



EAPN: Fighting for a Social Europe Free of Poverty

## Europe 2020 and the fight against poverty

**Input: Sian Jones, Policy Coordinator, EAPN**

**Stockholm Region Event**

**Brussels 23 November 2011**



EUROPEAN ANTI-POVERTY NETWORK  
RÉSEAU EUROPÉEN DES ASSOCIATIONS  
DE LUTTE CONTRE LA PAUVRETÉ ET L'EXCLUSION SOCIALE



## Structure of Presentation

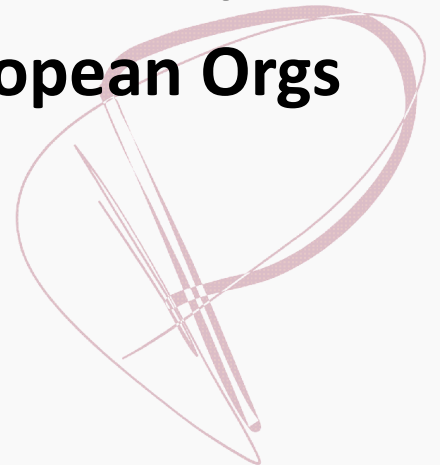
- Presenting EAPN
- Europe 2020 - Key elements
- EAPN assessment of delivery on poverty
- 5 Priorities for Action





## Presenting EAPN

- **Independent EU Network of NGOs**
- **Fighting for a social EU free of poverty**
- **Started in 1990 – key actor in Social OMC**
- **Working with and for people in poverty**
- **Financial support from EU (PROGRESS)**
- **30 National Networks + 23 European Orgs**





## Europe 2020: Key Elements

- Smart, Sustainable and **Inclusive** Growth
- Poverty Reduction Target (1 of 5): at least 20 million by 2020
- Social Guideline (1 of 10 Guidelines)
- Participation (Recital 16)
- Platform Against Poverty (1 of 7 Flagships)
- Reinforced OMC on Social Protection and Social Inclusion

EAPN TOOL KIT on Europe 2020 available at [www.eapn.eu](http://www.eapn.eu)





## Europe 2020 – The Process

- **Driver: Economic Semester and Economic Governance**
- **Annual Growth Survey**
- **National Reform Programmes**
- **National Strategies on Social Protection and Social Inclusion?**
- **Assessment (including a social assessment)**
- **Commission- Country Specific Recommendations (impact on National Budgets)**
- **Mutual Learning and Exchange**



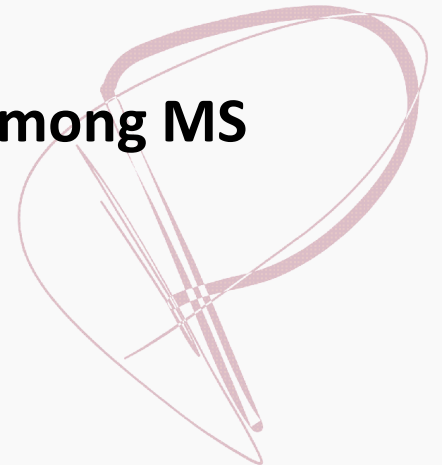


## European Platform Against Poverty

*New European Framework for “social and territorial cohesion”* – Commission initiative but unclear link to national level or stakeholders

### 5 Lines of Action

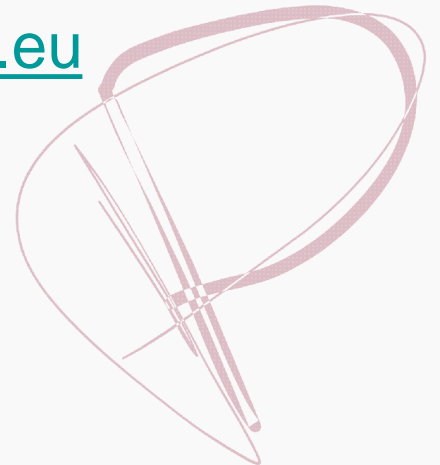
1. Delivering actions across the policy spectrum
2. EU funds to support social inclusion
3. Promoting evidence-based social innovation
4. Working in partnership and harnessing potential of social economy
5. Enhanced policy coordination among MS





## EAPN Assessment of Europe 2020 and NRP 2011

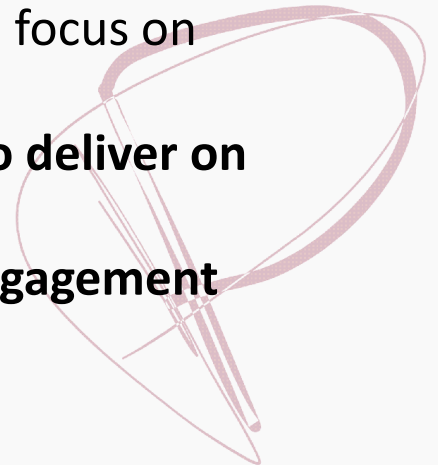
- **New EAPN report: Deliver inclusive Growth – Put the heart back Europe:** assessment of 2011 NRPs.
- **Survey/scoreboard with national/EU members**
- **Assessed all policies and process**
- **22 EAPN national networks and 5 Eos**
- **Nov: Letter written to Barroso with findings and recommendations on AGS**
- **Access [here](#) and see [www.eapn.eu](http://www.eapn.eu)**





# EAPN Assessment of NRP: Main Findings

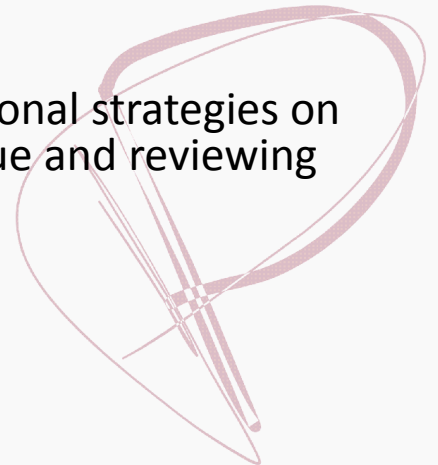
- **Macroeconomic approach driving austerity undermining inclusive growth**, generating more poverty + inequality
- **Lack of seriousness on poverty target** and evidence of cherry-picking and gaming by MS
- **Policies are skimpy, overly focussed on employment lacking integrated**, rights-base, strong social protection
- **Employment policies pushing people towards jobs that don't exist** by hardening activation/sanctions, not quality jobs + active inclusion.
- **Education policies are largely symptomatic**, focus on reducing school drop out numbers
- **Structural Funds falling short of potential to deliver on social inclusion**
- **Step backwards on national stakeholder engagement**





## EAPN Sweden: NRP Assessment

- **EAPN SE Scoreboard Assessment** for social inclusion (1.7 out of 10). Scores below 3 on all areas except promoting gender equality.
- **Overarching focus on ensuring a surplus**, not on inclusion.
- **Sweden failed to use EU poverty indicators** – only reducing people not in labour force to under 14% . See [here](#)
- **Lack of measures to promote inclusion:**
  - create real or quality jobs
  - support better education and access
  - ensure adequate economic support and income, particularly to people suffering sickness or disability – Active Inclusion.
  - reduce growing inequalities
- **Step backward on governance process** from national strategies on SPSI, but Govt admits demands for better dialogue and reviewing consultation with civil society
- Contact [Sonja.Wallbom@rfhl.se](mailto:Sonja.Wallbom@rfhl.se)





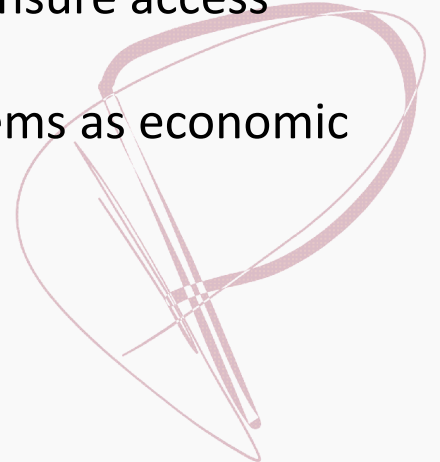
## 5 Priorities for Action

### 1) Prioritise inclusive Growth

- Take the poverty reduction target seriously
- Mainstream poverty and inequality in all areas
- Urgent social impact assessment of austerity measures and recommendations to reduce impact.

### 2) A New Deal – Social Investment Stimulus Package

- Create quality green and social jobs and ensure access through active inclusion
- Value Social Protection and Welfare Systems as economic stabilisers
- Invest in accessible public services – housing/health/energy/care..





## 5 Priorities for Action

### 3) Close the Inequality Gap – An EU Year?

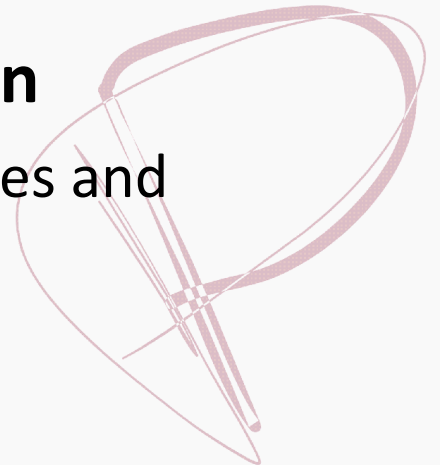
- Monitor and set targets for reduction
- Capture the wealth through fairer progressive taxation/tackling tax evasion
- Support EU Financial Transactions Tax

### 4) Use EU Funds to reduce Poverty

- 20% ring-fencing for social inclusion

### 5) Get serious about Democratic Accountability and Participation

- In Europe 2020 strategy – guidelines and implementation
- In overall Civil Society Approach





# Thank you for your attention

For more information  
Sian Jones, EAPN Policy Coordinator

[Sian.Jones@eapn.eu](mailto:Sian.Jones@eapn.eu)

See: [www.eapn.eu](http://www.eapn.eu)



**EUROPEAN ANTI-POVERTY NETWORK**  
**RÉSEAU EUROPÉEN DE LUTTE**  
**CONTRE LA PAUVRETÉ ET L'EXCLUSION SOCIALE**

SQUARE DE MEEUS, 18 – 1050 BRUSSELS  
TEL: 0032 2 226 58 50 – FAX: 0032 2 26 58 69

[www.eapn.eu](http://www.eapn.eu) - [team@eapn.eu](mailto:team@eapn.eu)