



Strengthening governance arrangements to deliver for children and young people in Ireland



International workshop



Monday 6 November 2023
9.00 am–12.15 pm Dublin time

Via Zoom

REGISTER

Background

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) are providing technical support to Ireland's Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) to review and implement measures to strengthen policy and governance arrangements for tackling child poverty and improving outcomes for children and young people.

In the context of this project, a virtual workshop is organised to share good practices from Finland, New Zealand and Spain to inform ongoing discussions and reform initiatives to strengthen: (i) evidence-informed approaches; (ii) promote inter-departmental and inter-agency cooperation; and (iii) reinforce accountability mechanisms and policy monitoring tools in Ireland's child and youth sector.

This project is particularly timely for Ireland, given the significant refresh and evolution of its governance structures including the forthcoming publication of a new National Framework on Children and Young People and the establishment of a Programme Office on Child Poverty and Child-wellbeing in the Department of the Taoiseach [Prime Minister].

Objective

The workshop will bring together relevant Irish stakeholders and peers from EU/OECD countries to discuss practices to strengthen policy and governance arrangements, notably to support the effective implementation of the European Child Guarantee and YOUNG Ireland, the country's new policy framework focused on children and young people. The discussions will feed into a report with policy recommendations, in response to the findings of opportunities and barriers identified in the OECD Diagnostic Report "Towards a New Governance Framework for Children and Young People in Ireland".

Participants

The workshop will bring together policy makers and experts from selected EU/OECD countries as well as a range of stakeholders from Ireland, including from DCEDIY, other departments and relevant agencies.

Format

The workshop will take place via Zoom. Please register by Monday, 30 October, via the following link.

[REGISTER](#)



Agenda

The agenda below is in GMT+1 / Dublin time (Paris: +1h; Madrid: +1h; Helsinki: +2h; Wellington: +11h).

Moderator: **Ollin Pérez-Raynaud**, Policy Analyst, OECD Public Governance Directorate

09:00 – 09:15

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

- **Bridget Wilson**, Head of Child Rights Policy Unit, DCEDIY
- **Elisa Gomez Aleman**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support, European Commission

09:15 – 09:45

NEW ZEALAND: CHILD WELLBEING AND POVERTY REDUCTION GROUP

Ms. Hannah Kerr from New Zealand will provide insights on the country's governance approaches to deliver for children and young people, particularly under the framework of the National Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. She will share good practices on how to promote whole-of-government commitment to deliver for children and young people by placing the child and youth policy agenda at the centre of government. Further, examples will be discussed on building governance capacities to deliver for vulnerable children and young people through strengthening existing participation tools, building capacities in the public sector to engage with children from vulnerable backgrounds, and reinforcing accountability mechanisms.

- **Hannah Kerr**, Director of the Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

09:45 – 10:15

FINLAND: NATIONAL CHILD STRATEGY OF FINLAND

Ms. Emmi Pakkala from Finland will offer insights into their country's strategies for advancing the wellbeing of children and young people, including the National Child Strategy and the European Child Guarantee National Action Plan. The session will provide an opportunity to learn from Finland's experiences regarding driving intergovernmental co-ordination. Further, learnings from monitoring and evaluation of the National Child Strategy will be discussed, including strengthening accountability to children, communicating and outreaching to key stakeholders effectively, and building capacities to use evidence to inform policymaking and service delivery.

- **Emmi Pakkala**, Senior Specialist, National Child Strategy Unit, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health



10:15 – 10:45

SPAIN: STATE STRATEGY FOR THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS (2023 -2030) AND YOUTH STRATEGY 2030

Mr. Antonio Lizcano Palomares from Spain will present experiences and learnings from the development, adoption and implementation of the State Strategy for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (2023 -2030) and the Youth Strategy 2030. Practices discussed include inter-territorial coordination mechanisms, methods to strengthen child and youth participation in policy processes, and tools to coordinate data sharing across relevant government bodies.

- **Antonio Lizcano Palomares**, Head of area of International Affairs, Deputy Secretariat, Ministry of Social Rights and Agenda 2030

10:45 – 11:00

VIRTUAL COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 12:00

OECD PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

The OECD will briefly present recommendations informed by findings from the Diagnostic Report "Assessment of the governance frameworks to implement child and youth policies", taking into consideration good practices from peers and broader OECD analytical frameworks and recommendations. This session will serve to workshop recommendations and support the identification of priority areas to inform the preparation of a Proposed Action Plan (Activity 2.3).

- **Moritz Ader**, Policy Analyst / Programme Manager, Governance Reviews and Partnerships, OECD Public Governance Directorate
- **Adam Ostry**, Senior International Consultant and former Head of Unit, Public Governance Reviews, OECD Public Governance Directorate

Discussion and Q&A

12:00 – 12:15

CONCLUSIONS

- **Moritz Ader**, Policy Analyst / Programme Manager, OECD Public Governance Directorate
- **Anna Visser**, Head of the Child Poverty and Wellbeing Programme Office, Department of Taoiseach

