

2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion Newsletter

2010

July 2010

Background

2010 has been designated as the European Year to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion. The European Year aims to convey the message that poverty and social exclusion diminish the lives and life chances of those affected and are obstacles to social and economic development generally. It also aims to reaffirm the importance of collective responsibility for reducing poverty among all interests, including those experiencing poverty. These objectives are reflected in Ireland's National Programme for the European Year involves a range of events and activities throughout the country that are being organised by Government departments, and agencies, local authorities, expert organisations, social partners, and national and local and community organisations.

Minister Pat Carey T.D. Minister for Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs has said that the designation of 2010 as the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion provides us with an opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved, to learn the lessons from the past and to lay the foundations for the type of society that we all aspire to have – a society in which every individual feels valued and has the resources to participate in the activities that are regarded as the norm-a society for all.



Minister for Social Protection Eamonn Ó Cúiv TD at the launch of the Funding Initiative with representatives of the groups running activities under this initiative.

(photo © Robbie Reynolds, Corporate PR Photography)

European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

News and Events

- The Irish Programme for the year was launched in Dublin Castle by Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Mary Hanafin, TD on 5 February 2010.
- In February Minister Mary Hanafin, TD opened the European Anti Poverty Network international conference entitled "Building Social Europe: from crisis to opportunity" in Dublin. For further information on the conference please see www.eapn.ie
- In April, the Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Éamon Ó Cuív TD announced funding for 43 groups totaling over €120,000. The funding is provided to community and voluntary organisations who will undertake a range of locally based activities and initiatives to promote awareness of poverty and social exclusion and to mark 2010 the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion in their community.
- The Social Inclusion Division worked in partnership with the Young Social Innovators to raise the profile of the aims and objectives of the European Year among schools.



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As part of this work the Social Inclusion Division sponsored an award on Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion called 'Making Our World Poverty Free and More Inclusive' for the Young Social Innovators Annual Showcase in May which was won by Good Counsel College, New Ross.

- On 19th May, Pobal held a seminar entitled "A Tale of Two Cities?" Learning to develop more effective strategies to tackle urban disadvantage" in the F2 Community Centre in Rialto, Dublin. This seminar provided a space for reflection, learning and formulation of effective strategies to counter urban disadvantage.

- In May and June the Community Workers Co-op, the EAPN and the Community Platform organised four regional seminars in partnership with the Social Inclusion Division to mark the 2010 Year. These seminars provided an opportunity for people experiencing poverty and stakeholders to engage with policy makers and identify priorities relating to the four cross cutting themes of the Irish Programme. An additional seminar is proposed for the North West Region in September 2010.

- There was a full calendar of events to celebrate the May Social Inclusion Awareness Week (17th – 21st May) ranging from art exhibitions to a mini world cup, an information session for older people, internet training, film screening and a fun snooker event with celebrity snooker players hosted by Dublin City Council.

- The Equality Authority hosted the "Say No to Ageism Week" between the 24th – 30th May 2010. Its aim was to raise public awareness about

stereotyping of older people and to promote and support practical action for 'age friendly' service provision in key sectors.

- The Social Inclusion Division and the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) held a half day seminar to examine poverty and deprivation in a European context on June 1st in the ESRI in Dublin. Presentations from the seminar are available on www.esri.ie.

- DG Employment Circus Tent - The European Employment Circus is looking to help its citizens tackle the current crisis by finding new employment perspectives and by addressing items that are on everyone's agenda: jobs, unemployment, skills and equal opportunities. The tent visited Dundrum Shopping Centre, Temple Bar Square in Dublin and the Galway Arts Festival.



Ballymun Wind Band Project with conductor Ron Cooney perform at the launch of the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion 2010 in Dublin Castle (Photo © Maxwell Photography)



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An integral part of the success of the EU Year 2010 will be the participation of local and voluntary groups in events surrounding the year. With this in mind a Funding Initiative for the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion (2010) was established to provide once-off funding to allow Community and Voluntary groups to

promote awareness of poverty and social exclusion and the European Year.

The initiative was extensively advertised across the Community and Voluntary sector and a large number of applications were received.

The following is a list of organisations who have received funding under the initiative.

Sponsoring Group	Summary of Activity
Irish Rural Link	Regional meetings culminating in a 2 day national conference in Killala to raise public awareness of the lived experience of rural poverty and social exclusion.
AkiDwA	Work with migrant women on EY2010 in Mayo, Monaghan, Portlaoise, Galway with view to presenting an overview and objectives of the EY2010 for combating poverty and social exclusion; providing information on poverty and social exclusion and Identifying strategies to promote social inclusion.
Family Resource Centres Mayo	Undertake social analysis exercise and use the knowledge gained to compose and direct a local radio broadcasting campaign that will raise awareness of the nature and extent of disadvantage in Mayo.
Linenhall Mayo Arts Centre	Workshop to prepare for Fashion Show to highlight European Year; re-fashion clothes from charity shops including an intercultural dimension.
Connemara Community Radio	Host a weekly half hour slot highlighting the poverty and the European Year involving organisation working locally and nationally.
Mental Health Ireland	Promote the European year for combating poverty and social exclusion through art exhibitions, (art, booklet and poetry writing by people using mental health services in Galway).
Clann Family Resource Centre and UachtarArts Group	Produce a short film, launch a DVD and radio programme during local arts week enhancing two themes of rural disadvantage and services for older people areas



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Moville & District Family Resource Centre	Theatre devised, produced and performed by 3 schools in area (10-14 yr old), DVD of performance and Intergenerational photo exhibition on poverty.
An Cosán – The Shanty Educational Project Ltd	Host a seminar on Grassroots leadership in urban disadvantage (also marking 10th Anniversary of your Project) in Tallaght West.
ATD Fourth World	Record, write and distribute stories of children, young people and adults living in disadvantaged communities Establish link with ATD European network. Produce promotional leaflets and wire sculpture exhibition.
near FM	Host two radio panel discussions on Poverty & Family and on Exclusion from workplace. Guests will include representatives from many organisations operating in Dublin who on a daily basis combat poverty and social exclusion in society as well as people who experience the issues themselves.
Ballymun Anti Poverty Framework	Host 4 seminars to highlight year on the themes of Homelessness, Ethnic Minorities, Child Poverty and Access to Services
Cairde	Community consultation on impact of poverty on health of ethnic minorities in Balbriggan cumulating in a one day consultation seminar to present findings of consultations.
Mountwood Fitzgerald CDP	Produce a new technologies public awareness tool by trainees who are experiencing poverty and social exclusion at first hand themselves.
Ballybeg Community Education Project.	Information booklets on poverty with young people. Booklets for primary and secondary school. Young people will compile and design information for booklets.
Kildare Town Youth Project	Produce a DVD and Posters on poverty and social inclusion and the impact of poverty and social exclusion on young people, their families and communities.
New Communities Partnership	Organise training workshops (focus on employment for migrant groups); a Seminar (breaking down barriers to social inclusion focusing on the Traveller community and new communities); a 5-a-side football (intercultural tournament); a Photo exhibition on social exclusion; and a Conference (Social exclusion in Cork).
Cork Music Works	Host mentoring sessions and a public performance bringing together students from two schools with and without intellectual disabilities in a choir.



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Cork Centre for Independent Living	Workshop entitled Disability and the Poverty Trap which will be filmed and shown on the local television channel Cork Community Television.
Cork Social Housing Forum	Host a 1/2 day seminar on Homelessness / Housing, highlighting poverty and social exclusion, relating to housing and homelessness in Cork City.
Doras Luimní	Intercultural Creative Writing Award with the theme Integration in a Time of Recession for young people (aged 12-18 years).
Irish Wheelchair Association	Host an Art exhibition of work by participants; an Integrated dance performance and an Information day
West Clare FRC, Hospital FRC, Croom FRC,	Photographic Exhibition & Information Morning (with speaker on poverty) on following themes: Child Poverty; Access to Work; Access to Services; People with Disabilities; and Rural Disadvantage.
Raheen Hospital Support Group	An Intergenerational arts project, shadow puppet performance and hand made books project promoting EY2010.
Monaghan Community Forum	Active Citizenship and Social Inclusion Week: to promote social inclusion and volunteerism and to celebrate the wonderful work that is currently being carried out by the community & voluntary sector in Co. Monaghan. 'Through Your Eyes' photography competition with a 'Social Inclusion' and an 'Active Citizenship' theme. 27th September – 1st October 2010.
Knockmay Women's Voice	Build the capacity of local women living in poverty and social exclusion to take leadership in the regeneration of their local estate express experience of poverty and social exclusion and organising an exhibition of the art and quilt with an accompanying spoken and vocal presentation at the County Council or local Arts Centre
Kerry Travellers Development Project	Host equality & inclusion training and a cultural event.



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South West Kerry Women's CDP	Hold four capacity building workshops with people experience poverty and social exclusion i.e. People with Disabilities, Older People, Lone Parents, Children, to enable them to have a voice with which to raise awareness of their issues. Host a seminar with feedback from the four workshops
Feachtas Ealaion Teoranta t/a	Produce an outreach filmmaking project with adults with an intellectual disability who attend County Wexford Community Workshop dealing with the theme of social exclusion.
Thurles Action for Community Development	Design and erect sculptures (9 wall plaques, 1 large) depicting themes of year. Each plaque will illustrate one of the 9 specific themes as outlined in the National Programme.
Sligo County Community Forum	Host a seminar on 'The impact of Poverty in a Changing Ireland'
Longford County Childcare Committee	Host a one day seminar with workshops for parents and childcare providers who need support in the area of poverty.
Apple Tree Foundation	Develop a drama / visual arts based presentation with young people from disadvantaged areas in Dundalk.
Navan Community Development Project	Work with Meath Local Sports Partnership to run a 6 month programme (Active Learning) targeted at those experiencing social exclusion and poverty.
Athlone Women's Network	Host an information Seminar to provide opportunities for disadvantaged women in the locality as well as training in Community Radio will improve Skills for disadvantaged women.
The Good Shepherd Centre	Develop a travelling road show to local schools and to the broader community in Kilkenny City and county that will highlight the causes and needs of people experiencing homeless
County Wicklow Network For Older People,	Organise and hold Older Persons Sports Festival in the first week of May 2010. The aim of the festival is to promote sports and physical activity among older people especially those at risk of isolation and social exclusion



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Roscommon Women's Network CDP	Produce artwork to symbolise and demonstrate their findings and plan a conference and media campaign locally to highlight their issues and recommendations.
Irish Wheelchair Association,	A touring play dealing with issues in relation to personal experiences of people with a disability involving members of the Irish Wheelchair Association Dramatherapy group in partnership with actors from the Cavan area.
St. Catherine's Community Services Centre,	Work with VISAUL Centre for Contemporary Art and George Bernard Shaw Theatre, to produce an interactive book on poverty as experienced by the Centre's members
Rossinver Community Development Project	To undertake a 10 week art course for older people on their experience of social exclusion and rural disadvantage and to exhibit this work
St Mary's Youth & Community Centre	To deliver in partnership with Offaly Sports Partnership a 6 month intervention to afford children living in poverty the opportunity to participate and excel in sports.
National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA)	Launch national campaign to encourage organisations dealing with the public to develop practices that reduce literacy-related barriers to accessing information – in public services, at work and in the community.



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Calendar of Forthcoming Activities

- Seminar on Equality and Social Inclusion, with a focus on migration, organised by the Equality Authority - 27th September.
- Proposed Regional Seminar in the North West Region to take place in September
- Seminar on Travellers issues, facilitated by the Dept. of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs
- October Social Inclusion Awareness Week, 17-22 October.
- Cross Border Conference on Rural Social Disadvantage organised by Pobal with support from the Social Inclusion Division – 21st October 2010
- Social Inclusion Forum – Closing event for the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion 2010 to be held in the Convention Centre on 17th November this year.

Contact Us:

If you want any further information on the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion please do not hesitate contact us on 01 – 6473250

We also have a website containing information of ongoing events taking place as part of the year which can be accessed at <http://www.welfare.ie/EN/eu2010/Pages/eu2010.aspx>.

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