

Summary of the Annual report 2010 of EAPN Netherlands

2010 - Europees jaar tegen armoede
2010 - European year against poverty



No money
No activities



www.eapned.nl

The European Anti Poverty Network Netherlands is a national network taking part in EAPN Europe. As EAPN Netherlands we undertook the following activities in 2010, the European Year against Poverty and Social Exclusion.

We brought forward a project for support to the ministry of Social Affairs & Employment. The content of this project was to bring together youngsters from different schools through the land, let them work on several art performances, discussions, on the issues of poverty and exclusion, and asking them at the end to start at their own College and within their own municipality actions concerning poverty and exclusion within the frame work 2010.

Unfortunately our project was rejected for funding.

This made our work extra difficult, since we are a non subsidized NGO. All activities we execute are either paid by a principal or by funding through foundations.

In 2010 EAPN Netherlands was involved or leading in.

1. Organising and executing a local poverty conference –for local welfare organisations, client councils, schools, churches, trade unions, sport clubs, etc.- in the municipality of Krimpen aan den IJssel on the 28th of January. It was a different approach which was very well welcomed by the participants. The aim of this conference was to build a local poverty alliance.

2. Facilitating a poverty workshop in the municipality of Capelle aan den IJssel on the 2nd of February. Aim was to start the EU Year 2010.

3. Organising and executing a local poverty conference in the municipality of Schagen on the 12th of February. The location was stunning, the castle of Schagen. On the 1st of December we invited the participants to look back at the conference. What did it deliver, what did you do with the results, what did the local council do with the results.

Participants were local politicians, civil servants, local organisations, the poor and excluded themselves.

4. Organising and executing a local poverty conference in the municipality of Houten on the 28th of October.

Participants were local politicians, civil servants, local organisations, the poor and excluded themselves.

Out of this conference EAPN NL was asked to built small projects, involving the poor and excluded, in which the people themselves take the lead and which are supported by the local welfare organisation.

5. Together with the Poor Side of South Holland/ Social Work within the Churches of South Holland, a coalition of regional and local initiatives, mostly formed by the poor and excluded themselves and client councils and supported by the churches, we organised on the 3rd of December an international Symposium “Poverty within Europe”. We invited colleagues from the Belgium Anti Poverty Network and the German National Poverty Conference as speakers. The outcomes of this meeting will be transferred to the consultation on the Joint Reform Program, for which the Dutch government invited EAPN NL to hand in a written reaction.

6. We participated in a market place, held in Rotterdam, to celebrate the 17th of October.

7. We participated in the conference, held in Rotterdam in February, by the WACAP, the World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty, a part of the United Nations Development Programme.

8. EAPN NL was asked to speak at the conferences

- Copore (Competences for Poverty Reduction), speaker Quinta Ansem
- Caritas NRW (Germany), European Forum, speaker Jo Bothmer
- Citizens Consultation, speaker Quinta Ansem
- Caritas Paderborn (Germany), Seminar "Chances and Challenges", speaker Jo Bothmer

9. EAPN NL took part in EAPN Europe activities

- Quinta Ansem as member of the European Executive
- five delegates for the General Assembly at Limassol, Cyprus
- a delegation to the 9th European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty
- Quinta Ansem participated in the Round Table Poverty and Social Exclusion
- Alida Smeekes is member of the Task Force Social Inclusion
- Quinta Ansem is member of the Task Force Employment

10. EAPN NL, Quinta Ansem, took part in the network which is created by the ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. In this network participate, amongst others, the ministry itself, Movision, the Verwey-Jonker Institute.

11. Last but not least we took our share of the work in the working group Poverty & Energy, which is a coalition between persons working as energy consultants and EAPN NL.

We had a meeting with the ministries of SA&E and of Housing to discuss the fact that poor people pay a substantial part of their income for energy costs. That this can be reduced if the government is willing to take steps on isolation and building new houses which are energy neutral for the low incomes. This first meeting did not bring anything at all, but it was just the start of a discussion that has to be brought forward.

Driebergen Rijsenburg, 8th of June 2011

Jo Bothmer