



NEF Newsletter

Editorial

On several thematic fronts projects have borne didactic fruits: the list of NEF publications published through ALLIANCE is quite impressive for this year. Not only the religion and democracy initiative will have produced its series of dossiers addressing specific aspects of the interaction between the state and religion as well as religion and society, but also the Initiative for Learning Democracy has released its two resources on European citizenship education. Both initiatives are now engaged in the dissemination and field testing phase of their offsprings (available on the NEF website), which is a cross cutting challenge for all NEF projects.

Reflecting about common challenges so as to draw some joint learning was one of the objective of the last NEF partnership session held in Roma at the EFC AGA. We hope that the projects will be able to continue exchanging on issues such as advocacy, impact ...

Dieter Berg- NEF Chairman

Interview with Dieter Berg, Chairman of the Board of Management Robert Bosch Stiftung Foundation

You have just been appointed as the new NEF Chairman with a renewed Board. Why did you decide to accept this challenge?

The Robert Bosch Stiftung has been a member of NEF for many years. But we are not only a member, we also actively participated in NEF projects like EPIM I and II and the European Funds for the Balkans.

As the Robert Bosch Stiftung profited from NEF, from the contacts and opportunities provided by NEF, it is my understanding of good membership not only to seek the advantages but also to contribute personally.

I know that it is a big challenge to take over a position from Luc Tayart de Borms. He did a great job and I am happy to have this opportunity to thank him for all he has done for NEF.

What are your expectations for the years to come regarding the NEF ventures and opportunities of collaboration at the European level ?

I am deeply convinced that it is absolutely necessary to cooperate among European foundations. There are so many fields of activity where the combination of expertise, knowledge, networks and financial means can reach much better and more sustainable results than single foundations even could dream of. A few days ago my Board of Trustees explicitly supported the idea of intensifying the cooperation among foundations. I am sure the Boards of other foundations will share this view.



*Dieter Berg
Robert Bosch Stiftung*

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NEF Calendar of meetings 2009

- ILDE SC **17-18 September Brussels**
- EPIM Work shop **23-24 September Brussels**
- EFB SC **8-9 October Belgrade**
- NEF Board **27 October Stuttgart**
- EPIM SC **16-17 November Brussels**
- EFG AIDS Conference and SC **End of November Brussels**
- NEF GA **7 December Brussels**



**Contact persons for
EPIM:**

Juliet Prager
EPIM Chair

Olaf Hahn
Deputy Chair

Debora Guidetti
Program Manager

**EPIM joint venture
is composed of:**

- The Atlantic Philanthropies,
- The Barrow Cadbury trust,
- Compagnia di San Paolo,
- European Cultural Foundation,
- Freudenberg Stiftung,
- Robert Bosch Stiftung,
- Foundation Berhneim,
- Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian,
- Oak Foundation,
- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust,
- King Baudouin Foundation.

EPIM Advocacy Workshop on immigration and integration issues London, 10 and 11 June 2009

Last 10th and 11th June, the 15 partner NGOs of EPIM – European Programme on Integration and Migration, gathered in London at the Barrow Cadbury Trust, to consider and exchange on innovative ways of undertaking advocacy through a mix of speakers' presentations and peer learning reflections.

This workshop is part of a series of four thematic workshops that are designed based on constituency feedback, and encompass the following themes: partnership and cooperation at EU level, communication strategies with the media, and evaluation and impact assessment of public campaigns and advocacy.

Guest speakers included: Frank Sharry, Executive Director of America's Voice, Dr Iwona Piorko, from the European Commission's Directorate General of Justice, Freedom and Security, Professor Justin Greenwood, of Aberdeen Business School and the College of Europe, and Pierluigi Brombo, from the European Economic and Social Committee.



*EPIM Workshop working groups discussions
London 10 and 11 June, 2009*

Frank Sharry kicked off the discussions offering his insights as an activist by analyzing failures and successes in developing strategies in the field of migration and integration in the USA in the last decades, and in particular looking at partnership building with unusual allies. The workshop was evaluated by participants as a stimulating exercise, and the rotating facilitation ensured by members' foundations has brought some variety. Possibilities of joint retreats for the NGOs active at the EU level on the Migrants' integration front to develop collective strategic thinking have been evoked, at a time where EU Institutions will tend to be more radical with migration issues.

EPIM's commitment in building grantees' organisational capacity is also illustrated by its support to joint learning activities, which is a new feature of EPIM capacity building strand. EPIM grantees were offered the possibility to submit and implement a joint proposal tackling specific training needs. Three proposals have been approved and will lead to the production of a manual/resource kit to be shared amongst the entire EPIM network (160 direct and indirect NGOs) on: Fundraising skills, Media policies and practices for the promotion of diversity and Power Analysis, Peer Review and Toolkits methodologies. At its last Steering Committee meeting on July 2-3 in Lisbon, funders reflected on launching complementary activities that could enhance EPIM advocacy on its focus areas, namely the work with undocumented migrants, the support to the migrants' voices and media.

**More info on EPIM workshops
and on EPIM:
www.epim.info**

European HIV/AIDS Funders Group Pre-conference Session at EFC AGA, on “New Models to Improve HIV/AIDS Healthcare Coverage »



Access to good quality affordable healthcare is a huge challenge for most communities in the developing world. Obstacles include a lack of qualified health care personnel; insufficient health facility coverage; inadequate availability of basic supplies and equipment; the high cost of life-saving medications accompanied by the widespread availability of cheap, ineffective alternatives, including fake drugs.

Even when healthcare can be accessed, however, associated costs such as transport can drain a family's income and savings, driving them further into poverty.

On May 13 in Rome, at the Annual General Assembly of European Foundation Centre (EFC), the European HIV/AIDS Funders Group (EFG) convened two panel discussions under the title “**New models to improve HIV/AIDS healthcare coverage**”. The purpose of the discussions was to explore effective and equitable ways of sharing the financial risk of ill health, in particular related to HIV/AIDS.

Foundations, NGOs and other global actors explored several new approaches to financing healthcare in developing countries, including voucher systems, community-based health insurance, micro-credit to HIV positive women, equity investments in for-profit health companies in poor countries, and health-system strengthening efforts.

Co-Chaired by Karen Hoehn, Vice Executive Director of the German Foundation for World Population and Kate Harrison, HIV Coordinator of Comic Relief, more than 30 participants from European and US Foundations and international NGOs engaged in a lively debate about the opportunities and challenges presented by community-based approaches for effective, direct and sustainable results.

Contact person for

European HIV/AIDS Funders Group :

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More information on events and activities mentioned in this newsletter at www.nefic.org

The next EFG cutting-edge event will take place in Brussels, at the end of **November**. At this meeting, EFG plans to launch the annual Resource Tracking Publication “European Philanthropic Support to Address HIV/AIDS in 2008” but that’s not all, a thematic meeting will be attached to this important event focusing on funding issues. Discussions will tackle issues as to how foundations make their priorities on HIV/AIDS funding? Funding coordination and funding effectiveness at the country level will also be explored.

EFG Funders are:

- Ford Foundation,
- UNAIDS,
- The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund,
- German Foundation for World Population (DSW),
- Comic Relief.

**More information on
European HIV/AIDS Funders Group
at
www.hivaidsfunders.org**



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List of current projects

Alliance magazine
European HIV/AIDS Funders Group
Cultural Cooperation
Initiative for Learning Democracy in Europe (ILDE)
European Citizens Consultations
The European Mercator Fund
The European Fund for the Balkans
The European Programme for Integration and Migration (EPIM)
Religion and Democracy
Youth Empowerment Partnership Programme
The Roma Education Fund
Strategies for Impact in Philanthropy

Opportunities to collaborate:

Foundations and partners interested in collaborating on one of the initiatives listed above or in initiating others, are invited to contact the NEF office :

Peggy. sailler@nefic.org

The Network of European Foundations (NEF) is a flexible not-for-profit international organisation. Its headquarters are located in Brussels (Belgium).

Consisting of 13 foundations as its core, NEF acts as an operational platform to promote the development of joint initiatives by foundations and other types of organised philanthropy as well as other giving programmes related to Europe and the role of Europe on the global stage.

NEF was created so as to strengthen the potential for cooperation between foundations at European level. NEF provides its members with the ability to identify common goals and, as an open structure, to join forces with other foundations in Europe which may share similar concerns and objectives.

Covering a broad spectrum of social and cultural initiatives, more than 60 foundations from all over Europe are now partnering through NEF.

NEF General Assembly 2009

<i>The Netherlands</i>	European Cultural Foudation
<i>Belgium</i>	King Baudouin Foundation
<i>USA</i>	Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
<i>Portugal</i>	Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian
<i>Norway</i>	Institusjonen Fritt Ord
<i>France</i>	Fondation de France
<i>France</i>	Gabriel Foundation
<i>Sweden</i>	Riksbankens Jubileumsfond
<i>Germany</i>	Robert Bosch Siftung
<i>The Netherlands</i>	Bernard Van Leer Foundation
<i>Italy</i>	Compagnia di San Paolo
<i>Austria</i>	Erste Stiftung
<i>UK</i>	Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Board of Directors as of June 2009

Chair	Dieter Berg <i>Chairman of the Board of Management, Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH</i>
Vice-Chair	Piero Gastaldo <i>Secretary General, Compagnia di San Paolo</i>
Treasurer	Luc Tayart de Borms <i>Managing Director, King Baudouin Foundation</i>
Secretary	Francis Charhon <i>Managing Director, Fondation de France</i>
Member	Boris Marte <i>Managing Director, Erste Stiftung</i>
Member	Goran Blomqvist <i>Managing Director, Riksbankens Jubileumsfond</i>
Executive Director	Peggy Sailler <i>NEF</i>