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**TOOLKIT**  
*For*  
**EFFECTIVE HOMELESS STRATEGIES**

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**European Seminar**  
**Husbanken & FEANTSA**  
18-19 June 2007 - Oslo  
Contribution *FEANTSA*

# FEANTSA

- Who we are?
  - Members
  - Office
- What we do?
  - Exchanges
  - Research
  - *Lobbying*
- Norway
- [www.feantsa.org](http://www.feantsa.org)

# Effective homeless strategies

## 10 dimensions

- Evidence-based
- Comprehensive
- Multi-dimensional
- Rights-based
- Participatory
- Statutory
- Sustainable
- Needs-based
- Pragmatic
- Bottom-up

# Effective homeless strategies

## Evidence-based

- Too often policies are based on assumptions and beliefs
- Better understanding necessary
  - Profile
  - Causes
  - Impact of policies
- How?
  - Research
  - Data collection
  - Policy evaluation
- Examples
  - UK, Norway, ...

# Effective homeless policies

## Comprehensive

- Too often focus on emergency
- 3 areas
  - Emergency
  - Integration
  - Prevention
- How?
  - “Housing first”
  - Stepping stone model
  - ETHOS !
- Examples
  - Norway
  - Ireland
    - “Ending homelessness”

# Effective homeless policies

## Multi-dimensional

- Too often homelessness is considered as a social welfare problem
- Different policy areas
  - Housing
  - Health
  - Social welfare
  - Justice
  - ...
- How?
  - Interagency working
  - Interdepartemental working
    - Leading Ministry!!

# Effective homelessness policies

## Rights-based approach

- Too often homelessness is addressed in a caritative and/or conditional way
- Introdce the enforceable right to housing
  - What is this?
  - International case-law
  - Pragmatic aproach
- Real challenge for policy-makers and NGOs
- France, Scotland, Finland,...

# Effective homeless policies

## Participatory approach

- Too often key stakeholders are not involved in policy design, evaluation, and implementation
- Who?
  - Local authorities
  - Service providers
  - Service users
    - Without becoming tokenistic!
- Participation ≠ only responsibility
  - See some new MS
- Examples
  - Belgium – service users

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# Effective policies

## Statutory basis

- Too often homeless policies are dependent on the right political context
- What?
  - Statutory basis at national &/ or regional level
  - Statutory objectives
- Examples
  - Objectives – Ireland, Scotland, ...
  - --- Norway – mutual learning, incentives!!

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# Effective policies Sustainable

- Too often homeless policies are developed in an unsustainable context
- What?
  - Budget
  - Political commitment
  - Public support
    - Different traditions
- Ex
  - Denmark

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# Effective policies

## Needs-based

- Too often policy-makers and service providers decide what is good for homeless people
  - Needs should be the basis of good policies
    - Individual
    - Capacities --- see quality of life
    - Regular revision
  - Example
    - Denmark
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# Effective policies

## Pragmatic approach

- Too often homeless policies are too ambitious
- What?
  - Realistic objectives
  - Realistic time frame
    - Ex EU – Lisbon strategy
  - Prioritisations
    - Worst off or most easily intergrateble?!
- Examples
  - Scotland 2012

# Effective homeless policies

## Bottom up

- Too often policies are too much based on a *one-fits-all* model
- Responses should be developed for the local level
- Importance of local authorities
  - But need for a supra-local policy framework
- Examples
  - Netherlands, France, Scotland...

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# Effective policies

## Indicators of good performance

- Size of the country
- Size of the homeless population
- Budgetary means
- Traditions
- Understanding of the concept

# Effective homeless policies

## Who performs best?

- ????
- Mutual learning

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■ Thank you for your attention