



**STOPoverty! Neqirdu I-Faqar!**  
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## *Press Release*

### *(For Immediate Publication)*

### **Events to mark the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty**

Stopoverty! In collaboration with its partners would like to mark again this year's International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. To celebrate this date Stopoverty, in collaboration with various organizations, would like to invite the general public to attend the following events:

#### **Photographic exhibition: Hunger Free Women Speak Out!**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of October ActionAid's photographic exhibition about Women, Right to Food & Land will be launched at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The event will start at noon. Hunger Free Women Speak out, will be inaugurated by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Tonio Borg. The exhibition will run from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> October, from 9:30 to 16:00h.

#### **Theatre Production: Ceda I-Imbatt**

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of October Theatrencore will perform Ceda I-Imbatt (in Maltese). Following the performance a discussion will be held about poverty, the Millennium Development Goals and the Mediterranean region. Ceda I-Imbatt will be held at MITP, St. Christopher Street, Valletta, at 20:00h. This event is held in collaboration with KOPIN & Schools2communities Project.

## **Workshop: Art Campaigning Management**

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of October Adrian Mamo will lead a workshop about Art Campaigning Management at St.James Cavalier from 6pm-8pm, Fair Trade refreshments will be available. Attendance is free of charge however places are limited to the first 40 persons applying. For further information about this workshop please email Mahira Sheikh on: [mahira0129@gmail.com](mailto:mahira0129@gmail.com). This workshop is being coordinated by I SHOP FAIR network of ethical consumers' network.

## **Stand Up Take Action Activity**

Between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of October the Stand Up Take Action activity will be organised in Malta and Gozo. The Maltese public is urged to stand up for one minute to remember the poor of the world and to symbolically urge governments to keep their promises. The Maltese public is encouraged to send us the number of Stand Ups and pictures (if any) on [standupmalta@gmail.com](mailto:standupmalta@gmail.com). The Stand Up is being coordinated by Schools2Communities project.

## **Background Information**

STOPoverty! Neqirdu l-Faqar Campaign is the national coalition of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) international campaign. More information about this international campaign of which STOPoverty! is a member can be found at [www.whiteband.org](http://www.whiteband.org) and [www.stopovertymalta.org](http://www.stopovertymalta.org).

GCAP and its national coalitions are active throughout the year to bring to the government's, supra national organisations', civil society's as well as the public's attention the situation that is being faced by the developing countries and its people, especially in this time of financial crisis. One of the most important dates in GCAP's and its national coalitions' calendar is the 17th October. This date marks the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, which has been observed by the United Nations since 17th October 1987. Since then, people of all backgrounds, beliefs and social origins have gathered every year on October 17th to renew their commitment and show their solidarity with the poor. STOPoverty! started celebrating this day since the year 2005.

During this day, civil society engages in a campaign to remind and put pressure on governments of both developing and developed countries to keep the promises and commitments of the Millennium Declaration, which was adopted by 189 nations and signed by 147 heads of state and governments during the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000. As a result of the actions and targets of the Millennium Declaration, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were drawn. The MDGs are the eight goals by which governments can face the main development challenges, one of which is ending poverty by the year 2015.

GCAP as part of its yearly activities to mark the 17th October organises, in collaboration with its National Coalitions as well as the United Nations Development Campaign (UNDP), the STAUND UP TAKE ACTION (SUTA) against poverty. In the past 2 years this campaign has managed to mobilise 16,000+ persons each year from both Malta and Gozo. These figures are then added to the global number of "Stand Ups" around the world. Last year's "Stand Ups" for the whole world counted up to almost 116 million people from over 131 countries which figure adds up to 2% of the world population, breaking the world record for people standing-up and taking action against poverty. The

global figure is then released by UNDP and used by the UN and civil society to put pressure on governments to keep their Millennium Development promises to decrease poverty by half by the year 2015. For more information regarding the STAND-UP TAKE ACTION and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) please log on to:

[www.whiteband.org](http://www.whiteband.org), [www.endpoverty2015.org](http://www.endpoverty2015.org), [www.undp.org/mdg](http://www.undp.org/mdg),  
[www.un.org/millenniumgoals](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals), [www.stopovertymalta.org](http://www.stopovertymalta.org), [www.millenniumpromise.org](http://www.millenniumpromise.org)

The Maltese Coalition organises the SUTA in relation to other events to put SUTA into a context, whilst increasing the understanding of the politics of poverty. In fact this year, besides promoting the SUTA we are launching a photographic exhibition entitled Hunger Free Women Speak Out (with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and ACTIONAID, UK), a theatre production, by Theatrenconre, on the theme of the poverty faced by small scale fishermen in the Mediterranean region and a workshop on the use of art in campaigning.

If you require any further information please contact Angie Farrugia on [angie.farrugia@gmail.com](mailto:angie.farrugia@gmail.com) or 79756701.

## **Notes for Editors:**

*These events were organised with the support of:*

### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

[www.foreign.gov.mt](http://www.foreign.gov.mt)

### **STOPoverty! Neqirdu I-Faqar Campaign**

*The Global Call to Action against Poverty* is a world-wide alliance committed to urge world leaders to live up to their promises, and to make a breakthrough on poverty in 2005. For further details on the global campaign please see [www.whiteband.org](http://www.whiteband.org), [www.standagainstopoverty.org](http://www.standagainstopoverty.org), [www.stopovertymalta.org](http://www.stopovertymalta.org).

### **Action Aid UK – Hunger Free Women Speak Out**

*ActionAid* is an international anti-poverty agency whose aim is to fight poverty worldwide. [www.hungerfreeplanet.org/hungerfree-women-speak-out](http://www.hungerfreeplanet.org/hungerfree-women-speak-out).

### **SKOP - The National Platform of Maltese NGOs**

*SKOP* is Malta's broadest network of voluntary and non-governmental organisations working in international development and humanitarian aid. SKOP is a member of CONCORD. ([www.skopmalta.org](http://www.skopmalta.org)).

### **KOPIN - Schools2Communities Project**

*Kopin* is a voluntary non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in Malta which works in the field of North-South cooperation, Development and Global Citizenship Education and advocacy for development-related issues ([www.kopin.org](http://www.kopin.org)).

*Schools2Communities (S2C)* is a three year project between Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria and Malta. This project aims to mobilize greater public support for action against poverty by contributing to environmental sustainability (Millennium Development Goal No 7) through

awareness raising, knowledge building and taking action on the local, regional and international levels.

## Koperattiva Kummerc Gust – I SHOP Fair

I SHOP FAIR network of ethical consumers' project, is a 3-year project, funded by the European Union. Its overall objective is to mobilize public support across Europe for fair working conditions and sustainable production in developing countries. The project is done in collaboration with Sudwind (Austria), Christliche Initiative Romero (Germany), Society for Fair Trade and Development Education (Czech Republic) and Koperattiva Kummerc Gust (Malta) ([www.i-arka.org](http://www.i-arka.org), [www.ishopfair.net](http://www.ishopfair.net)).

## Theatrencore

*Theatrencore* is a theatre company set up in 2007. Its aim is to help young and aspiring actors develop artistically ([www.theatrencore.com](http://www.theatrencore.com)).



*Co-funded by :*



These events have been organised with the **European Union** financial contribution. The responsibility of the content of these events is to impute only to Stopoverty! Neqirdu I-Faqar Campaign, and under no circumstances can be considered as reflecting the position of the European Union.



*Betsson AB (Publ)* is a listed Swedish holding company that invests in companies which provide gaming services over the Internet. Betsson is a fast growing company with over 45 years of experience from the gaming industry. The main focus of the operation is to own and administer internet gambling companies. Betsson AB (Publ) owns Betsson Malta Ltd that manages a broad variety of games through the sites Betsson.com and CasinoEuro.com.