



Ecological effects of public investments for social inclusion

The case of investing in the
Roma community in Kavarna

10 November, 2017

Aims

- Present data for the results “Socio-economic effects of public investment for Roma inclusion in Kavarna
- Discuss some of the ecological effects observed: **building of a sewage system, reducing the risk of flooding by repairing the roads, the removal of the old rubbish tip, the introduction of regular garbage collection**
- Stimulate a discussion on the synergies between social and ecological innovations

Background

- Research published in 2015 by CSD
- Measured the social and economic effects of public investments made by Kavarna municipality between 2004 and 2014
- Examining the effects of these investments on:
 - ❖ Housing
 - ❖ Infrastructure
 - ❖ Healthcare
 - ❖ Employment
 - ❖ Poverty and social exclusion

Data

- Representative household survey conducted in February-March 2015 among a random sample of 300 Roma and non-Roma households in the Roma neighborhood of Hadji Dimitar in Kavarna
- Semi-structured stakeholder interviews with municipal officials from the administration of Kavarna municipality
- The methodological approach followed was to use the same indicators as the NSI and other regional surveys so the data can be comparable

Kavarna, January 2015



An innovative and long term approach to municipal budgeting

“A quarter of the population of the town is Roma, so it made sense that the same proportion of the budget was invested in that community”

Tsonko Tsonev, former mayor, Interview March 2015

Part of a long term integration strategy by the municipality - Election of four Roma municipal advisors; Roma officers in the municipality

Investments by Kavarna municipality by year (2004-2010)

| Year | Amount in BNG |
|--|------------------|
| 2004 | 235 075 |
| 2005 | 471 541 |
| 2006 | 1 388 806 |
| 2007 | 2 080 841 |
| 2008 | 363 595 |
| 2009 | 219 484 |
| 2010 | 6 457 |
| Total investment for the period | 4 765 799 |

Investment by type and area of investment

| Type of investment | Amount BGN |
|--|------------------|
| Sewerage system | 1 975 000 |
| Water pipes | 629 000 |
| Pavement | 680 000 |
| Asphalting streets | 1 220 000 |
| Residence hall | 169 000 |
| Repair works for kindergarten "Detelina" | 96 000 |
| Children playgrounds | 27 000 |
| Total investment: | 4 796 000 |

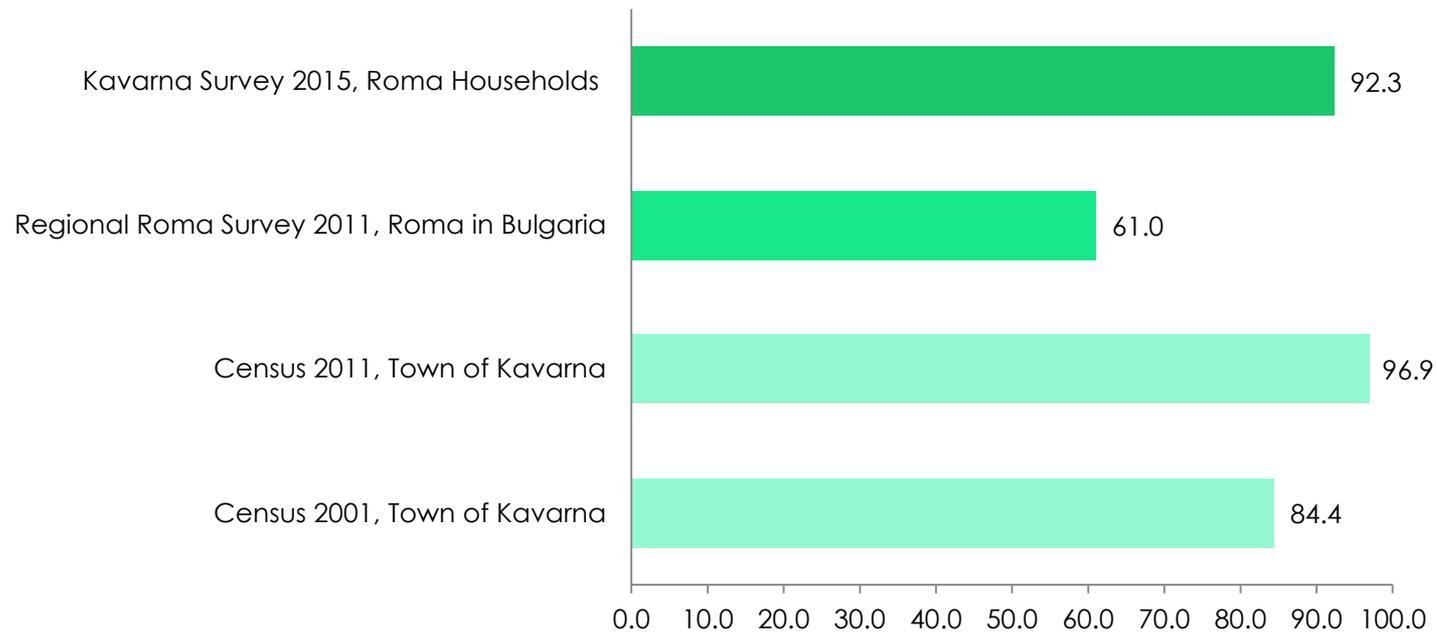
Key effects of the investments

- Variable effect on the improvement of socio-economic indicators of the Roma in Kavarna
- The demographic changes – the size of the Roma population increased with 7 % between the two Censuses 2001-2011 (rest unchanged)

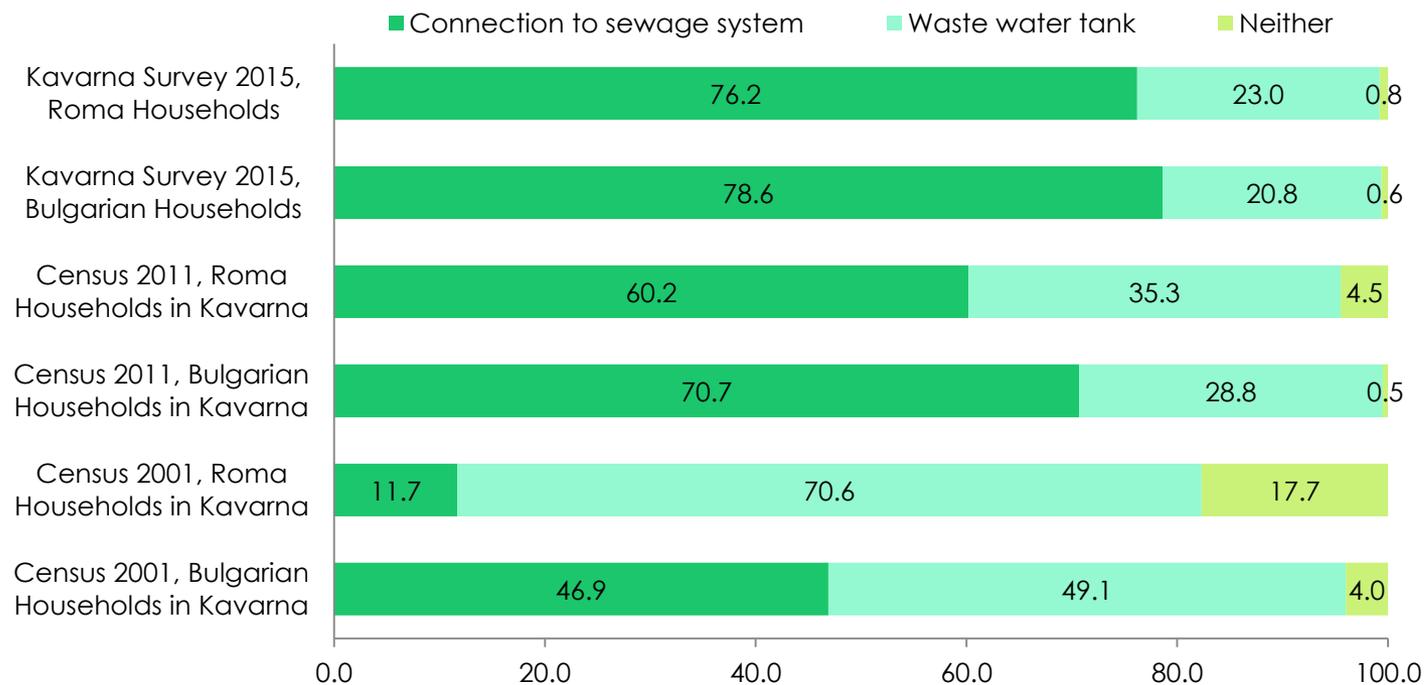
Housing

- Tangible, significant and measurable improvements in the living conditions of the Roma population in Kavarna. The percentage of Roma who have access to piped water has increased by 30 %. Less than 1 % of the Roma claim to have access to neither a sewage tank, nor the sewerage system - a 16 % decrease since 2011.

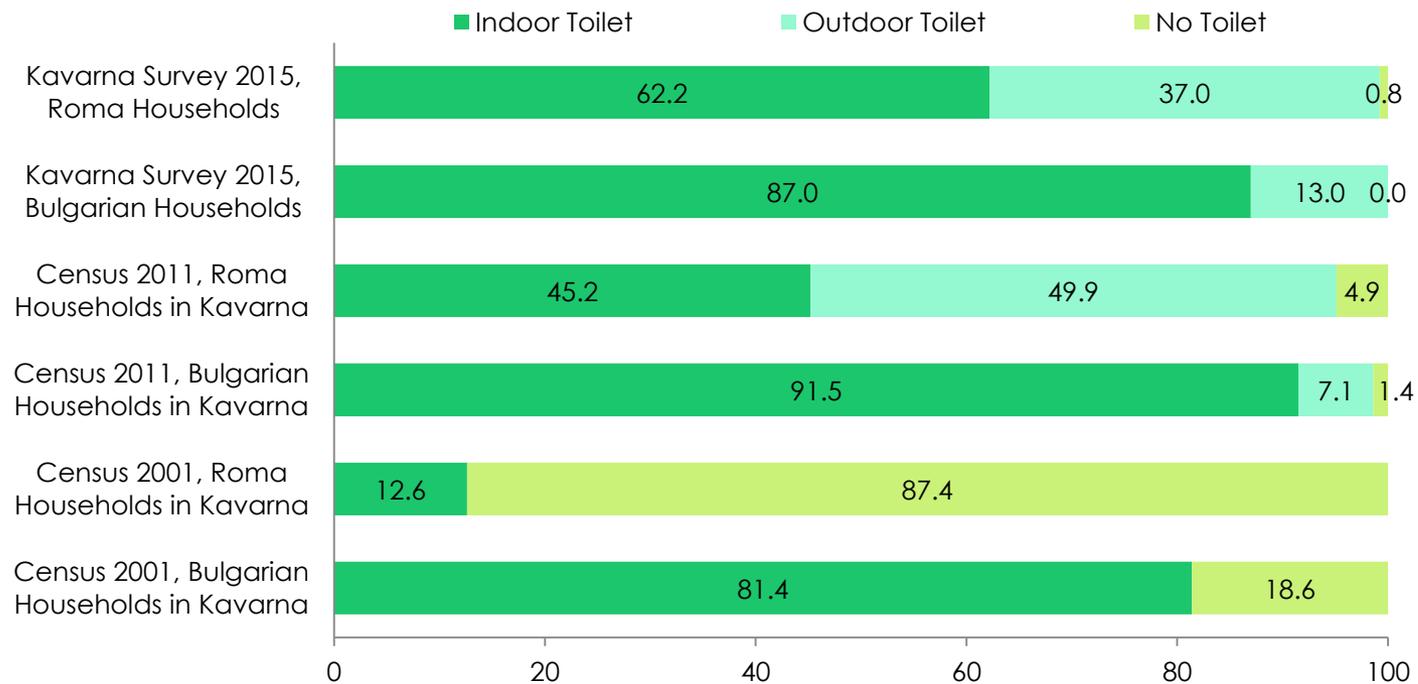
Availability of indoor piped water in Roma dwellings (% of dwellings)



Availability of sewerage in the town of Kavarna (% of dwellings)



Availability of toilet in the town of Kavarna (% of dwellings)

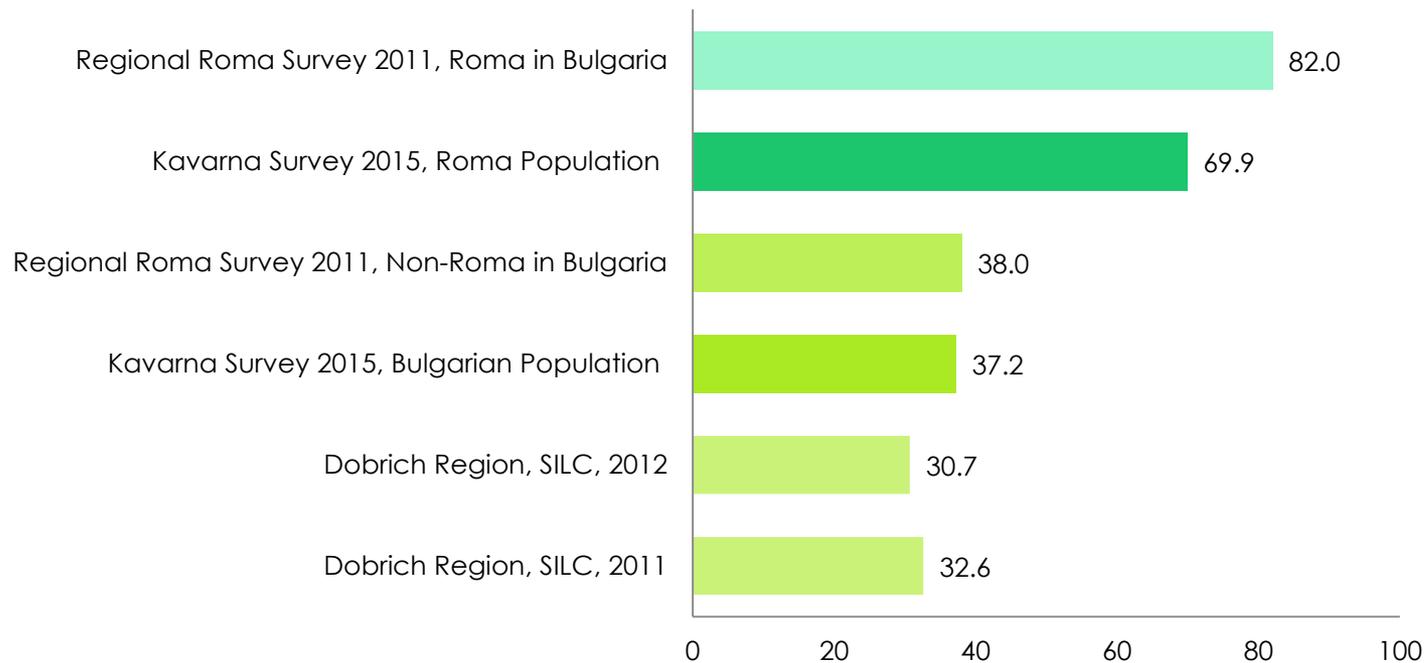


Infrastructure

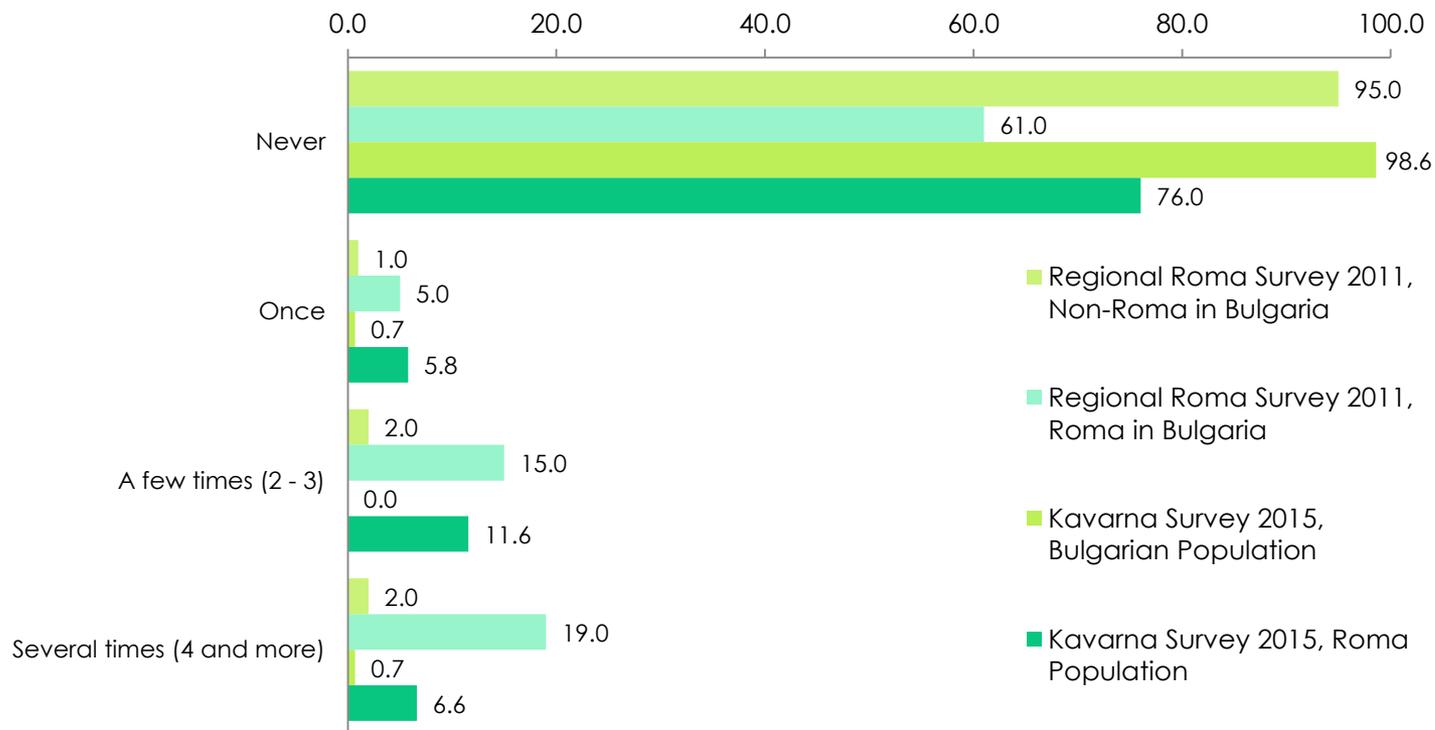
Effects were similar to housing:

- ❖ Eradication of the garbage dump and introduction of regular garbage collection
- ❖ Asphaltting of streets, building of pavement-reduction in flooding
- ❖ Building a new sewerage system

Share of population living in material deprivation



Households where someone went to bed hungry in the past month, due to lack of money for food (%)



Synergies

- Pro poor climate policies and inclusive green growth **can** be developed:
 1. inclusive governance that fosters communication between citizens and government
 2. policies that strengthen the livelihoods of poor people, secure their rights, and ensures they benefit from green transformations
 3. reforms to financial systems to drive investment
 4. and tools to measure and track this progress

Directors by the Global Green Growth Institute and IIED, 2016

Some examples

- **South Africa** - environmental job schemes provide social protection for poor people while helping to preserve wetlands and biodiversity
- **Mongolia** - effort to diversify the national energy mix include an assessment of the impact on low-income households and an alternative heating-systems plan that will benefit low-income and semi-urban settlements
- **Rwanda** has piloted a model for ecotourism that shares revenues locally and improves conservation
- Strong public consultation in **Mexico** ensured that the poorest communities benefited from new renewable energy investments

Existing frameworks

- The sustainable development goals (SDGs) recognise the simultaneous need for growth, prosperity, peace, environmental protection, and reducing inequality
- The Paris Agreement also includes the protection of the poorest people and countries from the negative impacts of climate change
- On EU level, ongoing work in the framework of the Europe 2020 Strategy and the EU SDS

The way forward

- The SDGs and climate change agreements provide a strong **global framework**
- But ultimately they will not work unless **national politics** backs them up
- And for that we need for civil society and community leaders to come to the forefront on **local level**