



European Year 2010 Opening in the Czech Republic Presentation of Activities

The Czech Republic officially introduced its national programme of the European Year of Poverty and Social Exclusion on January 22, 2010. Czech Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Petr Šimerka presented the main projects, which would be realized during the campaign in 2010. Vladimír Špidla the departing Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities and chairwoman of the Czech branch of European Antipoverty Network Milena Černá also took part at the inauguration .

„Through activities of the European Year 2010 we would like to support as much effectively as possible the interconnection of all those who are concerned with poverty and social exclusion so as to convince the public that even their attitude and active approach can benefit both the whole society and its individuals,“ said Šimerka.

The programme of the European Year 2010 adjusted to the specific Czech conditions was introduced by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic and it is focused in **5 main priorities**:

- Prevention of social exclusion as a consequence of over-indebtedness,
- Better access to labour market for excluded people,
- Activation of local public administration bodies in creating and evaluation of national action plan for social inclusion,
- Elevation of education level and competitiveness of the poor and excluded to the labour market,
- Support for decent housing of socially excluded groups and solving the problem of homelessness.

In a special grant programme the Czech Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs has chosen **12 projects** which will be realized this year (in the total value of 9,5 million CZK) based on the 5 above cited priorities.

Realization of the European Year 2010 activities involves a range of NGOs as well, cooperating closely with the national implementation body.

Among the first ambassadors of the European Year 2010 in the Czech Republic are Katarína Klamková, Director of IQ Roma Servis (NGO), Kumar Vishnawathan, Director of Vzájemné soužití (Mutual coexistence, NGO) and Boris Šmejkal, streetpaper seller.

Official site of the European Year 2010 in the Czech Republic is www.EY2010.cz.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS

Project Title	Realization	Brief description
European Year 2010 Activities	Centrum sociálních služeb Brno (Social Services Centre, Brno)	Wide range of activities: regional conferences and seminars, specialized subject publications and popular publications. Aim: to introduce discussion about poverty and social exclusion, activate the public, help the public understand the topic.
Prevention of heavy	Asociace občanských poraden	Complex programme focused in heavy indebtedness prevention of people at risk of poverty in 13 cities of

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indebtedness	(Association of Civil Consulting Rooms)	the Czech Republic. Project consists of indebtedness consultancy, media campaign in 13 regional cities, analysis of indebtedness, seminars focused in causes of people's indebtedness in particular cities.
Debt – easy to get in, difficult to get back	Sdružení pro probaci a mediaci v justici (Association for Probation and Mediation in Judiciary)	Project focused in financial literacy education for people serving a sentence and after it. Part of the project is dedicated to further education in money management for children from creches and other facilities.
Building up Economic Literacy, Heavy Indebtedness Prevention	Petr Otáhal I.t.d.	Project focused in financial literacy of long term unemployed people in one of the regions with high rate of unemployment.
For Social Integration in Šluknovsko	Kostka Krásná Lípa	Project aimed at information supply and public administration activation in the field of social inclusion in one of the strongly disadvantaged regions through multiple activities.
Welcome	Dobrovolnické centrum Ústí nad Labem (Volunteer Center Ústí nad Labem)	Project focused in activation of long term unemployed people through voluntary service. Methodologies for social services workers and employment offices will be elaborated as a part of the project and they will be verified in practise.
Specialist's training to support activation of public administration	Finanční gramotnost (Financial literacy)	Project aimed at public and local administration civil servants, counts in organization of national conference and workshop for civil servants regarding financial literacy. The project counts in distribution of methodical guidelines for all regional, municipal and local administratives.
Solo parents and work	Aperio	Weekend educational seminars for single parents, aimed at gaining of competencies being necessary for active inclusion at the labour market, child care providing is included accordingly to the needs of particular focus groups.
Heavy Indebtedness Problematics	EAPN ČR	Project aimed at enlightenment in the matter of poverty and social exclusion. Part of the project will be organization of workshops, round tables and meetings of people living in poverty and social exclusion, included promotion in the media.
Elevating of operational literacy of people at risk of poverty	Romodrom	Project focused in elevating of operational literacy of people serving a sentence or after it and people from socially excluded Romany localities. Among the spheres of interest will be housing, family, work, public administration, services and so on.
Active inclusion of people with mental disorders	ESET Help	Elaborated system of care for mentally disordered in the sphere of inclusion at the labour market. In a professional way takes into account specific needs of this focus group.
Poverty concerns us all	Oblastní charita Hradec Králové (Local charity Hradec)	Project wants to draw attention to theoretical and practical problems implied in poverty and social exclusion through multiple activities (conferences,



	Králové)	publications, sports tournaments, round tables, lectures, consultancy.
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