

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT

FM14-21

Czech Republic

CZ-EDUCATION Education

2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overall, the programme CZ-EDUCATION has been progressing well. In 2023, no new calls for proposals were launched and no reallocation of funds was needed. The contracted projects were gradually completed and checked. No irregularities were detected. Altogether, 97 out of 107 contracted projects were finalised. 80% of the project partnerships plan further cooperation.

Through the four Outcomes, the programme has been contributing to the objective of enhanced human capital and knowledge base in the Czech Republic. All the projects under the Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 were completed; only 10 projects (Outcome 1) are still being implemented.

Almost all the indicators were achieved (several were surpassed). A great progress has been seen in the fulfilling of the indicators related to the application of new methods for inclusion, democracy, and active citizenship. Also, more than 4,600 Roma pupils have benefitted from improved skills of their teacher who was trained thanks to inclusive education projects. During the year 2023, the projects did not face any serious external threats (Covid-19 or the war in Ukraine no longer affected their implementation). Projects learned to use online meetings more frequently; however, face-to-face meetings were still reported by participants as important for quality work on the outputs.

The EEA Grants and the Programme CZ-EDUCATION were presented at 5 events, such as education fairs, a festival and seminars. The Programme Operator organised four seminars for beneficiaries and for the public. The Programme Operator published nine social media posts and five articles. At the end of the year, we also issued a press release and invited journalists to a briefing with two successful projects.

An external evaluation of the Programme CZ-EDUCATION from the NFP level carried out in 2023 concluded that the programme was set up well, that its activities responded to the priority needs of the beneficiaries and that it represented an effective means of strengthening the educational base and human capital of the Czech Republic.

The overall programme risk remains at the lowest level of 1 as most projects were successfully completed and no other risks were identified.