

## EAPN CRISIS CONFERENCE

### Preparatory Session for EAPN Members

**22 September 2011, 2pm – 5.30pm (lunch from 1pm)**

International Auditorium, International Trade-Unions House

Bld. Roi Albert II, 5, 1210 Brussels

### Final Programme

#### What's the day for? Who will be involved?

The aim of this half day session is to help EAPN members (active in Working Groups, representing direct experience of poverty and coming from European Organisations) to get to know each other and to exchange more in depth on the reality of the social impact of the crisis. It will also help to prepare for active participation in the conference.

This meeting will involve a maximum 120 members: **up to 75 members from EAPN working groups** (one from each of the three working groups - Employment, Social Inclusion and Structural Funds), **30 people with direct experience of poverty** - who will have participated in the EAPN training on 21-22(am) September – and **10 members of EAPN European Organisations**.

#### There will be 3 main objectives:

- 1) **Mutual Learning:** Getting to know each other, then exchanging experiences, initiatives and concerns on the ground to help networks including people in poverty take forward issues at national level.
- 2) **Capacity Building:** Helping members to prepare for the key themes of the conference, with an introduction to:
  - EAPN approach to the crisis and the austerity policies implemented in the EU;
  - The current developments at EU level including the Europe 2020 strategy;
  - The alliances EAPN is engaged in.
- 3) **Begin to develop common key messages**

#### What will the day be like?

There will be a big emphasis on participative exchange. [This activity will be held in English and interpretation will be provided in French](#) in the plenary session and in one workshop. Support through whispered interpretation will be provided for participants that do not communicate in English or French, by their colleagues who have accompanied them in the training the previous day – so we will need to take the time necessary to ensure a fruitful exchange. There will be less of an emphasis on outputs and more on ensuring positive participation of everybody, as well as ensuring that EAPN is clear about its expectations regarding the conference and its common key messages.

The day will start with a plenary session, and then members will work in 5 participative workshops. After the workshops there will be a feedback and a discussion session together.

In the evening, we will all meet for a meal and a social event. The facilitators and rapporteurs for the conference will meet shortly after the session has ended.

<b>Preparatory Session (13 :00 – 17 :30)</b>
--

**13.00 Sandwich lunch available**

**14.00 Welcome**

- Welcome and introduction to the day (Ludo Horemans, EAPN President, and training participant)
- Warmer: getting to know each other (Tanya Basarab, EAPN Development Officer)

**Introduction**

Presentation: (Sian Jones, EAPN Policy Coordinator):

- Why a conference on the crisis? What is EAPN's approach? Who are the key actors and EAPN allies?
- What is the role of the EU? Where does the Europe 2020 strategy fit in?
- What key themes will be discussed in the conference?
- Questions

**14.30 What's our reality?**

Discussion in Groups with facilitators which will start from direct experience on the ground and will look at the following questions – one person will volunteer to give feedback:

- What are the consequences of the economic crisis and of the austerity policies implemented by Member States on the ground?
- What is going wrong? What should be done to improve the situation?
- Who are our allies on the ground?

**16.00 Break**

**16.30 Plenary: Chaired by Fintan Farrell, EAPN Director**

- Feedback from our discussions
- What are our key messages and key expectation for this conference?
- Question/debate session

**17.30 Finish**

*(Short meeting in the auditorium for facilitators and rapporteurs to prepare for the conference workshops the following day)*

**19.30 Dinner (EAPN secretariat staff will meet groups in the lobby of the hotel to walk together around 19.00)**