public infrastructure, environmental harms, geographic and social exclusion are very much related to the health condition of Roma in East-Central-Europe. When it comes to closing the health gap between Roma and non-Roma, evidence suggests that social determinants of health—social, economic, cultural, political, and environmental factors—play a more significant role than their limited access to health care services.

Our project’s main objective is to collect relevant evidence on social and environmental determinants of Roma health based on fieldwork research in a certain Hungarian location, to strengthen understanding of the necessity of research based evidence in influencing relevant policies and mobilizing local Roma community for public participation in the improvement of their health outcomes. Research activities connected to our project will start on October 2018.

Participatory methods will be used for fieldwork research, including interviews, mental mapping and participatory observation of the everyday life of neighbourhood located household’s members’ practices connected to housework and their relationship to their environment. We will focus on the neighbourhood’s environment, public infrastructure and services’ availability, accessibility and affordability. There will be in-depth interviews and mental mapping with residents and other local stakeholders connected to environmental issues effecting everyday health conditions, getting an insight of the neighborhood’s hidden environmental and social factors as proximities of different environmental hazards, forms of social exclusion and inefficient public services.

Based on the research participatory and mediation process will be started between neighbourhood’s residents and other relevant stakeholders – local councils, public utility and health services, public institutions – strengthening evidence-based local empowerment and advocacy for public health.

REFERENCES

Our foundation’s research project called Water Inclusion: https://pad.network/projects/water-inclusion/

Our project focused on the limited access to affordable and quality water and sanitation due to interference of social factors. Our research has been unfolding details of water usage accessibility, affordability and quality challenges in socially excluded neighborhoods. PAD had investigated possible, socially and environmentally conscious and sustainable local community sanitary and public service solutions – e.g. community sanitary blocks – through participatory planning and implementing processes.

Our new research project connected to Roma public health will be used and developed some of the methods used in our previous Water Inclusion project but in a broader perspective.