

OECD Assessment of Governance Frameworks to Implement Child and Youth Policies in Ireland

Presentation of draft findings &
Discussion on effective
implementation
of new Framework structures

Wednesday 7 June 2023

9.30 am – 12.30 pm

Town Hall, Block 1, Miesian Plaza

About the OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that works to build better policies for better lives. Our goal is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all. We draw on 60 years of experience and insights to better prepare the world of tomorrow.

Together with governments, policy makers and citizens, we work on establishing evidence-based international standards and finding solutions to a range of social, economic and environmental challenges. From improving economic performance and creating jobs to fostering strong education and fighting international tax evasion, we provide a unique forum and knowledge hub for data and analysis, exchange of experiences, best-practice sharing, and advice on public policies and international standard-setting.

About the Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support of the European Commission

The Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM) helps EU countries to design and implement reforms as part of their efforts to support job creation and sustainable growth. DG REFORM coordinates and provides tailor-made technical support to EU Member States, in cooperation with the relevant Commission services. The support is primarily provided through the Technical Support Instrument (TSI). The goal is to support Member States' efforts to design and implement resilience enhancing reforms, thereby contributing to the EU's recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, improving the quality of public services and getting back on the path of sustainable and inclusive growth.

Objective of the workshop

Through the project "Towards a new governance framework for children and youth policies in Ireland", the OECD has been assisting the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) since September 2022 in reviewing and implementing measures to strengthen current policy and governance arrangements for tackling child poverty and improving outcomes for children and young people.

This project was designed in the context of the launch of Ireland's National Action Plan for the European Child Guarantee, and the extensive work to design Ireland's new Framework for Children and Young People. With the new Framework expected to be launched in the coming weeks, the project will inform the effective implementation of the new governance structures.

The workshop will gather key stakeholders from various units in DCEDIY, government departments, agencies and DG Reform and to discuss the OECD Draft Diagnostic Report "Assessment of the governance frameworks to implement child and youth policies in Ireland" (Activity 1.4). The feedback gathered during the workshop will inform work on the final version of the assessment.

The draft report is informed by the insights from 30+ interviews conducted by the OECD with key stakeholders focused on children and young people in Ireland, including representatives from different Departments and government agencies, ombudspersons, special rapporteurs and local stakeholders. The interviews were conducted during an in-person mission to Dublin in November 2022 and through virtual meetings between November 2022 and May 2023. The draft report also includes insights from an interactive workshop with civil society organisations involved in the implementation of BOBF 2014-20, which was organised on 9 November 2022 in Dublin, as well as replies by DCEDIY to an OECD policy questionnaire.

The action is funded by the European Union via the Technical Support Instrument, and implemented by the OECD, in cooperation with the Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support of the European Commission.



Agenda

09:30-09:45

OPENING REMARKS

Representatives from DCEDIY, DG Reform and OECD will deliver brief opening remarks to recall the strategic objectives of this project and work conducted since September 2022 to set the scene for the presentation of the OECD Draft Diagnostic Report.

- **Mr Bryan Patten**, Head of EU & International Unit, DCEDIY
- **Ms Elisa Gomez Aleman**, Policy Officer, DG REFORM, European Commission
- **Ms Tatyana Teplova**, Head of Division, Policy Coherence for SDGs, Senior Counsellor, Gender, Justice and Inclusiveness, OECD

09:45-10:00

UPDATE ON THE NEW POLICY FRAMEWORK

Representatives from DCEDIY will provide an update on their work developing the new Policy Framework. Particular focus will be given to the proposed Governance structures that will accompany the Policy Framework.

- **Ms Bridget Wilson**, Head of Child Rights Policy Unit, DCEDIY

10:00-12:20

OECD DIAGNOSTIC REPORT: PRESENTATION OF DRAFT FINDINGS

The OECD will present the draft findings of the OECD Diagnostic Report "Assessment of Governance Frameworks to Implement Child and Youth Policies in Ireland". For each of the thematic areas covered, the OECD will briefly present its preliminary findings, followed by a roundtable discussion to gather feedback from participants on the (i) validity and completeness, (ii) relevance and (iii) implications of the findings for the planned governance structures for the new Policy Framework.

- Delivering better policy outcomes for children and young people

Coffee Break (15 minutes)

- Strengthening evidence-based approaches
- Encouraging inter-departmental and inter-agency coordination
- Reinforcing accountability

12:20-12:30

THE WAY FORWARD

The session will conclude the workshop with a summary of the main outcomes of the discussion. It will also briefly discuss the way forward, notably forthcoming work on a report with actionable recommendations to address the implementation challenges identified (Output 2).

- **Mr Moritz Ader**, Policy Analyst / Project Manager, Youth Empowerment and Intergenerational Justice Unit, OECD
- **Mr Bryan Patten**, Head of EU & International Unit, DCEDIY

