



No. 29

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 in 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 your thoughts on initiatives carried out in your area, write us at: [pointcontact.campements@developpement-durable.gouv.fr](mailto:pointcontact.campements@developpement-durable.gouv.fr)

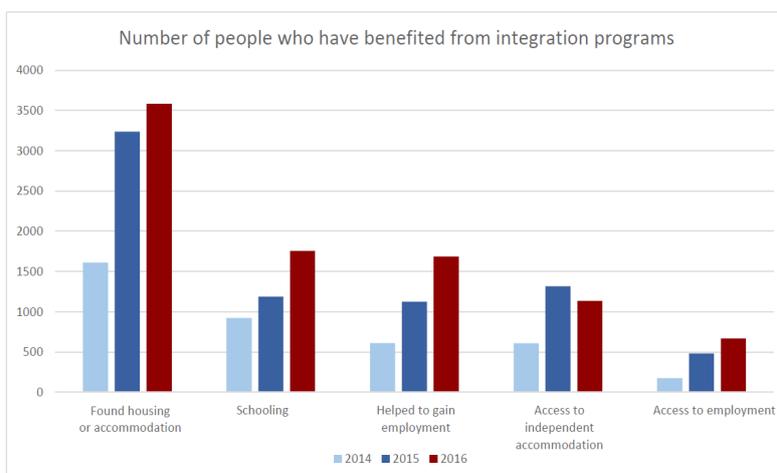


## Headlines

### Publication of the “2016 statement and 2017 overview” slum clearance operations supported by the DIHAL

Since 2012, an annual national appropriations budget has been specifically dedicated to support operations to clear slums and to help support their inhabitants to become integrated. This budget is only a small part of the total funding for these operations (other funding may come from the State, regional authorities, the European Union or from the private sector), but they often act as a lever or a catalyst. They also allow the DIHAL, in close collaboration with the General Directorate for Social Cohesion (DGCS), and the Department for Housing, Town Planning and Landscape (DHUP) to monitor and evaluate operations which have been financed in this way. Following a review of the results obtained and the projects for the current year (which is carried out directly with the relevant prefectures), the DIHAL, the DGCS and the DHUP have suggested that the national budget be distributed regionally.

For the year 2016, a budget of €3 million was allocated to support projects in 23 departments in mainland France. This amount has been confirmed for 2017. **The large majority of the operations financed are measures which comprehensively**



**support people towards common rights** and work based on four main approaches: access to accommodation, schooling, access to employment and access to care.

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They differ according to **three criteria: the method of selecting the sites and the people** integrating the measures, **the motive which triggered the public action** (impending evacuation, desire to clear slums over the long term), and **the involvement of government collaborators**, in particular regional authorities. The most integrated and collaborative measures are acting as genuine territorial strategies for clearing slums, as is the case for example in the Haute-Garonne and the Bas-Rhin regions. In total **in 2016**, in the 23 departments concerned, these actions have enabled **3,600**

**people to be re-housed, 1,800 children to attend school and helped 1,700 people to gain employment.** It should be noted that positive results are being seen over time.

In total since 2013 (over the years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016), thanks to operations supported by the DIHAL, the DGCS and the DHUP, almost 9,300 people have been able to access housing or accommodation, more than 1,700 people have been able to gain employment, and almost 5,800 children have attended school.

[See the complete statement](#)



## In the territories

### The Ginestous slum in Toulouse being cleared 165 people re-housed

On 10 July last year, the city of Toulouse and the prefecture of Haute-Garonne carried out an operation to clear the camp of Ginestous, the last sizable slum in the Toulouse area. The operation, which had been planned for several months, was carried out in two stages: first, the evacuation itself during which people were directed to chartered buses; second, the orientation of the families gathered in a gymnasium, where accommodation solutions were proposed according to their situation. **In total, 165 people (including 51 children) were offered accommodation or to be re-housed by the state and the city council.** The city council have taken care of 119 people (including 40 minors) who have agreed **to a social support project** and have signed **a tenancy agreement** for a place of accommodation as well as **rules and regulations.** The city council also offered travelers present on site (117 people) to be directed to a visitor area, an offer which was declined. The state has taken care of 46 people (including 11 children) who, depending on their situation, have been directed to suitable facilities, in particular to hotel places. Finally, measures have been provided for animals

found at the site who have been taken in by the state and animal protection associations.

It is the fifth joint operation of this kind which has been carried out in urban areas in Toulouse. In total, **931 people have been taken care of over four years.**



Welcome and directing people to facilities on orientation day

[See the press release from the administrative office of the Occitanie region and the City of Toulouse](#)

### Unveiling of the prototype of the 'Wood Stock' temporary accommodation, winner of the Mini Maousse 6 competition, in Nantes

On 29 June, the winning project of the Mini Maousse 6 competition, of which DIHAL is a partner, the prototype of the temporary accommodation 'Wood Stock', designed by Fabien Le Goff, was unveiled in Nantes. Built in collaboration with the Ecole Supérieure du Bois, with the financial support of AG2R La Mondiale and the Fondation BTP +, this 45m<sup>2</sup> house has a bedroom-living area, bedroom, kitchen and a bathroom. Economical and ecological, it can be quickly self-assembled, without glue or screws, and is transportable. **Nantes Metropolis has**

**been responsible for installing the prototype on an integration site housing a dozen eastern-European migrant families (58 quai Wilson) and has financed the social support for the family towards becoming integrated, which has been entrusted to the Une famille un toit (One family, one roof) association for a period of 18 months.** This experimental phase makes it possible for us to test the house and optimise it, with a view to the possible development of this type of facility throughout the city.



## Europe/International

### Opening of a public consultation on the evaluation of the European Union framework for Roma integration: 3 questions for Marion Lièvre, co-author of the documentary *Les Roms, des citoyens comme les autres?* (Roma, citizens like any others?)

From 19 July to 25 October 2017, the European Commission has opened a [public consultation online](#) to evaluate midterm the European framework for National Roma Integration Strategies and prepare the post-2020 framework. The opportunity for DIHAL to open its “camps/slums” newsletter to researchers and stakeholders in the field. This month, we talk to **Marion Lièvre, a researcher at the François-Rabelais University of Tours**<sup>1</sup>, co-author of the documentary *Les Roms, des citoyens comme les autres?* (Roma, citizens like any others?) which was broadcast on Arte last July (Mélisande Films).

#### **How can your documentary contribute to considerations about the European framework?**

The documentary highlights the key role of European institutions in the ethnicization of socio-economic problems in countries in eastern Europe undergoing democratic reconstruction. It also questions the way in which the European framework encourages a transnational approach to the ‘Roma issue’ through the implementation of policies designed to be used in a national framework but developed in an international framework and supported by non-state structures such as The Open Society Foundation. In addition to the ‘Roma issue’, it also raises the issue of migration in Europe, of economic disparity between different European countries and the crystallisation process regarding cultural and ethnical factors.

#### **In the documentary, you bring up the policy implemented in Germany and Berlin. Can this serve as a model for a European framework?**

Berlin and Germany were chosen to show that the policies of each country of origin determine the living conditions of Roma migrants. The main difference with France lies in the way in which the political arena deals with the issue of migration from when Romania and Bulgaria joined the EU in 2007: in France, it is a ‘Roma issue’ and therefore an ethnic issue; in Germany, it is an ‘immigration issue’<sup>2</sup>. Another difference lies in the migratory network. The majority of the Romanian migrants arriving in Berlin already have an opportunity for economic activity. However, the situation is far from being ideal in Germany. Many of them are victims of unscrupulous landlords and economic exploitation.

In France, since the transitional measures were lifted, the circular was implemented in 2012 and DIHAL’s involvement, comprehensive local support projects, which focus on migrants’ access to common rights, are emerging over time. These projects could serve as a reference model for the European framework. By focusing on concerns regarding poor housing and economic instability, rather than cultural or ‘ethnic’ issues.



Roma family in Hungary (credit: Stéphan Massis)

#### **In your opinion, what would be a welcome development in the European framework? How can we work with the countries of origin?**

It seems important to reconsider introducing the European framework in Romania. In the process of Romania’s accession to the EU, the Roma became ‘barometers of democracy’, which are characterised by a multicultural policy, favoring the recognition of ethnic minorities, the introduction of positive discrimination measures from 1992 as well as public policies such as the ‘Roma integration strategy’. These measures encourage the formation of a civil Roma society, with Roma activists who have now become project managers, but they have had a limited effect on improving the socio-economic conditions of the country, which is one of the main factors driving the migration of eastern-European citizens to Western Europe. Therefore, when working with the countries of origin we should take a comprehensive approach (integrate various dimensions, in particular economic, social dimensions) and step away from an ethnic one. One of the developments in the European framework that would be welcomed *would be to dissociate an ethnical approach with integration policies, to focus not only on what drives the citizens of Eastern Europe to migrate but also on the issues they face in the countries they migrate to, such as economic exploitation.*

1. Author of the thesis *Nationalisme ethnoculturel et rapport à la culture des Roms en Roumanie postcommuniste et multiculturaliste (Ethno-cultural nationalism and its relationship to Roma culture in post-communist and multicultural Romania)*, submitted to the Paul-Valéry University of Montpellier 3 in 2013.

## European Commission call for project proposals on Roma integration

Last June, the European Commission (DG Justice) launched a call for national and transnational projects aimed at Roma

integration. The deadline for submitting applications is 9 November 2017. Further information can be found [here](#)

### dihal DIHAL news

#### The use of the Service Civique to support those living in slums

The next DIHAL workshop will take place on 21 September at the Institut Mutualiste Montsouris and the topic will be 'The Service Civique and slums'. Among testimonies from young volunteers, leaders of associations (Enfants du Canal, Unis-Cité, Intermèdes Robinson) and partners (Toulouse City Council, Mission locale de Paris), the workshop will discuss the experiences of mobilizing the Service Civique as part of actions to clear slums

and supporting their inhabitants. Performed by young people from these living spaces and others who are not, these volunteer services have produced positive results in terms of support, social and occupational integration as well as personal development.

To register: [dihal.wufoo.com/forms/x1lnq5k10nk74f/](http://dihal.wufoo.com/forms/x1lnq5k10nk74f/) or send an email at [pointcontact.campements@developpement-durable.gouv.fr](mailto:pointcontact.campements@developpement-durable.gouv.fr)

#### Meeting at the Council of Europe for Harvard students from the FXB Centre for Health and Human Rights programme

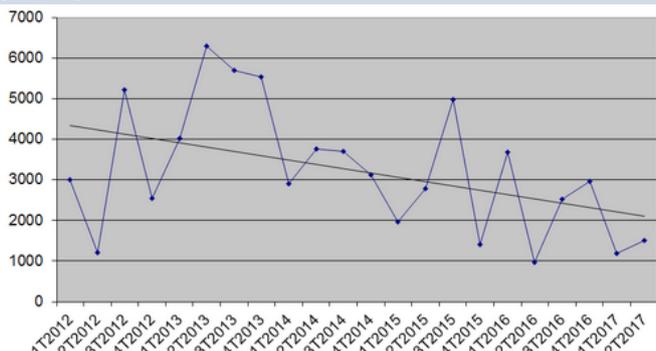
In June and July 2017, seven students from the Harvard FXB Centre for Health and Human Rights programme took an internship in four organisations involved in programmes to help clear slums and integrate their populations (Adoma AIOS platform,

DIHAL, Enfants du Canal, and Mission Bidonvilles de Strasbourg Eurométropole). On 26 July 2017, at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, they presented their findings before representatives of the four host structures.



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

#### The last census of evictions of living spaces occupied by Roma (or people labeled as such) in France, published by the Human Rights League (LDH) and the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC).



Change in the number of people evacuated per quarter since 2012 (Source: figures provided by the LDH and the ERRC)

The figures reported in this new census confirm the downward trend in the number of people who have been evacuated since 2012:

<https://www.ldh-france.org/forte-reprise-expulsions-decision-justice-solution-relogement-particulierement-en-ile-france/>

#### A scout camp for children from slums

<https://www.lesenfantsducanal.fr/camp-scout-enfants-bidonvilles/>

#### The Roma slum on the Petite-Ceinture railway line suspended once again

<http://www.leparisien.fr/paris-75018/le-bidonville-rom-de-la-petite-ceinture-a-nouveau-en-sursis-03-08-2017-71740>

#### Echoes of the 2017 festival of knowledge and arts in St Genis les Ollières

<https://www.atd-quartmonde.fr/festival-des-savoirs-et-des-arts-a-st-genis-les-ollieres/>

#### Nantes Metropolis. An action plan for the Roma people

<http://www.presseocean.fr/actualite/nantes-metropole-un-plan-daction-pour-les-roms-17-08-2017-24192>