

Projects supported under budget line B3-4101 in 1999

Introduction

The aim of this guide is to present the projects that were selected for support from budget line B3-4101 dealing with co-operation with charitable associations, in 1999 as preparatory measures to combat social exclusion under the new Article 137 of the Treaty of Amsterdam. It contains a description of the call for projects launched by DG/EMPL of the European Commission in June 1999 as well as details on the subsequent projects chosen for financing.

The project descriptions in this report are those provided by the promoters of the projects and are only intended as an indicative guide.

Further information on the projects can be obtained from the contact person on the information sheet for each project, while more information on DG/EMPL's work in the fields of civil society, NGO relations and social inclusion can be obtained from the following address:

Social Protection, Social Inclusion
and Civil Society (Unit E/2)
Directorate-General for Employment and Social Affairs (DG/EMPL)
European Commission
200 rue de la Loi
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Belgium

Background

1.1 According to the ad hoc agreement reached with the European Council and the European Parliament of 17 July 1998 on the legal bases and the implementation of the 1998 budget, the Commission undertook to examine how, by redirecting the measures covered by the relevant budget lines, they could be regarded as preparatory to Community action in new areas provided for by the Treaty of Amsterdam. The Communication of the Commission of 16 September set out how budget lines B3-4101 (among others) should be implemented as preparatory measures to Community action on the basis of the future Article 137. The primary purpose of the preparatory actions undertaken would be to feed into the process of reflection on the design, content and implementation of activities under Article 137.

The call for projects

1.2 In 1999, a call for projects was published in the Official Journal on 19 June (OJ C 173/22, 19.6.1999). The Guidelines stated that projects would help pave the way for future Community action to combat social exclusion and discrimination through actions aimed at:

- Developing the exchange of information and best practice, particularly involving organisations which represent or consist of persons facing social exclusion and discrimination.
- Promoting broad partnerships both within the charitable association/NGO world across thematic issues and between NGOs and other sectors.
- Improving understanding and knowledge, both of existing civil dialogue practices which impact positively on the fight against exclusion and discrimination and of innovative approaches.
- Evaluating and benchmarking experience in promoting civil dialogue particularly as regards the direct participation of persons facing exclusion and discrimination themselves in decision-making processes.

Financial assistance under the call would only be provided for transnational actions of Community interest and which would contribute significantly to the further development and implementation of civil dialogue at European level as a means of tackling social exclusion and/or discrimination.

1.3 The following table shows a country-by-country breakdown of the 102 proposals that were submitted before the closing date of 27 August 1999. Not all of the projects received were in fact evaluated since a number were classified as ineligible directly on arrival because, for example: the submission was postmarked after the deadline of 27 August 1999, or the project partners did not come from at least three different Member States. Of the 13 projects submitted from Belgium, 11 were transnational, European networks. A total of 90 eligible projects were evaluated in detail.

Table 3: Country breakdown of the projects submitted

Projects (incl. Total)	B	D	DK	GR	ES	F	IRL	IT	L	NL	Ö	P	SF	SV	UK
Eligible (90)	13	11	1	5	6	6	5	14	1	3	1	3	2	3	16
Ineligible* (12)	0	2	0	1	2	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
Total (102)	13	13	1	6	8	7	5	16	1	4	2	4	2	3	17

**classified as ineligible on arrival, prior to detailed evaluation*

Evaluation of projects

4.1 In each case, a detailed evaluation grid was used. Each project was evaluated in two stages. If the project fulfilled all the eligibility criteria – in terms of the conformity of documents, the budget, the status of the applicant organisation and the eligibility of the activities to be financed – it then proceeded to the detailed evaluation stage. The detailed evaluation was performed by awarding marks from 0 to 10 on the basis of 13 detailed "Quality Assessment Criteria" which closely followed the guidelines published in the call for proposals. These criteria were arranged in three main blocks, which were given different weightings to arrive at an overall percentage score:

- 8 criteria on the quality of the proposed action (60% of total score)
- 3 criteria to assess the applicant and partner organisations (20% of total score)
- 2 criteria on financing (20% of total score)

4.2 The evaluated projects were then shortlisted for consideration and selection by the evaluation committee, chaired by Mr Brendan Sinnott (the responsible Head of Unit in the Directorate General for Employment and Social Affairs). The 23 projects selected are listed below.

Table 2: Projects selected – overall results

Name of organisation	Amount of Community subsidy (Euro - €)	Member State in which lead organisation is based
European Forum for Child Welfare	€79.612	BE
COFACE	€110.661	BE
Euronet	€99.662	BE
Association Européenne Régies de Quartier	€71.927	BE
Association pour la Paix	€190.020	BE
Solidar	€150.493	BE
Combined European Bureau for Social Development	€98.000	BE
JZSL	€102.258	DE
Int. Union of Family Organisations	€130.574	DE
Lambda	€88.668	DE
RAA Neue Länder	€82.155	DE
BIVS	€79.381	DE
Fundacion Bancaja	€117.274	ES
Fundacion Mujeres	€81.145	ES
Fundacion Federico Ozanam	€66.000	ES
Fondation d'Entreprise Macif	€122.094	FR
Panhellenic Union for Psychological Rehabilitation	€79.559	EL
Assoc. San Marcellino	€71.946	IT
Inde	€119.286	PT
Foreningen Sverisges Socialcheffer (ADSS)	€86.006	SV
The Quest Trust	€78.585	UK
Northern Ireland Women's Platform	€90.345	UK
SHS-Scottish Human Services	€131.365	UK

5.2 The application form for the project, however, was quite exhaustive in terms of the level of detail required (particularly on the budget) and this permitted a detailed evaluation of each project on the basis of many different criteria. However, a high percentage mark did not automatically guarantee selection. The list of high-scoring projects was used as a basis and guide for the discussions of the selection committee, which also tried to ensure, inter alia, that the final list of selected projects contained a good spread in terms of geography and subject matter or target group. A description of each selected project is set out in the following information sheets.

1.

Title of Project:

THE COMMON EXPERIENCE OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES LIVING EXPOSED TO THE OPPOSING FORCES OF DISCRIMINATION AND SELF-DETERMINATION IN CIVIL DIALOGUE

Name of Organisation:

JENAER ZENTRUM FÜR SELBSTBESTIMMTES LEBEN BEHINDERTER MENSCHEN E.V.

Project Description:

A brochure, to be produced jointly, will describe lives typically led by people in the participating countries who have obvious and not so obvious disabilities. This brochure will constitute a good basis for the discussions with able-bodied people with a view to raising their awareness of the problem of disability and increasing acceptance in the participating Member States.

We shall endeavour to secure effective arrangements to ensure that people with disabilities have equal opportunities to participate in activities. To this end there will need to be a number of changes to legislation and there must be a genuine desire on the part of politicians and society in general to see them implemented.

Grant Amount: € 102.258

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2.

Title of Project:

DYNAMIC APPROACH OF SOCIAL INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITIES, THROUGH AN INNOVATIVE CIVIL DIALOGUE CENTER.

Name of Organisation:

PANHELLENIC UNION FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL REHABILITATION AND WORK INTEGRATION (PEPSAEE)

Project Description:

The project aims to combat social exclusion of persons with mental disabilities and psycho-social problems through the development of Dynamic Civil Dialogue and Multi-Activity Centers. Those structures will be established with the close collaboration of the project leader and the local municipalities in different areas of the country. They will employ users and they will be the forum for the broad development of civil dialogue which will bring together:- users, professionals or mental health, religious and civil authorities, educational institutions, financial agents (businessmen etc.), other relevant associations, volunteers and persons from the community. Through the organisation of activities, such as lectures and cultural events (exhibitions, theatre performances, concerts, etc.) the Dynamic Multi Activity Centers will be an effective tool for combating social exclusion and discrimination by a) encouraging the direct active participation of users on equal basis and b) sensitising the community and the competent authorities on behalf of the target group.

Grant Amount: € 79.559

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3.

Title of Project:
SOCIAL HOUSING

Name of Organisation:
THE QUEST TRUST

Project Description:

The charity, the Quest Trust with its partners in Ireland and Denmark wishes to explore whether the type of community news agency and telephone conference network it operates in the UK might be applicable to pan-European civil dialogue relating to exclusion and the dissemination of best practice information relating to counteracting it. We would pilot similar services between the participating members states and thereafter organise major presentations at housing conferences outlining the project's conclusions, its contribution to the understanding of social exclusion and relevant government policy and finally conclude whether such services might be feasible in accessing the voice of the excluded to pan-European civil dialogue.

Grant Amount: € 78.585

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4.

Title of Project:

COMBATING SOCIAL EXCLUSION :MINORITY ORGANISATIONS IN CIVIL DIALOGUE

Name of Organisation:

RAA NEUE LÄNDER

Project Description:

The aims of the project are to promote the transnational exchange of information between minority organisations, to find good examples of civil dialogue practices in Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain and the United Kingdom and to build up a European network of minority organisations. The purpose is to promote civil dialogue as tool of empowerment for minority organisations. Anticipated results are the national report from each country, one transnational workshop and a set of recommendations. The projects will be based on an eclectic approach in that both, in the drawing up of reports and in the workshop, minority organisations will cooperate with other NGOs, foundations, research institutes and local or national authorities.

Grant Amount: € 82.155

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5.

Title of Project:

VOLUNTARY MEDITERRANEAN EUROFORUM ON CIVIL DIALOGUE AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

Name of Organisation:

FUNDACION BANCAJA

Project Description:

The main aim of the project is to draw up and structure proposals, based on voluntary action, jointly with the countries of the Mediterranean basin, to ensure their distribution to the general public and to submit them to the European institutions by organising an international meeting (the Voluntary Mediterranean Euroforum On Civil Dialogue and Social Exclusion) to be attended by the voluntary organisations in the Mediterranean basin as well as public authorities and research institutions. The proposals will take the form of a draft Code of Practice to guide the steps to be taken by the non-profit-making organisations and of a declaration that will contain the guidelines for the drafting of European policies for combating social exclusion in the Member States of the Mediterranean basin.

Grant Amount: € 117.274

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6.

Title of Projects:

PROMOTING PARTICIPATION

Name of Organisation:

COMBINED EUROPEAN BUREAU FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Project Description:

In this project, CEBSD aims to promote the participation and empowerment of local people in order to increase capacity for community activity on measures designed to combat poverty, unemployment, discrimination and social exclusion. CEBSD seeks to draw on the wealth of experience and ideas from local people themselves, including those usually excluded, to develop shared European strategies, techniques and methods for participation. The project will identify methodologies and tools which can be adapted to different contexts and will test the transferability of ideas and methods used to develop skills, competence and capacity for community action.

Grant Amount: € 98.000

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7.

Title of Project:

THE SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF FAMILIES AS A SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION
BETWEEN THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE
PERSONS CONCERNED: SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

Name of Organisation:

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FAMILY ORGANISATIONS

Project Description:

The aim of the project is to evaluate the possible content and form of a dialogue between the European Commission and the general public on the development of suitable measures to combat the exclusion of families, in particular families with many children, single-parent families and immigrant families. The envisaged cooperation between charitable organisations, NGOs, researchers and political decision-takers will guarantee that styles of dialogue can be developed that will be based on a comprehensive purview. The dialogue is intended to be an instrument for political decision-making and democratisation processes. An inaugural conference can provide scope for an exchange of views and for improving our knowledge base with a view to establishing the content and form of a dialogue.

Grant Amount: € 130.574

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8.

Title of Project:

CIVIL DIALOGUE AND AN ECONOMY BASED ON SOCIAL SOLIDARITY :
FROM THE LOCAL LEVEL TO THE EUROPEAN AREA

Name of Organisation:

FONDATION D'ENTREPRISE MACIF

Project Description:

The aim is to understand how a social economy based on solidarity can prompt civil dialogue and thereby launch innovative experiments aimed at combating social exclusion and discrimination. Initially, the project will study local best practice at regional and national level in Belgium, France, Spain and Italy by exchanges of views between the four partners. Subsequently, the lessons learnt from this study will be discussed at a seminar so that the processes in place at European level can be improved.

Grant Amount: € 122.094

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9.

Title of Project:

CRACKING THE CODE - EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES TO EFFECT CHANGE THROUGH CIVIL DIALOGUE

Name of Organisation:

NORTHERN IRELAND WOMEN'S PLATFORM

Project Description:

AIMS: to identify best practice in effective engagement in civil dialogue of NGOs seeking to combat exclusion/discrimination of women, families, and communities, with reference to new/developing political and economic structures. PURPOSES: to increase the potential for NGOs to influence and impact on public policy and decision making process; to raise the competence of NGOs in civil dialogue: to bring about change which supports inclusion and equality. ANTICIPATED RESULTS: a comprehensive guide to engagement in the process of civil dialogue setting out steps to success; setting objectives, developing core competences; strategy management; creating strategic alliances; monitoring and evaluating progress and achievements. METHODS: critical and comparative assessment of experience of partners in regional, national and European contexts; preparation of report/guide for wider dissemination.

Grant Amount: € 90.345

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10.

Title of Project:

HEAD AND FEET

Name of Organisation:

ASSOCIAZIONE SAN MARCELLINO

Project Details:

This project is aimed at increasing the thinking (head) underway (feet) within the three partner organisations with regard to the social monitoring of persons who are seriously marginalised and homeless. The three organisations, enjoying the support of the research contribution input from the three associated universities, will make a comparison, on the basis of the actual work undertaken, of methods and activities by organising seminars, publications and meetings with other operators and local authorities with a view to further developing a model for a common approach to social action that can be deployed on behalf of homeless persons in Europe.

Grant Amount: € 71.946

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11.

Title of Project:

IONE, INCLUDE WOMEN

Name of Organisation:

FUNDACION MUJERES

Project Description:

The IONE project aims to define employment strategies which will provide solutions for disadvantaged women by seeking alliances between institution and women's organisations which support women who are excluded or at risk of being excluded, by facilitating their approach to and incorporation in the labour market.

IONE will investigate the reality and needs encountered by excluded women in order for them to be able to enter the labour market. Strategies and methodologies of action leading to the integration of such women into the workforce will be designed. A report will be prepared with strategic action proposals for social organisations, as well as proposals aimed at the European Union employment and social policies.

Grant Amount: € 81.145

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12.

Title of Project:

DELIBERATE DIVERSITY

Name of Organisation:

SCOTTISH HUMAN SERVICES TRUST (SHS)

Project Description:

The project aims to generate an informed grass-roots perspective on policy and practice for combating discrimination in employment. The project will recruit and support a diverse transnational group of people at risk of discrimination in employment (older people and disabled people) and will work with them to plan, set up and conduct a 4-day citizen's jury in December. The project will generate 2 reports. The first report, by the citizen's jury, will contain their findings and proposals. The second report will be on the effectiveness of this method as a means of promoting civil dialogue.

Grant Amount: € 131.365

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13.

Title of Project:

CITIZENS ORGANISE NETWORKS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION (CITNET)

Name of Organisation:

BERLIN INSTITUTE FOR COMPARATIVE SOCIAL RESEARCH

Project Description:

A Europe-wide exchange of views involving the mobilisation and local/regional networking of NGOs is to be launched. In Berlin there will be 1 600 institutions that will be mobilised for a project catering for migrants, the so-called "Berlin model" that is composed of documentation, communication and conference activities. This model will be extended and updated. Together with the British, French and the Milan models it is to be documented. This documentation will serve to mobilise other organisations in other Member States and prompt them to present their experience and projects. The participants can exchange views and become networked via the Internet.

Grant Amount: € 79.381

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14.

Title of Project:

NETWORK OF SOCIAL BODIES AGAINST EXCLUSION

Name of Organisation:

FUNDACION FEDERICO OZANAM

Project Description:

To develop a model for cooperation between social bodies that are involved in the combating of social exclusion on the basis of a number of aspects: training, labour market integration, self-help, rehabilitation etc. with the aim of generating a powerful local partnership that will enable all the bodies to improve all levels of communication between themselves by contributing to the creation of a focal point for multidimensional problems that will in turn allow better communication with the various administrations. The involvement of organisations from a number of European countries will enable a model to be developed that can evaluate the work in the network and the use of Internet as a tool to promote the processes of coordination.

Grant Amount: € 66.000

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15.

Title of Project:

CONTRIBUTION FROM GROUPS OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS AND CIVIL SOCIETY FOR THE COMBATING OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION

Name of Organisation:

ASSOCIATION POUR LA PAIX

Project Description:

The representatives of the groups of unemployed and vulnerable persons in many Member States of the EU who have been brought together by the European campaigns against unemployment, vulnerability and social exclusion are large working groups that can demonstrate the steps taken by the unemployed and vulnerable. Following a period during which experience will be gathered in the Member States on the process of organising people who are unemployed and vulnerable, initiatives will be taken with a view to contacting the national governments.

Grant Amount: € 190.020

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16.

Title of Project:

LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER AND TAKING COORDINATED ACTION

Name of Organisation:

LAMBDA BERLIN E.V

Project Description:

The aim of the project is to set up a future national-level and pan-European network of projects for schools to explain lesbian and gay lifestyles. The project will also include organisations that are still not active in this field but are interested in the work. The (further) development of successful approaches to the problem of social exclusion and discrimination, in particular targeting lesbian and gay young people, is to be backed up by a comprehensive collection of information, surveys and the exchange of specialist information with partner organisations. The results will be published on the Internet as an infopack and as a CD-ROM.

Grant Amount: € 88.668

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17.

Title of Project:
PARTNET

Name of Organisation:
INDE

Project Description:

Social exclusion is by nature is multidimensional and cumulative. Establishing a partnership with the major players will allow us, both in the field and in terms of a comparative study of practice and supporting policies, to identify the main lessons to be learned and to make firm proposals for national and European-level policies. The Partnet project will study existing practice in terms of the dialogue between the players and promote new activities on the basis of a partnership based on four countries, the exchange of technical staff, the study of four working topics linked to exclusion (education, the labour market, undertakings and racism). Publication of the results, a website and an international seminar will ensure a high profile for the project.

Grant Amount: € 119.286

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18.

Title of Project:

ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP AT LOCAL LEVEL TO COMBAT EXCLUSION AND DISCRIMINATION

Name of Organisation:

ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES RÉGIES DE QUARTIER (AERQ)

Project Description:

The active citizenship developed within the local support units (*régies de quartier*) can take on a European dimension in the framework of the combating of exclusion and discrimination. This involvement will take the form of the drafting and dissemination of a document setting out the major measures adopted by the local support units in their efforts to combat exclusion and discrimination, the methods for transfer of know-how and the exchange of innovative practice and novel proposals for approaches. The document in question will be the result of preparatory work carried out by the networks and the local support units in four countries that are members of the AERDQ, namely, Belgium, France, Italy and the Netherlands and from a three-day meeting that will bring together representatives of the local population, public and private-sector partners and associations underpinning the local support units and networks.

Grant Amount: € 71.927

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19.

Title of Project:

CIVIL DIALOGUE IN THE NORDIC STATES: BUILDING NEW PARTNERSHIPS TO COMBAT SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND DISCRIMINATION

Name of Organisation:

FORENINGEN SVERISGES SOCIALCHEFER (ADSSS)

Project Description:

The aim is to contribute to the combating of social exclusion and discrimination in the Nordic Member States through better understanding the changing role and opportunities for partnership between local government, NGOs and citizens. This project would provide learning and development by engagement with a wider range of local partners in a series of thematic meetings in the 3 Nordic Member States together with participation from their 2 non-EU Nordic neighbours and a wider European reference group.

This action would constitute a valuable reflection on the developing Nordic experience and the production of an EU/Nordic report would make a unique contribution to EU preparatory actions.

Grant Amount: € 86.006

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20.

Title of Project:

SOCIAL PROTECTION AS A FACTOR IN THE FIGHT AGAINST EXCLUSION AND DISCRIMINATION AND AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR SOCIAL COHESION; RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE INSTITUTIONS

Name of Organisation:

COFACE-CONFEDERATION DES ORGANISATIONS FAMILIALES DE L'UNION EUROPEENNE

Project Description:

The aim of the project is to bring together the NGOs catering for families in general as well as for families with problems with a view to appraising their situation and organising an exchange of views so that joint recommendations on matters of social protection that are of relevance to them can be put forward and social exclusion and discrimination combated more effectively. Within the framework of the employment pact and the Commission's recent communication on social protection, the partners in the project intend to express the opinion of citizens on the thrust of social protection over the next few decades in accordance with the Call (§2.3) which proposed cooperation between networks operating in this field.

Grant Amount: € 110.661

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21.

Title of Project:

PROMOTING THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD TO NON-DISCRIMINATION,
PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Name of Organisation:

EURONET - BELGIUM

Project Description:

The objective of the project is to develop civil dialogue on the social exclusion and discrimination of children by stimulating dialogue among children, young people and adults (academics, practitioners, Commission officials, NGOs, politicians) in order to demonstrate that children experience multiple forms of discrimination and social exclusion differently from adults and that children experience discrimination on the grounds of age. To obtain data, a questionnaire is distributed among children and young people in the EU Member States. Four regional seminars, each taking place in different parts of the EU, will discuss the outcome of the questionnaire and each seminar discusses a different aspect of the discrimination and social exclusion of children. An experts group will give their comments and input during the course of the project and at the regional seminars. Communication on activities and results of the project to organisations involved and to a wider audience in the national Member States will be done with the publication of a bi-monthly newsletter. The project will be concluded with a conference at which policy document with the results of the seminars and questionnaires will be presented and where an Action Plan will be set up to fight the discrimination and social exclusion of children and young people. The results will be disseminated by the Euronet network in all EU Member States and by the Euronet website.

Grant Amount: € 99.662

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22.

Title of Project:

CITIZEN'S EUROPE II - SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS AND THE FIGHT FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

Name of Organisation:

SOLIDAR

Project Description:

A civil society programme promoting exchange of information and capacity building of activists in social welfare and advocacy NGOs to strengthen the European civil dialogue on social inclusion and influence the EU's proclamation of Human Rights and support the Framework Programmes to combat social exclusion. The project will build on a lobbying network of 1300 civil society actors, connected through the internet, a 5-language regularly updated innovative website, bi-monthly E-mail bulletin and 6-monthly newsletter. Four mini-conferences and speaking engagements will be key in building and maintaining interest in a social Europe. Staff will carry out visits to member agencies to increase the involvement of members and a one-week training will be organised in Brussels.

Grant Amount: € 150.493

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23.

Title of Project:

GIVING A VOICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE FROM RESIDENTIAL CARE

Name of Organisation:

EUROPEAN FORUM FOR CHILD WELFARE

Project Description:

The aim of the project is to better understand the problems faced by children and young people who are or have been in residential care, to integrate into social life again. The ultimate object being to improve national and European policies to combat social exclusion and discrimination. The anticipated results are a better understanding and knowledge of the obstacles and the good experiences, as well as the elaboration of strategies to improve the inclusion of these young people. The approach is to directly involve children and young people facing exclusion and/or discrimination by organising local workshops in four countries (3 Member States and one applicant country) of young people together with representatives of NGOs, local authorities and the EU.

Grant Amount: € 79.612

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