

Italy - 2024 Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee

This overview highlights extracted from the first Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee in Italy. It is not exhaustive nor does it evaluate the report.

Roll-out of key services

Early childhood education and care: The 2021-2025 Multi-Year Action Plan of the Ministry of Education funds regional projects on construction, renovations, safety, and energy-saving in public buildings. The Plan also aims to reduce operational costs and enhance services, alongside training for staff.

Education and school-based activities: Investments focus on structural upgrades and human capital development, targeting regional inequalities. The *South Agenda* aims at tackling school dropout rates in more than 2,000 schools.

Healthy meal each school day: In 2022, the Food Bank distributed 110,000 tons of food to 1,750,000 people.

Healthcare: Initiatives focus on gender-specific medicine, disability inclusion, family health services, and early childhood development, including a focus on the first 1000 days of the child's life.

Adequate housing: The *Housing Plan* supports housing initiatives across unoccupied public properties.

Social inclusion and family support: Activities include integrating Romani, Sinti, and Traveller children through multifunctional services and enhancing social inclusion, such as the *Care Leavers project*. The *Intervention Program for Prevention of Institutionalisation* under the *2021-2023 National Plan for Social Interventions* innovates family support practices to prevent family separation.

Resources

- [Full Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee](#)
- [Italy Child Guarantee National Action Plan - An overview](#)

Monitoring and Evaluation

The *Youth Advisory Board* supports the planning and monitoring of the National Action Plan. Technical support is also provided by *UNICEF Istituto degli Innocenti* and *ISTAT*.

Funding to implement the Child Guarantee

The report includes a detailed overview of the funding for each service, as well as the number of projects. It also covers whether the funding is managed by the regions, the States, or the municipalities.

Target groups

The target groups have been listed in the National Action Plan and [Eurochild's overview](#).

Lessons learnt and further development

The implementation of the Plan aims at developing interventions, enhancing existing actions, and fostering innovation. Proposals to strengthen the Plan include establishing permanent psychosocial health teams in schools to support students and families in remote areas.

Relevant trends

- In 2021, Central and Northeast Italy saw about 36% of children participating in ECEC, while the Northwest is at 31.5%. The South and islands lagged significantly at 16% and 16.6%.
- In 2021, 4.9% of children lived in families facing economic hardship affecting food purchases, peaking at 7% in the South and lower at 1.3% in the Center.
- In 2021, 2.5% of children have not access to a daily protein-rich meal due to financial constraints.
- In 2021, 6.2% of children experiencing food deprivation in the North, 2.5% in the Center, and 7.6% in the South. Single-parent families notably record higher deprivation rates at 7.7%, compared to 4.7% in two-parent households.
- In 2021, 8% of families with children cannot afford adequate home heating, 5% do not have access to the internet, and 23% cannot replace worn out furniture. Among AROPE children, these figures rise significantly to 33% for heating, 35% for internet, and nearly 90% for furniture replacement.