Social and Employment Services: we don't know each other, but we share a responsibility and need to foster cooperation

Peer Review on "Way to work – strengthening the links between active labour market policy measures and social support"

Vilnius, Lithuania, 11-12 June 2018

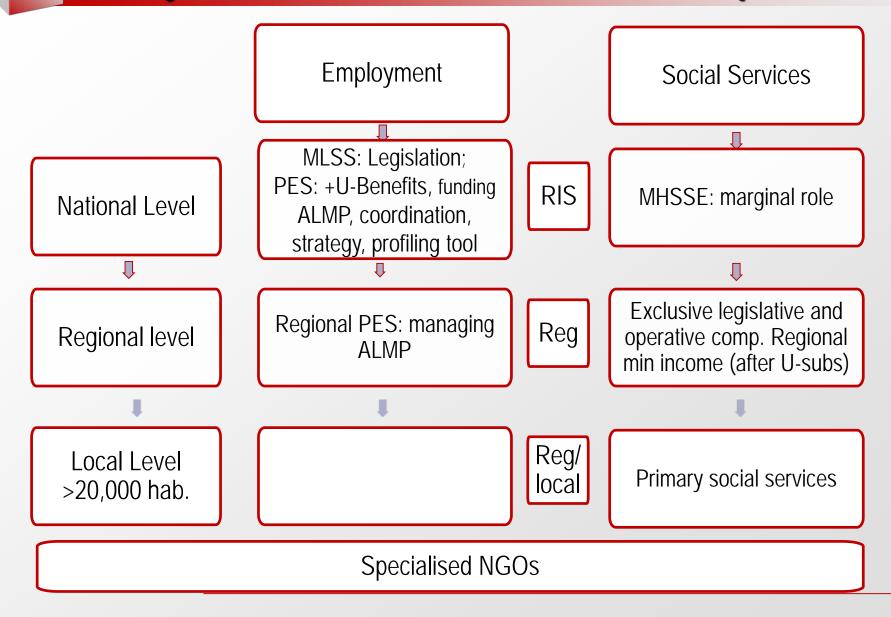
Elvira González Gago Research4Consulting

Labour market context and trends



Faces of joblessness: 13 groups, 45% of which with +3 barriers

Policy context: territorial distribution of competences



Comparative examples of policies

- National Network of Social Inclusion (RIS): Co-funded with ESF in 2010, jointly managed by MLSS and MHSSE.
 - Objective: promote coordination between employment and social services
 - Composition: national and the regional ministries for employment and social services, social partners, municipalities and large NGOs
 - Activities:
 - knowledge exchange among its members and analysis of good practices;
 - joint capacity building for professionals of both services to improve mutual knowledge, common understanding and language;
 - analysis of information systems of employment and social services to ease /improve their connection;
 - analysis of transitions to employment by minimum income recipients;
 - thematic studies about issues related to poverty and employment.

Comparative examples of policies

RIS: 1. Conceptual model for integrated provision of services



RIS: 3. Methodology for coordination protocol

RIS: 2. Model of integrated pathway



Comparative examples of policies

- 2. 2011 Basque country reform of management of regional minimum income.
 - transferring the management of the regional minimum income from the local social services -with no/little employment activation approach- to the regional PES (Lanbide):
 - to centralize former local management in a regional body and ease monitoring (single information system)
 - to reduce administrative burden in social services management of the minimum income (carried out by high professionals)
 - to improve employment support to recipients and adapt ALMP
 - Employment incentives designed
 - Coordination protocols between social services and Lanbide
 - Severe implementation problems
 - HUGE political quarrel, deficient public communication
 - Cost-benefit effective reform and increased transition rate to employment

Challenges

- The professionals of the two fields speak **different languages** and they **do not know each other**, in particular, they often do not know the resources and measures available in the other department
- Statistical and administrative information produced in the two fields is rarely shared and insufficient knowledge of the regulatory requirements for personal data protection
- Different position of employment and social policies, which is a barrier for peer to peer coordination
- Only rarely is coordination planned, assessing explicitly the time, budget and capacities needed for it.
- Sound monitoring and evaluation of coordination is only very timidly being introduced in some regions

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION! elvira.gonzalez@research4consulting.eu