



Social protection and social integration

Social protection and social inclusion: policy coordination

OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS - VP/2005/007

UNDER BUDGET LINE 04.040202

**FOR THE SUPPORT TO KEY EUROPEAN NETWORKS
INVOLVED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY AND
SOCIAL EXCLUSION**

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1. OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Following the introduction under Articles 136 and 137 of the Amsterdam Treaty of the fight against social exclusion among the social policy provisions, the European Parliament and the Council established a five year programme of Community action to encourage co-operation between Member States in fighting social exclusion for the period 2002-2006¹.

The Community action programme is intended as a key tool to support and advance the implementation of the Open Method of Co-ordination on poverty and social inclusion (OMC), established by the Lisbon European Council in March 2000².

The Programme supports and supplements efforts at European level and in the Member States to promote policies to prevent and to combat social exclusion and poverty. It is designed to enhance the effectiveness of policies to combat social exclusion by:

- (a) improving the understanding of social exclusion and poverty with the help in particular of comparable indicators;
- (b) organising exchanges on policies which are implemented and promoting mutual learning in the context of national action plans;
- (c) developing the capacity of actors to address social exclusion and poverty effectively, and to promote innovative approaches, in particular through networking at European level, and by promoting dialogue with all those involved.

To these ends the programme is divided into three strands. Strand 1 supports research and analysis, Strand 2 promotes policy co-operation and mutual learning and Strand 3 supports the participation of the various actors and networking at European level.

One of the key objectives of the action programme is to develop the participation of and to promote dialogue with the various actors involved in the fight against social exclusion and poverty. In this context, it provides, under its Strand 3, that the Community will contribute to the running costs of **key European-level networks of organisations involved in the fight against poverty and social exclusion.**

The purpose of co-funding European-level networks is to reinforce their capacity to play an active role in the support of the Open Method of Co-ordination and in particular the preparation and development of the NAPs/inclusion. Networks' activities covered by the present call will coincide with the implementation of the current NAPs/inclusion as well as the preparation of the 2006 NAPs/inclusion by all 25 Member States.

¹ Decision n° 50/2002/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 7 December 2001 – OJ, L 10 of 12.01.2002.

² All information concerning the open method of coordination and the action programme is available at the following webpage: http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/soc-prot/soc-incl/index_en.htm.

Key European networks have an important contribution to make in the context of the open method of coordination. They can foster a better understanding of the most concrete forms of social exclusion, and in particular ensure that national action plans take into account the experience of people exposed to social exclusion. They can ensure a regular monitoring of the implementation of the national action plans at a level closer to their main beneficiaries. They can help to reach a greater awareness of the social inclusion process. Reinforcing the capacity-building of European networks allows these organisations to better take into account the concerns of their constituent members and to strengthen their abilities to tackle issues relating to social exclusion and poverty within their domestic context.

European networks are in a central position to influence policy in the European Union and in the Member states at all levels through their national members. Influence is gained through the increased expertise and information which are important to policy formulation and implementation. It is also gained through the setting-up of coalitions capable of affecting change. European networks must have as their main purpose to contribute to greater social inclusion through activities which promote the common objectives adopted under the Open Method of Co-ordination.

The Commission called on European networks whose main purpose was to contribute to the fight against poverty and social exclusion and whose membership was composed of organisations who were active in the fight against poverty and social exclusion and were established in at least twelve Member States to submit proposals with a view to obtaining a financial contribution to their running costs (Call for proposals 2002/VP/008). As a result of this call, five networks were selected for support: European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN); European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless (FEANTSA); European Transnational Network for Social Inclusion (RETIS); Eurochild (formerly EFCW) and European Public Social Platform (EPSP). The support was foreseen for a maximum period of 36 months, and came to an end in November 2005.

In view of the positive assessment of the role and the contribution of the European networks in the context of the Social Inclusion Process on the basis of the external evaluation of the Action Programme, the Commission has launched a new call for proposals in order to cover the period from December 2005 to November 2007.

European networks focus their work programme on priorities designed to foster the achievement of the general objectives of the Community Action Programme against social exclusion. This applies in particular to the following four priorities:

- Building on existing experience, on key lessons from the previous NAPs/incl, JIMs and on key new steps within the Open Method of Coordination in order to reinforce policy-making at EU level;
- Playing an active role in monitoring the new National Action Plans on Poverty and Social Exclusion;
- Raising public awareness and building bridges between the different policy levels and between relevant institutions or actors;
- Consolidating their membership and increasing exchange among their members.

2. RESULTS OF THE SELECTION OF PROPOSALS

Table 1: List of proposals received

	MS	Organisation	title of project
1	BE/INT	CARITAS EUROPA	CARITAS ORGANISATIONS NETWORK TO CHALLENGE THE EXCLUSION AND POVERTY TRAP (CONCEPT)
2	BE/INT	European Network of Cities and Regions for the Social Economy -	REVES PROGRAMME AGAINST SOCIAL EXCLUSION 2005-2006
3	BE/INT	EUROPEAN ANTI POVERTY NETWORK - EAPN	BUILDING SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM THE GROUND UP
4	BE/INT	EUROCHILD AISBL	CONSOLIDATING AND STRENGTHENING A CHILD SPECIFIC APPROACH TO COMBATTING CHILD POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF CHILDREN IN THE EUROPEAN UNION
5	BE-INT	Fédération Européenne des Associations Nationales Travaillant avec les Sans-Abri - FEANTSA	TAKING FORWARD THE FIGHT AGAINST HOMELESSNESS IN THE STREAMLINED EU SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY / FURTHER DEVELOPING FEANTS'S ROLE UNDER THE OMC
6	BE-INT	European Foundation for Street Children	CHILD INCLUSION NETWORKING FOR A SOCIAL EUROPE
7	BE/INT	Association internationale des charites	DES FEMMES AGISSENT CONTRE LA PAUVRETÉ : UN RÉSEAU EUROPÉEN
8	BE/INT	FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DE FINANCES ET BANQUES ETHIQUES ET ALTERNATIVES	INTER-RÉSEAU DES INITIATIVES ÉTHIQUES ET SOLIDAIRES
9	BE-INT	RETIS - Réseau Européen Transrégional pour l'Inclusion Sociale	LA PAUVRETÉ EST UN LUXE QUE L'EUROPE NE PEUT PAS SE PERMETTRE
10	DE	Technologie-Netzwerk Berlin	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INCLUSION / EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR ECONOMIC SELF-HELP AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
11	FR	EUROPEAN MICROFINANCE NETWORK	MICROFINANCE IN EUROPE FOR SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION
12	NL	Stichting Mira Media	ONLINE/MORE COLOUR IN THE MEDIA NETWORK
13	SI	INSTITUTE FOR PARENTHOOD AND FAMILY	LEGAL BACKGROUND FOR SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND POVERTY OF FAMILY
14	SK	European Social Inclusion Platform	European Social Inclusion Platform
15	UK	Disability Action	CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR EUROPEAN UNION OF SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT MEMBERS
16	UK	International Network of Street Papers	SUPPORT FOR KEY EUROPEAN NETWORKS INVOLVED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION
17	UK	EUROPEAN SOCIAL NETWORK	EUROPEAN SOCIAL NETWORK

Table 2: List of selected projects

	MS	Organisation	title of project
1	BE/INT	CARITAS EUROPA	CARITAS ORGANISATIONS NETWORK TO CHALLENGE THE EXCLUSION AND POVERTY TRAP (CONCEPT)
2	BE/INT	EUROCHILD AISBL	CONSOLIDATING AND STRENGTHENING A CHILD SPECIFIC APPROACH TO COMBATTING CHILD POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF CHILDREN IN THE EUROPEAN UNION
3	BE/INT	EUROPEAN ANTI POVERTY NETWORK - EAPN	BUILDING SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM THE GROUND UP
4	UK	EUROPEAN SOCIAL NETWORK	EUROPEAN SOCIAL NETWORK
5	BE-INT	Fédération Européenne des Associations Nationales Travaillant avec les Sans-Abri - FEANTSA	TAKING FORWARD THE FIGHT AGAINST HOMELESSNESS IN THE STREAMLINED EU SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY / FURTHER DEVELOPING FEANTS'S ROLE UNDER THE OMC
6	BE/INT	RETIS - Réseau Européen Transrégional pour l'Inclusion Sociale	LA PAUVRETÉ EST UN LUXE QUE L'EUROPE NE PEUT PAS SE PERMETTRE

**3. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSALS SELECTED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS
VP/2004/05**

The following information concerning the promoters and their projects has been gathered from the application forms given by lead applicants and commits only themselves.

Supplementary information on the projects can be obtained directly from the project promoters or from the project partners. You may also contact Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG, Unit E2 Social protection and social inclusion: policy coordination, through e-mail:

empl-e2@cec.eu.int

3.1. CARITAS EUROPA

Title of the project

CARITAS ORGANISATIONS NETWORK TO CHALLENGE THE EXCLUSION AND POVERTY TRAP (CONCEPT)

Duration (*in month*): 12 (01/12/2005 - 30/11/2006) Estimated total cost (in €): 507.088,46

Granted amount (in €): 380.316,34 Rate of EC funding: 75 %

Identification ref. (SAGA n°): 2005/VP007/10002

Lead Organisation:

CARITAS EUROPA

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Website: <http://www.caritas-europa.org/code/en/hp.asp>

Contact Name:

Mr. Patrick De Bucquois
Social policy consultant

adresse mail : pdebucquois@caritas-europa.org

Type/Legal Status of
organisation:
N.G.O.

Main Objectives / Summary of the Project

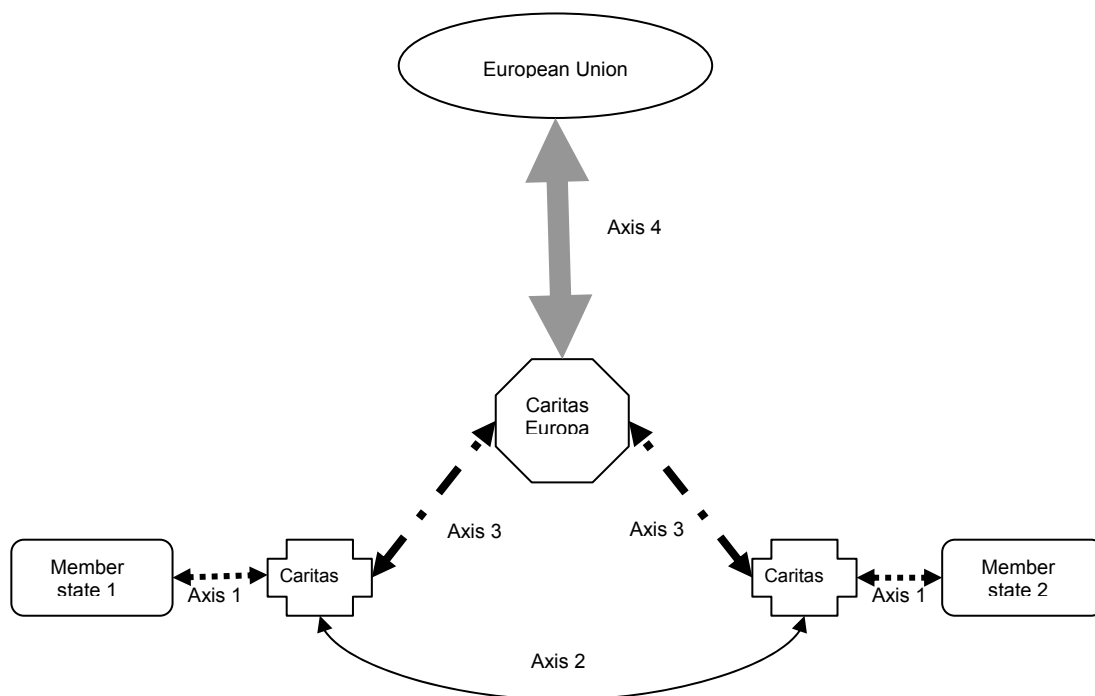
To engage Caritas organisations in all member states of the European Union to become active contributors to the process of the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion and thus contribute to the Open Method of Coordination.

At the end of the process, a core team of one national expert per Caritas organisation in each EU member state will be fully engaged in the NAP Inclusion process and the core team will have shared their knowledge and experience at the European level of the Caritas network

Concrete outputs will be: Report of the Seminar on Social Cohesion, Report on the Mid-term Conference / Social Policy Forum and Report of the Closing Conference, the existence of a 'toolbox' on the OMC and the NAP Inclusion, publications and documents on public webiste and private extranet and the existence of a team of national experts in Caritas organisations in all EU member states and Bulgaria, fully engaged in the OMC process.

3.1.1. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

In respect of the objectives of the Call for Proposals VP/2005/007, Caritas Europa considers its added value in building and enhancing an effective network in four different respects, corresponding to 4 communication and cooperation axes that contribute to the Open Method of Coordination in the field of Social Inclusion, as indicated in the schematic presentation below:



AXIS 1:



Enhancing and encouraging the participation of the Member organisations in the National Action Plans

Increased participation by stakeholders in the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion is a key priority for the European Commission.

Caritas organisations are potentially very relevant stakeholders in this respect, because of their close involvement and interaction with people experiencing poverty and social exclusion. But this requires first and foremost knowledge and awareness in the member organisations of the concepts and mechanisms at the heart of the Open Method of Coordination.

There is a need to raise the awareness in the Member Organisations on the Open Method of Coordination in the field of Social Inclusion and in particular on how this contributes to achieving the goals of the European Union's social agenda.

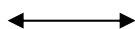
This is even more important with the addition of two new dimensions (pensions and health) to the traditional social inclusion strand.

The successful further engagement of Caritas organisations at the national level in this process will have a double benefit:

- Caritas organisations will gain new and increased insight in the national policies and programs in the social field
- Authorities responsible for these national policies and programs in the social field can benefit from the considerable grass roots experience of Caritas organisations

Caritas member organisations engaged in this work will aim at ensuring that the national inclusion strategies “feed in” the revised national “Lisbon” programmes (which focus on ‘jobs and growth’)

AXIS 2.



Fostering and intensifying trans-national partnerships, dialogue and exchange of practices between Caritas member organisations in order to improve their input into the National inclusion strategies.

Caritas organisations in Europe have a long tradition of joint reflection and exchange of practices, experience and information. They also have a long tradition of developing bilateral and multilateral trans-national partnerships in the social field. Caritas Europa acts as the organiser or catalyst for such pan-European, multilateral or bilateral exchanges and partnerships.

These traditions offer excellent potential and opportunities to enrich the contributions made by national Caritas organisations to the national inclusion strategies with the added insights and experiences that they have gained from trans-national partnerships, dialogue and exchanges. This in turn will enhance the quality of the contributions that they can make at national level to the European Union’s Social Policy agenda.

In addition to a program of international exchanges (Conferences, seminars and trainings) that Caritas Europa aims to carry out under the proposed work program (see Axis 3), Caritas Europa also proposes a so-called **‘twinning’ arrangement** as a special ‘feature’ of the proposed work program.

Under this ‘twinning’ arrangement, the 13 Caritas member organisations who are partners of Caritas Europa under this proposal will each also follow the work on the National Action Plan on Social Inclusion in one other member state of the European Union and while doing so, encourage and accompany the Caritas member organisation(s) in that ‘twinning’ European Union member state to also become fully engaged in this issue, raising their awareness about the value of the Open Method of Coordination and supporting them in being a valuable contributor to the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion.

AXIS 3.



Ensuring a good two-sided (bottom-up and top-down) process of designing, implementing, steering and monitoring European social inclusion projects or programs within the Caritas network.

This will involve first of all **taking stock of the network’s existing knowledge** regarding social inclusion and **providing relevant information (a ‘toolbox’)** to a limited number of ‘national experts’ within the member organisations as well as **providing them with European level trainings** on effective ways of engaging in the work on the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion and thus contribute to the Open Method of Coordination.

Such a step is necessary since the recent evaluation of the OMC process launched among our members seems to indicate that there is still a relatively low level of awareness with regard to the content and the potential benefits of the Open Method of Coordination.

Parallel to or following this awareness-raising, under this work program a number of **international activities of exchange and dialogue** will be designed and implemented at the European level on the National Action Plans on Social Inclusion and the value of the Open Method of Coordination, with full input from all member organisations in the member states of the European Union.

These central multilateral activities will be coordinated, organised and facilitated by the **professional staff at the Caritas Europa secretariat**, together with a task force from the Caritas Europa **Social Policy Commission** that will be the steering body for the overall work program contained in this proposal.

The **monitoring and evaluation** of the work program, its outputs and its effects will also be the responsibility of the central European network's secretariat in Brussels.

Currently, Caritas Europa is in the process of preparing its **3rd Poverty Report on poverty in Europe**, this time on the main theme of **poverty and exclusion situation faced by migrants and migrant communities** in European countries. This 3rd Poverty Report will provide clear links and valuable input towards the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion with regard to this specific theme. Caritas Europa will collect input into this Poverty Report from every European country, including all the European Union member states. Therefore the Poverty Report is seen as an important **output in the framework of the proposed work program**.

AXIS 4.



Contributing to the Open Method of Coordination in the field of Social Inclusion at the European level.

Caritas Europa observes that the Open Method of Coordination is currently facing the following threats:

- a) A certain public loss of confidence towards European policies and institutions
- b) Social inclusion policies are losing ground to policies aimed at growth and jobs

In this respect, Caritas Europa considers that it has the potential to be an important ally for the European Commission.

Through the comprehensive and holistic approach described in this proposal, Caritas Europa will:

- be able to nourish the Commission with its experience and arguments to strengthen the advocacy for the Open Method of Coordination
- be able to propose and advocate for ambitious inclusion strategies. This will be based on the results of the joint work done within the network and by the network's members in the National Action Plans.
- Be able to enter into a 'partnership' relationship with the European Commission where both partners keep each other mutually informed of important trends and policy developments

Through supporting the proposed work program of Caritas Europa on Social Inclusion, the European Commission will:

- Strengthen the case for increased social inclusion activities within the Caritas network
- Foster the trans-national dimension of the Caritas social activities
- Increase its access to a wealth of relevant, practice-based information that can be supplied by the Caritas network

3.1.2. TIMETABLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

Month/Year	Location	Activity
Before project starts		Last update on project design and evaluation tools
2006/1	Decentralized	Axis 2 : “Twinning arrangements” : Caritas organisations who participate as partners in the programme identify Caritas organisations in other EU states who do not participate as partners in the program, in order to establish ‘privileged connections’ with them (‘twinning’)
2005/12	Brussels	Axis 4 : Caritas Europa examines European Commission communication on “Orientations on the future streamlined social protection and inclusion process”
2005/12	Brussels	Axis 4 : Caritas Europa examines European Commission communication on “Orientations on the future streamlined social protection and inclusion process”
2005/12	Brussels	Axis 4 : Caritas Europa examines European Commission staff document on the National Strategy Reports on pensions and the NAPs/incl
2005/12	Brussels	Axis 4 : Caritas Europa examines European Commission outline draft of 2006 Joint Social Protection and Inclusion report
2005/12	Brussels	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa creates and disseminates among its members a toolbox incorporating basic knowledge as well as last developments regarding the European Union’s strategy for social inclusion and social protection
2005/12	Decentralized	Axis 1 : Caritas partner organisations collect general information at national level with regard to the National Action Plan Inclusion (NAP/incl) in their own Member State
2005/12	Brussels	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa provides an extranet solution to post this information (extranet hosting costs + creation)
2006/1	Brussels	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa organises a Kick-off seminar on social inclusion (S 1) in Brussels on 12-13 January 2006 Axis 4 : Representatives of EU Commission invited to attend Kick-off seminar
2006/1	Brussels	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa social policy commission builds on the conclusions of the kick-off seminar and updates the process design

2006/1	Decentralized	<p>Axis 1 : Caritas organisations collect specific information at national level with regard to the NAP/incl in their own Member State, especially on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indicators • pensions • health and long-term care
2006/2	Brussels	<p>Axis 3 : Caritas Europa adapts and translates its toolbox in all EU languages ; it publishes it and posts it on its extranet</p>
2006/2	Decentralized	<p>Axis 2 : Decentralised basic training program on the use of the ‘social inclusion toolbox’ is started in various parts of the network (T 1) These trainings will take place in Stockholm, Prague, Paris and Rome; exact dates still need to be identified by the hosting organisations.</p>
2006/2	Decentralized	<p>Axis 1 : Caritas organisations make optimal use of the toolbox in their national Member State</p>
2006/3	Brussels	<p>Axis 3 : Caritas Europa organizes its 2d decentralized seminar on social cohesion (S 2) in Brussels on 20-21 March</p>
2006/3	Decentralized	<p>Axis 1 : Caritas Caritas organisations actively monitor the current NAPs/incl and contribute to the NAPs/incl 2006 in their own Member States</p>
2006/3	Decentralized	<p>Axis 2 : “Twinning arrangements” Implementation of ‘twinning arrangements’ between Caritas organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some bilateral study visits • Exchange of information on bilateral basis
2006/3	Brussels	<p>Axis 3 : Analysis at the Caritas Europa level of the information collected by national Caritas organisations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social inclusion indicators ▪ Pensions ○ Health and long term care
2006/4	Brussels	<p>Axis 3 : Caritas Europa publishes its 3d poverty report on the theme of “Poverty and migration” Axis 4 : Poverty report formally presented to the Commission</p>
2006/4	Brussels	<p>Axis 3 : Caritas Europa confronts the Social Protection Committee’s agenda for further research and development of indicators, in light of its analysis (see March 2006, axis 3)</p>
2006/4	Decentralized	<p>Axis 2 : “Mainstreaming” Implementation of ‘twinning arrangements’ between Caritas organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some bilateral study visits • Exchange of information on bilateral basis

2006/4	Decentralized	Axis 1 : Caritas organisations actively monitor the current NAPs/incl and contribute to the NAPs/incl 2006 in their own Member States
2006/5	Mainz	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa Regional conference
2006/5	Mainz	Axis 2 : Joint reflection workshop on social inclusion during Regional Conference 2006 (directors of national Caritas organisations)
2006/5	Decentralized	Axis 2 : Caritas organisations exchange with one another (also through the extranet) on the shaping of the National Action Plans 2006
2006/5	Decentralized	Axis 1 : Caritas organisations share information with the member states on basis of Third Caritas Europa Poverty Report
2006/5	Decentralized	Axis 1 : Caritas organisations actively monitor the current NAPs/incl and contribute to the NAPs/incl 2006 in their own Member States
2006/6	Lourdes	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa organises its bi-annual Social Policy Forum for social policy officers and practitioners from all European countries (EU and non-EU), in Lourdes (F) from 26-29 June. Incorporated into the program: Mid-term evaluation conference on social inclusion program with Caritas representatives from EU member states and Bulgaria (C 1) It is estimated that this will require approx. 1/3 of the overall conference time and resources, therefore the eligible expenses for this conference in the budget are set at 1/3 of overall cost Axis 4 : Representative(s) of the European Commission are invited to and attend the mid-term evaluation conference at the Social Policy Forum
2006/6	Decentralized	Axis 2: National Caritas organisations contribute to the bi-annual Social Policy Forum and exchange with one another at this occasion
2006/6	Decentralized	Axis 1 : Caritas organisations actively monitor the current NAPs/incl and contribute to the NAPs/incl 2006 in their own Member States
2006/6	Decentralized	Axis 1 : Caritas organisations contribute to raising public awareness about the NAP's at national, regional and local levels
2006/7	Brussels	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prepares updated interim activity report and updated interim financial statement • prepares its application for the specific year 2 of the action Axis 4 : Caritas Europa dialogues with the Commission on the new common objectives

2006/8-9	Decentralized	Axis 1: Caritas organisations actively monitor the current NAPs/incl 2006 in their own Member States
2006/8-9	Decentralized	Axis 2 : Caritas organisations exchange on the EC's new common objectives
2006/8-9	Brussels	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa finalises its updated interim activity report and updated interim financial statement
2006/8-9	Decentralized	Axis 2 : Caritas organisations exchange on the EC's new common objectives
2006/10	Brussels	Axis 4 : Presentation to and discussion by/with the European Commission of the updated interim activity report Consideration of application for the specific year 2 of the action
2006/10	Decentralized	Axis 1 : Caritas Europa Caritas organisations dialogue with national governments on EC's new common objectives
2006/10	Decentralized	Axis 2 : Caritas organisations Caritas organisations jointly prepare inputs for the closing conference
2006/10	Brussels	Axis 3 : Caritas Europa organises a closing conference for year 1 of the action (C 2) Axis 4 : representatives of EU Commission are invited to attend the closing conference
2006/10/17	Brussels	Axis 4 : European Commission co-organises with the EU Presidency a Round Table on Social Exclusion and invites Caritas participation and input
2006/11	Decentralized	Axis 1: Caritas organisations actively monitor the NAPs/incl 2006
2006/11	Decentralized	Axis 2: Decentralised follow up training sessions are started in various parts of the network. These training sessions will be based on the themes and results of the closing conference (T 2)
2006/11	Brussels	Axis 3: Preparation of final report phase 1 and final financial statement with input from member organisations
2006/11	Brussels	Axis 4: European Commission dialogues with Caritas Europa and decides on follow up application for phase 2

3.2. EUROCHILD AISBL

Title of the project

CONSOLIDATING AND STRENGTHENING A CHILD SPECIFIC APPROACH TO COMBATTING CHILD POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF CHILDREN IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Duration (*in month*): 12 (01/12/2005 -30/11/2006) Estimated total cost (in €): 254.005,90

Granted amount (in €): 228.605,31 Rate of EC funding: 90 %

Identification ref. (SAGA n°):2005/VP007/10006

Lead Organisation:

EUROCHILD AISBL

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Website: www.eurochild.org

Contact Name:

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mail : secretarygeneral@eurochild.org

Type/Legal Status of organisation: AISBL

Main Objectives / Summary of the Project

Eurochild's work programme focuses on the following key priorities:

- **Influence policy** and monitor the effectiveness of policies and actions to eradicate child poverty and social exclusion of children and young persons at a European level
- **Develop membership & strengthen policy development** to combat child poverty and social exclusion of children and young persons and building membership capacity at a national and local level
- **Communicate & raise awareness** around child poverty and social exclusion of children and young persons and exchange of good practice
- **Empower young people** living in poverty by facilitating their participation in the development, implementation and monitoring of policy processes

The specific actions under each of these priorities is described in more detail below.

3.2.1. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Priority 1/ Influence policy and monitor the effectiveness of policies and actions to eradicate child poverty and social exclusion of children and young persons at a European level

Eurochild AISBL aims to put the fight against child poverty and social exclusion of children and young people at the top of the political agenda of the EU. To achieve this aim it is important to take account of the wider political context, in particular:

- The reality of an enlarged EU and two candidate countries;
- The debates and responses following the no votes to the EU Constitutional Treaty
- The follow-up and implementation of the revised Lisbon strategy with its focus on Jobs and Growth
- The implementation of EU priorities in the fields of education, citizenship, health etc.
- The renewed OMC on social protection and social inclusion
- The priorities identified in the Joint Report on Social Protection and Social Inclusion, the Communication on the Streamlined objectives for the OMC on Social Protection and Social Inclusion and the preparation of the National Action Plans Inclusion 2006-2008
- The implementation of the Social Agenda 2005-2010
- The agreement and implementation of a revised EU Sustainable Development Strategy
- The follow up of the European Youth Pact as one of the corner stones in the EU Lisbon strategy

Planned actions under this priority area are:-

Influence & participate in the Round Table social inclusion: Eurochild's Finnish members will work closely with the Finnish authorities to ensure child poverty or issues directly related to child poverty are adequately covered in the conference.

Peer review seminars: Eurochild, through its membership, will offer its expertise and knowledge to support the peer review on child poverty.

5th People Experiencing Poverty meeting: Eurochild aim to ensure that the organisation of the 5th meeting includes a specific workshop on child poverty ***with*** children.

Contribution to development of child-specific indicators: There is a lack of specific statistical data about the multi-dimensional nature of child poverty on a national as well as a trans-national level. Up to now the existing indicators are not only too economic in their scope – too income and employment based - but they also neglect children completely. Although children are recognised as a priority in the NAPs process, no effort has been made to develop child specific indicators. Eurochild will actively encourage the development and use of child-specific indicators to measure poverty on the national and European level. Through our membership we will gather information on children's experience of poverty and social exclusion.

NAPs/INCL: Eurochild will play an active role in monitoring the new NAPs/Incl and, where possible, will contribute to their preparation. We will continue to encourage a child-centred approach to planning in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the NAPs. Specifically the work will involve:

- Prepare an ‘information kit’ for members’ national campaigns to influence the new NAP-round 2006-2008 – ensuring the focus on child poverty is maintained and that children’s participation is promoted;
- Exchange information between Member States on how NAPs are being prepared;
- Develop research/analysis tool for the NAPs 2006-2008 to evaluate their effectiveness from a child-specific perspective;
- Evaluate the NAPs 2006-2008 and prepare a report with key recommendations. These will be supported by examples of transferable models of good practice;
- Present the findings at Eurochild’s Annual conference which will be organised in Germany.

This work will be supported by a Steering Group – made up of a core group of Eurochild members.

Studies: Eurochild aims to contribute to any studies conducted on issues related to children’s issue and/or social exclusion and poverty of children in the framework of the Community Action Programme to combat poverty and social exclusion.

Contribution to the Communication on the Rights of the Child: Eurochild will continue to lobby to ensure that this Communication mainstreams the Rights of the Child as stated in the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (1989) throughout all policies and activities of the EU. Eurochild will focus on the following key concerns:

- that the European Commission pay special attention to the participation of children (Art. 12) in the EU political and democratic life, especially the more excluded ones in order to give the possibility to all European children to become fully-fledged European citizens.
- that the Communication focus sufficiently on child poverty and social exclusion of children in the European Union.
- that the EU plays a greater role in the promotion of exchange of good practice, and data collection specifically oriented to children as well as in the planning and monitoring processes.

In this context, Eurochild will work in close co-operation with other international organisations defending the rights of the child.

Tracking other policy developments & representation: Eurochild AISBL will keep up to date with the latest relevant policies/policy documents emanating from the European Parliament, European Commission, Council of Ministers, Council of Europe, UN etc. In this respect Eurochild AISBL will attend relevant meetings. Eurochild will also support the policy activities of EAPN and the Social Platform to ensure children’s rights are considered. We will continue to network with other European and national NGOs and maintain contact with national experts.

Eurochild’s Policy Working Group will play a critical role in agreeing where Eurochild is represented and our particular position on specific policy developments.

Partnership development: Eurochild AISBL is an active member of the European Anti Poverty Network and the Social Platform of NGO’s. At national levels, many of our members lead the anti child poverty alliances/campaigns and child policy advocacy strategies which bring together a wide range of agencies from the NGO and statutory sectors within their countries. Because child poverty and social exclusion of children is a “horizontal” issue Eurochild AISBL has close contacts with the other European networks such as Feantsa, European Youth Forum, ERIO etc. in order to cooperate in these specific

fields. Eurochild AISBL also naturally has close links with specialist (networks of) organisations such as those regarding disability, ethnicity, bilingualism etc and plans to intensify & expand those links. Eurochild AISBL will also continue to work in partnership with other organisations active in the field of children's issues, especially in view of the Commission's activities in the field of children's rights.

Build links with other inter-governmental bodies and international NGOs: Eurochild will strengthen links with relevant actors in the Council of Europe and the United Nations as well as with other relevant international NGOs so as to integrate our activities at the EU-level in a wider international context. This will also enable the exchange of experiences and knowledge on social exclusion and poverty of children between those organizations and the organisations in membership of Eurochild AISBL. Eurochild AISBL will present papers on child poverty at International events such as the International Forum for Child Welfare.

Priority 2/ Develop membership & strengthen policy development to combat child poverty and social exclusion of children and young persons and building membership capacity

Eurochild AISBL has 32 members in 16 countries. In 2006 we will consolidate our network and will continue to expand to ensure coverage of all EU member states. Efforts will be made to approach organisations in the candidate countries.

Capacity building of members:

Eurochild members are well placed to both support, influence and advise on policy development at different levels. Through networks in their own countries, they can have an input on the decision-making process and influence politicians in Member States at national, regional and local level. On the other hand, they also have the possibility to lobby the European Parliament in the fight against child poverty. Some members already have established national networks and considerable experience to draw upon in accessing policy-makers and opinion-formers (including the NAPs, National Experts) to influence policy development. Others may be at the beginning of this process and we recognise the crucial importance of continuing to help build capacity by sharing information and experience to build knowledge and skills in these areas.

We will continue to strengthen our members' capacity (training) to influence the policymaking processes at national and regional level and to join efforts with other members in order to learn from their good practice and experience. Eurochild AISBL will also continue to encourage the involvement of its member organisations in the preparation and implementation of their NAPs/Incl. We will continuously keep in touch with our member organisations to know their needs and will set up trainings, projects, information campaigns etc. to respond to these needs.

Specific activities will include:

- Encouraging members to develop trans-national exchange projects between themselves by: providing information about the calls, helping partner searches, supporting the completion of the forms and budget development. Furthermore Eurochild AISBL plays an important role to disseminate the results of these projects on a larger scale through our website and other communication canals such as the newsletter.
- Encouraging 'bi-lateral partnering arrangements' between members of the different EU-Member States so that 'weaker' members can 'shadow' those more experienced in

the NAPs/Incl process. This will provide for continuing informal contact in between more formal organisational events.

- Involvement of members in the development of Policy Papers on issues related to child poverty and social exclusion of children and young persons which will be disseminated at European level (Commission/Parliament/EAPN/...) and at national levels through our membership.
- Organisation of a Policy Forum in June 2006 involving Eurochild members in discussions on the main policy developments on an EU level. On this occasion appropriate indicators for reviewing effectiveness in influencing the policy process will be developed with members.

Development of a future strategic plan:

The General Assembly of Eurochild AISBL entrusted at its meeting in May 2005 the Management Board with the task of elaborating a comprehensive long-term strategy for Eurochild AISBL. This strategy will outline the main focus of the organization and its priorities within the field of social policy and the rights of the child. It is clear that the above mentioned key objectives will be the basis of the development of this strategy.

At EU level the coming years will be crucial for the fight against child poverty and social exclusion of children. Therefore Eurochild AISBL will continue efforts to play an even bigger and more influential role at EU level, thus contributing to build a child-friendly social Europe for our children. Eurochild AISBL aims at contributing to the achievement and implementation of the EU social inclusion goals at a European and through its members, national levels.

Eurochild AISBL is committed to responding to these and many other challenges to make the combat against child poverty in Europe a reality. We can be confident about our future as we can count on a supportive Board, engaged members and dedicated staff at the Secretariat to make this happen and fulfil our unique, pivotal role in Europe on the support of our members.

Expand the Eurochild membership: With our full staff complement operating in the Secretariat, Eurochild aims to grow considerably by the end of November 2006. This will be achieved through strengthening our external communication (see priority 3) and recruitment of new members – through meetings and presentations.

Priority 3/ Communication & raising awareness around child poverty and social exclusion of children and young persons and exchange of good practice

Eurochild considers communication and information as one of the most important tasks of our network. We will continue to further develop its activity in producing and disseminating information to support the priority of ending child poverty and social exclusion of children. This comprises a two-way information flow of (a) disseminating information from the Commission and other EU institutions through the membership networks, in particular to influence the development and implementation of the NAPs/Incl in Member States and (b) offering an outside, specialist, perspective to the Commission through the membership on issues relating to child poverty.

Information resources provided by Eurochild to our members and the wider public will include:

Website: www.eurochild.org:

Eurochild will continue the development of its new website to better meet the demands of the member organisations and to better inform the public about activities of Eurochild, its members, the latest policy developments, events, etc. The Members-only room will inform members of the latest developments on an EU level and will enable them to share and exchange information. All Eurochild-position papers and policy-briefings will be put on the website and thus accessible for a wide public.

With a view to the accessibility of our website, the website will be translated into French.

Info Flashes: Eurochild AISBL will continue to send weekly info flashes to alert and inform its member organisations of the latest news concerning social inclusion on the European level. The Info Flash will be sent by e-mail on a weekly basis together with reports on relevant policy developments, Eurochild-activities, activities of our members, conferences etc.

E-News Bulletin: Once every month an e-news bulletin with news from Eurochild AISBL, events, European institutions, policy processes, publications, etc conferences concerning child poverty issues, children's rights, social policy etc. will be widely disseminated among members, MEPs and other relevant stakeholders. It is also going to be available on the website. This e-news bulletin reports on relevant policy developments at international level (EU, CoE, UN), national and regional level, research, publications, Eurochild AISBL positions and activities, etc. The themes dealt with in these e-news bulletins are related to children's issues and social policy in general and child poverty and social exclusion in particular. Member organisations will also be encouraged to contribute articles to the e-news bulletins.

Policy Papers: Eurochild AISBL will continue to release policy papers emanating from and responding to actual events in the social inclusion field. It is proposed to release at least 6 policy papers in total. These policy papers will be widely disseminated among members, MEPs, European and national stakeholders and other policy makers. They also will be available on our website.

Newsletters: Eurochild AISBL will also this year publish 2 Newsletters (printed version). These Newsletters have besides an informative also a promotional objective and will be disseminated as widely as possible. The Newsletter will contain information concerning developments and activities of Eurochild AISBL and its members, as well as information from the European Commission and other institutions related to the social inclusion process.

Articles for publications: Eurochild AISBL will also continue the publication of contributions through "Children in Europe" and other relevant European and national journals.

Annual Report: Also this year Eurochild AISBL will produce a comprehensive annual report on the activities of Eurochild AISBL and its members during the year 2005. This annual report will be widely disseminated among members, stakeholders, MEPs, etc.

Eurochild's communications & information strategy towards policy makers includes the following activities:-

Meetings on topics related to social exclusion of children and child poverty:

Eurochild inform MEPs about our activities as well as actions and events related to social exclusion and child poverty. This includes the Reception in the European Parliament in June 2006 (see objective 4).

Eurochild will organise its annual conference in October 2006 in co-operation with and with the support of its German member organisation, AGJ (*Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Jugendhilfe*) – (the national umbrella agency for children and youth in Germany). This conference is aimed at member organisations of Eurochild AISBL and AGJ, representatives of the European Commission, representatives of national and regional Ministries, experts and non governmental organisation active in the fight against child poverty and social exclusion, experts and non governmental organisations promoting children's rights and other relevant stakeholders. The expected number of participants will be between 100 and 120.

Priority 4/ Empowering young people living in poverty to facilitate their participation in the development, implementation and monitoring of policy processes

Throughout our activities we will continue to emphasise the importance of direct involvement and participation of children and young people in policy processes in general and the NAPs/Incl process in particular.

In this respect, Eurochild will organise a meeting in June 2006 at the European Parliament with a representation of children and young people. Preceding this MEP-event Eurochild AISBL will organise a skills building workshop/training session on Child Poverty, to equip children and young people to talk about their situation to representatives of the European institutions directly. Following this skills building workshop a meeting at the European Parliament will be organized where these young persons will confront Members of the European Parliament with their views on living in poverty and social exclusion. In this framework the *Children and young people's manifesto* will form the basis for further discussion and will be further developed.

Although it is difficult to predict the outcome of this event, we hope that it will increase the visibility of child poverty and social exclusion of children and the recognition of it as a problem that needs to be addressed in all Member States. We also hope that it will increase the willingness to involve children in policy processes that affect their lives.

This MEP-event will be aimed at: members of the European Parliament and other European institutions, members of national and/or regional parliaments of the member states, members of Eurochild AISBL and other interested parties. At this occasion we aim to bring a representation of between 12 and 15 young persons coming from at least 6 different member states to the European Parliament. The costs of these young people and their support worker will be covered by Eurochild.

3.2.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME, AS FOLLOWS:

Month/Year	Location	Activity
ONGOING ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD of 1st DECEMBER 2005 till 30th NOVEMBER 2006		
Ongoing	All over Europe	<u>POLICY INFLUENCING STRATEGY [1]:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Representation at relevant meetings, events... ○ Developments and continuation of partnerships with other organisations at EU as well as national level ○ Raising the issues of child poverty and exclusion amongst other European and national NGOs ○ Keep up to date & monitor policy developments at EU-level ○ NAPs-ASSESSMENT: ○ Management, support and advise to NAPs-Steering group ○ Identification of target-members ○ Encouragement and support to participating members & active participation at national level ○ Processing data collected from NAPs/Incl ○ Consultation during drafting of the report
Ongoing	All over Europe	<u>DEVELOPMENT OF MEMBERSHIP & STRENGTHENING POLICY DEVELOPMENT [2]</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recruitment, support & development of membership ○ Liaise with members about policy developments ○ Bi-lateral partnerships between members (twinning-activities) ○ Facilitation of policy working group
Ongoing	All over Europe	<u>COMMUNICATION & RAISING AWARENESS [3]</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implementation of communication strategy ○ Information production via web site ○ Managing and up-date members' room on website ○ Continuing expansion of organisations' data-base of contacts for membership recruitment, communication, media, press, political campaigning... ○ Design & production of promotional and marketing materials ○ Raising awareness of the issues of child poverty and exclusion amongst the European NGO sector
Ongoing	All over Europe	<u>EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE IN POVERTY [4]</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emphasising the importance of involving children and young people ○ Empowering young people through information sharing and skills building activities
DETAILED TIMETABLE FOR THE PERIOD of 1st DECEMBER 2005 till 30th NOVEMBER 2006		
December 2005	Brussels	Preparation and publication of a Policy Paper on current relevant issue [1/3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]

	EU-member states involved	Steering Group for NAPs-assessment Tele-conference [1]
	Brussels	Preparation of discussion paper for NAPs-assessment
	Brussels	Recruitment of finance officer
January 2006	Brussels	Publication of spring edition of bi-annual Newsletter [3]
	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
February 2006	Brussels	Preparation and publication of a Policy Paper on current relevant issue [1/3]
	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
March 2006	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
	EU-member states involved	Policy Working Group tele-conference [1]
April 2006	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
	Brussels	Preparation and publication of a Policy Paper on current relevant issue [1/3]
	Brussels	Annual report 2005 [3]
May 2006	Brussels	Skill building workshop for children and young people [3/4]
	Brussels	Children & Young People's Café Debate in the European Parliament [3/4]
	Brussels	Members' Meeting [2]
	Brussels	Policy Forum [2]
	Brussels	Meeting NAPs-Steering group [1]
	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
June 2006	Brussels/ Austria	Preparation and support for members and young people in view of the 5 th People Experiencing Poverty Meeting [1/2]
	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
	Brussels	Preparation and publication of a Policy Paper on current relevant issue [1/3]
July/August 2006	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
	EU-member states involved	Steering Group for NAPs-assessment Tele-conference [1]
September 2006	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]

	Brussels	Publication of autumn edition of bi-annual Newsletter [3]
	EU-member states involved	Policy Working Group tele-conference [1]
	Brussels	Preparation and publication of a Policy Paper on current relevant issue [1/3]
October 2006	Brussels/ Finland	Preparation [1] and support for members [2] in view of the Round Table on Social Inclusion
	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
	Germany/ Berlin	Annual conference on child poverty & social exclusion [3]
November 2006	Brussels	Monthly e-news bulletin for the general public [3]
	Brussels	Edition of 4 weekly Info-Flashes for member organisations [3]
	Brussels	Preparation and publication of a Policy Paper on current relevant issue [1/3]
	Brussels	Finalisation of final report on NAPs/Incl assessment
	Brussels	Production of information kit for members' campaigning

3.3. EUROPEAN ANTIPOVERTY NETWORK -EAPN

Title of the project

BUILDING SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM THE GROUND UP

Duration (*in month*): 12 (01/12/2005 - 30/11/2006) Estimated total cost (in €): 1.431.106,44

Granted amount (in €): 1.273.696,44

Rate of EC funding: 89 %

Identification ref. (SAGA n°): 2005/VP007/10005

Lead Organisation:

EUROPEAN ANTIPOVERTY
NETWORK - EAPN

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**Type/Legal Status of
organisation: N.G.O.**

Main Objectives / Summary of the Project

Main objectives:

1. To build a strong and sustainable alliance of representative and participative National Networks and European Organisations involved in the fight against poverty and social exclusion.
2. To empower groups and organisations active in the fight against poverty and social exclusion to understand, influence and contribute to EU policy.
3. To contribute, influence and monitor the development and implementation of effective and inclusive policies and actions against poverty and social exclusion in the European Union and the member states.
4. To mobilise the society in favour of policies to fight against poverty and social exclusion.
5. To contribute towards making the international context favourable to the fight against poverty and social exclusion.

Main outputs:

- Developing Inputs into the OMC on Social Inclusion including the future development of the National Action Plans on Inclusion.
- Preperation meetings for an annual European meeting with People experiencing poverty and social exclusion
- The hosting of a Conference on a Visions for a Social Europe
- The provision of two training programmes
- EAPN newsletter (6 issues)

- EAPN Flash, a bimonthly news-sheet sent by E-mail (20 issues)
- Updating EAPN website
- Regular Press Releases and distribution of briefing and EAPN reports/position papers
- Managing Task forces drawn from our members to follow and develop outputs in relation to the EU Inclusion Strategy, the Lisbon/Employment Strategy and EU Structural Funds.
- Mainstreaming the issues of discrimination, participation and globalisation across all areas of the work under this programme.
- Alliance Building in particular work with the Platform of European Social NGOs
- Maintaining democratic and participative structures for the running of the Network

3.3.1. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The work programme of EAPN 2006 has the title ‘Building Social Inclusion from the Ground Up’. This title reflects the need to put the experience of people facing poverty and social exclusion, and the organisations in which they participate, at the centre of our efforts to fight poverty and to achieve social inclusion.

This work programme for 2006 must be consistent with the strategic plan that we have adopted for the period 2003 to 2008 and the conclusions of the ongoing evaluation of the implementation of that strategic plan.

The following key assumptions have been made in designing this work programme:

1. The present structure of the work programme of EAPN serves well the interest of EAPN members and our mission to put poverty and social exclusion at the top of the agenda of the EU so the basic structure of our work programme remains the same. However we should try to introduce some more flexibility into our working methods so as to allow resources to be more targeted and our actions more timely. This should also allow more flexibility to engage the members of the working groups in follow up actions relating to position papers developed by the working groups and to interact with other actors and events that ensure the dissemination of EAPN positions. Our working methods should also try to make use of the possibilities offered by new information technologies such as video or tele conferences.
2. There is a need in 2006 to develop ownership of a shared vision for the work of EAPN in the context of an enlarged EU. This must be a key task for the Executive Committee and should assist to develop an EAPN vision for social and economic development for the EU.
3. There is a need to develop a capacity building strategy particularly aimed at strengthening the work and impact of National Networks. Such a strategy should be based on a better knowledge and understanding of the work of National Networks as well as a deeper and more precise knowledge about key policies and actions in the Member States that impact on the lives of people experiencing poverty and social exclusion. The identification of such a

strategy will be a key task in the 2006 work programme and will also involve seeking additional resources to implement such a strategy.

4. There is a need to develop a 'campaign approach' to the lobbying work of EAPN aimed at achieving specific objectives, in a determined schedule, using specific tools and more direct contact to the people we want to influence. Where appropriate partnership approaches, between EAPN and other relevant actors should be developed for these campaigns.
5. There is a need to review the structures and working methods of EAPN to make them more participative as well as reviewing the governance and decision making procedures in the context of an enlarged EAPN to make them more transparent and understandable so as to facilitate debate.

In addition the following three key themes have been identified for priority consideration in implementing this work programme:

1. Promoting social standards and in particular access to minimum income.
2. Challenging the present dominance of negative images and social representations of people in poverty.
3. Promoting debate and knowledge about wealth in Europe and its relationship to poverty and the fight against poverty in the European Union.

Detailed Action Plan 1 December 2005 – 30 November 2006

Objective 1: To build a strong and sustainable alliance of representative and participative National Networks and European Organisations involved in the fight against poverty and social exclusion.

Activities:

- Annual General Assembly (165 persons)
- 3 Meetings of the Executive Committee (28 persons)
- 3 Meetings of the Bureau (5 persons).
- Ongoing Evaluation Process

- 2 meetings with the Representatives of European Organisations (20 persons attending, 5 persons travelling) (other meeting may be organised but without costs been reimbursed).

- 1 meeting of the Enlargement Group (6 people) plus 10 travels to allow people attend meetings to develop new and emerging EAPN National Networks. Plus room hire and interpretation for two meetings

Mission budget (25 Travels) to attend relevant meetings in Member States

Objective 2: To empower groups and organisations active in the fight against poverty and social exclusion to understand, influence and contribute to EU policy

Activities:

- 6 issues of Network News.
- 20 Issues of EAPN Flash
- Managing and updating the EAPN web site, incl. the new database on EAPN

member organisations

- 10 issues of the EAPN Policy Brief

- Interpretation and translation costs associated to meetings.

- One meeting of the Developing the Network Group (22 people) to discuss the EAPN capacity building strategy and to set out the priorities and actions in this area. (The Developing the Network Group would also meet in conjunction with the GA to evaluate progress on implementing this capacity building strategy.
- Two meetings on specific themes to facilitate exchange on areas of good practice relating to the capacity building of National Networks (15 people for each meeting)
- The provision on an annual basis of 2 training programmes (Basic training -25 people- and one Specific training -16 people)

- Support for National Level preparation work for the fifth European meeting of people experiencing poverty

-

Objective 3: To contribute, influence and monitor the development and implementation of effective and inclusive policies and actions against poverty and social exclusion in the European Union and the member states.

Activities:

-

- 2 meeting of the Review Group on the Social Inclusion Strategy (28 persons).
- 2 meetings of the Steering Group on the Social Inclusion Strategy (8 persons).
- Providing Financial Support for National Networks to develop input into the work of EAPN on NAPs Inclusion

- 1 meeting of all the members of the Employment Task Force (25 persons) plus two meetings of the core members (8 persons)

- 2 meetings of the core members of the Structural Funds Task Force (8 persons) 1 meeting of all members (25) to follow up on the new EAPN Manual on Structural Funds.

- Develop specific actions in relation to gender and poverty, ethnicity racism, immigration and poverty .

- Maintain regular inter action with the EU Commission, the Council (including the SPC and Employment Committee and the European Parliament (including the Employment and Social Affairs Committee)
- Together with ATD 4th World support the work of the EU Parliament Inter Group on Poverty.

- Costs for attending relevant policy forms and conferences

Objective 4: To mobilise the society in favour of policies to fight against poverty and social exclusion.

Activities:

- Seminar on the Future of Socio Europe Costs: travel should be allocated for 35 people and subsistence for a further 25 people whose travel will be covered under working groups.
- Costs for English and French Publication on Employment, Unemployment and Poverty, including costs for lay out and printing.
- English and French Manual on Managing Structural Funds
- Provide briefing papers
- Develop promotional material
- Publish EAPN annual Report
- Press releases/conferences

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Objective 5: To contribute towards making the international context favourable to the fight against poverty and social exclusion

Activities

- Attending meetings, conferences in particular: the World Social Forum, Dignity International and ESCRnet.... (representation costs)
- Organise an event (10 people) to coincide with the European Social Forum.

3.3.2. TIMETABLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

Month/Year	Location	Activity
December 2005		
January 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the Network Group • Bureau • Enlargement Group
February 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Training • Review Group Social Inclusion • Structural Funds Task Force (Full and Corresponding Members – Follow Up to the Revised Manual)
March 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Meeting • European Organisations
April 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange of Good Practice in relation to capacity building for National Networks • Steering Group –Social Inclusion • Bureau
May 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Task Force (Full and Corresponding Members – Event to mark publication on Employment, Unemployment and Poverty) • Basic Training • Executive Meeting
June 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EAPN Conference Building on the Third EAPN Publication • Steering Group - Social Inclusion • Structural Funds Task Force • Employment Task Force
July 2006		
August 2006		
September 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau • Review Group – Social Inclusion • Exchange of Good Practice in relation to capacity building for National Networks • Executive Meeting
October 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural Funds Task Force • Employment Task Force • European Organisations • EAPN Event connected to the European Social Forum
November 2006		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the Network Group • Executive Committee • General Assembly • Executive Committee

3.4. EUROPEAN SOCIAL NETWORK

Title of the project

EUROPEAN SOCIAL NETWORK

Duration (*in month*): 12 (14/12/2005 - 13/12/2006) - Estimated total cost (in €): 270.585,38

Granted amount (in €): 243.526,84

Rate of EC funding: 90 %

Identification ref. (SAGA n°): 2005/VP007/10008

Lead Organisation:

EUROPEAN SOCIAL NETWORK

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Type/Legal Status of
organisation: N.G.O.

Main Objectives / Summary of the Project

Social services are at the heart of the fight against poverty and social exclusion and the objective of this application for core funding is to increase the capacity of ESN members to contribute more effectively to the open method of coordination and in particular to the preparation and implementation of the national action plans - inclusion. These objectives would be realised through strengthening the policy capacity of ESN and making a bridge between European policy and local action through thematic seminars which focus on the NAP priorities in the EU Joint Report. The outputs of this work will be a more informed and energized local government, better National Action Plans and an established contributor to the OMC for the coming crucial years. Above all, our outputs must make a difference to those experiencing poverty through the engagement of social services at a local level

3.4.1. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Activity: Information, Opinion gathering and Awareness raising

1. The Secretariat will set up an **Inclusion web subsite** on which the network's aims, its programme and progress, connects all network members and provides updated news and articles.. A link to the website will feature on all websites of the network members and we shall invite comments and suggestions.
2. The ESN Secretariat also plans to design and disseminate a **monthly inclusion newsletter** – ESN Inclusion - to the network members and their own members (over 8000 contacts). The newsletter will feature:
 - Good practice examples relating to the seven key priorities identified by the European Commission. These will be supplied by ESN network members who take these from their own and their users experiences;
 - General European social inclusion news;
 - Outcomes of the Commission's network meetings which take place four times a year;
 - Updates on the network's work programme with an invitation to contribute either by participating in the seminars, by supplying information on the use and comparability of local indicators and their compatibility with national and European social inclusion indicators, articles and local/regional research on the thematic areas and/or good practice examples that throw light on the multiple layers of social exclusion and on appropriate responses.
3. During the NAP consultation process, the Secretariat will encourage network members to take part in the national consultation meetings. This **call for active involvement across countries** will also be issued in an electronic format and will remind members of the priority areas and outline again the Open Method of Co-ordination (OMC) and its importance. A call for involvement is also planned during the NAP implementation process.

Objective and Target Audience

All three aim to raise awareness and increase active participation in the NAP process by taking full advantage of the OMC. Both the newsletter and the website will be set up to gather experiences and opinions from members and to create a flexible information mechanism. The newsletter in particular will raise the visibility of social exclusion and poverty issues by providing a space for social service best exchange learning and learning. It will therefore improve the capacity of ESN members to tackle these issues. The target groups for the newsletter are ESN network members and other European networks, such as EAPN and FEANTSA and organisations representing people exposed to social exclusion.

Activity: Policy Research

1. The research will involve collating and disseminating seminar results and research on the **NAP inclusion consultation** process and progress in the field of the adopted thematic areas in the Plans themselves with an accompanying **analysis of the characteristics and causes of social exclusion** and poverty using both qualitative and quantitative inputs.
2. To feed into the new streamlined National Action Plan process, the

Secretariat will also set in motion a **monitoring process on the NAP inclusion consultation process** with the aim to enhance the profile of local government and social services' and to encourage their active involvement. The steering group members and other members of the ESN network will contribute to this process by providing information on own their own experience in the consultation process and raising the profile of the NAP inclusion process among their own members. The monitoring process will also involve liaising with members of the Social Protection Committee and building on ESN's previous network experience. Observations from the monitoring will also feature in the newsletter.

National Action Plans will be examined by both network members and the secretariat in the months of August and September. The key issues here will be I) the evaluation of the consultation process in the light of these Plans and II) an examination of progress made with the network's adopted thematic issues which are at the same time key EU social inclusion priorities. The analysis will be carried out from a local and regional government/social services perspective. To do this, both the immediate network and other ESN members will be asked to send their comments to the Secretariat which will then compile the material. The results will be put on the inclusion website. The **NAP implementation process** will be monitored in the same way as the consultation process.

3. A report analysing the contribution of Regional and Local Government to the third NAPs will be published in December and distributed to all Member State governments, national and transnational agencies and the European Commission.

Objective and Target Audience

In year one, the end product will be a report which includes the two strands of research. The aim of this is to **raise awareness** of the key priorities within the EU social inclusion strategy. The report will be designed to **feed into the NAP process**, supplying valuable information from the local and regional levels. It will be distributed to all seminar participants – network members, the government officials responsible for preparing the NAPs, other European networks, people exposed to social exclusion and their organisations and the European Commission.

Activity: Seminar meetings

Seminar meetings will take the form of a two-day European-wide event organised by the secretariat together with members of the steering group. The Member States selected for the seminars and themes (social inclusion key priorities) are the following:

- Barcelona, Spain *Access to Quality Services*
- Venice, Italy *Anti-discrimination and Integration*
- Metz, France *Social Activation*

The host country will organise the premises, interpretation and other technical necessities. The involvement of local (ie from the country) participants will enable a contribution from national (SPC member and other government) and national best practice examples to be presented and discussed. The secretariat will contact speakers and possible participants following the general principal of one participant per country (excepting where their might be more than one level of government to be involved) and prepare and send out invitations. Participants will include two members of the steering group, other ESN members, both local government social services associations from across Europe and experts in the thematic field, including people suffering social exclusion and their organisations, government officials responsible for preparing the National Action Plan and a representative from the European Commission. Member State ESN associations would have a guaranteed place at the seminars, thereby ensuring that the network is actively involved in the programme. During the event there will be presentations, discussions and sub-thematic working groups, including the issue of indicators for each thematic area. Seminar minutes will be taken and converted into a report, to be disseminated among the participants and their organisation's members. Participants of the seminar will be urged to disseminate their analyses, findings and solutions in the NAP consultation process.

Objective and Target Audience

The primary aim is to contribute effectively and actively to the Open Method of Coordination. The seminar programme will achieve this by raising awareness of the NAPs inclusion process in general and the social inclusion key priorities in particular among local and government, social services and organisations representing the interests of people affected by poverty and social inclusion. The seminar will also analyse this issue from the perspective of local and regional authorities in the participating Member States, particularly with a view to the examination and evaluation of indicators which can be used for cross comparisons and chart any progress and good practice that offers solutions to issues in the field so that they may contribute in a constructive manner to the preparation and implementation of National Action Plans and learn from each other how they might better tackle exclusion and poverty at a local level.

Activity: Steering group meetings

The Secretariat will organise quarterly one-day meetings at which details of the seminar meetings will be planned, with particular emphasis on the division of responsibilities between the group members. Possible speakers, seminar participants and the network's inclusion newsletter (see below) will be discussed. Steering group members will be asked to provide input (priorities, suggestions) from their members and users. Input can be comprised of past questionnaires, audits and evaluations. Where possible these meetings will be timetabled to coincide with the EU funded network meetings

Objective and Target Audience

Steering group meetings will serve to ensure that everyone involved in planning the seminars is clear about their roles and responsibilities. They will also provide a regular forum for reviewing and discussing policy and practice issues arising during the previous quarter. Seminars will be planned and reviewed and through consultation with user groups, the network members will have collected information that can be woven into the next thematic seminar.

ESN Conference

The ESN Annual Social Service Conference will be used to give the European social inclusion strategy a higher profile.. These EU Presidency sponsored events are unique in Europe and attract participants such as social service directors, politicians, social workers and voluntary organisations, from over 25 countries. The next two conferences, *Delivering social care and health in an ageing society* in Vienna and *Anti-discrimination and Equality* in Berlin, fit well into the strategy and will contribute greatly to mainstreaming social inclusion issues. ESN will invite calls for workshop proposals and plenary speeches to explicitly address the social inclusion dimension, including social protection issues.

Objective and Target Audience

The conference will aim to give the EU social inclusion strategy a higher profile, especially among directors of health and social services and the wide range of other stakeholders who participate in these annual events.

3.4.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME, AS FOLLOWS:

Month/Year	Location	Activity
December 2005	Brussels	Steering group meeting for overall work programme with a particular focus on organising the first seminar.
January 2006	The host country for the seminar, Spain, will prepare the technical aspects of the seminar. The secretariat will concentrate on producing the first newsletter and the inclusion website. The policy officer will prepare the first policy discussion paper prior to the first seminar and will begin monitoring of the NAP consultation process..	
	The website will be updated and the newsletter sent out after including contributions from network members. First feedback from monitoring of the NAP consultation process will be disseminated to ESN and other networks and the EC..	
February 2006	Brussels; Steering Group Meeting Updating as above on a regular basis.	
March 2006	Barcelona	Seminar 1, ‘ Access to Social Services’, a two-day event with presentations, discussions and sub-thematic working groups.
April 2006	The secretariat will prepare a detailed seminar report, to be disseminated to ESN, Member States and EC,	
May 2006	Brussels	Steering Group Meeting for the seminar 2 ‘Anti-discrimination and Integration’

June 2006	The website will be updated and the newsletter sent out with contributions from network members. The NAPs consultation process and the contribution of ESN to OMC will be reviewed.	
July 2006	Venice	Seminar on Anti-discrimination and Integration
August 2006		
September 2006	Brussels	Steering Group Meeting for the seminar 3 'Social Activation'
October 2006	Metz	Seminar on Social Activation
November/ December 2006		The National Action Plans will be reviewed, the newsletter disseminated and the website maintained Year 1 Report 2006

**3.5. FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DES ASSOCIATIONS NATIONALES
TRAVAILLANT AVEC LES SANS-ABRI – FEANTSA**

Title of the project

**TAKING FORWARD THE FIGHT AGAINST HOMELESSNESS IN THE STREAMLINED EU
SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY / FURTHER DEVELOPING
FEANTS'S ROLE UNDER THE OMC**

Duration (*in month*): 12 (01/12/2005 to 30/11/2006) Estimated total cost (in €): 1.141.139, 62

Granted amount (in €): 1.026.749, 62

Rate of EC funding: 89, 98 %

Identification ref. (SAGA n°): 2005/VP007/10009

Lead Organisation:

FEANTSA

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**Type/Legal Status of
organisation: EUR_ONG**

Main Objectives / Summary of the Project

The central theme will be health and homelessness. FEANTSA will analyse the impact of bad health on homelessness and vice versa and will evaluate the relevance and impact of EU policies on the health situation of homeless people. The results will be presented and discussed at a European conference in Wroclaw - Poland.

FEANTSA will continue working on the issues of housing, housing rights, employment, statistics, participation, and health in 6 expert groups which will meet 2 times during 2006. Some of the most visible outcome will be a European conference on the right to housing, the further development and promotion of the ETHOS classification, a mapping exercise of the housing and employment needs of the homeless, and a toolkit on how to promote participation of homeless people in services and policy-making.

FEANTSA will continue to contribute to the realisation of the objectives of the streamlined EU strategy. The main outcomes will be an evaluation of the 1st streamlined NAP's, a shadow peer review, a EP resolution on homelessness, and toolkit for evaluation comprehensiveness and effectiveness of homeless policies, and the further development of a cross-sectoral European-wide alliance against homelessness.

The Observatory will produce the 4th stats review focusing on the quality and comparability of homeless data, the 3rd policy update, and will produce three thematic reports on the role of the state, the role of service provision, and the profile of the homeless.

3.5.1. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

FEANTSA's work programme is almost entirely built around contributions from our member organisations. Therefore, FEANTSA's structure and working methods have been designed in such a way that they allow and facilitate the involvement of our members. The involvement of our members makes the exchange of information and experiences possible and valuable. The quality of the exchanges will define their impact on strengthening and improving the fight against homelessness. The more FEANTSA's members put into FEANTSA, the more they will benefit from their input. The involvement of our members in FEANTSA's work is the main mechanism for increased cooperation between our members. That is why measures to increase the involvement of our members in FEANTSA's work will inevitably lead to more cooperation between them.

FEANTSA's members will only benefit from cooperating with each other on the condition that the themes of FEANTSA's work programme are carefully selected and ensure a good balance between the interests of FEANTSA's members and the need to contribute to EU policy developments. We want FEANTSA's work to serve two aims: to be useful for our members and to contribute to further development of a social EU.

The members of FEANTSA have always been very involved in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the work programme. During the last years, FEANTSA has further developed its structure, working methods, and work programme to allow for a stronger involvement of our member organisations.

FEANTSA's strength is its access to expertise on homelessness, which is essential for improving and strengthening policies both at EU and Member State level. The source of expertise are FEANTSA's member organisations. They are the experts on homelessness, housing exclusion, and related issues. The quality of our work depends largely on the involvement and active participation of our member organisations.

In fact, FEANTSA takes some risks by making the outcome of our work so dependent on the input of our members. It makes our network less flexible to adapt to sudden changes of the political or funding context. But we believe that the involvement of our members is the only way to guarantee the quality of our work and its relevance for the fight against homelessness and housing exclusion.

The members of the AC are the motor of the process of consultation and information between members. They are responsible for organising the involvement of FEANTSA's membership in their country in the work of FEANTSA, and thus play a key role in promoting and facilitating transnational cooperation. In order to underline the importance of their role, FEANTSA signs memoranda of understanding with all AC members, in which their role and specific tasks are clearly outlined. In the memoranda it is clearly stated that AC members have to represent and work with the whole FEANTSA membership in their country. So they are co-responsible for cooperation between our member organisation at both national and European levels.

In the proposed work programme for the year 2006, we will continue to use the same instruments developed during the last years to ensure a strong involvement of FEANTSA members: annual thematic report, working groups, communication strategy, etc. In 2006, we propose one extra working group (on participation), because we believe working groups are the best way to involve the membership in a targeted way.

We believe it is useful to repeat how the work programme of FEANTSA contributes to the involvement of our members and therefore promotes cooperation between them:

European report on the annual theme

As part of our annual work programme, FEANTSA select one major annual theme related to homelessness. In 2006, this theme will be "delivering health care to homeless people". All members of the AC of FEANTSA will produce a report on the above theme. The members of the AC are obliged to involve all other members of FEANTSA in their country in the drafting of the national reports (see memoranda signed by all AC members). FEANTSA's European analysis and policy initiatives on the above issue will be based almost entirely on the contributions of the member organisations. A similar bottom-up approach, in which AC members play an important role as intermediary, will also be used for most of our other work, for instance on the EU's social protection and social inclusion strategy (shadow peer review, analysis of the NAPs, etc.)

The above bottom-up approach is a lengthy and difficult process, but it ensures that the views of all member organisations are available and are taken into account. This increases the learning potential for our members and will encourage them to further improve cooperation.

In order for our members to make valuable contributions, we allow them sufficient time (In several Member States the consultation and cooperation process at national level is rather complex) and all the support they need (for some countries support in terms of translation might be required).

Working groups

In order to broaden and deepen FEANTSA's expertise, FEANTSA has created some years ago 4 thematic working groups. For 2006, we propose 6 working groups (one more than in 2005). The working groups have been set up to increase the participation of our members in FEANTSA's work. The members of the working groups are experts on particular issues related to homelessness, who are mostly employees of our member organisations. Normally the members of the working groups are people who are not involved in FEANTSA's statutory bodies or the Observatory. In this way we increase and differentiate the involvement of our members in FEANTSA's work and we make better use of the expertise available in our membership.

Communication and information

FEANTSA communication strategy is largely based on contributions of our membership. We report on both EU developments (also relevant developments UN, Council of Europe and other intergovernmental bodies) and national developments. Our member organisations keep us informed about all relevant developments in their countries. They understand that FEANTSA can only report on their country in an effective way with their support. This understanding has created a dynamic communication strategy in which our member organisation (often the communication staff of our member organisations) are actively involved. The quality of their contribution affects directly the quality of FEANTSA's communication strategy. The stronger involvement of the membership in the last couple of years is clearly visible in the improved quality of the communication tools – newsletter, flash and website. The success of our communication strategy can be proved by the wide distribution of the flash and the newsletter and the many visits on our website.

3.5.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME, AS FOLLOWS:

Month/Year	Location	Activity
December 2005	Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research guidelines • Questionnaire annual theme • Toolkit on the streamlined NAPs • Flash • 1st press campaign
January 2006	Porto (tbc) Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st meeting of AC, EC, FC • Signing memoranda of understanding with AC • First meeting of the communications network • Flash
February 2006	Bratislava (tbc) Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st meeting of the housing, housing rights, employment, stats, participation working groups (part of outcome – see work programme) • Flash • Background document and policy statement on SGI
March 2006	Wroclaw (tbc) Dundee Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st meeting of the health working group (part of the outcome – see work programme) • 1st meeting of the Observatory • Flash • 1st Magazine • Contribution Spring Summit
April 2006	Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flash
May 2006	Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd meeting of AC, EC, FC • Seminar in the EP on EU's social protection and social inclusion strategy • Flash • 5th meeting of people experiencing poverty • Report on relation between economic growth and homelessness • Background document on EU immigration policies and homelessness
June 2006	Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flash • National health reports • EP resolution
July 2006	Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd magazine • Flash

September 2006	Ljubljana (tbc) Helsinki Brussels (tbc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Meeting of the European Observatory on Homelessness • 2nd meeting of the housing & housing rights working group (part of the outcome – see work programme) • European housing rights conference • 2nd meeting of the health, participation, stats, employment working groups (part of the outcome – see work programme) • Toolkit for evaluation of integrated homeless strategies • Evaluation report of streamlined NAPs • Flash
October 2006	Brussels Wroclaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European health report • Health policy toolkit • Health policy statement • 2nd press campaign • Flash • Conference on “Delivering Health Care to the Homeless” • GA, 3rd meeting of AC, EC, FC
November 2006	Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European research reports • National research reports • 3rd Magazine • Flash

3.6. RETIS - RESEAU EUROPEEN TRANSREGIONAL POUR L'INCLUSION SOCIALE

Title of the project

LA PAUVRETE EST UN LUXE QUE L'EUROPE NE PEUT PAS SE PERMETTRE

Duration (*in month*): 12 (01/12/2005 to 30/11/2006) Estimated total cost (in €): 1.184.149,45

Granted amount (in €): 578.371,85

Rate of EC funding: 48,84 %

Identification ref. (SAGA n°): 2005/VP007/10018

Lead Organisation:

RETIS - RESEAU EUROPEEN TRANSREGIONAL POUR L'INCLUSION SOCIALE
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Type/Legal Status of organisation:

Regional Authority Social policy
consultant

Main Objectives / Summary of the Project

RETIS POURSUIT SON TRAVAIL D'IMPLEMENTATION D'UNE MOC TERRITORIALE TOUJOURS MIEUX ARTICULEE AVEC LES PROCESSUS NATIONAUX ET EUROPEENS ET CHERCHANT A ANTICIPER LA COORDINATION DES POLITIQUES DE PROTECTION SOCIALE, D'INCLUSION SOCIALE, DE SANTE ET DE PENSIONS D'UNE PART, AVEC LES DEUX PRIORITES DE LA STRATEGIE DE LISBONNE REVISEE D'AUTRE PART AINSI QU'AVEC LA STRATEGIE EUROPEENNE DE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE. LE PROGRAMME D'ACTIVITES PREND APPUI SUR LES DIFFERENTES ACTIONS DU PROGRAMME COMMUNAUTAIRE ET SE PROPOSE, SUR LA BASE D'UNE PROPOSITION ORIGINALE DE CINQ OBJECTIFS-CLES ANTICIPANT LA REFORMULATION DES OBJECTIFS COMMUNS DE LA MOC, DE NOURRIR LES PAN'S INCL D'OUTILS METHODOLOGIQUES COMMUNS AUX REGIONS ET VILLES EUROPEENNES VISANT L'ELABORATION DE POLITIQUES NOVATRICES. RETIS PROPOSE UN PROGRAMME D'ACTIVITES PLUS NERVEUX, RECENTRER SUR LES QUATRE OBJECTIFS FONDAMENTAUX ET PRIVILEGIANT UNE EVOLUTION VERS UN RESEAU DE RESEAUX AFIN DE MAXIMALISER LA SENSIBILISATION DU PUBLIC ET UNE REELLE CAPACITE D'INFLUENCER LES POLITIQUES SOCIALES EUROPEENNES.

3.6.1. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

A Bruxelles, en mai 2005, et à Cecina du 16 au 23 juillet 2005, les membres de Retis et son Bureau ont souhaité poursuivre, sur ces bases, ce processus d'intégration des priorités et de l'agenda social européen dans leur travail quotidien sur leur territoire, en liaison avec leur Etat national respectif et avec les institutions européennes.

L'articulation du programme d'action proposé par Retis pour les deux prochaines années repose sur l'implémentation des quatre priorités identifiées par la Commission européenne dans les lignes directrices de l'appel à propositions VP/2005/007.

Priorité 1 **S'appuyer sur l'expérience existante, sur les premiers enseignements des PAN Incl, et sur les nouvelles mesures-clés au sein de la MOC pour étayer l'élaboration des politiques au niveau de l'UE**

Actions proposées

- Priorités thématiques communes à Retis pour l'élaboration de politiques au niveau de l'UE
 - Dans le cadre de son travail sur l'implémentation d'une MOC territoriale Inclusion sociale, Retis a identifié **cinq priorités-clés** sur lesquelles agir mais aussi sur lesquelles bâtir les Pacte Incl territoriaux, enregistrer les bonnes pratiques, mener les peer reviews, compiler et créer des indicateurs régionaux et locaux. Ces priorités ont été formulées en ayant à l'esprit l'identification de nouveaux objectifs communs pour la MOC Protection et Inclusion sociale coordonnée avec les priorités de la stratégie de Lisbonne révisée (Croissance et Emploi) , et avec les MOC Santé et Pension et la stratégie du développement durable.
 1. Les politiques sociales comme facteur de développement (Croissance, Emploi, Environnement)
 2. Les politiques sociales comme facteur de prévention et de protection des plus faibles (groupes cibles)
 3. Les politiques sociales comme facteur de cohésion territoriale (politiques structurelles de l'Union, dimension sociale des outils de planification pluriannuelle intégrée des zones urbaines et des zones rurales)
 4. Les politiques sociales comme facteur de cohésion démocratique (parlements nationaux et territoriaux, participation et empowerment des personnes concernées et des acteurs-clés, accès aux droits fondamentaux)
 5. Les politiques sociales comme facteurs de redistribution des revenus (revenu minimum, allocations sociales, surendettement, logement)
- Peer reviews
 - Poursuite d'un programme de **3 peer reviews annuelles** pour déterminer des lignes directrices de bonnes pratiques transférables aux membres et plus largement en vue de la publication en fin 2006 d'un thesaurus de lignes directrices sur un set représentatif de thèmes et sous-thèmes
 - **Préparation des peer reviews européennes** auxquelles Retis est invité et plus généralement consultation des membres sur les thèmes des peer reviews à l'agenda de la Commission et des EM's
 - Lobby auprès des EM's pour **finaliser des propositions de nouvelles peer reviews** à inscrire à l'agenda européens sur le thème des priorités identifiées par Retis et des droits socio-économiques fondamentaux.
- Bonnes pratiques
 - **1 réunion annuelle du Groupe de travail** Retis sur les Bonnes pratiques en vue d'aboutir, sur la base des enregistrements réalisés, à la publication en fin 2006 d'un **deuxième guide**

« **Bonnes pratiques** » proposant des processus et outils méthodologiques en vue de garantir la qualité, l'efficacité et le caractère innovant et participatif des pratiques d'inclusion sociale.

- Publications de **premiers thesaurus thématiques** de Bonnes pratiques européennes sur le thème des priorités identifiées par Retis et des droits socio-économiques fondamentaux.
 - **Elargissement** en accord avec les EM's et la Commission européenne **de l'enregistrement des bonnes pratiques aux projets d'échanges transnationaux** financés par la Commission européenne et aux pratiques recensées dans les PAN Incl
- Indicateurs
 - **1 réunion annuelle du Groupe de travail Indicateurs.** Le GT a été fusionné et vise à présent à la fois les indicateurs régionaux et locaux (ventilation des indicateurs de Laeken, résultats de l'étude demandée par la Commission européenne, indicateurs régionaux et locaux spécifiques, indicateurs structurels relevants déjà utilisés par la DG Regio, ...) et à la fois les indicateurs de résultats et de qualité afin de **déterminer un set d'indicateurs utilisables comme mesures des objectifs à atteindre dans les PAN's** Protection et Inclusion sociale 2006 (targets).
 - Création d'un **outil méthodologique commun** pour l'enregistrement des indicateurs.
 - Conférence de printemps
 - Comme chaque année, Retis organisera **une Conférence de printemps** réunissant les autorités politiques représentant les autorités régionales et locales membres du réseau afin de préparer une contribution politique pour le Conseil de printemps chargé d'évaluer la Stratégie de Lisbonne ou d'évaluer les décisions dudit Conseil pour ce qui concerne les politiques sociales européennes. La réunion des représentants politiques membres de Retis devraient permettre de mieux centrer les débats et les conclusions sur l'élaboration de politiques au niveau de l'UE.
 - Par ailleurs, les conférences de Retis sont le lieu privilégié pour faire partager par le plus grand nombre les résultats des **études commandées par le programme d'action communautaire** (*Retis a déjà présenté à ses membres en juillet dernier à Cecina (200 participants) l'étude sur les Roms et présentera l'étude sur le logement et l'immigration en septembre prochain à Prague.*)

Priorité 2	Jouer un rôle actif dans le suivi des Pan's Incl
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Actions proposées

L'action concertée de Retis dans les 25 EM's de l'UE a permis de mettre en évidence le caractère encore trop confidentiel parfois des Pan's Incl, véritable frein à leur implémentation au niveau institutionnel inférieur à l'Etat Nation.

C'est le point départ de l'action de Retis en faveur d'une MOC territoriale qui favoriserait une contribution concertée des entités fédérées au processus national de la MOC UE.

En effet, si la MOC territoriale imaginée par Retis s'implémente à partir de l'échelon le plus basique de la démocratie (les Villes et les Communes), l'articulation de la contribution de Retis avec la MOC européenne se fait, elle, au niveau des Etats membres. Les statuts de Retis prévoient déjà cette articulation politique et stratégique puisque le Bureau du réseau (son conseil d'administration) est composé de représentants des coordinations nationales (un coordinateur par Etat membre responsable du lien avec les autorités régionales et locales de cet EM).

Au cours du programme de travail 2004-2005, Retis a étoffé le rôle de ces coordinations nationales, notamment dans les Etats les plus fédéralisés. Ainsi, En Belgique, en Italie et en Espagne, de véritables coordinateurs nationaux participent déjà aux réunions de coordination avec leur Etat central respectif consacrées à la MOC Incl.

Par ailleurs, Retis a développé une analyse riche de la réalité régionale et locale des PAN's Incl des 10 nouveaux Etats membres ainsi qu'en Roumanie et en Bulgarie. Cette analyse vise à créer les conditions de la mobilisation des villes et régions des 10 nouveaux EM's pour implémenter les PAN's Incl.

Au cours du programme d'action 2005 – 2007, Retis cherchera à mettre en place :

- **des coordinations nationales et des concertations Etat – Régions et Villes** en Espagne, Italie, Belgique, Roumanie, Bulgarie, France, Chypre, UK, République tchèque, Pologne, Danemark, Grèce et Suède. Retis cherchera également une solution appropriée à la réalité institutionnelle allemande. Ces coordinations nationales poursuivront un triple objectif :
 1. participer à l'implémentation des Pan's Incl en particulier en s'appuyant sur leur connaissance des réalités institutionnelles et sur le travail réalisé par Retis en matière de Planification territoriale des politiques sociales, de bonnes pratiques et d'indicateurs ;
 2. promouvoir l'intégration des stratégies et des politiques sociales régionales et locales dans les stratégies et les politiques nationales là où les Régions et les Villes sont directement et institutionnellement compétentes, parfois exclusivement compétentes ;
 3. réaliser un monitoring des réalités régionales et locales des PAN's Incl en vue d'une meilleure prise en compte de la subsidiarité territoriale en 2006.
- **1 réunion annuelle d'une coordination européenne interne** des coordinations nationales permettra d'échanger, de comparer les expériences nationales et de structurer une démarche commune européenne. Cette coordination européenne interne, animée par la Région toscane, reprendra les travaux :
 - du groupe de travail « Plans régionaux d'action pour l'inclusion sociale » afin de compléter le travail en cours sur la définition d'une MOC territoriale capable de développer de nouveaux outils de programmation des politiques sociales et de coordination des politiques sociales avec les politiques de santé, de services aux personnes âgées, d'emploi, de croissance économique et de développement durable ainsi que des outils participatifs de mobilisation de toutes les ressources ;
 - du groupe de travail « Politiques urbaines et politiques rurales » afin de consolider la contribution de Retis à l'intégration des enjeux de la dimension spatiale des politiques sociales (l'accès aux services par exemple posant la problématique de la mobilité des plus faibles dans les zones rurales) dans les PAN's Incl réalisant ainsi un lien structurel avec la politique régionale européenne.
- Le GT « Politiques européennes » de Retis, constitué d'experts des politiques sociales et économiques européennes, de parlementaires européens, du Comité des Régions, du Comité Economique et Social ainsi que des représentants des institutions européennes de Régions et de Villes, organisera la veille de sa conférence de printemps **une réunion des coordinations nationales de Retis et des membres du Comité du programme, du Comité de la protection sociale et des experts nationaux du programme d'action communautaire** afin de mieux prendre en compte les enjeux de l'implémentation des Pan's Incl et de la préparation des Pan's Protection et Inclusion sociale.

Pour capitaliser les acquis, à la réunion annuelle d'une coordination européenne interne succèdera directement la réunion de cette coordination ouverte aux membres du Comité du programme, du Comité de la protection sociale et des experts nationaux du programme d'action communautaire

Priorité 3	Sensibiliser le public et établir des liens entre les différents niveaux d'action et entre les institutions ou acteurs concernés
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Actions proposées

- Communication – sensibilisation
 - **Publication de 10 « One papers »** - lettre d'information électronique synthétique A4 recto-verso - pour informer rapidement sur les résultats des différents piliers du programme d'action communautaire de façon à mieux faire appréhender le caractère holistique dudit programme.
 - A l'initiative des membres de Retis, **publication de 3 newsletters** cherchant à faire partager la diversité de l'implémentation régionale et locale de la MOC Protection et Inclusion sociale.

Les newsletters seront construites sur le modèle de celle que Retis lancera en fin septembre prochain. L'une de ces newsletters sera imprimée à 7.500 exemplaires à augmenter des exemplaires qu'imprimeront les membres de Retis s'ils le souhaitent et constituera une campagne d'information et de sensibilisation sur les objectifs, les priorités, les enjeux et les perspectives de la nouvelle MOC « Sociale ».

- Publication d'**un ouvrage complet** sur la dimension régionale et locale des deux premiers cycles de PAN's Incl des 15 EM's et des JIM et des PAN's Incl des 10 nouveaux EM's + de la Roumanie et de la Bulgarie.
- Pour mémoire : **publication de cinq thesaurus de bonnes pratiques**, un pour chacune des priorités-clés identifiées dans le cadre de la priorité 1 du présent appel à propositions, **publication d'outil méthodologique « Bonnes pratiques » et « Indicateurs »**, publication d'**une déclaration politique de la Conférence de printemps** et de **notes de synthèse pour chaque action proposée** (peer reviews, GT's, réunion commune de la coordination européenne interne des coordinations nationales, ...), **site web intractif**

- Réseau d'experts régionaux et locaux indépendants

Sur la base de la participation de Retis à la réunion des experts nationaux indépendants à Florence en novembre 2004, le réseau a décidé de mettre progressivement en place, sur une période de deux ans, un réseau similaire au niveau régional et local. Cette pièce manquante de la MOC Territoriale devrait permettre de **multiplier les analyses des différents niveaux d'action** et d'**étendre toujours plus le réseau d'acteurs-clés** (universités, centre d'études, fondations privées, associations représentatives du public et des usagers des services d'inclusion et de protection sociale ...) impliqué dans la stratégie sociale européenne. Dans un premier temps, retis recrutera 3 experts part time capables d'analyser trois grands groupes de modèles sociaux européens : Nordique et Anglo-saxon, Corporatiste et Rhénan, Familial et Est

- Réseau de réseaux et d'organisations européennes

Retis étendra toujours plus sa **politique de coopération structurelle avec d'autres réseaux européens** tels la Confédération européenne des syndicats, le réseau REVES pour la promotion de l'économie sociale locale, Eurocities et Urbact pour ce qui concerne la dimension sociale de la planification des politiques urbaines et rurales régionales, les réseaux des grandes villes et grandes capitales européennes, les réseaux impliqués dans la promotion de la responsabilité sociale des entreprises, les réseaux institutionnels concernés par la sécurité (protection) sociale. Là encore, Retis se donne deux années pour aboutir à la **constitution d'une structure permanente de concertation avec les réseaux coopérateurs** de façon à consolider une alliance stratégique pour l'analyse et le soutien à la décision politique en matière de politiques sociales innovantes en Europe.

- Forum-Congrès

Sur la base des deux congrès annuel de Retis, du Congrès annuel de novembre 2005 qui se tiendra en même temps que la réunion des Régions d'Europe organisée par la Région toscane pour compte de la CALRE (Conférence des Assemblées législatives des Régions d'Europe) et de la participation du réseau aux trois tables rondes européennes sur l'inclusion sociale, Retis a décidé de modifier la formule de son Congrès annuel en un **Forum annuel des Régions et des Villes européennes** où en marge des débats habituels, chaque région et chaque ville participante sera invitée à promouvoir ses politiques sociales via des stands d'information, l'organisation de tables rondes et d'ateliers thématiques, l'organisation d'événements promotionnels. Le modèle imaginé par Retis s'inspire à la fois de sa participation aux meetings antiracistes de Cecina et de Gijon et de l'initiative « Open Days » du Comité des Régions.

En réduisant son programme d'action habituel d'une conférence annuelle et en recentrant son programme d'action sur quelques grandes priorités et actions-clés, Retis entend concentrer plus de financement sur l'organisation d'un grand événement participatif susceptible d'attirer l'attention des médias et d'être inscrits en bonne place dans les agenda des réseaux et acteurs-clés des politiques sociales européennes. Les thèmes annuels du Forum-Congrès

feraient l'objet d'une discussion lors de la réunion annuelle des coordinations nationales de Retis et des membres du Comité du programme, du Comité de la protection sociale et des experts nationaux du programme d'action communautaire.

Priorité 4	Consolider les réseaux et intensifier les échanges entre les membres
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Actions proposées

Retis a beaucoup grandi en trois ans (presque 150 membres et coopérateurs soit 5 fois plus qu'il y a trois ans. Le travail dans le cadre du Programme d'action communautaire en est la première raison. La qualité du travail de Retis et son orientation en faveur d'une réelle gouvernance territoriale des politiques d'inclusion sociale en est la seconde raison.

Il appartient aujourd'hui de veiller à la participation concrète de tous les membres en convainquant certains membres de transformer une participation irrégulière en fonction des thèmes travaillés ou des agendas politiques internes en participation régulière justifiée par la plus-value d'une réelle gouvernance commune des politiques sociales en Europe.

Les changements apportés au programme d'action initial ont porté leurs fruits : les nouveaux membres de Retis participent à l'ensemble du programme d'action convaincus par les résultats diffusés par les membres du réseau, accessibles sur le site web, par la publication d'outils méthodologiques communs également exploitables dans leur contexte politique habituel, par le développement cette année d'un cycle d'information répondant aux attentes de retour pratique formulé par nombre de membres en particulier par les autorités régionales et locales des 10 nouveaux EM's.

Le nouveau programme d'action proposé veut poursuivre et renforcer cette évolution positive en :

- Programmant **un nouveau cycle de formation** sur l'élaboration de politiques sociales régionales et locales d'accès aux droits socio-économiques fondamentaux en s'appuyant sur les bonnes pratiques mises en évidence par le programme d'action communautaire, sur l'enregistrement des bonnes pratiques Retis et sur les initiatives financées par les Fonds structurels européens ;
- **Réduisant le nombre de conférences et de réunions** à une réunion politique et un Forum-Congrès pour représentants politiques et d'administratifs, **plus facilement planifiables**
- **Encourageant** en conséquence, par la réduction à 1 réunion annuelle, **le travail télématique d'échange et de production d'information** dans les **3 groupes de travail permanents** du réseau (6 précédemment), structuré de manière plus directive. La mise en service de **l'IntraNet Retis** en septembre prochain devrait favoriser cette évolution ;
- Encourageant les membres qui le souhaitent à développer **d'autres groupes de travail thématiques** sur des **sujets plus ciblés** correspondant toutefois aux cinq priorités-clés identifiées par le réseau ;
- Responsabilisant un membre Retis par Etat Membre dans le cadre du soutien aux coordinations nationales, elles-mêmes épaulées par une coordination européenne interne ;
- Augmentant la quantité d'informations disponibles produites par les autres réseaux avec lesquels Retis coopère (effet démultiplicateur) ;
- Soutenant la production de newsletters régionales et locales ciblées sur les expériences d'implémentation des différentes actions de la MOC et des Pan's ;
- Consultant ses membres régulièrement après chaque activité, et, comme cela a été réalisé cette troisième année du programme d'action communautaire, au sujet de chaque contribution future de Retis, en réservant un espace de débat interne lors de chaque conférence, en organisant une réunion ouverte des instances dirigeantes de Retis à l'occasion de chaque conférence et de la réunion spéciale pour membre à Cecina chaque troisième semaine de juillet ;
- Faisant du Meeting international anti-raciste de Cecina, un rendez-vous annuel des membres de Retis pour leur permettre d'échanger leurs expériences dans un environnement de grande participation populaire (5000 visiteurs) consacrée à la lutte contre les discriminations et, grâce à l'apport de Retis, pour la promotion des droits fondamentaux et de l'inclusion sociale de toutes et de tous.

3.6.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME, AS FOLLOWS:

Retis étant un réseau entièrement dédié aux politiques sociales européennes, les objectifs du programme d'action communautaire de lutte contre l'exclusion sociale rencontrent les objectifs propres du réseau. Une référence explicite est d'ailleurs faite dans les actes fondateurs du réseau.

Années	PLAN DE TRAVAIL
2005-2006	<p>Mise en œuvre du programme d'activités sur la base de cinq priorités-clés conçues comme des objectifs possibles de la MOC Protection et Inclusion sociale</p> <p>3 peer reviews annuelles Préparation des peer reviews de la Commission européenne et des EM's Propositions pour de nouvelles peer reviews européennes sur la base des 5 priorités-clés</p> <p>1 réunion annuelle du Groupe de travail Retis sur les Bonnes pratiques Publication d'un premier thesaurus de bonnes pratiques européennes sur base des 5 priorités-clés Elargissement de l'enregistrement des bonnes pratiques aux projets d'échanges transnationaux</p> <p>1 réunion annuelle du Groupe de travail Indicateurs Création d'un outil méthodologique commun pour l'enregistrement des indicateurs</p> <p>1 conférence politique de printemps sur l'élaboration de politiques innovantes et promotion des études commandées par le programme d'action communautaire</p> <p>Consolidation et multiplication de coordinations nationales et de concertations Etat – Régions et Villes</p> <p>1 réunion annuelle de la coordination européenne interne des coordinations nationales et 1 réunion consécutive de cette même coordination avec les membres du Comité du programme, du Comité de la protection sociale et des experts nationaux du programme d'action communautaire</p> <p>publication de 10 « One papers » publication de 3 newsletters publication d'un ouvrage complet sur la dimension régionale et locale des PAN's Incl poursuite de la campagne de sensibilisation « La pauvreté est un luxe que l'Europe ne peut pas se permettre » publication d'une déclaration politique de la Conférence de printemps et de notes de synthèse pour chaque action proposée publication d'un guide méthodologique sur la démocratie participative et son lien avec l'élaboration et l'implémentation des Pan's</p> <p>mise en place d'un réseau d'experts régionaux et locaux indépendants et d'un réseau de réseaux et d'organisations européennes</p> <p>1 Forum-Congrès annuel</p> <p>1 cycle de formation sur l'élaboration de politiques sociales régionales et locales d'accès aux droits socio-économiques fondamentaux</p> <p>Rendez-vous annuel d'échanges d'expériences entre membres de Retis à Cecina</p>
2006-2007	<p>Evaluation et éventuelle adaptation des priorités-clés en fonction des objectifs retenus pour implémenter la MOC Protection et Inclusion sociale</p> <p>3 peer reviews annuelles Préparation des peer reviews de la Commission européenne et des EM's Propositions pour de nouvelles peer reviews européennes sur la base des priorités-clés évaluées Publication d'un recueil de lignes directrices pour transférer les pratiques étudiées à l'occasion des peer reviews</p> <p>1 réunion annuelle du Groupe de travail Retis sur les Bonnes pratiques Publication d'un deuxième thesaurus de bonnes pratiques européennes sur base des priorités-clés Publication d'un 2ème guide méthodologique sur le transfert et la certification des bonnes pratiques de politiques sociales Poursuite de l'élargissement de l'enregistrement des bonnes pratiques aux projets d'échanges transnationaux</p>

1 réunion annuelle du Groupe de travail Indicateurs
constitution d'un set d'indicateurs utilisables comme mesures des objectifs à atteindre dans les
PAN's Protection et Inclusion sociale 2006 (targets).

1 conférence politique de printemps sur l'élaboration de politiques innovantes et promotion des
études commandées par le programme d'action communautaire

Existence de coordinations nationales et de concertations Etat – Régions et Villes en Espagne,
Italie, Belgique, Roumanie, Bulgarie, France, Chypre, UK, République tchèque, Pologne, Danemark,
Grèce et Suède

1 réunion annuelle de la coordination européenne interne des coordinations nationales

1 réunion des coordinations nationales de Retis et des membres du Comité du programme, du
Comité de la protection sociale et des experts nationaux du programme d'action communautaire

publication de 10 « One papers »
publication de 3 newsletters
publication d'un ouvrage sur l'intégration de la dimension sociale dans les outils de programmation
territoriale
poursuite de la campagne de sensibilisation « La pauvreté est un luxe que l'Europe ne peut pas se
permettre »
publication d'une déclaration politique de la Conférence de printemps et de notes de synthèse pour
chaque action proposée

Existence d'un réseau d'experts régionaux et locaux indépendants et d'un réseau de réseaux et
d'organisations européennes

1 Forum-Congrès annuel

1 cycle de formation sur l'élaboration de politiques sociales régionales et locales d'accès aux droits
socio-économiques fondamentaux

Rendez-vous annuel d'échanges d'expériences entre membres de Retis à Cecina