Austria - Child Guarantee National Action Plan Overview

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This overview presents highlights extracted from the National Action Plan (NAP) from Austria published in 2023. It is not exhaustive nor does it evaluate the NAP and uses the same terms as those in the NAP. It is intended to summarise key elements & to signpost stakeholders to other relevant analyses.

Children in need	
Children and young people affected by poverty and/or social exclusion	22%
Children and young people with disabilities	1.4% of which 42.3% are AROPE
Children and young people in alternative forms of care	0.6% in social-educational instutitons attend full education 0.3% in foster carers/families attend full education
Children in challenging family circumstances	7% of which 53% are AROPE live in single-parent households 28% of which 34% are AROPE live in large families 43 000 children are accounted as young carers
Children in homeless or housing problems circumstances	0.1% are registered as homeless 4.4% are affected by severe housing deprivation
Children and their health	10% did not receive treatment within 12 months altough they would have needed it 21% suffer from obesity

Planned key services and actions*

ECEC: Additional funding to expand coverage, adopt flexible opening hours, strengthen staff's skills (inc. inclusive teaching skills), promote inclusion (e.g. multilingual kindergartens, integrative groups for children with special needs, interdisciplinary cooperation), standardize provision of service.

Inclusive Education and School-Based Activities: Education Package for sustainable acquisition of skills (new curricula, revision of skills assessment, new obligation to complete compulsory education), address drop-out of education or training, improve educational and career guidance, barrier-free extracurricular youth work (e.g. Kultur:Bildung), comprehensive and interdisciplinary culture of prevention, increase school support staff

One healthy meal each school day: inclusion of the "School Cafeteria Guideline" and the School Catering Checklist, "Healthy eating from the start" overview, introduction of the "Food literacy and consumer education" in the curricula

Healthy Nutrition: REVAN programme (e.g. promotion of breastfeeding), Quality Standards for Catering in Kindergartens,

Healthcare: "specialist doctor initiative" for understaffed specialist subjects, Target-based Health Governance & Austrian Healthcare Structure Plan to strengthen and further develop child and adolescent psychiatric care and networks, Parent-Child Health Passport

Adequate housing: housing law reform to foster and create greater social equality in the housing sector, study to determine the number of children affected by homelessness, eviction prevention

Designated Funding

State budget (Federal Government, Provinces, Municipalities) EC Technical Support Instrument (TSI) European Fund for Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) European Social Fund (ESF+)

Stakeholder Engagement

Entities tasked with NAP preparation:

- Federal Government,
- Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection,
- Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
- Federal Chancellery, Family and Youth Section

Procedure for stakeholder engagement:

- call issued to other federal ministries, Austrian Federal Provinces, social partner institutions, Umbrella Organisation of Austrian Social Insurance Institutions, major umbrella organisations of entities active in the scope of the ECG, numerous civil society organisations active in children's rights and the Austrian National Youth Council
- Two day conference in cooperation with UNICEF Austria
- 3. Findings integrated in the preparation
- Looking forward: will consider proposals generated by the multistakeholder dialogue held with UNICEF Austria, e.g. Sounding under the Austrian Children's Rights Board

Eurochild resources

 <u>Data Care Country</u> Overview

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Austrian Federal Statistical Office submitted proposals for relevant national data on which to base detailed statistical monitoring of the implementation process. Were addressed:

- Identification of the most important national data sources in relation to the six key services
- Developing input for operational monitoring
- Annual interim reports to be submitted to the European Commission starting in 2024
- Identification of long-term, explorative ideas for improving Child Guarantee-related monitoring up to 2030

Read the full NAP



*The NAP is organised around the six key of the ECG. Each chapter outlines Austria's current situation, existing programs, vulnerable groups, identified challenges, and targeted measures to achieve the Guarantee's objectives by 2030.

