

# All together for poverty reduction and social inclusion.

*This campaign is being run by the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) with its members the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA), Caritas Europa, the European Network Against Racism (ENAR), Eurochild, Eurodiaconia, AGE Platform, Salvation Army, Mental Health Social Exclusion Europa (SMES Europa), International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) Europe, as well as the Platform of European Social NGOs (Social Platform), SOLIDAR, the European Women's Lobby (EWL), the European Disability Forum (EDF), the European association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) Europe, Mental Health Europe, Workability Europe, PICUM and Inclusion Europe.*

## SIGN THE PETITION

[http://www.avaaz.org/en/petition/EU\\_Money\\_For\\_Poverty\\_Reduction\\_NOW\\_1/](http://www.avaaz.org/en/petition/EU_Money_For_Poverty_Reduction_NOW_1/)

or from EAPN's website [www.eapn.eu](http://www.eapn.eu)

**We need your support!**



# EU MONEY for POVERTY REDUCTION NOW!

Nearly 1 in 4 persons is in or at risk of poverty and/or social exclusion in the EU.

Member States must respect their commitments and allocate the necessary funds to the fight against poverty.

## SIGN THE PETITION

[http://www.avaaz.org/en/petition/EU\\_Money\\_for\\_Poverty\\_Reduction\\_NOW\\_1/](http://www.avaaz.org/en/petition/EU_Money_for_Poverty_Reduction_NOW_1/)

Support 20% allocation of the European Social Fund for social inclusion and poverty reduction!

**We need your support!**

## Facing the facts: Poverty exists across Europe



in is at risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU.

Out of an EU population of about **500 million** people:

- **80 million** people live **below the poverty threshold** (people earning less than 60% of the national median income)
  - **22 million** people live **materially deprived** (people who cannot afford goods, services or activities which are seen as basic necessities in their country)
  - **18 million** people live in **jobless households**
- = **115 million** people at risk of or experiencing poverty or social exclusion

## What can the EU do about it?

### Cohesion Policy Budget (CPB)

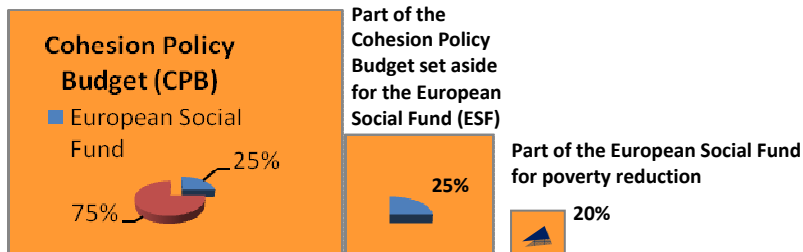
*European financial tool to reduce inequalities within the EU*

### European Social Fund (ESF)

*Part of the CPB and the main tool to promote employment and economic and social cohesion*

**2010** National governments in EU countries agreed on a **poverty reduction target**: to get **20 million people out of poverty by 2020**.

**2011** To back this poverty reduction target, the **Commission proposed to allocate 25% of the Cohesion Policy Budget to the European Social Fund, and to secure 20%** of this Fund to social inclusion and poverty reduction.



## Why act now?

**2012** The EU's next 7-year budget, including the ESF's budget, is to be adopted at the end of this year. **The Commission's proposal is vital for the reduction of poverty.**

**Yet 26 national governments out of 27** seem ready to reject this proposal, which raises **real questions about their commitment to the 23% of the EU population in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion!**

**Therefore we must urgently work to influence our Governments to ensure:**

### EU Money for Poverty Reduction Now!

- Ensure that the European Social Fund receives at least a 25% share of all structural funds' spending
- **Allocate 20% of the European Social Fund's budget to social inclusion and anti-poverty measures**

This **campaign** is initiated by EAPN with its members the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA), Caritas Europa, the European Network Against Racism (ENAR), Eurochild, Eurodiaconia, AGE Platform, Salvation Army, Mental Health Social Exclusion Europa (SMES Europa), International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) Europe, as well as the Platform of European Social NGOs (Social Platform), SOLIDAR, the European Women's Lobby (EWL), the European Disability Forum (EDF), the European association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) Europe, Mental Health Europe, Workability Europe, PICUM and Inclusion Europe.

The NGOs involved in this campaign:

- ✓ **addresses relevant people** at all levels and stages of the decision-making process,
- ✓ works **at national and European levels** to organise joint actions targeted at Governments, members of the national parliaments and the European Parliament.
- ✓ In **June**, will hold a **meeting with Members of the European Parliament**, meet with national-government representatives based in Brussels and will send a **joint letter to the Government Ministers** that will discuss the proposal.
- ✓ In the **autumn**, will send the **petition signed by people across the EU to Government Ministers and Heads of State**.
- ✓ **Needs your support in getting signatures on the petition!**