

Modernising Social Services in Spain

Designing a New National Framework

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OECD report and working papers



Project objectives

- Diagnostic assessment on the situation of social services and social service information systems in Spain;
- Recommendations on the legal framework for social services.

Project outcomes

- *Modernising social services report*
- Working papers on the information system for social services in Spain and on EU good practices



Funding for social services in Spain is lower than EU average and regional differences are important

- Most autonomous communities have increased per-capita spending on primary social services since 2012, but...
 - regional variations in funding remain important, with implications for service provision
 - in-kind social expenditures are lower than in many other EU countries, and a higher share of services are means-tested
 - long-term care services are usually the most important budget items.



Consolidate the right to social services

A national law to regulate minimum standards and guarantee equal access

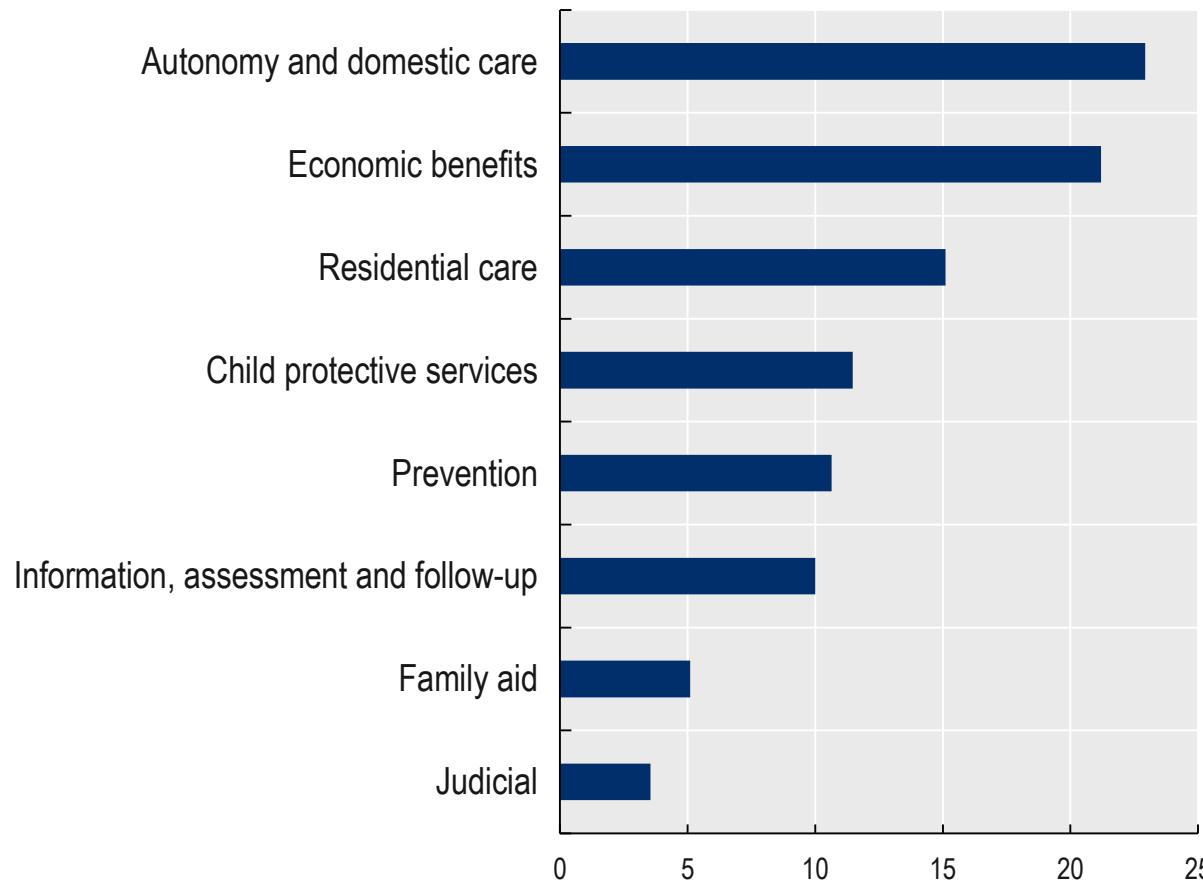
- could define a basic common catalogue or a list of needs
- needs to be developed by consensus
- should be coupled with measures on inter-regional transferability of rights.

A stronger role for the Interterritorial Council on Social Services could be an avenue for the future.



Reconsider the service offer

Service areas most frequently mentioned in the catalogues (in %)



With changing social needs, the service offer should be reconsidered, such as by strengthening prevention, legal support and family services

Consider a stronger role for the central government in financing service improvements.



Strengthen social services IT systems

Currently, there are many different social services IT systems that have limited interoperability. As a result:

- Information about social service provision is limited and not fully comparable
- Difficulties in exchanging individual-level data represent a serious barrier to more integrated service provision.

A new information system for social services could improve the quality of information about social services provision throughout Spain.



Improve service quality holistically

A new national law needs to be supported by other **initiatives to further strengthen the quality** of social services:

- Decreasing social services professionals' workload
- Integrating primary and specialised social and other sectors' services more closely
- Strengthening monitoring and evaluation for more evidence-based policy making.

THANK YOU

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