

## EAPN SPAIN ANNUAL REPORT 2017

### Abstract

Strategic guidelines and general objectives:

1. Influencing National Governments for Better Policies: Advocacy, Lobbying and Policy-Making
2. Consolidate EAPN's capacity for dialogue with public administrations and other actors in the framework of civil dialogue.
3. Strengthen systems of participation in EAPN and its organizations, especially those in situations of poverty and / or social exclusion.
4. Improve the organizational and institutional development of the EAPN as well as its internal governance systems.

#### **1. *Influencing National Governments for Better Policies: Advocacy, Lobbying and Policy-Making***

EAPN-ES has been particularly active to lobby at national, regional and local level to promote significant changes in the social policies in order to reduce poverty, increase employment and tackle educational exclusions. At political level, EAPN-ES had periodic meetings with the Economic Office of the President of the Government, with different parliamentary groups and political parties, as well as with the main Trade Unions, to present EAPN policy proposals.

#### **2. *Consolidate EAPN's capacity for dialogue with public administrations and other actors in the framework of civil dialogue.***

Strengthening the Third Sector of Social Action and strategic alliances

EAPN-ES holds the Vice-presidency of Social Policies and European Affairs in the Third Sector Platform, taking part in the "Civil Dialogue Table", together with the Government of Spain, as well as developed a follow-up to different legislative proposals. In 2017, EAPN-ES participated in the elaboration of the Spanish National Reform Plan, in the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme of Social Inclusion and Social Economy and in the NGO State Council, maintaining the Coordination of the Group of Inclusion and Employment in the rural areas. Furthermore, EAPN-ES coordinated the contributions of its member organizations and participants on the elaboration of the Strategy against Homelessness.

EAPN European dimension: an added value

EAPN-ES is an active member in EAPN Europe, trying to influence European social inclusion policies and spread European good practices and the results of EAPN EU work at national level. On behalf of EAPN EU, members of EAPN-ES took part in the Structured Dialogue with European Structural and Investment Funds' partners group of experts and in the Annual Convention on Inclusive Growth. Moreover, as member of EAPN Europe EAPN-ES participates in the EAPN Task Forces, Executive Committee, EUISG and General Assembly, and in those events organized by EAPN-EU or other organizations of special relevance to achieve our main objective: a Europe free from social exclusion.

### **3. *Strengthen systems of participation in EAPN and its organizations, especially those in situations of poverty and / or social exclusion.***

#### Participation, a pillar of the work of EAPN Spain.

Over the years, the Spanish Network explored ways to include people with experience of poverty into the work of the NN, mainly through Meetings and Congresses of People Experiencing Poverty and Social Exclusion, both at the state and regional level, and trainings. In September 2017, the III National Congress of Participation of People Experiencing Poverty and Social Exclusion took place in Bilbao, with 233 participants from all around the country. Likewise, a delegation of four people represented EAPN-ES at the XVI European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty held in Brussels.

#### Dialogue and joint work with social movements

EAPN Spain promoted debates, forums and trainings on poverty and social exclusion in all the Autonomous Communities, to promote a proper reflection and critical thinking on the causes of social exclusion that lead to poverty. In 2017, 3,383 people took part in training and raise awareness actions, etc.

### **4. *Improve the organizational and institutional development of the EAPN as well as its internal governance systems.***

#### The sense of belonging as a strength

The functioning of the bodies of EAPN Spain and its working groups is based on the efforts of their Regional Networks and National NGO. Throughout 2017, the working groups of Structural Funds, National NGO, European Affairs, Strategic Plan, MASS, PEP Participation, Inclusion, Housing, Employment and Finance, have continued to work in order to foster EAPN's political and advocacy guidelines, strengthen EAPN-ES position as a reference in the fight against poverty and exclusion at national and European level.

### Trainings

Throughout 2017, numerous training actions have been carried out to educate volunteers in the skills needed to perform their social work, as well as to develop their capacity to improve People Experiencing Poverty participation in the life of the community. Part of EAPN-ES's programme activities intended to develop training sessions for NGOs workers, in charge of the management, work and coordination of volunteer activities.

### Raising Awareness

EAPN-ES coordinated raising awareness campaigns on poverty and social exclusion, aimed at reflecting on the responsibility of the society in shaping the social image of the people at risk of exclusion, with great public and media impact. EAPN-ES also carried out awareness campaigns to spread fundamental values in schools throughout Spain. In 2017, 2,300 people participated in activities organized by the network to discuss and reflect on the causes of poverty and exclusion. For the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, October 17<sup>th</sup>, EAPN-ES publishes its report '[The State of Poverty](#)', an X-ray of the social situation in Spain and its Autonomous Communities.

### ICT - EAPN 2.0

During 2017, EAPN Spain has maintained its commitment to the use of new information and communication technologies (ICT) and social networks 2.0. Through the corporate website [www.eapn.es](http://www.eapn.es), EAPN-ES's participation webpage: [www.participacionsocial.org](http://www.participacionsocial.org) and our profiles on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube we have maintained a fluid dialogue with our publics and communities. The corporate website, had from January to November 2017 reached 45,352 unique visitors and 162,355 page views.