FF 29 Jan 2016

**UPDATE NOTE ON PROJECTS**

**Existing Projects:**

* + - 1. **EMIN 1: Finalized.** Arranging follow up with event in European Parliament with support from Parliamentarians and ETUC involvement.
      2. **DRIVERS:** Finalized. Outputs now visible on EAPN website.
      3. **PEP 2015:** Support was secured from Commission, Luxembourg Presidency and EAPN Fund. Reports now being finalized.
      4. **RE-InVEST -** Rebuilding an Inclusive Value Based Europe of Solidarity and Trust (through Social Investment) Project led by Belgian Organisation ACW and Alliance to fight against Poverty. EAPN Portugal and Poverty Alliance (EAPN Scotland) involved. EAPN Europe (Sian Jones) is represented on Coordination Committee without any financial implications. It has met once.
      5. **Project on Minimum Income Schemes in Spain:** Project led by Spanish Ministry. EAPN Spain involved and EAPN Europe has a small involvement (5 -6 days in 2016). They are looking to draw lessons from the experience of Minimum Income Schemes in UK and Belgium. Will try to ensure our Networks there are connected to the project.
      6. **Project on Trans-national exchange in ESF:** Important new Project (see annex 1 for details)
      7. **Stakeholder involvement in FEAD Programme:** Important new project. (see annex 2 for details)

**Project Applications:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Description and Status** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** |
| 1. **Project for work in Balkans (countries outside EU members)**  * Application to DG Enlargement, * Led by EAPN (Serbia) | * Applications also had funding envisaged for the Serbian and Macedonian Networks |  |  |
| 1. **Access to health for vulnerable groups**  * Application DG Health, call for tender * Project led by Milieu, Belgian based consultancy * **Application not successful** | * EAPN Europe: 17 days for EAPN input to the project * 3 days per Network for 12 EAPN National Networks to organise National Stakeholder meeting * Possible to negotiate further involvement including expertise from EOs and National Networks | * Similar amounts available for 2016 |  |
| 1. **Request from Kortrijk City Council (Belgium) to be on advisory group for project on ‘integrated delivery of social services’**  * Following up with EAPN Belgium * Application made | Just out of pocket expenses for EAPN |  |  |
| 1. **Second call re Minimum Income:** Call long expected should be in early January. | See annex 3 for concept note for how EAPN with EMIN partners proposes to respond to the call. |  |  |
| 1. **PeP Hearing in the Parliament:** Trying to secure support from the Parliament for this Hearing |  |  |  |
| 1. **PeP 2016:** Have approached Commission and Slovak Presidency to try and secure support for 2016 meeting |  |  |  |
| 1. **NIMBY** syndrome: Capacity Building for Those Working in Migration & Employability   Erasmus project, Led By Macedonian Network, potnetial involvment from a number of Networks. |  |  |  |
| 1. **Distributive Justice: Project led by Antwerp University.** This is a Horizon 2002 Application with DG Research. Project includes a focus on Minimum Income Schemes. | EAPN will have two roles in the project, 1) advisory, 3) organsiae national stakeholder meetings in 6 countries. Total budget for EAPN 40.000 |  |  |
| 1. **Journalism from Below: Project ked by EAPN Austria.** Project focusing on media coverage on poverty.EAPN Austria involving a number of EAPN Netwroks (Croatia, Hungary)with some finacial support for two Netwrosk in central Europe | No funds for EAPN Europe |  |  |

**ANNEX 1) PROJECT ON TRANS-NATRIONAL EXCHANGE IN THE ESF**

* EAPN part of winning bid to set up Technical Assistance Office for European Social Fund transnationality Platform 2015-19
* It is an annual contract renewable up to 4 Years. Working to the National Managing Authorities and to the Commission and expecting to engage stakeholders. Lead Organisation AEIDL.
* ***Outcomes expected from the Project:***
* Direct contributions to ESF priorities
* Better articulation of the benefits and success factors of transnational working
* Stronger networking contacts among practitioners and stakeholders
* Good practices which policy-makers can use and adapt
* Better national policies
* More labour mobility and productivity
* ***Tasks***
* Manage 2 Co-ordinated calls for transnational exchanges
* Strategic orientation and animation of up to 10 thematic networks (3 meetings per year per thematic network)
* Partner search database
* Info line & FAQs
* Communication work – newsletter …
* Good Practices: at least 40 case studies
* Events: 1 Conference (200) or Seminar (75) per year
* ***Thematic Areas (Expert)***
* Employment (Allen Merver)
* Inclusion (EAPN, Sian Jones support from Fintan Farrell)
* Youth Employment (Eddy Adams)
* Learning and Skills (Armelle Ledan)
* Social Economy (Doretea Daniele)
* Governance and Public Administration (Benedict Wauters)
* Simplification (Luca Santin)
* Partnership (Leda Stott)
* ***EAPN Role:***
* To contribute to the overall development of the work programme as part of the team.
* To support the Thematic Network on Inclusion
* Likely subthemes for the Inclusion Thematic Network to be agreed with Commission and Managing Authorities
* Integrated Active Inclusion: inclusive labour markets, access to services, income support related to activation, social participation
* Integrated approaches to investing in Children and tackling homelessness and housing exclusion
* Development of social services, in particular support to independent living
* Groups experiencing disadvantage: Roma, Migration, People with disabilities..
* Territorial approaches and empowerment of local communities (Community led local development)
* EAPN has the equivalent of one day a week for this work.
* In this role EAPN is well placed to encourage better stakeholder engagement at EU and National Level.

**ANNEX 2) FEAD PROGRAMME:**

* EAPN part of winning bid to set up FEAD Platform for exchange of experience and dissemination of outcomes.
* It is an annual contract renewable up to 4 Years. Working to the Commission. Lead Organisation ECORYs.
* ***Tasks for the Project***
* Structuring the themes and tools for exchange of experience, capacity building and networking in relation to the EAD Fund and the establishment of the FEAD Platform
* Ensuring online presence of FEAD (web pages and electronic networking tools)
* Organising Network Events (Launch Conference -200 people. 3 one day meetings on FEAD Network (70 people)
* Collection of good practices
* Expert and logistic support
* ***EAPN Role:***
* EAPN Europe: 16 days for expertise involvement to contribute to overall development of the work programme as part of the team.
* 3 days (approximately 1500 Euro) for 9 Networks to organise a national stakeholder meeting (20 persons) plus 200 euro for expenses for each meeting. These meetings should happen early in the life of the project and should contribute to the needs assessment on which the exchange programme will be built. Advice re the meetings will be given from the central team and it is expected that National Authorities responsible for the FEAD programme will assist with the development of the meetings. National Members of European Stakeholders involved with the FEAD programme should be invited to these meetings. These meetings are considered as pilots in Year one to see if it is a good way to engage stakeholders with a possibility to be rolled out to all countries in subsequent Years. The decision on which countries to include will be negotiated with the commission but important to have indications which Networks are ready to take on this Task. As always Networks could; 1) take on the task themselves 2) allocate the Task to one of their members who is well situated to do this work or 3) Appoint an individual expert who would take on this task for the Network.
* Possible to negotiate further involvement including expertise from EOs and National Networks for exchanges, peer reviews, development of case studies ….

**ANNEX 3: CONCEPT NOTE FOR EMIN (2) APPLICATION**

This proposal is developed without knowing the terms of reference of the call. It is expected that the ToR will focus a lot on public awareness, building national EMIN (networks/coalitions) and advocacy. The idea below should fit with that brief but would need to be adjusted to make a clear link to the call. In terms of promoting the idea for the next EMIN call we would need to stress the "educational"/"awareness raising"/"transnational exchange" value of the project both with policy makers and the general public - for instance, the visit in each country (and especially those with weak schemes) would need to have built in inputs on the value and effectiveness of minimum income schemes in promoting social inclusion.  Given the likely increased emphasis on minimum social standards it could be useful to emphasise this aspect of minimum income schemes. In any case the application would have to demonstrate the link to the current policy context.

The Proposal: **EveryoneontheBus.eu**

To build the application around a one Year tour of Europe: called **‘Everyone on the Bus’** – A journey for inclusion, for hope and for Europe. (That could be adjusted)

The inspiration for the idea comes from (Traveller Pilgrimages we did in Ireland, the Gandhian foot marches and nunsonthebus – USA initiative) but clearly the spirit behind this journey would be humanistic, focusing on the work of civil society and the right of everyone to live in dignity. It would be open to engagement from all who support the basic trust of the event and want to contribute. It is hoped that the sum of the event will be much more than the core which we provide.

It would be a really big wrap around bus (well-advertised-large visibility) that would journey across the 32 countries in the project. It would make four to five stops in each country (covering at least: 1) capital city 2) rural area 3) other less visited city 4) community of interest (Roma/Immigrants/Disabled people/. It would travel one day and stop the next day. On the stop days we would do four things (we may need a rest day every Sunday).

1. (AM) Show what civil society does to fight poverty: Visit civil society projects to show how the work to combat or alleviate poverty – showing that Minimum Income is only part of the answer and needs to fit in a wider context of access to services and work. While making the visit you would make an input on the state of play with regards to Minimum Income Schemes in Europe and their importance for the whole of the society, based on the work done in EMIN 1.
2. (PM) Show what politics does to fight poverty (concentrating on MIS) By gathering stories of the reality of living on Minimum Income Schemes or not having access to Minimum Income Schemes and have a meeting with some people who present their stories, people from the Bus and local, regional/national politicians and MEPs from the area. Again we would make an input on the importance of adequate and accessible Minimum Income Schemes based on the work of EMIN 1.
3. (Evening) Have a public meeting on the fight against poverty and social exclusion in Europe drawing attention to the importance of adequate and accessible Minimum Income Schemes and their positive value for the whole of the society.
4. Do some publicity work (local, regional national media, social media….)

An event involving the EU Institutional actors would be held to welcome the bus back to Brussels and to spread information and do some advocacy.

There would need to be about twenty people on the bus (EU Coordinator and National Coordinator, 2 drivers, 2 administrators, 4 to collect stories and work on media, 4 experts on Min Income Schemes (2 from the country). 2 people who have shared their stories from the country, 2 people from other countries who have shared stories of access to Minimum Income. 2 people from the National EMIN, 2 People from our EOs….) So it is not the same people the whole year. Accommodation would be by host families. Workers on the bus would be voluntary with a daily living allowance of 30 Euro. The wrap around on the bus would make it possible for people to sign if they commit to work to improve MIS – so that we can symbolically get everyone on the bus…

The job of the National EMINs would be

1. Continue to build a National EMIN Netwrok/coalition (these would be informal networks)
2. Prepare the visit of the bus
3. Follow and engage in national advocacy opportunities on MIS and document the work done
4. Identify at least three opportunities to present the work of EMIN (for example during, Semaine Social in France, General Meetings of Main Political Parties, Large gaterign of Trade Unions……)

A small team to draft an EU directive (it should be a very open process to input to the drafts). This should act as a model for elements of what should be in a well-functioning national legislation on Minimum Income so that we don’t use this just for the idea of a Directive but also as an educational tool and something that could be used for national advocacy work. At European level we will also follow up advocacy opportunities linked to the key EU Agenda.

The web site/blog would have spaces for Thanks (for all those who make it happen for instance would the Bus Union Workers provide drivers…) Peoples Stories, Civil Society visits, Things you can do, Links….The front page would be a blog of the events each day.

This is the core of the application. We don’t make too many demands on the national work but of course more could be done at national level by Networks that have the capacity. It should be easy to integrate our EOs into this application. It is hoped that the event would capture some imagination in the general public and that many other individuals and groups and institutions might want to engage and bring added value to the work.

Things to take account of:

* Below is a first unchecked budget for the event which indicates that it should eb possible to stick within the expected budget of 1.5 million for two years. We may need to rely on local support that is not costed (for example the evening public meetings can either be a simply gathering around the bus or it could be something bigger organised with cooperation from the local NGOs, civil society actors and local authorities. We could have someone sponsor the bus. We may need get sponsorship for ferry crossings…) We could see if an advertising agency would make the ‘wrap’ around for the bus’ for favourable rates.
* We may need to set up a voluntary committee at Brussels level to help with many of the practical issues involved. The National EMINs would have a big role to play.
* Below is a list of ideas received from reflections with partners from the first round. Some might be integrated into this proposal but some could be in a suggestions box on the blog of ‘things you can do’ and hope that others take up the ideas.
  + See interesting proposal by Graciela –out of the box (which could be an alternative approach, it could be that elements from this proposal could be part of the ‘What you could do’ section of the website and see if others pick up ideas and run with them)
  + Citizen’s Initiative (should we include this as part of the journey)
  + Ratify European Social Charter with full article 13 and organize events around the proces of implementation and control of it by Social Rights Committee
  + Develop strategies to counteract non-take-up
  + Develop work on reference budgets (including adequacy in older age)
  + Train local authorities/NGOs to deliver better MIS
  + Constitute Networks between countries with similar questions /concerns
  + Build on existing Networks not build new ones (National EMIN Networks should not be formal but more alliances to work together to achieve identified tasks)
  + Gather stories and develop ‘fact sheets/myth boosters based on the realities
  + To promote an award for the best journalists reporting on the issue of MIS
  + Campaign in the main supermarket where passers-by are challenged to manage the MIS beneficiary budged for one month shopping basket.
  + To organize a “dramatized exhibition” in which the participants are invited to follow pathways (labyrinth) adopting the role (role-playing) of a MIS beneficiary, living the different social situations that these beneficiaries usually face. Along the labyrinth the participants will interacting with actors that would push them to feel like a beneficiary or forcing them to make “impossible choices”. The social situations/spaces should be identified through a previous work made with MIS beneficiaries and can include the following situations: access to the MIS and contact with social workers (bureaucracy but also invasion of privacy); access to employment (employment interview as a beneficiary; dealing with bad jobs proposals); looking for and affordable house rent; budged management for the daily expenses; respond to family needs; etc. At the end of each space/stage, the participants should have access to official data on that issue as well as the existing stereotypes. At the end of the labyrinth, the participants should be invite to leave messages for national end European politicians.
  + Creative campaigning: For example the “Minimum-Income-Lemon” in every European country > Giving a lemon to a ministry / local government for bad practice in minimum income (get into the media, get pressure on political level)
  + Proposals for a common week or day of action
  + local pilot project for example on adequate income and sustainable entry to employment, etc.,
  + More targeted research
  + sponsored sport manifestations (running for adequate minimum income...)
  + visual campaigns with media attention, eg. building bridges that don't bridge a (small) river
  + TIA (There Is an Alternative) against TINA (There is No Alternative) approach - Presenting good practices (for example, Germany 30 years ago; welfare states)
  + Documentary Film
  + Check up points in different EU countries: comparing price levels of basic food items for example in Lidl or Billa, etc.
  + Further work to follow up on the not-take-up issue

**Provisional Structure and Budget for EMIN 2: Please note that this is a very first draft of a budget and has not been checked**

**Staffing: (Total 163,700.00)**

1. Project Manager: 1.5 days per week for 2 years (135 days)
2. Administrator: 1 day a week for 2 years (90 days)
3. Finance officer: Half a day a week for 2 years (45 Days)
4. Policy Coordinator: (60 days)
5. Communication officer: (60 days)

**Management and Support Groups: (Total 150000)**

1. Management Group: 7 people, 3 travelling from outside Brussels meeting 4 times over the project for 1 day each meeting
2. National Coordinators European Meetings: 32 National Coordinators meeting 4 times over the life of the project for 1.5 days each meeting. Allow extra 10 people for catering.
3. Voluntary Support Committee (Brussels based): Allow for a committee of 50 who meet 10 times over the life of the project. You just need to budget tea/coffee biscuits.
4. Support Committee in the European Parliament: Do need to budget.

**National Support (Total 672000)**

1. Coordination (Coordinator/administration) 18.000 x 32 National Co-Ordinations
2. Travel for meetings 2000 x 32
3. Room Hire/catering 1000 x 32

**Bus Trip (Total 46800)**

1. Bus: (1 Year Depreciation) 10.000
2. Wrap around advertising for the Bus: 4000
3. Adjustments of the bus to make some eating space: 2000
4. Collapsible stage and Public Address System that can go in the hold of the Bus: 2000
5. Petrol/Diesel: 20000
6. 6/7 Ferry Trips (Iceland, UK, Irl, Malta, Cyprus, Finland) 2800
7. Insurance/Tax: 5000
8. Tole Roads: 1000

**Personnel on the Bus: Total 390400**

1. 2 Drivers (360 days): 160.000
2. 60 travels to allow people join the bus (PeP and MI Experts) – 14400 Euro
3. Daily Allowance: 20 people, 20/30 euro per day for 360 days (144000/216000 Euro)
4. Accommodation (Voluntary – Host Families)

**Estimated total cost 1,422,900 Euro**