

FEANTSA ENDING HOMELESSNESS AWARDS 2018



A HANDBOOK ON USING THE FUND
FOR EUROPEAN AID TO THE MOST DEPRIVED
(FEAD) TO FIGHT HOMELESSNESS



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS WORKING WITH THE HOMELESS



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About The Handbook

This Handbook presents the 2018 FEANTSA Ending Homelessness Award winners. These awards recognise projects contributing to the fight against homelessness which have been funded by the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD). They are part of FEANTSA's Be Fair Europe – Stand up for Homeless People campaign, one aim of which is to promote the investment of EU funds in ending homelessness.

This Handbook presents the background to the awards, the three winning projects, the importance of using funds such as the FEAD to tackle homelessness, lessons for 2021-2027 and an explanation of the selection process and the jury.

We hope that this material can inspire policymakers, Managing Authorities, project promoters, organisations working with homeless people and other stakeholders to use European instruments to improve the lives of people in the most excluded situations.

We hope that this will inspire more and better take-up of the FEAD for tackling homelessness, and to contribute to building a post-2020 framework that really delivers on the commitment to leave no one behind by reaching out to homeless people.

The 2018 Ending Homelessness Awards were awarded by Marian Harkin MEP on 6 November 2018.



The winners of the FEANTSA Ending Homelessness Awards 2018

FEANTSA Ending Homelessness Awards 2018

The FEANTSA Ending Homelessness Awards are part of our campaign [Be Fair Europe – Stand up for Homeless People](#), calling on the EU institutions to work with national governments, regions, cities and stakeholders to put an end to homelessness.

Local, regional and national authorities have primary responsibility for funding measures to address homelessness. However, EU funds can play a transformative role by acting as a lever for the improvement of policies and services. The Ending Homelessness Awards celebrate the use of EU funds for projects that help end homelessness. The Awards were launched in 2017 with the [first edition](#) focusing on the European Social Fund.

The 2018 Awards focus on the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD). FEAD is the EU's only instrument explicitly targeting the most deprived people in society. It provides €3.8 billion for material and social inclusion assistance for the 2014-2020 period. Recognising its potential as a significant tool in the fight against homelessness, this edition celebrates FEAD-supported projects that are breaking new ground and making a real difference in the fight against homelessness.

“FEAD is the EU’s only instrument explicitly targeting the most deprived people in society. It provides €3.8 billion for material and social inclusion assistance for the 2014-2020 period.”

Meet The Winners

Frostschutzengel Plus - Health and Social Counselling for Homeless People



Jointly managed by GEBEWO and Caritas

Berlin, Germany

FEAD Managing Authority:
BMAS – Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment

2016-2018

FEAD Grant:
€845,459 (overall project budget: €994,658)

Contact person: Petra Schwaiger
(beratung@frostschutzengel.de)



This project aims to provide out-reach counselling in Bulgarian, Bosnian-Serbian-Croatian, English, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian and Russian in existing homelessness services (day centres, shelters, GP surgeries etc) to homeless mobile German and EU citizens. The goal is to facilitate the clients' long-term integration into the welfare system and out of homelessness. This project's target group is particularly hard to reach because of the obvious language barriers, systematic discrimination and a lack of expertise among the homeless service providers.

Frostschutzengel Plus offers an additional service of ensuring that service users are informed of their rights as EU citizens, often for the first time.

Alongside individual counselling, the project also participates in the local/national debate around access to social services for homeless EU citizens.

The project is the only one of its kind in Berlin in that it fits its consultations into the service users' day by allowing them to receive advice on location. The project's consultation hours on the premises of existing service providers often serve to relieve the on-site social workers. This means that, through their consultations and initial analysis of a person's problem, the subsequent case work can be carried out more efficiently.

Meet The Winners

Vulnerable EU Migrants



Managed by Kirkens Korshær Kompasset

Copenhagen, Denmark

FEAD Managing Authority:
Socialstyrelsen, Danmark

2016-2019

FEAD Grant:
€908,889 (overall project budget: €1,475,000)

Contact person: Susannah Sønderlund
(susannah@kirkenskorshaer.dk)



This project aims to provide outreach services for often hard-to-reach destitute mobile EU citizens, many of whom struggle to access low-threshold services due to marginalisation, mental health issues or substance abuse. The service consists of three parts: a night shelter, outreach work and multi-lingual counselling. Thanks to the many languages spoken by the project's social workers, Roma living on the streets of Copenhagen have also been reached.

Increasingly discriminatory legislation has been brought in Denmark since 2017, with one law prohibiting the establishment and residence in 'intimidating camps' in public spaces.

Begging laws have also been tightened up, with the fines going up to €70. The project's outreach is accompanied by advocacy work: filing complaints and campaigning against this increasing prohibition of sleeping in public spaces.

Since July 2016, more than 1000 people have been reached by this project.

Meet The Winners

Better Health – Bättre Hälsa



Managed by the City of Gothenburg

Sweden-wide

FEAD Managing Authority:
The Swedish ESF Council

2015-2018

FEAD Grant:
€750,000 (overall project budget: €750,000)

Contact person: Maud Willardsson Engström
(maud.willardsson.engstrom@socialresurs.goteborg.se)



This project is a cooperation between Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö, the Salvation Army, the Rescue Mission and the Health Centre for Homeless people. Its aim is to provide medical help and advice to vulnerable EU migrants – most of whom are Roma, but some are also from Bulgaria, Italy, Hungary, Albania and Croatia. Doctors, nurses, nutritionists and midwives go out and map the needs of the service users and provide them with health information relating to food and nutrition, CPR, chiropody, sexual health, contraception, how to prevent back and neck pain and much more.

Service users are also given supplies to help with their hygiene needs such as sanitary towels, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, condoms etc, as well as the opportunity to wash clothes, eat and book night shelters.

What is new about this project is the fact that it also reaches out to EU migrants trying to build their lives in Sweden. The number of EU citizens who have moved to Sweden and ended up homeless is increasing and this project is vital in reaching out to them as previously, services for homeless people were not designed or aimed for non-Swedes.

Homelessness & the FEAD

Homelessness is an extreme form of poverty and deprivation. Addressing it is part of the EU's broader efforts to fight poverty and social exclusion. Homelessness is a pressing problem throughout the EU. Harmonised or comparable data is not available but national sources suggests that homelessness is increasing in most Member States.



Picture: The Other Europe Map

Source: Overview of Housing Exclusion & Homelessness 2018

Homelessness has become an established priority on the EU's social policy agenda. It is firmly embedded in the European Pillar of Social Rights, the latest framework for EU social policy, which was jointly proclaimed by the European Parliament, Council and Commission in September 2017:

Priority 19 of the EPSR

19. Housing and assistance for the homeless

- A. Access to social housing or housing assistance of good quality shall be provided for those in need.
- B. Vulnerable people have the right to appropriate assistance and protection against forced eviction.
- C. Adequate shelter and services shall be provided to the homeless in order to promote their social inclusion.

EU funds, including the FEAD, are important instruments for delivering the Pillar. As the EU's only fund explicitly targeting the most deprived people in society, the FEAD can play an important role when it comes to homelessness, despite its limited scope and size.

In most Member States, the FEAD primarily supports the provision of material assistance (e.g. food, clothing, hygiene products). This material assistance goes along with accompanying measures to support social inclusion (e.g. guidance and support). A minority of Member States have opted to use the FEAD entirely for social inclusion measures.

Assessing **to what extent** the FEAD reaches homeless people is challenging. The Commission's monitoring suggests that a very small proportion of the material assistance provided through the FEAD reaches homeless people. Conversely, in Member States that dedicate the FEAD to social inclusion measures, homeless people are one of the main target groups.

Assessing **how effectively** the FEAD supports homeless people is very complex. There is a difference between managing homelessness and ending homelessness. Providing food or sleeping bags, whilst meeting basic needs, is never going to end homelessness.

Social inclusion measures are thus critical. FEANTSA believes that homelessness can and should be ended, and that the European Union should support progress towards this goal. The FEAD can be an important tool. In the current funding period, some Managing Authorities and beneficiaries have proved this by using the FEAD as a real lever in the fight against homelessness. The Ending Homelessness Awards 2018 showcase this work in the hope of inspiring others to follow suit.

This edition of the prize comes at a critical moment for the future of the European Structural & Investment Funds, including the Fund for the Most Deprived. The European Commission has published proposals for an ESF+ programme, which will integrate the current ESF, YEI, FEAD, EaSI and the EU Health programme. At this juncture, the Ending Homelessness Awards 2018 celebrate projects that show how EU funding for the most deprived can be used to help end homelessness.

We hope to inspire more and better take-up of the FEAD for tackling homelessness in the current period; and to contribute to building an ESF+ that really delivers on the commitment to leave no one behind by reaching out to homeless people.

“There is a difference between managing homelessness and ending homelessness. Providing food or sleeping bags, whilst meeting basic needs, is never going to end homelessness.”

Lessons for 2021 – 2027

The Ending Homelessness Awards and the winning projects present several lessons to take forward to the 2021 – 2027 period, as well as to help make the best possible use of the FEAD and other EU funds in the remainder of the current period to help end homelessness.

Based on proposals made by the European Commission, the EU institutions are currently negotiating the Regulations for the new Multi-annual Financial Framework, as well as for the different funds within it. The Commission's proposal for a new ESF+ programme creates several important openings for tackling homelessness. Of particular relevance are earmarking for material assistance for the most deprived – a future FEAD stream; and earmarking for social inclusion and the fight against poverty and social exclusion.

In this context, FEANTSA calls on EU institutions, Member States and stakeholders to:

- Maintain at least the level of funding currently provided by the FEAD in a future earmarked funding stream for social inclusion and/or material assistance measures to the most deprived, including homeless people. This should be additional to resources earmarked for the social integration of people experiencing poverty and social exclusion, which are also important for addressing homelessness.
- In both regulatory and operational terms, ensure that the future ESF+ supports the most deprived with more than just food aid and material assistance. The obligation to provide accompanying measures and the full freedom for Member States to opt for social-inclusion only programmes (currently known as type 2) should be maintained in the future period.



- EU policymakers, Managing Authorities and stakeholders should work to ensure that earmarked ESF+ resources, including those earmarked for material assistance and social inclusion of the most deprived, should not be used only to manage homelessness but as far as possible to leverage better progress in the fight to end homelessness. The winners of the 2018 Ending Homelessness awards demonstrate concretely how the FEAD can be deployed for social inclusion of homeless people. They should serve as inspiration for the future.

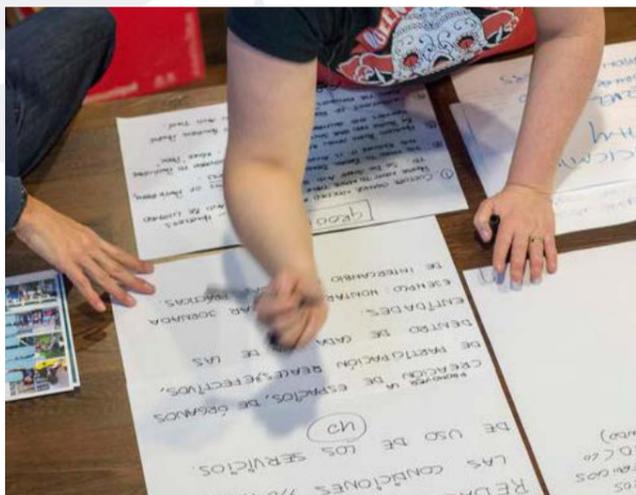


- Homeless people should be included as a target group in the programming for the ESF+ from the outset. EU policymakers, Managing Authorities, the homeless sector and other stakeholders should work together to ensure that homeless people are not left behind in the 2021 – 2027 period.



- Integrated approaches and holistic programming can and should be used to support impactful interventions to help end homelessness, building on best practice established in the current period.

- Monitoring of the extent to which ESF+ resources support ending homelessness should be continued and strengthened.



- The European Commission should continue and enhance its work to facilitate capacity building, training and exchange of best practice in the use of structural funds to help end homelessness.

How were the winners chosen?

As in 2017, the criteria for the Awards were that the projects needed to have been in-part funded by the chosen EU fund, this time the Fund for European Aid for the Most Deprived, to have started in 2010 or later, and to be either ongoing or completed.

The selection process operated similarly with the call for applications opening on 10 July 2018 until 14 September 2018, during which time 11 applications were received. The FEANTSA Ending Homelessness Awards Jury then met to discuss and choose which projects would receive the gold, silver and bronze awards.

Jury members were once again asked to score projects according to the following criteria:

Relevance, Sustainability, Innovation, Impact and Scalability.

The following key questions were asked of each project:

1. Relevance:

- Does the project target homeless people?
- Does the project seek to improve the living situation of homeless people?

2. Sustainability:

- Is the project's impact sustainable over time?
- Does the project have a multiplier effect?

3. Innovation:

- Is the project innovative?
- Is it doing deploying new strategies, concepts, applications, partnerships etc. to improve outcomes?

4. Impact:

- What's the impact for beneficiaries?
- What's the wider impact on policy & practice?

5. Scalability:

- What's the potential to take this project to scale to help end homelessness?

Each project was scored from 1 to 5 on each criterion (1 = very poor, 5 = excellent) before the top three placed projects were each endorsed by the jury.

The Jury

Denis Haveaux – Director of Red Cross EU

Denis Haveaux is the Director of the Red Cross EU Office in Brussels. He began his assignment in November 2015, representing the IFRC, 28 National Red Cross Societies in the EU and the Norwegian Red Cross vis-à-vis the European institutions. He oversees external relations, coordination and advocacy between the Red Cross Red Crescent and the EU institutions in the areas of humanitarian aid, development cooperation and programmes addressing vulnerable people within the EU.



Anna Ludwinek – Research Manager at Eurofound

Anna Ludwinek is a Research Manager in the Social Policies unit at Eurofound. Since joining Eurofound in 2008, she has worked on issues related to youth, youth transitions and social inclusion, as well as on topics around migration and integration. At present, she coordinates work on social mobility and inequalities and is an activity coordinator for the area of public services. Other areas of work include reintegration of long-term excluded groups into the labour market and the impact of digitalisation on social services.



Marie- Anne Paraskevas – Senior Policy Expert at the European Commission, DG EMPL

Marie- Anne PARASKEVAS is a Senior Policy Expert at the European Commission and she comes from Greece. Since 1995, Marie-Anne has been working in the Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, firstly on gender equality issues and as from 2004 on issues relating to social inclusion and the fight against poverty. In September 2011, she took up the coordination of the team working on the transnational dimension of the European Social Fund. As from January 2013, she has been also in charge of other files which include the horizontal principles of the ESI Funds, in particular the European Conduct on Partnership and territorial cooperation, as well as for issues relating to employment, social inclusion, and social innovation.



Freek Spinnewijn – Director of FEANTSA

Freek Spinnewijn has been the director of FEANTSA since 2001. FEANTSA, the European Federation of National Organisations Working with Homeless People, is a European network of NGOs working on the issue of homelessness. It has members in 30 European countries. FEANTSA is the only major European network that focuses exclusively on homelessness at European level.



Leo Williams – Director of the European Anti-Poverty Network, (EAPN)

Leo Williams is the Director of the European Anti-Poverty Network, (EAPN) the largest European network of national, regional and local networks, involving anti-poverty NGOs and grassroots groups as well as European Organisations, active in the fight against poverty and social exclusion.

Previously he was the Director of Beyond 2015, a global campaign of over 1500 CSOs from more than 140 countries pushing for a transformative and ambitious post-2015 agenda, for nearly five years.





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This publication has received Financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation "EaSI" (2014-2020).

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