



EAPN Poland in the European Semester Eight Lessons from Institutionalisation of Participation

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Lessons form Polish case 1

1. Institutional framework for participation

Institutional framework for participation of anti-poverty ngos in European Semester should be in place

Poland: formal task force responsible for Europe 2020 implementation was established in 2012 by Prime Minister executive order

2. Representation

Having EAPN NN representative in the task force open which was established in the first step

Poland: EAPN Poland had a chance to have its representative in the Europe 2020 task force. NGO representatives were selected by Council responsible for civic society at Ministry of Work and Social Policy

3. Expertise

Representative of the EAPN NN in the Europe 2020 task force should be very well informed about politics and policy of poverty in the EU and in own country

Poland: EAPN representative is an academic with extensive expertise in European and Polish social policy

4. Strategy with concrete goals

EAPN NN should have a clear and concrete goals to achieve by participating in the Europe 2020 task force

Poland: EAPN had a clear goal to make the Polish Europe 2020 anti-poverty target more ambitious

Lessons form Polish case 2

5. Concrete proposals

To make difference in documents like National Reform Programme the proposals of amendments should be as concrete as possible

Poland: we proposed topics for task force discussions with our contribution (Poverty Watch) and concrete amendments to the documents like NRP

6. Convincing argumentation

There needs to be good argumentation to convince the board of the task force responsible for Europe 2020 Strategy

Poland: we have good argument for updating the target set for 2020 due to the fact that it was achieved as early as in 2013

7. Coalitions with other stakeholders

EAPN NN representative should seek for alliances with other stakeholders within Europe 2020 task force

Poland: there was an alliance with trade unions, employers organizations and other ngos built around several issues such as in-work poverty or poverty and disability

8. Minimum Quality of participation process

The Europe 2020 task force should meet regularly and its board should be ready to take seriously proposals of the non-governmental members

Poland: after two years of discussions the process reached sufficient quality in 2014 and improved in subsequent years. Yearly working meeting on poverty, detailed responses to proposals etc.