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COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMME IN THE SPHERE OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SOLIDARITY – PROGRESS

Committee for the implementation of the Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity - PROGRESS - 2007-13

Subject: Draft Strategic Framework for the implementation of the Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity – PROGRESS

INTRODUCTION

This paper sets out the draft strategic framework for the implementation of the Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity – *PROGRESS* – for the period 2007-13. The General Guidelines for the implementation of *PROGRESS* (*Working document PROGRESS/003/2006*) underline the need to implement the Programme through results-based management.

The Strategic Framework defines *PROGRESS's* mandate and its long-term and specific outcomes, and is supplemented by the Performance Measurement Framework, which will serve to determine the extent to which *PROGRESS* has delivered the expected results.

The Strategic Framework is the result of a thorough review and evaluation of Community programmes in the employment and social fields. This evaluation recommended that the Commission be more effective in its operations, more strategic in its planning and more focused in its activities. In response to this evaluation, the Commission decided to apply a more strategic and participatory approach to implementing *PROGRESS*. Against that background, the Commission established an ad hoc working group to draw up a draft Strategic Framework for the implementation of *PROGRESS*.

With guidance and input from all its members and the support of a technical adviser, the Working Group has developed a draft Strategic Framework for *PROGRESS*. This is an important internal management and accountability tool with two important functions: setting out *PROGRESS's* strategy and assessing *PROGRESS's* contribution to achieving the Social Agenda goals. The Strategic Framework is also a living document that will continue to evolve as new opportunities arise and others are exhausted or take lower priority.

THE POLICY OPERATING CONTEXT - CHARTING THE COURSE FOR THE FUTURE

The future of employment and social policies, programmes and services in the European Union (EU) will be influenced by many forces, such as globalisation, technological development in a knowledge-based society, demographic change and aspirations for a better quality of life. Many stakeholders (governments, organisations and individuals) are and will be engaged in helping to shape the future. The EU needs to create the conditions that enable European citizens to take advantage of the opportunities offered by globalisation, the knowledge-based economy and changing demographics, and it needs to develop innovative policy-making and collaboration with various partners and to make a commitment to achieving real results.

The main responsibility for action in these areas lies with the Member States. Yet, while national welfare systems have developed their own momentum and reform agendas, the main challenges for the future are largely common to all Member States.

The EU has a fundamental role to play in the development of a modern, innovative and sustainable Social Europe with more and better jobs in an inclusive society based on respect for fundamental rights and equal opportunities. The role of the EU is to act as a catalyst for reform and as a facilitator and an enabler between key governmental and non-governmental bodies and between public and private actors. As a result, EU and national policy/decision-makers and other stakeholders will be in a better position to meet the challenges of a social Europe in a globalised world.

The Lisbon European Council agreed on a strategic goal for the Union: to build a competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy capable of sustaining economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion. The overall strategic goal of the Social Agenda (2005-10) is to promote the creation of more and better jobs and to build a more cohesive society which offers equal opportunities to all.

To help tackle all these challenges, EU social policy combines a mix of instruments to support the Member States. To do so, the EU can:

- Set minimum standards common to all Member States. Legislation establishes minimum social standards and basic rights at European level while creating a level playing field for business across the Internal Market;
- Agree with Member States on common EU objectives and on the monitoring of progress made. Open methods of coordination (OMC) help national policies to make progress towards common European goals while leaving the choice of how to achieve them to the Member States;
- Encourage social and civil dialogue;
- Provide financial support. The European Social Fund is the main financial arm of the EU in its efforts to boost investment in human capital as a key driver for success in the Lisbon agenda.

PROGRESS's mission is to strengthen the EU's contribution in supporting Member States' commitments and efforts to create more and better jobs and to build a more cohesive society. To that effect, *PROGRESS* will be instrumental in:

- providing analysis and policy advice on *PROGRESS* policy areas;
- monitoring and reporting on the implementation of EU legislation and policies in *PROGRESS* policy areas;

- promoting policy transfer, learning and support among Member States on EU objectives and priorities; and
- relaying the views of the stakeholders and society at large.

1. *PROGRESS'S* ULTIMATE OUTCOME FOR 2007-2013

PROGRESS's ultimate outcome is to ensure that "Member States implement laws, policies and practices in a manner that contributes to the desired outcomes of the Social Agenda".

This outcome is in line with *PROGRESS's* policy-oriented objective of informing and influencing policy-making and policy implementation at EU and national levels.

PROGRESS's success will depend on a set of conditions that determine the extent to which the Member States implement laws, policies and practices in a manner that contributes to the desired outcomes of the Social Agenda. These are:

- The recognition of employment and social policies as forming an essential component of the renewed Lisbon Strategy;
- A consensus on the need for an agenda for reform/change;
- A shared understanding of and consensus on the EU's objectives in the employment, social affairs and equal opportunities areas;
- The creation of an enabling environment that is conducive to the development and implementation of employment and social legislation and policies at all levels and to convergence with EU objectives;
- Meaningful involvement of key EU and national stakeholders and a capacity to influence policy-making and policy implementation.

2. *PROGRESS'S* INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES FOR 2007-13

In order to achieve the ultimate outcome referred to in section 1, *PROGRESS* will pursue three intermediate outcomes, each of which reflects, and gives effect to, the EU's role. These outcomes are of equal importance and they are interrelated.

2.1. Help bring about effective application of EU law on matters relating to health and safety, labour law, working conditions and information and consultation of workers, non-discrimination and gender equality in all Member States

Effective application of EU law will create a level playing-field and guarantee a common level of EU legal protection for all. *PROGRESS* supports the monitoring, effective application and enforcement of a large body of EU legislation that has developed in the fields of labour law, health and safety, gender equality and non-discrimination.

The effectiveness of EU law is largely determined by its implementation at national, regional and local levels. However, problems persist in the application and enforcement of EU law, as illustrated by the growing number of infringement cases and complaints of non-compliance with Community law. The need for better implementation of EU law has thus been recognised as a key priority under the Better Regulation agenda. This includes measures to improve compliance with Community rules on the protection of

workers' and citizens' rights, the promotion of improved standards of inspection, monitoring and enforcement by Member States and a more systematic review of the application across the Member States of EU legislation in the areas covered by *PROGRESS* . Practical measures include the organisation of training for legal practitioners at EU and national levels, communication and awareness-raising activities for the general public and key stakeholders concerning rights and obligations conferred by EU legislation, and developing guidance.

2.2. Help positively change understanding and promote ownership of EU objectives and priorities among key EU and national policy/decision-makers and other stakeholders

Achieving a positive change in understanding of EU objectives and priorities among key EU and national policy/decision-makers and other stakeholders will facilitate the convergence of national policies with EU objectives and priorities.

The Member States have agreed on common guidelines and medium-term targets to inform, coordinate and strengthen reforms at national level. This process is based on a peer-group approach and benchmarking, which are the only means of ensuring convergence with commonly agreed EU objectives.

The effectiveness of such policy processes depends largely on the opportunity allowed the Member States and stakeholders to learn from each other by identifying good practice (common understanding) and by taking action at EU and national levels (ownership). Improved shared understanding and ownership implies timely collection and analysis of relevant, accurate evidence and policy advice capable of withstanding detailed scrutiny and rallying EU-wide support and peer reviews or mutual-learning activities that respond to the needs, concerns and expectations of EU and national policy/decision-makers and other stakeholders.

2.3. Help strengthen partnerships with key EU and national policy/decision-makers and stakeholders

Strengthening partnerships with key EU and national policy/decision-makers and stakeholders will contribute to building consensus and creating momentum for change in support of EU objectives and priorities.

Delivering on the objectives agreed at European level is a joint responsibility shared by the Commission, the Member States and other stakeholders concerned, including social partners and civil society. Furthermore, the growing complexity of governance and the expectations of stakeholders call for a new approach based on public engagement principles. Public engagement can help policy/decision-makers, other stakeholders and ultimately European citizens understand the complex problems facing Europe and their implications, involve those who are normally excluded from policy debates, promote public dialogue and create momentum for change by building common ground, managing differences and creating new partnerships.

Building effective partnerships calls for suitable involvement by relevant stakeholders in each part of the policy process, including problem-definition, information-gathering, consultation, development of options, decision-making, implementation and evaluation. It also calls for suitable fora to be set up for meaningful, open public-policy debates on EU objectives and priorities with policy/decision-makers and stakeholders in the Member States and at EU level.

3. PROGRESS'S IMMEDIATE OUTCOMES FOR 2007-13

In order to achieve the intermediate outcomes referred to in section 2, *PROGRESS* will pursue five key immediate outcomes.

3.1. Promote effective information sharing/learning in the Commission and across the Member States on EU law and policy relating to PROGRESS

The corresponding PROGRESS strategies for 2007-13 will consist in:

- ✓ Partnering with EU and national policy/decision-makers and stakeholders to identify best practice and develop assessment tools to assist them in improving policy-making and policy implementation processes and outcomes;
- ✓ Ensuring the effective transfer of acquired knowledge to policy/decision-makers and stakeholders to advance EU law and policy with targeted information material and inputs;
- ✓ Promoting clarity and consistency in rights and obligations under EU law through guidance and other information and materials;
- ✓ Communicating EU law and policies using materials that are suitable and responsive to the various segments of the target audiences.

To that end, PROGRESS will support or undertake:

- Relevant training and mutual learning targeting legal and policy practitioners in PROGRESS policy areas;
- Accurate monitoring/assessment reports on the implementation and impact of EU law and policy in PROGRESS areas;
- The identification and dissemination of good practice in PROGRESS policy areas;
- Information and communication activities, networking between and with stakeholders and events on issues relating to PROGRESS policy areas.

3.2. Contribute to well-informed EU policies and legislation in PROGRESS areas relevant to needs, challenges and conditions in the Member States.

The corresponding PROGRESS strategies for 2007-13 will consist in:

- ✓ Delivering an ongoing series of high-quality, and influential, comparative policy research and analysis;
- ✓ Collecting relevant, credible, accurate information on the conditions, needs, concerns and expectations prevailing at EU level and in the Member States;
- ✓ Developing fit-for-purpose statistical tools, methods and common indicators capable of rallying EU-wide support.

To that end, PROGRESS will support or undertake:

- Development of appropriate statistical tools, methods and indicators relating to PROGRESS policy areas;
- Appropriate policy advice, research and analysis relating to PROGRESS policy areas.

3.3. Ensure better integration of cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender, poverty and non-discrimination) and greater consistency in EU policies and legislation relating to PROGRESS

The corresponding PROGRESS strategies for 2007-13 will consist in:

- ✓ Integrating the gender dimension into all PROGRESS policy sections and activities and, where relevant, providing disaggregated data on gender participation;
- ✓ Ensuring that other equality considerations, including disability accessibility requirements, are taken into account in all PROGRESS policy sections and activities;
- ✓ Promoting relevant cross-cutting issues in all PROGRESS policy sections and activities, including communication.

To that end, PROGRESS will support or undertake:

- Cross-cutting and collaborative work among policy sections.

3.4. Build greater capacity for national and pan-European networks to support, promote and further develop policies and objectives relating to PROGRESS policy areas

The corresponding PROGRESS strategy for 2007-13 will consist in:

- ✓ Investing strategically in the capacity of key EU networks to participate and influence policy-making and policy implementation at EU and national level in support of EU objectives and priorities.

To that end, PROGRESS will support:

- NGOs and networks active in PROGRESS policy areas

3.5. Promote high-quality, participatory policy debate at EU and national levels on law, policies and objectives in areas relating to PROGRESS

The corresponding PROGRESS strategies for 2007-13 will consist in:

- ✓ Mobilising all key EU and national policy/decision-makers and stakeholders to provide information on and influence the development of EU law, policies and objectives;
- ✓ Developing the policy debate in accordance with good governance principles.

To that end, PROGRESS will support or undertake:

- information and communication activities, networking between and with stakeholders and events on issues relating to *PROGRESS* policy areas

4. MONITORING AND EVALUATING PROGRESS

4.1. Monitoring

The Strategic Framework serves as the reference against which *PROGRESS*'s attainment of its anticipated outcomes will be gauged. It is supplemented by *PROGRESS*'s performance measurement (see Annex 2 to this Strategic Framework). All the measures in this Strategic Framework are intended to demonstrate in a concrete way *PROGRESS*'s impact in terms of contributing to the realisation of the desired goals of the Social Agenda across the European Union.

The measures are results-oriented to a large extent and will be assessed through *PROGRESS* monitoring or evaluation. To that effect, the necessary monitoring framework will set out the steps needed. Performance monitoring will in particular feed into the annual activity reports and will provide a clear and accurate account of the extent to which those activities contribute to the realisation of *PROGRESS*'s outcomes. To allow for the collection, collating and analysis of all the data, annual activity reports will be presented in March of *year n+1*.

The next step for monitoring purposes will be to establish baseline data to assess ongoing efforts in these areas. Such baseline data will form the basis for determining the performance targets to be met when *PROGRESS* comes to an end. Such performance targets will then be incorporated into the Strategic Framework.

Some of these measures will require *PROGRESS* to develop survey tools for the collection of data from external stakeholders, and others will depend on new ways of analysing internal data.

4.2. Evaluation

Evaluation of *PROGRESS* is an important aspect of the Commission's efforts to ensure that Community programmes are operating as intended and are achieving results, and that the policies, procedures and processes are operating effectively and efficiently.

Evaluation of *PROGRESS* will pay special attention to areas which fall outside the scope of its performance measurement. The focus will be on evaluation of outcomes. In practical terms, the evaluation will seek to achieve four objectives. It will assess progress towards outcomes, and in particular the ultimate outcome, the factors affecting the outcomes, *PROGRESS*'s contribution (including its outputs) to outcomes, and lastly, the partnership strategy. It will in particular test the assumptions or presumptions upon which *PROGRESS*'s rationale and delivery are based. It will also serve to improve Community programmes and other interventions employment and social solidarity and to that end, it will incorporate an additional *ex-ante* dimension into the preparation and design of the forthcoming post-2013 programming period. A full list of *PROGRESS* evaluation questions is given at Annex 2.

The mid-term evaluation will cover the years 2008, 2009 and 2010. The first evaluation report will be made available in early 2011 and the *ex-post* evaluation will be made available by 2015 at the latest.

ANNEX 1 - PROGRESS Logic Model

Note: Shaded area is where PROGRESS is judged to have a degree of influence sufficient for purposes of performance measurement.

Outcome of Social Agenda

More & better jobs, & more cohesive societies that offer equal opportunities for all, in Member States

Ultimate Outcome

1. Member States implement laws, policies & practices in a manner that contributes to the desired outcome of the Social Agenda.

Intermediate Outcomes

1. compliance in Member States with EU law relating to PROGRESS areas

2. shared understanding and ownership among policy/decision-makers and stakeholders in Member States, and the Commission, of EU objectives related to PROGRESS policy areas

3. effective partnerships with national and pan-European stakeholders in support of outcomes relating to PROGRESS policy areas

Immediate Outcomes

1. effective information sharing/learning in Commission & across Member States on EU law & policy relating to PROGRESS

2. well-informed EU policies and legislation in PROGRESS areas relevant to needs, challenges & conditions in Member States

3. better integration of cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender, poverty and non-discrimination) and greater consistency in EU policies & legislation relating to PROGRESS

4. greater capacity of national and pan-European networks to support, promote and further develop policies and objectives relating to PROGRESS policy areas

5. high-quality and participatory policy debate at EU and national levels on law, policies & objectives in areas relating to PROGRESS

Outputs

1. relevant training & mutual learning targeting legal & policy practitioners in PROGRESS policy areas

2. accurate monitoring/assessment reports on implementation & impact of EU law & policy in PROGRESS areas

3. development of appropriate statistical tools, methods, indicators relating to PROGRESS policy areas

4. identification & dissemination of good practices in PROGRESS policy areas

5. appropriate policy advice, research & analysis relating to PROGRESS policy areas

6. support to NGOs, & networks active in PROGRESS policy areas

7. information and communication activities, networking between and with stakeholders & events on issues related to PROGRESS policy areas

ANNEX 2 : DRAFT PROGRESS PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Logic Model Element	Performance Measures
Output 1: relevant training and mutual learning targeting legal and policy practitioners in PROGRESS policy areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. number of individuals who receive training or 2. number of peer reviews or other mutual-learning exercises 3. satisfaction of participants with training/peer reviews received 4. extent to which training/peer reviews target qualified, relevant EU and national actors
Output 2: accurate monitoring/assessment reports on implementation and impact of EU law and policy in PROGRESS areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. number of monitoring and assessment reports 2. timely, accurate and complete production of reports in relation to plan 3. satisfaction of users with reports
Output 3: development of appropriate statistical tools, methods, indicators relating to PROGRESS policy areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. number of tools, methods and indicators developed 2. satisfaction of users with tools, methods and indicators which are capable of withstanding detailed scrutiny and rallying EU-wide support
Output 4: identification and dissemination of good practices in PROGRESS policy areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. number of publications on good practice; number of thematic seminars and web-based publications 2. readership of publications (incl. extent to which publications reach out to relevant EU and national actors); attendance at thematic seminars (incl. extent to which seminars are attended by relevant EU and national actors), downloads of web-based publications 3. relevance of good practices (incl. extent to which they will be acted upon and used) and range of good practices identified 4. accessibility of good practices (incl. disability requirements and languages availability)
Output 5: suitable policy advice, research and analysis relating to PROGRESS policy areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. number of policy advice, research and analysis 2. timely, clear and accurate policy advice, research and analysis 3. satisfaction with policy advice, research and analysis
Output 6: support to NGOs, and networks active in PROGRESS policy areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. volume of funding provided to NGOs and networks 2. satisfaction of NGOs and networks with their relationship with EU and national authorities
Output 7: information and communication activities, networking between and with stakeholders and events on issues relating to PROGRESS policy areas ¹	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. volume of participation in events 2. satisfaction with events 3. number of visits to websites relating to information and communications activities
Immediate Outcome 1: effective information sharing/learning in EU and across Member States on EU law and policy relating to PROGRESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. greater awareness of policy/decision-makers, social partners, NGOs and networks regarding their rights/obligations in relation to PROGRESS policy areas 2. greater awareness of policy/decision-makers, social partners, NGOs and networks

¹ More detailed performance measures will be provided after the communication and networking strategies are finalised.

	regarding EU objectives and policies in relation to PROGRESS policy areas 3. satisfaction of clients with information
Immediate Outcome 2: evidence-based EU policies and legislation in PROGRESS areas relevant to needs, challenges and conditions in Member States	1 EU policies and legislation are grounded in thorough analysis of situation and responsive to conditions, needs and expectations in Member States in PROGRESS areas in accord with Better Regulation principles 2. 5. extent to which PROGRESS-supported policy advice feeds into the development and implementation of EU legislation and policies
Immediate Outcome 3: better integration of cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender, poverty and non-discrimination) and greater consistency in EU policies and legislation relating to PROGRESS	1. Cross-cutting issues are addressed in PROGRESS policy sections 2. EU policies and legislation display a common underlying logic of intervention in relation to PROGRESS issues 3. Gender mainstreaming is systematically promoted in PROGRESS 4. Share of funding devoted to support or undertake cross-cutting issues
Immediate Outcome 4: greater capacity of national and pan-European networks to support, promote and further develop policies and objectives relating to PROGRESS policy areas	1. number of individuals whom networks supported by PROGRESS serve or reach 2. extent to which advocacy skills of PROGRESS-supported networks have improved 3. satisfaction of EU and national authorities with the contribution of networks 4. Extent to which PROGRESS-supported networks take a cross-cutting approach
Immediate Outcome 5: high-quality and participatory policy debate at EU and national levels on law, policies and objectives in areas related to PROGRESS	1. Extent to which principles of good governance (including minimum standards on consultation) are respected in policy debate 2. Extent to which the outcomes of policy debates feed into the development of EU law and policy
Intermediate Outcome 1: compliance in Member States with EU law relating to PROGRESS areas	1. Transposition rate of EU law on matters relating to health and safety, labour law and working conditions and information and consultation of workers, non-discrimination and gender equality in the Member States 2. Effectiveness of application of EU law on matters relating to health and safety, labour law and working conditions and information and consultation of workers, non-discrimination and gender equality in the Member States
Intermediate Outcome 2: shared understanding and ownership among policy/decision-makers and stakeholders in Member States, and the Commission, of EU objectives related to PROGRESS policy areas	1. attitudes of decision-makers, key stakeholders and general public regarding EU objectives in PROGRESS policy areas 2. Extent to which national policy discourses or priorities reflect EU objectives
Intermediate Outcome 3: effective partnerships with national and pan-European stakeholders in support of outcomes relating to PROGRESS policy areas	1. Existence of common ground/consensus among policy/decision-makers and stakeholders on EU objectives and policies 2. Identification and involvement by the EU of key actors in a position to exert

	influence or change at EU and national levels 3. Effectiveness of partnerships in relation to outcomes relating to PROGRESS policy areas.

ANNEX 3 : PROGRESS PROGRAMME EVALUATION ISSUES (MID-TERM AND EX-POST)

A - CONTINUED RELEVANCE

Programme rationale

- To what extent are the objectives and mandate of *PROGRESS* relevant?
- Are the activities and operational outputs consistent with the Programme's mandate and plausibly linked to the objectives and the other intended outcomes?
- To what extent are the underlying assumptions underpinning *PROGRESS's* intervention logic valid?

B - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Impacts and effects

Question on PROGRESS's ultimate outcome:

- How and to what degree does *PROGRESS* contribute in specific areas to the implementation of laws, policies and practices in Member States in a manner which contributes to the desired outcome of the Social Agenda?

3 sub-questions on PROGRESS's intermediate outcomes:

- How and to what extent does *PROGRESS* contribute in specific areas to increased compliance with EU law in the Member States?
- How and to what extent does *PROGRESS* contribute to a greater shared understanding and ownership of EU objectives in the Commission and among policy/decision-makers and stakeholders in the Member States?
- How and to what extent does *PROGRESS* contribute to the establishment of effective partnerships with national and pan-European stakeholders in support of outcomes relating to *PROGRESS* policy areas?

Objectives achievements

Question on immediate outcomes

Effectiveness and efficiency

- How and to what extent does *PROGRESS* contribute to effective information-sharing/learning in the Commission and across the Member States on related EU law and policy?
- How and to what extent does *PROGRESS* contribute to evidence-based EU policies and legislation within its area and relevant to needs, challenges and conditions in Member States?
- How and to what extent does *PROGRESS* contribute to a better incorporation of cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender, poverty and non-discrimination) and greater consistency in related EU policies and legislation?

- How and to what extent does PROGRESS contribute to a greater capacity of national and pan-European networks to support, promote and further develop policies and objectives relating to PROGRESS policy areas?
- How and to what extent does PROGRESS contribute to high-quality and participatory policy debate at EU and national levels on law, policies and objectives in areas relating to PROGRESS?

Consistency and complementarity

- How and to what extent does PROGRESS complement, duplicate, overlap or work at cross purposes with other EU programmes, notably the European Social Fund?
- How and to what extent are linkages and opportunities for synergy with the European Social Fund being exploited?
- How and to what extent is regular, structured cooperation being established with other policy Committees such as the Employment and the Social Protection Committees?
- How and to what extent do Member States make an effort to ensure consistency and complementarity between activities under PROGRESS and those carried out at national, regional and local levels?
- How and to what extent does an integrated programme proved to be more effective and efficient in supporting the supervision and implementation of EU policy and legal processes at EU and national levels?

C- COST-EFFECTIVENESS

Assessing Alternatives

- Are there more cost-effective alternative ways to PROGRESS that might achieve the objectives and the intended results?
- Are there more cost-effective ways of delivering PROGRESS?

PROGRESS Ultimate Outcome

Member States implement laws, policies and practices in a manner that contributes to the desired outcomes of the Social Agenda

PROGRESS works toward its ultimate outcome by helping strengthen the EU's support for Member States' efforts to create more and better jobs and to build a more cohesive society. PROGRESS seeks to contribute to (i) an **effective legal regime** in the EU in relation to the Social Agenda; (ii) **shared understanding** across the EU with regard to Social Agenda objectives; and (iii) **strong partnerships** working toward Social Agenda objectives.

In operational terms, support provided by PROGRESS facilitates (i) provision of analysis and policy advice; (ii) monitoring and reporting on the implementation of EU legislation and policies; (iii) policy transfer, learning and support among Member States; and (iv) the relaying of the views of the stakeholders and society at large to decision-makers

Legal Regime

Outcome:

Compliance in Member States with EU law relating to PROGRESS areas.

Performance Indicators

1. Transposition rate of EU law on matters relating to PROGRESS policy areas
2. Effectiveness of application in Member States of EU law on matters relating to PROGRESS policy areas.
3. EU legislation is grounded in thorough analysis of situation and responsive to conditions, needs and expectations in Member States in PROGRESS areas
4. EU legislation displays a common underlying logic of intervention in relation to PROGRESS issues
5. Greater awareness of policy/decision-makers, social partners, NGOs and networks regarding their rights/obligations in relation to PROGRESS policy areas
6. Gender mainstreaming is systematically promoted in PROGRESS

Shared Understanding

Outcome:

Shared understanding and ownership among policy/decision-makers and stakeholders in Member States, and the Commission, of EU objectives related to PROGRESS policy areas.

Performance Indicators

1. Attitudes of decision-makers, key stakeholders and general public regarding EU objectives in PROGRESS policy areas
2. Extent to which national policy discourses or priorities reflect EU objectives
3. Extent to which principles of good governance (including minimum standards on consultation) are respected in policy debate
4. Extent to which the outcomes of policy debates or PROGRESS-supported policy advice feed into the development of EU law and policy.
5. Greater awareness of EU objectives and policies in relation to PROGRESS policy areas among policy/decision-makers, social partners, NGOs and networks regarding EU objectives and policies in relation to PROGRESS policy areas
6. EU policies are grounded in thorough analysis of situation and responsive to conditions, needs and expectations in Member States in PROGRESS areas
7. Cross-cutting issues are addressed in PROGRESS policy sections
8. EU policies display a common underlying logic of intervention in relation to PROGRESS issues
9. Gender mainstreaming is systematically promoted in PROGRESS

Strong Partnerships

Outcome:

Effective partnerships with national and pan-European stakeholders in support of outcomes related to PROGRESS policy areas.

Performance Indicators

1. Existence of common ground/consensus among policy/decision-makers and stakeholders on EU objectives and policies
2. Identification and involvement by the EU of key actors in a position to exert influence or change at EU and national levels
3. Effectiveness of partnerships in relation to outcomes relating to PROGRESS policy areas.
4. Number of individuals served or reached by networks supported by PROGRESS.
5. Extent to which advocacy skills of PROGRESS-supported networks have improved
6. Satisfaction of EU and national authorities with the contribution of networks
7. Extent to which PROGRESS-supported networks take a cross-cutting approach
8. Gender mainstreaming is systematically promoted in PROGRESS

