



Notes of EAPN Executive Committee
27-29 September 2018
Vienna, Austria

Ex Co meeting 27.09.2018

Session 2- Strategic Thinking Process

Key discussion points

3 parts

1. Presentation by Leo ([See presentation on Members Room](#))

- The Strategic Thinking Process has 3 stages, 1st phase finished in July 2018, now is phase 2, 3rd phase is January to September + decisions September 2019 GA.
- Phase 1 ([report here](#)) made recommendations on: **Financial diversification, political analysis, Theory of change, voting rights, focus of EAPN, human capacity, structures, etc.** These recommendations are currently being worked through.
- Phase 2 focuses on **PESTLE (political, economic, social, technological, legal, environmental) analysis and Theory of change.**
- **PESTLE analysis:** a number of 'implications' have been drawn by the Bureau, for consideration throughout the rest of the process.
- **Theory of Change:** define the change you want, decide how to make that change, put in place the strategy to make that change happen.

2. Clarifications, initial feedback

- We need to organize ourselves, to change ourselves to be able to move in the right direction
- We need to also have actions for people in the street
- Survey was needed to be sure we agree on our strategic thinking. Moving forward we will need to be more concrete, more practical to be able to be more coherent with our message. We need the documents as a start, but this needs to be followed up with clear proposals on structures, campaigns etc. This will then enable us to have real impact.

3. Group discussions + feed-back

The Ex Co split into three groups, each focusing on three questions:

a. **What is the big issue in the Theory of Change which might be contentious for EAPN, and how should we manage this?**

- What we mean by 'movement'. Are we a movement or a network?
- Communication (internal and external) to build this shared vision etc.

- Structural changes
- Levels of PeP engagement in new vision, and the new ways of working
- How will we enable flexibility with the national networks, recognizing we are all very different?
- Will speed of decisions be too quick for some members? Will they have time to discuss internally, with grass roots?
- Do we risk becoming too much like a political party and less of a partner to PeP?

b. What should be changed / added to the Theory of Change?

- We should be a point of reference / catalyst / facilitator for the movement, rather than the movement itself
- A nuance – sometimes we need high level political action, sometimes we need actions on the ground
- More allies needed

c. What are you most excited about in the potential implications of the Strategic Thinking process?

- That it reflects concerns and ideas of the network
- Growing and having more impact and influence
- Changing public minds and attitudes – frames and narratives
- Using this at the national level – could be a driving force to invigorate networks
- Treating poverty eradication as a human right, and using this approach
- Involving PeP more
- THE HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY WE HAVE WITH THIS
- Session 3: Preparing the General Assembly