



Strategic Plan

1999 - 2001

Combat Poverty Agency

Combat Poverty Agency
working for the prevention
and elimination of poverty





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and elimination of poverty



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April 1999**

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SUMMARY

During the period 1999-2001 the Agency will influence public policy to combat poverty through policy advice, project support and innovation, research and public education. In doing this it will have four key objectives:

- Ensuring that the National Anti-Poverty Strategy will have made significant progress in reducing and preventing poverty.
- Narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor through promoting a fairer distribution of resources, services and employment opportunities in favour of people living in poverty.
- Achieving a coherent and planned public policy on child poverty.
- Advancing the opportunity offered by peace to build a more inclusive and participative democracy on this island.

INTRODUCTION + MISSION STATEMENT



INTRODUCTION

Statutory Requirement

This is the fifth three-year strategic plan to be drawn up by the Agency since its establishment in 1986. It was submitted to the Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs, Dermot Ahern TD, and has received his approval. The preparation of such a plan is required under the Combat Poverty Agency Act, 1986. It is also in keeping with the Government's commitment to improving Strategic Management in the public sector.

Since it was established the Agency has been strongly committed to the concept of strategic planning and to monitoring and evaluating its performance. It believes that as a state agency in receipt of public funds it should use these as efficiently and effectively as possible in fulfilling its statutory functions.

Strategic Planning Process

In preparing this plan the Agency undertook an extensive planning process. It commissioned an independent evaluation of the impact of its previous three year plan. It consulted extensively with organisations and individuals it works closely with. It invited and received submissions from groups and individuals concerned with tackling poverty. It received valuable suggestions from and had a constructive dialogue with officials from the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs. It benefited from the advice of members of its Policy Advisory Committees. Above all the Agency drew on the insights and experience it has gained from its own work over the last twelve years.

Effective strategic planning involves matching resources to ambitions and making hard choices between competing options. In recent years the scale of anti-poverty policy and of community development activity has grown rapidly and has

led to a great increase in demands on the Agency. Thus, in preparing this Strategic Plan, the Agency has had to make very difficult choices about priorities. While we are satisfied that the issues we have identified are the right ones we are conscious that we were not able to include some other important issues that were raised during our consultations.

External Environment

The external environment in which the Agency is likely to be operating in the next three years is one which will provide a very serious opportunity to make major steps towards the elimination of poverty. The rapidly growing economy means that more resources are available. The large increase in employment opportunities provide a chance to dramatically reduce one of the key factors in persistent poverty, structural long-term unemployment. Demographic trends are, by European Union (EU) standards, particularly advantageous. The developing peace on the island creates a favourable climate for building a more inclusive society. At an EU level the increased emphasis in the Amsterdam Treaty on tackling social exclusion should create a much stronger dynamic for developing a strong EU dimension to anti-poverty policy.

There are also a number of positive institutional developments that will further enhance the struggle against poverty. The National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) is becoming increasingly embedded in the political and administrative system and the Government's recent introduction of a mechanism for poverty proofing new policy proposals will help to focus public policy more strongly on poverty. The reform of local government and its increasing integration with local development has the potential to lead to more integrated and

planned local approaches to tackling poverty. The recent reconstitution of the National Economic and Social Council and the National Economic and Social Forum, the promised White Paper on relations between the state and the community and voluntary together with the growing strength of the community and voluntary sector will help to sustain and deepen social partnership and the development of an agreed approach to tackling poverty.

Not everything in the external environment is positive. Any major downturn in the world economy will have an adverse impact on Ireland. The consequences of recent developments at EU level such as Economic and Monetary Union and the single market and the enlargement of the Union remains unclear. There will be less Structural Funds for Ireland from 2000. New problems are already emerging as a result of our economic boom. For instance there is a danger of a widening dispersion of earnings and income between rich and poor weakening social solidarity. Society may be becoming increasingly atomised and individualised and there are worrying signs of a tendency to blame many of those in poverty and to discriminate between the "deserving" and "undeserving" poor. Access to housing is becoming an increasing factor in poverty. The rapid growth in car ownership has highlighted serious public transport weaknesses. New groups at risk such as refugees and asylum seekers have emerged. Alongside this there are indications of a growth in intolerance and racism. Issues of the environment and sustainable development are coming increasingly to the fore and, while having an impact on everyone, will particularly affect those living in poverty. All of the above reinforces the importance of the Agency promoting a wider understanding and definition of poverty and social exclusion than just exclusion from the labour market and employment opportunities. It reinforces the need

for the Agency to work to influence a broad range of policy responses.

Strategic Role

The Combat Poverty Agency is a relatively small agency which has to play a very strategic role if it is to be effective. The Agency is a specialist centre on poverty and community development and a catalyst for change. As such it seeks to influence public policy and public support for action on poverty.

To have the maximum impact the Agency must work with and through others. It is particularly concerned to work with the political process and community and voluntary sector to develop their roles in combating poverty.

The Agency believes that Ireland's rapidly expanding economy, the developing peace, the favourable demographic projections and the establishment of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy provide an exceptional opportunity to make a major advance in preventing and eliminating poverty. This plan outlines how the Agency intends to make the most of this opportunity over the next three years.

MISSION STATEMENT

Aim

The aim of the Combat Poverty Agency is to promote a more just and inclusive society by working for the prevention and elimination of poverty and social exclusion.¹

The Agency pursues this aim through the four main functions set out in the Combat Poverty Agency Act, 1986: policy advice; project support and innovation; research and public education.

Core Understandings

To achieve its aim the Agency is guided by the following understandings:

- Poverty is a structural problem in Irish society. National and local policies and programmes are key to the elimination of poverty.
- The reduction of inequality and the redistribution of resources and opportunities is essential to combating poverty.
- The involvement, empowerment and representation of those affected by poverty is necessary in order to tackle poverty effectively.
- Partnership between government and the social partners at both local and national levels is vital for effective anti-poverty policies and programmes.

- Tackling poverty involves the promotion of social rights for all.
- Policies and programmes to tackle poverty and promote sustainable development² should be complementary.
- There is a need for policies and programmes at a European level which complement local and national policies to tackle poverty and social exclusion.

KEY OBJECTIVES

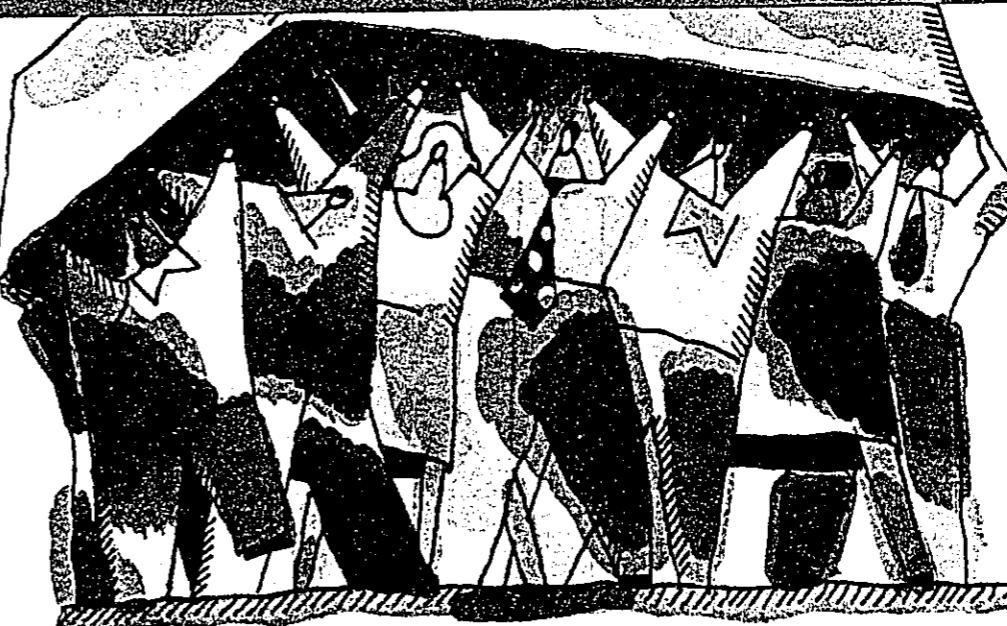
During 1999 - 2001 the Agency will seek to influence public policy in favour of those living in poverty. It will do this through its statutory functions of advising the Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs, project support and innovation, research and public education. Over the period emphasis will be given to achieving the following objectives:

- Ensuring that the National Anti-Poverty Strategy will have made significant progress in reducing and preventing poverty.
- Narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor through promoting a fairer distribution of resources, services and employment opportunities in favour of people living in poverty.
- Achieving a coherent and planned public policy on child poverty.
- Advancing the opportunity offered by peace to build a more inclusive and participative democracy on this island.

The Agency will also give particular attention to strengthening and developing its organisational, financial, technical and human resource capacities in order to achieve its objectives.

OBJECTIVES

1 , 2 , 3 , 4



1. Social exclusion refers to the economic, social, cultural and legal structures and processes that exclude persons or groups from full participation and integration in society.
2. Sustainable development refers to development that meets human needs while protecting nature's ability to renew itself.

OBJECTIVE 1

Ensuring that the National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) will have made significant progress in reducing and preventing poverty.

This objective will be achieved through the following goals:

Goal 1:

The Agency will have promoted and used evaluation, research data and policy analysis to develop and strengthen the NAPS and public policy to tackle poverty.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- undertaking ongoing evaluation of NAPS
- producing and publishing annual assessments of NAPS including progress on existing targets
- getting agreement on revised and additional targets
- supporting the regular collection and analysis of new data and identifying and promoting the use of secondary data sources
- networking and forming strategic alliances with the academic and research community and promoting postgraduate research on poverty
- supporting the involvement of the anti-poverty sector in the design of national poverty surveys.

Goal 2:

The Agency will have developed and supported the implementation of poverty proofing³ of public policy.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- assisting the NAPS Unit and the Inter-Departmental Policy Committee to develop effective implementation of poverty proofing
- ensuring any new national partnership agreement⁴ is poverty proofed during design and implementation
- making submissions to relevant Green Papers, government commissions, working groups, etc. to ensure they take on a poverty proofing dimension.

Goal 3:

The Agency will have assisted in strengthening the capacity of local government to tackle poverty as part of the wider process of local government reform.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- raising awareness about NAPS and poverty proofing and working with and assisting local authorities to incorporate them into their policy and practice
- working with local authorities to develop good practice in the involvement of the community and voluntary sector
- working with a small number of local authorities, including some from the border counties, to pilot local government anti-poverty strategies and drawing on experience in other EU Member States
- working to ensure that the integration of

local development and local government gives a high priority both to tackling local concentrations of poverty and social exclusion and to promoting community development as a means of tackling poverty.

- context of recent EU developments on tackling social exclusion
- achieving a sustainable and effective national anti-poverty network programme
- supporting representation of the community and voluntary sector on key national fora.⁵

Goal 4:

The Agency will have influenced and enhanced government policy and practice in regard to community and voluntary sector involvement in tackling poverty.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- contributing to the development and implementation of the white paper⁶ on statutory and voluntary sector relationships
- advising the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs on its Community Development Programme
- influencing government policy and practice on dialogue with and inclusion of the community and voluntary sector in policy making with particular regard to the NAPS.

Goal 5:

The Agency will have further developed the capacity of the community and voluntary sector to contribute to developing policies that tackle poverty.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- developing programmes on influencing policy
- completing the Agency's drugs policy programme and promoting policy learning from the programme
- promoting transnational learning exchanges on linking local action to national policy in the

Goal 6:

The Agency will have contributed to: greater public awareness of the NAPS; greater support for NAPS; and the strengthening of social and economic rights.⁷

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- advising and supporting the NAPS Inter-Departmental Policy Committee, NAPS Unit and government departments on public awareness strategies to promote the NAPS
- increasing the awareness of NAPS in other EU Member States
- highlighting the links between social and economic rights and poverty and the benefits of underpinning these rights in the Constitution and in legislation.

3. Poverty proofing refers to a Government decision in 1998 that all programmes and policies at design and review stages should be examined for their impact on poverty reduction.
4. Refers to agreements between government, trade unions, employers, farming interests and the community and voluntary sector on pay, taxation and other economic and social issues.

5. In 1997 a Government discussion document, *Supporting Voluntary Activity, A Green Paper on the Community and Voluntary Sector and its Relationship with the State*, was published. A White Paper, which is a statement of Government policy, is currently in development on this issue.
6. Refers to key national economic and social policy institutions such as National Economic and Social Forum, National Economic and Social Council, national partnership agreement discussions, National Anti-Poverty Strategy.
7. Refers to the rights of every member of society to a reasonable standard of living and quality of life. These rights are embodied in United Nations and Council of Europe conventions.

OBJECTIVE 2

Narrowing the gap between the rich and poor through promoting a fairer distribution of resources, services and employment opportunities in favour of people living in poverty.

This objective will be achieved through the following goals:

Goal 7:

The Agency will have promoted and influenced the use of an appropriate and transparent mechanism for adequately increasing social welfare rates.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- examining EU and other mechanisms for increasing welfare payments, identifying options and seeking policy support
- promoting the adoption of appropriate mechanisms for increasing social welfare rates in any new national partnership programme.

Goal 8:

The Agency will have influenced decisions on achieving a higher percentage of GNP⁸ on social spending which directly benefits people in poverty with a particular focus on housing and health.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- undertaking a study on the economic and social costs of inequality to inform a policy

debate identifying and promoting a target percentage of GNP to be allocated to social spending which is informed by EU comparisons.

Goal 9:

The Agency will have contributed to a coherent strategy for developing a more equitable tax system.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- identifying and recommending changes in the tax system, such as a move from taxes on employment to taxes on wealth and green taxes,⁹ to create a fairer and more progressive tax system
- promoting the policy implications of research into inequalities of income distribution.

Goal 10:

The Agency will have identified and promoted measures to increase the participation of those most excluded from the changing labour market, particularly the long-term unemployed.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- commissioning research to improve understanding of the changing labour market and the groups most at risk while promoting the policy implications at EU and national levels
- identifying and promoting policy options for 18 to 21 year olds at risk of long-term unemployment
- identifying and promoting labour market and income maintenance policy options for low income farmers

- examining the role of the medical card in facilitating welfare to work transitions for low income families
- creating greater public awareness of the experiences and difficulties for families living on a low income;

8. Refers to Gross National Product which is the total value of all goods and services produced annually in a country.

9. Refers to taxes which encourage the conservation of natural resources and the reduction of pollution.

OBJECTIVE 3

Achieving a coherent and planned public policy on child poverty.

This objective will be achieved through the following goals:

Goal 11:

The Agency will have identified and promoted the inclusion of targets and actions for the reduction of child poverty in the NAPS, the National Children's Strategy and any new national partnership agreement.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- seeking the establishment of and supporting a working group to identify targets and actions for tackling child poverty. This will involve relevant departments, community and voluntary organisations, Community Development Programme projects, women's groups and experts
- agreeing and promoting targets and appropriate actions.

Goal 12:

The Agency will have enhanced research and analysis to contribute to the formulation of policy on child poverty.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- publishing research on current levels of child poverty
- identifying and developing a set of indicators to measure child poverty and well-being, drawing on international experiences and involving the community and voluntary

sector with a particular focus on children at risk of poverty

- working with other partners to establish a national survey on the well-being of children
- analysing current policies on child income support and influencing decisions to improve them
- responding to policy developments arising from the Partnership 2000¹⁰ expert group on child care.

Goal 13:

The Agency will have completed its Demonstration Programme on Educational Disadvantage¹¹. It will also have contributed to transferring and promoting policy recommendations and learning from the Programme and related work on educational disadvantage to relevant policy makers and policy bodies.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- funding, supporting and evaluating the Demonstration Programme until December, 2000 and linking with the ADM/CPA EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation Programme's educational initiative
- influencing policy on tackling educational disadvantage through working with other initiatives
- monitoring and analysing policy development in the area of early childhood education.

Goal 14:

The Agency will have heightened public concern for and awareness of the causes and consequences of child poverty.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- supporting the networking¹² of community and voluntary organisations concerned with child poverty
- organising and sustaining a child poverty public awareness programme.

10. Partnership 2000 is the current national partnership agreement between government, employers, trade unions, farming bodies and the community and voluntary sector.
11. The Agency's Demonstration Programme on Educational Disadvantage commenced in 1996. It works to demonstrate an integrated response to educational disadvantage in four areas around the country.

12. Refers to different groups working together and sharing information in pursuit of shared or similar objectives.

OBJECTIVE 4

Advancing the opportunity offered by peace to build a more inclusive and participative democracy on this island.

This objective will be resourced and delivered mainly through the staff team employed jointly by the Combat Poverty Agency (CPA) and Area Development Management Limited (ADM) in the border counties under the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation. More information on the objectives of the ADM/CPA Peace and Reconciliation Programme is available from the Agency's Monaghan office.

This objective will be achieved through the following goals:

Goal 15:

The Agency will have influenced cross border institutions to contain a strong focus on poverty and social exclusion.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- fostering dialogue between policy-makers, the community and voluntary sector and researchers on issues of poverty and social exclusion
- identifying and promoting social exclusion and poverty dimensions to new cross border institutions and the involvement of community and voluntary organisations in their work.

Goal 16:

The Agency will have secured, in partnership with Area Development Management Limited, the continuation, development and mainstreaming of the principles, process and best practices of the

European Union's Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ADM, ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- working to allocate, spend and monitor EU Peace and Reconciliation funds in ways which maximise social inclusion and reconciliation
- working with statutory agencies in the border counties to ensure the sustainability and continuation of successful projects funded under the Peace and Reconciliation Programme
- working to ensure that the next round of EU Structural Funds and especially the Interreg¹³ Programme has a strong social inclusion dimension
- ensuring that policy and programme lessons from the ADM/CPA EU Peace and Reconciliation Programme and especially from its strategic initiatives influence the national policy making process
- working with other relevant interests to establish a cross-border endowment fund to facilitate innovative work on social inclusion and reconciliation.

Goal 17:

The Agency will have deepened public and policy understanding of poverty and social exclusion in the border counties.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- developing research and public awareness initiatives on poverty and social exclusion in the border counties and involving the community and voluntary sector in these.

Goal 18:

The Agency will have contributed to ensuring that combating poverty and social exclusion is understood to be an essential requirement for further embedding peace and promoting reconciliation.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- undertaking research and evaluation
- promoting dialogue and debate on the links between poverty, social exclusion and peace and reconciliation.

13. The EU's Interreg Programme is specifically intended to promote and develop cross border co-operation in border regions of the EU.

SUPPORTING ACTIONS

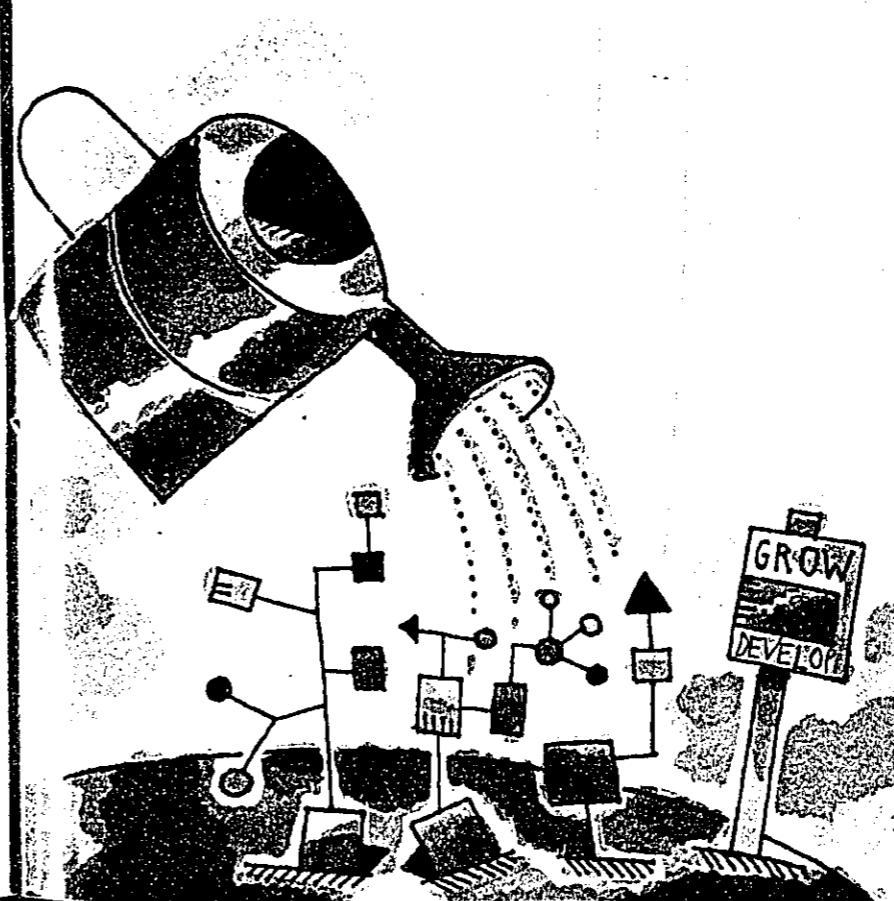
Goal 19:

The Agency will have continued a number of core actions that support the advancement of the objectives and goals outlined previously.

ACTIONS UNDER THIS GOAL WILL INCLUDE:

- maintaining a library and responding to enquiries on poverty, social exclusion and community development
- promoting a curriculum development programme on poverty and social exclusion in post primary schools
- publishing a quarterly magazine *Poverty Today*, an annual pre-budget submission and an annual report
- administering a grants scheme that will support the community and voluntary sector to inform policy makers of recommendations and issues that arise from their experience and knowledge of working with disadvantaged groups or in disadvantaged areas. The Scheme will support research, evaluation and public awareness initiatives that focus on the Agency's strategic objectives and goals outlined in this Plan.

DEVELOPING THE AGENCY





Plean Straitéiseach

1999 - 2001

An Gníomhaireacht do Chomhrac na Bochtaine

An Gníomhaireacht do Chomhrac na Bochtaine

*Ag saothrú chup cosc agus
deireadh a chur le bochtaine*





Plean Straitéiseach

1999 - 2001

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An Gníomhaireacht do Chomhrac na Bochtaine

Ag saothrú chun cosc agus
deireadh a chur le bochtaine



**An Gníomhaireacht do
Chomhrac na Bochtaine
Comhaltaí an Bhoird
Aibreán 1999**

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A CHOIMRE

Le linn na tréimhse 1999 - 2001
rachaidh an Ghníomhaireacht i
bhfeidhm ar pholasáí poiblí d'fhoínn
bochtaine a chomhrac trí chomhairle
pholasáí a thabhairt, trí tacú le
tionscadail agus nuáil a dhéanamh, trí
thaighde agus trí oideachas poiblí.
Chun an méid sin a chur i gcrích,
beidh ceithre chuspóir thábhachtacha
againn:

- A chinntíú go mbeidh dul chun cinn suntasach déanta ag an Straitéis Náisiúnta Frithbhochtaíne i dtaca le bochtaine a laghdú agus a chosc.
- An bhearna a chungú idir daoine saibre agus daoine bochta trí dháileadh acmhainní, seirbhísí agus fostaiochta níos cothroime a chur chun cinn i bhfabhar daoine atá ag maireachtáil faoi bochtaine.
- Polasaí poiblí, atá pleanálte agus comhtháite, a bhaint amach i dtaca le bochtaine i measc leanai.
- An deis a chuireann an tsíocháin ar fáil a fhorbairt d'fhoínn daonlathas níos cuimsithí a thugann ról do gach duine a thógáil ar an oileán seo.

RÉAMH RÁ + RÁITEAS MISSÍN



RÉAMH RÁ

Ceanglas Reachtúil

Is é seo a cúigíú plean trí bliana atá ullmhaithe ag an nGníomhaireacht ó bunaíodh í sa bhliain 1986. Cuireadh é faoi bhráid an Aire Gnóthai Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlach, Diarmuid Ó hEichthiarn TD, agus tá a cheadú faighte ina leith. Ceanglaitear plean den sórt seo a ullmhú faoin Acht um Gníomhaireacht do Chomhrac na Bochtaine, 1986. Ina theannta sin, tá ullmhú pleannan de réir thiomantas an Rialtais i leith feabhas a chur ar Bhainistiocht Straitéiseach san earnáil phoiblí.

Ón tráth a bunaíodh an Gníomhaireacht tá tiomantas aici maidir le coincheap na pleánala straitéisí agus maidir le maoirseacht agus measúnú a dhéanamh ar a torthaí oibre. Creideann sí, ina cáil mar ghníomhaireacht stáit a fhagheann maoiniú poiblí, gur ceart di an maoiniú sin a úsáid sa tstíli is éifeachtúla agus is éifeachtaí is féidir le linn a hoibleagáidí reachtúla a chomhlionadh.

Próiseas na Pleánala Straitéisí

Le linn an plean seo a ullmhú thug an Gníomhaireacht faoi phróiseas pleánala forleathan. Choimisiúnaíodh measúnacht neamhspleách ar an tionchar a bhí ag an bplean trí bliana. Glacadh comhairle go forleathan le heagrafachtaí agus le daoine aonair a mbíonn an Gníomhaireacht ag obair go dlúth leo. Iarradh agus fuarthas aighneachtaí ó ghrúpal agus ó dhaoine aonair a bhíonn ag plé leis an gcomhrac i gcoinne bochtaine. Fuarthas moltaí luachmhara ó oifigigh de chuid na Roinne Gnóthai Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlach agus bhí comhráite fiúntacha ann leo. Baineadh tairbhe as an gcomhairle a fuarthas ó chomhaltaí Choistí Comhairleachá Polasaí na Gníomhaireachta. Thar aon ní eile, bhain an Gníomhaireacht leas as an tuiscint agus an taithí atá faighte aici ón obair atá déanta aici le dhá bliain déag anuas.

Baineann pleánail straitéiseach éifeachtach le hacmhainní agus mianáta a chur in oiriúint dá chéile agus le roghanna deacra a dhéanamh nuair a bhíonn éilimh iomafocha ann. Le blianta beaga anuas tá fás tapa tagtha ar scála an pholasáil frithbhochtaíne agus

ar ghníomhaíocht forbartha pobail agus, mar gheall air sin, tá méadú mór ar na hélimh nach mór don Gníomhaireacht déileáil leo. Dá bhrí sin, le linn an Plean Straitéiseach seo a ullmhú, bhí ar an nGníomhaireacht roghanna an-deacair a dhéanamh i dtaoibh a cuid tosaíochtaí. Cé go bhfuilimid sásta gur roghanna cearta atá sna saincheisteanna atá liostaithe againn tuigmid nach raibh ar ár gcumas roinnt nithe tábhachtacha eile, a luadh le linn an phróisis chomairliúcháin, a chur san áireamh.

An Timpeallacht Sheachtrach

I dtaca leis an timpeallacht sheachtrach ina mbeidh an Gníomhaireacht ag feidhmiú sna trí bliana atá romhainn, is dócha, cuirfidh sí deis an-mhaith ar fáil chun dul chun cinn suntasach a dhéanamh i dtreo deireadh a chur le bochtaine. Mar gheall ar an ngeilleagar atá ag fás go tapa tá tuilleadh acmhainní ar fáil. Mar gheall ar an méadú ar dheiseanna fostáochta tá seans ann chun laghdú ollmhór a dhéanamh ar cheann de na nithe is tábhactaí a bhaineann le bochtaine leanúnach, is é sin le rá difhostaíocht fadtéarma struchtúrtha. I gcomhthéacs chaighdeáin an Aontais Eorpáigh (AE), tá buntáiste ar leith ag baint leis na treochtaí déimeagrafaíochta atá ann. Mar gheall ar an tsíocháin atá ag leathadh amach taobh istigh den oiléán tá cínsí fabhracha ann maidir le sochaí níos uilechuimsíthí a chruthú. Ag leibhéal AE, is gceart go gcruthódh an bhéim mhéadaithe, i gConradh Amstardam, ar dhul i ngleic le heisiamh sóisialta mian i bhfad níos láidre chun gné thábhachtach AE a forbairt i bpolasáil frithbhochtaíne.

Tá roinnt forbairtí dearfacha institiúideacha tar éis tarlú freisin a chuirfidh tuilleadh feabhais ar an gcomhrac i gcoinne bochtaine. Tá ionad seasta á bhaint amach ag an Straitéis Náisiúnta Frithbhochtaíne (SNF) sa chóras riarracháin agus polaitíochta agus beidh an sásra atá tugtha isteach ag an Rialtas le déanaí chun promhadh bochtaine a dhéanamh ar thograí nua polasaí ina chabhair maidir le polasaí poiblí a dhíriú tuilleadh ar bhochtaíne. Mar gheall ar athchóiriú rialtais áitiúil agus ar an gcomhtháthú atá á dhéanamh air le forbairt áitiúil, tá an fhéidearthacht ann go nglacfar le cur chuige áitiúil níos comhtháthaithe agus níos pleánálte i

dtaca le dul i ngleic le bochtaine.

Cuireadh an Chomhairle Náisiúnta Eacnamaíoch agus Sóisialta agus an Fóram Náisiúnta Eacnamaíoch agus Sóisialta ar bun athair le déanaí; tá Páipéar Bán gealta faoin gcaidreamh idir an stát agus an earnáil phobail agus dheonach; agus, ina theannta sin tá an earnáil phobail agus dheonach ag éiri níos láidre. Beidh na nithe sin ina gcaibhair maidir le cothú agus doimhniú a dhéanamh ar chompháirtíocht shóisialta agus maidir le forbairt a dhéanamh ar chur chuige comhaontaithe don chomhrac i gcoinne bochtaine.

Níl gné dhearfach ag baint le gach rud sa timpeallacht sheachtrach. Má tharlaíonn aon chúlú mór sa gheilleagar domhanda déanfaidh sé dochar d'Éirinn. Nil sé soiléir fós céin éifeacht a bheidh ag forbairt ag leibhéal an AE le déanaí, mar shampla Aontas Eacnamaíochta agus Airgeadaíochta agus an margadh aonair. Ón mbliain 2000 amach, ní bheidh an oiread céanna cistí struchtúrtha le fáil ag Éirinn. Tá fadhbanna nua ag teacht chun cinn cheana de thoradh bhorradh an gheilleagair anseo. Mar shampla, tá baol ann go leathnófar na difríochtaí tuillimh agus ioncaim idir daoine saibhre agus daoine bochta agus lagóidh sé sin an dlúthpháirtíocht shóisialta. D'fhéadfadh sé go bhfuil an tsochaí ag éiri níos adamhaithe agus níos indibhidiúlaithe agus is ábhar imní na comharthaí atá ann de chlaonadh chun an milleán a fhágáil ar a lán daoine atá ag maireachtáil faoi bhochtaíne agus chun idirdhealú a dhéanamh idir na bochta "tuillteanacha" agus na bochta "neamhthuillteanacha". Tá rochtain ar thithíocht ag éiri níos tábhactaí mar ghné den bhochtaíneanois.

Léiríonn an t-ardú ar úinéireacht gluaisteán laigí móra sa chóras iompair poiblí. Tá grúpaí nua faoi bhagairt anois, mar atá dídeanaithe agus daoine ar lorg tearmainn. Ina theannta sin, tá comharthaí ann go bhfuil fás ag teacht ar éadulaingt agus ar chiníochas, tá ceisteanna a bhaineann leis an timpeallacht agus le forbairt inchothaithe ag teacht chun cinn go minic agus, cé go rachaidh na nithe sin i bhfeidhm ar gach duine, beidh tionchar ar leith acu ar dhaoine atá ag maireachtáil faoi bhochtaíne. Méadaíonn na nithe go léir-thuas tábhacth na Gníomhaireachta i dtaca le tuiscint níos forleithne, agus sainmhíniú, ar bhochtaíne agus ar eisiamh sóisialta a chur chun cinn seachas i gcomhthéacs

eisiamh ón margadh saothair agus ó dheiseanna fostáochta. Méadaíonn sé an gá don Gníomhaireacht iarracht a dhéanamh tionchar a imirt ar réimse leathan beart polasaí.

Ról Straitéiseach

Gníomhaireacht measartha beag atá sa Gníomhaireacht do Chomhrac na Bochtaine agus, ionas go bhfeidhmeoidh sí go héifeachtach, ní mór di ról an-straitéiseach a bheith aici. Ionad sainiúil atá sa Gníomhaireacht a bhíonn ag plé le cursaí bochtaine agus forbairt phobail agus feidhmíonn sí mar spreagthóir le haghaidh athraithe. Sa chál sin, déanann sí iarracht tionchar a imirt ar pholasáil poiblí agus ar thacaíocht poiblí do bhearta i leith bochtaine.

D'fhoínn an tionchar is mó is féidir a bhaint amach, ní mór don Gníomhaireacht oibriú in éineacht le dreamanna eile agus trí dhreamanna eile. Is mian léi, ach go háirithe, oibriú leis an bpróiseas polaitíochta agus leis an earnáil phobail agus dheonach d'fhoínn na ról atá acu a forbairt maidir le comhrac i gcoinne bochtaine.

Creideann an Gníomhaíochta, ó tharla go bhfuil geilleagar na hÉireann ag leathnú go tapa, go bhfuil an tsíocháin á forbairt, go bhfuil réamh-mheastacháin fhabhracha déimeagrafacha ann agus gur athbhunaíodh an Straitéis Náisiúnta Frithbhochtaíne, go bhfuil deis iontach ann chun dul chun cinn mór a dhéanamh maidir le cosc agus deireadh a chur le bochtaine. Sa phlean seo, tugtar achoimre ar conas a bheartaíonn an Gníomhaireacht an leas is fearr a bhaint as an deis seo sna trí bliana atá díreach romhainn.

RÁITEAS MISIN

AIDHM

Is é aidhm na Gníomhaireachta do Chomhrac na Bochtaine ná sochaí níos cothroime agus níos uilechuimsíthí a chur chun cinn trí oibriú chun cosc agus deireadh a chur le bochtaine agus eisiamh sóisialta.¹

Baineann an Ghníomhaireacht an aidhm sin amach trí na ceithre príomhchuspóirí atá leagtha amach san Acht um Gníomhaireacht do Chomhrac na Bochtaine, 1986: comhairle pholasáí, tacaíocht tionscadal agus nuáil; taighde; agus oideachas poiblí.

Buntuisintí

Chun aidhm na Gníomhaireachta a bhaint amach oibríonn sí de réir na dtuiscintí seo a leanas:

- Is fadhb struchtúrtha i an bhochtaine i sochaí na hÉireann. Tá polasaithe agus cláir náisiúnta agus áitiúla thar a bheith tábhachtach i dtaca le deireadh a chur le bochtaine.
- Is bunriachtanas é, i dtaca le comhrac i gcoinne bochtaine, laghdú a dhéanamh ar éagothroime agus athdháileadh acmhainní agus deiseanna.
- D'fhoinn dul i ngleic le bochtaine go héifeachtach, is gó ról, cumhacht agus ionadaíocht a bheith ag na daoine a bhfuil bochtaine ag dul i bhfeidhm orthu.
- Le go mbeidh polasaithe agus cláir frithbhochtaine éifeachtach, tá sé thar a bheith tábhachtach go mbeadh compháirtíocht ann idir an rialtas agus na compháirtithe sóisialta, ag an leibhéal náisiúnta agus ag an leibhéal áitiúil araon.

- Chun dul i ngleic le bochtaine ní mór cur chun cinn a dhéanamh i dtaca le cearta sóisialta do gach uile dhuine.
- Is ceart go mbeadh polasaithe agus cláir chun dul i ngleic le bochtaine agus chun forbairt inchothaithe² a chur chun cinn comhlántach.
- Tá gá le polasaithe agus le cláir ag leibhéal Eorpach chun comhlánú a dhéanamh ar pholasaithe áitiúla agus náisiúnta chun dul i ngleic le bochtaine agus eisiamh sóisialta.

CUSPOIRÍ TÁBHACHTACHA

Le linn na tréimhse 1999 - 2001 déanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht iarracht chun dul i bheidhm ar pholasáí poiblí i bhfabhar na ndaoine sin atá ag maireachtáil faoi bhochtaine. Déanfaidh sí amhlaidh trína feidhmeanna reachtúla, is é sin le rá comhairle a thabhairt don Aire Gnótháí Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh, tacaíocht tionscadal agus nuáil, taighde agus oideachas poiblí. Sa tréimhse lena mbaineann, leagfar béim ar na cuspóirí seo a leanas a bhaint amach:

- A chinntíú go mbeidh dul chun cinn suntasach déanta ag an Straitéis Náisiúnta Frithbhochtaine i dtaca le bochtaine a laghdú agus a chosc.
- An bhearna a chungú idir daoine saibhre agus daoine bochta trí dáileadh acmhainní, seirbhísí agus fostafocanta níos cothroime a chur chun cinn i bhfabhar daoine atá ag maireachtáil faoi bhochtaine.
- Polasai poiblí, atá pleanálte agus comhtháite, a bhaint amach i dtaca le bochtaine i measc leanai.
- An deis a chuireann an tsíocháin ar fáil a fhobairt d'fhoinn daonlathas níos cuimsíthí a thugann ról do gach duine a thógáil ar an oiléán seo.

Ina theannta sin, tabharfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht aird ar leith ar neartú agus forbairt a dhéanamh i leith a cumas eagrúcháin, airgeadais, teicniúil agus acmhainní daonna d'fhoinn a cuspóirí a bhaint amach.

CUSPOIRÍ

1 , 2 , 3 , 4



1. Baineann eisiamh sóisialta le struchtúr agus próisis eacnamaíochta, sóisialta, cultúrtha agus dlí a eisíann daoine nó grúpaí ó pháirteachas agus lánpáirtíochta sa tsochaí.
2. Baineann forbairt inchothaithe le forbairt a threastalaíonn ar riachtanais an duine ach, ag an am céanna, a chosnaíonn cumas an dúlra chun athnuachan a dhéanamh air féin.

CUSPOIR 1

A chinntiú go mbeidh dul chun cinn suntasach déanta ag an Straitéis Náisiúnta Frithbhochtaíne (SNF) i dtaca le bochtaine a laghdú.

Bainfear an cuspóir seo amach trí na spriocanna seo a leanas:

Sprioc 1:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht, d'fhonn forbairt agus neartú a dhéanamh ar an SNF agus ar pholasai poiblí i leith dul i ngleic le bochtaine, measúnú, sonraí taighde agus anailís polasaí a chur chun cinn agus a úsáid.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- tabhairt faoi measúnú leanúnach ar SNF
- measúnachtaí bliantúla a ullmhú agus a fhoilsiú i ndáil le SNF lena n-áirítear dul chun cinn ar spriocanna láithreacha
- comhaontú a fháil maidir le spriocanna athbhreithnithe agus breise
- tacú le bailliú agus anailís rialta sonraí nua agus úsáid foinsí sonraí tánaisteacha a aithint agus a chur chun cinn
- línórú agus comhghuailliochtaí straitéiseacha a fhoirmíú leis an bpobal acadúil agus taighde, agus taighde iarchéime ar bhochtaine a chur chun cinn
- tacú le páirteachas na hearnála frithbhochtaíne i ndearadh suirbhéireachtal náisiúnta bochtaine.

Sprioc 2:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht forbairt ar chur i bhfeidhm promhadh bochtaine³ ar pholasai poiblí agus go dtacóidh sí leis sin.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- cabhrú le hAonad SNF agus leis an gCoiste Polasaí Idir-Roinne chun forbairt a dhéanamh ar fheidhmiú éifeachtach i dtaca le promhadh bochtaine
- a chinntiú go ndéantar promhadh bochtaine ar aon chomhaontú comhpháirtíochta nua⁴ le linn an phróisis deártha agus feidhmithe
- aighneachtaí a dhéanamh maidir le Páipéir Uaine ionchúi, chuig coimisiún rialtais, chuig gasraí oibre etc. lena chinntiú go gcuirtear gné profa bochtaine san áireamh.

Sprioc 3:

Go dtabharfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht cabhair i dtaca le cumas rialtais áitiúil chun dul i ngleic le bochtaine a neartú mar chuid den phróiseas leathan a ghabhann le hathchóiriú rialtais áitiúil.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- eolas a mhéadú faoi SNF agus faoi phromhadh bochtaine agus oibriú in éineacht le húdaráis áitiúla, agus cabhrú leo, na cleachtais lena mbaineann a thabhairt isteach ina bpolasai agus ina gcleachtais féin
- obair i gcomhar le húdaráis áitiúla chun deachleachta a fhorbairt maidir le ról a thabhairt don earnáil phobail agus dheonach
- obair i gcomhar le líon beag údarás áitiúil, lena n-áirítear roinnt diobh ó na contaetha teorann, chun straitéisí frithbhochtaíne rialtais áitiúil a thríail agus leas a bhaint as taithí atá faigthe i mBallstáit AE eile
- obair a dhéanamh lena chinntiú go dtugann comhtháthú ar fhorbairt áitiúil agus rialtas áitiúil

ardtosáfocht do dhul i ngleic le dlúthphointí áitiúla bochtaine agus eisíojimh shóisialta agus do chur chun cinn forbartha pobail mar mhodh chun dul i ngleic le bochtaine.

- malairtí foghlama trasnáisiúnta a chur chun cinn maidir le bearta áitiúla a chónascadh le polasaí náisiúnta i gcomhthéacs forbairtí AE le déanaí i ndáil le dul i ngleic le heisiamh sóisialta

- lónra-chlár frithbhochtaíne náisiúnta a chur ar bun ar clár é a bheadh inchothaithe éifeachtach

- ag tacú le hionadafocht don earnáil phobail agus dheonach sna príomh-fhóraim náisiúnta.⁵

Sprioc 4:

Go rachaidh an Ghníomhaireacht i bhfeidhm ar pholasai agus chleachtais rialtais, agus go gcuirfidh sí feabhas orthu, a mhéid a bhaineann le páirteachas na hearnála pobail agus deonáil sna hiarrachtaí chun dul i ngleic le bochtaine.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- cabhrú le forbairt agus feidhmiú an pháipéir bháin⁶ ar an gcaidreamh idir an earnáil reachtúil agus an earnáil dheonach
- comhairle a thabhairt don Roinn Gnóthai Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh faoina Clár Forbartha Pobail
- tionchar a imirt ar pholasai agus chleachtais rialtais agus ról a thabhairt don earnáil phobail agus dheonach sa phróiseas déanta polasaí go háirithe i dtaca le SNF.

Sprioc 5:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht tuilleadh forbartha ar chumas na hearnála pobail agus deonáil chun cabhair a thabhairt san obair a ghabhann le polasaithe a fhorbairt maidir le dul i ngleic le bochtaine.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- clár a fhorbairt maidir le tionchar a imirt ar pholasai
- clár faoi pholasai drugaí na Gníomhaireachta a thabhairt i gcrích agus foghlaim pholasai, de thoradh an chláir, a chur chun cinn

Sprioc 6:

Go mbeidh obair déanta ag an nGníomhaireacht sna réimsí seo a leanas: eolas a scaipeadh ar an bpobal i gcoitinne faoi SNF; agus neartú ceart sóisialta agus eacnamafochta.⁷

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- comhairle agus tacafocht a thabhairt do Choiste Polasaí Idir-Roinne SNF, d'Aonad SNF agus do ranna rialtais i dtaobh straitéisí scapthe eolais don phobal i gcoitinne, ar straitéisí iad a chuireann SNF chun cinn
- méadú a dhéanamh ar eolas faoi SNF i mBallstáit AE eile
- suntas a thabhairt do na naisc idir cearta sóisialta agus eacnamafochta agus bochtaine agus do na tairbhí a bhaineann le taca a thabhairt do na cearta sin sa Bhunreacht agus i reachtafocht.

3. Baineann promhadh bochtaine le cinneadh Rialtais i 1998 á rá gur ceart scrúdú a dhéanamh ar gach clár agus polasaí, ag na céimeanna deártha agus athbhreithnithe, lena fháil amach cén tionchar a bheidh acu ar laghdú bochtaine.

4. Baineann sé seo le comhaontuithe, faoi chórúil pá, cáinachais agus ceisteanna eile eacnamafochta agus sóisialta, idir an Rialtas, ceardchumainn, fostóirí, leasanna feirmeoireachta agus an earnáil phobail agus dheonach.

5. Sa bhliain 1997 foilsíodh plé-dhoiciméad dar teideal *Supporting Voluntary Activity, A Green Paper on the Community and Voluntary Sector and its Relationship with the State*. Tá Páipéir Bán, is é sin ráiteas ar pholasai Rialtais, a ullmhú faoi láthair maidir leis an ábhar seo.

6. Baineann sé seo le hinstitiúid lábhachtacha do pholasai náisiúnta eacnamafochta agus sóisialta, mar shampla an Chomhairle Náisiúnta Eacnamafochta agus Sóisialta, an Fóram Náisiúnta Eacnamafochta agus Sóisialta, pléití faoi comhaontuithe ar chomhpháirtíochtaí náisiúnta, Straitéis Náisiúnta Frithbhochtaíne.

7. Baineann sé seo le cearta gach duine den tsochaí ar chaigndeán réasúnach maireachtála agus ar chailiúcht réasúnach beatha. Tugtar na cearta sin le coinbhinsíúin de chuid na náisiún Aontaithe agus Chomhairle na hEorpa.

CUSPÓIR 2

An bhearna a chungú idir daoine saibhre agus daoine bochta trí dáileadh acmhainní, seirbhísí agus fostáochta níos cothroime a chur chun cinn i bhfabhar daoine atá ag maireachtáil faoi bhochtaine.

Bainfear an cuspóir seo amach trí na spriocanna seo a leanas:

Sprioc 7:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht úsáid sásra oiriúnaigh thrédhearcaigh a chur chun cinn, agus tionchar a imirt ar an úsáid sin, a mhéid a bhaineann le rátaí leasa shóisialaigh a mhéadú go sásúil.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- scrúdú a dhéanamh ar shásrai AE agus sásraí eile chun focaíochtaí leasa a mhéadú, agus roghanna a shainaithint agus tacaíocht pholasáí a lorg
- tabhairt isteach sásraí oiriúnacha, in aon chlár comhpháirtíochta nua náisiúnta, a chur chun cinn a mhéid a bhaineann le méadú a dhéanamh ar rátaí leasa shóisialaigh.

Sprioc 8:

Go rachaidh an Ghníomhaireacht i bhfeidhm ar chinntí maidir le céatadán níos airde den OTN⁸ a chaitheamh ar chúrsai sóisialacha, rud a rachaidh chun tairbhe do dhaoine atá ag maireachtáil faoi bhochtaine, agus aird ar leith a thabhairt ar thithíocht agus ar shláinte.

ÁIREOFAR AN MÉID SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- tabhairt faoi stáidéar ar na costais eacnamaíochta agus sóisialta a bhaineann le héagothroime d'fhoíntí eolas a chur ar fáil le haghaidh

diospóireachta polasaí trína sainaithneofar agus trína gcuirfear chun cinn sprioc-chéatadán den OTN a bheidh le leithroinnt ar chaitheamh sóisialach agus cúinsí san Eoraip a chur san áireamh.

Sprioc 9:

Go gcabhróidh an Ghníomhaireacht le straitéis chomhtháite a réiteach i ndáil le córas cánach níos cothroime a fhorbairt.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- athruithe ar an gcóras cánach, ar nós athrú ó chán ar fhostaiocht go cáin ar shaibhreas agus cáin ghlas,⁹ a shainaithint agus a mholadh d'fhoínn córas cánach níos cothroime agus níos nua-aimseartha a chruthú
- cur chun cinn a dhéanamh maidir leis na himpleachtaí polasaí a ghabhann le taighde ar dháileadh éagothrom ioncaim.

Sprioc 10:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht bearta a shainaithint agus a chur chun cinn d'fhoínn méadú a dhéanamh ar pháirteachas na ndaoine sin is mó atá eisiata ón margadh saothair athraitheach, go háirithe daoine atá difhostaithe go fadtéarmach.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- taighde a choimisiúnú chun tuiscint a fheabhsú maidir leis an margadh saothair athraitheach agus maidir leis na grúpaí is mó atá i bpriacal agus, ag an am céanna, impleachtaí polasaí a chur chun cinn ag leibhéal an AE agus ag an leibhéal náisiúnta araon

- roghanna polasaí a shainaithint agus a chur chun cinn maidir le daoine san aoisghrupa 18 go 21 a bhfuil baol ann ina leith go mbeidh siad difhostaithe go fadtéarmach
- roghanna polasaí a shainaithint agus a chur chun cinn i dtaca le cothabháil margaidh saothair agus ioncaim d'fheirmeoírí ar ioncam íseal
- scrúdú a dhéanamh ar ról an chárta liactha i dtaca le cumas cúnaimh leasa chun athruithe cúinsí a chur ar fáil do theaghlaigh ar ioncam íseal
- eolas an phobail a mhéadú maidir le taithí agus deacrachtaí na dteaghlaich sin a mhaireann ar ioncam íseal.

8. Bainneann sé seo leis an Oll-Táirgeacht Náisiúnta arb é atá ann ná luach iomlán na n-earraí agus na seirbhísí go léir a thárgtear i dtír in aghaidh na bliana.
9. Bainneann sé seo le cáin a thugann spreagadh maidir le caomhnú acmhainní nádúrtha agus laghdú ar thruaillíú.

CUSPÓIR 3

Polasaí poiblí, atá pleanálte agus comhtháite, a bhaint amach i dtaca le bochtaine i measc leanai.

Bainfear an cuspóir seo amach trí na spriocanna seo a leanas:

Sprioc 11:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht spriocanna agus bearta chun laghdú a dhéanamh ar bhochtaine i measc leanai a shainaithint, agus a dtabhairt isteach i SNF, sa Straitéis Náisiúnta Leanai agus in aon chomhaontú compháirtíochta náisiúnta nua a chur chun cinn.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN

SPRIOC SEO:

- iarracht a dhéanamh le gasra oibre a bhunú, agus tacú leis an ngasra sin, ar gasra é a shainaithneoidh spriocanna agus bearta chun dul i ngleic le bochtaine i measc leanai. Is iad na dreamanna a bheidh páirteach ann ná ranna iomchuí, eagrafochtai pobail agus deonacha, tionscadail de chuid Clár Forbartha Pobail, grúpaí ban agus saineolaithe
- spriocanna agus bearta oiriúnacha a chomhaontú agus a chur chun cinn.

Sprioc 12:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht feabhas a chur ar thaighde agus analís a dhéantar chun cabhrú le foirmí polasaí faoi bhochtaine i measc leanai.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN

SPRIOC SEO:

- taighde ar leibhéal reatha bochtaine i measc leanai a fhoilsíú
- sraith táscairí a shainaithint agus a fhorbairt chun tomhas a dhéanamh ar bhochtaine agus leas leanai trí úsáid a bhaint as taithí idirnáisiúnta agus

trí ról a thabhairt don earnáil phobail agus dheonach agus aird ar leith a thabhairt ar leanai atá i mbaol ó bhochtaine

- obair le compháirtithe eile chun suirbhé náisiúnta a chur ar bun maidir le leas leanai
- analís a dhéanamh ar pholasaithe reatha faoi thacaiocht ioncaim leanai agus tionchar a imirt ar chinntí i dtaobh na polasaithe sin a fheabhsú
- feidhmiú de réir forbairti polasaí a éiríonn as grúpa saineolaithe Chompháirtíochta 2000¹⁰ ar leas leanai.

Sprioc 13:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht a Clár Léirithe Míbhuntáiste Oideachasúil¹¹ a chur i gcrích. Beidh cabhair tugtha aici freisin maidir le haistriú agus cur chun cinn a dhéanamh, i measc lucht déanta polasaí agus comhlacthaí polasaí, ar mholtáí polasaí agus ar cheachtanna ag éirí as an gclár agus as obair ghaolmhar ar mhbuntáiste oideachasúil.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN

SPRIOC SEO:

- maoiniú agus tacafacht a thabhairt don Chlár Léirithe, agus measúnú a dhéanamh air, go dtí mí na Nollag 2000 agus cónascadh a dhéanamh le Clár Tacafolta Speisialta AE ADM agus An Ghníomhaireacht do thionscnamh oideachasúil an Chláir maidir le Siocháin agus Athmhuintearas
- tionchar a imirt ar pholasai maidir le dul i ngleic le míbhuntáiste oideachasúil trí chomhoibriú le tionscnaimh eile
- faireachán agus analís a dhéanamh ar fhorbairt polasaí i réimse an luath-oideachais.

Sprioc 14:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht spéis agus eolas an phobail i gcoitinne a mhéadú i dtaca le cíuseanna agus éifeachtaí na bochtaine i measc leanai.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN

SPRIOC SEO:

- tacú le lónrú¹² eagraiochtaí pobail agus deonacha a bhíonn ag plé le bochtaine i measc leanai
- clár eolais ar bhochtaine leanai a eagrú agus a chothú don phobal i gcoitinne.

10. Is é Compháirtíochta 2000 an comhaontú compháirtíochta náisiúnta láithreach idir an ríaltas, fostóirí, ceardchumainn, comhlacthaí feirmeoireachta agus an earnáil phobail agus dheonach.
11. Clár Léirithe na Gníomhaireachta maidir le Míbhuntáiste Oideachasúil 1996. Déantar iarracht leis léiriú a thabhairt ar bheart comhtháite i leith míbhuntáiste oideachasúil i gceithre límitsear ar fud na tire.

12. Bainneann sé seo le grúpaí éagsúla atá ag obair i gcomhar lena chéile agus ag roinnt eolais d'fhorbairt comhchuspóirí nó cuspóirí comhchosúla a bhaint amach.

CUSPÓIR 4

An deis a chuireann an tsíocháin ar fáil a fhorbairt d'fhonn daonlathas níos cuimsithí a thugann ról do gach duine a thógail ar an oileán seo.

Gheofar acmhainní don chuspóir seo, agus cuirfear i gcrích é, go príomha tríd an bhfoireann atá ar fostú i gcompháirt ag an nGníomhaireacht do Chomhrac na Bochtaine (GCB) agus ag Area Development Management Limited (ADM) sna contaetha teorann faoi Chlár Tacaíochta Speisialta an AE maidir le Síocháin agus Athmhuintearas. Tá tuilleadh eolais faoi chuspóirí Chlár Síochána agus Athmhuintearais GCB/ADM le fáil ó ofig na Gníomhaireachta i Muineachán.

Bainfear an cuspóir seo amach trí na spriocanna seo a leanas:

Sprioc 15:

Go ndéanfaidh an Gníomhaireacht tionchar a imirt ar institiúidí trasteorann le go ndíreoidh siad ach go háirithe ar bhochtaine agus ar eisiamh sóisialta.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- comhagallamh a chothú idir lucht déanta polasaí, an earnáil phobail agus dheonach agus taighdeoirí i dtaca le nithe a bhaineann le bochtaine agus eisiamh sóisialta
- gnéithe den eisiamh sóisialta agus den bhochtaine a shaináithint agus a chur chun cinn sna hinstiúidí nua trasteorann agus ról a fháil don earnáil phobail agus dheonach ina gcuid oibre.

Sprioc 16:

Go ndéanfaidh an Gníomhaireacht a áirithiú, i gcompháirtiocht le Area Development Management Limited, go leanfar de phrionsabail, de phróiseas agus de dhea-chleachtas Chlár Tacaíochta Speisialta an AE maidir le Síocháin agus Athmhuintearas agus go

ndéanfar forbairt ar na nithe sin agus go dtabharfar ionad suntasach dóibh.

I GCOMPHÁIRTÍOCHT LE ADM, ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- ag obair chun cistí Síochána agus Athmhuintearais an AE a leithroinnt, a chaitheamh agus a mhaorsiú ar shlite ina ndéantar uasmhéadú ar uilechuimsitheacht agus athmhuintearas
- ag obair i gcomhar le gníomhálochtaí reachtúla sna contaetha teorann lena chinntíú go mbeidh tionscadail rathúla a fhaigheann maoiniú faoin gClár Síochána agus Athmhuintearais inchothaithe agus go leanfaidh siad ar aghaidh
- ag obair lena chinntíú go mbeidh gné mhór uilechuimsitheachta sóisialta ag baint leis an gcéad bhabhta eile de Chistí Struchtúrtha AE agus leis an gClár Interreg ach go háirithe¹³
- a chinntíú go dtéann na ceachtanna a foghlaimíodh ón gClár Síochána agus Athmhuintearais ADM/GCB AE, agus óna thionscnaimh straitéisearcha ach go háirithe, i bhfeidhm ar an bpróiseas náisiúnta déanta polasaí
- ag obair le leasanna iomchuí eile chun ciste dearlaice trasteorann a chur ar bun lena ndéanfar obair nuálach i réimse na huilechuimsitheachta agus an athmhuintearais a éascú.

Sprioc 17:

Go ndéanfaidh an Gníomhaireacht tuiscint an phobail i gcoitinne agus tuiscint lucht déanta polasaí ar an mbochtaine agus ar an eisiamh sóisialta sna contaetha teorann a mhéadú.

ÁIREOFAR AN MÉID SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- forbairt a dhéanamh ar thaighde agus ar thionscnaimh eolais phoiblí sna contaetha teorann

agus ról a thabhairt don earnáil phobail agus dheonach sna nithe sin.

Sprioc 18:

Go ndéanfaidh an Gníomhaireacht iarrachtaí lena chinntíú go dtuigtear gurb é atá sa chomhrac i gcoinne bochtaine agus eisiamh sóisialta ná gné riachtanach den phróiseas bunaithe síochána agus cur chun cinn athmhuintearas.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC SEO:

- taighde agus measúnú a dhéanamh
- comhagallamh agus díospóireacht a chur chun cinn faoin na naisc idir bochtaine, eisiamh sóisialta agus síocháin agus athmhuintearas.

13. Tá Clár Interreg an AE ceaptha go sonrach chun comhoibriú trasteorann a chur chun cinn agus a fhorbairt i réigiún teorann den AE.

GNÍOMHARTHA TACAÍOCHTA

Sprioc 19:

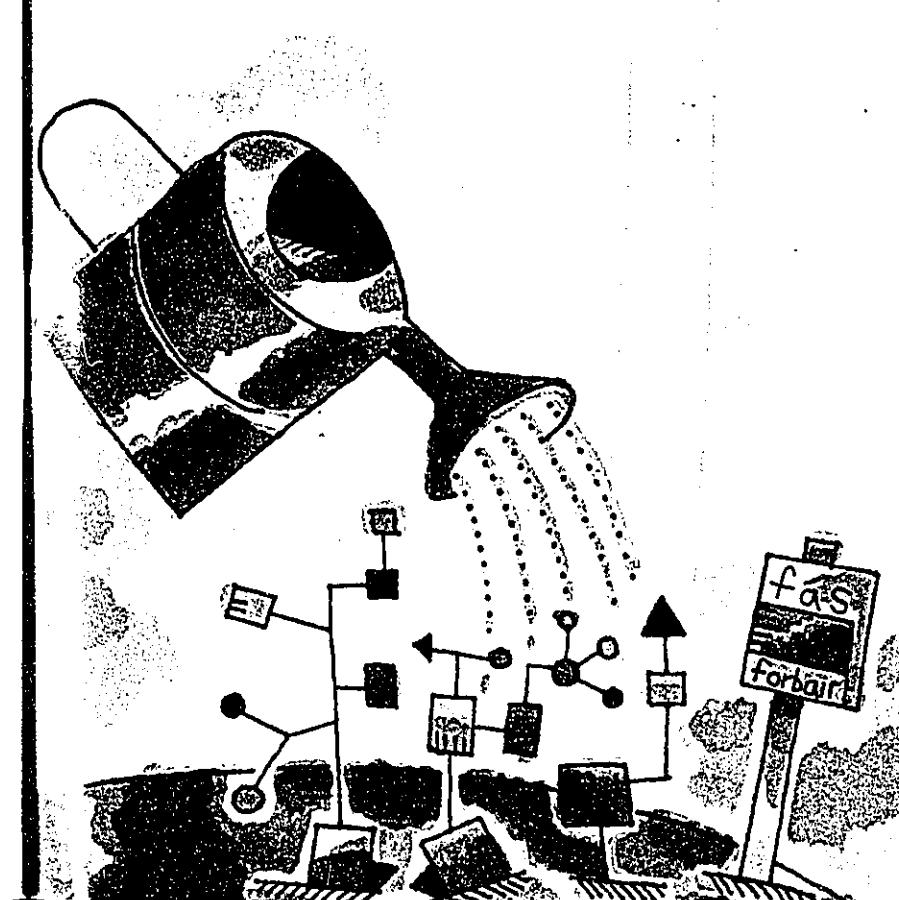
Go leanfaidh an Ghniomhaireacht de roinnt
bunbhearta a chur i gcrích trína dtugtar tacaíocht le go
ndéanfar dul chun cinn maidir leis na cuspóirí agus na
spriocanna atá luaithe anseo roimhe seo.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAOIN

SPRIOC SEO:

- leabharlann a chothabháil agus freagraí a thabhairt ar fhiosruithe faoi bhochtaine, eisiamh sóisialta agus forbairt phobail
- clár forbartha curaclaim a chur chun cinn i scoileanna iar-bhunoideachais i réimse na bochtaine agus an eisaimh shóisialta
- iris ráithiúil, *Poverty Today*, aighneacht bhliantúil réamhbhuiséid agus tuarascáil bhliantúil a fhoilsíú
- scéim dheontas a riarradh a thabharfaidh tacaíocht don earnáil phoiblí agus dheonach i leith eolas a chur ar fáil don lucht déanta polasaí faoi mholtai agus cheisteanna a thagann chun cinn mar gheall ar an taithí agus an tuiscint atá acu ón obair a dhéanann siad le grúpaí míbhuntáistiúla i limistéir mhíbhuntáistiúla. Tabharfar tacaíocht faoin Scéim do thaighde, do mheasúnú agus do thionscnamh eolais phoiblí a dhíríonn ar chuspóirí agus ar spriocanna straitéiseacha na Gníomhaireachta sa Phlean Straitéiseach reatha.

AN GHNIOMHAIREACHT A FHORBAIRT



AN GHNÍOMHAIREACHT A FHORBAIRT

Beidh cumas na Gníomhaireachta chun a spriocanna agus a chuspóirí straitéisearcha a bhaint amach ag brath ar bhainistíocht agus fhorbairt éifeachtach éifeachtúil a hacmhainní eagrúcháin, airgeadais, teicniúla agus daonna. Tuigeann an Ghníomhaireacht ach go háirithe an tábhacht a bhaineann lena foireann. Agus aithníonn sí gurb é an fhoireann an acmhainn is tábhachtaí atá aici agus go bhfuil tiomantas, fuinneamh, diograis agus obair chrua na fairne riachtanach i gcomhthéacs rathúlacht na Gníomhaireachta.

Le linn a cuid oibriochtaí agus le linn a cuid spriocanna straitéiseacha a bhaint amach tá an Ghníomhaireacht tiomanta do na pithe seo a leanas:

- a cuid oibleagáidí reachtúla agus reachtaíochta a chomhlíonadh go hiomlán
 - comhairle a ghlacadh go tráthrialta lena cuid scairshealbhóiri i slí oscailte, comhairleach agus thréadhearcach
 - na hacmhainní atá ar fáil a úsáid go héifeachtach go héifeachtúil agus go tiosach
 - seirbhísí ardchaighdeáin a sholáthar.

Cinnteoidh an Ghríomhaireacht go ndéanfar bainistíocht agus forbairt éifeachtach, éifeachtúil ar a hacmhainní eagrúcháin, airgeadais, teicniúla agus daonna trí na spriocanna seo a leanas:

Sprioc 20:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht córais agus nósanna imeachta eifeachtacha a chur i bhfeidhm dtaca le cursaí oibriochta aquis riarracháin.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAIONTAS SPRIOC SEO:

- na polasaithe, na córais agus na nósanna imeachtaí láithreacha a chothabháil agus a fheabhsú
 - a chinntíú go mbaintear úsáid straitéiseach as a cumas teicneolaíochta eolais
 - seirbhísí ardchaighdeáin a sholáthar dá custaiméireann
 - a chinntíú go dtabharfar seirbhísí tacaíochta riarracháin ardchaighdeáin dá foireann.

Sprioc 21:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghniomhaireacht dul chun cinn maidir lena polasáí Forbartha Acmhainní Daonna a chur i bhfeidhm.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAION

SPRIOC SEO:

- foireann na Gníomhaireachta a fhorbairt
 - a chinntíú go bhfuil timpeallacht oibre ann atá oscailte, comhairleach agus tréadhearcach
 - córais, nósanna imeachta agus taifid oiriúnacha a choimeád ar bun
 - an bonn fairne agus acmhainní a neartú le go bhfeabhsófar tuilleadh a cumas chun a cuid ról reachtúil a chomhlionadh i dtaca le comhairle pholasáí, tacáiocht tionscadal, taighde agus oideachas poiblí.

Sprioc 22:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht éifeachtacht agus éifeachtúlacht a cuid struchtúr a chothabháil agus a fheabhsú.

**ÁIREOFAR AN MÉID SEO A LEANAS FAOIN SPRIOC
SEO:**

- a chinntíú go mbaintear leas éifeachtach as an eolas, as na scileanna agus as an oilteacht atá ag comhalaí an bhoird agus ag saineolaithe seachtracha.

Sprioc 23:

Go ndéanfaidh an Ghníomhaireacht nósanna imeachta faireacháin agus athbhreithnithe a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm.

ÁIREOFAR NA BEARTA SEO A LEANAS FAIONTAS SPRIOC SEO:

- oibriú a cuid struchtúr, córas agus nósannaimeachta a athbhreithniú
 - athbhreithniú agus faireachán rialta a dhéanamh ar dhul chun cinn maidir lena Plean Straitsíochach a chur i bhfeidhm.

Plean Straitéiseach a chur i bhfeidhm

Goal 21

DEVELOPING THE AGENCY

The Agency's capacity to achieve its strategic goal in its operations and pursuit of its strategic goals is efficient objectives depends on the effective and objective and efficient management and development of its organizational, financial, technical and human resource capacities. In particular the Agency values its resource capacities, particularly its human and financial resources, its technical and financial management and development of its organizational, financial, technical and human resource capacities. The Agency is fully committed to meeting fully its statutory and regulatory obligations and its operations and pursuit of its strategic goals in its operations and pursuit of its strategic goals are its most important asset and their commitment energy, enthusiasm and hard work are essential to the Agency's effectiveness and success.

In its operations and pursuit of its strategic goals the Agency is fully committed to:

- meeting fully its statutory and regulatory obligations
- consulting regularly with its stakeholders operating in an open, consultative and transparent manner
- the effective, efficient and economic use of its resources available to it
- delivering high quality services.

The Agency will ensure the effective, efficient management and development of its organizational, financial, technical and human resource capacities through the following goals:

- The Agency will have implemented effective operational and administrative systems and procedures
- maintaining and improving existing financial policies, systems and procedures
- ensuring the strategic use of its information technology capacity
- providing high quality customer services
- ensuring the delivery of high quality staff.

Actions under this goal will include:

- The Agency will have implemented effective operational and administrative systems and procedures
- maintaining and improving existing financial policies, systems and procedures
- ensuring the strategic use of its information technology capacity
- providing high quality customer services
- ensuring the delivery of high quality staff.