



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Annual work programme for the implementation of the "Preparatory action - Child Guarantee Scheme/Establishing A European child guarantee and financial support", for 2017

[Commission Decision C(2017)5615 of 16 August 2017]

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ANNEX

1.1. INTRODUCTION

On the basis of the objectives given in the legal basis mentioned under the different appropriations, this work programme contains the action to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2017 as follows:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">– for grants (implemented under direct management) (1.2.): N/A– for prizes (implemented under direct management (1.3.) N/A– for procurement (implemented under direct management) (1.4): EUR 2.000.000– for actions implemented under [insert management] modes (1.5): N/A– for financial instruments (implemented under indirect management) (1.6): N/A– for other actions (1.7): N/A |
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Any action under this work programme shall respect and shall be implemented in line with the rights and principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

1.2. GRANTS

N/A

1.3. PRIZES

N/A

1.4. PROCUREMENT

Budget line:	04 03 77 25 "Preparatory action – Child Guarantee Scheme / Establishing A European child guarantee and financial support"
Legal Basis:	Preparatory Action within the meaning of Article 54(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1).

1.4.1. Study on Child Guarantee Scheme (2017_04.037725_2)

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged:

This Preparatory Action on establishing a possible Child Guarantee Scheme will try to lay down an implementing framework that is in accordance with the 2013 Commission Recommendation on Investing in Children¹, while also taking into account other more recent initiatives in the social policy field such as the European Pillar of Social Rights². Indeed, principle 11 of the Pillar is devoted to the right to affordable early childhood education and care of good quality, the right to protection from poverty and the right of disadvantaged children to specific measures to enhance equal opportunities, which are all relevant elements in this context.

This action will be used to explore the feasibility and the conditions of such a guarantee scheme, notably by focussing the analysis on four specific groups of vulnerable children that are known to be particularly at risk: (i) children in precarious family situations³, (ii) children residing in institutions, (iii) children of recent migrants and refugees, and (iv) disabled children and other children with special needs.

These groups are singled out because they present the most urgent acute needs and, consequently, they are those for which the idea of a child guarantee has the higher potential in improving their current situation.

It is expected that the possible answers and solutions that one might be able to identify through this preparatory action for this limited group of children can be generalised to all children in the European Union.

Although the focus of the action is on learning from 4 specifically vulnerable target groups identified above, the action will also take into account the general poverty and inequality context, and more specifically the impact of parents' joblessness or low-work intensity situation as an important risk factor for children and families' poverty. It will also examine the feasibility of the so-called comprehensive or integrated approach whose ultimate aim would be to provide a child care guarantee to all children. An example of such a policy to be analysed is the "Kein Kind Zuruecklassen" programme of North Rhine Westphalia (DE)⁴.

¹ **Commission Recommendation 2013/112/EU, of 20 February 2013, "Investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage"**.

²https://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/deeper-and-fairer-economic-and-monetary-union/european-pillar-social-rights/european-pillar-social-rights-20-principles_en#chapter-iii-social-protection-and-inclusion

³ The precariousness may capture different realities such as, for instance, single parenthood or because the phenomenon of children being "left behind" by parents working elsewhere in the European Union and raised by other family members.

⁴<http://www.kein-kind-zuruecklassen.de>

Objectives and main features of the action:

The general aim of this preparatory action is to provide analysis on the feasibility and possible design, governance, and implementation options of a possible future Child Guarantee Scheme, and whether such a scheme would bring added value compared to the current situation.

In particular it will analyse (i) the current state of play, gaps and overlaps with existing policy instruments (national and EU level) with regard to the access of the 4 target groups to the components of the child guarantee as it was originally formulated by the European Parliament in its request to the Commission (i.e., adequate nutrition, decent and safe housing, health care, childcare and education), (ii) the overall feasibility, including assessment of costs of implementation options and possible additional administrative burden, and enforceability of those components, and (iii) the concrete actions which could be undertaken by Member States.

This first part of the action will consist of a mapping study based on independent research work. Notably, this study will be fed through the consultation of relevant stakeholders and the input provided by the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC)⁵. The latter are the first guardians of the children's rights in the Member States.

The study will also build on the conclusions drawn from the four thematic fact-finding workshops (see below, as regards the second part of the action). The final results will be presented in a closing conference at EU-level (see below as regards the second part of the action).

The foreseen contract aims principally at ensuring the drafting and delivery of the commissioned study.

To this objective, the contract will also cover the following aspects of the action: (i) managing the consultation of stakeholders and ENOC, (ii) helping the Commission in identifying, and ensuring the participation of, the relevant speakers and stakeholders both for each of the workshops and for the closing conference, (iii) preparing discussion papers for each of the thematic/regional fact-finding workshops, (iv) drafting the final reports of each of those workshops, and (v) preparing the inception report and the final report on the closing EU-level conference.

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL

Number of contracts: 1 Direct

Type of procurement: Service

Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

⁵ <http://enoc.eu/>

Date	Amount
2017-Q4	EUR 1.200.000

1.4.2. Workshops and conferences: Child Guarantee Scheme (2017_04.037725_4)

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged:

This Preparatory Action on establishing a possible Child Guarantee Scheme will be used to explore the feasibility and the conditions of such a guarantee scheme, notably by focussing the analysis on four specific groups of vulnerable children that are known to be particularly at risk: (i) children in precarious family situations, (ii) children residing in institutions, (iii) children of recent migrants and refugees, and (iv) disabled children and other children with special needs.

These groups are singled out because they present the most urgent acute needs and, consequently, they are those for which such a child guarantee has the higher potential in improving their current situation.

It is expected that the possible answers and solutions that one might be able to identify through this preparatory action for this limited group of children can be generalised to all children in the European Union.

Objectives and main features of the actions:

The second part of the action will be based on (i) the organisation of four thematic workshops to be held in a region of the EU particularly affected by the topic to be discussed, organised along the study in order to serve as input to it, and (ii) a closing conference at EU-level at the end of the analysis process in order to allow for the presentation of the results of the study and to seek for the initial reactions to its findings.

For each of the four thematic workshops and the closing EU-level conference, two contracts, under existing framework contracts of DG EMPL, are foreseen for the organisation, logistics and travel cost. Therefore, this action will generate ten contracts.

Implementation: Directly by DG EMPL (in direct management).

Number of contracts: 10 specific contracts based on existing framework contracts

Type of procurement: Service Indicative timetable and indicative amount:

Date	Amount
2018-Q2	EUR 800.000