

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

This summary provides key highlights from the first Biennial report on the Child Guarantee implementation in Hungary. It is not exhaustive or evaluative.

Roll-out of key services

Early childhood education and care: Efforts to promote access to services for children at risk of poverty and in deprived areas continue. However, digital initiatives such as *OkosÓvoda 2.0* and the *Kortárs Netmentor Programme* were not launched in 2023 due to restructuring and funding gaps.

Education and school-based activities: In the 2021/22 school year, 120,000 digital notebooks were distributed, with an additional 140,000 distributed in 2023. Five pilot schools were selected for reorganisation during 2023/2024 school year, aiming to improve educational opportunities, particularly for disadvantaged students. An *Early Warning System* has been introduced to identify pupils at risk of dropping out and to provide personalised support to students.

Healthy meal provision: Free or subsidised meals are provided on each school day in kindergartens, including during school holidays for disadvantaged children.

Healthcare: A new draft law has been proposed to establish a national network of health promotion offices. Programmes to reduce substance abuse are ongoing. However, due to delays in adopting horizontal eligibility criteria, the launch of an EU-funded programme aimed at providing basic mental health training for teachers remains uncertain.

Adequate housing: Programmes target children aged 0-14 living in the most disadvantaged communities, supporting the production and use of renewable energy in these areas and supporting the improvement of housing conditions.

Alternative care: Support is provided to foster families through a centralised foster parent training programme.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Hungary follows the EU monitoring framework of the European Child Guarantee. The expert working group of the Guarantee comprises representatives from the relevant departments of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Culture and Innovation, and the Ministry of Energy.

Funding to implement the Child Guarantee

The implementation of the NAP is supported by the national budget, as well as by the *European Social Fund+*, the *Recovery and Resilience Plan* and the *Human Resources Development Operational Programme Plus*.

Target groups

The target groups have been listed in the National Action Plan and Eurochild's overview.

Lessons learnt and further development

Given that the implementation of the NAP is currently at an initial stage and the actions to be financed by EU funds have mostly not yet been launched, it is not possible to establish the exact number of children covered by the NAP. There is an ongoing or planned budget or legislative reforms to combat child poverty. The NAP has not been amended. Its planned review could be scheduled following the completion of the first government report in 2025, if necessary.

Relevant trends

- AROPE children account for 2.4% of children under three in early childhood education and care in 2022 and 2023.
- In the 2023/2024 school year, 59.38% of children received free or subsidised meals. 61.2% of children in foster care in 2021 were children with disabilities.
- From 2010 to 2019, approximately 1,500 suicide attempts under 18 years of age were committed each year.
- Less than 70% of children and students with special educational needs are receiving inclusive public education services.

Resources

- [Full Biennial Report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee](#)
- [Hungary's Child Guarantee National Action Plan – An overview – Eurochild](#)
- [Eurochild Hungary Country Profile 2024](#)