



2010 – European Year for combating poverty and social exclusion

This document has been prepared by the AER Secretariat. It is a collection of the key information posted on the official website of the European Year 2010:

<http://2010againstopoverty.europa.eu/>

Each Year since 1983, the EU has been implementing an awareness campaign in order to draw the attention of Citizens & Governments at every level on a specific topic. Objectives of the EY are defined by European Institutions in cooperation with civil society, governments, etc.

Objectives

Four cross-disciplinary objectives will lie at the heart of this EY:

- **Recognition:** recognise the fundamental right of persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion to live in dignity and to take an active part in society;

Examples of activities: information campaigns, media coverage, funding for projects in mainstream cultural programmes; conferences

- **Shared responsibility and participation:** promote public support for social inclusion policies, emphasising collective and individual responsibility in combating poverty and social exclusion, and fostering commitment by all public and private actors;

Examples of activities: meetings on participation of poor people in political life; exchanges of good practices on shared responsibility between regions; involvement of business & social partners

- **Cohesion:** promote a more cohesive society, in which no one doubts that society as a whole benefits from the eradication of poverty;

Examples of activities: campaigns and events gathering experts against poverty and actors usually not concerned by the tackling of poverty,

- **Commitment and practical action:** renew the pledge of the EU and its Member States to combat poverty and social exclusion, and involve all levels of authority in the pursuit of that aim.

Examples of activities: present & promote innovative schemes that aim to foster social inclusion; competitions to identify success stories.

Priority policy areas

With a view to averting a mere reproduction of the existing “Open Method of Coordination” in the European field of Social Protection & Inclusion, the EY have put the focus on defined, limited policy areas.

The following themes have been picked out:

- implementing cross-cutting policies to reduce & prevent severe poverty
- fighting poverty of heavily disadvantaged people (children in poor families, single families)
- promoting labour inclusion and decent wages

- eradicating ICT fractures (low education worker, people with disabilities...)
- tackling gender & age factors of poverty
- ensuring equal access to resources & services, such as accommodation, healthcare & social protection
- facilitating access to culture & leisure activities
- promoting social inclusion of migrants & ethnic minorities
- promoting integrated approaches to active inclusion
- addressing needs of persons in vulnerable situation (disabled, homeless...)

Funding

The estimated budget, including national participation, amounts to € 26 million for the whole European Union, of which € 17 million will be provided directly by the EU.

At European level, funding will consist in the purchase of goods and services and of grants (which cover a maximum of 80% of the eligible costs) awarded for the organisation of special events at European level to highlight the EY.

For events organised at the national scale, EU funding will cover a maximum of 50% of the total eligible costs. The rest should be provided by national co-funding from public and/or private sources.

The management of funds at the national scale is undertaken by “National Implementing Bodies” (NIB's) which also define, implement, monitor and evaluate the National Programmes for the EY. Those NIB's select the activities through calls for proposals and calls for tenders published 6 months before the beginning of the EY.

The EU also provides non-financial support for activities which do not receive any funding. NIB's could give authorisation to use materials and logos associated to the EY as far as the promoters of those initiatives are in line with EY's objectives.

Contacts

Organisers of activities or events at EU level (that have a European added value), or involving several European countries, should complete the request form and **return it to the relevant DG of the European Commission**

For activities and events at national, regional, or local level, each National Coordinator is entitled to recognize officially activities that can be included in the EY framework. **The list of NIB's will be published on the website of the EY.**

Related links

Further information about EY 2010:

- [Priorities & guidelines for 2010 European Year activities](#)
- [Decision No 1098/2008/EC on the EY for combating poverty & social exclusion](#)

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