



ACTIVITY REPORT – 2010

The activities of CILAP EAPN Italia in 2010 coincided with the second year of the PROGRESS awareness raising project "Europa Spa" of which CILAP EAPN Italia was the promoter together with Eurobic Toscana Sud, the Business Innovation Center operating in the province of Siena, Tuscany. The actions of the project, in view of the European Year against poverty and social exclusion, were concentrated in the first six months of the year, with the addition of a closing event which was held in Bari, in November 2010, in parallel with the focus week against poverty that our organization had planned within the Work Programme of the EAPN Europe for 2010 and the End Poverty Campaign. The goal was to use the project Europe Spa - Progress as a sounding board of the message launched by EAPN for the European Year 2010.

The European Year against poverty opened with the Conference in Madrid in January 2010. CILAP participated with its representative in the EAPN executive committee and as national delegation of People experiencing Poverty, one member of the Italian delegation being invited to participate to a round table. Before this event, CILAP had already contributed to the scientific organization of the Civil Society Forum titled, "Towards 2010, the European Year Against Poverty" held in Naples on 27 and 28 November 2009 at the initiative of the Office of the Representation of the European Commission in Italy and with the involvement and contribution of the Italian NIB (National Implementation Body) Italy, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and with the high patronage of the Presidency of the Republic.

The month of January 2010 was devoted to the preparation and carrying out of the "Europa s.p.a.!" seminar held in Bologna on the participation of people experiencing in poverty. In February CILAP initiated a collaboration with the European Federalist Movement, the European Forum of Civil Society, the Basic Income Network and other partners for organizing an initiative on the theme Collective Rights and the Common Good in Europe. This initiative gathered ideas, suggestions, opinions and actions to raise awareness in as wide an audience as possible, within the Italian and European civil society, on the issues outlined above, with the aim of working for a Citizens' Convention on "Collective Rights" to be implemented before the summer. More information on: www.diritticollettivi.eu where you can download all relevant documents.

In March – April 2010, CILAP EAPN Italia sought to promote the co-ordination of the European and national networks involved in the field and already in contact with the CILAP in order to make more effective the message launched at European level by the End Poverty Coalition and for a "European Decade against Poverty": reactions, comments and proposals in relation to the European Strategy 2020.

On 21 April, a meeting was held between representatives of CILAP EAPN Italia and the Director General of the Ministry of Economy, directly responsible for the Structural Funds for Italy and Commission's consultant on the preparation of the Report on Social Cohesion in Europe. During the meeting, we presented the considerations and proposals drawn up by EAPN on the state of the art

and future of cohesion policy at European level, but also, in the framework of the next Structural Funds national programming for the period 2013-2020.

The month of May saw CILAP engaged on many fronts. First, the preparation of the Italian delegation in view of the forthcoming General Assembly of EAPN, in Cyprus, of particular importance for a double celebration: the European Year Against Poverty and the 20th anniversary of EAPN (December 1990). Second, the participation in the organization of the Citizens' Convention on the "Collective Right" held in Rome at the University "Roma 3" on 4 and 5 June. Finally, the organization and realization of the "Europa s.p.a." seminar in Catanzaro on child poverty and social exclusion.

June was devoted to EAPN General Assembly and the preparation and realization of the last "Europa s.p.a." seminar on services of general interest which was held in Turin.

The summer of 2010 was entirely devoted to the organization of the Focus Week against poverty, the EAPN initiative where each national network, in rotation, was to organize a full week of initiatives to highlight issues around poverty and social exclusion: debates, round tables, cultural and recreational events to show the strong presence of anti-poverty organizations in the implementation of anti-poverty strategies and actions.

In August, in addition, the CILAP also worked on production of a new project in Progress program as a sign of continuity of a partnership and a well-established ways of working.

In August CILAP also worked on presenting a new project within the PROGRESS program as a sign of continuity of a partnership and a well-established ways of working.

In September CILAP was part of a working group on poverty and social exclusion promoted by the Fondazione Astrid, whose results will be published by the Fondazione in a forthcoming publication.

The months of October and November 2010 were entirely devoted to organization and implementation of the Focus Week against Poverty, scheduled for 15-21 November in Bari, and to the concurrent closing of "Europa s.p.a.". Of particular relevance were the four round tables hosted by prestigious venues in Bari (the Region of Puglia and the University "Aldo Moro") as well as several theatrical and musical events aimed at facilitating the communication with the general public on topics that are often barely visible such as poverty, social exclusion, discrimination, direct involvement of people.

As a direct result of the Focus Week, in December 2010 CILAP was one of the very few organizations invited to the official final event of the Year, held in Milan on December 13.

One of CILAP's commitment that has lasted throughout 2010 has been the preparation of the Italian delegation to the ninth European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty. The preparation was characterized by a series of meetings between CILAP working group on "participation and poverty", i.e. The past and present delegates to the European meetings, public and private operators, local authorities, and the widest possible audience. From these meetings and other ad hoc meetings between the delegates and CILAP's managers, a very detailed plan against poverty was built. The delegation presented the Plan at a press conference held at the town of Florence, in the presence of regional and local authorities. The press conference had a good impact on the regional media.

CILAP participation in round tables, seminars, conferences at national level has been very high throughout 2010

The work on communication and outreach continued through video and television commercials prepared for the project "Europa s.p.a. "; the website was regularly updated, the main EAPN documents translated and disseminated. This work of external communications has led to some interviews in radio and television broadcasts, articles, etc.

CILAP was able to widen its partnership with other major Italian organizations such as some regional chapters of Caritas, local and regional authorities, small and medium size NGOs.