Terms of Reference for Expert Advisory Board

As part of Eurochild and Terre des Hommes new programme “Shaping tomorrow’s child protection services with children”

Name of the project: Daphne-CHILD: Shaping tomorrow’s child protection services with children
Partners: Eurochild and Terre des Hommes
Funder: EU Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme
Duration: May 2024 - April 2027

Role of the Expert Advisory Board in the Daphne-CHILD programme
In the Daphne-CHILD, Eurochild and Terre des Hommes (TdH) are embarking on a 3-year sub-granting and capacity building programme to help grassroots civil society organisations (CSOs) address violence against children.

The programme takes place in 8 countries (Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, and Spain) and we aim to sub-grant €1.3 million Euro across its lifecycle. The learning and activities of the programme will be shared with national and European decision-makers to inform the EU’s efforts around developing more integrated child protection systems. Children’s meaningful participation is core to our programme. Each project selected will incorporate children’s views in the design and delivery of activities. The programme’s approach and vision are outlined here.

The ambition of Eurochild-TdH’s Daphne-CHILD programme is three-fold:
1. to address violence against children and young people in 8 European countries across, by funding interventions that can improve children’s lives;
2. to develop capacities of local CSOs working at local level in 8 countries in the area of violence against children and young people, and to create a cross-country learning network for these organisations for peer exchange and mutual learning;
3. to inform wider regional work at European level (EU, Council of Europe etc.) in the area of addressing violence against children across its many forms - both direct and/or indirect, and day-to-day and/or systemic, drawing on lived experiences and practice-examples supported by the programme.
To support Eurochild and TdH ensure a transparent and accountable sub-granting programme, we are establishing an Expert Advisory Board, consisting of: (a) the Eurochild-TdH Project Management Office (PMO) staff; and (b) 3 to 4 external advisors from the Eurochild network\(^1\) to guide our eventual selection of sub-grantee projects.

National Focal Point organisations (NFPs) across each country where the programme is active have also been established. Their role is to assist in the disseminating of the call at country level in English and native languages to help share the opportunity for sub-granting with grassroots CSOs leveraging on NFPs’ existing networks and knowledge of national civil society.

The role of the Expert Advisory Board in the Daphne-CHILD programme is to assess and select sub-grantee projects to receive funding of up to €30,000 Euro for 1-2 year project periods. Once selected, Expert Advisory Board members will be invited to participate in capacity building activities delivered as part of the programme, including capacity building webinars, knowledge exchange sessions, and a final in-person event planned to conclude the project and share key learnings. Participation is optional.

**Tasks of the Expert Advisory Board**

Members of the Expert Advisory Board will be tasked with participating in the sub-grantee selection process from start to finish. Specifically, this will involve:

- Reviewing and sharing feedback on the draft Operational Manual for sub-granting, prepared by Eurochild.
- Depending on experience, participating in the online training on child participation and safeguarding in assessment, provided by the Eurochild Child Participation team.
- Assessing, together with fellow members of the Expert Advisory Board, received applications for sub-grantee projects, on an agreed assessment tool, and coordinating through email exchange.
- Participating in an in-person meeting in Brussels in January 2025 for selection of sub-grantee projects.
- Liaising with the Daphne-CHILD PMO (Eurochild-TdH project teams) around the finalisation of assessments and next steps relating to the sub-granting of projects.
- Participating in 2 to 4 online meetings in addition to the above activities, if needed. These may take place with the Expert Advisory Board, directly with the PMO, or related to the programme’s evaluation.

In addition to these tasks, members of the Expert Advisory Board may also join any capacity building activities organised throughout the Daphne-CHILD programme. This can include:

- capacity building webinars;
- knowledge exchange sessions;
- final in-person event planned to conclude the project and share key learnings.

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\(^1\) The Eurochild network here refers to Eurochild’s 200+ members, as well as affiliated allies and experts who have worked alongside our efforts to promote and protect children’s rights across Europe and beyond.
Expected profile of members of the Expert Advisory Board
Candidates interested in participating in the Expert Advisory Board should possess the following:

- Demonstrable expertise in any or multiple of the below fields:
  - children’s participation,
  - violence against children,
  - child protection,
  - sub-granting and/or capacity building for CSOs.

- Regional experience of violence against children in a European context, particularly in the countries where the Daphne-CHILD takes place. A cross-European perspective is also highly welcomed.

- Availability to undertake the tasks, as set out above, and to be able to commit the time required (see Conditions of involvement below).

- A clear understanding of the work of Eurochild and/or Terre des Hommes, and our approach to working to fulfil, promote, and protect the rights of children.

With appropriate safeguarding in place through Eurochild’s child participation and safeguarding team, we aim to invite a representative from Eurochild Children’s Council to participate in the Expert Advisory Board.

Conditions of involvement

- A total of €2,000 Euro will be paid to external experts participating in the Expert Advisory Board to remunerate their contribution to the programme. This fee is anticipated to indicatively cover 4 working days over the course of the sub-granting selection process, set out under the Tasks of the Expert Advisory Board above.

- Experts are also invited to participate in all capacity-building activities of the programme, as an additional benefit to their involvement. Participation is optional.

- Eurochild will reimburse travel and accommodation costs for external experts of the Expert Advisory Board to participate in in-person activities of the programme, namely the assessment meeting in January 2025, and should experts wish to, the final learning event in April 2027.

Given the transformative nature of this programme, Eurochild and TdH hope that experts will find participating in the Expert Advisory Board to be professionally enriching and of added value, with an opportunity to inform and shape European-level policy development in the field of child protection and addressing violence against children, as part of the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child (Thematic Area 3: Combating violence against children and ensuring child protection).

As experts engaged in the programme, the Expert Advisory Board will be recognised clearly for their contribution by Eurochild and TdH in outputs related to the Daphne-CHILD programme.
To apply
Interested experts are invited to submit an expression of interest in the form of a Curriculum Vitae and an accompanying 1-page cover letter to Agata.daddato@eurochild.org. The expression should clearly set out how the candidate meets the outlined profile for the Expert Advisory Board. **Deadline: Friday 28 June 2024.**

Upon a successful application, members of the Expert Advisory Board will sign with Eurochild a **Letter of Intent**, to formalise their contribution to the Daphne-CHILD programme.

Additional inquiries can be sent to agata.daddato@eurochild.org.