for work (POEC) to promote the professional integration of slum-dwellers began last September. The certified joint fund-raising organisation (OPCA) "Uniformation" finances these four training operations, capitalising on an experimental POEC, successfully implemented in 2016. **These POECs, of three months' duration, consist of training in French as a foreign language (FLE) for professional purposes. This 400-hour course includes a 2-week work placement.** This training must enable the occupants of illegal camps to have direct access to employment or to integration mechanisms via economic activity.

The four training centres are located at Saint-Ouen-l'Aumône, Stains, Fontenay-sous-Bois and in the 11th arrondissement of Paris and can each take a group of 15 people. The AIOS platform and the association ACINA proposed the candidates, of whom there were large numbers. Selection from among them was made on the basis of motivation and their level of French, with a minimum level of A1 being a prerequisite. During the month of September collective information sessions were held, which allowed the participants to display their enthusiasm and motivation. Those admitted to the POECs are currently involved in their work placements. More information [here](#)



DIHAL news

DIHAL takes part in a steering committee at Annemasse on support for people living in squats and makeshift camps

Last 19 December, at the invitation of the Departmental director of social cohesion of Haute-Savoie, Dihal took part in a steering committee for an **Urban and Social Project (MOUS) currently being prepared for the squats and slums of the towns of the Annemasse area**, presided by the President of the Annemasse municipality. Local stakeholders are collaborating with this project to meet the need for integration of the populations living in the squats

and slums (a minimum of 118 people), for whom it has been noted that support was very often the trigger to successful integration. Although the precise characteristics of the MOUS are yet to be defined, the main objective will be to fight against substandard housing, by offering tailor-made, permanent solutions to these families, with a view to providing shelter primarily inspired by the "housing first" method.

Meeting with the Préfecture of the Île-de-France to set up a mobile team to support school attendance

DIHAL, the Préfecture of the Île de France and the association 'Les Enfants du Canal' met on 10 November to work on the project to **create a mobile team of 5 young community volunteers who will go to all the slum areas in the Île-de-France and identify children of school age**. The project will first be launched in the city of Nanterre and the Department of Val-du-Marne.

Close collaboration is envisaged between the Prefects and the association 'Les Enfants du Canal', which will develop as part of the framework for action drawn up in a letter of engagement by the regional Prefect. This commitment will make it possible to support the children of the slums into school and to produce data on the levels of school attendance of these children.

Annual conference of the national association of city Directors of Education

The national association of city Directors of Education organised its **annual congress from 16 to 18 November at Le Havre on the theme of "Education, culture and transmission"**. The "slum and camp clearance" division co-lead the workshop on "people at the extreme margins and cultural rights". Two projects were presented: "getting out of the slums", the result of a partnership between the city of Aix, the centre for social action and the Departmental Council of Bouches du Rhône and "Aven savore" overseen by the Intermèdes

Robinson association, which is certified as a CAF social centre for Chilly Mazarin. Discussions with managers from the education and culture services focussed on the difficulties of getting groups involved who have numerous social problems (slum dwellers, travellers, settled gypsies) or who are temporarily resident (hostels for asylum seekers or for the homeless), as well as on the issue of giving associations and stakeholders in education a role as partners and not just service providers within the framework of annual procurement contracts.

Study day with the British "Forced Marriage Unit"

The Council of Europe organised a **study day on 8 December**, which DIHAL took part in, **at the "Forced Marriage Unit" (FMU), a joint Foreign Office and Home Office unit created in 2005 to pilot the policy**. A 2014 law makes it possible to punish those responsible for these forced unions and offer protection to those who are victims of them.

The FMU has a freephone number for advice and support, leads awareness-raising campaigns ("The right to choose" 2015) and in-depth training programmes for professionals (in particular for the police).

More information [here](#)



Europe/International

Meeting of the national Roma contact points of the European Union

On 16 and 17 October 2017 the 12th meeting was held in Brussels of the national Roma contact points. DIHAL represented France as the national point of contact. This 12th meeting enabled the dialogue with the European Commission to be strengthened, **by overcoming the differences between the French approach and the ethnic European approach, and by sketching out ways to develop a European framework for greater effectiveness**. DIHAL proposed that **the diversity of the Roma population be recognised within the European framework (in particular by distinguishing the issues of travellers from those of populations migrating for economic**



reasons to another country from their own), in order to better take account of the existence of the Roma populations in migration (or in movement) within the EU.

International conference on women from the Roma or Traveller communities

This 6th conference, organised by the Council of Europe on 6 and 7 November in Strasbourg, had as its theme the political participation of Roma women. The Vice-President of the Commission for Gender

Equality of the Council of Europe, Charles Ramsden, took part in the debates, which covered the rationale of and various approaches to combating the under-representation of Roma women in politics.

Plenary meeting of the ad hoc Committee of experts on matters related to the Roma and to Traveller peoples

The 14th plenary meeting of the Cahrom took place in Strasbourg from 24 to 27 October. This gathering of national experts brought to light recent national and international strategies in the area of Roma and Travellers. Discussions focussed on the development and implementation of inclusion strategies for Roma and Travellers and on the return of the Roma to their country of origin in the Western Balkan area. The meeting included discussion on the situation of the Roma in third countries, especially Canada and the Latin

American countries, and on the consequences of variations in definitions between Member States of terms such as ethnic minority, national minority and indigenous population. During this meeting, **DIHAL was elected to the Cahrom committee as a third member**, in recognition of the French contribution to international cooperation on matters relating to Roma and Travellers, and of its non-ethnic approach.

11th meeting of the European Platform for Roma Inclusion

On 27 and 28 November, the European Commission organised the 11th meeting of the European Platform for Roma Inclusion on the theme of the transition from education to employment. Two French initiatives were represented: **the Passerelles project led by CASNAV of Lille** (4 mediator posts to support pupils who are not French speaking and do not attend school, almost 80% of those living in camps) and **the ACINA association** (socio-professional integration

of slum-dwellers and more recently of refugees). The first day was devoted to workshops where practices were exchanged (education/professional training), the second to discussions with high-level representatives (Commission, Parliament, Economic and Social Committee, members of governments). More information [here](#)



Partnerships/Networks

Signing an agreement with the School and Family association

Last 8 December, DIHAL signed, jointly with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Solidarity and Health and the CGET, a partnership agreement with the association School and Family, whose activities are at the intersection of the fields of raising children, education, health, and support for

families, for a holistic understanding of situations of tension within school. DIHAL will facilitate the networking of the association with its partners on the ground and will take an interest in experiments which could benefit very vulnerable children.



Without comment ... and without prejudice Review of the subjects covered on the Internet and in the press

Slums in the news in Le Monde "These 570 slums that France refuses to see"
Click [here](#)

France news: What solutions are there for the children of the slums?
Click [here](#)

Presentation of the book *A World of Slums* by Julien Damon
Click [here](#)



Bordeaux city: Putting an end to squats by creating legal camps?
Click [here](#)

European Parliament Resolution on the integration of the Roma
Click [here](#)

Near Nantes, the challenge of integrating slum-dwellers
Click [here](#)

Slums in the Journal Le Monde (1945 - 2014)
Click [here](#)

2 young inhabitants of a camp at the local Youth Council in Orvault
Click [here](#)