

**NATIONAL PROGRAMME
KINGDOM OF SPAIN**

2010
European Year
for Combating
Poverty and
Social Exclusion

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0. INTRODUCTION

The European Parliament and the Council, by virtue of Decision 1098/2008/EC, of 22 October 2008, designated 2010 as the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion.

This Decision lays down the following objectives and guiding principles for the European Year:

- a) Recognising the right to a decent life and to play an active role in society of persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion;
- b) Upholding shared responsibility and participation, giving emphasis to both collective and individual responsibility in the combat against poverty and to the importance of encouraging participation;
- c) Promoting social cohesion and disseminating adequate inclusion practices;
- d) Reinforcing commitment and specific actions on the part of persons responsible for political decisions to implement more effective actions.

Furthermore, Spain will hold the Presidency of the European Union during the first semester of 2010. This will be an opportunity to provide commitment and institutional support to the European Year objectives, positively influencing the visibility and dissemination of a greater part of the planned events.

1. NATIONAL CONTEXT: CHALLENGES TO BE MET

1.1 Challenges and National Strategy for Combating Poverty

The general action framework is delimited by the National Strategy Report on Social Protection and Social Inclusion 2008-2010 of the Kingdom of Spain, and more specifically by the National Action Plan on Social Inclusion 2008-2010 (PNAIN) of the Kingdom of Spain, included in said report.

Despite the rather unfavourable international economical situation, the Spanish Strategy intends to progress in the strategic approach to **adapting economical growth and social welfare** in order to achieve a progressive reduction of the existing social inequalities and to prevent social exclusion, guaranteeing equal opportunities between women and men, equal treatment and equal opportunities for all.

This approach of continuity with respect to the previous strategy (2006-2008), responds to the aim of consolidating a stable and enduring strategic outline as the only means to advance in the improvement of the situation of persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion.

The two strategic objectives included in the National Action Plan on Social Inclusion 2008-2010 address this approach: **1)** to promote active inclusion, that is, to boost labour integration together with an adequate income guarantee policy and with access to quality services, especially educational services; **2)** to address the impact

produced by the **growth of immigration and population ageing** in poverty and social exclusion, especially in a situation of economic crisis such as this one.

These two strategic objectives incorporate another five priority objectives which are part of the Spanish strategy on social inclusion:

- To promote access to employment: to uphold participation in labour market and to combat poverty and social exclusion.
- To guarantee minimum economic resources.
- To achieve equal quality education.
- To support social integration of immigrant persons.
- To guarantee equality in the assistance to dependent persons.

It is also intended to progress on the implementation of regional and local strategies for social inclusion, consistent with the National Plan, that will reinforce the common objectives of the European strategy, following the participatory process undertaken for the development of the PNA in 2008-2010, the promotion of dialogue with civil society and the involvement of NGOs for Social Action in this process.

1.2 Current Administrative Organisation

The Directorate-General for Social Policy, Families and Children, has been designated as the National Implementing Body (NIB) for the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. This DG is part of the Ministry of Health and Social Policy.

The DG for Social Policy, Families and Children represents Spain in the Advisory Committee on the European Year (Representative: Juan Carlos Mato –Director-General; Surrogate M^a Dolores Ruiz – Deputy Director-General for Social Programmes).

The two roles that the NIB should perform within the framework of the EY 2010 will fall on the aforementioned Directorate-General, which will take on the functions provided by the Commission regarding to financial management, as well as those related to the implementation and coordination of the Year events.

The financial services of the Ministry of Health and Social Policy will support the financial management of the European Year, which will be developed following the indirect centralised management system provided in the Decision 1098/2008 EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, regulated under the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N^o 1605/2002 (Art. 54, 2.c and Art. 56.1) and in the Commission Regulation (EC, EURATOM) No 2342/2002 (Articles 35 to 41).

The DG for Social Policy, Families and Children takes on the planning of the European Year events, as well as the development of a consultation process with institutional bodies and civil society organisations for the preparation of the National Programme and the monitoring and evaluation of the EY events.

2. NATIONAL PROGRAMME AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

2.1 European Year 2010 Activities and Events:

How the European Year 2010 Objectives Have Been Addressed:

We would like to highlight that the preparation and drawing up of this programme of events has been possible thanks to cooperation and participation, gathering the contributions of a wide array of agents and sectors (public central, regional and local administrations, as well as civil society and social agents).

Given the current budgetary restraint, it is intended to combine efforts and ideas, seeking complementarity and coordination among the existing resources and directing them at the European Year's objectives, thus the participation of different public and private bodies reinforces the priorities of the programme and improves its effectiveness to achieve the objectives.

The objectives and priorities of the National Programme have been laid down within the framework of each one of the four principles governing the European Year. Nevertheless, it is necessary to point out the open nature of this programme, which may be completed according to the established priorities.

The **Main Events** of the Year will be:

- **Opening Conference:** Madrid, 21 January 2010. The beginning of the European Year coincides with the beginning of the Spanish Presidency of the European Union; hence Spain will assume the organization of the EY Opening Conference. The Conference agenda includes the participation of civil society through EAPN-EU and of persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion, as well as the evaluation of the Lisbon Strategy achievements for the objective of poverty reduction, and the contribution of the Social Protection Committee regarding its evaluation of the social impact of the crisis, especially on the most vulnerable groups.

This event will not be funded under the European Year, as it is an event of the Spanish Presidency of the European Union. However, it is included as a non-funded event since it is the European launching event of the EY.

- **Expert Seminar on Active Inclusion:** The Spanish Presidency has included Active Inclusion as one of its priorities, and foresees to continue working along the lines of the Commission Recommendation on Active Inclusion, and to progress in the consolidation of the European social protection systems from the perspective of active inclusion of persons who find it more difficult to enter the labour market.
- **Closing Ceremony:** An extraordinary meeting of the National Council for NGOs for Social Action with the participation of the Spanish Prime Minister will be held for the presentation of final proposals to obtain his political commitment.

a) Concerning Recognition of Rights:

The events to be developed aim at raising public awareness regarding the situation of persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion. It is intended to make these persons visible and to warn of their recognition of rights and of the social and economical potential they have for the society, as well as to inform and raise public awareness on the fact that a higher social protection prevents from poverty and social exclusion situations.

As regards social rights, particular importance will be given to the existing social inequalities in the field of health, on which a specific conference will be held. Likewise, special attention will be paid to identifying social and health needs in older persons in order to prevent situations of inequality of older persons in the field of healthcare.

Attention will be paid to particularities derived from the situations of poverty and exclusion in rural areas, with the aim of making them visible and promoting discussion to look for adequate solutions.

Actions contributing to changing the stereotypes that discriminate specific vulnerable groups will be developed, especially through media, promoting the social integration of these persons, particularly Roma population, immigrants and persons with disabilities.

In addition, it is necessary to deepen data collection and analysis, and knowledge of the processes and the various aspects that affect poverty and social exclusion, particularly in situations of extreme poverty. This will contribute to improve the diagnosis and will allow to progress in the search of solutions and tools for the prevention of poverty from a multidimensional approach.

Possible Activities and Events under this Principle:

- Evaluation of the current situation in Spain regarding the combat against extreme poverty and active inclusion. This activity will be completed with a conference for the presentation and dissemination of the conclusions reached.
- Seminar on Social Exclusion in rural areas, where situations of poverty and social inclusion in rural areas will be tackled from a local and comprehensive approach to encourage associationism, the creation of networks and the use of the land resources, as well as the development of ICTs in order to facilitate these objectives.
- Seminar on “People with Intellectual Disabilities in Excluding Environments and Situations of Poverty”, where the various discrimination facts suffered by those people will be evaluated, as well as how they affect their families. There will be a discussion on the existing measures and how to improve them.
- Seminar on “Law and Poverty: Regulatory Actions to Respond to Social Exclusion”, intended to identify rules and legal practices that create

b) Regarding Shared Responsibility and Participation:

The European Year will include among its objectives to raise awareness on the responsibility of the whole society in the combat against poverty and social exclusion. This is not only responsibility of social organisations and public authorities within their scope of responsibilities related to social policy.

The European Year in Spain will also promote reflection, consultation and discussion with the participation of both persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion and public and private bodies and social agents whose fields of activity have an effect on the processes of poverty and social exclusion to a greater or lesser extent. It is intended to create opportunities for discussion and participation in order to arouse and collect specific proposals and contributions that help preventing poverty and social exclusion, as well as to promote the exchange of good practices.

Special attention will be paid to mainstreaming in social inclusion policies in different fields of action, not just in those related to social services, as well as to the need of coordination among different administrations and departments with responsibilities related to social inclusion. The exchange and evaluation of useful coordination models will be facilitated among different fields of work (employment, social services, housing, health, education, etc.).

Possible Activities and Events under this Principle:

- 1st National Conference on Participation of Persons Experiencing Poverty and Social Exclusion, in order to gather opinions and reflections on the part of the most vulnerable groups of our society. It will be a scenario to exchange experiences, opinions and reflections that allow placing persons and their participation in the centre of the action seeking inclusion.
- Seminar to deepen the situation of Homeless Persons and the work carried out with them, in order to promote a comprehensive approach aiming at their social and labour insertion, as well as at the use and coordination of the existing resources.
- Working groups for the promotion and evaluation of the coordination among the different departments with responsibilities on social inclusion (employment, social services, housing, health, education, etc.) within the Autonomous Communities, with the aim of stressing mainstreaming in inclusion policies.

c) Concerning Cohesion:

To raise awareness on the importance of constructing a society based on cohesion and concepts such as solidarity, social justice and sustainable development; a society that supports and develops quality of life, social welfare and equal opportunities.

The promotion and dissemination of the Active Inclusion Strategy will be developed within the framework of this objective, as well as the monitoring and assessment of its implementation. The different public administrations will hold activities involving persons with decision-making capacity in this field, promoting discussion and specific proposals related to the three pillars of Active Inclusion.

Additionally there will be an approach to different means of promoting and achieving inclusive labour markets offering job opportunities to vulnerable persons. Several activities will be held to support and disseminate social economy, especially on the part of Companies for Insertion.

Possible Activities and Events under this Principle:

- Expert Seminar on Active Inclusion, which is expected to be held in March 2010. The Spanish Presidency has included Active Inclusion as one of its priorities, and foresees to continue working along the lines of the Commission Recommendation on Active Inclusion, and to progress in the consolidation of the European social protection systems from the perspective of active inclusion of persons who find it more difficult to enter the labour market.
- Conference or seminar on financial education and advice for families, aiming at a higher dissemination of the risks that indebtedness and loans acquisition which cannot be assumed or are not reliable mean to families.
- Seminar on the situation of families with a female head of household with minor children to care for, where the needs of female-lone-parent families will be discussed: support to upbringing and educate minor children (children attention out of school time, home help service in case of their illness), training to improve their job situation, support to look for job and housing, etc.
- Support activities to Social Enterprises, for example, to carry out a diffusion of good practices in the field of Social Clauses in the public hiring, like support measures to these enterprises.

d) Regarding Commitment and Specific Actions:

The objective of the activities and events under this Principle is to recall the political commitment of the European Union and the Member States on the need of a common strategy in terms of inclusion and social protection.

Actions will be addressed to infer conclusions from the activities developed during 2010 with the aim of elaborating specific proposals for the future European strategy

of inclusion and social protection. Moreover, specific proposals in terms of social inclusion will be developed, focused on the future planning of the Structural Funds and its priorities and main lines of action, thus the Structural Funds, and particularly the European Social Fund, effectively contribute to combating poverty and social exclusion.

Furthermore, several actions involving persons with political decision-making capacity will be developed, to whom specific proposals and requests will be conveyed.

Possible Activities and Events under this Principle:

- 2nd Summit on Roma Population “Actions and Policies Supporting European Roma Population: Future Challenges” (Córdoba, 8 April 2010). This Summit will have an explicit political character where commitments for the development of positive actions for the Roma population will be undertaken.

This event will not be funded under the European Year, as it is an event of the Spanish Presidency of the European Union. However, it is included as a non-funded event given its importance regarding the aim of promoting political commitments.

- 17 October: symbolic event and reading of the Third Sector manifesto against poverty and social exclusion both at the Spanish National Parliament and at the Parliaments of the Autonomous Communities.

The symbolic event is to be determined. It will involve the participation of persons experiencing poverty and/ or social exclusion both in preparations and in events.

- Conference on “A New strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion: Proposals for Action 2011-2020”.

It will be addressed to members of the third sector of social action organisations, to persons experiencing poverty and/or social exclusion and to public administrations.

All the information collected throughout the different European Year events, conferences, seminars, etc. will be used to develop a working paper for the new strategy 2010-2020.

- Extraordinary meeting of the National Council of NGOs with the participation of the Spanish Prime Minister for the presentation of final proposals to achieve his political commitment.

This event is expected to close the EY 2010. The purpose is to achieve the commitment of every agent involved in the development of Spanish social policies against poverty and social exclusion.

This is a guide list of activities and events. Other activities and events may be included subsequently as long as they are consistent with the aims and priorities established in this programme for each one of the European Year principles.

Which results and effects are expected to be achieved with the national programme?

- To improve knowledge of the situations of poverty and exclusion, especially of extreme poverty, and the evaluation of the multidimensional processes and factors that have an effect on extreme poverty, as well as to enhance knowledge of the specific situations of exclusion.
- To raise social awareness on situations of poverty, social exclusion and vulnerability, as well as on the need of a more cohesive society. To reach the highest number of persons, political representatives and public authorities, social professionals and public opinion in general, promoting the recognition of rights of persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion.
- To uphold social participation from various sectors for the prevention and eradication of poverty and social exclusion, as well as personal involvement and a change in society's attitude.
- To improve coordination, or at least, to increase perception of coordination among different public administrations as a need to progress in the combat against poverty and social exclusion.
- To integrate gender perspective in the evaluation of reality as a mainstreaming issue or as a specific matter, and to help make different situations and needs of men and women experiencing poverty and social exclusion visible.
- To influence general policies and specific measures in Spain, providing evaluation elements and proposing effective political strategies and measures to prevent and combat poverty and social exclusion. To develop specific proposals regarding social rights (housing, education, health, social protection and employment), and to achieve specific political commitments.

2.2 Communication Strategy, including Opening Event, Website and National Campaign

General Objectives:

One of the priority objectives to achieve according to the European Commission in this Year is to raise awareness within society on the problems faced by persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion and to make these groups visible. The Commission emphasises the need of establishing a global communication strategy for this purpose. Target groups will be society in general, people experiencing poverty and social exclusion and other social groups and institutions able to develop or to influence social inclusion policies, with a particular stress on those who are not typically involved directly in combating poverty.

Specific Objectives:

- To make persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion visible.
- To disseminate and inform on the European Year, its objectives and specific actions during their development.

- To disseminate the Year logo for it to serve as a hallmark unifying events and documents developed during the Year.
- To disseminate social inclusion policies developed in the framework of the European Strategy for Social Protection and Social Inclusion.
- To uphold action policies of the different administrations for combating poverty and social exclusion.
- To emphasize the role of NGOs for Social Action in supporting these groups.
- To boost discussion among media on how they address topics related to poverty, social exclusion and affected groups.
- To inform and to provide descriptive data on poverty and social exclusion.
- To use the possibilities offered by information and communication technologies in order to achieve a higher dissemination of the European Year objectives and actions.

Communication Elements:

- Target groups: general public, agents and NGOs, local and regional civil servants, journalists, etc.
- Communication channels: Internet, media (TV, radio, press, etc).
- Tools: publications, bulletins, leaflets, magazine articles, press releases, conferences, three-month agenda, dissemination campaigns.

Actions to Be Developed:

- **European Year Opening Conference**, Madrid, 21 January.
- **Webpage of the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion**

This Webpage will be used to disseminate the Year objectives, as well as to advertise the Year events and its calendar during its development. All the Ministries participating in the consultation process (Interministerial Commission Working Group for the Monitoring of the National Action Plan on Social Inclusion, (PNAin)) will include links to this Webpage in their Webpages. It will consist of the following sections:

- Dissemination of the Year logo.
- Presentation of the Year general objectives.
- Calendar of events, including place, date and body organising the event.
- Publication of documents and reports produced during the Year.
- Reference documents on poverty and social exclusion.
- Links to Websites of different organizations and institutions related to the Year and to the European Year Webpage.

- Open distribution list to receive information on the Year events as their date of celebration approaches, as well as to receive general information on the Year in the mailbox.

➤ **Leaflets and Posters**

As dissemination means for the European Year, leaflets and posters will be published. These materials will disseminate the Year logo integrated in all the Year events.

➤ **Drawing Up of Reports and Press Releases**

It will be necessary to convey media the importance of the European Year objective, thus they become partners in this initiative. Therefore, continuous communication channels will be established with media, and documents and reports will be also produced for these professionals in order to facilitate their work as much as possible. These documents will include:

- Monitoring of Year press news.
- Drawing up of reference documents regarding the European Year, its objectives and its significance.
- Production of reports on the Year development and the events carried out.
- Specific submission of press releases on events and activities with a special social or political effect.

This task will be performed with the support of the Press Cabinet of the Ministry of Health and Social Policy.

2.3 Gender Mainstreaming: how it is being addressed in each chapter and activity.

The criteria for selecting activities will take into account those including gender perspective. A specific section has been inserted in the proposal for activity form to collect information in order to evaluate the implementation of gender perspective as a one of the conditions for the selection of activities.

The use of non-sexist language will be taken into account for the development of activities, especially regarding advertising and dissemination of the European Year.

Good practices on the prevention of poverty and social exclusion involving gender perspective will be made visible.

Sex will be taken into account as a variable in the different studies proposed, particularly when qualitative data and figures prove a different reality between women and men concerning poverty and social exclusion, (factors, processes, etc.).

2.4 Accessibility to Events

Accessibility of the facilities for persons with reduced mobility will be taken into account when holding European Year events open to a wider audience.

Moreover, there will be a space on the registration form for attendees of the different events to identify if they will require translation into sign language in order to offer this service to persons with auditory disabilities.

A specific section within the proposal for activity form is included to gather information in order to evaluate the accessibility of the selected events.

3. CONSULTATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND STAKEHOLDERS

3.1 Consultation of Stakeholders

Pursuant to the requirement of Article 6 of the Decision, in the consultation process for producing the National Programme, several already established **fora** have taken part, coordinated by the Directorate-General for Social Policy, Families and Children, which incorporates the combat against poverty and social exclusion within its fields of work:

- **Specific Working Group for the EY 2010**, of the Interministerial Commission for the Development and Monitoring of the National Action Plan on Social Inclusion (PNAin).

A meeting was held last 27 April to inform on the European Year objectives and priorities and to collect suggestions and proposals for activities, (through the produced Activity Form).

- **National Action Plan on Social Inclusion (PNAin) Special Commission**, with the participation of the Directorates-General of the Autonomous Communities in charge of social services.

During the Commission Meeting held last 4 February, the European Year 2010 objectives and priorities were disseminated. Moreover, there was a written request for proposals and contributions for activities not funded by the European Year 2010 budget which may have use the European Year logo without receiving funds.

- **State Council of NGOs for Social Action- Working Group on Social Inclusion and Employment**

A first meeting was held last 21 April to inform on the European Year objectives and priorities and to collect suggestions and proposals for activities, (through the produced Activity Form). On 13 May, the second meeting of this working group was held to make a common evaluation on the proposals for activities.

Furthermore, several meetings with the Spanish Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN-ES) have been held, whose proposals and ideas have been taken into account in this Programme.

In addition, written information on the European Year 2010, as well as the request for proposals and contributions was conveyed to the following organisations and entities:

- **FEMP (Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces)**

- **Social Agents** participating in the development of the National Action Plan on Social Inclusion (PNAin)
- **State Council of the Roma Population**
- **FAEDEI. Federation of Entrepreneurial Associations of Companies for Insertion**
- **UNIVERSITIES**

Finally, the **Sectoral Conference on Social Affairs**, held last 17 February, was used to convey information on the European Year objectives and the preparation works already produced.

The **Activity Form** has been used as a tool to collect proposals for activities; (together with the instructions for fulfilment), which the entities consulted used to send their proposals to the Directorate-General.

As a result of this consultation process, over 40 proposals were received, which have contributed to determine the priorities of this Programme.

All the entities and bodies consulted will be regularly informed on the progresses and results obtained during the monitoring of the activities and events developed during 2010.

4. PROVISIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Call for proposals, award criteria, selection procedure, etc.

The activities financed under the budget of the EY 2010 will be mainly carried out by the different Ministries that have prepared proposals for the elaboration of the European Year's National Program, mostly by the Ministry of Health and Social Policy, in any case the participation of NGOs will be taken into account.

Award criteria for the selection or tender procedures of the activities

- Consistence with the European Year Objectives and with priorities of this national programme.
- Gender mainstreaming.
- Accessibility to events.
- Complementarity with other actions developed with European Funds, especially with Progress and European Social Fund.
- Public Bodies responsible for the prevention of poverty and social exclusion.
- Non-profit and profit private entities with considerable working experience on programmes on social inclusion and against poverty.
- The activities must take place in 2010

Taking into account these award criteria, either a call for proposal or a call for tender will be carried out for implementing some of the activities of the European Year, according to the Law 30/2007 of October 30th on the regulation of Public Sector Contracts. These contracting procedures shall comply with the requirements of advertising, transparency and concurrence established in the aforementioned Law.

4.2 Calendar of Activities and Events

| 2009 – Calendar of Preparation Activities | |
|--|---|
| MARCH | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of the calendar for the Year Programme - Planning of the consultation process - Production of the Year presentation letter - Production of the Activity Form - Identification and justification of national stakeholders - Beginning of the consultation process - Draft of the National Programme |
| APRIL | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beginning of the meetings planned in the consultation process - Identification of the National Programme priorities - Reception and evaluation of the proposals for activities of the different organisations - Draft of the National Programme - Development of a Communication Strategy - Selection of types of contracts(implementation provisions) - Meeting of the Advisory Committee on the EY 2010, Brussels, 17 April |
| MAY | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drawing up and presentation of documents needed to authorise the Directorate-General as National Implementing Body - Meetings of the consultation process - Development of a budget estimate for the actions - Establishment of a non-financial support procedure for activities |
| JUNE | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the National Programme to the Commission, including the EY 2010 Website - Beginning of the preparation of a media campaign |

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|---------------------------|---|
| JULY | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organization and preparation meetings on the Year events, resolution for the grant request - Preparation of the Opening Conference 2010 |
| SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launching of the EY 2010 Website - Preparation of a grant request to the EU, with specific activities, budget, final calendar, etc. - Organization of the Opening Conference 2010 - Organization and coordination of the European Year events - Meeting of the Advisory Committee on the EY 2010, Brussels, 8 October |
| DECEMBER | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submission of the grant request to the Commission - Planning and preparation of the contracting award procedure for the development of the Year events and/or call for proposal. - Organization of the Opening Conference 2010 |

Only those events with a specific date have been included in the 2010 Calendar. The final calendar of events will not be developed until the presentation of the grant request to the Commission on October-November 2009.

| 2010 – Indicative Calendar of Events | |
|---|--|
| JANUARY | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beginning of the communication strategy - Beginning of the contract award processes 21 – Opening Conference 2010 (Madrid) |
| MARCH | |
| | – Expert Seminar on Active Inclusion |
| MAY | |
| | - State Congress of persons experiencing poverty and social exclusion (organised by EAPN-ES) |
| OCTOBER | |
| | 17 – Symbolic event and reading of a Manifesto against poverty and social exclusion at the Parliament |
| NOVEMBER | |
| | - Conference “A New Strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion: Action Proposals 2011-2020” |
| DECEMBER | |
| | - Closing Ceremony: extraordinary meeting of the State Council of NGOs on Social Action and presentation of conclusions and proposals |

5. BUDGET ESTIMATE

The Strategic Framework Document with the priorities and guidelines for 2010 European Year activities, set up that EU funding will cover a maximum of 50% of the total eligible costs of the activities, and each member state will contribute with national co-funding and should match EU funding by at least 50%.

Also, the Commission has approved by Decision the maximum amount of EU funding for each member state and 711.948 € has been allocated to Spain. Therefore, the maximum total budget of the European Year for combating poverty and social exclusion in Spain amounts to 1.423.896 €.

This budget will be broken down into the following items:

- Call for proposal and/or call for tender: 90%
- Costs of the National Implementing Body (coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation, administrative costs ...): 10%

This budget is indicative and it will be specified in the funding grant request to the European Commission to be presented during the last quarter of 2009 which will provide in-depth information of all activities and events eventually included in the European Year Programme. These activities could be:

- Communication Strategy (including European Year Website design and maintenance, dissemination campaigns): €210,000
- Studies: €120,000
- Working groups: €100,000
- Training Activities: €130,000
- Congresses and Conferences: €300,000
- Seminars: €400,000
- National Implementing Body expenses (coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation): €140,000

6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION MECHANISMS

The development and implementation of the activities and events foreseen in the EY 2010 National Programme in Spain will incorporate a Monitoring and Continuous Evaluation System from the beginning, which will consist of the following elements:

- Creation of a system of indicators in order to measure the completion of actions and the achievement of results.
- Design of a monitoring system aiming at a permanent collection of information on the development of the activities foreseen, with the purpose of detecting difficulties and deviations on the implementation, thus providing the corresponding rectifications. Common report models will be provided to all organisations and entities developing activities in the framework of the European Year 2010 in order to collect information systematically as follows:

- Collection and evaluation of monthly information coming from each participant organisation. This information will refer to both financed and non-financed activities, and it will be provided on a common report a information collecting medium.

- Production of three-month reports on the progress and development of activities with the aim of facilitating monitoring and providing updated information.

- Drawing up of an Intermediate Evaluation Report at the middle of the year, to measure partial completion of the objectives foreseen and the results achieved.
- All stakeholders participating in the consultation process will be informed through the different fora established by the submission of the three-month preview reports. In addition, meetings of these fora will be called at the middle of the year with the purpose of presenting the Intermediate Evaluation Report.
- Finally, a Final Activity Report and a Year Technical Report will be produced and submitted to the Commission and to all interested parties that have participated in the development of the National Programme, its monitoring and evaluation.
- The Communication Strategy will have its own monitoring and evaluation system.