



c/o 424 St. Joseph High Road, Sta. Venera SVR 1013 Malta

E-mail address: apfmalta@gmail.com

VO Registration No: 0271

ANTI-POVERTY FORUM MALTA ANNUAL REPORT 2017

APF Malta is a network of 13 organisations working together as a network on poverty. The Forum organises a number of conferences, seminars and focus groups, promotes research, disseminates information and creates awareness on poverty and social exclusion in Malta. Based on the 4 pillars of the MASS approach, the following is the work carried out by APF Malta during 2017.

Influencing National Governments for Better Policies: Advocacy, Lobbying and Policy-Making linked to European Level developments

- ❖ In 2017 APF Malta organised one national conference with the aim of raising awareness on domestic violence and poverty in Malta. The Minister for the Family and Social Solidarity Hon. Michael Falzon attended this conference and gave his concluding comments.

The conference was well-attended. Participants included Ministry policy officials, social workers, carers and representatives of local NGOs. Overall APF Malta received very positive feedback from the participants. Whilst acknowledging that the conference reached its aim, one must note that following the conference, more awareness was raised on poverty in Malta and particularly on domestic violence and poverty, through the various media coverage given to this conference. Following the conference APF Malta was also invited to participate in various television and radio programmes. This in itself was a good way to lobby on poverty and domestic violence.

- ❖ APF Malta submitted another request to RTK Radio – a local popular radio station; to produce another series of programmes on poverty and social exclusion. Following a meeting with RTK's board, APF Malta commenced this series of programmes in October 2017 up till June 2018. Topics discussed included the FEAD project, social services and the pensions scheme in Malta, illiterism, homelessness, immigration, domestic violence and other subjects related to poverty.

- ❖ Anti Poverty Forum Malta participates regularly in the meetings held within the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development (MCESD). During these meetings APF Malta puts forward it's agenda, budget proposals and discusses concerning issues with Government officials.
- ❖ During 2017, APF Malta continued its' work on the EMIN 2 Project. As part of this project, various meetings were held with local NGOs and members of Parliament to let them know what the project is about and also to explain the idea of Minimum Income Schemes.

Participation of People Experiencing Poverty and Social Exclusion in Internal and External Workings of the National Network

- ❖ During 2017, APF Malta ExCo meetings were held on a regular basis, whereby a number of local issues on poverty and social exclusion were discussed. All ExCo members represent people experiencing poverty and social exclusion. To this extent, participation of people experiencing poverty is consistent and regular in all meetings held.
- ❖ APF Malta also participated in the People Experiencing Poverty in Brussels in November 2017. In preparation for this event, a number of meetings were held with people experiencing poverty and social exclusion, whilst three persons were chosen to take part and share their experience in this meeting in Brussels. Mr Noel Xerri coordinated this meeting on behalf of APF Malta. To this extent he attended preparatory meetings organised by EAPN.

Development and Growth of the Network (including growth and training and capacity building actions)

- ❖ During 2017, APF Malta worked to increase its' membership. A meeting was held with RISE Foundation – an organisation whose service is based on the principle of Restorative Justice emphasizing the safety and protection of society. The organisation works with the Corradino Correctional Facility and prepares offenders for re-integration in society. As a result of this re-integration, the rate of recidivism is expected to decrease therefore enhancing the general public safety. APF Malta ExCo will be shortly concluding if RISE Foundation should join our Network.
- ❖ During our last General Meeting (held in February 2018), Suret il-Bniedem Foundation informed all members that due to their ongoing commitments, they are not in a position to keep their membership with APF Malta. To this extent, APF Malta now consists of 13 organisations. The organisations that are part of APF Malta are the following:
 - Millennium Chapel Foundation
 - Caritas Malta
 - 'Ejjew Għandi' Children's Homes
 - National Association of Pensioners
 - Alleanza Kontra l-Faqar
 - OASI Foundation
 - Richmond Foundation
 - Paulo Freire Institute

- Discern
- S.O.S. Malta
- St. Jeanne Antide Foundation
- Dar Merħba Bik
- 6PM Foundation

Governance and Internal Democracy (including internal governance, respect of statutory requirements, management in the network and funding).

- ❖ As per APF Malta Statute an Annual General Meeting was held in February 2017, whilst another one was held in February 2018. During these meetings the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer presented their annual report, highlighting the events and activities of APF for the previous year. The Executive Committee is composed of the following organisations:
 - ✓ CHAIRPERSON - 6PM Foundation - Saviour Grima
 - ✓ SECRETARY - Caritas Malta - Andre Bonello
 - ✓ TREASURER – Paolo Freire Institute – Godwin Callus
 - ✓ OASI Foundation - Noel Xerri
 - ✓ National Association of Pensioners - Carmel Callus
 - ✓ Discern - Fr Joe Inguanez
 - ✓ Alleanza Kontra l-Faqar - Joseph Bartolo
 - ✓ Richmond Foundation – Casey Scicluna

- ❖ APF Malta ExCo met regularly during 2017. Meetings were held monthly, however at times more meetings were held to discuss various issues which needed discussion from time to time. The year 2017 has been very fruitful.