

**Enhancing
child well-being
in Greece**

**OECD Policy Workshop
ENCHANCING CHILD WELL-BEING :
FROM ENDS TO MEANS ?**

Paris, 16th January 2019

The real Welfare state in Greece until 2015

Low budget for Social Assistance

- Greece : 2,2% GDP
 - Greece : 0,4% GDP (family benefits)
- EU average 4,1%
EU average 2,1%

Source: World Bank (2016) *2nd Social Welfare Review*

Lack of a structured System

- Constellation of Private & Public Institutions, NGOs etc :
Unchartered and without common functioning principals
- Fragmented benefits and social programs by various entities (central authorities, regional authorities, municipalities etc)
- Lack of safety net for the poor
- Bureaucracy, corruption, political clientelism

2013 : the crisis' peak

GDP : Loss of 27% ⁽¹⁾

Unemployment : 27,5 %

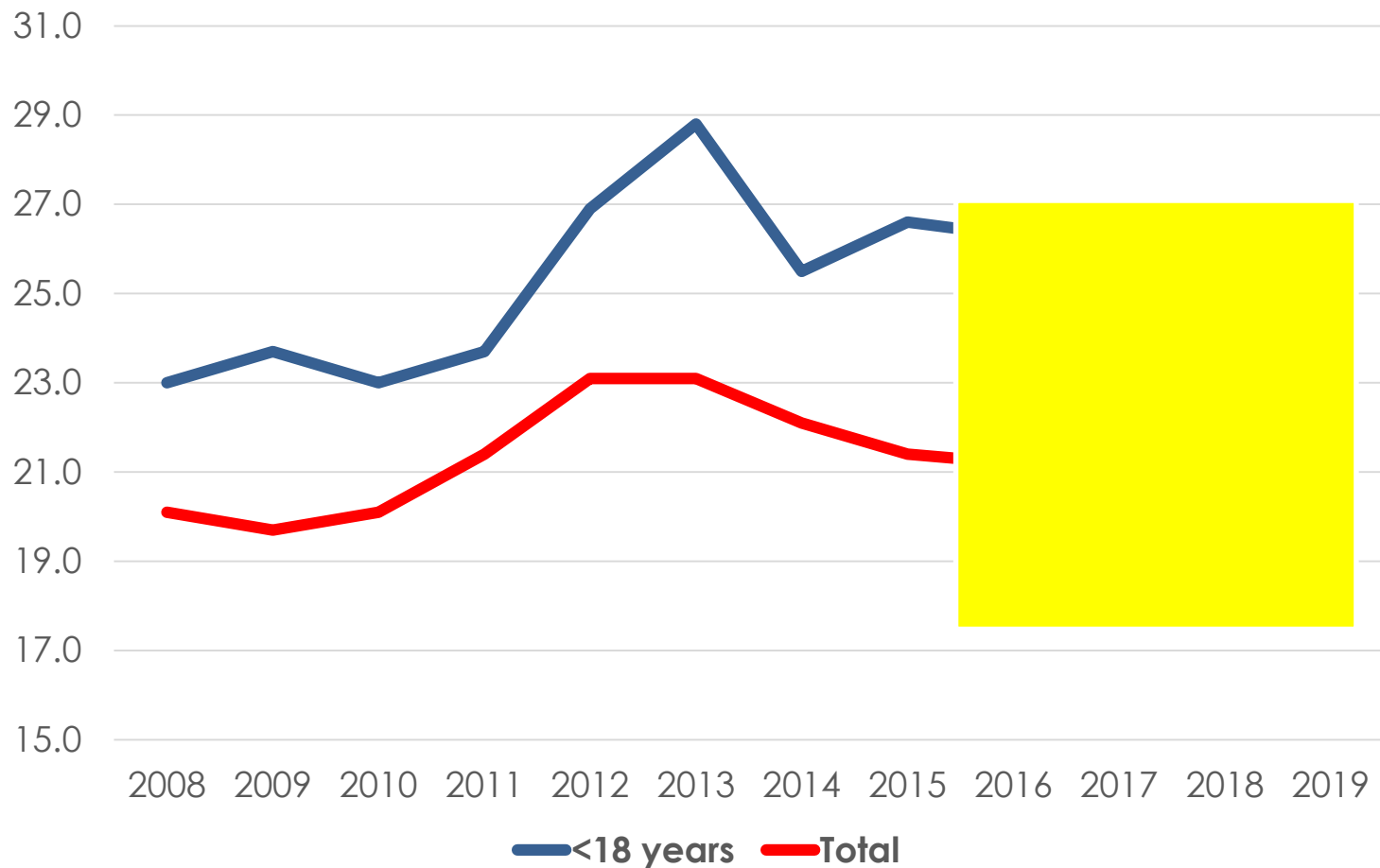
Youth Unemployment : 56,1 %

AROPE : 35,7 %

... and of course

¹ Hellenic Republic (2018) *Greece, A Growth Strategy for the Future*

Children face higher poverty rates than total population



Fighting acute humanitarian crisis and poverty



**Against
Humanitarian Crisis
Measures
2015**

**Free transportation
for the unemployed
2015**

**Free access in
Public Health System
2016**



**Social
Solidarity Income
2017**



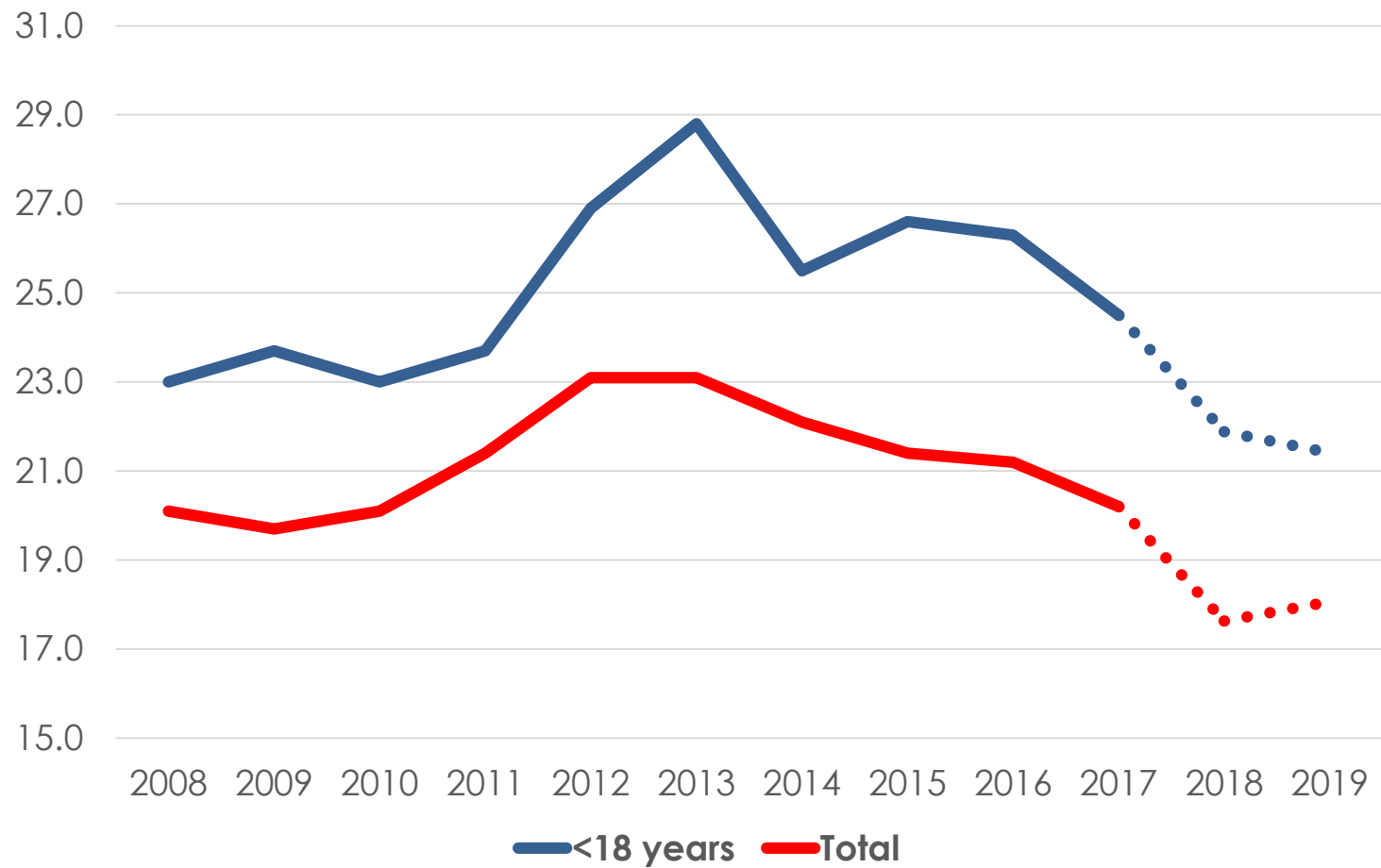
**School Meals
2017**



**Social Divident
2017 & 2018**

New children poverty rates

Better than before the crisis!



Marginal effects of some reforms on child poverty

- ✓ **Tax credit (2016): - 0.79%**
- ✓ **Social Solidarity Income (2017): - 2.53%**
- ✓ **Child benefit reform (2018): - 1.54%**

Enhancing child well - being

Daily hot school meals (brand new program)

- ✓ 2017–2018 : 30.000 (pilot)
- ✓ 2018–2019 : 153.000 with a budget of 64,3 mn

Child benefit (ex "family benefit", completely reformed)

- ✓ 2014–2017 : 775.000 families with a budget of 650 mn
- ✓ 2018–2019 : 900.000 families approx., budget 961 mn

Nurseries – free vouchers

- ✓ 2014–2015 : 79.000 in 3.279 units
- ✓ 2018–2019 : 127.000 in 4.630 units

Plus

- ✓ adding 100 Family Support Units (funded by EC Structural Funds) to the network of 240 Community Centers
- ✓ a new legislative framework for Foster Care and Adoption

...as integral part of broader policies

Unemployment : 27,5%  10 / 2018
18,6%

Youth Unemployment : 56,1%  38,5%

AROPE : 35,7%  12 / 2017
34,8%
constantly moving
downwards



MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SOCIAL SECURITY & SOCIAL SOLIDARITY
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Thank you very much for your attention
on behalf of the two Ministries

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Note : after current slide, there is a bonus slide describing
the new Social Protection system which is already operative



THE CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM

NATIONAL MECHANISM

OPEKA
Unified Welfare Benefits Authority

GIS INTERGRATED SYSTEM / JOINT INDICATORS

Beneficiaries | Bodies/Entities | Programs

REGISTRIES

Directorate of Social Inclusion and Social Solidarity of MoLSS&SS

13 Regional Observatories



Family Benefits

Disability Benefits and other Welfare Benefits (in cash & in kind)

Social Solidarity Income (SSI)

Monitoring

240 COMMUNITY CENTERS

9 REGIONAL DIRECTORATES

UNIFIED ELECTRONIC PAYMENT & EVALUATION AUTHORITY FOR SOCIAL WELFARE BENEFITS