

Interim Reports PeP 2014

Austria

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

- **First:** collection of the travel experiences of the recent years for introduction and preparation of the new participants.
- **Working through** and translation of the actual preparation paper and explications by Michi Schütte about the preparation meeting in January 2014
- **Tasks** until the next preparation meeting. Everybody knows about good, or bad working projects from his/her experiences. It is necessary to get more information about funding.
- **Tasks** to prepare the group about the next funding period 2014 to 2020 of the structural funds. Eugen is looking for a member of the social ministry to explain and discuss the actual draft. After consultation with Judith Pühringer (member of the board of EAPN-Austria) the proposal is to invite

Mag. Bibiana Klingseisen

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3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

The election of the delegation for the 13th PEP-Meeting (September 2014) has taken place during the „Sichtbar Werden“ Meeting in June 2014 with a sociocratic election. The task has been to create a tourgroup with new participants and former participants with travel experiences to Brussels, and experiences to represent the „Sichtbar Werden“ Community and individual organisations in their work against poverty.

Elected:

1. Traude Lehner
2. Herbert Weissengruber
3. Gertrud Niedl
4. Johann Kröll
5. Coordinator: Michael Schütte

Elected replacements

Christine Sallinger
Josef Hofer
Susanne Stockinger
Günther Lahr

Belgium**1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:**

The report from last meeting was published on our website : <http://bapn.be/index.asp?M=16&lang=1>

The report was also presented to the PPS Social Integration, anti-Poverty Policy, Social Economy and Federal Urban Policy and to the Secretary of State responsible for the fight against poverty, Maggie De Block.

We used the report in our activities in the framework of the EMIN (European Minimum Income Network) project.

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

We sent an invitation to the regional agencies responsible for the Structural Funds in Belgium. We invited them to have a meeting to prepare our input for this year's pep meeting. They will provide us the relevant information, and we will have a discussion together on how the funds can become a stronger instrument in the fight against poverty.

The Flemish Agency confirmed already they are interested in starting this process together.

We are collecting the relevant existing material (information documents, position papers,...) already done by the Belgian Network on this subject. We also invited our local associations to give us relevant information on their experiences with project financed by EU funding.

During a first preparation meeting, we provided information to potential candidates on the history, program, goals of the PEP meetings in general and also on this year's theme and program. With our working group BAPN EU2020, we had a first discussion to introduce the theme. Next meetings are planned in July and August, where we will have more in depth discussions on the funding of the fight against poverty.

We already invited some of our Members of European Parliament to the pep meeting, and received some positive feedback.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

We can contribute to the energizers, but did not discuss a concrete proposal yet.

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

In our preparation meeting, we held on the 4th of June, we did a brainstorm on who we will contact. Names that were mentioned:

- Gilbert goddard : ca peut arriver à tout le monde
- Adamo
- Arno
- Frères d'Ardenes
- Grand Jojo
- Benoit Poelvoorde
- Olivier Gourmet
- Jan Declair + Reinhilde Declair
- Axelle Red
- Michelf Dewolf
- Vincent Kompany
- Wilmots
- Robbe de Hert
- Toots Thielemans
- Cécile de France

These people will be contacted by the national coordinator of the Belgian delegation.

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

The procedure:

- Info meeting about PEP meeting : what ? who ? history ? goals ? Practical information.
- Information was send to all our members, with the demand for candidates
- We received candidatures from people from all regions of Belgium
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- We made a selection, keeping in mind diversity in terms of experience, thematic knowledge, gender balance, geography
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The delegation :

- Elke Vandermeerschen (national coördinator)
- Daniel Meuleman (Flemish Region)
- Christelle Versluys (Brussels)
- André Dessy (Walloon region)

- Further name to follow

Bulgaria

- 1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:
- 2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:
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- 4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):
- 5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Cyprus

- 1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:
- 2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:
- 3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:
- 4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):
- 5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Czech Republic

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

6. 15th October Seminar on University of Ostrava on "Families at risk of poverty" within Days for the eradication of poverty, Caritas Ostrava and the Salvation Army follow the action of International Day for the Eradication of Poverty in Silesian deacony: lectures and discussions for secondary schools on issues related to poverty and social exclusion, a collection of supplies for families with children at risk of poverty, meeting with people

living without shelter, food collection organized by I. Sniegoňová.

7. 16th October: "European Opportunities" – regional 7th conference on the use of EU Structural Funds in the Moravian-Silesian region, Havířov. Participation: I. Sniegoňová.
8. 17th October: Open Air Happening of EAPN Czech Republic Day of the fight against poverty in Ostrava - participation K. Schwarz, S. Brisova, S. Mrózek.
9. 24th October EAPN CR seminar "Current issues of social housing and the 2020" in Prague, was attended by members and cooperating organizations. The main report was held by Ilja Hradecky/ FEANTSA.
10. October, November - Volunteers at food collections for people at risk of poverty and social exclusion – organized by food bank in Ostrava.

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

Large organizations for social work, which are members of EAPN Czech Republic strongly perceived urgency of the problem of homeless women. During this year's meeting in Brussels on this issue we would like to point out. For this reason, this year will go as a delegate for the Czech Republic only women. In connection with the issue of female homelessness this year in partnership with leading providers of social services we develop a comprehensive study, whose purpose is thorough mapping of the phenomenon of female homelessness. The results of this research will be available EAPN and will be used for the drafting of legislative proposals that could help in solving this problem.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

Because of the recent progress we have elections do not transmit any invitation only, we řipravili list of persons who have certain links and we'll invite. They are:

- ✦ Roman Haken and Jaroslav Nemeč - members of the Economic and Social Committee.
- ✦ řtefan Füle and Pavel Telička - Commissioners
- ✦ Pavel Poc - MEP
- ✦ Miroslav Fuchs - Social Attaché

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

- ✦ Stanislav Mrózek (national coordinator), Margita Balogová, Pavla Stanovská, Alena Hlaváčová, It is not yet decided

Denmark

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

Our international working group deals with homelessness and poverty in a broader, European context. Members are amongst other things deeply engaged in the setting up of HOPE, and also in the FEANTSA Participation working group. The preparation for this years' meeting is linked to the activities of SANDs international working group and everybody takes part in the preparation, even though not everybody will attend the meeting. When the names are picked, the preparation will continue in the larger forum of the international working group, as well as in a smaller group consisting of the delegates and the national coordinator.

SAND – of course – specifically feels that we can contribute to the 'Homeless not Hopeless' workshop and some of our preparation will be concerning this topic.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Vis á vis the names of the delegates, they will be confirmed at a working group meeting tomorrow – and I'll then forward the names to you.

Estonia

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

After PEP meeting in Brussels, the Estonian team and network members took part of two meetings. One was held in local Foodbank and all representatives of EAPN Estonia members participated. This meeting gave an overview of the PEP meeting to other members and it was a good practice sharing event. The other event was cooking together in Märjamma, in Uuetoa farm of which all PEPs took part with their families.

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

We discussed the thematics and possible members of our delegation for this year's PEP meeting during EAPN Estonia meeting in March. I, as a National Coordinator, have had meeting with some of the delegation members in April and EAPN Estonia leader Kärt Mere in May in order to introduce the background of EAPN/PEP meetings and to discuss this year's meeting. Additional meetings planned for summer months.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as

mentioned in the preparation note above:

I know some energizers, but I am not sure that they fit, because are more of an active nature and suitable for youth.

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

In august Arvamusfestival (Opinion festival) will take place and we are aiming for that event for messages of support. We also gained support from this year's European Parliament candidates.

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Heiki Viisimaa, Agnes Ojakivi, Laura Mallene, Greete Veesalu

Finland

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

We have had 3 meetings and the next one on 3rd week in June. Discussions are concerned widely the topics given. However, homelessness, micro entrepreneurship, (artists and single people employing themselves), minimum income including question about social security vs. forced working, immigration, are some question rising above others. Our purpose is to provide a whole chart of social problems in Finland. We have planned to be even more active from mid August.

- We can provide presentation about difficulties of artists, handicraft makers and other single people planning his/her own career by creative action without forgetting the everyday cruel life of surviving. We provide a slide show about a special happening: "Artmaker in a Courtyard" (3.-7.6.2014). We arranged 1) some interesting discussions with young (and older) starting artists, as well as 2) a whole day of professional information about social security and health care, taxation and VAT- affairs, business ideas, funding and marketing 3) we were able to provide free exhibition space for participates' works. "Artmaker in a Courtyard" was arranged and conducted by "Who is listening to the poor?" –network. Kari Lehtonen as the coach. Co-arranger was the Common social work of Helsinki parishes.
- Some solutions and practices for homeless people, especially men having drug problems.
- Conditioning long term unemployed and handicapped people to new job and better private life. Small scale group actions.

Workshops

The Finnish delegate of 5 persons try to split 1 participant in each workshops. But we want to stress 3 of them: Minimum Income, Homeless not hopeless (participation) and Youth and poverty. We also see that workshops Minimum income and Wealth and Inequality consist mainly common features.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

- EAPN-Fin board members in a meeting.
- Who is listening to the poor?—network.
- VVRY. Association for homeless people. Member of Fiansa.
- National Union of People with Mobility Disabilities.
- “My economic” -network project (Mun talous- project) collects and shares information about the network incidents and inform young people’s financial know-how and debt-related issues.
- Union of Helsinki parishes. Common social work.
- Several organizations of specific diseases.
- Balder foundation. “Living without drugs”.
- FinSern. Research of Social entrepreneurship.
- Finnish Parliament. The group against poverty.
- Setlementiliitto.

5) The names of your delegation for this Year’s meeting:

Mr. Kari Lehtonen National coordinator. Mr. Reijo Pipinen Expert in homelessness. Fiantsa. Ms. Arja Tyynelä Coaching unemployed people for new jobs. Still pending: Mr. Jussi Lindevall Working for rights of long term sick people and lower medicine prices. Ms. Pirjo Lindgren Micro entrepreneur, art café, ceramics.

France

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year’s meeting is progressing:

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year’s meeting:

FYROM (Macedonia)

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

Documentary film was made on IPA funds. We are waiting for the translation so we can send the material. The material was made by very famous Macedonian journalist .The documentary film was shown on Macedonian TV as this was topic that many spoke recently .In the this documentary we involved Roma person, young and unemployed and working poor. We had guest expert on IPA funds and a deputy Minister on Social Welfare.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

We are having meeting next week and our delegation will be very happy to prepare an energizer.

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

Additionally we will prepare message of support.

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Meri Pavlovska,Sunal Subrioski ,Sasko Jovanov and Goran Janevski.

Germany - will have interim report at the end of June

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Greece

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

Ms Sahinidou and Ms Vergi could contribute as energizers during the PEP meeting.

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see

preparation note):

We haven't come up yet with messages of support. We will come back to you about that in the next days.

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Ms Eleftheria Bellou, Ms Irene Sahinidou, Ms Chrisoula Siopa, Ms Dina Vardaramatou, Mr Konstantinos Varoudis, Ms Aphrodite Vergi (**I have written to remind that they can only have 5 delegates**)

All these people speak English and one of them speaks also French. These people are all unemployed or extremely under-paid, skilled, new-poor. Two of them are involved in activities that focus on empowerment, solidarity and ways to get out of the crisis. They were selected after a series of meetings and open discussions which took place among various agencies such as:

- NGOs, specially those that implement projects focusing on socially or/and economically excluded people and groups and which have "a pool" of beneficiaries such as single parent families, poor, unemployed, homeless, uninsured. This group was first in the list because NGOs implement many projects through structural funds.
- Local administration councils and committees such as the Immigrants Integration Council as well as ad hoc committees (at borough level). The topic of discussion of these meetings was two-fold: on the one hand to convey the message of 2023 PEP meeting and to encourage people to vote for the EU elections and for local elections (which took place on the same day).
- Contacts and meetings with other networks of NGOs
- Outreach activities at borough level.

All the above activities took place in Athens (I mean Athenian stakeholders) due to budget limitations. However, branches of NGOs in other cities such as Thessaloniki and Patras were contacted and debriefed so that themselves could serve as multipliers for 2013 PEP results and messages and provide with candidates for the 2014 meeting.

The greatest challenge we have come across while participating at the above meetings was the attitude of the majority of participants which cannot be labeled as resilience or suspicious but as lack of motivation and the effects of marginalization, exclusion and rejection. The feeling is that people have been paying a high price for what they are and not for something they did.

A few immigrants residing in Greece expressed their wish to participate in 2024 meeting. However, two of them were skeptical about it because they didn't feel safe and secure enough to leave their families behind even for a few days.

Hungary

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing: Have identified projects that are supported with ESF Funds and are discussing these project with people experiencing poverty and people who were involved. Will write up a project they would like to see supported based on the ALEN Project.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above: Will be happy to contribute with energisers

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting: In the process of agreeing delegation.

Iceland

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

Preparation is going slowly but surely, we are constructing meetings in the country in the next weeks to get more involvement so everything is finally looking better.

I can confirm that our delegation will be ready, willing and able for our annual PeP meeting.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Ireland

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

- All four delegates reported back to their organisations on the PEP and all four have remained active in their organisations and in EAPN Ireland (three of the four delegates had been new to the PEP and to EAPN Ireland).
- All four delegates took part in EAPN Ireland activities during the year, including:
 - EAPN Ireland seminar on 40 years since the poverty programme
 - Workshops for people experiencing poverty to prepare for the Government's Social Inclusion Forum (at the Forum, two of the PEP delegates were among a group of seven who presented the views of these regional seminars to the opening plenary)
 - 'hustings' and training seminars on the European parliament elections – (several outgoing MEPs referred to their discussions at the Irish tent at PEP 2013)

- The four delegates from PEP 2013 had an evaluation meeting in December 2013, with EAPN Ireland staff followed by a meeting with the Board of EAPN Ireland to discuss the learning from the meeting. Difficult questions about teamwork and conflict were discussed, as well as more positive messages
- One of the delegates, Mariaam Bhatti, attended the Platform Against Poverty in Brussels as part of the EAPN Ireland delegation
- The AGM of EAPN Ireland, in June 2013, discussed a presentation on the PEP 2013
- Most EAPN Ireland PowerPoint presentations have incorporated pictures from the PEP tents showing slogans and discussions (an example is enclosed with this e-mail). The EAPN Ireland profile Facebook photo is changed every couple of weeks, rotating pictures of slogans from various delegations at the PEP. ([link here](#))

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

To follow

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Potential delegates have been identified by the organising group and some have been approached, but the list has not yet been finalised.

Italy *Note: This report covers the period September 2013 - May 2014*

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

The national preparation and follow-up of the European meetings were enriched by the transnational project "Increasing participation and Citizenship in Europe – ICE" (Grundtvig - Learning Partnerships - see: www.iceproject.eu). The project is coordinated by CILAP and has the following partners: the Association di Volontariato Solidarietà Caritas di Firenze, EAPN Hungary, EAPN Austria, EAPN Netherlands. Transnational meetings for 2013 were held in the Netherlands, Hungary and Austria. In 2014 we had two transnational meetings in Italy: Avellino, in January and Florence in May. Each meeting was preceded by national meetings to prepare the national delegations and to link this work with the European meeting of people experiencing poverty.

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

CILAP's working group "participation of people in poverty" encompasses both people in poverty and people who went through the experience but have overcome it. This group, with a fluctuating membership of 40 people and a core group of about 15 people decided that it was time to renew the delegation to the European meetings and therefore started a process, involving young people through focus groups held in various parts of the country. Each focus group will express its points

of view in relation to the European Meeting's topic and a delegate. As of today we held three working groups: in Florence, in Cassino (South) and in Bari.

- On June 6th there will be a regional conference (Bitonto, Bari) on the links between poverty and school drop-out or early school leaving. Approximately 100 people are expected to participate between people in poverty, educators, teachers, etc. (see attached brochure)
- In July there will be the last focus group in Avellino (date to be confirmed)
- Beginning of September – meeting between the “old” and the “new” delegation so that the new delegation can be “trained” directly by the old one in a sort of “passing the baton”.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting: Names by end June

Latvia

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

It is planned to hold one thematic preparation meeting regarding topic of 2014 PEP (structural funds and poverty, availability / use of structural funds in poverty reduction) for delegates in late July / early August. Other preparation requirements will be reviewed during this meeting.

Another meeting is planned in September to deliver practical information and instructions before the event. This might be replaced by sending out detailed instructions (to save financial & time resources) for those coming from distant regions.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

The invitation to nominate candidates for 13th People Experienced Poverty Meeting was disseminated between the member organizations of EAPN-Latvia. The Board of “EAPN-Latvia” had a discussion regarding selection criteria for delegates, and decided to hold interviews with candidates, as well as to provide variety of different delegates experiencing poverty coming from

different regions of Latvia and with different living situation. Thus, the “shape” of to be Latvian delegation formed as follows: one female candidate from a county in Western Latvia, one female candidate from a small town in Eastern Latvia, and one male candidate from Riga.

Names of the Delegates (after selection, as confirmed with EAPN Secretariat – 4 delegates from Latvia) The list was finalized and approved by the Board decision of “EAPN-Latvia” of May 30th, 2014:

11. Elīna Ālere-Fogele, Association “EAPN-Latvia”, national co-ordinator for the PEP meeting;
12. Valda Stadgale, Association “Jumītis”;
13. Modra Vilkauša, Association “Pieaugušo izglītības projekts” (Educational Project for Adults);
14. Viesturs Fogels, Association “EAPN-Latvia”, volunteer IT specialist.

Lithuania

- 1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:
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- 4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):
- 5) The names of your delegation for this Year’s meeting:

Luxemburg

- 1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:
- 2) How the preparations for this year’s meeting is progressing:
- 3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:
- 4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):
- 5) The names of your delegation for this Year’s meeting:

Malta

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

APF Malta is currently preparing for the upcoming PEP Meeting. A preliminary meeting with stakeholders was held while discussions were held with all APF Malta members to identify the participants for this year's meeting. Following the identification of participants, a meeting will be held in the coming weeks with the Maltese delegation for a briefing on the PEP Meeting agenda for this year. APF Malta will then organise a round-table conference with people experiencing poverty and Structural Funds experts, members of Parliament and NGOs to exchange concrete ideas on the use of structural funds for social inclusion. During this round-table conference, examples of how funds can be used to fight poverty will be given.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

The National Coordinator for Malta will be - Fr Vincent Magri: Delegation is composed as follows: - Fr Vincent Magri, Ms Cynthia Zerafa. Mr Neil Bonnici, Mr David de Bono

Netherlands

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

We are bringing together a delegation at this moment.

- one person coming from the national self organization of mentally ill
- one is co ordinator (voluntary) of an local Open House
- one person from a local organization of persons with a mental handicap.

I am in contact with several other organizations and hope to have the fourth delegate at the end of the month. Than we will start our preparation.

Norway

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

After PEP meeting in Brussels, the Norwegian Network "Velferdsalliansen" has held several meetings with some delegates from member organizations. Focus has always been oriented to combating poverty and social exclusion. At the same time, minimum income which is one of Velferdsalliansen's goals has always been one of the topics.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to get the key political actors and the media because poverty is not interesting for them!

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

- Norwegian's organizations are not part of these programs with structural fund but we have sent a request/invitation to all our 30 members' organizations that they should contribute with what they know about structural fund.
- Because of the lack of funds, we did most part of the preparation via telephone, e-mail. We provided information to potential candidates on the history, program, goals of the PEP meetings in general and also on this year's theme and program.
- In the beginning of this week, we had our first meeting where we examine the information and materials in our possession. We agreed on the distribution of tasks for further preparations. Next meeting are planned in August 20 and the last one before leaving to Brussels in September. Meanwhile, the coordinator will be responsible for collecting what others have found.
- This two-days meeting was of great importance for us to have the same understanding of the theme of PEP 2014 which is a new concept for the members of our network.
- We have a list of slogans and continuing discussion to agree on what we should present. Nevertheless we agreed to maintain one of the slogans of the last year PEP meeting "POVERTY IS LIKE A PUNISHMENT FOR A CRIME YOU DIDN'T COMMIT" .
- We have also had a review for the thematic workhops
- We agree on who should prepare an example /project which can be a good or bad example, ect.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

We will contact the Norwegian representatives in Brussels but the experience of the last year PEP meeting with these representatives is not motivating.

The Norwegian delegation will contribute to the morning sessions (energizers) but we did not discuss a concrete proposal yet

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

- Jarle Holseter
- Torill Nerlien
- Per Vestvik
- Petra Kjeller Brooke
- Honoratte Muhanzi Kashale

Poland

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

Unfortunately, we do not have any information from the Polish delegation to the PEP 2013 meeting. We received only general information from the coordinator.

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

Until the end of May we organized five meetings with people experiencing poverty. Each meeting was attended by about 20 different people. Each meeting was dedicated to the main topic of the PEP 2014 and topics that will be discussed at the workshops. Based on the collected information and opinions delegates prepare to participate in the plenary sessions and workshops. Delegates were also asked to prepare a short messages of support. The best of them will be presented in Brussels.

One of the next meetings will be held in the office of the Ombudsman where delegates will have the opportunity to present the collected opinions and talk about the situation of people experiencing poverty in Poland.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

Of course, the Polish delegates will contribute the morning sessions (energizers). We are not ready to lead the meeting but we have a proposal that can be used during the energizers. Each delegation should prepare sheets of paper with painted national flags and written slogans related to the PEP meeting. Before the meeting, delegates should fold these sheets into the paper airplanes and throw them in the direction of people watching this happening. Paper airplanes in an unusual way intrigue and increase interest in the energizer. There will also be a carrier of information about the PEP meeting.

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Here are the names of Polish delegates: Dariusz Suszwedyk – coordinator, Janusz Maciejowski, Marek Walczak, Kazimierz Waslicki, Marian Legart, Piotr Busz

Portugal

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

Introduction

Enhancing the participation of people experiencing poverty is for EAPN Portugal a key area of action in the fight against poverty and social exclusion. Social integration cannot be attained without consulting those concerned, who in turn expect to be respected, and the conditions for comprehensive social integration to be improved in an atmosphere of equality. In fact, if we want a Europe for citizens we need to promote more participation. This is especially true for those that are excluded but whose contribution is a key element of improving social inclusion. The national Consultative Council of people Experiencing Poverty (NCC) that EAPN Portugal developed since 2009, aims to actively involve people that are living (or lived) in poverty in EAPN's fight against poverty and social exclusion. The NCC monitors and evaluates relevant national policies through information, training, research and participative planning of actions that help combat poverty. The work of these citizens also helps the networks gather information on their needs and problems, through direct contact with the difficulties they experience as well as the strategies they use to overcome them. This helps EAPN Portugal identify new strategies and new evaluation instruments of social indicators which are taken up in the lobby work.

This structure counts on the participation of approximately 90 citizens who live or have lived in poverty and/or social exclusion, involved in 18 Local Consultative Councils (LCC). These working groups are very heterogeneous, representing living testimonies connected to a variety of problems: domestic violence, drug addiction, unemployment, new forms of poverty, disabilities, illnesses, homelessness, etc. The groups are sufficiently balanced in terms of gender or age, most of them with low school qualifications. There are some members having had partial university education.

Follow up from last year's meeting:

As mentioned above, the involvement and participation of people experiencing poverty in the decision-making process and in the development of projects and initiatives aimed at them takes one of the main principles of our action. Thus, since 2009 that EAPN Portugal has been organizing National Meetings of People Experiencing Poverty and Social Exclusion with the aim:

- Recognize the right of people experiencing poverty and social exclusion to live in dignity and participate fully in society;
- Listening to people experiencing poverty and / or social exclusion, on the various systems with which they interact in their daily lives, promoting their right to be heard on issues that directly affect their lives;
- To promote dialogue between the various entities responsible for the different areas of intervention and opinions, criticism and wishes of People Living in Poverty.
- To give visibility to the fight against poverty and social exclusion

Normally, these meetings take place in October, within the scope of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17th of October), to promote the involvement of people experiencing situations of social disadvantage and to know their perceptions of the policies and measures to combat poverty and / or social exclusion. So we use these to give the feedback of the key findings of the issues and themes addressed in the European Meeting. This

presentation has been made by the Portuguese delegation that was present in Brussels. Thus, these National Meetings have allowed to give greater visibility to the European meetings, as well as the opportunity to disseminate the issues addressed and the main results.

Regarding the 12th meeting, the findings were presented at the Fifth National Forum held on 14 and 15 October 2013, where the Portuguese delegation had the opportunity to present the preparatory work as well as the conclusions of the meeting. One of the moments that the Portuguese delegation highlighted was the opportunity to meet with the MEPs and present their concerns about the Portuguese reality as well as their recommendations. The presentation of these findings in the National Forum is of great importance because this event has participants from 18 districts and therefore has greater visibility and the opportunity to continue the work done by the delegation. The results of the 12th meeting were also released in the various information channels that EAPN Portugal has (FOCUSSOCIAL magazine; web page, Facebook, etc.)_ see annex 1

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

There were developed so far three preparatory meetings to present and reflect on the issue of Funding the Fight against Poverty (Investing in the European Poverty Reduction Target). At these meetings, we had the opportunity to meet and share experiences in this area within the delegation. The meetings occurred at the following times:

- ◆ 20 of May _ Porto (presentation of the meeting program and logistical issues associated with the meeting and a first reflection on this theme with the issues defined by EAPN and the life experiences of the delegates. At this meeting, it was possible to have the participation of a person from EAPN Portugal that has been following this issue at national level in order to provide a set of relevant information in this field, including positions and recommendations of EAPN Portugal on the new programming period and priorities that are considered important in order to contribute to combat poverty and social exclusion in Portugal.

The reflection and debate had focused on three key questions: a) What are Structural Funds? How the Structural Funds have contributed to the fight against poverty and social exclusion? Identifying some strategies and practices that have succeeded from the implementation of these Funds?

Outcomes to date:

- Systematizing of information on Structural Funds at national level.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

We haven't come up yet with messages of support. We will come back to you about that in the next days.

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

The Portuguese delegation is composed of five persons. The selection of people who are part of the Portuguese delegation had in mind the following criteria: people who are part of the Local Consultative Councils of People Experiencing Poverty and social exclusion streamlined in each district by EAPN Portugal, to have in the delegation one delegate that was in the last European Meeting and geographically representative. Thus, the Portuguese delegation consists of the following elements:

- Maria José Vicente (national coordinator), Ana Magalhães _ Vila Real, Ana Rafael _ Setúbal, Marina Ferreira _ Viseu, Ana Cristina Pereira – Journalist _ to confirm (Porto)

Romania

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

Romania didn't participate in last year meeting.

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

World Vision Romania has been designated by RENASIS to lead the preparation of participation. As the theme for this year's meeting is "**Funding the Fight against Poverty and Social Exclusion**" World Vision Romania started local consultation with parents and children around the quality in education, especially in the most vulnerable (rural) areas, as a particular focus area for achieving the Europe 2020 Agenda on education. Education (both in terms of access and quality of services provided) is a key to addressing poverty, including by EU-funded programs in Romania (Erasmus+, SEF).

For the meeting in September we will seek participation of PEP that are parents of children or youth who are struggling to access quality education as a way to avoid the perpetuation of poverty. In preparation of this meeting WVR has started to work on local awareness raising in this topic to prepare PEP to understand their rights and the importance of participation in local to national decisions for improved educational services for children and youth. Local consultations (in rural communities) have been organized in over 15 communities, with the participation of over 700 parents and children (including representatives of the most vulnerable groups), local authority representatives and school staff, to discuss about plans to address the need to increase quality of education in rural areas. Representatives to PEP meeting in September will be selected from the interested adults and youth participants.

The selection criteria developed for the potential participants in the meeting include willingness and ability to represent a voice for their communities. Additionally people will be prepared to discuss about how the Structural Funds had been impacted the ability of families, especially the most vulnerable ones, to maintain their children in school, and how they have (or not) contributed to addressing the needs of most vulnerable persons experiencing poverty.

Plan for preparation activities:

1. Set selection criteria for PEP to participate in the 13th EU meeting with local teams; disseminate opportunity and select PEP Participants; **completed by end of May;**

2. Identify a journalist willing to participate to PEP local preparatory meetings and to PEP meeting in Brussels – **to be identified by end of June**
3. Prepare and organize a first preparatory meeting with PEP participants, work on data for report; **end June;**
4. Organize a second meeting with PEP, facilitated dialogue between PEP and Ministry/national Agencies representatives to discuss how the Structural Funds can address the specific needs expressed by PEP; submit report of meeting – **by mid August**
5. Disseminate results in the national Media;
6. Submit preparatory report for PEP meeting according to the Information Note for National Coordinator paper – **5th September;**

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

A journalist will be identified by end of June to be invited as a participant to the meeting in Brussels.

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

The delegates will be selected at the end of the June meetings and will be communicated as soon as possible.

Serbia are getting ready

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Slovakia

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

Since March 2014 SAPN met several times and part of the agenda was preparation for 13. Meeting of PeP in September 2014 in Brussels.

We organised meeting with the new candidates to EP before the election and discussed their attitudes how to focus on social inclusion and fight against poverty. One of the candidates prepared analyse of the using funds EU. So, we discussed it. One of our member became candidate to EP. But, he was not successful one. We tried to focus on fight against poverty in other meetings, too.

We met also during the Conference „Social Inclusion and Fight against Poverty in Bratislava, and discussed also way of choice Slovak delegates.

There are two preparation meetings for 13th Meeting of PeP, in middle and eastern Slovakia, with the name of the delegates at the end of June 2014 and preparation of the transparents with the slogan, and detailed scenery.

We discussed the funding the fight against the poverty and social exclusion, and we proposed to cooperate with the donors and other NGO ´s , as for example Ekopolis Fundation responsible in Slovakia for Iceland, Norway and Lichtenstein Funding, and we arranged co-finance.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

We prepared energiser, by young people experiencing poverty from the dramatic group Eldorado called So, it is..... about child poverty. We presented it for young people, middle school students, school- leavers. More than 30% of Slovak school-leavers are unemployed ones. We discussed with them cause of it, how to solve the problem, and the proposal for the slogan.

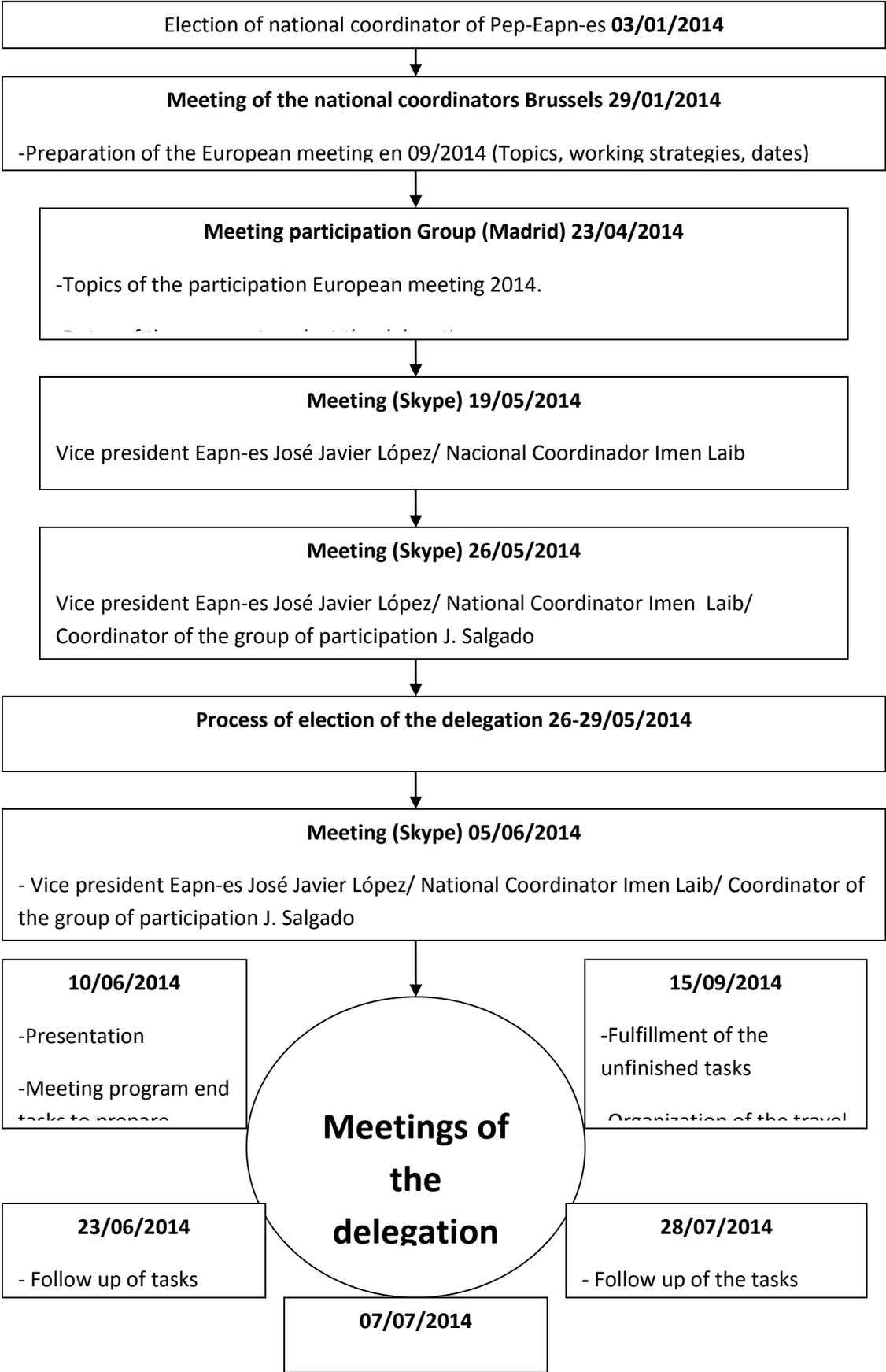
4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year’s meeting:
name of the delegates at the end of June 2014

Spain

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

2) How the preparations for this year’s meeting is progressing:



3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

Our delegation will do the activity but still do not know the subject. We're thinking.

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

- Imen Laib (Nacional Coordinador), Javier Salgado, Paula Suárez, Javier Pérez, Javier Segura, Úrsula Alvarez: **she needs assistant of companion**

Sweden

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

We have since the last PEP meeting held several dialogue sessions with people experiencing poverty in Sweden . This has taken place in regional parts of Sweden. The people come from both the local and national level. The network EAPN Gavleborg has driven a question that has been most important for us it has been to get people experiencing poverty to go and vote. By recurrent hits every Wednesday, we Mystery through the issues that concern the group with the various parties represented in Sweden. There have been questions about unemployment for both the young and those who are furthest from the labor market. We have also discussed the Roma situation here in Sweden where we see that more people come here to beg. We think this is not dignified and believes that Sweden and other European countries to take better responsibility.

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

The Swedish preparation progresses where we now finally have a new delegation from another part of Sweden that will illuminate the situation in their part of Sweden since the SERT different in different parts of our land. We expect that we are going to PEP meeting properly prepared.

Since it is a new delegation from us this year so we cannot say right now what we can contribute at the next meeting. As coordinator, I am currently working on these preparations and will have an initial meeting with all on 5 June. I will provide additional details when we meet.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

We have tried to have contact with politicians who are down in Brussels from Sweden without any success. But I'm working with these contacts.

490418-1189 Britt-Marie Holmström, Skolvägen 2 A, 781 99 Idkerberget tel. 076-8479010 email: lovdalen08@yahoo.se <mailto:lovdalen08@yahoo.se>

611001-7107 Britt-Marie Volcano, Engelbrektskatan 22, 784 31 Borlänge Tel. 073-7133816 email: mia_wulcan@hotmail.com <mailto:mia_wulcan@hotmail.com>

491202-7366 Margot Grälls Anjou, Sveaborgsgatan 17, 784 66 Borlänge Tel. 070-5387353 email: margot.gralls-anjou @ verdandi.se
Birgitta Öberg : verdandigavle@gmail.com

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

United Kingdom (Scotland)

1) Any follow up from last year's meeting:

I have had a meeting with last year's National Coordinator (Nazek Ramadhan) and I have been fully briefed in terms of the national preparatory work and she gave me a lot of helpful hints on choosing a delegation and materials for informal exchange. I will be meeting her again in June and intend to involve her in our national preparatory meetings. National Preparatory meetings will be organised in partnership with Glasgow Homeless Network who will also contributing to the thematic workshops.

2) How the preparations for this year's meeting is progressing:

- Meetings with EAPN EXCO member for advice and support
- Meetings of the delegations and stakeholders to generate ideas for each thematic workshop
- A planned a meeting with new MEPs around August to seek their support
- Hold a final preparation meeting workshop in early September to develop key messages and demands to take to the European meeting.

3) Any response to the request for delegations or delegates to contribute to energizers as mentioned in the preparation note above:

I have printed out all the 28 national flags for EU countries, which if you like the suggestion should be displayed in the Plenary Hall, and at the end of each day, each delegation chooses one or two major highlight (s) of the day that is so important to them and stick it on their national flag using post it notes or images . This can be an interactive way to see key issues of interest to each EU country delegation and these could be taken to the EU Parliament for elected representatives to see and think about the demands or issues from their country. I have printed the flags in A3 and I can laminate them if you agree that this energiser is good to use. I think it will be a mixture of fun but also a good visual product of the EU PeP meeting. I really hope you like this. When I tested it out with my delegates they came up with the following;

1. Enshrine into law or national constitutions the commitment by governments to reduce the gap between the rich and poor.
2. Ensure job creation and investment in industries to tackle joblessness
3. Guarantee access to minimum income standards across the EU.

4) Any information about people your delegation has contacted for messages of support (see preparation note):

We have had a meeting to discuss who we will ask for messages of support who include :

- Leader of Glasgow City Council
- Two members of Scottish Parliament
- An influential religious leader
- Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Initial contacts with the above have been made and will be followed up in June /July.

5) The names of your delegation for this Year's meeting:

Caroline Mockford, Louise Allan, Danny Millar, Derek Holliday, Paul Edwards

The delegation has been selected from a pool of people with direct experience of poverty that the Poverty Alliance has been working with over a period of time, and one person (Derek Holliday) has been nominated by the Glasgow Homeless Network .