# EAPN Strategic review

As we were approaching the 30<sup>th</sup> years of European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN), it was time to reflect. To do so, we undertook a Strategic Thinking Process that begun in 2018 and was adopted in 2019. It was the opportunity to collectively assess our strengths, our assets, our weaknesses and to imagine the changes we want to see in Europe in the next 25 years, and the role EAPN wants to play in bringing about this change. It gave us the direction to follow in order to contribute to the achievement of our vision. The process was also an opportunity to give members a clear sense of where EAPN wants to go, the changes we want to see, and how we might go about getting there.

As part of this process, EAPN members engaged in a Theory of change exercise which can be summarized as a stepby-step methodology:

- 1. Definition of our vision the overall change we want to see in Europe
- 2. Identification of the major changes needed to achieve our Vision
- 3. Identification of the organizational strategies to bring about those major changes and thus our Vision

## OUR VISION

A SUSTAINABLE EUROPE, FREE OF POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION, WITH HIGH LEVELS OF EQUALITY, WHERE POLITICAL, SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED.

Strong, grass-roots, public support for the eradication of poverty across Europe (and beyond)

People experiencing poverty (PEP) having space to participate in society, in process around decisions which impact their lives



**Mitigation of** technological, environmental and demographic changes to protect people experiencing poverty against future shocks

Strong social protection systems (specifically **Minimum Income** schemes) and appropriate living wages across Europe

An end to austerity politics

> A translation of political commitment into results



Strengthen the involvement of PEP

**Building public support and pressure** for the eradication of poverty & an end to neoliberalism austerity politics involvement of PEP 

Advocate and campaign for social protection systems

**Policy Expertise** 

Pushing for the implementation of political commitments Developing policy expertise on an agreed, limited number of themes Working onsystemic issues

Monitoringthe situation of poverty throughout Europe.

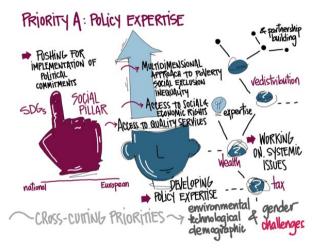
# **UNDERPINNING ACTIVITIES**

### **More Ressources**

#### More Coordination **More Coherence**

#### More Evidence

As visible on the previous infographic, our vision is "a sustainable Europe, free of poverty and social exclusion, with high levels of equality, where political, social, cultural and economic rights are respected". In order to achieve our vision we identified 6 major changes that need to occur and the 4 priorities on which EAPN will focus. The four priorities identified will be from now on the common ground for EAPN work. It should be noted that policy expertise is the basis for, and provides the content for, the other 3 priorities.



### Policy expertise, which has four strands:

- Pushing for the implementation of political commitments like the Social Pillar and the SDGs, via policy work at the national and European level
- Developing policy expertise on an agreed, limited number of themes within key areas
- Working on systemic issues like wealth, tax and redistribution, by developing expertise and working in alliances.
- Monitoring the situation of poverty throughout Europe.



Building public support and pressure for the eradication of poverty and an end to neoliberalism austerity politics by developing challenging frames and narratives, and alternative social and economic political options.



Strengthen the involvement of people experiencing poverty and ensure that they are meaningfully involved in, and leading, grassroots anti-poverty advocacy work and campaigns around poverty, inequality, precarious work, digitalisation, social protection (with a focus on minimum income), living wages, at national and European levels. Their voices will be amplified so that their authentic experience is heard, understood and used by the media, policy makers and the public. Our policy work will be based on participatory research with people experiencing poverty.



Advocate and campaign for social protection systems (with a focus on minimum income schemes), and living wages throughout Europe, directly towards governments but with an increased focus on the public as well.