# 17 October: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

# Showing solidarity with those less fortunate than us: a message with the support of the Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans

The COVID-19 pandemic poses grave challenges for societies in Europe and all around the world. And at the same time we are tackling climate change and biodiversity loss. Where poverty is the highest, the socio-economic impact of these combined crises is even more dramatic. We can in fact demonstrate what European and global solidarity really means and there are many ways to put these words into action. One of them is to rally behind a positive and solidarity-based action on behalf of and in collaboration with the people who are less fortunate than us. This is exactly the objective of the two registered associations of EU Staff dedicated to address the challenges of poverty and social exclusion in the EU through "Give Eur-Hope" and in the developing countries through "EU can aid!" Their solidarity inspired initiatives and micro-projects are funded by EU staff donations exclusively and help the poorest in many ways: to develop income-generating activities, to provide them with access to decent housing, clean water, schooling for their children, vocational training, and to help them participate in civic life.

So join today: By donating as little as 10 € a month you'll show what the EU Staff generosity can achieve.

Pascal Declaye, for eu can aid!

Baudouin Sury, for Give Eur-Hope



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We give thousands of poor people in developing countries **a way out of poverty** by supporting micro-projects and integrated programs that produce immediate results and have long-lasting effects. We support small NGOs or local communities who do not have access to funding from major donors. *eu can aid!* is run entirely on a voluntary basis, and funded through membership (mainly EU staff) fees and donations.

Give Eur-Hope is an association of EU staff members dedicated to the fight against **poverty and social exclusion in the European Union**. Run entirely on a voluntary basis, with funds raised through membership fees and donations from their colleagues and supporters, Give Eur-Hope promotes the solidarity of EU staff with less privileged people in EU Member States.

**Examples of our actions (see all projects on www.eucanaid.eu)** 

Examples of our actions: (see all projects on www.giveeurhope.eu)

#### **Providing emergency support**



The COVID-19 outbreak is having an impact across India and the poorest people and communities face serious hardship following the loss of their jobs and livelihoods: lack of food and water is everywhere and people have

had to abandon their slums in the main cities.

In response to the emergency, eu can aid provided funds to its most trusted NGOs in India to provide food and seeds to needy families in Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu.

#### Helping the local economy to recover

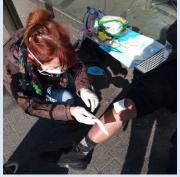


Now more than ever it is important to support incomegenerating activities such as local food production and petty trading to provide additional livelihoods.

eu can aid recently supported the NGO COAGRO, Ecuador, in the development of organic vegetable gardens and the

breeding of small animals. These activities will benefit 80 families of vulnerable people and help them survive the pandemic, despite the closure of the flower businesses where they worked. The sale of products will be facilitated by agro-ecological fairs organized by the NGO.

## **Providing emergency support**



The actions of some GIVE EUR-HOPE partners have been strongly affected by the pandemic.

The restrictive measures imposed have had consequences on the daily activities of associations working with the homeless, the marginalized and the poorest of our fellow citizens. They have had to deal with the lack of access to sanitary facilities and

medical structures, with the closure of social restaurants.

GIVE EUR-HOPE has supported two associations in particular which play the role of lifeline for this group of extremely vulnerable people: street nurses and UNLESS.

## Help cope with winter



GIVE EUR-HOPE financed a project comprising the purchase of two machines (log splitters) of different sizes, intended to facilitate the supply of firewood for the winter as well as the purchase of a drill to maintain the fences in favor of the aging population of the village of Borino, south-eastern Bulgaria.