NATIONAL REPORT ON STRATEGIES FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION OF THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN 2008-2010

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National Action Plan on Social Inclusion of the Kingdom of Spain
2008-2010

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PRESENTATION

The Committee on Social Protection and the European Union agreed, on the basis of the Open Method of Co-ordination, to maintain the common objectives for the National Reports on Social Protection and Social Inclusion Strategies, as adopted by the European Council of March 2006, and to maintain a cycle of three years parallel to that established for the Integrated Directives for economic growth and employment.

As previous plans, the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2008-2010 has been drawn up within the framework of the European Strategy for Social Inclusion and in line with the European Common Objectives.

The Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport, through the State Secretariat for Social Policy, Families and Assistance for Dependent Persons and the Disabled, has on this occasion directed the preparation process, encouraging a more active and direct participation of all the actors involved in the initiatives aimed at social integration.

To prepare this Plan 2008-2010, the configuration of the model of policies and initiatives and the decentralisation of responsibilities in the area of social protection among the different Public Administrations has been taken into consideration.

The agents invited to participate were the General Administration of the State (through the Ministries involved), the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities, Local Authorities (through the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces), the NGOs, the Economic and Social Council, the social agents and others experts in social policy and intervention.

The strategic approach is to make progress in balancing economic growth with increased social welfare, from a coherent and effective political approach associated with a conceptual model of the life cycle of persons, in order to ensure a progressive reduction of social inequalities and prevent social exclusion, guaranteeing equality for men and women, equal treatment and equal opportunities for all.

The target population of the Plan not only includes the traditional and easily-identifiable profiles of the sections of the population most affected by social exclusion, but also encompasses attention to the needs and problems of persons who find themselves close the relative-poverty threshold and who, due to their particular circumstances, which are generally labour related, fluctuate above or under that threshold.

Based on the analysis of the Spanish situation, the challenges, priority objectives and goals relative to the aspects requiring stronger efforts in the current stage of the social inclusion process have been established, defining the Spanish strategy for social inclusion outlined in the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion of the Kingdom of Spain 2008-2010.

The challenges continue to be associated with the labour market, income policy, education, integration of immigrants, and persons in a situation of dependence, and the five priority objectives already established in the period 2006-2008 remain in place with the appropriate

new initiatives, although framed within a double social policy strategic direction: in first place, **foster active social inclusion**, i.e., boost labour-market integration in conjunction with an adequate income guarantee policy and access to quality services, particularly with regard to education services, and, in second place, **address the impact of immigration growth and an ageing population on social exclusion.**

Thus, of the five priority objectives listed below, the first three are aimed at active social inclusion, whist the following two objectives seek to reduce levels of poverty derived from the socio-demographic changes:

- Foster access to employment: promote participation in the labour market and combat poverty and social exclusion.
- Guarantee minimum economic resources.
- Achieve an equitable and quality education system.
- Support the social integration of immigrants.
- Guarantee equality in assistance to persons in a situation of dependence.

To achieve these objectives, the Plan establishes a series of clearly defined and quantified goals for 2010, consistent with the National Reforms Programme.

It has also been considered necessary to dedicate a section to other measures on access to all the necessary resources, rights and services for participation in society, which includes measures grouped by areas (health, social services, housing, justice and inclusion in the information society) and by initiatives aimed at persons in highly vulnerable situations.

The section dedicated to Governance embraces the initiatives and measures in which participation mechanisms have been established for the agents involved in preparing, following up and assessing the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion and in combating social exclusion.

Lastly, it is absolutely necessary to highlight the transversal approach of the gender perspective in determining the goals and measures of the NAPin, breaking down the available data and information by sex. Likewise, in the preparation of the NAPin and the definition of its objectives and measures, the needs of the disabled have been taken into account.

This Plan will be executed in the budget years 2008, 2009 and 2010, in line with the schedule cycle of the European Strategy for Social Inclusion.

With 2010 as European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion on the horizon, the national strategy for social inclusion will no doubt be reinforced by the participation and commitment of each and every actor involved in the execution of the measures included in this Plan.

1. PROGRESS MADE IN NAP-INCLUSION 2006-2008

In Spain, the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion have provided the institutional means for situating Spanish policy on social inclusion within the European framework. Major progress has also been made in the dialogue process with NGOs and social partners, and coordination has been improved between national government, the autonomous regions and local government.

NGOs have been encouraged to participate in the drafting and evaluation of the Plans, thus strengthening active and open governance. New networks and platforms have encouraged increased participation by the social and institutional partners. In addition, the importance of the fight against exclusion has encouraged debate, research and activities by numerous NGOs and other bodies through forums, seminars and joint projects between the NGOs and the public administrations.

The Plans were also drafted, monitored and evaluated with increased participation and collaboration between all levels of government: national government, represented through the Interministerial Commission; and the autonomous regions and local corporations, through the Special Monitoring Commission for the NAP-Inclusion. NGOs participate through the State Council for Social Action NGOs.

Progress has been made in applying the priority objectives in the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2006-2008, with nearly all the measures included in the Plan being either fully or partially (in some cases) implemented.

With regard to the objective of promoting access to employment and participation in the labour market and fighting poverty and social exclusion, the most significant progress has been achieved through Law 43/2006 of 29 December, on growth and employment. The Law itself is the result of the Agreement to Improve Growth and Employment, which contains measures aimed at boosting and supporting employment and permanent recruitment. Among the most important of these measures are the new Employment Promotion Programme and improved protection against unemployment for specific target groups. By the end of 2007, a year after the introduction of the new Employment Promotion Programme, 2.3 million permanent contracts had been signed and the rate of temporary employment reduced by more than 4 percentage points. The reduction of the rate of temporary employment is especially relevant in lowering the poverty rate, as it has a marked effect on people who are at the margins of the labour market.

Among the important measures to boost lifelong training for workers and improve their level of professional skills and prospects of promotion, particularly workers in the most disadvantaged groups, is the National Agreement for Vocational Training, signed in February 2006, and the subsequent Royal Decree 395/2007, which regulates the new model of occupational training at work. The Decree is linked to the National System of Qualifications and Vocational Training, regulated by Organic Law 5/2002 of 19 June, on qualifications and vocational training. In addition, Royal Decree 34/2008 of 18 January regulates occupational certificates. These are designed to be an instrument for the official accreditation by the labour authorities of occupational qualifications within the National Catalogue of Occupational

Qualifications. These accredit the holder with the skills required to engage in an occupation in which he or she can be gainfully employed and ensure that the training needed for their acquisition is provided within the framework of the sub-system of vocational training for employment regulated by the Royal Decree 395/2007.

Protection for self-employed workers has been significantly strengthened with the approval of the Charter for the Self-Employed. The Law on Job Insertion Enterprises establishes a framework to help the job placement of people in a situation of social exclusion using these kinds of enterprises.

Organic Law 3/2007, of 22 March, on equality between women and men, has introduced real equality of treatment and the elimination of any discrimination for reasons of gender, whether direct or indirect, in any sphere of life or public or private activity.

With regard to guaranteeing minimum financial resources, the main points to highlight are: the progress made in raising income levels for the lowest-paid workers through the increase in the minimum wage (*SMI*) (increases of 5.4% in 2006 and 5.5% in 2007); and also the improved income levels for pensioners, thanks to the policy of increasing pensions over recent years, in particular minimum contributory pensions.

In 2006 extra payments were made in addition to the 4.5% increase for pensioners with a dependent spouse and 3% for those without a dependent spouse. These improvements in minimum contributory pensions meant that the increase over the period January 2004 - December 2006 was between 14.1% and 17.4%. In 2007 minimum contributory pensions were increased by 5%.

The Social Security Law of 2007 introduced measures designed to consolidate the system in a number of ways: support for the family (improved protection for children who have lost one or both parents, people with disabilities and widows with young children); measures designed to extend the working life and increase the ratio between contributions and benefits (to maintain the long-term financial stability of the system); increased pensions; and a system that takes better account of social changes.

The priority objective of achieving an equitable education system has been pursued through the actions provided for by the Organic Law on Education and subsequently implemented by Royal Decree 1631/2006 of 29 December, which established the minimum educational standards for the obligatory secondary education level (*ESO*). The Royal Decree allows for the introduction of programmes with varied curricula for students needing different content, practices and materials from those provided by the general curriculum. It also provides for the organisation of Initial Occupational Qualification programmes, linked to Level I of the National Catalogue of Occupational Qualifications, for young people who find it difficult to successfully complete the compulsory secondary education level. These programmes were introduced in all the autonomous regions in September 2008.

The Royal Decree also establishes the obligation to organise education according to the principle of concern for student diversity. The measures reflecting this concern for diversity are designed to respond to specific educational needs; in no case may they amount to discrimination that impedes students from achieving their objective of skills and the corresponding qualifications.

The study "Basic Data on Education in Spain in the Academic Year 2006/07" demonstrates that the money allocated for grants and financial aid for studies in 2007 increased by 16.14% (157 million euros), compared with the figure for 2006.

Schooling of children aged under 3 increased in 2007 by 17.4% compared with 2006.

One of the objectives of the *PROA* (Reinforcement, Counselling and Support Programmes) Plan is "to consolidate the trend towards a lower rate of early school leaving". The Programmes were implemented in 1,165 educational centres in 2006/07, at a cost of 44 million euros. A total of 2,500 centres operated *PROA* in 2007/08, with a budget of over 97 million euros, contributed equally by the autonomous regions and the Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport.

With regard to the support for the social integration of immigrants, the Fund for the Reception and Integration of Immigrants and Educational Support has been the main financial instrument for promoting and strengthening public policies for the integration of immigrants.

The Fund had a budget of 182.4 million euros in 2006, an increase of 52% on the figure for the previous year. In 2007 the figure was 200 million euros, an increase of 9.6% on 2006, with 98 million euros spent on reception and integration, 90 million on starter education, and 10 million on care for unaccompanied foreign minors.

Another of the instruments designed to improve the social integration of immigrants is the Forum for the Social Integration of Immigrants, regulated by Royal Decree 3/2006 of 16 January, on the Forum's composition, competences and operating rules (published in the Official State Gazette on 17.01.06). The Forum, currently part of the Ministry of Labour and Immigration, was formally constituted in June 2006 as an organ offering consultation, information and advice for the integration of immigrants. In addition, Royal Decree 1368/2007 of 19 October established the occupational qualification of "Community Mediation". This provides individuals with vocational training in the educational system and occupational certificates from the labour authorities, qualifying them to apply their acquired mediation skills to promote the integration of marginalised groups.

Another important measure is the Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration 2007-2010. This has a budget of 2,005 million euros and covers various areas of intervention: education is the most important and will account for 40% of the total budget; reception will receive 20% and employment 11%.

With regard to the priority objective of guaranteeing care for people in a situation of dependency, it is worth highlighting the enactment in January 2007 of Law 39/2006, of 14 December, on the promotion of personal autonomy and care for people in a situation of dependency. This establishes the principle of access to services and benefits in conditions of real equality and non-discrimination. To this end, Royal Decree 1379/2008 introduced two new occupational certificates, "Socio-Health Care for People At Home" and "Socio-Healthcare for Dependent People in Social Institutions", into the National Catalogue of Occupational Qualifications within the occupational grouping of Socio-cultural and Community Services. An "Audio Prosthetics" qualification was also approved in the Health occupational grouping. This was followed by the approval of the "Diploma of Senior Expert

in Prosthetic Audiology" in Royal Decree 1685/2007, and the introduction of the occupational qualifications of "Education in Personal and Social Autonomy Skills" and "Prosthetics". These will enable individuals to receive vocational training in the related skills within the educational system, endorsed by occupational certificates issued by the labour authorities. Those trained will then be qualified to work to increase the personal autonomy of and care for people in a situation of dependency.

In recent months, the regulatory framework enabling the implementation of the contents of this Law has been approved and enacted by national government. A number of Decrees were approved for this purpose covering various matters: the approval of evaluation scales; the minimum level of protection guaranteed by national government; the social security cover of carers; intergovernamental cooperation agreements; procedures for the recognition of contributions; and the amount of financial benefits provided. The Territorial Council of the System of Autonomy and Care for Dependency and the Consultative Committee have also been set up as part of the system of care for dependency.

In terms of the development of and improvement in governance, the various actors involved have undertaken a number of actions to comply with the objectives and measures in the Plan.

Among the most important of these has been in Parliament through presentations of the Plan in the Congress of Deputies (the lower house) and the initiatives of various parliamentary groups working in the area of social inclusion.

In addition to this, many more Territorial Plans for inclusion have been implemented by the autonomous regions and the local corporations.

Seminar-workshops held in most of the autonomous regions, with the participation of government and NGOs, have helped publicise the NAP-Inclusion and the Inclusion Plans of the autonomous regions. They have also promoted the introduction of plans at a local level and encouraged debate on the European Strategy for Social Inclusion.

2. KEY CHALLENGES, PRIORITY OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

To ensure continuity in the National Strategy 2006-2008, which has contributed to social progress in recent years, Spain will continue to develop and consolidate progress with social policy as befits an advanced welfare state, with the aim of guaranteeing social harmony and cohesion based on the constitutional values of freedom, equality and solidarity, improving redistributive justice and quality of life for all. This will be done via social dialogue, an essential instrument for developing the economy and ensuring increased welfare.

The **Spanish economy** continued its sustained growth in 2007 above the rate recorded by the European Union as a whole. Today it has strengths that afford it comparative advantages in reducing the possible impact of the current phase of the economic crisis.

The **labour market** performed extremely positively in 2007, and its dynamism was characterised by better quality jobs and major progress in productivity. However, due to the weakening labour situation, the unemployment rate has increased so far in 2008, compared with the same period last year. This has had a marked effect on groups that in our country suffer from the highest rates of unemployment: young people, women and low-skilled workers.

A constant effort has been made in recent years to maintain the future viability of the pension system by means of rigorous and transparent management. This has translated into a steady improvement in the protective action of **social benefits**, the key element in an approach based on solidarity. However, efforts still have to be made to tackle the challenge of real convergence with the EU in social spending and thus reduce the high poverty rates among certain age groups in our country, i.e. children and the elderly.

Education is the key factor for individual and societal progress. It is an instrument that creates a virtuous circle of growth, employment and equality in our society. Progress in the educational level of the Spanish population in recent years has been continuous, but the improvements will only be seen in the medium term. Despite this, as has been pointed out, Spain still has among the highest rates of early school leaving in the EU, as defined by young people between the ages of 18 and 24 who have completed the first phase of secondary education but do not continue with further studies or training.

The reasons for the size and rate of the **immigration** phenomenon in Spain can be found basically in the huge growth of the labour force over the last decade. Public policies based on legality, social harmony and integration and non-discrimination have produced effective instruments to address this phenomenon. These include the following: the Regulation of the Organic Law dealing with the rights and duties of foreigners in Spain and their social integration; the increase in the financial resources available for the Reception Fund; the integration and emphasis on education for immigrants; and the application of the Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration. Progress must be made in the proper administration of immigration and the integration of immigrants, in terms of addressing new social needs, in order to avoid social exclusion.

The passing of Law 39/2006, on the promotion of personal autonomy and care for people in a situation of **dependency** and its System for Autonomy and Care for Dependency (*SAAD*) has consolidated a right and has addressed the needs of the most vulnerable individuals (those with a high level of dependency) in its first year in force. This represents a milestone for our welfare system. The ageing of the population over 65 years of age results in more situations of dependency, with the consequent demand for social benefits. This means that ensuring this new system has a sufficiently solid base is of vital importance.

This National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2008-2010 continues with the effort made in terms of the five priority objectives of the Plan 2006-2008, which are considered valid and appropriate for successfully continuing the process of social inclusion initiated in Lisbon. It also takes into account the challenges identified from an analysis of Spanish society and notes the future challenges for the EU resulting from the Joint Report on Social Protection and Inclusion 2008, as well as the specific recommendations for Spain. The year 2010 will also be the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, with Spain holding the Presidency of the EU. This will focus additional efforts on compliance with many of these challenges.

These five priority objectives are part of a more preventive and ambitious overall approach of the NAP-Inclusion, which includes not only the traditional profiles of the segment of the population in a situation of social exclusion, but also everyone who is near the relative poverty threshold. The objectives have two broad strategic goals: first, to **promote active social inclusion**, in other words to promote access to the labour market combined with an appropriate policy of guaranteed income and access to quality services, particularly educational services; and second, to **tackle the impact of growth in immigration and the ageing population on social exclusion**.

Active social inclusion will be promoted by pursuing the following three priority objectives:

- Promote access to employment: promoting active inclusion policies.
- Guarantee and improve minimum financial resources.
- Achieve an equitable and quality education system.

To tackle poverty levels resulting from socio-demographic changes, the following objectives will be pursued:

- Support the social integration of immigrants.
- Guarantee equitable care for people in a situation of dependency.

Thus to achieve real progress towards a society with an evolving social model that can overcome the many causes of exclusion, policies have to be implemented in all the fields described above to build social cohesion.

This is why the Spanish government will maintain its commitment to social policy, despite the budget austerity required to withstand the current economic crisis. In fact, overall social spending or productive spending will not be reduced or even frozen.

This Plan also continues the commitment to effective equality between women and men, by applying Organic Law 3/2007, on the effective equality between women and men, and mainstreaming the principle of equal treatment and opportunities across the policies of social inclusion.

In the sphere of employment, the fundamental challenges will be to concentrate attention on active policies for people who are marginalised in the labour market and on the most vulnerable groups such as immigrants, young people, women, older workers and people with disabilities. Attention will also have to be focused on reducing the rate of unemployment caused over the next few years by the current crisis, through policies of job creation, maintenance and improvement in employment quality, with a special emphasis on reducing the rate of temporary employment.

Furthermore, greater participation in the labour market helps ensure the sustainability and adequacy of the pension system. On the question of guaranteeing minimum resources whilst maintaining an equitable, sustainable and balanced pension system, the challenge is to increase pensions and family benefits, particularly in terms of guaranteeing financial resources for people living below the relative poverty threshold in Spain, with the aim of reducing income inequality.

The measures outlined above, together with a comprehensive effort to achieve the educational objectives for 2010 (mainly the reduction of the rate of early school leaving), will help break the cycle of intergenerational transmission of poverty. An educational model of quality is the foundation for a democratically advanced society in a continuous process of evolution. Access to quality educational services, particularly from earliest childhood, will make a significant contribution to the active social inclusion of people with lower levels of resources.

To tackle the impact on social exclusion produced by immigration growth, in terms of integrating the immigrant population, we must continue to promote full equality of rights and duties for legal residents in Spain, as well as improve social benefits and guarantee access to all public services within a framework of social harmony among all citizens.

Finally, with regard to the demographic change produced by the ageing population, the recently implemented System for Personal Autonomy and Care for Dependency has to be consolidated and improved in terms of equal opportunities and equity by the effective coordination of services. This represents a new, comprehensive strategy for citizens, based on organising resources and coordinating information on options to which they have rights.

In addition to these priority objectives, the current Spanish NAP-Inclusion once more includes measures designed to consolidate the progress achieved in other areas which are sensitive to social exclusion, such as housing, health and inclusion in the information society. It also includes a series of specific actions targeted at the most vulnerable groups in the population.

The following TARGETS have been set to achieve these priority objectives, whilst also taking into account those included in the Spanish National Reform Programme and the Spanish and European objectives of education for 2010:

- Increase the employment rate to 66% by 2010.
- Increase the female employment rate to 57% by 2010.
- Cut the youth unemployment rate to 18.6% by 2010.
- Increase the minimum wage (SMI).
- Gradually increase the purchasing power of minimum pensions.
- Increase the net rate of schooling at infant school level to achieve 45% for age 2 and 99% for age 3 by 2010.
- Increase the rate of students with a school-leaving certificate in Compulsory secondary education to achieve 80% by 2010.
- Increase the gross rate of males with a school-leaving certificate in the second level of secondary education (CINE 3) to achieve 43% in upper secondary school education and 23% in middle-level vocational training by 2010.
- Lower the rate of people aged between 18 and 24 who have completed at most the first stage of secondary education (CINE 2) and who do not continue with any educational training to achieve 15% by 2010.
- Improve the performance of students reducing the percentage of lowest skill levels in the next key skills by 2010: reading comprehension at 16%, foreign languages at 11% and mathematics at 17%.
- Increase the percentage of students with a Certificate of Higher Secondary Education (CINE 3) aged between 20 and 24 to reach 80% by 2010.
- Increase the percentage of adults who receive permanent training to reach 12.5% by 2010.
- Assign an annual 45% of the Support Fund to educational programmes in formal education, adult education, local educational programmes and programmes designed to help immigrant students' access to infant education and post-compulsory stages of the educational system.
- Allocate every year at least 40% of resources from the Support Fund for the reception and integration of immigrants to integration programmes developed at a local level.
- Develop the System for Personal Autonomy and Care for Dependency, guaranteeing care for people in a situation of dependency in line with the schedule stipulated by the law.

Finally, with regard to the fight against poverty internationally, official development aid from Spain represented 0.42% of Gross National Income in 2007, and for 2008 the budget is 5,509 million euros (0.5% GNI), thus steadily moving towards compliance with the UN's Millennium Development Goals. Efforts will continue to be made to improve living conditions in the countries receiving this aid.

3. PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

A) Promoting active social inclusion

3.1 Promote access to employment: promote participation in the labour market and fight poverty and social exclusion

Access to employment for people who are excluded and of an age to work and potentially active should be one of their basic objectives. Promotion of quality employment is a key element in strengthening social cohesion. Although it is not the only factor guaranteeing social inclusion, lack of access to the labour market, or access as unstable casual labour (the poverty rate for working people is around 10%), is in many cases the main and most immediate cause of poverty.

If we analyse the real impact that employment has on poverty levels and social exclusion, it becomes clear that the relative poverty rate is reduced by half in the working population compared with the population in general. In addition, this rate is also reduced when at least one of the members of the household is in work. Conversely, when none of the members of the household is in work, the risk of poverty is at around 70%.

Due to the economic crisis, the high growth levels recorded in recent years in employment have been slowing since the end of 2007. Furthermore, this trend is expected to continue, with increased unemployment rates, the exit of the most vulnerable workers from the labour market and more difficulty for workers with low employability levels to join it.

Efforts have to be targeted at these most vulnerable segments of society so that by means of active employment policies combined with an appropriate policy of income and social benefits they can finally emerge from this situation of risk of social exclusion. The large segment of the population which is close to poverty, sometimes above and sometimes below the relative poverty threshold at different times (around half of all people under the threshold are in this position) is largely the result of whether they have work or not. It is thus a fundamental challenge to design more effective active policies to assist their stable entry into the labour market.

Unemployment in general, and particularly long-term unemployment, leads inevitably to difficulty in acquiring certain fundamental goods and services necessary to maintain a reasonable standard of living, as well eroding workers' professional skills. This has very negative effects on an individual's ability to find quality employment. In addition, the lack of remunerated employment is the main cause of social exclusion and income inequality.

Certain groups of workers are in situations of vulnerability that marginalise them in the labour market, leading to a greater risk of poverty. These include the young, who are more likely to be in casual employment, the elderly (particularly those over 55), with low skills levels or skills inappropriate to market needs, people with disabilities, immigrants and the

long-term unemployed, etc. These groups should be the main targets of labour market policies to prevent social exclusion.

Improving living conditions and access to the labour market for the most vulnerable groups undoubtedly helps to eliminate poverty risks and makes them active generators of value and utility to society, not only through work but also by their contribution to the sustainability of the systems of social protection and social security.

At the same time, it is important to stress that the social reintegration process does not end with finding a job. Appropriate flexible working formulas have to be found to help reconcile work and family life and tackle other kinds of social disadvantages.

Promoting access to and permanence in employment for people who are able to work but are at the margins of the labour market is a fundamental challenge. They have to be offered suitable active employment policy measures appropriate to their needs in order to help them find jobs.

The social integration of people with disabilities (one of the most vulnerable groups in the population) through employment is thus a fundamental objective. It is being addressed by implementing a new strategic approach covering employment policy and employment legislation, as well as other related questions. In this way, it has a much greater impact than individual measures with a limited scope. Royal Decree 1368/2007 responds to this objective by including "Job Placement of People with Disabilities" in the National Catalogue of Occupational Qualifications.

In terms of gender differences, Spain continues to have unacceptably low rates of female employment. Although in recent years there has been considerable growth in female employment (in fact higher than that for male) with the rate of female employment approaching the Lisbon Strategy objectives, the female unemployment rate continues to be high when compared with the European average. Gender differences in the labour market still have to be reduced and there has to be more progress in equal opportunities.

The government has formulated a Special Plan of Measures for Guidance, Vocational Training and Job Placement, with an initial budget of 201 million euros for the years 2008 and 2009, designed to help recruitment and boost stable employment for both the unemployed and those at risk of exclusion from the labour market.

The contribution of the Structural Funds to the employment objectives, and in particular the ESF, are key, as the three ESF strategic objectives in Spain promote measures designed to help people who, because of their special circumstances, may be excluded from the labour market. In particular, one objective is to attract more people into the labour market, promoting employability, social inclusion and equality between women and men and boosting the integration of young people, the long-term unemployed, immigrants, those with disabilities and people at risk of exclusion from the labour market. In addition to these contributions, it is important to highlight the value of the transfer of good practices in placing people with special difficulties in entering the labour market through the EQUAL initiative; as well as the implementation of the Operational Programme to combat discrimination in the new National Strategic Reference Framework, which, as in the previous version, encourages the employment of those belonging to most vulnerable groups.

The aim of encouraging the active inclusion of those people who are in situations of particular vulnerability is to link employment and a policy of income guarantees and access to quality services. The main feature of this focus on active inclusion is its comprehensive nature. Access to employment through active employment policies is a necessary and fundamental constituent of social inclusion from the perspective of active inclusion. The creation of a Network of Social Inclusion, as included in the Spanish National Strategic Reference Framework (*NSRF*) for the European Social Fund, represents an opportunity to progress in the analysis of methodologies and processes for active inclusion, and also to extend good practices on employment contribution to social inclusion from the perspective of active social inclusion.

The strategic lines that will guide employment policy in coming years will, as in previous years, be informed by the ongoing dialogue with the social partners. This is a core component of social and employment policy. These lines will include the strengthening of the public employment services in a territorial-based network system.

The employment measures outlined below are based on this idea. They include actions targeted at people who are more socially vulnerable, as well as more general ones that will have a positive impact on the most disadvantaged groups.

MEASURES

1. Implement the Special Plan of Measures for Guidance, Vocational Training and Job Placement:
    - 1.1 Design job-insertion pathways that offer continuous and systematic support tailored to user profiles.
    - 1.2 Establish subsidies of €350 per month for the unemployed on low incomes and with problems of employability, while they are looking for work.
    - 1.3 Subsidise any expenses that may be incurred when accepting a job involves moving residence: travel; transport of furniture and other possessions; accommodation for the first nine months of the contract; crèche and care for dependents.
    - 1.4 Support training for employment by introducing training agreements with companies that create jobs, who undertake to recruit workers permanently once their training phase has been completed.
2. Boost vocational training, especially in terms of lifelong learning, the participation of people with specific training needs and training in emerging sectors.
    - 2.1 Develop specific programmes for training people with special training needs or those who have difficulties entering the labour market or retraining for a new job, under the provisions of Royal Decree 395/2007 of 23 March, governing the sub-system of vocational training for employment. This will be done through the training for occupational certificates linked to the National Catalogue of Occupational Qualifications.
    - 2.2. Ensure that the occupational skills acquired by workers, whether through training (formal or non-formal) or work experience, can be accredited by launching the system of occupational certification and the system of skills

accreditation and recognition under the National Catalogue of Occupational Qualifications.

3. Promote female employment in order to reduce the inequality that is clear from the current figures.

   3.1 Develop new pathways in employment for women, implementing the Law on Equality, to support the work/life balance and the employment of women over the age of 45 in emerging areas of employment.

   3.2 Establish measures to guarantee that the principles of equal opportunity between women and men are guaranteed in recruitment and promotion at work.

   3.3 Approve the special programme to help women who are victims of domestic violence find jobs.

   3.4 Approve the occupational qualification of "Promotion of Equal Opportunities between Women and Men" and implement the training leading to the title and occupational certificate accrediting the qualification.

4. Promote entrepreneurship.

   4.1 Promote entrepreneurship, stressing its social value and the contribution of entrepreneurs to society, and implementing the Charter for Self-Employed Workers by means of regulations.

   4.2 Establish a favourable productive and institutional structure for competition, productivity and training and innovation.

   4.3 Support companies in the social economy which are set up to develop activities in the sphere of the public services or social welfare, such as education, health and social services.

   4.4 Promote microcredits and other funding mechanisms to encourage people in a situation of social exclusion, or at risk of it, to become self-employed.

5. Promote job insertion and quality employment for people with disabilities:

   5.1 Pass the Comprehensive Strategy for Action on the Employment of People with Disabilities 2008-12, including a set of initiatives and measures covering various areas relating to the labour market: employment; labour legislation; social security; education; fiscal policy, etc.

   5.2 Implement regulations to launch the new measures contained in this Strategy, including the launch of the training courses to accredit the occupational qualification of "Job Placement of People with Disabilities".

6. Help young people gain access new job opportunities by identifying strategic sectors and new jobs, combining training and employment and extending part-time employment. This will all be within the framework of the National System of Qualifications and Vocational Training.

7. Prolong the active life of workers aged over 55 by providing incentives for them to remain in employment.

8. Develop actions for vocational integration of people at risk of social exclusion within the framework of the Operational Programme to Combat Discrimination. This will be financed by the European Social Fund over the period of the programme, 2007-2013, and promoted by social action NGOs.

9. Monitor, coordinate and evaluate the development and impact of the Law on job placement enterprises.

10. Analyse the impact of the European Social Fund on the social and vocational integration of workers.

11. Identify the contribution of good practices in the EQUAL initiative to active employment policies.

12. Develop programmes in partnership with NGOs to improve access to employment for people in a situation of social exclusion or at risk of it. These programmes will have the following characteristics:

    12.1 They will combine various kinds of activities: information, counselling and advice, practical work training and a personalised jobsearch pathway with personal assistance and monitoring to help with the process of finding a job.

    12.2 They will enable vulnerable people or groups to find jobs in expanding market sectors such as care, leisure or cultural services, the environment, renovation of housing and neighbourhoods, and new information and communication services.

    12.3 They will establish bridging structures for entering the ordinary labour market.

    12.4 They will establish channels to offer information on microcredits for self-employment and serve as a link with financial institutions, as well as offer advice on starting up projects and helping with loan applications.

3.2 Guarantee minimum financial resources

As state policies are constantly evolving towards a framework of a developed Welfare State, Spain's commitment is to guarantee a level of social cover of basic needs for all citizens, increasing income for those groups of the population at risk of falling below the poverty line (the unemployed, people not in the labour market or excluded from it for various reasons, and all those whose employment does not provide them with sufficient income). However, even for those who are covered by protection, this is not sufficient.

The immediate result of these policies is an improvement in the economic, and thus social, situation of the most disadvantaged. They also help prevent future situations of social exclusion in the medium term.

The stated commitment of the government for the time-frame of this Plan, as made clear by a number of statements, is to continue progressing on measures of a social character and ensure that if this action is affected by the economic crisis, it is affected as little as possible, with the firm intention that it may be boosted for most of the target groups.

The social security system in our country has led the way in recognising the rights of individuals, establishing advanced mechanisms for maintaining or even improving and complementing all those incomes gained by earning or having earned wages in the labour market. In this sense, the adoption of measures to guarantee the sustainability of the pensions system is essential to ensure an adequate level of income for current workers.

Firstly, to ensure the above, the policy of increasing the minimum wage (SMI) in real terms initiated the previous term of office (2004-2008) will be continued.

The new Active Income for Insertion Programme (*RAI*)1, which is regulated by Royal Decree 1369/2006 entered into force in December 2006. It has been implemented as a permanent programme, with its continuity guaranteed, in contrast with the temporary character of previous regulations. The objective of the programme is to make it easier for unemployed workers with special economic needs and difficulty in finding work to return to the labour market. The collecting of this benefit is linked to the realization of active employment policies.

Secondly, there will be an improvement in non-contributory pensions and those minimum pensions not linked to previous employment. This will reduce the proportion of recipients of pensions that are below the poverty risk threshold. Non-contributory retirement pensions guarantee all pensioners in need a financial benefit, free healthcare and complementary social services, even if they have not made pension contributions or have not made enough. The annual rise for this pension will be above the official increase of the consumer price index for the previous year.

[1] Active Income for Insertion (*RAI*): A programme that gives income to people who are actively looking for a job.

Other specific benefits for groups with special needs will be maintained. These include the welfare benefit to guarantee a minimum income, under the Law for the Social Integration of the Disabled (*LISMI*), and financial benefits for dependent children or foster children.

These objectives of improved minimum financial benefits will be consolidated and extended through social dialogue between the government, trade unions and employers' organizations. This has proved itself to be an effective mechanism for agreeing and improving guaranteed minimum financial resources.

Finally, progress will be made in consolidating the improved cover provided by the minimum income for insertion (*RMI*)2 and associated social welfare benefits, to ensure that the rights of groups in a situation of or at risk of social exclusion are recognised. The autonomous regions will continue to modify their legislation in order to guarantee the subjective right in the cover provided by the minimum income for insertion.

MEASURES

1. Continue the policy of increasing the minimum inter-professional wage (SMI) to ensure greater purchasing power for the least qualified workers.
2. Increase minimum contributory pensions provided by the social security system, and particularly, the minimum retirement pension for beneficiaries with a dependent spouse; the widowed person's pension of those recipients living alone with low incomes, who will receive additional increases starting in 2009, and family units in which a widowed parent and child live together.
3. Increase non-contributory invalidity and retirement pensions in order to guarantee an income level that meets basic needs. In 2008 these pensions have been increased by 5.1%.
4. Improve in forthcoming budgets the income tax treatment of contributory financial benefits in the social security system, as well as that of non-contributory benefits. This measure will represent support for family policies at the same time.
5. Supplement the contributory record of workers aged over 55 by extending their active life and thus guaranteeing higher pensions.
6. Adopt the necessary regulatory measures to ensure convergence in contributions and protection between the special social security scheme for domestic workers and the general scheme.
7. Make it easier for street sellers to enter the special self-employed scheme by reducing the minimum social security contributions required.
8. Increase subsidies such as mobility and travel expenses for the beneficiaries of the LISMI. In 2008 these will be increased by 11.04%.
9. The autonomous regions will progress with regulations governing the minimum income for insertion (RMI) as a subjective right.

[2] Minimum Income for Insertion (*RMI*): A financial benefit that aims to guarantee a minimum survival income.

10. Develop the technical cooperation with the autonomous regions in order to better understand the impact of the minimum income for insertion on social inclusion.

11. Develop actions based on Royal Decree 1369/2006 to consolidate the active income for insertion (RAI) and allow the incorporation of new beneficiaries.

3.3 Achieve an equitable and quality education system

Education is the best instrument to guarantee the exercise of democratic, responsible, free and critical citizenship, and it is essential for the development of advanced, dynamic and just societies.

The fundamental aim of an educational system characterised by equity, accessibility and quality is to ensure the appropriate educational response for all students. Only in this way can we guarantee their development and ensure greater social cohesion.

A quality education system that offers those services currently demanded by society is considered a vital element for the training of future generations. It is also a basic means of ensuring the active social inclusion of the most disadvantaged section of the population who need greater investment in educational policies characterised by equity and accessibility.

Educational policy should guarantee access to quality educational services that help reconcile work and family life by providing measures such as more extended care in the initial years of infant education (0-3 years). This will help improve the quality of life of all the members of the family unit, and in particular of the most vulnerable groups in the population. In addition to this, quality education at this initial stage is essential, given that it plays a key role in helping long-term academic performance of children as well as future inclusion in society. The greater the initial difficulties for social and economic, cultural or personal reasons, the greater the beneficial effects of such education.

The new Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport was created in 2008 to develop some of the ideas considered priorities by the current government: the conviction that a quality education offers individuals a better future; the will to care for the immediate needs and concerns of citizens; and the defence of equal opportunities for all, without any kind of discrimination.

This effort puts Spain in line with the policies of the European Union, which if it has an identity setting it apart from other parts of the world, it is the "European social model". The main characteristic of this social model is that it affords the same value to social and educational policies as to economic policy. This has to be expressed at a practical level in the implementation of ambitious policies of social protection and cohesion and highly developed educational systems.

Improvements in education should be based on an active vision committed to the quality of the educational system. Necessary reforms should be promoted and financed by means of dialogue and agreement with the autonomous regions. The objective is to offer more and better education for all generations, both in terms of guaranteeing success at school for all students, and in promoting quality in education. This means adopting the necessary measures to prevent minors from abandoning the educational system without the education needed for their personal and professional development. This in turn requires that educational establishments have greater autonomy to move towards a more individualised form of teaching that responds to students' real needs.

Thus to make progress in all the areas outlined above, the active participation of the teaching staff and a greater involvement on the part of students and their families are essential. The whole of society has to receive the message that the best investment for both individuals and society is education.

Finally, the Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport will encourage improvement in the educational level of children and adolescents who are in a situation of social disadvantage, in order to reduce the intergenerational transmission of poverty. The aim is to guarantee quality education that equips students with the tools they need to lift themselves out of a situation of social exclusion.

Together with these general objectives, we have to continue to develop all the potential for improvement in the Spanish educational system contained in Organic Law 2/2006 of 3 May, on education (*LOE*). This is based on the principles of quality, equal opportunities, individual effort and student motivation. It continues to be the instrument which will enable our educational system to respond to the needs of our complex and demanding society. The key objectives during this period will be as follows: increase the rate of infant schooling; increase the school success of all students across the educational levels; improve the number mastering basic competences and increase the number of students who take technical vocational courses (vocational training, sports education and vocational education in arts and design) and receive permanent education.

MEASURES

1. Continue to extend and improve the Spanish educational system within the framework of the European objectives for 2010, by carrying out the following measures:

    1.1 Implement the Educa3 programme to increase the educational provision of infant education in the 0 to 3 age group.

    1.2 Increase the number of teachers in infant education.

    1.3 Increase the rate of schooling in post-compulsory secondary education by a gradual reduction in early school leaving, with the aim of bringing us closer to the European target for 2010: for 85% of the young people aged between 18 and 24 to have upper secondary school education or middle-level vocational training. This can be achieved through actions such as the following:

        1.3.1 Developing specific programmes such as the school success improvement programmes and the programmes to reduce pockets of early school leaving, regulated by agreements between the Ministry and the autonomous regions.

        1.3.2 Running awareness-raising campaigns targeted at young people and their families on the importance of continuing upper-secondary education or middle-grade vocational training studies.

        1.3.3 Develop Initial Occupational Qualification programmes to enable students to obtain the Certificate of Compulsory Secondary

Education and promote access to middle-level vocational training cycles.

2. Achieve equitable and free schooling by:

   2.1 Improving Infant education, ensuring that it is free at the second level through coordination among all the levels of government, and that 100% of children aged between 3 and 6 attend by 2010, and developing specific actions aimed at achieving more individualised care for children with learning difficulties.

   2.2 Giving a decisive boost to the policy of grants and study assistance, based on the fact that this is the cornerstone of equal opportunities in access to education. The main actions in this field will be as follows:

      2.2.1 Approve the basic law to increase the amount and type of grants, with an average increase of 6%. This will increase income thresholds across the board by 27%.

      2.2.2 Create a new type of grant called "basic grant" for non-university level students. The amount will be between 200 and a maximum of 400 euros for those studying in large towns of more than 100,000 inhabitants.

      2.2.3 Continue to increase funding for grants and study support to ensure that within 4 years 50% of students at upper-level secondary school and in vocational training receive some kind of financial support.

      2.2.4 Create new support for study for students who are taking Initial Vocational Qualification programmes. This support will include travel costs to the centre, purchase of study materials and supplements depending on the location.

      2.2.5 Establish a programme of pay-grants to encourage those at risk of leaving school for financial reasons to continue with their studies. The amount should be at least the value of the IPREM during upper-level secondary school and vocational education.

      2.2.6 Create support for companies who offer employment contracts to people under the age of 24, and which allow part of the working day for the training required to obtain a basic qualification or vocational training.

3. Promote measures to ensure success at school for all students, improving significantly the pass rates at the end of basic and compulsory schooling, through the following actions:

   3.1 Developing programmes to reinforce basic competences in the first two years of compulsory secondary schooling, special plans for students with special difficulties, programmes to diversify the curriculum and other specific actions targeted at students at the greatest risk of social exclusion.

   3.2 Continuing to develop the PROA Plan (reinforcement, counselling and support programmes). This is a partnership between the Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport and the respective autonomous regions to reduce school failure in primary and secondary educational centres in

socially deprived areas, with the aim of assisting 2,500 centres with the same number of counsellors by 2010.

3.3 Increasing coordination between the relevant authorities to improve attention to student diversity as a question of principle and adapt schooling to their characteristics and needs, especially at the primary and compulsory secondary level, in order to help ensure non-discrimination and access to and permanence in the educational system on an equal basis.

3.4 Developing special programmes for the education of immigrant students, such as reception, accompaniment and schooling and/or language immersion.

3.5 Sponsoring the creation and development of plans to encourage reading.

3.6 Promote the different forms of Occupational Qualification programmes, paying particular attention to those that lead to a "Graduate" qualification.

4. Reinforce the learning of foreign languages by the development of programmes to reinforce foreign language acquisition, thereby ensuring the learning of a first foreign language at primary school level generally, with the opportunity to learn a second language starting in obligatory secondary education (ESO). In addition, agreements with the autonomous regions will be promoted to develop bilingual teaching programmes (or trilingual in autonomous regions with their own language) in educational centres in Spain, thus fully guaranteeing linguistic competence.

5. Boost educational training to make technical and vocational education an increasingly attractive option for young people; achieve European rates of uptake in this form of education; establish regulations recognising non-formal experience; promote higher-level vocational education and integrate it into the Bologna process by:

5.1 Implementing the Initial Vocational Qualification programmes more extensively. Their objective will be to offer a new educational alternative for young people over the age of 16 who have not obtained the qualification of graduate in obligatory secondary education so that they may obtain a professional Level 1 qualification that allows them to find a job, and a graduate diploma if they take the corresponding complementary modules.

5.2 Creating and running the plan for modernising Vocational Training under the National System of Qualifications and Vocational Training, in coordination with the Ministry of Labour and Immigration, with the autonomous regions and, above all, with the employers, the trade unions and professional organisations.

5.3 Developing the national reference centres and integrated centres for vocational training with the autonomous regions by extending their capacity and by combining regulated vocational education and training for employment linked to the National Catalogue of Occupational Qualifications.

5.4 Establishing agreements with the business sector to regulate part-time contracts allowing their combination with the study commitments of the corresponding training cycles of middle and upper level vocational training.

5.5 Boosting the systems of information and guidance on educational and employment matters to facilitate public knowledge of different training offers and mechanisms for professional mobility in the labour market, as well as advising on the most suitable training pathways.

5.6 Completing the integration of the regulated vocational education offer and training for employment, with the aim of optimising the use of material and human resources and achieving ever higher levels of quality.

5.7 Initiate the procedure for evaluating and accrediting occupational skills acquired through work experience and non-formal learning using the National Catalogue of Occupational Qualifications, with the aim of improving the level of qualifications of the working population and facilitate its mobility.

6. Increase financial assistance and subsidies to finance measures in the teaching of new information and communication technologies, thereby using education to combat any social divide brought about by lack of knowledge of these technologies. This will be achieved via the implementation of the Avanza plan and the use of educational centres' IT networks. The main objectives are:

6.1 To guarantee the effective use of existing computing equipment in educational centres, and to bolster it with new resources allocated specifically for classrooms. By 2010, 100% of educational centres should have broadband access, with a target of one computer with broadband connection for every 2 students.

6.2 To eliminate barriers to the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in education.

6.3 To boost communication between families and educational centres by using new information and communication technologies, with the aim that by 2010, 50% of parents use the Internet to communicate with the educational centre; also, to draw up and develop plans for access to and use of ICT by socially disadvantaged students and their families.

6.4 To implement measures to increase the use of ICT by students with specific educational needs, ensuring that by 2010, 70% of them have access to specially adapted ICT equipment.

7. Improve adult education in two ways:

7.1 By boosting the training of adults through agreements with business institutions and organisations to offer training courses.

7.2 By promoting adult training through "mentor" classes and non-presential training.

B) Address the impact of sociodemographic change on poverty and social exclusion

3.4 Support the social integration of immigrants

The incorporation of a considerable number of people from other countries into Spanish society has produced some undeniable social, cultural and economic benefits. The mutual cultural enrichment, improved living conditions for many of those both recently arrived and the population as a whole, and the guarantee of sustainability in the demographic pyramid, are all positive factors. Together with the contribution to economic growth, they go to show that immigration is extremely beneficial for host countries.

To guarantee that integration is based on the effective recognition of the rights of citizens, their needs have to be met in terms of access to the labour market, social services, housing and basic benefits.

Given this situation, in the immediate future the fundamental task is to extend the work done in previous years to help the integration of immigrants, guaranteeing the exercise of their rights and compliance with their obligations. What is more, there can be no doubt that the expected performance in the short term of the economies of what have been the main host countries will lead to significant further migratory movements. Support for the integration of immigrants will be fundamental to social cohesion in that it will help avoid the negative effects that unemployment and higher prices of goods and services produce among the most disadvantaged groups.

The measures included in the Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration 2007-2010 (*PECI*) will provide the framework for the implementation of future projects and measures. The Plan was approved by Cabinet agreement on 16 February 2007. It is an instrument designed to improve the integration of immigrants into Spanish society, channelling the actions of the public authorities and revitalising society as a whole.

The Plan includes twelve areas of action: reception, education, employment, housing, social services, health, infancy and youth, equal treatment, women, participation, raising awareness and co-development. Specific objectives, programmes and measures to be implemented in each area are being determined.

Successful application of the integration measures requires a new consensus among all the stakeholders. In particular, there has to be agreement with the different administrations involved, both at the international level, by promoting a common policy for this matter among the Member States of the European Union, and domestically, by improving coordination between the state, the autonomous regions and local entities. This requires agreement at territorial level, and a Sectoral Conference on Immigration has been set up for this purpose. Channels for communication and consensus between all the levels of government involved have also been established.

The Fund for the Reception and Integration of Immigrants and Educational Support will continue to be the main financial instrument used to promote and boost public policies for integrating immigrants and reinforcing social cohesion. The management of the Fund is

based on regional cooperation. Currently it is concluding protocols to extend the agreements between the former Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the autonomous regions and cities of Ceuta and Melilla for the development of actions aimed at integrating immigrants. These actions are included in the corresponding annual action plan drawn up by the autonomous regions and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla, with the agreement of the Ministry of Labour and Immigration.

Among the actions receiving funds are the following: interim classes and educational reception programmes: those to boost the system of grants and financial assistance for meals; adult education; and job search programmes for young people.

To support integration, the following actions are being funded: those to improve public services; inter-cultural training of professionals; and assistance for the third sector in programmes of reception, employment, intermediation in the housing market, social services, health, participation, awareness, equal treatment, attention for the infant and youth population and women.

The Fund for the Reception and Integration of Immigrants and Educational Support will also finance the special programme for the transfer of minors from the Canary Islands to other autonomous regions.

The direction of immigration policies should at all times maintain coherence with the strategies drawn up internationally, and in particular with the design of a common European strategy. The European Union itself has approved the framework plan for solidarity and management of migratory flows 2007-2013, the highlights of which are:

- The policy on asylum, with the prolongation and reform of the European Fund for Refugees.
- The social, civic and cultural integration of immigrants through the establishment of the European Fund for the Integration of Third-country nationals.

MEASURES

1. Develop the Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration 2007-2010 approved in February 2007.
2. Develop integration actions for immigrants in partnership with the autonomous regions and local entities, by:
   - 2.1 Using the Fund for the Reception and Integration of Immigrants and Educational Support through extension protocols to the agreements with the autonomous regions and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla, and drawing up the corresponding annual action plans by which these actions will be implemented.
   - 2.2 Concluding agreements with the cities of Ceuta and Melilla for programmes for the reception of minors, with particular emphasis on actions in the centres dealing with foreign unaccompanied minors.

2.3 Providing finance to local entities for innovative projects for the integration of immigrants, and programmes aimed at youth and specific programmes for the care of women and the process of family reunification.

3. Offer support and subsidies to public organisations and non-profit organisations for the social integration of immigrants through the regulation of:

   3.1 Subsidies for the integration of immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers and other people under international protection.

   3.2 Subsidies from the amount allocated from income tax for the target group.

   3.3 Subsidies for entities and organisations that carry out humanitarian actions for immigrants.

   3.4 Subsidies earmarked for the Red Cross, the Association for the Catholic Migration Commission and the Spanish Commission for Refugee Aid.

   3.5 Humanitarian care of immigrants in a situation of vulnerability who arrive on the Spanish coast.

4. Manage and regulate the refugee reception centres (CAR), which can decide to provide individual financial support for their residents.

5. Provide initial reception services to offer services and basic social benefits in the temporary immigrant centres (CETI) of Ceuta and Melilla.

6. Develop and apply the programme for voluntary return, to help meet the needs of people who express their desire to return to their country of origin but lack the financial resources to do so and thus support more effective reintegration into their society of origin.

7. Promote joint development actions and programmes linking immigrants with their communities of origin, and giving technical and financial support to ensure the efficacy of these initiatives.

3.5 Guarantee equity in assistance for people in a situation of dependency

Law 39/2006 of 14 December, on the promotion of personal autonomy and care for people in a situation of dependency establishes the principle of universal access to services and benefits for everyone in a situation of dependency, in conditions of real equality and non-discrimination.

People over the age of 65 are the segment of the population with the highest rate of poverty. The situation of dependency represents an added factor that increases the risk of poverty and threatens their living conditions and quality of life.

In addition, the gradual implementation of the Law will increase the participation of the services it provides for in conditions of quality. This will serve as a key instrument to promote both job creation and also equity and improvements in the quality of life of dependent people in a situation of poverty or social exclusion or at risk of it.

Thus, it is deemed important to introduce the perspective of equity in the care of people in a situation of dependency in this NAP-Inclusion

The Law came into force in 2007, and since then people registered as dependents have had the right to receive care and attention in the form of various services (telecare, home help, day centres, night centres or homes) according to their degree and level of dependency. When the competent authorities cannot offer these services, people in a situation of dependency have the right to receive financial benefits. These financial benefits are for services which cannot be offered by the public network. Thus the dependent person has to acquire it privately. The financial assistance may also be for family carers as long as certain conditions relating to living together and the suitability of the home are met.

The development of the system for personal autonomy and care for people in a situation of dependency is being developed step by step to ensure that benefits are made available in line with the necessary infrastructures. The benefits will be developed progressively over a period of eight years: in 2007, those assessed as falling within the two levels of degree III were eligible for benefit; in 2008 and 2009, eligibility will be extended to those at level 2 of grade II; in 2009 and 2010, it will also cover those assessed at level 1 of grade II; in 2011 and 2012, it will include those at level 2 of grade I; and finally, in 2013 and 2014, cover will be granted to those at level 1 of grade I.

A number of strategic action lines will be implemented to assist the development of the Law on promoting personal autonomy and care for people in a situation of dependency, and to facilitate the implementation of the *SAAD*. These are designed to improve knowledge of the problems which may be identified at the initial stage of implementation and to make it more effective. The first action line is to reinforce communication and cooperation with the autonomous regions; another is to do a pilot assessment of the performance of the system. This will serve as a reference to evaluate the first three years, as provided for by the Law. A special commission will also be created to improve the quality of the *SAAD*. This will analyse the management of the system and check whether it meets efficiency, effectiveness and quality parameters.

The current stage of development and application of the Law is focused on the provision of sufficiently funded and quality services (home help, tele-care, day and night centres, specialised assistance, residential care) and financial benefits.

MEASURES

1. Facilitate institutional coordination by developing the framework of intergovernmental cooperation with the autonomous regions.
2. Promote equal opportunities and equity in the system, guaranteeing care in rural areas to enable people to remain in their local area and creating specific policies that postpone the incorporation of new people into the protection system.
3. Draw up and approve the regulations needed to implement the system, with the support of the SAAD bodies:
   - 3.1 Determining the financial capacity of the beneficiary and the criteria for the share of contributions the beneficiary should make.
   - 3.2 Creating common criteria for registration, to guarantee the quality of centres and services.
   - 3.3 Setting up an intergovernmental cooperation framework for annual funding of the minimum agreed level.
4. Draw up a comprehensive care plan for children under the age of 3 who have serious disabilities, to ensure that care is offered early and they are provided with help for the rehabilitation of their physical, mental and intellectual capacities.
5. Draw up a plan to prevent situations of dependency.
6. Provide the means for the training of family and professional carers under the Law on promoting personal autonomy and care for people in a situation of dependency.
7. Develop the following measures in partnership with NGOs: support programmes for families which include people in a situation of dependency; programmes to improve the quality and number of places for dependent people in residential care homes for the elderly; and programmes for the autonomy and social integration of people with disabilities, particularly those who are in a situation of dependency. The subsidies for NGOs that come from the allocation from Income Tax, will prioritise investment to adapt centres and services to the quality standards demanded for care of people in a situation of dependency and to create new centres and services.

4. OTHER MEASURES RELATIVE TO ACCESS TO ALL THE NECESSARY RESOURCES, RIGHTS AND SERVICES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SOCIETY

- EQUALITY AND HEALTH

1. Widen the list of common services provided under the National Health Service and boost Primary Healthcare.

    1.1 Develop the implementation regulations for updating the list of common services provided under the National Health Service, as established in Royal Decree 1030/2006, dated 15th of September.

    1.2 Provide support to the Autonomous Communities to boost Primary Healthcare through the application of the Strategic Framework for improving Primary Healthcare (Strategy AP-21).

2. Develop measures to promote public health and prevention, as well as initiatives aimed at the protection and promotion of health and the adoption of healthy living habits:

    2.1 Draw up a Law on Public Health.

    2.2 Draw up regular prevention recommendations on vaccines, nutrition, physical exercise, anti-smoking, and prevention of dependence among the elderly.

    2.3 Introduce the nationwide Dental Health Plan, which covers free treatment for all 7 and 8 year-old children.

    2.4 Prevent obesity and promote physical exercise among the child and youth population.

    2.4 Prevent alcohol drinking by under 18-year-old youths.

3. Support initiatives for the implementation of the Mental Health Strategy introduced by the Autonomous Communities and promote research studies and analyses on mental health and drugs.

4. Promote equality in health for the population as whole by developing intervention strategies aimed at reducing existing health inequalities among vulnerable groups, and by developing initiatives on health and migration to achieve equality in health for the Roma population.

5. Analyse health policies and propose initiatives to reduce health inequalities, with emphasis on gender inequalities.

    5.1 Draw up and publish an annual report on Health and Gender.

    5.2 Conduct studies on access and use of the National Health System according to characteristics of the population, socio-economic level, education achievement, disability or restrictions in personal autonomy, immigrant population, etc., with the aim of improving health and access to healthcare services by the most disadvantaged and at risk of social exclusion groups.

5.3 Conduct a study, with organisations of mediators, on the health and assistance needs of men and women who exercise prostitution.

5.4 Assess and boost the common Protocol for healthcare assistance in cases of gender violence.

5.5 Adopt common criteria for basic, specialised and on-going training for National Health System personnel on the subject of equality for men and women and gender violence.

6. Develop concrete initiatives specifically aimed at especially vulnerable groups of the population:

6.1 Intensify the initiatives of the National Plan against HIV/AIDS, especially aimed at persons with risk practices, increasing collaboration with NGOs working in the area of HIV prevention among the most vulnerable groups.

6.2 Introduce the Multi-sectorial Plan against HIV and AIDS Infection, Spain 2008-2015.

6.3 Increase programmes for the prevention, assistance to and re-integration of persons with drug addiction problems, within the National Strategy on Drugs (2000-2008), as well as research and training activities and improving information schemes, and draw up the new National Strategy on Drugs 2009-2016.

6.4 Increase support to NGOs for maintenance of resources for assistance to and socio-labour reintegration of these persons.

- SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Consolidate all citizens' access to basic social services by keeping up the Basic Network of Social Services, through the network of facilities that provides adequate services to cover the emerging social needs, prevents marginalisation and fosters social inclusion.

2. Advance in the set up of the Social Services' User Information System (SIUSS).

3. Develop own projects or jointly with local authorities to implement comprehensive social intervention programmes aimed at eradicating poverty, and comprehensive programmes aimed at persons at risk of social exclusion, as well as other programmes to be implemented in vulnerable rural and urban areas in collaboration with NGOs.

4. Implement the measures of the National Plan on Volunteer Work (2005-2009), as well as volunteer work promotion programmes, in collaboration with NGOs.

5. Design and reach a consensus on a System of Indicators for Primary Care Social Services, which will act as a common reference to be shared by the General Administration of the State, the Autonomous Communities and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces.

6. Increase technical co-operation, within the framework of the programme developed between the General Administration of the State, the Autonomous Communities and local authorities, named Consensual Plan on the Basic Social Services of Local Authorities.

- HOUSING

1. Introduce a new Housing Plan 2009-2012, in co-ordination with and under the joint responsibility of the General Administration of the State, the Autonomous Communities and town/city councils.
2. Promote, through agreements with the Autonomous Communities and financial institutions, policies on subsidised housing aimed at facilitating access to housing for sale or rent.
3. Boost financial support for promoting housing for rent and, in particularly, subsidised housing, and improve arranged financing with the aim of making the operations more viable from a development point of view.
4. Increase the offer of Subsidised Housing, through:
   - 4.1 Foster effectiveness of reservation of land for subsidised housing.
   - 4.2 Use of available public land for building subsidised housing.
   - 4.3 Public housing for rent on municipal land with transfer of right to the land.
5. Improve existing housing, not just confined to restoring houses, but including the restoration of urban areas and the remodelling of deteriorated neighbourhoods with serious accessibility problems, as well as those where low-income persons live, many of whom at serious risk of residential and social exclusion.
6. Subsidise Autonomous Communities and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla for purchasing and restoring housing, as well as remodelling neighbourhoods by restoring historical buildings and central areas.
7. Facilitate access to subsidised housing for purchase through:
   - 7.1 Maintain the State benefits for making the down-payment on a subsidised house for purchase.
   - 7.2 Subsidy for established loans under the conditions set forth in the National Housing Plan.
8. Provide incentives for programmes aimed at setting up or keeping up social integration flats which offer temporary accommodation and support during the socio-labour integration process of these persons, fostering personal development and social skills, in collaboration with NGOs.
9. Collaborate with programmes offering mediation and social support, information and advice on access to housing, as well as others offering mediation with the private sector for access to housing for rent for persons, families or groups at risk or in a situation of social exclusion, in collaboration with NGOs.
10. Provide assistance to disadvantaged persons, through:
    - 10.1 Subsidies for tenants when victims of gender violence or single-parent families.
    - 10.2 Improve access to subsidised housing for women victims of gender violence.
    - 10.3 State benefits for single-parent families and women victims of gender violence for making the down-payment on a house.
    - 10.4 Transfer of subsidised new or second-hand houses for rent to victims of gender violence.

11. Introduce the gender perspective into research studies on the residential conditions of women, with structured and updated information on the main variables according to sub-groups and territorial areas.
12. Set up the Ministry of Housing's Advisory Commission on Equal Opportunities, whose main function will be to offer advice and co-ordination on issues associated with the incorporation of the gender perspective into the policies of the Ministry.
13. Continue to implement the Basic Emancipation Income Programmes for young persons.
14. Eradicate poor housing and shantytowns in co-ordination with town/city councils and the Autonomous Communities.
15. Recover rural centres, through the comprehensive recovery plans, within the framework of the Law on Sustainable Development of Rural Areas, through the Recovery of Abandoned Villages Programme, in collaboration with the Ministries of Education, Social Policy and Sport; Culture; the Environment, and the Rural and Marine Environments, and Science and Innovation.
16. Draw up a basic regulatory framework for urban restoration and renovation.

- JUSTICE

1. Continue to implement measures, introduce services and put forward proposals for improvement aimed at facilitating the exercise of the right to free justice, particularly in areas that affect the most disadvantaged collectives: Penitentiary Guidance and Legal Aid Services, Legal Aid for Abused Women, the Elderly, and Court Protection for Immigrants.
2. Execute the additional measures against gender violence approved in 2007 aimed at promoting sociological and statistical studies, increase resources and public mobilisation.
3. Create a comprehensive judicial records management system (which is to include records of domestic violence, precautionary measures, convicted persons and persons in contempt of court) with a single database in which records are automatically updated, giving rise to improved management and measures as well as more protection for the least protected sections of the population.
4. Approve legal modifications in the area of crimes against the sexual freedom of minors and the disabled.
5. Approve legal modifications in the area of human trafficking for labour and sexual exploitation purposes.
6. Promote the signing and ratification of the European Council Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse.

- INCLUSION IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

1. Implement the Advance Plan through the following measures:

1.1 Inclusion of elderly and disabled persons in the Information Society by granting financial support for developing pilot initiatives and for equipping centres to the needs of these collectives.

1.2 Granting of financial support for developing initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality in the Information Society.

1.3 Drive the promotion of the incorporation and permanence of citizens from rural areas in the Information Society by encouraging the use of new technologies as an ideal means of ensuring their social integration, and promote the measures included in the Advance Plan as possible solutions for improving quality of life and preventing digital exclusion.

1.4 Dissemination and promotion of the Information Society among children and adolescents.

1.5 Boost, through a financing line based on 0% interest loans, the purchase of broadband equipment and connection by the public in general, young people and especially university students.

1.6 Development and use of digital public services, giving rise to improvements to the services provided by the Public Administrations, particularly in rural areas.

1.7 Creation of a favourable environment for the development of the Information Society by extending broadband infrastructure to rural and isolated areas, generating public confidence in the use of new technologies and promoting contents and services.

2. Develop, in collaboration with NGOs, programmes aimed at facilitating access to information and communication technologies to persons excluded or at risk of exclusion.

3. Promote, through collaboration agreements, the development of initiatives aimed at including the public in the Information Society, in collaboration with the Autonomous Communities and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla.

4. Facilitate the necessary investments to extend broadband coverage to rural and isolated areas, in co-operation with the Autonomous Communities and local authorities.

INITIATIVES AIMED AT PERSONS IN HIGHLY VULNERABLE SITUATIONS

- THE ELDERLY

1. Draw up the White Book on Active Ageing to analyse the situation and needs of the elderly.

2. Protect the individual rights of the elderly to ensure effective equality before the law and avoid age discrimination.

3. Develop health programmes aimed at the elderly to prevent disease, promote good health and avoid or delay dependence.

4. Promote the set up and operation of the Observatory on the Elderly and Dependent Persons.

5. Develop, in collaboration with NGOs, programmes providing personal care, night care, family break, family support and adaptation of housing; programmes aimed at promoting and adapting places for highly or severely dependent elderly persons in old people's homes; and day-care programmes.

- THE DISABLED

1. Draw up the III Action Plan for the disabled (2008-2011).
2. Draw up a report on the impact on disabled persons of the draft laws issued by the General Administration of the State.
3. Apply the measures provided in the National Plan on Accessibility (2004-2012).
4. Implement the initiatives provided in the I Action Plan for Disabled Women.
5. Develop initiatives for improving the basic conditions of accessibility and non-discrimination with regard to access to and use of means of transport by disabled persons, as per that established in RD 1544/2007, dated 23rd of November.
6. Collaborate with the Third Sector of Social Action, through:
   - 6.1 Subsidies to NGOs for providing services to dependent persons, through programmes for promoting personal autonomy, programmes for family rest, and programmes for building new facilities and improving the infrastructure of day-care centres, old people's homes and supervised housing.
   - 6.2 Subsidies to NGOs for enhancing information and advice services for families looking after disabled persons, as well as performing social activities aimed at strengthening the Third Sector of Social Action working with disabled persons.

- WOMEN

1. Implement the Integral Law against Gender Violence and the Law on Equality.
2. Continue to launch awareness-raising campaigns on gender violence.
3. Agree with the main media channels the development of good practices on how to convey journalistic information on gender violence.
4. Create a telematic information and advice system for professionals, associations and experts requiring information from the database of the Delegation of the Government on Gender Violence, through the creation of a digital platform.
5. Foster the adoption of equality measures among Small and Medium-sized Companies, through a call for subsidy applications targeted at companies for drawing up and introducing equality plans.
6. In relation to human trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes, draw up a Comprehensive Plan, especially aimed at women and girls, that includes measures on prevention, awareness-raising, education and training, assistance and protection to victims, as well as domestic and international co-ordination and co-operation.

7. Develop, with NGOs, programmes aimed at preventing and eradicating all forms of violence against women: gender violence, violence associated with human trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes (prostitution) and crimes against sexual freedom.

8. Develop, with NGOs, programmes aimed at achieving the social integration of women in a situation or at risk of social exclusion and programmes aimed at encouraging the incorporation of women into the labour market.

- YOUTH

1. Draw up the White Book on Youth in Spain, generating a debate on the role of youth public policies and who intervenes in them, in order to adapt them to the life conditions and expectations of young people.

2. Develop, in collaboration with Autonomous Communities and town/city councils, the Programme on Youth Emancipation, in the area of employment, extending the Network of Youth Emancipation Offices to local areas, with an Information Service on employment, self-employment, official education/training and labour rights, and addressing the elaboration of a Strategic Plan to Create an Entrepreneurial Culture.

3. Develop, in collaboration with Autonomous Communities and town/city councils, the Programme on Youth Emancipation, in the area of housing, with an Information Service on buying and renting a house, co-operatives and financing, and a Youth Housing Service with an offer of houses to rent at below-market prices, through agreements with the owners.

4. Develop comprehensive initiatives with NGOs, aimed at:

   4.1 Helping young persons to emancipate by increasing their personal autonomy and achieving social integration.

   4.2 Promoting co-existence between young men and women through education on values.

   4.3 Contributing to promote young people's social participation and performing leisure activities.

   4.4 Fostering the acquisition of healthy living habits and environmental education.

5. Conduct the study and research activities of the Spanish Youth Observatory.

- CHILDREN

1. Conduct a follow-up and assessment of the execution of the National Strategic Plan on Childhood and Adolescence 2006-2009 and design and approve the new 2010 – 2013 Plan.

2. Develop programmes on protection by the public administrations against child abuse and exploitation, as well as in collaboration with NGOs.

3. Promote the participation of children and develop common strategies through the local authorities and the associative movement aimed at improving the quality of life of children, particularly from rural areas, with emphasis on the social, cultural and environmental scenes.

4. Conduct a follow-up and assessment of the initiatives and measures included in the II National Action Plan against the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents 2006-2009, and design and approve the new 2010 – 2013 Plan.

- FAMILIES

1. Encourage a right balance between work and family life by:
   - 1.1 Increasing and improving the offers quality services for children under three years old.
   - 1.2 Boost measures for extending family-responsible business practices, particularly in relation to flexible working hours and the care needs of children and other relatives.
   - 1.3 Extend from 16 to 18 weeks the length of maternity leave for the birth of the second child in the case of single-parent families, and to 20 weeks as of the third child.
2. Promote the development of support and intervention programmes by the Public Administrations aimed at families in special situations, in collaboration with NGOs.
3. Develop support programmes aimed at families suffering domestic violence.
4. Promote programmes on family guidance, mediation and meeting points offered by the Public Administrations in collaboration with NGOs.
5. Advance in the establishment of quality criteria with regard to family guidance, mediation and meeting points.
6. Recognition of the right to the status of large family for single-parent families with two children, as well as for grandchildren living or depending financially on grandparents when part of a large family.
7. Approval of the Financial Education Plan 2008-2010 aimed at improving the financial culture of citizens, prevent fraud and avoid excessive debt, providing citizens with the tools, skills and knowledge to adopt informed and appropriate financial decisions, by:
   - 7.1 Introducing financial education into the education system and designing specific material and education processes.
   - 7.2 Setting up mechanisms like the Financial Education Portal.

- THE ROMA POPULATION

1. Approve an Action Plan aimed at improving the living conditions of the Roma population, designed with the active participation of the National Council on the Roma People.
2. Develop comprehensive social intervention projects aimed at providing assistance to the Roma people as well as preventing marginalisation and facilitating integration, in collaboration with the Autonomous Communities.
3. Develop initiatives with regard to equal treatment and opportunities, training and interchange of information and good social practices.

4. Develop specific plans for the Roma population by the Autonomous Communities.
5. Develop the functions of the National Council on the Roma People.
6. Create, within the Institute of Roma Culture, a Documentation Centre and a Library on the issues that generally affect minorities and, in particularly, the Roma population.
7. Develop labour and social integration programmes, in collaboration with NGOs.

- SPANISH CITIZENS ABROAD AND RETURNED SPANISH MIGRANTS

1. Guarantee the right to receive the established benefit for reasons of need available to Spanish nationals residing abroad. This benefit covers the following:
   - 1.1 Financial benefit for old age.
   - 1.2 Financial benefit for total disability to work.
   - 1.3 Healthcare.
2. Maintain the financial benefits for Spanish nationals displaced abroad when they were minors as a result of the Civil War.
3. Promote social assistance programmes aimed at situations of special need by providing support to Spanish nationals residing abroad and organisations working for them.
4. Maintain old-age welfare pensions for Spanish nationals returning to Spain from countries whose precarious social protection systems justify the existence of the benefit for reasons of need.
5. Boost social assistance programmes through subsidies to organisations financed through the Personal Income Tax allocation aimed at assistance programmes for returned Spanish nationals.
6. Promote the granting of support aimed at meeting the extraordinary needs of returnees who can provide proof of insufficient means.
7. Foster information, guidance and advice initiatives through programmes aimed at facilitating the integration of Spanish nationals returning to Spain.
8. Maintain the recognition of the right to healthcare with regard to returned Spanish nationals, Spanish pensioners and Spanish self-employed workers residing abroad but in Spain on a temporary basis.
9. Promote initiatives aimed at the labour-market integration of Spanish young persons and women residing abroad and wishing to return, through financial support co-financed by the European Social Fund, developed within the framework of the programmes of the General Directorate for Emigration aimed at young persons and women.

- THE HOMELESS

1. Promote a technical co-operation initiative with the Public Administrations (General, Autonomous Communities and Local), to design intervention strategies targeted to homeless people, on Spanish and European best practice basis.

2. Create a space for debate on this collective, through dialogue with social organisations.
3. Develop programmes aimed at offering medium and long-term shelter and accommodation in centres that include social support activities that go beyond the basic accommodation and maintenance assistance as well as complementary activities or social and labour-market integration measures, in collaboration with NGOs.
4. Subsidise programmes aimed at establishing itinerant multi-disciplinary social assistance teams in the street, in collaboration with NGOs.

- PRISONERS AND EX PRISONERS

1. Develop socio-labour integration programmes aimed at prisoners on day release or conditional release.
2. Co-finance networks of resources aimed at persons subject to security measures, suspension of sentence or conduct rules under the Penal Code for the provision of confinement places for the different programmes and rules: Confinement for treating drug addictions, confinement in special education centres, out-patient treatment of drug addictions or education, training, sexual education, road safety and abuse courses.
3. Promote shelter places for persons on conditional release who do not families to turn to and are suffering from a serious incurable disease as well as places in special education centres for persons on conditional release requiring specific psycho-medical assistance.
4. Implement, in collaboration with NGOs, healthcare and rehabilitation programmes for prisoners with drug addictions, persons suffering from mental disorders and other illnesses as well as AIDS victims.
5. Collaborate with the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces in community work and weekend arrest, as well as develop programmes with NGOs for collaboration in complying with alternative measures to imprisonment.
6. Develop programmes for children and mothers in penitentiary centres: play and education activities for children, early stimulation of children's motor, cognitive, sensorial and emotional development, promotion of mother-child relations and the development of mothers in the family and social environment, and the creation of summer schools to reinforce child education.

5. GOVERNANCE

As on previous occasions, the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion of the Kingdom of Spain 2008-2010 (NAP-Inclusion) has been guided by the principles of the open method of coordination. This flexible working method has once more proved a highly effective tool, given the fact that competences in social policy have been devolved to the different levels of government in Spain, as well as the involvement of various social partners. At the same time progress has been made in applying the guiding principles of governance.

Process of preparation

From the point of view of political leadership, it is the Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport, through the Secretariat of State for Social Policy, Families and Care for Dependency and Disability, that is currently responsible for continuing the process. This was borne of the government's commitment to a new initiative offering a coherent and effective political approach associated with a conceptual model of people's life cycles.

An attempt has therefore been made during the process of drawing up the Plan to maintain a more open working methodology at all times, with more active communication between all the partners involved and the use of simpler language in order to improve awareness and understanding among the general public.

An integrating approach has also been adopted by all administrative levels involved and the other agents, respecting the quality, relevance and effectiveness of the European policy lines, but also taking into account the principles of proportionality and subsidiarity in the design of goals, objectives and measures. Continuity in the use of strategic lines of reference, priority objectives and quantifiable goals facilitates and ensures monitoring and assessment of progress to be made in this new period.

In addition, through the experience acquired since the start of this Strategy on Social Inclusion, and with the aim of ensuring that the actions included in this Plan are effective and useful for its development and application, all the agents involved have assumed a greater degree of responsibility for all the actions within their sphere of competence. This has also helped increase awareness in society as a whole.

The two **work phases**, which have been developed at practically the same time, have been as follows:

a) Monitoring and evaluation of the NAP-Inclusion 2006-2008

- Collection, classification and integration of all the information on actions carried out by all the actors with competence and responsibility in the field of combating social exclusion.

- Submission of the report on the execution of measures in the Plan 2006-2008 to the agents for their comments, corrections and approval if appropriate; and submission of the budget allocated for these measures for 2006 and 2007 for scrutiny.

b) Design and drafting of the NAP-Inclusion 2008-2010

- Analysis of the situation of poverty and social exclusion in Spain to identify the main trends and challenges based on the latest data from the indicators on social inclusion.

- Requesting that all the agents involved agree and determine any new needs that should be translated into measures, as well as agreeing on the budget required for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010, by establishing various institutional mechanisms for horizontal and vertical coordination, led by the Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport.

- Drawing up a draft consultation document for the NAP-Inclusion 2008-2010 and its subsequent submission to all the actors involved for new contributions and comments.

Political coordination

Improved collaboration and participation by the different levels of government has been effected by:

- General State Administration through:

The Interministerial Commission on the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion, made up of representatives from the ministerial departments with competence in social inclusion (the Presidency; Labour and Immigration; Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Justice; Economy and Finance; Interior; Housing, Education, Social Policy and Sport; Public Administrations; Health and Consumer Affairs; the Environment, Rural and Marine Affairs; Equality; Culture; and Industry, Tourism and Trade). They have participated both in the evaluation of the previous NAP-Inclusion and in the drawing up of the present one.

Working meetings have also been held between the Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport and the other ministerial departments involved.

- The autonomous regions and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla, via:

The Special Commission for the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion (created within the Sectoral Conference for Social Affairs), in which there are representatives from the Ministries of Labour and Immigration; Housing; Health and Consumer Affairs; and Education, Social Policy and Sport; the autonomous regions and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla; and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces.

- The local corporations, via:

The Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (*FEMP*), a member of the Special Commission for the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion.

In addition, the Working Group on Indicators for the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion includes representatives from the Ministries involved, the National Statistics Institute (*INE*), the autonomous regions, and the Spanish Federation for Municipalities and Provinces.

Mobilisation and involvement of the actors

As well as the involvement of the different levels of government, the process of drawing up this Plan involved consultation with trade unions and employers' organisations and the Social and Economic Council (*CES*), a number of agencies for political coordination and cooperation, the State Council for Social Action NGOs and the State Council for the Roma Population.

The third sector has participated to a significant extent through the Working Group on Social Inclusion, Employment and Rural Affairs, created within the State Council for Social Action NGOs. It has also participated in the monitoring and evaluation of the previous Plan, and has made proposals during the drafting of the current one.

As a consequence of the above, a seminar was organised to evaluate the NAP-Inclusion 2006-2008 and to make proposals for the NAP-Inclusion 2008-2010. This was based on the available information on the situation of poverty and social exclusion in Spain, and its geographical distribution.

As extra support for this seminar, the Working Group argued that all the NGOs working in the area of social exclusion should be allowed to offer their opinions. An assessment questionnaire was drawn up in which they could make their opinions on the current Plan clear. At the same time they were invited to submit any proposals they would like to include among the measures of the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2008-2010, which was then at the drafting stage. The questionnaire was sent to 500 organisations.

The goal of this process has been to promote participation of social action NGOs in drawing up, monitoring and evaluating the NAP-Inclusion, as proposed in the European Strategy for Social Inclusion.

Since the Lisbon Summit the mobilisation of all the stakeholders to combat exclusion has been one of the fundamental objectives of the European Strategy for Social Inclusion. This action line was reflected in the text of the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2006-2008, in its chapter on governance, which highlighted the importance of collaboration with those affected by situations of social exclusion in the various phases of drafting, monitoring and evaluation.

The participation and effective involvement by the target groups, following the European Commission guidelines, continues to be one of the cornerstones of this Plan and is expressed in the form of workshops, seminars, individual and group meetings, debates and plenary meetings. In general, feedback from all these activities is reflected in the Plan's measures.

Coordination, participation, information and dissemination

The development of the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion will require coordinated action by the stakeholders involved to implement the measures and achieve the objectives outlined in the Plan. This they will do by:

- Drafting a White Paper on extreme poverty.
- Promoting a debate in the Spanish Parliament on social exclusion in Spain and the basic lines of action formulated to tackle this problem.
- Revising and updating the current Social Inclusion Plans of the autonomous regions and cities of Ceuta and Melilla and encouraging the development of Social Inclusion Plans by local corporations.
- Raising awareness, extending knowledge and debating social exclusion with activities designed to make people more aware of the NAP-Inclusion, particularly at a local level.
- Involving those affected by the programmes for social inclusion by organising activities and forums.
- Carrying out studies and research to improve knowledge of situations which may lead to social exclusion.
- Carrying out assessment reports on the execution of the National Plan for Awareness and Prevention of Gender Violence and the Law on Gender Violence.
- Carrying out a seminar on social exclusion in rural areas.
- Continue with the training and professional retraining of civil servants who work in the area of social policy, so that they may obtain a recognised qualification.
- Creating incentives for the participation of enterprises in programmes and actions favouring social inclusion and cohesion, and raising companies' awareness of their social responsibilities.
- Carrying out actions for the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17 October to raise awareness of situations of social exclusion and the need for policies to eradicate it.
- Creation of a Social Inclusion Network:

  The National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) for the European Social Fund (ESF) establishes a set of five priority actions within the ESF Operational Programme 2007-2013 of technical assistance for transnational and interregional cooperation. Priority 5, Technical Assistance, includes the organisation of forums and sector networks, one of which is the Social Inclusion Network, as a priority subject.

The general aim of the Network is to articulate methods of technical cooperation in social inclusion, particularly active social inclusion, which is a core priority for inclusion in the world of work, the exchange of good practices with a particular focus on cooperation between social services and employment public services. Furthermore, the Network will address the analysis of the impact of ESF contributions in improving social inclusion.

It will be formed on a permanent basis by bodies responsible for the management of Community funds and for the social inclusion policies formulated by central government, the autonomous regions, and the European Commission, as well as by non-profit organisations that participate as administrative bodies within the Operational Programme for Combating Discrimination. In addition, the social partners will be invited to form part of the network.

- Promote actions to support the declaration of 2010 as the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion.

  The Year is expected to respond to the expectations of the general public by increasing the political visibility of the social objectives of the European Union. This will allow an evaluation of the various achievements via a more in-depth mutual learning process and the broader participation of stakeholders at national and European level.

  The European Year 2010 should also contribute to the important basic requirement of participation, which is an effective way of tackling the roots of poverty. By making the struggle against poverty and social exclusion the main objective of the European Year 2010, a greater number of stakeholders will be able to participate, expressing their opinions and debating and exchanging specific proposals on the subject. This will help advance the EU social agenda.

Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation of the NAP-Inclusion are carried out according to the territorial division of administrative competences over the various measures which are included in the NAP-Inclusion. This makes the process of supervision and evaluation extremely complex.

The Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport, through the Secretariat of State for Social Policy, Families and Care for Dependency and Disability, acts as a central database for information on the progress and performance of the measures included in the Plan.

The key instrument for this evaluation process is the Working Group on Indicators, made up of experts from the autonomous regions, the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (*FEMP*), the Ministry of Labour and Immigration, the Ministries of Housing, Education, Social Policy and Sport, and Health and Consumer Affairs, and the National Statistics Institute.

The group has been working on the main European and national indicators and the updating of data on social spending, as well as the budget for social inclusion, which will be reflected in this new Plan.

For 2009 and 2010 the group will pay particular attention to specific indicators relating to employment and social inclusion policies within the field of health, and to the impact of immigration on social inclusion. A report will be drafted to support this project, explaining what indicators are used and proposing new indicators for active social inclusion.

As with the previous NAP-Inclusion, a seminar will be held with NGOs to evaluate the results of the current Plan and draw up proposals for the new one.

For the first time, consultation with the social partners has been introduced at the drafting and assessment stage of the Plans.

The Plan is submitted to monitoring and evaluation bodies which include all the stakeholders. These bodies are the following:

- The National Council for Social Action NGOs.
- The Special Commission for the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion, part of the Sectorial Conference for Social Affairs.
- The Interministerial Commission of the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion.

The organisations within the Roma association movement that are in the State Council for the Roma People will also be consulted.

Finally, we should refer to the Spanish Presidency of the European Union in 2010. It is undoubtedly of national importance that all the agents become involved, and it is essential to agree the objectives we aim to achieve during the presidency, thus increasing the degree to which our objectives are in line with the future development of the European Union.

6. INDICATORS

CONTEXT INFORMATION

INDICATORS	Specifications	2005 TOT	2005 M	2005 F	2006 TOT	2006 M	2006 F	2007 TOT	2007 M	2007 F	SOURCE
Income quintile ratio (S80/S20): Ratio of total income received by the 20% of the country's population with the highest income (top quintile) to that received by the 20% of the country's population with the lowest income (lowest quintile).		5,4	-	-	5,3	-	-	-	-	-	ECV, INE
Gini coefficient: Ratio between the cumulative parts of the population distributed according to income and the cumulative parts of total incomes.		31,8	-	-	31,1	-	-	-	-	-	ECV, INE
Regional cohesion: dispersion in regional employment rates: Standard deviation of regional employment rates divided by the weighted national average (age group 16-64 years).		8,6	-	-	7,8	-	-	7,3	-	-	EPA, INE (2º Q)
Life expectancy:	**at birth**	80,3	77,0	83,7	81,1	77,7	84,4	-	-	-	INE.
	at 65 years of age	19,4	17,3	21,3	20,1	17,9	22	-	-	-	
Healthy Life expectancy	**at birth**	-	63,2	63,1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Eurostat
	at 65 years of age	-	9,6	9,1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
At-risk-of-poverty rate anchored at a moment in time x-3. Share of persons aged 0+ with an equivalised disposable income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold calculated in year x-3		19,2	18,1	20,3	17,6	16,5	18,8	-	-	-	ECV, INE
At-risk of poverty rate before social transfers (other than pensions): The share of persons with an equivalised disposable income, before social transfers.	**1. All the incomes are counted as social transfers.**										ECV, INE
	All	38,7	36,5	40,8	38,5	36,2	37,5	-	-	-	
	0-15	31,6	31,9	31,2	29,7	29,5	29,9	-	-	-	
	16 and over	39,9	37,3	42,4	40,2	37,5	42,8	-	-	-	
	16-64	29,4	27,8	31	29,6	27,8	31,4	-	-	-	
	65 and over	83,3	84	82,9	84	84,9	83,3	-	-	-	
	2.Retirement and survivor's pensions are counted as income before transfers and not as social transfers										
	All	24	22,7	25,3	23,9	22,5	25,3	-	-	-	
	0-15	28,6	28,4	28,8	27,8	27,2	28,4	-	-	-	
	16 and over	23,2	21,7	24,7	23,2	21,6	24,7	-	-	-	
	16-64	21	20,2	21,9	20,7	19,8	21,7	-	-	-	
	65 and over	32,2	28,9	34,6	33,5	30,9	35,4	-	-	-	

The data of the Living Conditions Survey (ECV) published in December 2007 refer to the survey conducted in 2006 on household incomes in 2005

PROMOTING ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT

		2005			2006			2007			
EUROPEAN INDICATORS	**Specifications**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**Source**
Long term unemployment rate: Total long-term unemployed population (≥12 months' unemployment) as a proportion of total active population.	***(1)***	2,7%	1,7%	4,0%	2,2%	1,4%	3,3%	2,0%	1,3%	2,9%	EPA, INE (2º Q)
Population living in jobless households: Proportion of people aged 0 to 17 who live in jobless households, expressed as a share of all people in the same age group.	**0 to 17 years**	5,4	-	-	5,1	-	-	5,0	-	-	EPA, INE (2º Q)
Population living in jobless households: Proportion of people aged 18 to 59 who live in jobless households, expressed as a share of all people in the same age group.	**18 to 59 years**	6,7	6,2	7,2	6,3	5,8	6,8	6,0	5,6	6,5	EPA, INE (2º Q)

		2005			2006			2007			
NATIONAL INDICATORS	**Specifications**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**Source**
The unemployment rate is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force. The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed**.**	***(2)***	10,19	7,77	13,64	9,07	6,81	12,22	8,47	6,32	11,39	EPA, INE (2º Q)
Employment promotion in the Public Social Services System		36.377									Report on the of Agreed Plan. MEPSYD

(1) The data about this indicator refered to second quarter of 2008 have been reciently publised (Total 2.2, Males 1.5 and females 3.2).

(2) The data about this indicator refered to second quarter of 2008 have been reciently publised (Total 10.4, Males 9.1 and Females 12,3).

GUARANTEEING A MINIMUM LEVEL OF RESOURCES

EUROPEAN INDICATORS	Specifications	2004 TOT	2004 M	2004 F	2005 TOT	2005 M	2005 F	2006 TOT	2006 M	2006 F	Source
At-risk-of poverty rate before social transfer broken down by age and gender: Share of persons aged 0+ with an equivalised disposable income below 60% of the national equivalised median income.	below 50% of the national equivalised median	12,8	12,5	13,1	12,9	12,5	13,3	13	12,3	13,8	E.C.V. INE
	below 60% of the national equivalised median	**19,9**	**19**	**20,8**	**19,8**	**18,6**	**20,9**	**19,9**	**18,5**	**21,2**	
	number of persons:	8.401.387	3.927.039	4.474.349	8.472.013	3.916.712	4.555.301	8.656.781	3.970.174	4.686.606	
	Less than 17 years	24,5	25,9	23,1	24,4	24,8	24	24,3	23,9	24,8	
	Between 17 and 64 years	16,1	15,4	16,9	16,1	15,2	17	16	15	17	
	65 years and over	29,6	26,7	31,8	29,4	26,4	31,6	30,6	28	32,3	
At-risk-of-poverty rate + Illustrative threshold value: Share of persons aged 0+ with an equivalised disposable income below 60% of the national equivalised median income2. Value of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold (60% median national equivalised income)		**PPC**	**Euros**		**PPC**	**Euros**		**PPC**	**Euros**		E.C.V. INE
	Household with a Single person	7.253,50	6.278,7		7.263,4	6.346,8		7.532,7	6.860,0		
	Household with Two adults with two dependent children	15.232,40	13.185,2		15.253,1	13.328,3		15.818,8	14.406,0		
	60 % Median national Equivalised incomes	7.253,50	6.278,7		7.263,4	6.346,8		7.532,7	6.860,0		
	50 % Median national Equivalised incomes	6.044,6	5.232,2		6.052,8	5.289,0		6.277,3	5.716,7		
Persistent at-risk of poverty rate: Share of persons aged 0+ with an equivalised disposable income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold in the current year and in at least two of the preceding three years.	This indicator will become available as from 2009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E.C.V. INE
Relative median poverty risk gap: Difference between the median equivalised income of persons aged 0+ below the at-risk-of poverty threshold and the threshold itself, expressed as a percentage of the at-risk-of poverty threshold.	**Total**	**24,6**	**25,9**	**23,7**	**25,4**	**27,7**	**24,1**	**26**	**26,5**	**25,5**	E.C.V. INE
	Less than 17 years	24,6	26,4	26	28,9	30,8	27,9	28,2	29,1	27,3	
	Between 17 and 64 years	26,3	26,6	26,5	28,6	29,4	27,7	28,9	28,4	29,1	
	65 years and over	20,5	24	19,7	21,7	22,9	20,3	21,5	23,1	19,3	
Poverty risk by household type: Poverty risk for the total population aged 0+ in the following household types.	**All**	**19,9**	**19**	**20,8**	**19,8**	**18,6**	**20,9**	**19,9**	**18,5**	**21,2**	E.C.V. INE
	Households with no dependent children:										
	All	**18,9**	**16,9**	**20,9**	**18,5**	**16,4**	**20,5**	**18,1**	**15,8**	**20,3**	
	Single person, under 65 years old	23,2	22,8	23,7	19	16,7	22,9	20,3	17,8	24,3	
	Single person, 65 years and over	51,8	38,6	55,4	47,3	32,2	51,6	48,1	33	52,2	
	Single person	38,7	27,5	45,7	34	21,1	43	34,9	22	43,7	
	Two adults, at least one person 65 years and over	29,9	31,2	28,8	29,2	29,4	29	30,2	30,9	29,7	
	Two adults, both under 65 years	12,4	12,8	12,1	10,6	10,3	11	10,3	9,6	10,9	
	Other households	11,3	10,7	11,9	13,5	13,2	13,9	12,2	11,6	12,8	
	Households with dependent children:										
	All	**22,7**	**22,6**	**22,8**	**21,1**	**20,8**	**21,5**	**21,7**	**21,1**	**22,3**	
	Single parent, 1 or more dependent children	40,3	42,2	39,3	36,9	38,5	36,2	37,4	32,7	39,7	
	Two adults, one dependent child	14,4	14,4	14,4	14,2	13,6	14,8	14,8	14,2	15,3	
	Two adults, two dependent children	24,4	24,5	24,2	22,8	23,3	22,4	22,1	22,1	22,1	
	Two adults, three or more dependent children	39	40,6	37,5	34,1	35,5	32,6	41,4	42,1	40,6	
	Other households	21,8	21	22,5	19,3	18,0	20,6	21,2	20,2	22,2	

		2004			2005			2006			
EUROPEAN INDICATORS	**Specifications**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**Source**
Poverty risk by the work intensity of households: Poverty risk for the total population aged 0+ in different work intensity categories and broad household types.	WI=0 (Households with no dependent children)	47,6	-	-	42,7	-	-	44,9	-	-	E.C.V. INE
	0 ≤ WI ≤1 (Households with no dependent children)	14,6	-	-	13,1	-	-	11,4	-	-	
	WI=1 (Households with no dependent children)	7,2	-	-	5,5	-	-	4,3	-	-	
	WI=0 (with dependent children)	67,6	-	-	67,7	-	-	69,5	-	-	
	0 ≤ WI ≤ 0,5 (Households with dependent children)	56,6	-	-	39,8	-	-	46,5	-	-	
	0,5 ≤ WI ≤1 (Households with dependent children)	25,8	-	-	23,7	-	-	24,5	-	-	
	WI =1 (Households with dependent children)	10,7	-	-	9,4	-	-	8,6	-	-	
Poverty risk by most frequent activity status: Poverty risk for the adult population (aged 16 years and over) in the following most frequent activity status groups:	**All**	**19,1**	**17,7**	**20,5**	**19**	**17,4**	**20,4**	**19,1**	**17,5**	**20,7**	E.C.V. INE
	employment	10,8	12,2	8,5	10,4	11,4	8,7	9,8	11,1	7,8	
	retirement;	24,7	26,1	21,8	24,7	25,4	23,2	23,9	26,4	18,9	
	Other inactivity	30,2	27,1	31	27,8	25,5	28,4	29,6	25,2	30,6	
Poverty risk by accommodation tenure status: Share of persons aged 0+ with an equivalised disposable income below 60% of the national equivalised median income.	**All**	**19,9**	**19**	**20,8**	**19,8**	**18,6**	**20,9**	**19,9**	**18,5**	**21,2**	E.C.V. INE
	Owner-occupied or rent free	**18,6**	**17,7**	**19,5**	**18,4**	**17,1**	**19,5**	**18,4**	**17,1**	**19,8**	
	Less than 17 years	21,3	22,5	20	20,4	20,5	20,2	20,7	20,2	21,1	
	Between 17 and 64 years	14,9	14,3	15,6	15	14,2	15,8	14,7	13,8	15,6	
	65 years and over	29,5	26,9	31,4	29,2	26,3	31,4	30,5	27,8	32,4	
	Rented	**30,5**	**29,3**	**31,6**	**32,1**	**31,1**	**33,1**	**32,8**	**31,3**	**34,2**	
	Less than 17 years	46,7	49,9	43,6	50,7	55,1	46,5	51,3	53,7	49,2	
	Between 17 and 64 years	25,5	23,9	27,1	25,9	23,8	28,1	26,9	24,9	29	
	65 years and over	31,7	24,7	36	32,6	28,7	34,9	33,3	29,8	35,3	
Dispersion around the at-risk-of-poverty threshold: Share of persons aged 0+ with an equivalised disposable income below 40%, 50% and 70% of the national equivalised median income.	**40% of the median**	**7,4**	**7,2**	**7,5**	**7,8**	**7,7**	**7,8**	**7,6**	**7,3**	**8**	E.C.V. INE
	Less than 17 years	9,8	10,4	9,2	10,6	11,1	10	10,5	10,7	10,4	
	Between 17 and 64 years	6,6	6,3	7	7,1	6,9	7,2	6,9	6,3	7,4	
	65 years and over	7,7	7,4	7,9	7,4	7,3	7,6	7,4	7,3	7,6	
	50% of the median	**12,8**	**12,5**	**13,1**	**12,9**	**12,5**	**13,3**	**13**	**12,3**	**13,8**	
	Less than 17 years	16,4	17,6	15,2	16,1	16,5	15,6	16,7	16,7	16,8	
	Between 17 and 64 years	10,6	10,2	11,1	10,8	10,3	11,3	10,6	9,9	11,3	
	65 years and over	17,2	16,4	17,7	18,1	17,8	18,3	18,8	18	19,4	
	70% of the median	**27,4**	**26,3**	**28,5**	**27,3**	**25,7**	**28,9**	**27,5**	**25,8**	**29,1**	
	Less than 17 years	33,6	35	32,2	33,8	33,8	33,8	32,7	32,1	33,2	
	Between 17 and 64 years	22,7	21,7	23,6	22,7	21,4	23,9	22,3	21,1	23,5	
	65 years and over	39	36	41,3	39	35,4	41,7	42,7	39,9	44,8	

		2004			2005			2006			
NATIONAL INDICATORS	**Specifications**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**Source**
Number of persons receiving welfare benefits, broken down by main minimum benefit (annual average)	Top-ups to minimum contributory pensions	2.217.513	-	-	2.198.194	847.294	1.350.771	2.206.935	848.672	1.358.079	MTIN as of 31 December
	Non-contributory pensions	488.472	130.855	356.428	484.508	138.309	344.877	481.764	136.033	344.501	MTIN AEL
	SOVI pensions	349.550	-	-	367.640	-	-	435.152	70.159	364.962	MTIN, AEL
	Welfare pensions for the elderly and infirm	38.628	6.527	32.045	33.101	5.497	27.574	27.857	4.554	23.289	MTIN, AEL
	LISMI minimum income guarantee payments	49.878	4.970	44.907	43.537	4.141	39.396	38.246	3.471	34.775	MTIN AEL
	Non-contributory benefit for dependent children	694.075	-	-	682.904	-	-	656.682	-	-	MTIN, AEL
	Active jobseeker's income	39.253	10.288	28.965	49.666	12.023	37.643	51.346	11.583	39.763	MTIN, AEL
	Welfare unemployment benefit (includes agricultural workers' income but not agricultural workers' subsidies)	352.952	168.999	183.953	352.051	163.167	188.884	353.907	157.806	196.101	MTIN, AEL
Spending on minimum welfare benefits	Spending on means-tested financial social benefits (€ m)	12.579,5	-	-	13.823,6	-	-	15.013,7	-	-	INE; ESSPROS
	Percentage of GDP	1,50%	-	-	1,52%	-	-	1,53%	-	-	
Poverty rate of persons below 15% national equivalized income	% population	1,5	1,6	1,4	1,6	1,6	1,6	1,6	1,6	1,6	ECV
Number of persons receiving minimum jobseeker's income		96.899	-	-	100.835	32.475	68.440	102.662	30.888	71.774	MEPSYD: data from auton. regions
Spending on minimum jobseeker's income		328.488.529			364.395.918			368.516.581			MEPSYD: data from auton. regions

EDUCACION WITH EQUITY

EUROPEAN INDICATORS	Specifications	2005 TOT	2005 M	2005 F	2006 TOT	2006 M	2006 F	2007 TOT	2007 M	2007 F	Source
Early school leavers not in education or training: Share of persons aged 18 to 24 who have only lower secondary education and have not received education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey.		30,8	36,4	25,0	29,9	35,8	23,8	31,0	36,1	25,6	EPA, INE. (2º Q)
Persons with low educational attainment:: Share of the adult population (aged 25 years and over) whose highest level of education or training is ISCED 0, 1 or 2.	25-64	50,3	50,5	50,0	49,5	50,0	48,9	48,3	48,6	47,9	EPA, INE (2º Q)
	25-34	35,7	40,5	30,6	35,0	40,2	29,4	34,4	39,4	29,1	
	35-44	45,3	46,5	44,1	44,7	46,6	42,7	42,7	44,0	41,3	
	45-54	57,7	55,5	60,0	56,7	54,5	58,9	55,7	54,0	57,4	
	55-64	72,5	68,2	76,6	71,3	66,6	75,7	69,7	64,9	74,3	
Low reading literacy performance of pupils: Share of 15 years old pupils who are at level 1 or below of the PISA combined reading literacy scale.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	PISA

NATIONAL INDICATORS	Specifications	2004/05 TOT	2004/05 M	2004/05 F	2005/06 TOT	2005/06 M	2005/06 F	2006/07 TOT	2006/07 M	2006/07 F	Source
Rate of adequacy: Proportion of students in given age group matriculated in the year corresponding to their age, by gender.	12 años	84,3	81,6	87,2	84,2	81,5	87,1	84,1	81,5	86,8	MEPSYD: non-university studies statistics.
	14 años	68,8	63,1	74,8	66	60,2	72,2	66,5	61,2	72,2	
	15 años	58,4	52,2	64,9	57,7	51,5	64,1	57,4	51,4	63,8	

NATIONAL INDICATORS	Specifications	2005 TOT	2005 M	2005 F	2006 TOT	2006 M	2006 F	2007 TOT	2007 M	2007 F	Source
Percentage of young people aged 22 years having enrolled at secondary education attainment level.		89,8			86,5			84,8			EPA, INE. (4º Q)
Youth education attainment level: percentage of young people aged 20-24 years having attained at least upper secondary education attainment level, i.e. with an education level ISCED 3a, 3b or 3c long minimum (numerator). The denominator consists of the total population of the same age group.		61,8			61,6			61,1			EPA, INE. (2º Q)
Life-long learning: indicator refers to persons aged 25 to 64 who answered they received education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey (numerator). The denominator consists of the total population of the same age group.		10,5			10,4			10,4			EPA, INE. (2º Q)
Share of children aged 2 who have received education.		28,1			29,9			31,2 (1)			MEPSYD
Share of children aged 3 who have received education.		94,6			96,2			96,8 (1)			MEPSYD
Share of persons aged 30 to 64 who receive education or trainig to the employment.		10,5			10,4			10,4			MEPSYD. EUROSTAT
Spending per student in public centres (OECD methodology, euros)	Primary education	5230	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Education spending statistic. MEPSYD
	Secondary education	7052	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Spending: Public education spending as % of GDP	Primary education	1,09			-			-			Education spending statistic. MEPSYD
	Secondary education	1,67			-			-			
	Total	4,23			4,27 (1)			4,32 (2)			

(1) Provisional data
(2) Estimated data

SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF IMMIGRANTS

		2005			2006			2007			
EUROPEAN INDICATORS	**Specifications**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**Source**
Nº. of foreing workers in the social security system		1.461.140	892.807	568.315	1.822.406	1.108.432	713.962	1.981.106	1.202.759	778.338	MTIN (AEL).
Expenditure on Immigrant care programs		269.256.088			353.141.948			441.140.183			MEPSYD and auton. Regions

		2004/05			2005/06			2006/2007			
NATIONAL INDICATORS	**Specifications**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**Source**
Percentage of non national students	Infant Education	6,1	6,1	6,1	6,4	6,4	6,4	6,7	6,7	6,7	MEPSYD: non-university studies statistics.
	Primary Education	8,1	8	8	9,2	9,2	9,2	10,3	10,3	10,4	
	ESO	6,7	6,7	6,8	8	7,9	8	9,2	9,2	9,3	

OTHER MEASURES GIVING UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO RESOURCES

		2004			2005			2006			
NATIONAL INDICATORS	**Specifications**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**Source**
Pencetage of population covered by public health insurance		-	-	-	-	-	-	99,7	-	-	MHCA ENS
AIDS rate per million inhabitants		47,1	-	-	40	-	-	35,6	-	-	MHCA National AIDS Registry
Total Public Health Expenditure (% GPD)		5,8			5,8			6			MHCA
Number of users of the public netwok of primary healthcare social service	Number	4.285.399	-	-	4.641.446	-	-	-	-	-	MEPSYD. Report on Agreed Plan
	% population	10,70	-	-	11,56	-	-	-	-	-	
Spending on acces to housing		1.161,78	-	-	1.562,88	-	-	2.052,39	-	-	Housing ministry and auton. Regions

		2004			2005			2006			
NATIONAL INDICATORS	**Specifications**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**TOT**	**M**	**F**	**Source**
Percentage of households with internet access		34,0			36			39			INE: TIC-H
Spending on programs for people with disabilities		1.234.461.953			1.368.500.398			1.799.892.148			MEPSYD and auton. Regions
Reported cases of ill treatment of women by spouse (exhusband, partner boyfriend, exboyfriend)		57.527			59.758			62.170			Institute for Women's Affairs using data from Interior Ministry
Delinquent Minors: Prosecution proceedings instituted against minors.		-	-	-	30.932	-	-	33.681	-	-	Annual report of the State Prosecution Service
Numbers of protecction measures for minors : New protecction measures (guardianship, residential and family fostering).	**Guardianship**	5.784	-	-	6.510	-	-	7.508	-	-	MEPSYD: Basic child protection statistics. GD of Families and Childhood, based on data from autonomous regions
	Residential fostering	8.958	-	-	9.285	-	-	10.621	-	-	
	Family fostering	3.306	-	-	3.269	-	-	2.364	-	-	
Spending on family social programs		1.157.192.563			1.321.516.655			1.445.327.144			MEPSYD and auton. Regions
Number of people on Gypsy Development programs	**Integrated Gypsy care programmes**	96.803	-	-	131.812	-	-	-	-	-	MEPSYD and auton. Regions
Spending on programs for spanish gypsy population	**All programmes for Gypsies**	45.711.346			46.634.111			33.270.455			MEPSYD and auton. Regions
Spending on programs for emigrants who return.		55.681.644			89.770.300			129.782.750			MEPSYD and auton. Regions

AEL: Annual Employment Statistics Report
ECV: Living Conditions Survey
EPA: Economically Active Population Survey
ESSPROS: European System of Integrated Social Protection Statis
INE: National Statistics Institute
INEM: National Employment Institute
LISMI: Law on the social integration of people with disabilities
MEPSYD: Ministry of Education, Social policy and Sports.
MHCA: Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs
MTIN: Ministry of Labour and Inmigration
OECD: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PISA: Programme for International Student Assessment (OECD)
PPS: Purchasing power standard
SOVI: Former old-age and disability insurance (now defunct)
TIC-H: Survey of information and communication technologies in the home

7. ESTIMATE OF BUDGETARY EFFORT

Joint Budgetary Estimates 2008-2010 of Public Administrations. 2007 Base.				
	NAPin 2008-2010	**2007 (BASE)**	**NAPin 2008-2010**	**Average Accum. Increase NAP 2008-2010 compared with 2007 (%)**
Priority Objectives	Access to employment	**2.023.529.931**	**6.753.995.828**	**6,3%**
	Guarantee minimun resources	**14.339.476.072**	**48.555.587.575**	**6,0%**
	Equitable and quality education	**3.661.354.434**	**13.926.904.242**	**9,2%**
	Social integration of immigrants	**441.140.183**	**1.342.718.750**	**0,7%**
	Equitable care for people in a situation of dependency (*)	**245.360.000**	**1.909.443.038**	**42,6%**
Other measures to access to all the necessary resources, rights and services	Health	**941.975.352**	**3.078.534.380**	**3,5%**
	Social Services	**1.032.365.104**	**3.544.461.460**	**5,2%**
	Housing (**)	**512.397.793**	**1.942.343.037**	**12,6%**
	Justice	**31.430.496**	**94.239.390**	**0,0%**
	Inclusion in the information society	**83.528.260**	**256.352.543**	**1,2%**
	The elderly	**1.824.783.101**	**5.864.502.129**	**2,7%**
	People with disabilities	**1.623.546.717**	**5.231.518.824**	**3,1%**
	Women	**119.921.207**	**382.520.302**	**2,9%**
	Young people (**)	**1.630.022.305**	**6.069.787.865**	**11,2%**
	Children	**325.701.284**	**1.044.905.262**	**2,9%**
	Family support measures	**1.369.612.904**	**4.393.509.539**	**3,0%**
	Spanish Roma population	**12.714.022**	**39.479.826**	**1,5%**
	Spanish Emigrants	**144.062.730**	**453.131.571**	**2,9%**
	The homeless	**32.839.279**	**106.998.509**	**3,4%**
	Inmates and formes inmates	**39.101.986**	**115.575.523**	**0,2%**
Governance		**28.594.936**	**86.057.745**	**-0,1%**
	Total	**30.463.458.093**	**105.192.567.338**	**6,5%**

'* Year 2010, according to budgetary report of Law 39/2006 of 14 December, on the promotion of personal autonomy and care people in a situation of dependency. Estimation for people over 65 under the poverty risk threshold.

(**) 75% of total expenditure on Housing is assigned to Young people