

Social Inclusion Forum

Croke Park, Jones's Road, Dublin 3

Wednesday
26 November 2008

8.30am – 5pm

conference

● Conference Overview

Introduction

The Social Inclusion Forum was established by the Government as part of the new structures to monitor and evaluate Ireland's National Action Plans for Social Inclusion (NAPinclusion). The National Economic and Social Forum (NESF) has been given the responsibility by the Government to convene the Social Inclusion Forum on a regular basis. The NESF is assisted in this work by the Office for Social Inclusion (OSI), the European Anti-Poverty Network Ireland (EAPN), and the Combat Poverty Agency.

Next Meeting of the Forum

The fifth meeting of the SIF will be held on Wednesday 26th November 2008 in The Hogan Suite, Croke Park, Dublin 3. Entrance to the Conference Hall is on Jones's Road, directions are listed at the back of this brochure. The Programme for the meeting is opposite.

The current NAPinclusion, *Building an Inclusive Society 2007–2016*, was developed using a lifecycle framework, which places the individual at the centre of the policy-making process and considers the challenges which people face at different stages of their lives. The lifecycle stages are – children, people of working age, older people and people with disabilities. The plan also contains a chapter on communities.

The themes for discussion at this year's SIF are linked to the priority policy objectives identified in the *National Report for Ireland on Strategies for Social Protection and Social Inclusion 2008-2010*. These reflect the importance of achieving greater co-ordination across policies and programmes to meet social inclusion objectives, and the importance of stakeholder involvement.

Conference Report

A Conference Report will be prepared. This will be formally submitted for attention to the Cabinet Committee on Social Inclusion, Children and Integration which is chaired by the Taoiseach. Copies of the Report will be circulated to all members of the Oireachtas as well as to all those who attended the Conference.

● Conference Programme

- 8.30 ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS AND GUESTS**
Registration with tea/coffee
- 9.00 MORNING PLENARY**
- Welcoming Remarks by the Forum’s Chairperson, Dr. Maureen Gaffney
 - Opening Address by the Minister for Social & Family Affairs, Ms. Mary Hanafin, T.D.
 - Presentation by Ms. Mary Doyle, Assistant Secretary, Department of An Taoiseach
 - Presentation by Mr. Gerry Mangan, Director, Office for Social Inclusion
- 10.00 QUESTIONS AND OPEN DISCUSSION**
- 10.15 ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**
- 10.45** Presentation of DVD by Ms. Anna Visser, Director, EAPN Ireland
- 11.15 COFFEE BREAK**
- 11.45 MEETINGS OF WORKSHOP GROUPS**
(See schedule list across)
- 1.00 BREAK FOR LUNCH**
- 2.15 CONTINUATION OF WORKSHOP GROUPS**
- 3.15 COFFEE BREAK**
- 3.30 FINAL PLENARY**
Feedback from the Workshop Groups
- 3.45** Open Discussion, with Panel
- 4.30 CONCLUDING REMARKS**
Closing remarks by the Forum’s Chairperson, Dr. Maureen Gaffney

Parallel Workshops

The following themes are for discussion as they relate to people experiencing poverty and social exclusion in the context of the current severe economic difficulties.

WORKSHOP A

- **PRIORITIES FOR CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT**

WORKSHOP B

- **FACILITATING EMPLOYMENT PARTICIPATION FOR THOSE VULNERABLE TO EXCLUSION FROM THE LABOUR MARKET**

WORKSHOP C

- **INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

WORKSHOP D

- **PROVISION OF HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION**

Registration and Expenses

If you wish to attend, please return the Registration Form opposite to the NESF Secretariat as soon as possible. Attendance at the Conference is free.

A contribution towards expenses will be paid to delegates from the Community and Voluntary Sector, who operate in a voluntary capacity, including the costs of childcare, eldercare or other expenses incurred (e.g. public transport, private transport where public is not available, and limited subsistence). **PAYMENT OF EXPENSES IS CONDITIONAL ON RECEIPTS BEEN PROVIDED.** Application forms for expenses will be available at the Registration desk on the day of the Conference.

Booking Form

Please fill in **ALL** details below using block capitals.

TITLE	FIRST NAME	SURNAME

ORGANISATION AND JOB TITLE (in full to facilitate registration)

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

WORKSHOP PREFERENCES

Please indicate (first choice = 1, last choice = 4). See the Conference Programme for details.

- PRIORITIES FOR CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT
- FACILITATING EMPLOYMENT PARTICIPATION FOR THOSE VULNERABLE TO EXCLUSION FROM THE LABOUR MARKET
- INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE
- PROVISION OF HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION

A LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED. PLEASE STATE ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS:

ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS (SIGN INTERPRETER, WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY, ETC.):

Closing date for receipt of completed forms is Friday 14th November

There is a limit of 250 places at the Conference and advance booking is essential. Pre-booked places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Notification of places will be confirmed a week before the event. Please note that bookings **MUST** be made on this form and returned to:

NESF, 16 Parnell Square, Dublin 1 **Fax** (01) 814 6301

For further queries, please telephone (01) 814 6361

Email info@nesf.ie

Glossary

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION 2007–2016

The 10 year plan of the Irish Government aimed at tackling poverty.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

Ensuring marginalised people and those living in poverty have greater participation in decision-making which affects their lives.

SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP

Agreements between government, employers, trade unions, farmers and the community and voluntary sector on economic and social policies over an agreed time-frame.

LIFECYCLE APPROACH

This approach places the individual at the centre of policy development and delivery by taking into account the risks facing him/her and the supports available at each lifecycle stage (children, people of working age, older people and people with disabilities). It offers a comprehensive framework for implementing a streamlined, crosscutting and visible approach to tackling poverty and social exclusion.

By adopting the lifecycle approach, the NAPinclusion supports the development of a more joined-up and multi-disciplinary approach to policy making, with co-ordinated inputs from a wide range of actors.

OFFICE FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION (OSI)

The OSI is located within the Department of Social and Family Affairs and has overall responsibility for co-ordinating, monitoring and implementation of the NAPinclusion across Departments, Agencies and regional and local government and implements key support functions. www.socialinclusion.ie

THE EUROPEAN ANTI POVERTY NETWORK IRELAND (EAPN IRELAND)

The European Anti Poverty Network Ireland is a network of groups and individuals working against poverty. EAPN Ireland is the Irish link to the European Anti Poverty Network which brings together civil society organisations from all over the European Union in order to put the fight against poverty at the top of the EU, national and local agenda.

THE COMBAT POVERTY AGENCY (CPA)

Combat Poverty is a State agency which develops and promotes evidence-based policy advice on tackling poverty in Ireland. It does this through its core legislative functions, namely research, project innovation, public education and policy advice.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FORUM (NESF)

The NESF provides advice to government on policies to achieve greater equality and social inclusion. It is the largest and the most representative of the social partnership institutions and comprises: members of the Oireachtas, employer/business/trade unions/farm bodies, the voluntary and community sector and central government, local government and independents.

● How to get to Croke Park

Train

The closest railway station is Drumcondra at the intersection of Drumcondra Road (N1) and Clonliffe Road, a 5 minute walk from the stadium. This station is served by Arrow trains. The closest DART stations are Connolly and Clontarf. Connolly is a 15-20 minute walk and Clontarf a 20-25 minute walk to the stadium. The closest Intercity Rail stop is also at Connolly Station, visit www.iarnrodeireann.ie

Bus

From the city centre to Drumcondra Road – No 3, 11, 11a, 16, 16a, and 41, visit www.dublinbus.ie

Luas

The closest Luas stop Connolly which is approximately a 15-20 minute walk from the stadium, visit www.luas.ie

