

Garantia para a Infância



BIENNIAL REPORT

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NATIONAL COORDINATION
CHILD GUARANTEE

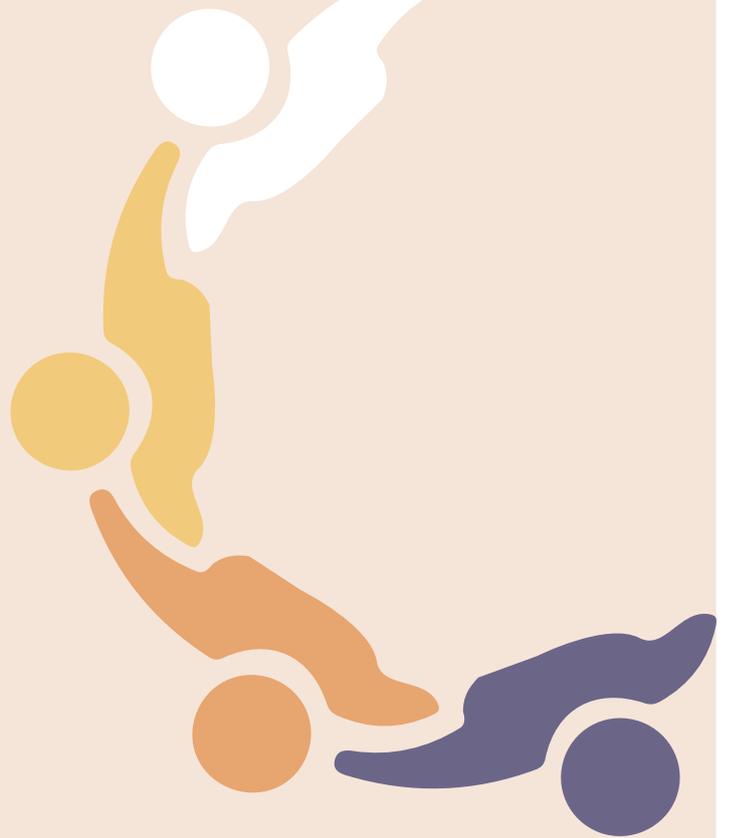


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1. BACKGROUND

The Council Recommendation (EU) 2021/1004 of 14 June 2021 establishing a European Child Guarantee has implied and calls for the construction and deepening of a framework of national policies to combat poverty and social exclusion of children and young people, aiming to break the intergenerational cycles of poverty, inequality and disadvantage, reduce the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and, more recently, face the energy crisis caused by the war in Ukraine, as well as the rise in prices due to the inflationary economic scenario, undeniably affecting the quality of life of the populations. To these impacts were also added the international effects of the Middle East War.

To address these impacts and mitigate the effects of inflation, the Portuguese Government approved in September 2022 a package of extraordinary measures to support family income, *Famílias Primeiro* (Families First), in order to mitigate the effects of rising prices of essential goods. In line with the objectives of the Child Guarantee, we highlight the exceptional income support of EUR 125 per adult for families with incomes of up to EUR 2700/month; the exceptional support of EUR 50 per dependent child and young person up to the age of 24; the limitation of rent updating to the inflation benchmark (5,4%); the limitation (0%) of the increase in urban transport and train passes; the VAT reduction on electricity from 13% to 6%; the permission to the transition to the regulated gas market and the extension of the tax reduction on petroleum products of EUR 0,30/L of total fuel reduction.

Within the scope of a more transversal national framework to combat poverty, we highlight the approval, in October 2023, of the 1st Action Plan of the National Strategy to Combat Poverty in Portugal 2021-2025 (PAENCP - Plano de Ação da Estratégia Nacional de Combate à Pobreza em Portugal), contemplating more than 270 measures to be developed, organised by six strategic axes, with the first axis aiming to reduce poverty among children, young people and their families.

It is in this context, both international and national, that the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI - Plano de Ação da Garantia para a Infância) brings

together and establishes an integrated framework of public policies aimed at combating poverty and social exclusion of children and young people and guarantees the progressive implementation of the European Recommendation, ensuring the access of children and young people in poverty to a set of essential services. With this aim in mind, and in view of the objective of lifting 161.000 children out of the risk of poverty or social exclusion by 2030, the implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) is fundamental also within the scope of the development and fulfilment of the National Strategy to Combat Poverty 2021-2030 (ENCP - Estratégia Nacional de Combate à Pobreza), while contributing to the achievement of the goals of the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan.

The structure of the Child Guarantee in Portugal is based on a specific governance model, which includes 4 action levels:

- The political coordination (Level I) is ensured by the Government member responsible for the Labour, Solidarity and Social Security area.
- The implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (Level II) are ensured by the National Coordinator of the Child Guarantee (CNGPI - Coordenadora Nacional da Garantia para a Infância), currently assisted by a technical team of 7 members, in close coordination with the Technical Monitoring Committee (CTAGI - Comissão Técnica de Acompanhamento), which includes elements designated by the ministers responsible for the different areas with more direct responsibilities in the implementation of policy and intervention measures aimed at children and young people in vulnerable situations, namely Social Security, Health, Education, Housing, Justice and Migration.

In this context, we highlight the recent adaptation of the Technical Monitoring Committee (CTAGI) composition (Ministerial Order no. 11656/2023 of 17 November), which now includes representatives from the government areas of Youth and Sports and Culture, due to the importance that these areas assume in achieving the objectives of the Child Guarantee. In terms of operationalisation (Level III), the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030)

calls for multi-level intervention, through approaches at national, regional and local levels. At the local level, the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) is underpinned by an integrated social intervention model that, within the scope of the Social Network Programme, aims to strengthen a local and close approach to situations of poverty and social exclusion of children and young people, in order to promote an adaptation of the intervention to the various specificities and territorial contexts, through the implementation of Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI - Núcleos Locais da Garantia para a Infância) at the municipal/local level.

This highlights the crucial role that the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI) play in mobilising the competent local authorities and the necessary resources to ensure the access of children and young people in vulnerable situations to the essential services recommended by the European Recommendation.

Throughout 2023, the National Coordinator of the Child Guarantee (CNGPI) has actively disseminated the Child Guarantee Action Plan at the regional level, through the formalisation of commitment memoranda for the implementation of Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI) with Intermunicipal Communities (CIM- Comunidades Intermunicipais) (Annex I) and, at the local level, through the formalisation of Protocols with the Social Action Local Councils (CLAS- Conselhos Locais de Ação Social) (Annex II) with the aim of creating and implementing the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI) in all municipalities of the country. In this vein, since January 2023, presentations concerning the Child Guarantee have been carried out across the national territory, which have resulted so far in the formalisation of commitment memoranda with 2 Intermunicipal Communities (CIM) and the constitution of 64 Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI), which include 616 representatives from local authorities of various sectoral and intervention areas. At the level of the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI) already established in the country, the development of their work is ongoing, in coordination with the National Coordinator of the Child Guarantee (CNGPI) with the aim of preparing social diagnoses and local social development plans on the child poverty phenomenon, promoting the consolidation of an integrated, close, multidisciplinary and multisectoral social intervention among families with children in poverty or social exclusion, namely

through the implementation of a priority intervention methodology among children and young people benefiting from the Child Guarantee social benefit, within the scope of an integrated work between the National Coordinator of the Child Guarantee (CNGPI), the Social Security Institute (ISS, I.P. - Instituto da Segurança Social, I.P.) and the Local Authorities.

In parallel, more recently, it was initiated the provision of training to the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI), in partnership with several entities with competences in the Child Guarantee areas, with the aim of empowering the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI) in the promotion and implementation of the access of children and young people to essential services. The theme of the first training session, held in partnership with the Social Security Institute P.I. (ISS I.P.) was “The access of children to social protection”, with the participation of around 230 members of the already established Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI).

Taking into account the diversity and intersectoral nature of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) measures, as well as the multiplicity of bodies and actors involved in its implementation, the Intersectoral Advisory Board (CCI – Conselho Consultivo Intersectorial) was recently created (Level IV) ([Ministerial Order no. 1654/2024 of 12 February](#)) which includes public authorities, representative bodies of the social and solidarity sector, civil society and academic organisations and representatives of the National Youth Council (CNJ - Conselho Nacional da Juventude). The Intersectoral Advisory Board (CCI) is responsible for issuing opinions and recommendations on strategic issues concerning the implementation and development of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), and its setting up is currently underway.

The broad dissemination of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), as well as the promotion of all the stakeholders’ participation at national, regional and local levels, has been taken as a priority. In this sense, and during 2023, the [Child Guarantee Portal](#) was created and 347 initiatives were carried out with the aim of disseminating the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) and promoting the participation of all stakeholders in the pursuit and development of the Child Guarantee Portal.

The initiatives developed included workshops and awareness raising sessions with national, regional and local public authorities and entities of the social sector and civil society; presentations in local forums; and participation in thematic events.

In order to improve and deepen the monitoring and assessment capabilities as regards to the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) implementation, as well as the promotion of the effective participation of children and young people, Portugal submitted in 2022 an application for the project [Developing structural tools to support the implementation of the European Child Guarantee in Portugal](#), to the Technical Support Instrument (TSI) of the Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (Dg Reform).

Following the approval of the project, its launch took place on 13 December 2023 in Lisbon, at an [event](#) chaired by the Minister of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security and with the participation of the Dg Reform and the OECD teams assigned to the project and the presence of more than 200 participants. The project is currently under development, and is expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2025.

Although it is understood that there is no need for a modification of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) at the present time, it is nevertheless important to highlight some changes that, while not compromising the proposed objectives, reflect an improvement in the work carried out in the last year, whether at the level of some measures that have changed in the meantime, in the way they are being implemented, the readjustment of monitoring targets and indicators, or in the addition of new measures that reinforce the level of ambition of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030). All changes and additions are duly justified and identified in the respective chapters.



1.1 COMBATING CHILD POVERTY IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONS

Taking into account the autonomy and the legislative and executive powers of the Autonomous Regions, as well as the respective legal and political statutes, the operationalisation of the Child Guarantee is carried out through the implementation of their own strategic and planning instruments. It is therefore up to the respective Regional Governments to define the implementation of the assumptions of the European Child Guarantee Recommendation in the respective territories.

With regard to the **Autonomous Region of the Azores**, we highlight the ongoing Regional Strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion 2018-2028 (Estratégia Regional de Combate à Pobreza e Exclusão Social 2018-2028) (Government Council Resolution no. 72/2018 of 20 June), whose action is focused on basic areas, taking a preventive perspective that leads to structural changes; this Regional Strategy includes 4 strategic priorities:

- To ensure that all children and young people have a full and inclusive development process as from the beginning of their lives;
- To strengthen social cohesion in the Region;
- To promote territorial intervention;
- To ensure adequate knowledge about the poverty phenomenon in the Region.

In fact, it is within the scope of priority I of the aforementioned Strategy that the action is based on the assumptions of the European Child Guarantee Recommendation.

Within the scope of the Regional Strategy, the promotion of children and young people's health was defined as a key element through a public, universal and effective response, with an increase, namely in school health, in the Regional Early Intervention Programme (Programa Regional de Intervenção Precoce) and in the Regional Programme for the Promotion of Healthy Eating (Programa Regional de Promoção da Alimentação Saudável).

For children in early childhood, the objective is to increase their access to social responses (kindergarten, childminder and leisure activities centre) and educational responses (pre-school education for

all children aged 3 to 6) and, in parallel, for young people, by promoting their personal development, increasing employability and their integration into the labour market by improving their qualifications. Cross-cutting measures are also envisaged to promote school success and the extension of leisure activities centres.

Although the Social Network Programme, under which the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI) are being set up on the mainland, has no application on the islands, the Regional Strategy establishes the need to promote local-based initiatives and operationalise the network of local development and social cohesion hubs that motivate the local actors to search for endogenous resources and solutions and encourage territorial intervention in the fight against poverty.

While the Regional Strategy is ongoing, a review and improvement process is currently underway. In this readjustment, it was assumed that important aspects would be included for the better implementation of the Child Guarantee in the Autonomous Region of the Azores.

With regard to the **Autonomous Region of Madeira**, the Regional Strategy for Social Inclusion and Combating Poverty 2021-2030 (Estratégia Regional de Inclusão Social e Combate à Pobreza) (Resolution no. 1497/2021 of 30 December) is underway, focusing on the most disadvantaged populations and the most vulnerable groups, with the ultimate aim being the full integration of everyone into society, the enhancement of equal opportunities and the respect for the dignity and rights of citizens. The fundamental objective of this Strategy is to contribute to the substantial improvement of most indicators associated with the poverty phenomenon, and it is also important to reinforce the need for the establishment and strengthening of implementation, monitoring and assessment structures.

The Regional Strategy is aligned with the 2030 Agenda on the Sustainable Development Goals and with the strategic objective "a more social Portugal", in line with the European Pillar of Social Rights, which is aimed to support quality employment, education, skills, social inclusion and equal access to healthcare.

The Strategy is embodied in 5 Strategic Axes:

Strategic Axis 1 – To strengthen social inclusion public policies, promote and improve the integration and social protection of the most disadvantaged groups and ensure social cohesion and local development -, consisting of 4 strategic objectives to safeguard measures of an essentially corrective nature, strengthening social inclusion public policies, namely:

1. To reduce child and family poverty;
2. To strengthen cooperation;
3. To promote access to decent housing.

Strategic Axis 2 – To ensure access to quality healthcare and promote well-being in the most vulnerable populations, in coordination with existing regional plans and strategies within the scope of health promotion and disease prevention, consisting of 3 strategic objectives, with a view to invest in the promotion of health and well-being throughout the life cycle, namely:

1. To strengthen access to healthcare (physical, mental, emotional and spiritual);
2. To promote mental health and prevent addictive behaviours and dependencies;
3. To provide basic levels of nutrition to populations with low income and at risk of social exclusion.

Strategic Axis 3 – To strengthen educational responses that favour the full development of children and young people and their inclusion and that allow breaking the generational poverty cycles, consisting of 4 strategic objectives, the purpose of which is to break the poverty cycles - of deprivation of experiences and opportunities and lack of awareness of personal capabilities- and create factors for the social inclusion of children and young people, through their personal and individual growth.

This Strategic Axis provides for objectives and measures aimed to increasingly include children in early childhood in the educational system, promoting social integration from an early age. This Axis also focuses on the education path of children and young people in view of the importance of academic success as a measure of social inclusion, promoting emotional development skills which are fundamental for a full integration into society. Not least important is the role of the school as a pillar of excellence in the identification of deprivation and social exclusion situations.

There is also a focus on collaborative work in the challenge of social inclusion, promoting close coordination between the school and other social partners.

Strategic Axis 4 – To invest in employment policies, guidance and professional qualification as instruments for social inclusion and combating poverty, based on 3 strategic objectives:

1. To promote qualification;
2. To enhance employability;
3. To promote the improvement of working conditions.

Strategic Axis 5 – To generate and process information to better understand the social reality, with 1 strategic objective, promoting diagnostic and strategic planning instruments aimed to ensure the adequacy of the social services and facilities network and its territorial distribution, in order to respond efficiently to diagnosed social needs and problems.

At the same time, the Regional Plan for Children and Youth 2022-2026 (Plano Regional para a Infância e Juventude 2022-2026) was approved (Regional Government Council Resolution no. 882/2022 of 20 September) which, although it is more focused on promoting the rights and protection of children and young people, also addresses issues concerning the access to education and health services, as well as the importance of children's participation.

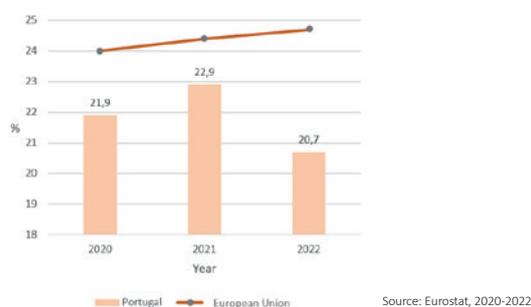
2. TARGET GROUPS

One year after the launch of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) in Portugal, it is important to make an evolutionary picture of the living conditions of families with children and young people, not with the aim of measuring its direct impact on the overall phenomenon of poverty and social exclusion of children and young people, given the complexity and multidimensionality of factors that interact with it, but rather to collect clues for the analysis of the effects, albeit indirect, that the measures of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) may have had and above all to assess the effects that they may have in the longitudinal evolution of these indicators on the living conditions of children and young people in Portugal.

In 2021, children aged between 0 and 17 represented 16% of the total Portuguese population, corresponding to around 1.7 million people [National Statistics Institute (INE), Census 2021].

According to the most recent data collected by Eurostat, in 2022, the percentage of children and young people who were at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion decreased to 20,7%, corresponding to 4 percentage points (p.p.) below the European average (24,7%), also representing a decrease of 2,2 p.p. compared to the national situation in the previous year (22,9% in 2021) and 1,2 p.p. compared to 2020 (21,9%).

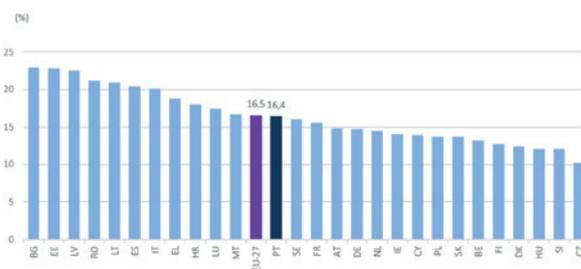
Figure 1: At-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate of children and young people (aged under 18)



As regards to the evolution of incomes, it is verified that the risk of poverty of the Portuguese population, which stood at 18,4% in 2020, decreased to 16,4% in 2021; however, there was an increase of 0,6 p.p., reaching a percentage of 17,0% in 2022 (INE, 2023). Although the growth of the population living below the poverty threshold set at 60% of the national median equivalised disposable income is below 1 p.p.,

the inflection in the downward trend of this group could already reflect the effects of the inflationary crisis that has spread throughout the national and European economy in 2022. (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: At-risk-of-poverty rate, EU-27, 2022



Source: INE, Dados Eurostat, EU-SILC (2022) (National Statistics Institute (INE), Eurostat, EU-SILC (2022))

Children and young people continue to be the most at-risk-of-poverty age group in Portugal, maintaining an increasing trend since 2020 (18,4%), with a slight increase of 0,1 p.p. registered in 2021 (18,5%) and, in 2022, an increase of 2,2 p.p. (20,7%), thus constituting the age group that recorded the highest increase compared to the previous year (INE, 2023).

The existence of children in the household is a predictive factor of poverty risk. In 2022, the poverty rate of families with children increased by 0,9 p.p. (18,9%) compared to the previous year, registering an at-risk-of-poverty rate of more 3,7 p.p. compared to the families without children (15,2 %).

When analysing the at-risk-of-poverty rate according to the household composition, it is verified that the highest increase continues to occur in single-parent families, from 28,0% to 31,2%.

Figure 3: At-risk-of-poverty rate according to household composition, Portugal, 2021-2022



Source: National Statistics Institute (INE), 2023

It is important to analyse in parallel the intensity of poverty in the 0-17 age group, but as the results for the 2022 income year are not yet known, it is worth noting a reduction from 31,6% in 2020 to 26,1% in 2021.

Compared to the EU-27, the latest data (EU-SILC 2022) show that, in 2022, the at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate in Portugal (20,1%) was 1,5 p.p. below the European average, placing Portugal in a more favourable position than it would be if the at-risk-of-poverty rate was analysed individually.

Figure 4: Poverty or social exclusion rate (Europe 2030), EU-27, 2022



Source: INE, Dados Eurostat, 2022 (National Statistics Institute (INE), Eurostat data, 2022)

The analysis on the exposure to the risk of poverty or social exclusion based on the age breakdown of children and young people leads to the conclusion that this risk continues to be considerable as young people approach adulthood. According to Eurostat 2022 data, the at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate continues to be higher in the 12-17 age subgroup (24,0%) than in the 6-11 age subgroup (19,8%) and the subgroup of children aged under 6 (17,6%).

Figure 5: At-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate, per age group



Source: Eurostat, 2022

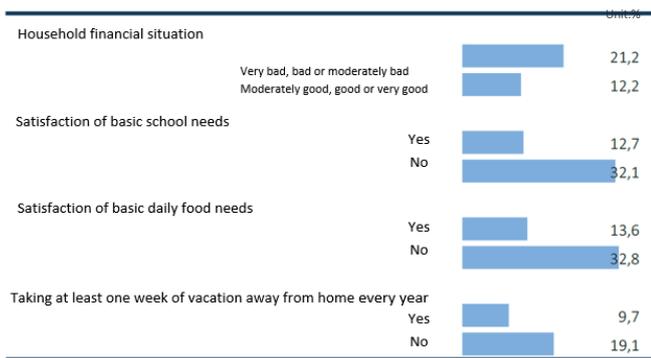
The evolution of official statistical data reiterates the need to continue to identify and intervene in the most critical aspects, in order to break the intergenerational cycles of transmission of disadvantages/poverty.

The most recent analysis from the National Statistics Institute (INE) on parental sociodemographic characteristics and poverty conditions considers parental contexts, such as education, having foreign parents, and the parents' financial conditions as predictors of the risk of poverty among adults aged between 25 and 59. It concludes that for respondents whose father or mother has not completed more than the basic education at the age of 14, the risk of poverty in 2022 was 17,3% and 17,2%, respectively, just above the national average (17,0%), but significantly lower for respondents whose father/mother, i.e. one of the parents, had completed the secondary, post-secondary non-university or higher education level (6,8% if it was the father; 8,6 % if it was the mother). On the other hand, the analysis also confirms a transmission effect of the educational level from parents to their children, with more than 90% of the children whose parents had higher education levels (secondary or higher) having completed an equal or higher educational level, while only 50% of the children whose parents had not completed more than the 3rd cycle of basic education, having completed a higher education level.

The at-risk-of-poverty rate was also higher when the father or mother had foreign nationality, 25,1% and 25,5% respectively, i.e., 11,4 p.p. and 11,7 p.p. higher than the at-risk-of-poverty rate of children and young people whose father or mother was Portuguese (13,7% and 13,8%).

The analysis of the living conditions of the respondents' household at the age of 14 also shows positive correlations between various dimensions of shortages in the family context and the risk of poverty of the person as an adult, according to the table below.

Figure 6: At-risk-of-poverty rate at the age of 14, according to household living conditions, Portugal, 2022



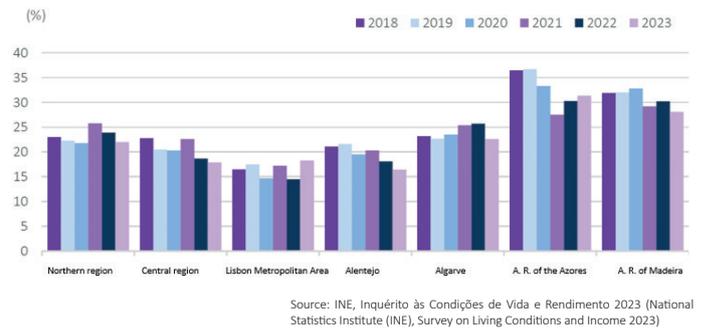
Source: INE, Inquérito às Condições de Vida e Rendimento 2023 (National Statistics Institute (INE), Survey on Living Conditions and Income 2023)

On the other hand, the parents' employment situation is also a significant factor in the determination of the at-risk-of-poverty rate of children and young people (aged 0-17). According to Eurostat data, there is an increase in the at-risk-of-poverty rate of children aged under 18, living in households with very low work intensity, from 66,7% (Eurostat 2020) to 81,2% (Eurostat 2021).

In what concerns the evolution of the material and social deprivation rate in the 0-17 age group (Eurostat), it is verified that, although there was an increase from 2021 (10,6%) to 2022 (11,6%), the data already published for 2023 (INE - National Statistics Institute) show a reversal of this trend (11,1%), which accompanies the decrease observed in the at-risk-of-poverty and social exclusion rate of the same group.

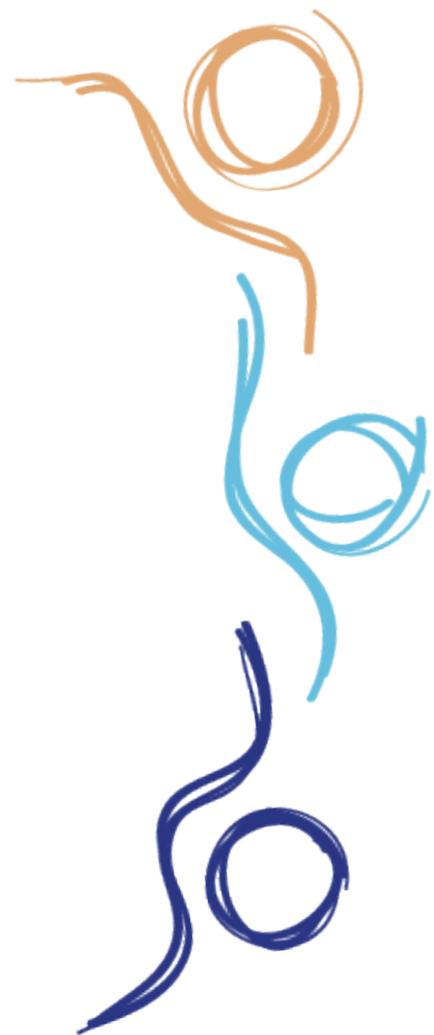
There are still asymmetries in the Portuguese territory, in the distribution of poverty and social exclusion, especially in the Autonomous Regions which, in 2023, continue to concentrate the highest values in the territory, although there is a decrease in this rate in almost all NUTS II, with the exception of the Autonomous Region of the Azores, where it increased by 1,1 p.p. in relation to the previous year, and the Metropolitan Area of Lisbon, where it increased by 3,8 p.p. (INE, 2023), which is expected to be similar for the subgroup of children and young people.

Figure 7: At-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate (Europe 2030), NUTS II, 2018-2023



Source: INE, Inquérito às Condições de Vida e Rendimento 2023 (National Statistics Institute (INE), Survey on Living Conditions and Income 2023)

The data under analysis point to the need to continue to invest in structural and multidimensional measures in order to reverse the worsening trend of exposure to poverty of children and young people under the age of 18, and that can also mitigate the impact that crises have on this population segment.



3. ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES

The access of all children, and in particular those in poverty, to the essential services mentioned by the European Recommendation is the main objective of Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) for Portugal.

Even knowing that the majority of children have guaranteed access to these services, such as free and universal access to the National Health Service (SNS - Serviço Nacional de Saúde) and education, it is intended, through the implementation of the measures provided for in the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), to raise ambition, ensuring truly inclusive, universal and high-quality access for all, as this is the only way to guarantee true equal opportunities for all children.

The implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) entails the implementation of the 76 intersectoral public policy measures that comprise it, plus 13 new measures aiming at achieving the 12 strategic objectives and targets assumed by Portugal, whether within the scope of the National Strategy to Combat Poverty, or in the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan.

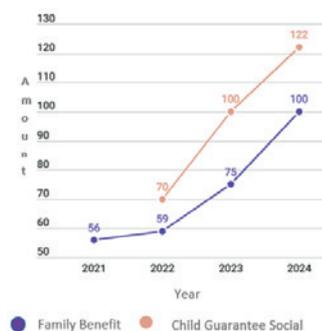
Therefore, the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 includes:

1. Measures that were already implemented before the adoption of the European Recommendation (e.g. free access to school textbooks);

2. Measures that already existed and were substantially reinforced, such as the family benefit amount (figure 7) which, in the State Budget for 2024, increased by EUR 22/month for all children from the first to the fourth family benefit income levels, resulting in an increase of EUR 264/year for all income levels. The family benefit amount has also increased by 50% for single-parent families, with a minimum monthly increase of EUR 33/child;

3. Measures that were implemented following the adoption of the European Recommendation (e.g., the “Child Guarantee” social benefit - aimed at children who are in extreme poverty);

Figure 8: Evolution of the average monthly amounts of the Family Benefit and the Child Guarantee Social Benefit



Source: Instituto de Segurança Social, I.P. (Social Security Institute, P.I.)

4. Measures that, although they have not yet started to be implemented, are planned and expected to be implemented for 2024 or beyond (e.g. the CLDS 5G programme);

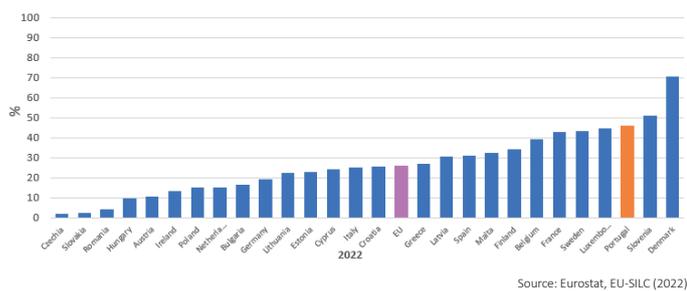
5. Measures that, although not included in the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030, have been added in the meantime, taking into account emerging social contexts and phenomena, reflecting the important investment that has been made in order to fulfil the assumptions of the Recommendation and the objectives to be achieved (e.g. the Porta 65+ Programme).

It is also important to underline that, of the 13 new measures, 11 refer to the sectoral areas of Culture, Sports and Youth, highlighting their relevance in the pursuit of the objectives to be achieved.

3.1 EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE

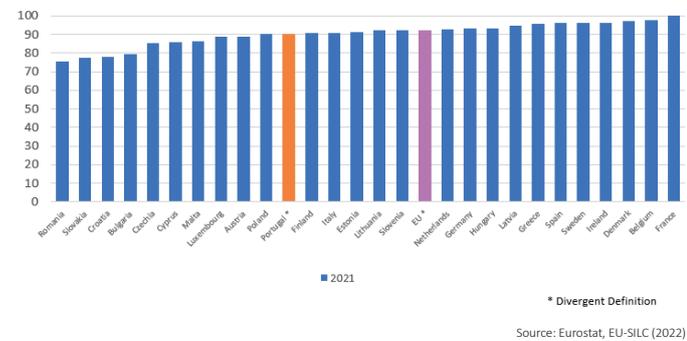
Portugal is among the EU countries with the highest rate of children under the age of 3 in education and care responses (45,9% in 2022). In 2022, the percentage of children under the age of 3 in early childhood education and care (ECEC) was significantly above the EU average (35,7%) and already close to the revised Barcelona national target for 2030 (50,8 %).

Figure 9: Children up to the age of 3 in formal care structures, per age group, for 25 hours or more



Among children aged 3-6 – pre-school education (EPE) – the attendance rate in 2021 was 90,5 %, below the EU average (92,5 %).

Figure 10: Percentage of students from the age of 3 up to the starting age of compulsory schooling in primary education



The implementation of early childhood education and care policies in Portugal implies the development of social and educational responses aimed at pre-school age children, which allow families to better reconcile their personal, family and professional lives. The response network can be developed through the public, private and solidarity sectors. The solidarity sector is largely involved in Early Childhood Education and Care responses through cooperation agreements with Social Security, ensuring care for all children, namely children from the most vulnerable families. In order to ensure access to early childhood responses for all children, the Government has progressively implemented the measure of free access to early childhood education and care.

This measure started even before the adoption of the European Recommendation, in 2020, covering, as a first step, families in the first income level of the family benefit and the second children of families in the second income level. In 2021, all families were included up to the second income level and, as of 2022, all children born after 1 September 2021, integrated in early childhood education and care facilities from the social and solidarity sector and ISS I.P. childminders, regardless of their household income level, with the extension of the phased and gradual free access to early childhood education and care until 2024, when all children integrated in early childhood education and care facilities (aged 0-3) are covered by the free access measure, regardless of their families' income level. Thus, this measure applies to all children during the three years in which they attend early childhood education and care facilities and includes all expenses for the activities and services provided.

In July 2022, the Government established admission and prioritisation criteria (Ministerial Order no. 198/2022 of 27 July), according to which a social and economic evaluation of the household is now necessary, by weighting the criteria based on the family economic situation, as well as other circumstances leading to the social disadvantage of the child and his/her family. At least 30% of the vacancies allocated to free early childhood education and care facilities are intended for children covered by the “Child Guarantee” social benefit or beneficiaries of the family benefit up to the third income level. Among the defined admission and prioritisation criteria, the situations of children with disabilities/incapacity are also foreseen; in a care measure situation under the promotion and protection system; domestic violence situation; children of a minor student father/mother, parents with disabilities, informal carers and children in single-parent households or large families.

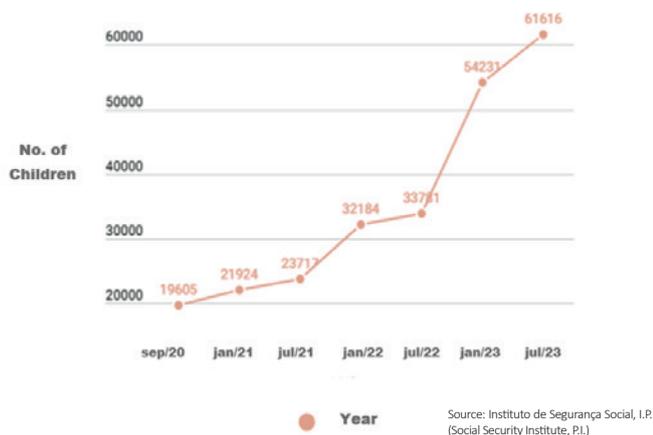
In July 2023, the procedures for the installation and extension of existing early childhood education and care facilities, as well as for the conversion of spaces previously intended for pre-school education, were simplified, while ensuring the maintenance of quality and safety requirements (Ministerial Order no. 190-A/2023 of 5 July) in order to increase the response capacity.

The implementation of this Ministerial Order allowed an increase of 11.143 places in the national network of early childhood education and care facilities by February 2024.

As of January 2023, the access to free early childhood education and care has been extended to vacancies in the social sector without a cooperation agreement with Social Security, and in the private sector upon presentation of an expression of interest.

This measure is applied on a supplementary basis, whenever there are no free vacancies in early childhood education and care facilities of the social and solidarity sector with a cooperation agreement. As of December 2023, already more than 11.000 children were covered by free access to early childhood education and care facilities of the private sector.

Figure 11: Evolution of the number of children covered by the free access to early childhood education and care

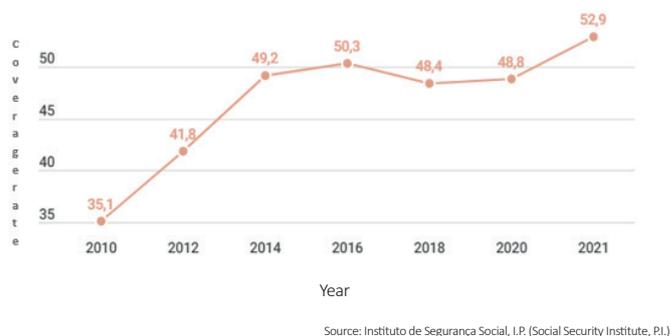


In order to respond to the still existing needs and asymmetries in the distribution of installed capacity in the territory, namely in the territories with a low coverage, a process of progressive expansion of the installed capacity and the social equipment of the early childhood education and care network is underway in Portugal, through an important investment at the level of the PARES 2.0 and 3.0 Programmes (national funding), as well as through investments from the Recovery and Resilience Programme.

Mainly due to all the investment that has been made, the coverage rate of early childhood social responses has been growing in the last decade, in line with the increase in the number of early childhood education and care vacancies. Between 2020 and 2021, the average coverage rate in the mainland increased by 4,1 %, being 52,9 % in 2021 (Social Charter, 2021); this trend is expected to be substantially reinforced with

the implementation of ongoing investments, either through the creation of new responses or through the conversion of already existing facilities

Figure 12: Coverage rate (%) per year and type of response (kindergarten)



In territorial terms, 91% of the mainland municipalities (253 out of 278) had, in 2021, a coverage rate above 33%. It should also be noted that of the 278 existing municipalities, 167 (60,1%) had a coverage rate above the mainland average (52.9%).

The districts of Lisbon (50,7%), Setúbal (48,2%) and Porto (37,1%) remained, in 2021, the territories with the lowest coverage compared to the resident population, although the Lisbon district reached a coverage of 50%, slightly below the national average. On the other hand, the districts of Guarda (86,9%), Portalegre (83,1%) and Castelo Branco (74,4%) registered, as in previous years, the highest coverage rates in terms of 1st childhood responses.

PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION is the first stage of basic education in the lifelong education process, being complementary to the educational action of the family, with which a close cooperation must be established, favouring the formation and balanced development of the child, taking into account their full integration into society as an autonomous, free and supportive being.

In Portugal, attendance in pre-school education is not mandatory, and it is up to the Portuguese Government to promote the universalisation of pre-school education. Law no. 65/2015 of 3 July established the universality of pre-school education for all children from the age of 4. The aim is to ensure that children aged 4 and 5 can attend pre-school education for at least one year before starting compulsory schooling at the age of 6.

In public pre-school education establishments, priority access is given to children aged 4 and 5. Upon admission, priority is given to children with special educational needs and children entitled to the School Social Assistance (ASE- Ação Social Escolar).

The measure of free access to early childhood education and care for children aged 0 to 3 is being developed in coordination with the school network management, with a view to guaranteeing access to pre-school education for children from the age of 3, who benefit from free education.

The National Pre-School Education Network is made up of public and private networks, the first of which includes early childhood education and care facilities in school groups and non-grouped schools and the second includes private establishments and those in the social sector. The teaching component is fully financed by the Ministry of Education, with the exception of private education establishments.

The opening hours of pre-school education establishments comprise two specific periods, one for teaching activities (5 hours a day) and the other for entertainment and family support activities, and are communicated to the parents and guardians at the time of registration or renewal, and must also be confirmed at the beginning of the school year.

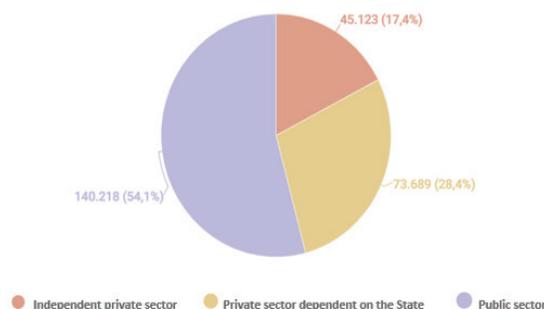
Public pre-school education establishments must remain open at least until 5:30 p.m. and for a minimum period of 8 hours per day. All children who attend pre-school education are entitled to 5 school hours per day under the responsibility of the child educator.

The entertainment and family support activities are intended to ensure the care of children before and after the period of school activities and during periods of school break, and their provision is mandatory. The entertainment and family support activities are co-financed by the State, with the respective values established by Cooperation Agreements signed with Municipal Councils and Social Solidarity Private Institutions. Family contributions are determined in proportion to the household's income and based on per capita income levels indexed to the minimum monthly wage. The definition of rules on parental participation is regulated in Joint Order no. 300/97 of 4 September.

In the 2021/2022 school year, 259.030 children attended pre-school education, corresponding to an increase of 7.970 compared to the previous year and a real pre-schooling rate of 93,2%.

According to the Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics, in the 2018/2019 school year, 128.512 children attended pre-school education in the public network and 74.093 children attended the social sector network (state-funded network), which corresponded to 52,7% and 30,4%, respectively. In the 2021/2022 school year, of the total number of children attending pre-school education in Portugal, 140.218 attended the public network and 73.689 the social sector.

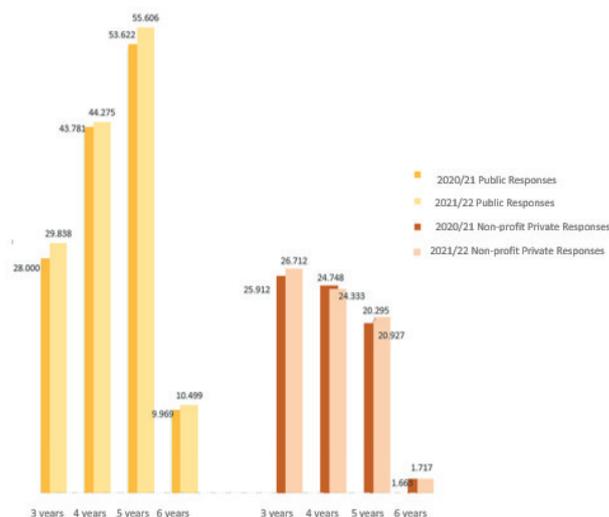
Figure 13: Number of children, per pre-school education response, school year 2021-2022



Source: Educação em Números, Portugal, Direção Geral de Estatística da Educação e Ciência (DGEEC)

With regard to attendance by age groups, and in what concerns the public network, there was an increase in all age groups. With regard to the social sector network, only in the group of children aged 4 the increase did not occur.

Figure 14: Number of children in pre-school education, per school year and age



Source: Educação em Números, Portugal, DGEEC. (Education in Numbers, Portugal, Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics).



3.2 EDUCATION AND SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The access to a free, universal and good quality education plays a key role in society in correcting social inequalities, breaking the intergenerational cycles of poverty and contributing to the creation of a fairer society.

We have been witnessing a significant reduction in the early school leaving rate in Portugal (from 14% in 2016 to 8% in 2023). In 2022 there was the lowest value ever, 6,5%, with an increase of 1,5% in 2023, which still exceeds the European targets. The impact that the pandemic has had on the Portuguese education system is undeniable, similarly to what happened in all educational systems on a global scale.

The response to the identified challenges involved a focus on social protection measures for students and care schools, as well as the launch of national support tools, such as School Support, #Home Study (#EstudoEmCasa) and distance learning training. However, the negative impacts on the learning and well-being of students, even if minimised by the enormous effort made by all teachers and the return to face-to-face teaching, are evident. The school, as a place for learning about life in society, was, in this context, affected in terms of social interaction, artistic, cultural and sporting experiences, as well as the development of citizenship skills.

With a view to the recovery of learning, and seeking to ensure that no child was left behind, there was a need to respond with more means, more human resources and reinforce the autonomy of schools. The [21|23 Escola+ Plan](#) (Council of Ministers Resolution no. 90/2021 of 7 July), an Integrated Plan for the Recovery of Apprenticeships, to be in force in the 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 school years, was designed as a multidimensional approach to the impacts of the pandemic on schools and students, thus including a set of actions very diverse in their nature and objectives, based on educational policies with demonstrated effectiveness. It was constituted as an intervention based on the logic of a portfolio of responses, to be adopted and offered by each school, connected with a principle of experimentation/action, supported by the unique knowledge that each school has of its community.

In this context, and based on general consensus, it was considered necessary to adopt a new plan for the recovery of apprenticeships for the 2023/2024 school year. As a reissue of the initial plan, which was in force between 2021 and 2023, and with a view to consolidating the recovery of apprenticeships, the [23|24 Escola+ Plan](#) was therefore approved in July 2023 (Council of Ministers Resolution no. 80-B/2023 of 18 July), benefiting, in its conception, from the knowledge, experience and learning acquired with the implementation of the 21|23 Escola+ Plan.

School Sports (Desporto Escolar), implemented in Portugal since 1974, is based on a universal and open system of sports modalities and practices, organised in order to harmoniously integrate its specific dimensions, namely teaching, training, recreation and competition. It is an activity aimed to complement the curriculum and occupy free time, in a scheme of freedom of participation and choice, integrated in the school's activity plan and coordinated within the educational system, developing its activities in schools from the 2nd and 3rd cycles of basic education and in secondary schools, being supported by the State.

In 2021, a new Strategic School Sports Programme [[Programa Estratégico de Desporto Escolar \(2021-2025\)](#)] was launched, which foresees a closer approach to the community, namely the possibility of school sports being carried out in close cooperation with external institutions, giving autonomy to schools, so that some school teams, in addition to school teachers, may also be accompanied by local club coaches (provided that they have educational qualifications). It also focuses on the participation and involvement of the students, encouraging the organisation and planning of activities to be carried out in a process of co-decision and co-management within school sports activities. In the 2022/2023 school year, 170.176 students were regular practitioners (i.e., participated in a minimum of three weekly lessons throughout the school year), around 218.510 were occasional practitioners (not meeting the previous criteria) and 7.913 were participants in adapted sports.

The development of integrated policies between the areas of education and culture makes it possible to organise, promote and implement, in a coordinated way, the cultural offer for the educational community.

The [National Arts Plan \(PNA - Plano Nacional das Artes\)](#), created in 2019, is intended to make the arts more accessible, in particular to children and young people, through the educational community, promoting cultural participation, enjoyment and creation, in a logic of inclusion and lifelong learning. This Plan is aimed to encourage the cultural commitment of communities and organisations and develop collaboration networks and partnerships with public and private entities, namely working in concurrence with pre-existing plans, programmes and networks. In five years of existence, the PNA has already involved 125 thousand students and 20 thousand teachers. It covers 430 school groups- more than 50% of the total - spread across 136 municipalities.

Regardless of the universal measures aimed at all children and young people integrated into the educational system, there is State support especially intended at children in poverty. **The School Social Assistance (ASE - Ação Social Escolar)** consists of a set of measures aimed to support students and their families, providing conditions for everyone to attend school and participate in educational activities.

Decree-Law no. 55/2009 of 2 March, laying down the legal framework applicable to the allocation and operation of support within the scope of School Social Assistance (ASE), applies to children in pre-school education and students in the basic and secondary school levels in public, private and cooperative educational establishments under an association contract.

School Social Assistance (ASE) measures include financial support for food expenses, purchase of school material, study visits and, in some cases, transport allowance. The ASE comprises three levels (A, B and C) which are allocated according to the family benefit income levels, with reference to the social support index (IAS - Indexante dos Apoios Sociais) value. All students who reside in Portugal and attend compulsory schooling in a public educational establishment and who belong to a family whose overall income is equal to or lower than the value established for the 3rd income level considered for the family benefit granting are entitled to School Social Assistance (ASE).

In what concerns the support for food expenses, it varies between 50% and 100%; As for the purchase of

school material, the financial support varies from EUR 8 to EUR 16. Economic support may also be granted for accommodation and transport. This is often complemented with support measures within the scope of local policies under the responsibility of local authorities. Since 2019, school textbooks have been free for all students enrolled in public schools or in private and cooperative education establishments, at all levels of compulsory education. In the 2021/2022 school year, a total of 416.952 students were covered by the School Social Assistance (ASE), with the majority included in the A Level (191.982).

Figure 15: Number of students enrolled, in mainland Portugal, beneficiaries of school social assistance, per education level and income level (2021/2022)

Level/Cycle	A Level	B Level	C Level	General Total
Pre-School	18 263	14 753	4 715	37 731
1 st Cycle	59 650	48 591	17 016	125 257
2 nd Cycle	35 404	28 708	10 574	74 686
3 rd Cycle	48 835	42 271	14 295	105 401
Secondary Level	29 827	34 050	10 000	73 877
General Total	191.982	168.373	56.600	416.952

Fonte: Perfil do Aluno 2021/2022 Direção-Geral de Estatísticas da Educação e Ciência (DGEEC) (Student Profile 2021/2022 Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics)

The existence of territorial asymmetries, with a special focus on the most vulnerable populations, as well as school failure and dropout levels that still remain high in secondary education, have determined the need to implement measures aimed at particularly complex and vulnerable territories.

The **Priority Intervention Educational Territories (TEIP - Territórios Educativos de Intervenção Prioritária)** Programme is thus an educational policy measure, implemented in Portugal since 1996, with the purpose of improving the quality of learning, preventing and reducing early school leaving, absenteeism and indiscipline, in formal educational spaces attended by socially vulnerable populations. The Programme already has three editions (1996/2005-TEIP1; 2006/2011-TEIP2; 2012/2021-TEIP3).

In 2021/2022, this programme covered 146 school groups located in socially and economically disadvantaged areas. In July 2023, the 4th generation of the programme was created (Ministerial Order no. 7798/2023 of 28 July), beginning in the 2024/2025 school year with a duration of six school years, maintaining the objectives of combating school failure and dropout in communities with the highest social vulnerability.

Therefore, the **TEIP4 Programme** is aimed to strengthen and refocus this measure, giving greater autonomy to educational communities, in order to promote more flexible, innovative interventions adjusted to the needs of students and their families and the mobilisation of endogenous educational resources capable of promoting more sustainable local development.

On the other hand, it is intended to identify the schools that, as a result of the dynamics implemented, currently present results that have allowed them to respond to vulnerability rates. This programme focuses on a strategy of positive discrimination, the implementation of which is based on closer follow-up and the allocation of differentiated resources and support to schools that, because they are located in territories of high social vulnerability, face greater challenges and difficulties in pursuing their mission.

The time limit for the schools application submission for the Programme is 31 March 2024, being expected an increase in the network of schools with the possibility of joining the Programme as of 2024/2025, with the target of creating 170 Organic Units, corresponding to an increase of 14% compared to 2021.

Another relevant programme for social inclusion, whose mission is to promote the social integration of children and young people from contexts of greater socio-economic vulnerability, especially descendants of migrants and Roma children and young people, is the Escolhas (Choices) Programme.

Created in 2001, the **Escolhas (Choices) programme** has already benefited 460 thousand children and young people, through 800 projects across the country. Since October 2023, its 9th Generation is being implemented (Council of Ministers Resolution no. 74/2023 of 14 July) for the 2023-2026 period. This programme includes a reinforcement of projects in the areas of culture, focusing on inclusion through art, and sports, which are fundamental dimensions in the development of children and young people and in the promotion of social cohesion. Inter-institutional coordination is also being strengthened, both at central and local levels, with more coordination and cooperation between different government areas and the establishment of more partnerships at the local level.

Within the programme, 118 new projects were approved, aimed at the inclusion and social integration of children and young people, particularly those from contexts with higher socio-economic vulnerability. Among the applications received, 33 projects were approved for NUT II (Territorial Unit for Statistics) of the Northern region, 22 projects for NUT II of the Central Region, 39 projects for NUT II of Lisbon, 14 projects for NUT II of Alentejo, 7 projects for NUT II of the Algarve and 3 projects for the Autonomous Regions.





3.3 HEALTHY EATING EVERY SCHOOL DAY

Over the last two decades, school feeding in Portugal has undergone very significant changes, many of which have allowed, with remarkable success, an improvement in children's health and well-being. This is a journey carried out with the coordination of the Ministry of Education with a permanent collaboration of the Directorate-General for Health (DGS) and other equally relevant actors. During this period, a vast body of legislation was produced in this area, as well as various food education materials aimed at professionals and society in general. These materials were implemented at different levels: in educational communities, in health structures that most directly relate to education and, more recently, in local authorities that have been gaining skills in the field of education, namely in contracting and verifying food supply contracts in schools. Strategies for the improvement of food environment can and should integrate these three sectors, which are decisive for improving the eating habits of the young population, without ever forgetting, first and foremost, children and young people, but also the family and the surrounding community.

Order no. 8127/2021 of 17 August establishes the criteria to be taken into account in the preparation of food menus and sale of foodstuffs in buffets and vending machines in all public schools.

More recently, the Directorate-General for Health (DGS) and the Directorate-General for Education (DGE) carried out a study to monitor the implementation of Order no. 8127/2021 of 17 August, where it was concluded that food products with high fat, salt and sugar content, such as soft drinks, cookies, pastries and sweet and savoury snacks are no longer available in 90% of the public schools analysed.

It is also worth mentioning two important programmes for the improvement of eating habits in Portuguese schools: the School Milk Programme (PLE - Programa de Leite Escolar) and the School Fruit scheme (RFE - Regime de Fruta Escolar) which have recently been merged giving rise to the current School Distribution Scheme (RE - Regime de distribuição nas Escolas) that seeks to promote healthy eating habits and contribute to the stabilisation of agricultural markets,

aligning with the Common Agricultural Policy and public health objectives.

The application to the School Distribution Scheme (RE) is voluntary and requires the preparation of a National Strategy notified to the European Commission. The National Strategy for the school years 2023/2024 to 2028/2029 highlights the need to improve eating habits, especially among vulnerable families. The strategy is aimed to promote the consumption of healthy foods, including the distribution of fruit and vegetables twice a week and the weekly supply of milk and dairy products in 0,20 to 0,25 cl containers throughout the school year.

Over the last few years, tools have also been developed to support the implementation on the ground of guidelines for school food supply, namely the School Meal Planning and Assessment System (SPARE - Sistema de Planeamento e Avaliação de Refeições Escolares). This tool allows the planning of school meals in accordance with national dietary and nutritional recommendations, and helps in the process of assessment, monitoring and verification of the school food supply, with a view to its continuous improvement.

In 2019, Law no. 30/2019 of 23 April, which introduces restrictions on food advertising aimed at children under the age of 16, has prohibited the advertising of foods with high energy value and content of salt, sugar, saturated fatty acids and trans fatty acids in pre-school, basic and secondary education establishments, as well as within a 100 meter radius of schools.

The Ministries of Health and Education have produced in the last two decades, a remarkable amount of reference documents in the area of food education, which today constitute a voluminous corpus of technical and scientific quality, representative of a certain way of thinking about food education issues in a school environment.

In 2019, the manual “Alimentação Saudável do 0 aos 6 anos - Linhas de Orientação para Profissionais e Educadores” (Healthy Eating from 0 to 6 years of age – Guidelines for Professionals and Educators) was launched by the Directorate-General for Health (DGS) within the scope of the National Programme for the Promotion of Healthy Eating (PNPAS). This manual defines guidelines for the promotion of healthy eating for infants and children up to the age of 6. In 2021, the Guide to healthy school snacks (Guia para lanches escolares saudáveis) was published through a partnership between the Directorate-General for Health (DGS) and the Directorate-General for Education (DGE). This guide sets out some simple rules for creating a healthy snack, describing the foods that should be part of school lunch boxes, namely foods “to be preferred”, to be consumed “once in a while” and “to be avoided”, as well as their nutritional characteristics.

Since 2007/2008, Portugal has implemented the Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative (COSI) Portugal, a system for monitoring the nutritional status of the school population between the ages of 6 and 8.

COSI Portugal is integrated into a European system of child nutrition surveillance, coordinated by the World Health Organization Europe, which produces comparable data between different European countries and allows the monitoring of childhood obesity every 2-3 years. The collection of data from this surveillance system takes place in schools from the 1st cycle of basic education and is carried out by health professionals from the Regional Health Administrations.

In the last round of the COSI Portugal study (6th round, 2021/2022) it was observed that the foods most available in primary school facilities were milk and/or yogurt, water and fresh fruit, and data from this round point to a decrease in the presence of vending machines in the primary schools that participate in COSI Portugal (7,1% in 2019 vs 2,7% in 2022).

In Portugal, although there are some autonomous intervention areas, the cooperation and joint production of documentation and interventions between Ministries in this area allow us to affirm that there is a fixed strategy for the promotion of healthy eating in a school context in Portugal.

The strategy that Portugal has followed for school eating is aimed to promote and educate about healthy eating in the school context, with the mission of creating environments that facilitate healthy eating and stimulate the development of skills in children and young people, allowing them to value, appreciate and adopt healthy eating behaviours.

It is also important to underline that all school lunches are co-financed by the Ministry of Education, regardless of the student’s socio-economic condition, in order to promote the inclusion of everyone at school, through the application of positive discrimination criteria aimed at the social and educational compensation of the most economically deprived students, as provided for in the Portuguese Framework Law of the Educational System (Law no. 46/86 of 14 October).

Food support in the school context for the most economically deprived students is foreseen, as already mentioned, in the context of the School Social Assistance (ASE), playing a key role in ensuring children’s and young people’s right to nutrition. Students covered by the A and B levels of the School Social Assistance (equivalent to the 1st and 2nd income levels of the Family Benefit) have their school meals co-financed in 100% and 50%, respectively. In 2021/2022, around 23% of students were covered by the School Social Assistance A and B levels, 191.982 had their meals co-financed in 100% and 168.373 had their meals co-financed in 50%.

3.4 HEALTH

The commitment of the Portuguese State to ensure the effective access of children to health care in Portugal has determined the adoption of several measures aimed at mitigating the financial and non-financial barriers to health care for this population group. The free access of children and young people up to the age of 18 to primary and hospital health care has been in force in Portugal since 2015, with the exemption from user fees payment for this age group (Decree-Law no. 61/2015 of 22 April). The non-payment of user fees eliminates any financial constraints on the access of children and young people to health services provided by the National Health System (NHS). In the same sense, Law no. 79/2015 of 29 July determines that each child is assigned a family doctor within the scope of primary health care.

Although there is a legal framework that removes the financial barrier to accessing the NHS, this requires the existence of human resources to enable the provision of health care for everyone. Therefore, in a context where it is impossible to have a sufficient number of family doctors, there was a need to establish priorities in the assignment of family doctors, particularly to families with pregnant women or children up to the age of two (Order no. 1774-A/2017 of 24 February). Albeit the health system treats everyone equally – or even includes mechanisms of positive discrimination for some social groups – it is verified that the socio-economic condition of families has an influence on the access to health care. In order to mitigate the barriers to the children's access to health care, policies aimed at the reduction of the users health care expenses must continue to be implemented, of which we highlight the exemption of user fees payment in all complementary diagnostic and therapeutic exams prescribed within the scope of primary health care as of 1 January 2021.

More recently, in 2023, through Order no. 12678/2023 of 12 December, benefits were foreseen for special vulnerability situations. Thus, social support care in all types of mental health for children and young people up to the age of 18 involves a minimum and symbolic payment from families with children and young people in outpatient units and, in inpatient units, there is an exemption from the family contribution amount, provided that the per capita income of the

household is lower than 50% of the Social Support Index (IAS- Indexante dos Apoios Sociais) value.

The objective of ensuring adequate health care for the most deprived population cannot be achieved through health policies alone and it is necessary to take into account the implementation of social protection policies that complement health policies. In this sense, it is also important to highlight policies that have been implemented to reinforce income as well as those that reflect a strengthening of social protection for the most vulnerable children and young people, an example of which is the establishment of the Child Guarantee in the State budget for 2022 (Law no. 12/2022 of 27 June), with a view to supporting families with children and young people under the age of 18. The Child Guarantee is composed of three measures aimed to reinforce income support for these families:

- (i) the creation of a social benefit that complements the Family Benefit, entitled Child Guarantee;
- (ii) an increase in the amount of the Family Benefit for children and young people under the age of 18 who are in the first and second income levels and,
- (iii) the creation of the Child Guarantee Supplement.

It is also important to highlight that, although it is recognised that the investment in the response capacity of the NHS to all children continues to be necessary, the health gains of the population residing in Portugal have been increasing over the last years, namely those referring to the first two decades of the life cycle.

With regard to indicators such as infant mortality, and others, the values achieved are already among the best in the world, despite the health inequalities that persist when considering different social groups.

In this regard, the positive impact of the National Programme for Child and Youth Health (PNSIJ - Programa Nacional de Saúde Infantil e Juvenil), created for the first time in 1992, is unavoidable and has proven to be a guarantee of adequate and effective health care provision, with the contribution and commitment of all who participate in it.

It is a guiding document to respond, on the one hand, to the need to improve quality standards, harmonising the contents of health actions with new scientific evidence and new morbidities and, on the other, to a greater relevance of pre-existing health problems. It is in this continuous process of adaptation that the current National Programme for Child and Youth Health (PNSIJ) is inserted, in which, maintaining the pre-existing structure, several content modifications were introduced. In general, the PNSIJ complies with the following main outlines:

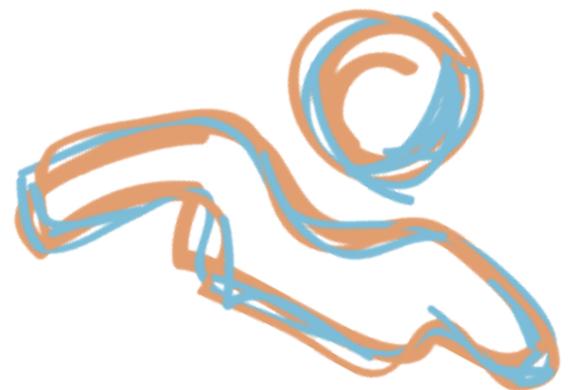
- Scheduling of consultations for key ages, corresponding to important events in the life of the baby, child or adolescent, such as the stages of physical, psychomotor, cognitive and emotional development, socialisation, nutrition and schooling;
- Harmonisation of these consultations with the chronological scheme recommended in the new National Vaccination Programme (PNV - Programa Nacional de Vacinação), in order to reduce the number of visits to health services;
- Enhancement of anticipatory care as a factor in health promotion and disease prevention, namely providing parents and other carers with the knowledge necessary for a better performance, with regard to the promotion and protection of children's rights and the exercise of parenthood, in particular in the field of new health challenges;
- In this context, and in light of anti-vaccination movements, it is crucial to re-stimulate compliance with the National Vaccination Programme (PNV), preserving the adequate vaccination status of children, young people and the population in general;
- Investment in the prevention of emotional and behavioural disorders is also a priority in the same area;
- Early detection, follow-up and referral of situations that may negatively affect the child's health and that may be corrected;
- Support for progressive accountability and self-determination in children's and young people's health issues;
- Teamwork, as a way of responding to the complexity

of current health problems and needs that increasingly require multi-professional and interdisciplinary actions;

- Effective coordination between structures, programmes and projects, within and outside the health sector, that contribute to the well-being, growth and development of children and young people.

The National Health Plan (PNS) 2030, approved in Portugal by the Council of Ministers Resolution no. 93/2023 of 16 August, is part of the fundamentals of health policy, as a national strategic instrument that aims to improve the health and well-being of the population throughout the life cycle. The National Health Plan 2030 is aligned with the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and the Portugal 2030 Strategy.

By underlining the principles of universality and equity, under the motto "Leave no one behind", it emphasises the ethical and solidarity nature that led to the creation of the National Health Service in Portugal, identifying with due attention the most vulnerable or at-risk population groups, taking into account the diagnosis of health inequalities and inequities.

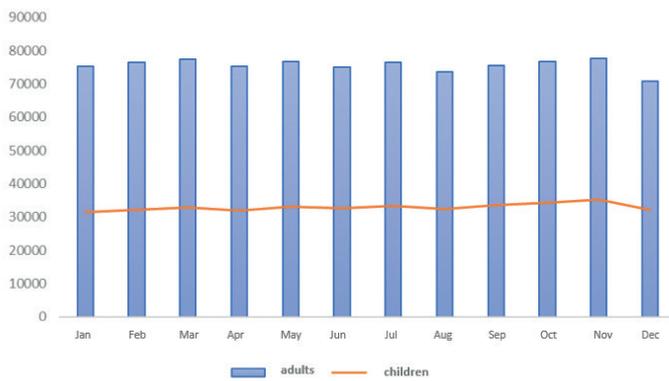




3.5 HEALTHY EATING

To support the access to healthy meals also outside school days, it was created the Operational Programme to Support the Most Deprived (POAPMC - Programa Operacional de Apoio às Pessoas Mais Carenciadas), with a view to distributing food to the most deprived persons, being its initial objective to cover around 60.000 people from all regions of the country. In 2020, it was expected an increase in the need for support as a result of the pandemic crisis and in order to ensure effective response capacity, the programme was substantially reinforced by doubling its response capacity to 120.000 people. In December 2023, 70.819 people were supported by this programme, of which 32.274 were aged under 18.

Figure 16: Families benefiting from food support under the FEAD/POAPMC 2023

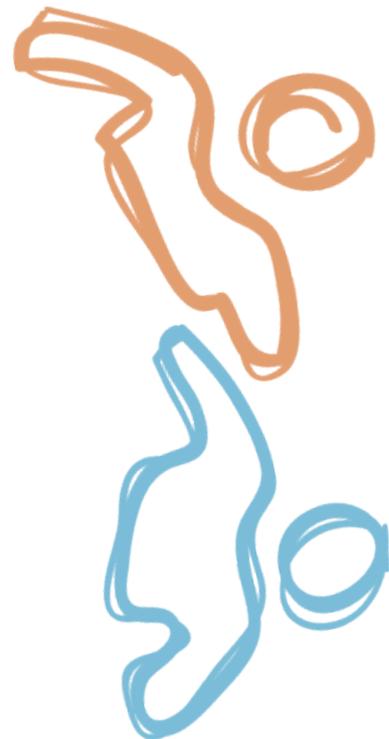


Source: Programa Pessoas 2030 (2030 People Programme)

Since its inception, the Operational Programme to Support the Most Deprived (POAPMC) has relied on the collaboration of the National Programme for the Promotion of Healthy Eating (PNPAS) to ensure that the food supply is nutritionally adequate. In 2019, several measures were added to ensure variety in food baskets and minimise food waste, promote food distribution as close as possible to the eating habits and food preferences of the beneficiaries and increase the diversity of foods included in the basket. As a result, foods that are not normally present in food aid models such as meat, fish and various vegetables are being included in the food baskets of the Operational Programme to Support the Most Deprived (POAPMC), aiming to ensure 50% of the beneficiaries' daily energy and nutritional needs. The composition of the food baskets is also adapted to different age groups, including children.

To respond to less favourable geopolitical scenarios, the Portuguese Government has implemented specific measures to promote the access to healthy food for the general population, including children at risk of poverty or social exclusion.

These measures included the implementation of Law no. 17/2023 of 14 April, which exempted from VAT the import and supply of certain food products that form part of the essential healthy food basket. This transitional budgetary measure aimed to reduce the impact of global inflation was in force in the period from 18 April 2023 to 31 December 2023. To this end, the Ministry of Health identified a list of food products from the Food Wheel Guide, subject to 0% VAT rate, included in the healthy food basket, and prepared a guidance manual to support the general population in making healthy food choices.





3.6 ADEQUATE HOUSING

The access to decent housing is of central importance in the life project of each child and young person, as well as of their families. It is in the access to housing that the guarantee of dignity begins and it is an essential opportunity to break the intergenerational cycles of poverty.

In almost all of Europe, house prices and rents are rising well above income growth. The housing crisis is caused by several factors, namely contextual (COVID-19 pandemic, high inflation rates) and socio-demographic (ageing population, growth of single-parent families, increase in migration flows). The dynamics of housing demand (foreign investment and increase in tourist activities) have also changed, with several constraints on the housing offer (aged housing stock and market directed towards high-end construction). On the family side, the disparity between salaries and housing prices is a reality.

On the other hand, with regard to housing credit, it should be noted that the majority of housing loans are of variable rate and thus affected by the rise in interest rates, also the construction of new homes has significantly decreased in the last 15 years. All these reasons substantially limit the access to housing, particularly for younger people, with all European countries witnessing the postponement of their autonomy process, as well as an increase in the number of people living in overcrowded houses, intensifying the generational divisions and social inequalities.

Figure 17: Housing Price Index



Source: Banco de Portugal (Portuguese Central Bank)

Therefore, it is essential to ensure greater justice and balance in the access to housing. Knowing that the poorest families are the most exposed to housing crises, such as the one we are currently experiencing, the creation of measures that provide for the protection of these families and their access to this essential good and right is a political and social imperative.

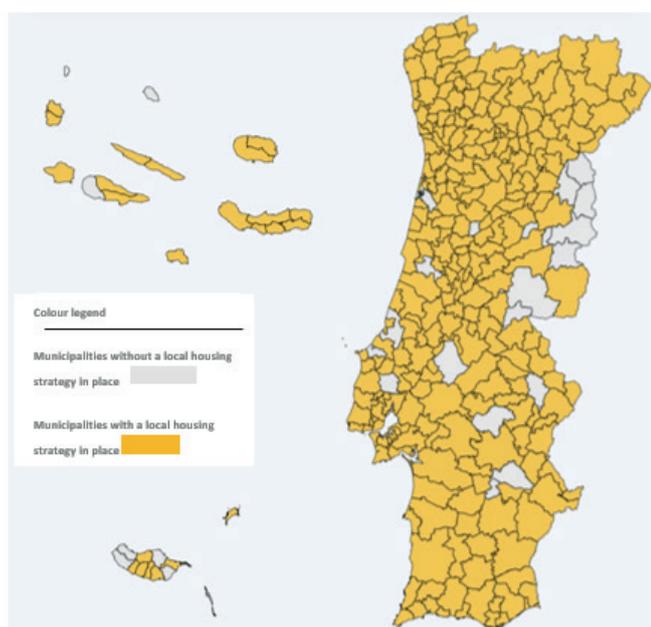
Being aware of the need to effectively enshrine housing as one of the pillars of the Social State, the Portuguese Government has taken the initiative to implement a broad structural reform within the scope of public housing policies (Council of Ministers Resolution no. 50-A/2018 of 2 May) which involves creating a public response that is sufficiently comprehensive and capable of providing a universal and effective response to the needs of populations - as has already occurred in health, education and social security - taking into account the particularities of the most vulnerable groups.

A profound transformation of housing policies in Portugal is thus underway in order to ensure the universal access to decent housing for all.

This commitment reflects the view that the right to housing is fundamental in the Social State context, being a structuring pillar of the population's well-being. In fact, the Government's approach is to promote the universal access to housing; however, without ignoring the more vulnerable groups such as migrants and immigrants, refugees, victims of domestic violence, single-parent families, among others.

In line with and in pursuit of this objective, the Portuguese Government allocated a significant part of the funds made available in the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) to the implementation of public housing policies that structurally respond to the existing problem of access to housing, accelerating the response capacity and recovering a delay of decades in promoting and increasing the public housing stock, as a central part of the strategy to provide the country with conditions that allow it to guarantee access to decent housing, adequate to the needs and incomes of families.

Figure 18: Municipalities with a local housing strategy in progress, 2023



Source: Portal da Habitação (Housing Portal)

The Programme to Support Access to Housing, “1.º Direito”, financed by the RRP, is aimed to provide for the promotion of housing solutions for people living in undignified housing conditions and who do not have the financial capacity to support the cost of access to adequate housing, through an investment of 1.211 million euros in order to increase the public housing supply, making a commitment to significantly increase the public housing stock.

This Programme is aimed at building rehabilitation and leasing, as well as new construction, also focusing on integrated and participatory approaches that promote social inclusion and territorial cohesion, with the coordination between sectoral policies and bodies, central, regional and local administrations and the public, private and cooperative sectors.

The materialisation of financial support implies the essential intervention of municipalities, which must prepare and submit to the Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute, I.P. (IHRU - Instituto da Habitação e Reabilitação Urbana) a Local Housing Strategy (ELH- Estratégia Local de Habitação) with the diagnosis of existing situations and the programming of investments to be supported in each territory. By February 2024, collaboration agreements have been concluded with 281 municipalities, covering a universe of 15.936 housing applications submitted and 7.559 housing contracts concluded.

As the ongoing responses are urgent and necessary, the need to ensure the conditions for achieving the objectives established through changes in various legal schemes and the creation of transitional response measures has also been considered.

Examples include: safeguarding the identification of inhabitants in precarious housing neighbourhoods or centres that lack the provision of public electricity services, until permanent housing solutions are implemented in the respective local housing strategies; the application of the phased rent mechanism to rent contracts concluded under the supported rental scheme, when this is implemented within the scope of debt settlement procedures; making the schemes more appropriate to situations of need for accommodation caused by an unforeseeable or exceptional event related to migratory movements, without prejudice to proper monitoring by municipalities; the simplification of the procedure of integrating properties belonging to the State’s private domain into the State’s housing reserve pool; the creation of a programme for the rental by the State of properties available on the market, through the Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute (IHRU), with a view to their subsequent subletting at affordable prices to families with difficulties in accessing housing on the market; the simplification of the application process to the Rent Support Programme, namely by changing the way that supports under the «Porta 65 - House renting for Young People» are granted, with applications now being submitted continuously, as well as the extension of the programme, applicable regardless of the age of the applicants, to situations where income falls by more than 20% and to single-parent families, being this new component of the programme called «Porta 65 +». By September 2023, 1179 families with dependents were supported within the scope of the Porta 65 Jovem Programme, covering 1635 dependents.

Another relevant measure especially aimed at the most vulnerable groups is the National Reserve Pool for Urgent and Temporary Accommodation (Bolsa Nacional de Alojamento Urgente e Temporário), which includes an amount of 138,1 million euros from the RRP for this purpose. The operationalisation process began on 12 November 2021 with the publication of a Notice of Expression of Interest which aimed, in a first phase, to identify entities and

projects with eligibility conditions and that pursue objectives of the investment, in particular as regards the implementation deadline and compliance with the National Plan for Urgent and Temporary Accommodation.

The funding is aimed to provide 2.000 accommodations by the 2nd quarter of 2026, with the number of accommodations contracted currently being 1.153, to respond to people in need of urgent accommodation, due to exceptional or unforeseeable events or situations of imminent risk, or who require transitional accommodation before they can be referred to a permanent housing solution. Subsequently, on 27 November 2023, the Notice was republished, with the 1st phase of applications submission ending on 31 May 2024. The operationalisation of these investments is intended to provide urgent or temporary accommodation solutions according to the following typologies: Urgent Accommodation; Social Emergency Accommodation Centre (CAES); Emergency Shelter Response and Transitional Apartments.

In addition to these responses, the Porta de Entrada (Front Door) Programme is aimed to address the situations of households that are deprived of their homes, or that are at imminent risk of being in this situation. This programme is based on granting support to households for the reconstruction of their residential paths, covering in particular: temporary accommodation of up to 36 months in a tourist resort or similar (including Local Accommodation and Youth Hostels); long-term rental of suitable housing in the public or private rental stock; reconstruction or rehabilitation of housing owned by the beneficiaries; reconstruction or rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes (self-promotion) on land owned by the beneficiaries. The granting of support is based on an institutional cooperation protocol to be concluded between the Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute (IHRU) and the competent municipality, and the Autonomous Regions may intervene in the protocol. We highlight the particular importance of this programme with regard to disaster, refugee reception and eviction situations, having had particular importance in the process of welcoming refugees from the Ukrainian War, where single-parent families with women and children predominate. Hitherto, this programme has responded to 2.942 families.

It is also important to mention Law no. 56/2023 of 6 October, which established the Tenant and Landlord Counter (BAS- Balcão do Arrendatário e do Senhorio) with a view to simplifying the operation and strengthening the guarantees of landlords and tenants. In what concerns the strengthening of the tenants guarantees, the Tenant and Landlord Counter (BAS) aims to protect namely those who are in default as regards the payment of rents due to a lack of resources. It is therefore important to highlight that children and young people beneficiaries of the Family Benefit and the Child Guarantee benefit are entitled to a protection mechanism that is materialised through the referral to the competent public authorities in order to ensure a dignified housing response and safeguard the appropriate social emergency responses. The notification to the tenant of the special eviction procedure includes information about the public services that the tenant can use if he/she does not have alternative housing, namely the Social Action Information and Support Service of the municipality of his/her residence area, as well as the possibility to request for the suspension and deferral of the eviction.

Therefore, and considering that the mission of the Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute (IHRU) is to ensure the implementation, coordination and monitoring of the national housing policy and of the programmes defined by the Portuguese Government for the housing, housing rental and urban rehabilitation areas, in coordination with regional and local housing policies, and that it has its own housing assets, it is important to mention that in February 2024, 1.873 families with children were residing in the social housing assets of the Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute (IHRU), covering 2.910 children (aged <18). On the same date, there were 8.816 families with children requesting housing support. These data only reflect the reality of the Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute (IHRU) housing assets, and it is not possible to portray the reality of the public housing stock managed by the municipalities.

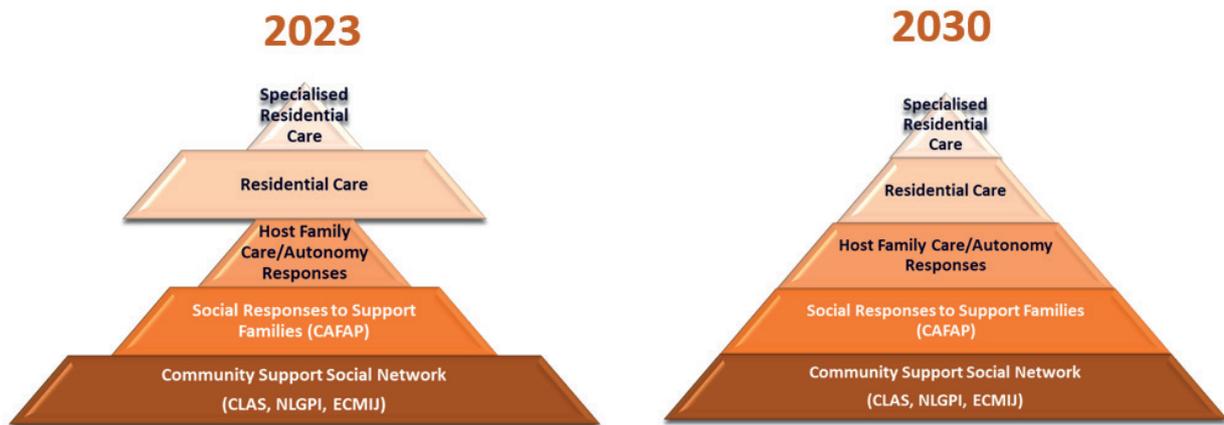


3.6.1 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALTERNATIVE CARE

Also within the scope of the implementation of measures that respond to paragraph 10 of the European Recommendation, we particularly highlight those addressed to **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALTERNATIVE CARE**, which are aimed to gradually reduce the number of children and young people in this situation and deinstitutionalise them, focusing on preventive interventions with their families, on the privileged application of family measures (host family care) and on the qualification of the residential care system, making it more personalised, specialised and promoting supported autonomy for young people, reaching levels of greater effectiveness in the transition of young people to adult life.

A paradigm shift is currently underway in the way the State protects children in danger. The aim is to substantially change the form and substance of the protection system responses by 2030.

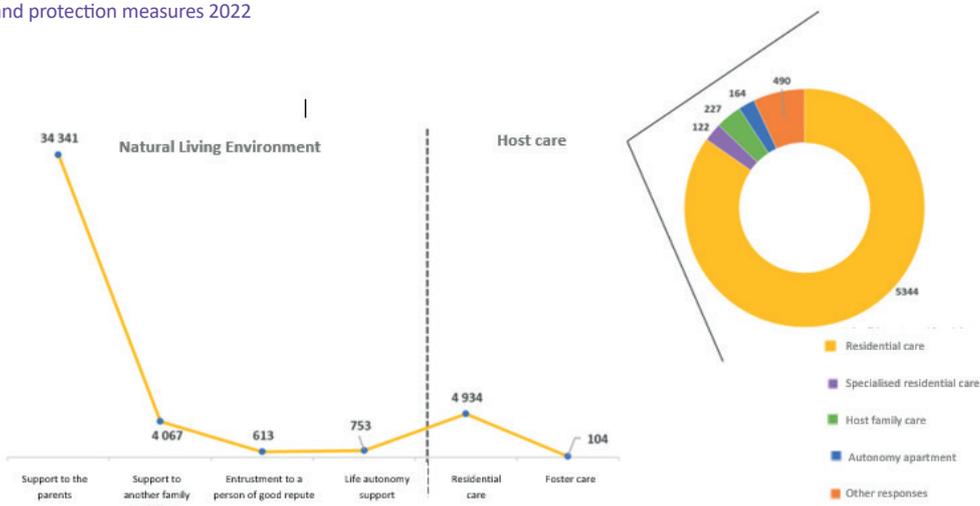
Figure 19: Foundations for the Qualification of the Residential Care System for Children and Young People



Source: ISS, I.P.- Instituto de Segurança Social, I.P. (Social Security Institute, PI.)

Although the deinstitutionalisation of children and young people continues to be a huge challenge for Portugal, it is still important to underline that the permanence of the child and/or young person in his/her biological family (even if extended) and in his/her natural environment continues to be a privileged way to avoid the need for the implementation of protection measures that imply the removal of the child and/or young person from his/her family- host family care or residential care- within the framework of safeguarding the best interests of children and young people.

Figure 20: Promotion and protection measures 2022

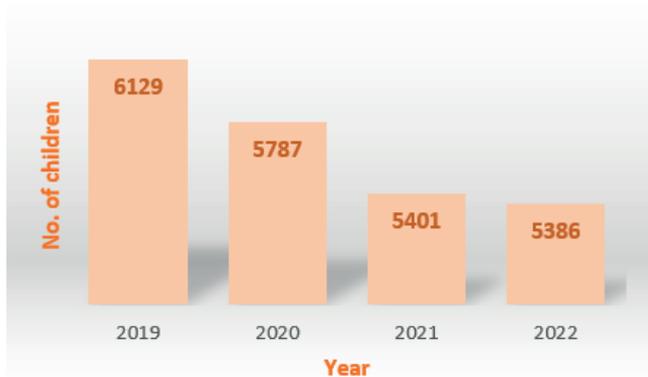


Source: ISS, I.P. (Social Security Institute, P.I.), SCML- Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa (Portuguese charitable organisation), CNPDPCJ (Commission for the Promotion of Rights and Protection of Children and Young People)

It is also important to highlight the downward trend in the number of children and young people accommodated in residential care responses in the last years, which is intended to be reinforced with the measures and changes that are currently being implemented.

In 2019 there were 6.129 children and young people accommodated in general residential homes¹. According to the latest available data (2022 CASA Report), in 2022 there were 5.386 children and young people accommodated in general residential homes, corresponding to a decrease of 13% during the period from 2019 to 2022.

Figure 20: Promotion and protection measures 2022



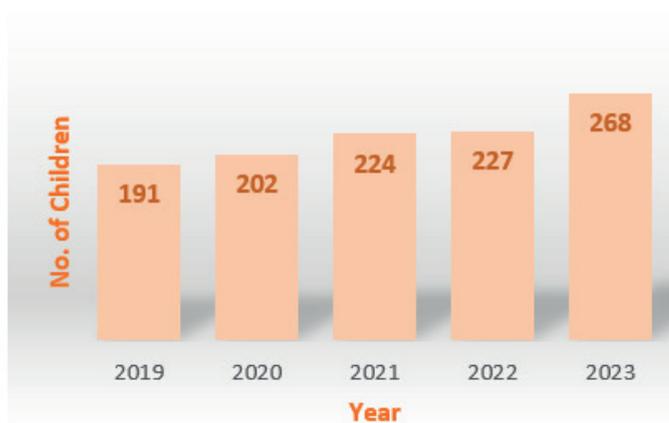
Source: ISS, I.P. (Social Security Institute, P.I.), SCML - Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa (Portuguese charitable organisation), CNPDPCJ (Commission for the Promotion of Rights and Protection of Children and Young People)

In response to the huge challenge of deinstitutionalisation, and bearing in mind the need to combine several responses and measures, on 1 June 2023 (Children’s Day) the Foundations for the Qualification of the Host Care System (Bases para a Qualificação do Sistema de Acolhimento) programme was presented, establishing that residential care will start to be exclusively aimed at children and young people with specific needs and specialised support, focusing on the qualification of the response network. In December 2023, Ministerial Order no. 450/2023, establishing the scheme for the organisation, operation and installation of Foster Homes was published, privileging a therapeutic intentional care focused on children, young people and their needs. This Ministerial Order strengthens the need to reorganise the current facilities, establishing a maximum of 15 children and/or young people per Foster Home and a team of professionals adapted and adjusted to the needs and characteristics of children and young people. It also provides for the creation

of an assembly and a national advisory council for foster children and young people. The first assembly has already taken place on 28 January 2024, with the participation of 200 foster children and young people.

From the point of view of strengthening host family responses and autonomy apartments, on which we intend to invest, it is already possible to see a growth trend, although it is still far from the ambitious objectives that we intend to achieve by 2030.

Figure 21: General Residential Homes (2019-2022)



Source: ISS, I.P. (Social Security Institute, P.I.); SCML - Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa (Portuguese charitable organisation); CPL- Casa Pia de Lisboa (Youth protection organisation in Lisbon).

Figure 23: Autonomy Apartments (2019-2022)



Source: ISS, I.P. (Social Security Institute, P.I.); SCML - Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa (Portuguese charitable organisation); CPL- Casa Pia de Lisboa (Youth protection organisation in Lisbon).

¹ Children and young people accommodated in specialised residential homes, especially aimed at children and young people with specific needs and specialised support, are not included;

4. INDICATORS, TARGETS AND MONITORING

With regard to the monitoring **INDICATORS** of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) implementation, it is worth noting that this is a more comprehensive monitoring framework with its data also being distributed across the pillars of the Child Guarantee and, based on the list of preliminary indicators assumed in the PAGPI 2022-2030, changes have been introduced in the meantime, suggested by the different sectoral areas, in order to allow for the most rigorous and comprehensive monitoring possible of the evolution of poverty and social exclusion of children and young people and their families and of the guarantee of access to several essential services. On the other hand, the replacement of some indicators was due to the selection of new indicators from more stable sources, which are not ad hoc, allowing to monitor the entire Child Guarantee Action Plan implementation period until 2030.

It is important to highlight that the indicators concerning child and youth care measures, integrated in Pillar IV (see table 16), were mostly replaced by the indicators now proposed by the EU monitoring framework for the European Child Guarantee, as were also some specific indicators in which it was considered that this new reference framework could be more advantageous in terms of measuring the progress of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) implementation.

This monitoring system, as already mentioned, is in progress and permanent development in a joint work with the OECD within the scope of the Technical Assistance Instrument (IAT- Instrumento de Assistência Técnica) Project. This project aims, among other things, to develop a comprehensive monitoring and assessment system connected with the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), which details the indicators to be monitored at the national, regional and local level, in close coordination with the monitoring to be carried out by the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI), but also in alignment with the EU reference framework for the monitoring of the Child Guarantee.

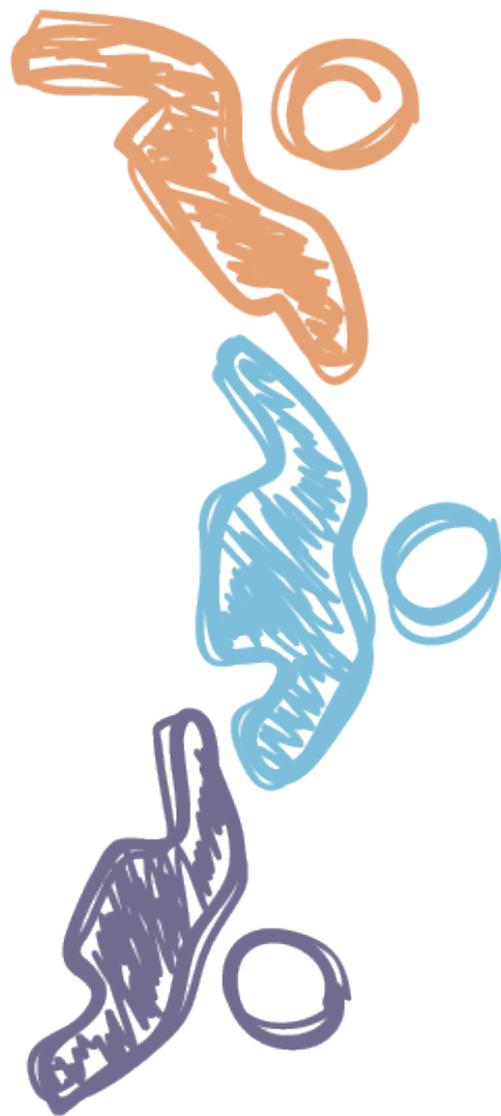


Table 1: Cross-cutting monitoring indicators

General objective of Council Recommendation (EU) 2021/1004	Indicators	Source	Initial data	M	W	Intermediate data	M	W	Current data	M	W	Trend
TO ENSURE ACCESS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO A RANGE OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES, CONTRIBUTING TO DEFENDING THEIR RIGHTS, COMBATING CHILD POVERTY AND PROMOTING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES.	1 - At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers	EU-SILC Eurostat (or INE)	18,4% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; INE 2020 - income year)	17,5% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	19,2% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	16,4% (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; INE 2021 - income year)	15,9% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	16,8% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	17,0% (INE 2023 highlight: 2022 - income year; 2023 - survey year)	16,2% (INE 2023 highlight - 2022 - income year; 2023 - survey year)	17,7% (INE 2023 highlight - 2022 - income year; 2023 - survey year)	
	2 - At-risk-of-poverty rate according to household composition	EU-SILC INE	Private households without dependent children - 17,2% Private households with dependent children - 19,7% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	-	-	Private households without dependent children - 14,8% Private households with dependent children - 18,0% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	-	-	Private households without dependent children - 15,2% Private households with dependent children - 18,9% (INE 2023 highlight: 2022 - income year; 2023 - survey year)	-	-	
	3 - At-risk-of-poverty rate of families with children	EU-SILC INE	One adult and at least one dependent child - 30,2% Two adults and one dependent child - 12,3% Two adults and two dependent children - 11,8% Two adults and three or more dependent children - 29,4% Other households with dependent children - 26,3% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	-	-	One adult and at least one dependent child - 28,0% Two adults and one dependent child - 11,0% Two adults and two dependent children - 12,8% Two adults and three or more dependent children - 22,7% Other households with dependent children - 23,5% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	-	-	One adult and at least one dependent child - 31,2% Two adults and one dependent child - 11,3% Two adults and two dependent children - 13,9% Two adults and three or more dependent children - 23,6% Other households with dependent children - 22,7% (INE 2023 highlight - 2022 - income year; 2023 - survey year)	-	-	
	4 - At-risk-of-poverty rate or social exclusion rate of children, per age group	EU-SILC Eurostat	age < 6 - 18,3% age 6-11 - 20,7% age 12-17 - 25,6% age <18 - 21,9% (2020 - survey year)	age < 6 - 17,9% age 6-11 - 22,4% age 12-17 - 26,4% age <18 - 22,6% (2020 - survey year)	age < 6 anos - 18,1% age 6-11 - 19,9% age 12-17 - 24,7% age <18 - 21,2% (2020 - survey year)	age < 6 - 19,0% age 6-11 - 22,0% age 12-17 - 26,7% age <18 - 22,9% (2021 - survey year)	age < 6 - 17,2% age 6-11 - 21,9% age 12-17 - 28,3% age <18 - 22,9% (2021 - survey year)	age < 6 - 20,9% age 6-11 - 22,2% age 12-17 - 24,9% age <18 - 22,8% (2021 - survey year)	age < 6 - 17,6% age 6-11 - 19,8% age 12-17 - 24,0% age <18 - 20,7% (2022 - survey year)	age < 6 - 15,2% age 6-11 - 23,1% age 12-17 - 23,1% age <18 - 20,9% (2022 - survey year)	age < 6 - 20,1% age 6-11 - 16,5% age 12-17 - 25,0% age <18 - 20,6% (2022 - survey year)	
	5 - Monetary poverty risk rate in children (aged <18)	EU-SILC INE	20,4% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	19,7% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	21,1% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	18,5% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	18,4% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	18,6% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	20,7% (INE 2023 highlight - 2022 - income year; 2023 - survey year)	20,1% (INE 2023 highlight - 2022 - income year; 2023 - survey year)	21,2% (INE 2023 highlight - 2022 - income year; 2023 - survey year)	
	6 - Material and social deprivation rate (children aged <18), per age group	EU-SILC Eurostat INE	age < 6 - 8,7% age 6-11 - 10,6% age 12-17 - 12,1% age <18 - 10,6% (2021 - survey year)	age < 6 - 8,6% age 6-11 - 11,8% age 12-17 - 11,6% age <18 - 10,8% (2021 - survey year)	age < 6 - 8,8% age 6-11 - 9,3% age 12-17 - 12,7% age <18 - 10,4% (2021 - survey year)	age < 6 - 11,7% age 6-11 - 12,9% age 12-17 - 10,3% age <18 - 11,6% (2022 - survey year)	age < 6 - 10,6% age 6-11 - 15,6% age 12-17 - 10,1% age <18 - 12,1% (2022 - survey year)	age < 6 - 12,9% age 6-11 - 10,3% age 12-17 - 10,6% age <18 - 11,1% (2022 - survey year)	age <18 anos - 11,1% (INE highlight: 2023 - survey year)	age <18 - 12,2% (INE highlight: 2023 - survey year)	age <18 - 11,8% (INE highlight: 2023 - survey year)	
	7 ¹ - Child-specific material deprivation rate per age (<16)	EU-SILC Eurostat	N/D	-	-	age 1-5 - 11,3% age 1-15 - 14,6% age 6-11 - 15,6% age 12-15 - 16,4% age <16 - 14,0% (2021 - survey year; data only published in August 2023)	-	-	N/D	-	-	-

Explanatory note: N/D - No data for the period concerned
1 - New indicator

Table 2: Monitoring indicators – Pillar I

PILLAR	Strategic objectives	Indicators	Source	Initial data	M	W	Intermediate data	M	W	Current data	M	W	Trend
PILLAR I	O1 - TO PROMOTE INTEGRATION IN THE LABOUR MARKET AND INCREASE WAGES	8 - At-risk-of-poverty rate at work (people aged ≥ 18)	EU-SILC Eurostat INE	Employed People - 11,2% Unemployed People - 25,9% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; INE 2020 - income year)	Employed people - 12,1% Unemployed people - 23,7% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; INE 2020 - income year)	Employed people - 10,3% Unemployed people - 27,5% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; INE 2020 - income year)	Employed People - 10,3% Unemployed People - ND (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; INE 2021 - income year)	Employed people - 11,6% Unemployed people - ND (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; INE 2021 - income year)	Employed People - 9,0% Unemployed people - ND (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; INE 2021 - income year)	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		9 ¹ - At-risk-of-poverty rate of households with at least one dependent child, per work intensity	EU-SILC Eurostat	76,9% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; Series break; 2020 - income year)	-	-	75,3% (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; 2021 - income year)	-	-	N/D	-	-	
		10 - At-risk-of-poverty rate of children and young people (aged 0-17) in households with very low work intensity	EU-SILC Eurostat	66,7% (Eurostat 2020 - survey year; 2019 - income year)	77,2% (Eurostat 2020 - survey year; 2019 - income year)	53% (Eurostat 2020 - survey year; 2019 - income year)	81,2% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; series break; 2020 - income year)	72,3% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; series break; 2020 - income year)	91,0% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; series break; 2020 - income year)	N/D	-	-	
		11 ¹ - People at risk of poverty, material deprivation, household low work intensity, per age and sex - intersections of EU 2030 poverty target indicators	EU-SILC Eurostat	age < 18 Severe deprivation - 0,9% Non-severe deprivation - 2,4% (2021)	age < 18 Severe deprivation - 0,8% Non-severe deprivation - 2,3% (2021)	age < 18 Severe deprivation - 1,0% Non-severe deprivation - 2,6% (2021)	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	-
	O2 - TO INCREASE THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ADULTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHOSE FAMILIES HAVE CHILDREN	12 - Proportion of people (aged 18 to 64) who participate in lifelong learning activities	EU Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) Eurostat	12,9% (2021; series break)	12% (2021; series break)	13,7% (2021; series break)	13,8% (2022)	13,2% (2022)	14,2% (2022)	N/D	-	-	
		13 - Severe material deprivation rate of children (aged 0-17), per parental educational level	EU-SILC Eurostat	Up to lower secondary education (levels 0-2) - 10,5% Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education (levels 3-4) - 3,1% Tertiary education (levels 5-8) - 0,3% (2020)	-	-	N/D	-	-	N/D	-	-	-

Explanatory note: N/D - No data for the period concerned

1 - New indicators

Table 3: Monitoring indicators – Pillar II

PILLAR	Strategic objectives	Indicators	Source	Initial data	M	W	Intermediate data	M	W	Current data	M	W	Trend
PILLAR II	O3 - TO STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES	14 - Impact of social transfers (except pensions) on child poverty (< 18);	EU-SILC and ECHP Eurostat	24,9% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; 2020 - income year)	24,3% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; 2020 - income year)	25,4% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; 2020 - income year)	25,4% (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; 2021 - income year; series break)	25,9% (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; 2021 - income year; series break)	24,9% (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; 2021 - income year; series break)	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		15 - Number of children covered by the supplement to the "Child Guarantee" social benefit	ISS (Social Security Institute)/I.I.P. (Information and Technology Institute)	age 3-5 - 33 089 age 6-17 - 118 235 Total - 151 324 (October 2022)	-	-	age 3-5 - 30 039 age 6-17 - 110 973 Total - 141 066 (June 2023)	-	-	age 3-5 - 25 977 age 6-17 - 96 672 Total - 122 649 (January 2024)	-	-	
	O4 - TO PROMOTE CLOSE AND INTEGRATED SOCIAL ACTION AIMED AT FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ¹	16 - At-risk-of-poverty rate of children, according to age group	EU-SILC Eurostat	age < 6 - 17,1% age 6-11 - 19,8% age 12-17 - 23,5% age <18 - 20,4% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; 2020 - income year)	age < 6 - 14,4% age 6-11 - 18,7% age 12-17 - 24,7% age <18 - 19,7% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; 2020 - income year)	age < 6 - 19,8% age 6-11 - 20,9% age 12-17 - 22,3% age <18 - 21,1% (Eurostat 2021 - survey year; 2020 - income year)	age < 6 - 16,4% age 6-11 - 17,4% age 12-17 - 21,1% age <18 - 18,5% (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; 2021 - income year)	age < 6 - 14,3% age 6-11 - 20,1% age 12-17 - 20,0% age <18 - 18,4% (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; 2021 - income year)	age < 6 - 18,6% age 6-11 - 14,8% age 12-17 - 22,3% age <18 - 18,6% (Eurostat 2022 - survey year; 2021 - income year)	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		17- Poverty intensity (children aged 0-17)	ICOR (Survey on Living Conditions and Income) INE	31,6% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	34,5% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	31,0% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	26,1% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	25,3% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	28,5% (2021 - income year; 2022 - survey year)	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		18 -Poverty intensity of families with children	ICOR + Calculations Source report	Families with children - 5,0% Single-parent families - 7,3% Families without children - 4,1% (2019 - income year; 2020 - survey year)	-	-	Families with children - 6,9% Single-parent families - 12,4% Families without children - 4,8% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	-	-	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		19 - Poverty severity of families with children	ICOR + Calculations Source report	Families with children - 2,2% Single-parent families - 3,3% Families without children - 1,8% (2019 - income year; 2020 - survey year)	-	-	Families with children - 3,6% Single-parent families - 7,2% Families without children - 2,1% (2020 - income year; 2021 - survey year)	-	-	N/D	N/D	N/D	
20 - Number of families with children accompanied by the social action information and support services	ISS/I.I.P.	Mainland - 59909 Azores (ISSA) - 2564 Madeira (ISSM) - 3243 (2021)	-	-	Mainland - 63994 Azores (ISSA) - 2603 Madeira (ISSM) - 2828 (2022)	-	-	Mainland - 72574 Azores (ISSA) - 1767 Madeira (ISSM) - 2429 (2023)	-	-			

Explanatory note: N/D - No data for the period concerned

1 - The first indicator of this objective, "At-risk-of-poverty rate or social exclusion rate of children according to age group", has been eliminated because the information is already included in indicator 4 (cross-cutting indicators).

The indicator "Intensity of vulnerability of families with children, at the local level, according to the application of composite vulnerability assessment factors" has been eliminated, as it is being developed with a view to integrating the local monitoring level of the Child Guarantee, which is under construction.

Table 4: Monitoring indicators – Pillar III – Early Childhood

PILLAR	Strategic objectives	Indicators	Source	Initial data	M	W	Intermediate data	M	W	Current data	M	W	Trend
PILAR III	OS - TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD RESPONSES	21 ¹ - Children up to the age of 3 in formal care or education structures, per age group, for 25 hours or more, due to risk of poverty or social exclusion.	EU-SILC Eurostat	At risk of poverty - 6,7% Not at risk of poverty - 35,5% Total - 42,1% (2020 survey year)	-	-	At risk of poverty - 5,4% Not at risk of poverty - 37,3% Total - 42,7% (2021 survey year)	-	-	At risk of poverty - 6,2% Not at risk of poverty - 39,7% Total - 45,9% (2022 survey year)	-	-	
		22 ² – Students from the age of 3 up to the starting age of compulsory schooling in primary education, per gender - % of the corresponding age population	Eurostat	92,9% (2020)	93,5% (2020)	92,3% (2020)	90,5% (2021)	90,9% (2021)	90,0% (2021)	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		23 ³ – Coverage rate of early childhood social responses on the Mainland	Social Charter GEP/MTSSS (Strategy and Planning Office/Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security)	48,8% (2020)	-	-	50,3% (2021)	-	-	51,3% (2022)	-	-	
		24 – Percentage of early childhood education and care responses according to the legal nature of the owner, on the Mainland	Social Charter GEP/MTSSS	Early childhood education and care from for-profit entities - 23,5 % Early childhood education and care from non-profit entities - 76,5% (2020)	-	-	Early childhood education and care from for-profit entities - 23,1 % Early childhood education and care from non-profit entities - 76,9% (2021)	-	-	Early childhood education and care from for-profit entities - 23,4 % Early childhood education and care from non-profit entities - 76,6% (2022)	-	-	
		25 – Number of children aged 0-3 covered by the free access to early childhood education and care	ISS, IP and SCML (Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa - Portuguese charitable organisation)	31 589 (Dec. 2021)	-	-	50 732 (Dec. 2022)	-	-	91 150 (Dec. 2023)	-	-	
		26 ⁴ – Pre-schooling rate	DGEEC	age 3 - 78,9% age 4 - 94,8% age 5 - 99,8% Total - 90,4% (2020/21)	-	-	age 3 - 81,9% age 4 - 96,0% age 5 - 99,8% Total - 93,3% (2021/22)	-	-	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		27 – Number of children enrolled (pre-school education), per educational establishment nature	DGEEC	Total - 251 060 Public education - 135 372 Private education - 115 688 (2020/21)	Total - 129 394	Total - 121 666	Total - 259 030 Public education - 140 218 Private education - 118 812 (2021/22)	Total - 133 102	Total - 125 928	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		28 – Average number of children per child educator at the service of early childhood education and care responses, per educational establishment nature	DGEEC	Total - 14,7 Public education - 13,6 Private education - 16,2 (2020/21)	-	-	Total - 15,0 Public education - 13,8 Private education - 16,8 (2021/22)	-	-	N/D	N/D	N/D	

Explanatory note: N/D - No data for the period concerned

1 - New indicator that measures the Barcelona Targets and replaces the previously considered one "Rate of children from poor families, who attend early childhood responses up to the age of 3".

2 - New indicator that measures the Barcelona Targets

3 - The local dimension was removed from the indicator "per district and municipality" as it will be part of the local monitoring level that is being developed.

4 - The local dimension (NUTS II) was removed from the indicator as it will be part of the local monitoring level that is being developed, and the "per gender" dimension was removed, as it was not possible to collect the respective data.

Table 5: Monitoring indicators – Pillar III – Education

PILLAR	Strategic objectives	Indicators	Source	Initial data	M	W	Intermediate data	M	W	Current data	M	W	Trend
PILLAR III	06 - TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE AND SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES	29 - Number of students enrolled, per study cycle	DGEEC	Total - 1 570 791 Preschool - 251 060 1st Cycle - 373 109 2nd Cycle - 210 064 3rd Cycle - 342 869 Secondary education - 393 689 (2020/21)	Total - 803 310 Preschool - 129 394 Basic education - 476 416 Secondary education - 197 500 (2020/21)	Total - 767 481 Preschool - 121 666 Basic education - 449 626 Secondary education - 196 189 (2020/21)	Total - 1 586 453 Preschool - 259 030 1st Cycle - 371 855 2nd Cycle - 212 914 3rd Cycle - 42 789 Secondary education - 397 100 (2021/22)	Total - 809 215 Preschool - 133 102 Basic education - 477 150 Secondary education - 198 963 (2021/22)	Total - 777 238 Preschool - 125 628 Basic education - 453 173 Secondary education - 198 137 (2021/22)	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		30 - Actual schooling rate, per study cycle	DGEEC	Preschool - 91,3% 1st Cycle - 98,3% 2nd Cycle - 89,2% 3rd Cycle - 92,3% Secondary education - 85,7% (2020/21)	-	-	Preschool - 93,3% 1st Cycle - 100,0% 2nd Cycle - 90,5% 3rd Cycle - 93,7% Secondary education - 88,0% (2021/22)	Preschool - 93,1% 1st Cycle - 100,0% 2nd Cycle - 89,5% 3rd Cycle - 93,1% Secondary education - 85,2% (2021/22)	Preschool - 93,4% 1st Cycle - 100,0% 2nd Cycle - 91,4% 3rd Cycle - 94,5% Secondary education - 91,0% (2021/22)	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		31 - Retention and dropout rate, per study cycle	DGEEC	Basic education - 3,1% Secondary education - 8,3% (2020/21)	-	-	Basic education - 3,1% Secondary education - 8,6% (2021/22)	Basic education - 3,6% Secondary education - 9,7% (2020/21)	Basic education - 2,6% Secondary education - 7,4% (2020/21)	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		32 - Early dropout rate from education and training	INE	6,7% (2021)	8,8% (2021)	4,6% (2021)	6,5% (2022)	8,7% (2022)	4,3% (2022)	8% (2023)	9,8% (2023)	6,1% (2023)	
		33 ¹ - Average number of students per teacher and study cycle	DGEEC	Preschool - 14,7 1st Cycle - 12,0 2nd Cycle - 8,8 3rd Cycle and Secondary education - 7,9% (2020/21)	-	-	Preschool - 15,0 1st Cycle - 12,0 2nd Cycle - 8,9 3rd Cycle and Secondary education - 7,9 (2021/2022)	-	-	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		34 - Average number of students per computer, study cycle and educational establishment nature, in regular basic education schools	DGEEC	1,9 (2020/21)	-	-	1,3 (2021/2022)	-	-	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		35 ² - Transition/completion rate, per study cycle	DGEEC	1st Cycle - 97,9% 2nd Cycle - 96,7% 3rd Cycle - 95,7% Secondary education - 91,7% (2020/21)	-	-	1st Cycle - 98,2% 2nd Cycle - 96,9% 3rd Cycle - 95,5% Secondary education - 91,4% (2021/22)	-	-	N/D	N/D	N/D	
		36 - Number of students enrolled in mainland Portugal, beneficiaries of school social assistance, per education level, study cycle and income level	DGEEC	Total: 357347 Preschool: A-16343; B-12114; C-117 1st Cycle: A-59971; B-43538; C-603 2nd Cycle: A-38454; B-29046; C-504 3rd Cycle: A-52057; B-44256; C-810 Secondary education: A-30194; B-32795; C-545 (2019/20)	-	-	Total: 399974 Preschool: A-15361; B-12409; C-3414 1st Cycle: A-58847; B-47116; C-15956 2nd Cycle: A-34976; B-27700; C-9228 3rd Cycle: A-48951; B-41881; C-12530 Secondary education: A-30058; B-33041; C-8506 (2020/21)	-	-	Total: 416952 Preschool: A-18263; B-14753; C-4715 1st Cycle: A-59650; B-48591; C-37016 2nd Cycle: A-35409; B-28708; C-10574 3rd Cycle: A-48835; B-42271; C-14295 Secondary education: A-29827; B-34050; C-10000 (2021/22)	-	-	
		37 - Number of students covered by free school textbooks	IGEFE (Institute of Financial Management of Education)	997.986 students (98,6% of the students potentially covered by the measure)	-	-	972.529 alunos (97,28% of the students potentially covered by the measure) (2021)	-	-	918.873 alunos (96,69% of the students potentially covered by the measure) (2022)	-	-	
38 - Number of school groups covered by the TEIP Programme (Priority Intervention Educational Territories).	DGE	146 school groups or non-grouped schools (2021)	-	-	146 school groups or non-grouped schools (2022)	-	-	146 school groups or non-grouped schools (2023)	-	-			

Explanatory note: N/D - No data for the period concerned

1 - The dimension of the educational establishment nature has been removed from the indicator

2 - The local dimension of the 'per municipality' indicator has been removed as it will be part of the local monitoring level that is being developed.

Table 6: Monitoring indicators – Pillar III – Health and Nutrition

PILLAR	Strategic objectives	Indicators	Source	Initial data	M	W	Intermediate data	M	W	Current data	M	W	Trend	
PILLAR III	07 - TO STRENGTHEN THE ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE, HEALTH PROMOTION, DISEASE PREVENTION AND SPECIALISED CARE	39 ¹ - Proportion of newborns aged up to 28 days with a medical check-up in the NHS	DGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	85,4% (49 545 children in 2021)	-	-	-	
		40 ² - Proportion of children aged 2 with adequate follow-up in the NHS	DGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	47,3% (2021)	-	-	-	
		41 - Number of Support Centres for children and young people at risk, established in the health services	DGS	290 in primary and hospital healthcare (2021)	-	-	N/D	-	-	N/D	-	-	-	-
		42 - Number of children and young people identified and accompanied by the Support Centres for children and young people at risk, in the health services	DGS	83.433 children and young people (a total of >= 2008)	-	-	14.286 children supported by the NACJR (Support Centres for Children and Young People at Risk), of which 8 280 are new referrals (2019)	-	-	N/D	-	-	-	-
		43 - Number of children and young people covered by the National Programme for the Promotion of Oral Health	DGS	age <=6 - 30 233 Children and young people - age 7/10/13 - 47 288 Children and young people - age 16 - 22 438 Children and young people - age 18 - 9 740 Children and Young People - Intermediate Ages - 8 822 (2020/2021)	-	-	age <=6 - 37 369 Children and young People - age 7/10/13 - 96 637 Children and young people - age 16 - 17 169 Children and young people - age 18 - 9 243 Children and Young People - Intermediate Ages - 10 346 (2021/2022)	-	-	N/D	-	-	-	↗
		44 - Number of children and young people covered by the Child Visual Health Screening	DGS	33 408 children (2020)	-	-	44.172 children screened at 2 years of age (adhesion rate of 74,8% in 2021)	-	-	N/D	-	-	-	↗
		45 - Coverage rate of neonatal hearing health screening	DGS	90% (2021)	-	-	N/D	-	-	N/D	-	-	-	-
		46 - Number of Early Childhood Intervention Local Teams	DGS	155	-	-	155	-	-	155	-	-	-	↗
		47 - Number of children and young people accompanied by local Intervention Teams (EI) / National Early Childhood Intervention System (SNIP)	SNIP	Total number of children (and their families) - 22.994 age < 3 - 6.893 age 3-6 - 16.908 (2019)	-	-	Total number of children (and their families) - 24518 age < 3 - 6.629 age 3-6 - 17.889 (2021)	-	-	Total number of children (and their families) - 26980 age < 3 - 8.493 age 3-6 - 18.487 (2022)	-	-	-	↗
		08 - TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO HEALTHY EATING	48 ³ - Proportion of overweight children (pre-obesity and obesity) aged 6-8	COSI Portugal	29,7% - prevalence of overweight (pre-obesity + obesity); 11,9% - obesity (COSI Portugal 6th round 2018/2019)	-	-	31,9% - prevalence of overweight (pre-obesity + obesity); 13,5% - obesity (COSI Portugal 6th round 2021/2022)	Overweight: 31,7%; obesity: 14,0% (COSI Portugal 6th round 2021/2022)	Overweight: 32,1%; obesity: 13,1% (COSI Portugal 6th round 2021/2022)	N/D	-	-	-
	49 ³ - Proportion of overweight (including obesity) in children aged 7-8, per parental education level		COSI/OMS Europe	Low level of parental education – 32% (overweight) and 12% (obesity) High level of parental education – 25% (overweight) and 8% (obesity) (COSI/WHO Europe 4th round, 2015-2017)	-	-	Low level of parental education – 33,6% (overweight) and 14,6% (obesity) High level of parental education – 22,8% (overweight) and 6,8% (obesity) (COSI/WHO Europe 5th round 2018-2020)	-	-	N/D	-	-	-	↗
	50 - Percentage of the population with a lack of financial capacity to have a meal of meat or fish (or vegetarian equivalent) at least every 2 days		EU-SILC INE	2,4% (2021)	-	-	3% (2022)	-	-	2,3% (2023)	-	-	-	↘

Explanatory note: N/D - No data for the period concerned
 1 - New indicators
 2 - The Health area proposed the elimination of the indicator "Percentage of children undergoing medical consultations or treatment" and the indicator "Percentage of children with health status monitoring (aged 6 and 13)", which were replaced by the two new indicators.
 3 - The Nutrition area has corrected the upper limit of the age range from 9 to 8 years of age.

Table 7: Monitoring indicators – Pillar III – Housing

PILLAR	Strategic objectives	Indicators	Source	Initial data	M	W	Intermediate data	M	W	Current data	M	W	Trend
PILLAR III	O9 - TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO DECENT HOUSING FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN VULNERABILITY SITUATIONS	51 - Housing cost overburden rate for households with children and young people (aged 0-17) (overall households with children vs. group of families at risk of poverty)	EU-SILC	Overall households with children - 5,3% Group of families at risk of poverty - 21% (2020)	-	-	Overall households with children - 7,4% Group of families at risk of poverty - 31,3% (2021)	-	-	Latest data calculated and published by Eurostat refers to 2022: Overall households with children - 6%; Group of families at risk of poverty - 23,1% (2022)	-	-	
		52 ² - Number of families with children (aged ≤ 17) living in social housing assets of the IHRU (Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute)	IHRU	-	-	-	1919 (Sep. 2023)	-	-	1873 (Feb. 2024)	-	-	
		53 ² - Number of children (aged ≤ 17) living in social housing assets of the IHRU	IHRU	-	-	-	3001 (Sep. 2023)	-	-	2910 (Feb. 2024)	-	-	
		54 ² - Number of families with children who have requested housing support from the eAA (supported tenancy) - 7313	IHRU	-	-	-	7313 (Sep. 2023)	-	-	8816 (Feb. 2024)	-	-	

Explanatory note: N/D - No data for the period concerned

1 - The indicator "Percentage of households with children with material deprivation with regard to the housing dimension (total population vs. population with children living below the poverty line)" has been removed because the Housing area has no guarantee of continued monitoring of this indicator.

2 - New indicators

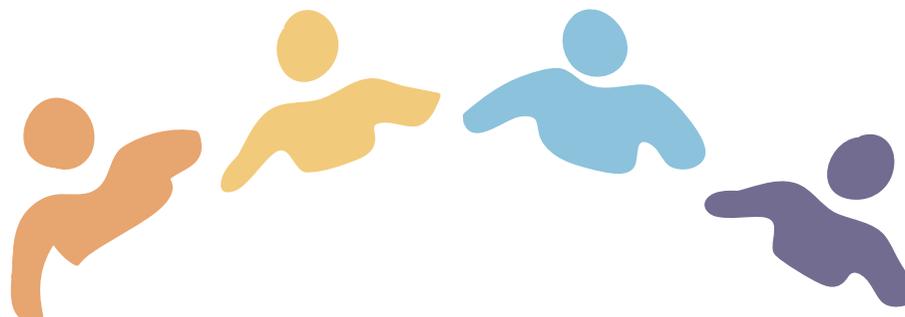


Table 8: Monitoring indicators – Pillar IV

PILLAR	Strategic objectives	Indicators	Source	Initial data	M	W	Intermediate data	M	W	Current data	M	W	Trend
PILLAR IV	O10 - TO PREVENT INSTITUTIONALISATION AND PROMOTE DEINSTITUTIONALISATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN DANGER	55 - Number of children and young people in danger, covered by promotion and protection measures in their natural living environment	ISS, I.P./ CNPDPCJ	39774 (November 2022)	-	-	N/D	-	-	46525 (November 2023)	-	-	
		56 - Number of children and young people covered by Educational Guardianship measures	DGRSP (CASA report)	4734 (2021)	-	-	N/D	-	-	4428 (2022)	-	-	
		57 ¹ - Number of children in alternative care	European Commission - SPC	-	-	-	-	-	-	11027 (2022)	-	-	
		58 ¹ - Number of children in host residential care	European Commission - SPC	5659 (2021)	-	-	N/D	-	-	5630 (2022)	-	-	
		59 ¹ - Number of children in formal family-type care	European Commission - SPC	-	-	-	4907 (2022)	-	-	5640 (2023)	-	-	
		60 ¹ - Number of children in other types of alternative care	European Commission - SPC	486 (2021)	-	-	N/D	-	-	490 (2022)	-	-	
	O11 - TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A MIGRANT BACKGROUND OR ETHNIC MINORITY BACKGROUND, IN PARTICULAR FROM THE PORTUGUESE ROMA COMMUNITY	70 - At-risk-of-poverty and social exclusion rate of foreigners in Portugal	EU-SILC Eurostat	19,6% (2020 survey year)	17,4% (2020 survey year)	21,1% (2020 survey year)	24,9% (2021 survey year)	23,4% (2021 survey year)	25,9% (2021 survey year)	N/D	-	-	
		71 - At-risk-of-poverty rate of children (aged 0-17), according to their parents' country of birth	EU-SILC Eurostat	National - 19,8% Country of Birth - Foreign - 21,8% (2020 income year; 2021 survey year - Eurostat; series break)	-	-	National - 16,4% Country of Birth - Foreign - 22,0% (2021 income year; 2022 survey year)	-	-	N/D	-	-	
		72 - Percentage of the population living in overcrowded housing (population of Portuguese nationality vs. population of foreign nationality)	EU-SILC OM	National Pop. - 7,3% Foreign Pop. - foreigners 19,2% (2020)	-	-	National Pop. - 9,0% Foreign Pop. - foreigners 20,3% (2021)	-	-	National Pop. - 7,9% Foreign Pop. - foreigners 19,1% (2022)	-	-	
		73 - Transition rate in the primary and secondary education levels (Portuguese students vs. foreign students)	DGEEC OM	Foreign students - 88,5% Portuguese students - 96,2% (2019/2020)	-	-	Foreign students - 89,8% Portuguese students - 95,5% (2020/2021)	-	-	Foreign students - 88,1% Portuguese students - 95,9% (2021/2022)	-	-	
		74 - Early school dropout rate by Roma children in the 2nd and 3rd study cycles	DGEEC	2nd Cycle - 14,8% 3rd Cycle - 8,6% (2018/19)	-	-	2nd Cycle - 20,2% 3rd Cycle - 17,0% (2020/21)	-	-	N/D	-	-	
		75 - Percentage of children and young people from Roma communities who attend public school and benefit from the highest level of socioeconomic support (level A)	DGEEC	52,5% (2018/19)	-	-	68,5% (2020/21)	-	-	N/D	-	-	
	O12 - TO PROMOTE EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION ²	76 - Percentage of municipalities covered by the psychological support response for children and young people victims of domestic violence;	MAAP/CIG (Minister of State and of Parliamentary Affairs / Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality)	205 (2021)	-	-	202 (2022)	-	-	195 (2023)	-	-	
		77 ³ - Growth rate of girls enrolled in the areas of information and communication technologies	MAAP/OG	2,1% (2021)	(5836) (2021)	(1638) (2021)	-1,4% (2022)	(5556) (2022)	(1437) (2022)	N/D	-	-	
		78 ⁴ - Growth rate of training actions under the Project "Healthy Practices - End Female Genital Mutilation"	MAAP/OG	N/D	-	-	N/D	-	-	27% (2023)	-	-	

Explanatory note: N/D - No data for the period concerned

1 - New indicators

2 - The indicator "Percentage of municipalities responding to the Report on the monitoring of situations by the High Commissioner for Migration, P.I (Alto Comissariado para as Migrações, I.P.), and by the Observatory of Roma Communities (Observatório das Comunidades Ciganas)," has been removed, as it was considered that the respective definition does not bring relevant data.

3 - The indicator "Growth rate of girls enrolled in the areas of information and communication technologies" replaced the indicator "Number of girls enrolled in the areas of information and communication technologies".

4 - The indicator "Growth rate of training actions under the Project "Healthy Practices - End Female Genital Mutilation" replaced the indicator "Number of training actions under the Project "Healthy Practices - End Female Genital Mutilation"

In the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), **TARGETS** were defined to assess each of its Pillars and the respective Strategic Objectives whose results were determined in this reporting exercise. In some of these targets, in addition to the final target, it was possible to define interim targets, allowing to assess the respective intermediate fulfilment throughout the Child Guarantee implementation period. Still, even in cases where it has not been possible to define interim targets, whenever the achievement result associated with the target is available, it is reported, being indicative of the target's development rate.

The subsequent tables in this chapter include the current results of the defined targets and, whenever

there has been a review, replacement or elimination of targets, this is mentioned in the respective explanatory note.

It is important to underline that in Pillar III - Strategic Objective 9 "To promote access to decent housing for families with children and young people in vulnerability situations" - in the context of the work that has been further developed in the housing sector, it was considered the need to improve the targets to be undertaken and it is not yet possible to present an alternative proposal that allows the definition of measurable targets in the specific area of access of children and young people to housing, particularly due to the current lack of sufficiently disaggregated information.

Table 9: Targets per strategic objective of Pillar I: Employment, qualifications and skills

Strategic Objectives	Targets	Starting point / Source	Interim target	Final target	Interim result	
O1 - TO PROMOTE INTEGRATION IN THE LABOUR MARKET AND INCREASE WAGES	1. To increase the employment rate of the population aged between 20 and 64	74,2% (2020)	European Pillar of Social Rights INE, Employment survey Eurostat GEP (Strategic and Planning Office) Bulletin - 2030 Targets	N/D	80%	77,1% (2022)
	2. To reduce the gap between the employment rate of men and women	5,7p.p. (2020)	European Pillar of Social Rights INE, Employment survey Eurostat GEP Bulletin - 2030 Targets	N/D	3p.p.	5,9p.p. (2022)
	3. To halve the income poverty rate of poor workers	11,2% (2020)	ENCP INE, Survey on Living Conditions and Income	N/D	5,60%	10,3% (2021)
	4. To reduce the disparity in the poverty rate of the different territories compared to the national average rate	PT - 18,4p.p. (2021)	ENCP EU-SILC: Survey on Living Conditions and Income	N/D	3p.p.	-
	5. To increase the guaranteed minimum monthly wage, progressively and annually	EUR 705 (2022)	Decree-Law no. 109-B/2021 of 7 December	EUR 900 (2026)	N/D	EUR 820 (2024)
O2 - TO INCREASE THE QUALIFICATIONS/ SKILLS OF ADULTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHOSE FAMILIES HAVE CHILDREN	1. To reduce the percentage of NEETs	11,0% (2020)	European Pillar of Social Rights Eurostat, Labour Force Survey (LFS)	N/D	Between 7% and 8%	8,6% (2022)
	2. To reduce the rate of early school and training dropouts.	6,1% (2021)	European Pillar of Social Rights INE, Employment survey (Series - 2021)	N/D	5%	5,9% (2022)
	3. To ensure the certification of adults in RVCC (Recognition, Validation and Certification of Skills) processes	N/D	<i>Acelerador Qualifica</i>	N/D	100.000	17434 (sum of 2021, 2022 and 2023)
	4. To increase the percentage of adults who annually participate in education and training actions	38% (2016)	European Pillar of Social Rights INE GEP Bulletin - 2030 Targets	N/D	60%	-

Explanatory note: N/D - data not available

Table 10: Targets per strategic objective of Pillar II: Social Protection and Social Action

Strategic Objectives	Targets	Starting point / Source	Interim target	Final target	Interim result	
O3 - TO STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES	1. To halve the monetary poverty in the group of children in poverty situation	340 000 (2019) (estimated value)	ENCP EU-SILC: Survey on Living Conditions and Income	N/D	170.000	-
	2. To bring the child material deprivation indicator closer to the European average	PT - 35,3% EU - 23,3% (2014)	ENCP Eurostat	N/D	In percentage points	<16 PT - 14,0% EU - 13,0% (2021)
O4 - TO PROMOTE CLOSE AND INTEGRATED SOCIAL ACTION AIMED AT FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ¹	3. To reduce the number of children at risk of poverty or social exclusion	380 000 (2019)	European Pillar of Social Rights EU-SILC: Survey on Living Conditions and Income GEP Bulletin - 2030 Targets	N/D	161.000	339 000 (2022)

Explanatory note: N/D - data not available

1- The target "To reduce the disparity in the poverty rate of the different territories compared to the national average rate" was eliminated as it was duplicated (target 4 of strategic objective 01).

Table 11: Targets per strategic objective of Pillar III: Essential quality services

Strategic Objectives	Targets	Starting point / Source	Interim target	Final target	Interim result	
O5 - TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD RESPONSES	1. To ensure free access to early childhood education and care	43151 (October 2022)	ISS, IP	Children aged 0-3 (2024)	-	91 150 (Dec. 2023)
	2. To increase the early childhood education and care response network (ECEC).	118280 (2020)	GEP/ Social charter	+8884 (2026)	-	+1336 (2022)
	3. To ensure the attendance of pre-school education for all children from the age of 3	Preschool rate - 92,8% (2019/20)	DGEEC	N/D	96,0%	93,3% (2021/2022)
O6 - TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE AND SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES	1. To reduce retention and dropout rates in school groups or non-grouped schools ¹	9% (2019)	Pessoas2030	-	8%	-
	2. To increase the number of school groups or non-grouped schools covered by specific projects to combat retention and dropout rates (TEIP – Priority Intervention Educational Territories) ²	146 organisational units	DGEEC	-	14% (170 organisational units)	-
	3. To promote the use of digital textbooks by students of the 2nd and 3rd school cycles and of the secondary school level	N/D	RRP DGEEC	21 705 ³ (students of the 2nd and 3rd cycles of basic education and secondary education enrolled in 2023/2024)	150 410 ³ (2025)	11 437 (2022/2023)
	4. To provide schools with projection equipment and purchase computers for individual use (for students, teachers and child educators)	N/D	RRP DGEEC	-	40.000 classrooms and 600.000 computers	-
	5. To install Digital Education Laboratories (LED)	N/D	RRP DGEEC	106 LED	1300 LED	-

Explanatory note: N/D - data not available

1 - Change of the target at the request of the Education area, removing the reference to the Learning Recovery Plan (PRA – Plano de Recuperação das Aprendizagens), with the justification that all schools are covered by the PRA; therefore, this reference is inaccurate.

2 - Change of the target at the request of the Education area, to the final target of 170 organisational Units, bearing in mind what was previously defined (increase in the number of school groups or non-grouped schools covered by specific projects to combat retention and dropout rates (TEIP), that is, corresponding to a 14% increase in organisational units joining the programme compared to 2021).

3 - The Health Area proposed the change of targets.

Table 12: Targets per strategic objective of Pillar III: Essential quality services (cont.)

Strategic Objectives ⁴	Targets	Starting point / Source		Interim target	Final target	Interim result
O7 - TO STRENGTHEN THE ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE, HEALTH PROMOTION, DISEASE PREVENTION AND SPECIALISED CARE	1. To reduce the prevalence of overweight and obesity in children and adolescents	Children (aged 6-8) - overweight (pre-obesity and obesity): 29,6%; obesity: 17,6% (COSI Portugal 2019) Adolescents (aged 11-15) - overweight: 18,9%; obesity: 3,1% (HBSC 2018)	PNPAS 2030	-	5p.p.	Children (aged 6-8) - overweight (pre-obesity and obesity): 31,9%; obesity: 13,5% (COSI Portugal 6th round 2021/2022) Adolescents (aged 11-15, self-reported) - overweight: 10,7%; obesity: 2,1% (HBSC 2022)
	2. To strengthen multidisciplinary intervention for children aged 0-6 with developmental delay	155 ELI (local intervention teams)	SNIPI	-	173 ELI	155 ELI (2023)
	3. To create Mental Health Community Teams, distributed across the 5 health regions	N/D	RRP DGS	10	N/D	-
O8 - TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO HEALTHY EATING ²	1. To increase the percentage of fruit and vegetables consumption by children, in line with WHO recommendations for fruit and vegetables consumption (≥ 400 gr/day)	72% of children do not comply; 78% of adolescents do not comply (IAN-AF - National Food and Physical Activity Survey)	PNPAS 2030	= 400g /day	= 400g /day	Between 2019 and 2022, daily fruit consumption increased from 63,1% to 71,2% (8,1 p.p) and daily vegetable consumption increased from 57,3% to 69,0% (11,7 p.p) (COSI Portugal 6th round 2021/2022)
	2. To reduce the percentage of children and adolescents who have a free sugar intake higher than the WHO recommendation ³	41% of children; 49% of adolescents (IAN-AF)	PNPAS 2030	20p.p.	N/D	N/D

Explanatory note: N/D - data not available

1 - The target "To ensure free access to health screenings (visual, hearing and oral)" has been removed, as it was not yet possible to collect data on measuring and monitoring the target from the sectoral area.

2 - Target 3 of the strategic objective O8 has been removed at the request of the Nutrition area, because currently there is no monitoring system for this target.

3 - Target reformulated by the Nutrition area.

4 - According to the housing area, it has not yet been possible to establish measurable targets in the area of children and young people's access to housing, particularly due to the lack of sufficiently disaggregated data in this sectoral area.

Table 13: Targets per strategic objective of Pillar IV: Inclusion of especially vulnerable children and young people

Strategic Objectives	Targets	Starting point / Source		Interim target	Final target	Interim result
O10 - TO PREVENT INSTITUTIONALISATION AND PROMOTE DEINSTITUTIONALISATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN DANGER	1. To maintain the children and young people in danger in a family environment and in the community, by strengthening natural living environment responses aimed at children and young people at risk/in danger	34 responses (2021) (add justification for amendment of 138 --> mistake)	ISS, I.P. SCML (Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa - Portuguese charitable organisation) CPL (Casa Pia de Lisboa - Portuguese charitable organisation)	> 25% (no. of responses in natural living environment) (2026)	> 50% (no. of responses in natural living environment)	-
	2. To promote the development and consolidation of the host family care response through the creation of a national reserve pool of host families and framework responses	age 0-5 - 29,5% age 0-11 - 46,9%	CASA Report	90% of children up to the age of 6 (2026)	90% of children up to the age of 12	-
	3. To promote the development and consolidation of responses promoting life autonomy of young people, either in an autonomous apartment or through supervised autonomy in the natural living environment	N/D	Intervention Services (SI) of Technical Advice to the Courts teams (ATT) Intervention Services (SI) of the National Commission for the Promotion of Rights and Protection of Children and Young People (CNPDP/CI); CASA Report	70% of young people covered by promotion and protection measures, inserted in autonomous apartments and supervised autonomy responses in the natural living environment (2026)	90% of young people covered by promotion and protection measures, inserted in autonomous apartments and supervised autonomy responses in the natural living environment	-
	4. To restructure and reshape residential care responses, making them specialised in children and young people with specific vulnerabilities	357 Residential care responses	CASA Report	50% Residential care responses (2026)	100% Residential care responses	-
	5. To promote deinstitutionalisation of children and young people covered by the residential care measure by changing the promotion and protection measures implemented	6369 children and young people in residential care (2021)	CASA Report	40% (2026)	80%	-

Explanatory note: N/D - data not available

5. FUNDING

The implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) measures is based on different funding sources. There are measures supported by national funding and integrated within the scope of the development of skills allocated to multiple public bodies, so it is not possible to state the amounts allocated for the respective development (Measures 10, 13, 16, 17, 31, 33, 38, 42, 45, 49, 53, 54, 55, 61, 64, 65, 68).

There are also measures that result from legislative changes with a view to establishing reinforcements, increases or positive differentiations in the access to Rights and benefits that also do not allow the respective financial allocation to be assessed (Measures 3, 4, 6, 72). With regard to the planned measures resulting from national funding, these are identified although they have not yet started to be implemented either because they are being prepared or because they are being implemented in the current year or will be implemented in the following years (Measures 32, 43, 44, 50 and 52). As an example, measure “32 - Promotion of the access to free school transport” has, as of January 2024, been introduced under the State Budget Law for 2024, to provide for the transfer of funds up to the amount of EUR 126.000.000, which are intended to ensure free public transport passes for all children and young students up to the age of 23. This measure is expected to cover 1.7 million children and young people (Ministerial Order no. 7-A/2024 of 5 January).

Regarding measures supported by EU funding, namely the RRP (Measures 5, 9, 11, 14, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 56, 57, 58) and the ESF+ (Measures 1, 2, 12, 21, 22, 28, 29, 37, 47, 48, 49, 59, 60, 63, 67, 69, 75), their operationalisation is ongoing and based on large investments; therefore, it is not possible to assess, for the time being, the specific allocation in terms of financial implementation of the measures included in the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), with the necessary breakdown; thus, strictly speaking, the information should be assessed within the framework of the respective monitoring and reporting procedures established between the European Commission and the competent national management authorities.

In what concerns the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) measures supported by national funding, that have already started to be implemented, the budgeted financial allocation for the year 2023 is shown in the following table:

Table 14: Measures supported by the State Budget, year 2023

Service	Measure	Description of the Measure	2023 Budget
Social Protection	7	Child Guarantee Social Benefit.	EUR 70.000.000
	8	Increase in the Family Benefit amount.	EUR 110.000.000
Early Childhood Responses	14	Extension of the Early Childhood Education and Care response capacity.	EUR 25.658.438
	15	Progressive implementation, by 2024, of the free access to Early Childhood Education and Care.	EUR 120.000.000
Education	20	Increase in the number of school textbooks in accessible formats.	EUR 1.000.000
	30	Implementation of a programme that promotes the mobilisation of students for democratic participation at the service of everyone's recovery and the resilience of their schools.	EUR 1.400.000
Health	46	Promotion of a youth health programme.	EUR 500.000
Healthy Eating	50	Preparation and dissemination of information on quality food and nutrition, particularly aimed at families with children.	EUR 20.000
	51	Implementation of a pilot project for monitoring the nutritional status of children aged under 5 and carry on with the system for monitoring the nutritional status of school-aged children (6-9 years).	EUR 750.000
Vulnerable Children and Young People	62	Strengthening of the network of institutions covering the host family care response	EUR 2.100.000
	66	Implementation of an integrated response aimed at immigrants, from different public services in municipalities with high demand for immigration.	EUR 250.000
	70	Award of scholarships to support the attendance and permanence in the 3 rd cycle of basic education and secondary education for students from the Portuguese Roma community.	EUR 500.000
	74	Initiatives to deconstruct professional gender stereotypes in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).	EUR 380.000
TOTAL			EUR 332.558.438

As regards the resources allocated to the future implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), they are included in the Measures file attached to this report, stating the amendments which, in the meantime, have been considered necessary.

6. LESSONS LEARNED AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Taking into account the already elapsed period of implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), it is now possible to identify gaps and opportunities for improvements of different natures. We highlight the recent rearrangement of the Child Guarantee Technical Monitoring Committee (CTAGI) composition (Order no. 11656/2023 of 17 November), which now includes representatives from the government areas of Youth and Sports and Culture, as a way to respond to an identified gap regarding the need to densify and deepen work with these sectoral areas, given their relevance in terms of the opportunity of children and young people in poverty to have guaranteed access to sports activities and culture.

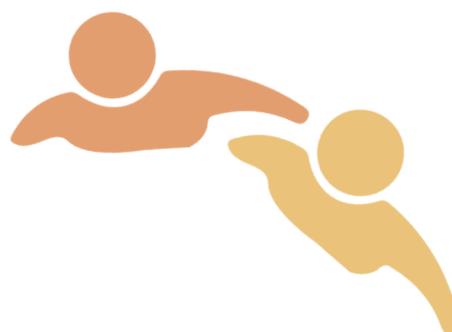
On the other hand, it is also important to highlight that, in what concerns the operationalisation model of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), the option of implementation not only at the national level but also at the regional and local levels, through the creation of the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI) at the municipalities, has been of added value in terms of the opportunity to create synergies between central and local policies which, in addition to allowing better alignment and complementarity in the approaches to poverty, with interventions duly adapted to the specific size and particularities of the territories, will certainly increase the scope of the targets and objectives that are intended to be achieved.

One of the greatest constraints felt since the beginning of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) implementation, and which still persists, is the impossibility of creating a sufficiently detailed portrait of the life circumstances of children in poverty in relation to their effective access to essential services, taking into account the different territories, and here we can highlight the particular challenge with regard to migrant children and young people. In the sectoral areas, there are also gaps in terms of the existence of disaggregated data that enable us to identify more accurately the existing problems and challenges and search for solutions that are truly effective and differentiating for children and young people. These issues have been worked on with the respective sectoral areas within the scope of the

Technical Monitoring Committee (CTAGI), although it is recognised that this work needs to be further developed.

Moreover, the effective participation of the primary recipients of the Child Guarantee policies is a work that also needs to be further and better developed, although some initiatives have already been worked out in this direction. Investment in new participation processes, which are considered crucial for the effective outcomes of changing the life paths of children and young people and their families, in situations of greater vulnerability, shall henceforth be one of the National Coordination of the Child Guarantee commitments with the Child Guarantee Local Centres (NLGPI), given its full relevance.

Also with regard to the stakeholders' participation and involvement, it is also worth mentioning the establishment of the Intersectoral Advisory Board (CCI) of the National Coordination of the Child Guarantee, with competence to issue opinions and recommendations on strategic issues concerning the implementation and development of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030), as well as to ensure the mobilisation, participation and contribution of organisations representing civil society, children, young people and families. The work to be undertaken at this level will begin very soon and the designation of the elements that will constitute it is currently underway.



7. CONCLUSIONS

The fight against poverty and social exclusion of families has been a priority in Portugal. The objective of providing all children and young people with effective equal opportunities has been the basis for the implementation of multiple policy measures across various sectoral areas. It will be important to continue to reaffirm the commitment made and progressively raise ambition, creating the necessary conditions to effectively face new challenges.

The implementation of the Child Guarantee in Portugal marked a commitment to a global and integrated strategy that promotes effective changes in the relationship between the State, the entities and society, raising the paradigm of respect for the rights of all children, regardless of their age, nationality, condition, gender and ethnicity. The policies and actions that have been implemented show a commitment to support and strengthen the living conditions of the families as they play an important role in the lives of their children and young people. These policies and actions are based on a preventive and early approach, but, whenever necessary, they ensure remedial responses.

The Child Guarantee is thus aimed to ensure the best well-being for children and young people, supporting parents and guaranteeing access to the highest quality essential services for all.

Very important steps have already been taken in the promotion of children's rights and a child guarantee focused on the particularly vulnerable children; however, there is still much to be improved.

Ensuring equal opportunities for all children is the only way to guarantee the scrupulous respect for their right to effectively exercise their citizenship and to guarantee the best future for Portugal.

This document is aimed to reflect the ambitious path that has been made and demonstrate the direction in which we should move forward. Portugal has taken this commitment as an intergenerational plan towards a country that, by betting on its children, bets on the best future development of the country. In the last years, the childhood and youth area has been the most affected by transformations in the

Portuguese society, not only in the sphere of national demography, but, and above all, due to the profound changes in values and attitudes that currently make children the protagonists of the families' social organisation.

In the third oldest country in Europe, fourth in the world, with the highest percentage of people aged 65 or over, it is therefore urgent to counter the demographic trend and create the necessary conditions for couples to have more children without compromising the country's best future development and the renewal of generations, breaking the perpetuation of intergenerational cycles of poverty.

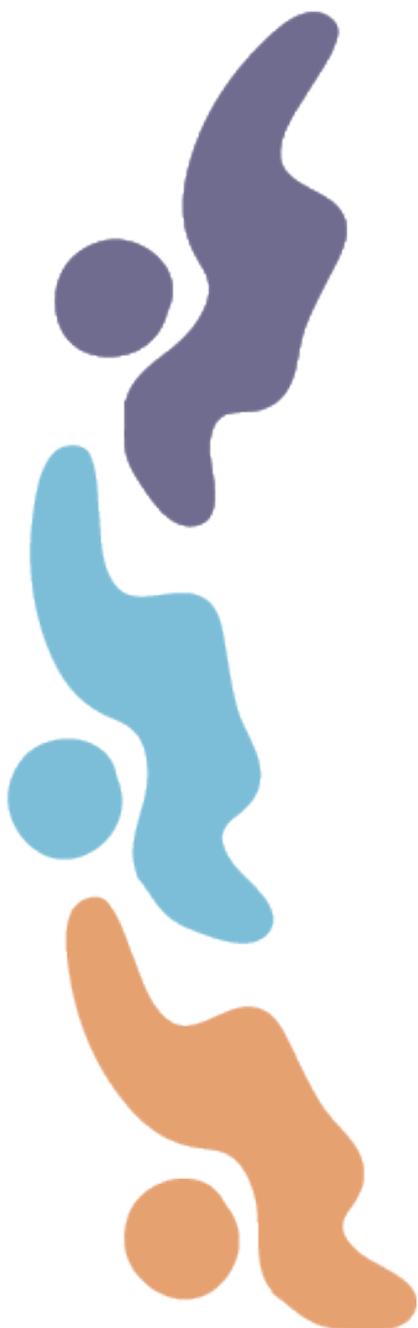
In line with international/European guidelines on Children and Youth, the intervention in Portugal is based on reforms and the implementation of measures that will ensure full equal opportunities for all children in Portugal and consequently break the poverty cycles.

In the last years, the political commitment made has been consolidated and reaffirmed with the creation of the National Strategy for Children's Rights 2021-2024 and the National Strategy to Combat Poverty 2021-2030, assuming the reduction of poverty in children and young people and their families as the first strategic axis.

The circumstance of child poverty creates inaccessibility to fundamental goods and rights that trigger situations of violation of fundamental rights of children and young people. Thus, interventions taken as early as possible shall ensure that children and young people have access to goods and services that are essential for their proper development, as well as to promote their well-being.

For this reason, the Child Guarantee implementation in Portugal, in addition to having an underlying strengthening of policies aimed at providing an effective and free access of children to quality essential services, such as health, education or early childhood care, has also decided to focus on strengthening local and network support responses to address the poverty risk phenomena in children.

Therefore, to improve the model of identification and integrated social monitoring of all children and young people in poverty is considered a priority, so that we can ensure that all children residing in Portugal will not only have effective access to essential services but also be entitled to due intervention and support, taking into account the uniqueness of each situation.



8. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

- ASE** (Ação Social Escolar)- School Social Assistance
- BAS** (Balcão do Arrendatário e do Senhorio)- Tenant and Landlord Counter
- CATL** (Centro de Atividades de Tempos Livres)- Leisure Activities Centre
- CCI** (Conselho Consultivo Intersectorial)- Intersectoral Advisory Board
- CIM** (Comunidade Intermunicipal)- Intermunicipal Community
- CIRS** (Código do Imposto sobre o Rendimento das Pessoas Singulares)- Personal Income Tax Code
- CLAS** (Conselho Local Ação Social)- Social Action Local Council
- CLDS** (Contratos Locais de Desenvolvimento Social) Social Development Local Contracts
- CNGPI** (Coordenadora Nacional da Garantia para a Infância)- National Coordinator of the Child Guarantee
- CNJ** (Conselho Nacional da Juventude)- National Youth Council
- COSI** - Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative
- CTAGI** (Comissão Técnica de Acompanhamento da Garantia para a Infância) - Child Guarantee Technical Monitoring Committee
- DGE** (Direção-Geral da Educação)- Directorate-General for Education
- DGEEC** (Direção-Geral de Estatística da Educação e Ciência)- Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics
- DGS** (Direção-Geral da Saúde)- Directorate-General for Health
- EC** - European Commission
- EAPI** (Educação e Acolhimento na Primeira Infância)- Early Childhood Education and Care
- ELH** (Estratégia Local de Habitação)- Local Housing Strategy
- ENCP 2021-2030** (Estratégia Nacional de Combate à Pobreza 2021-2030)- National Strategy to Combat Poverty 2021-2030)
- ENDC** (Estratégia Nacional dos Direitos das Crianças)- National Strategy for the Rights of the Child
- EPE** (Educação Pré-Escolar)- Pre-school Education
- EU** - European Union
- EU-SILC** - Survey on Income and Living Conditions
- IAS** (Indexante dos Apoios Sociais)- Social Support Income
- IAT** (Instrumento de Assistência Técnica)- Technical Assistance Instrument
- ICAD** (Instituto para os Comportamentos Aditivos e as Dependências) Institute for Addictive Behaviors and Addictions
- IRS** (Imposto sobre o Rendimento das Pessoas Singulares)- Personal Income Tax
- ISS, I.P.** (Instituto de Segurança Social, I.P.)- Social Security Institute, P.I.
- INE** (Instituto Nacional de Estatística)- National Statistics Institute (Portugal)
- IPSS** (Instituições Particulares de Solidariedade Social)- Social Solidarity Private Institutions
- IHRU** (Instituto da Habitação e Reabilitação Urbana)- Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute
- NHS**- National Health Service
- NLGPI** (Núcleos Locais da Garantia para a Infância)- Child Guarantee Local Centres
- NUTS** (Nomenclatura das Unidades Territoriais para Fins Estatísticos) Territorial Units for Statistics
- OECD**- Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
- PAGPI 2022-2030** (Plano de Ação da Garantia para a Infância 2022-2030)- Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030
- PARES** (Programa de Alargamento da Rede de Equipamentos Sociais)- Social Services and Equipment Network Extension Programme
- PAENCP 2021-2025** (Plano de Ação da Estratégia Nacional de Combate à Pobreza 2021-2025)- Action Plan of the National Strategy to Combat Poverty 2021-2025
- PIH** (Programa de Intervenção em Habitações)- Housing Intervention Programme
- PIEP** (Programa de Intervenção em Edifícios Públicos)- Public Buildings Intervention Programme
- PIVP** (Programa de Intervenção na Via Pública)- Public Roads Intervention Programme

PNA (Plano Nacional das Artes)- National Arts Plan
PNPAS (Programa Nacional de Promoção da Alimentação Saudável)- National Programme for the Promotion of Healthy Eating
PNS (Plano Nacional de Saúde)- National Health Plan
PNSIJ (Programa Nacional de Saúde Infantil e Juvenil) National Programme for Child and Youth Health
PNV (Programa Nacional de Vacinação) National Vaccination Programme
POAPMC (Programa Operacional de Apoio às Pessoas Mais Carenciadas)- Operational Programme to Support the Most Deprived
RCM (Resolução do Conselho de Ministros)- Council of Ministers Resolution
RE (Regime de distribuição nas escolas)- School Distribution Scheme
RFE (Regime da Fruta Escolar)- School Fruit Scheme
RLE (Regime do Leite Escolar)- School Milk Scheme
RRP - Recovery and Resilience Plan
SMN (Salário Mínimo Nacional)- National Minimum Wage
SPARE (Sistema de Planeamento e Avaliação de Refeições Escolares)- School Meal Planning and Assessment System
TEIP (Territórios Educativos de Intervenção Prioritária)- Priority Intervention Educational Territories
VAT- Value Added Tax
WHO- World Health Organisation
WHO/Europe- WHO Regional Office for Europe

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ANNEXES

ANNEX I
MEMORANDUM OF COMMITMENT WITH
INTERMUNICIPAL COMMUNITIES FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF CHILD GUARANTEE LOCAL
CENTRES

**Memorandum of Commitment for the Implementation of the
Child Guarantee Local Units _____ (*change according to the region*)**

Whereas:

- a)* The Child Guarantee National Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) establishes an integrated framework of public policies aimed at achieving the objectives of Council Recommendation (EU) 2021/1004 of 14 June 2021 establishing a European Child Guarantee, preventing and combating social exclusion, ensuring the access of children and young people to a range of essential services, combating child poverty and promoting equal opportunities and the protection of the rights of children and young people;
- b)* The successful implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 measures implies the establishment of an integrated social intervention, based on local action and proximity to the child poverty and social exclusion phenomena, which allows to ensure an adequate identification and mobilisation of resources and interventions to solve the problems and specific needs of children and young people, and their families;
- c)* The intervention at the local level is essential to promote an integrated and multidisciplinary approach that ensures an effective and timely response to concrete situations, mobilising the local and community-based social network;
- d)* The coherence of social, educational, health, nutrition, employment and housing policies at the national and local level improves the relevance and effectiveness of these policies in supporting children and young people in a situation of vulnerability and social exclusion, and in preventing and combating the intergenerational nature of the poverty phenomena;
- e)* The Social Network is the most appropriate and effective structure, promoting, through its bodies, a broad partnership work that focuses on the strategic planning of local social intervention, involving the different social actors, of different natures and areas of intervention, with the aim of contributing to the eradication of poverty and social exclusion and the promotion of social development at the local level;
- f)* The Intermunicipal Community of _____ foresees, in the Major Options of the Plan for _____, the implementation and execution of the Supra-Council Social



Development Plan (PDSS - *Plano de Desenvolvimento Social Supraconcelhio*) of _____, which, although it does not overlap with the powers and competences of the _____ municipalities _____, is a strategic benchmark that allows the introduction of a regional approach in certain sectoral intervention areas, whilst promoting the best use of the existing resources;

- g) The PDSS _____ ensures coherence and coordination with national and regional strategic documents, with reference to EU recommendations and international guidelines, namely the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals;
- b) The strategic dimension of the PDSS _____ implies an updating and development process that also allows for a specific supra-council strategic axis of prevention and intervention within the scope of the child poverty phenomenon.

The Signatories of this Memorandum, in the context of the above *considerations* and in the framework of effective cooperation and related implementation of national, regional and local policies, express, within the scope of their own legal powers and competences, their intention to make every effort to establish the Child Guarantee Local Units of _____ in the framework of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 implementation.

(Place), (date)

Intermunicipal Community of _____

Dr _____

President of the Inter-municipal Council _____

National Coordination of Child Guarantee

Dr Sónia Almeida

National Coordinator of the Child Guarantee

ANNEX II

**PARTNERSHIP PROTOCOL WITH THE SOCIAL ACTION
LOCAL COUNCIL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND
ACCOMPANIMENT OF CHILD GUARANTEE LOCAL CENTRES**

Partnership Protocol for the Implementation and Monitoring of the Child Guarantee Local Units of _____

For the achievement of the objectives of Council Recommendation (EU) 2021/1004 of 14 June 2021 establishing a European Child Guarantee, as well as for the effective application and successful implementation of the Child Guarantee National Plan 2022-2030 measures, it is essential to ensure the implementation of an integrated social intervention, based on local action and proximity to the poverty and social exclusion phenomena, taking into account the specific needs of children and young people, and their families, in order to ensure an adequate identification and mobilisation of resources and interventions to address the problems identified.

Within this framework and with these aims in mind, the Social Network proves to be the most appropriate and effective structure, by promoting, through its bodies, a broad partnership work that focuses on the strategic planning of local social intervention, involving the different social actors, of various natures and intervention areas, with the aim of contributing to the eradication of poverty and social exclusion and the promotion of social development at the local level.

It is therefore essential to create, within the scope of the Social Action Local Councils (CLAS - *Conselhos Locais de Ação Social*), the Child Guarantee Local Units (NLGPI - *Núcleos Locais da Garantia para a Infância*) specifically aimed at children and young people in a situation of social vulnerability, and their families, while promoting and facilitating, through the optimisation of existing resources and the promotion of synergies, a framework of effective cooperation and related implementation of national and local policies, especially attentive to the specific characteristics of each territory and the specific needs of its populations.

Therefore, the creation of the NLGPI of _____ is recognized by the Social Network partners as an added value, as it is a structure specially dedicated to respond effectively to the vulnerabilities of children and young people and their families through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach, simultaneously promoting cohesion and social development and enhancing effective social integration.

In these terms, and because the NLGPI brings together local partners with intervention competences in early childhood care, education and school-based activities, health, healthy eating, housing, social inclusion and integration, promotion of the rights of children and

young people, non-discrimination and promotion of equality, it is important to establish commitments that, in the broad context of the implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 and the implementation and monitoring of the NLGPI, allow and streamline an objective and targeted intervention to combat poverty among children and young people, while ensuring close coordination, with dialogue and reporting, with the National Coordination of the Child Guarantee, within the scope of the national follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the European Child Guarantee Recommendation. Thus, within the scope of the Social Network, established by Decree-Law no. 115/2006 of 14 June, as amended, and as part of the implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030,

Between:

The Social Action Local Council (CLAS) of _____, represented in this act by the Municipal Council President, _____, in his capacity as Chairman of the CLAS, hereinafter referred to as First Partner, and;

The National Coordination of the Child Guarantee, represented in this act by Dr Sónia Almeida, in her capacity as National Coordinator, pursuant to the Council of Ministers Resolution no. 136/2021 of 1 October, hereinafter referred to as the Second Partner,

This Protocol is hereby concluded and governed by the following commitments:

Commitment 1

Subject matter

- 1 – The partners hereby lay down the terms for the implementation and monitoring of the Child Guarantee Local Units (NLGPI) of the municipality of _____, created at the plenary meeting of the Social Action Local Council (CLAS) of _____, held on (day) (month) (year).
- 2 – This Protocol also establishes the specific competences and actions to be developed by the NLGPI to prevent and combat poverty and social exclusion of children and young people, and their families, within the scope of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 (PAGPI 2022-2030) implementation.

Commitment 2

Guiding Principles

The implementation of this Protocol shall be governed by the principles set out in Decree-Law no. 115/2006 of 14 June, as amended, the main recommendations set out in Council Recommendation (EU) 2021/1004 of 14 June 2021 establishing a European Child Guarantee and by the guiding principles of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030.

Commitment 3

Partners' commitments

1 – Without prejudice to the provisions of the following paragraphs, within the scope of the implementation of this Protocol, the Partners undertake to:

- a)* Cooperate with each other in the implementation and follow-up of the NLGPI activity;
- b)* Cooperate with each other in the pursuing of measures and actions aimed at preventing and combating child poverty and social exclusion, within the scope of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030;
- c)* Communicate and exchange information and data deemed relevant for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 within the scope of the NLGPI intervention.

2 – The First Partner also undertakes that the NLGPI, in addition to adopting the integrated planning, intervention and follow-up methodology, based on the Social Network model, shall:

- a)* Ensure a diagnostic approach to the child poverty and social exclusion phenomenon, that takes into account the sectoral areas responsible for the essential services relating to early childhood care, education and school-based activities, health, healthy eating and adequate housing, as well as planning for the pursuit of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 objectives;
- b)* Ensure a close, integrated and multidimensional intervention and support for children and young people in situations of social vulnerability, and their families, so that the problems identified are eliminated and their causes or origins extinguished or reduced;
- c)* Promote an intervention that favours equal effective access, or effective and free access to essential services relating to early childhood care, education and school-

based activities, health, healthy eating and adequate housing, with a view to achieving the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 objectives;

- d)* Adopt a common framework of monitoring and evaluation indicators to enable the National Coordination of the Child Guarantee to monitor the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 implementation, the progress made and the reporting of the national implementation of the European Child Guarantee Recommendation to the competent European bodies;
- e)* Appoint a responsible technician, preferably the technical coordinator of the Social Network, to liaise with the National Coordination of the Child Guarantee;
- f)* Provide the information regarding its activities, requested by the National Coordination of Child Guarantee, in order to allow the constant monitoring of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 at the local level;
- g)* Promote and facilitate the participation and involvement of children and young people, and their families, in its activities.

3 – The second partner also undertakes the following commitments:

- a)* To ensure the actions necessary to the promotion and dissemination of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 at the local level;
- b)* To ensure the monitoring of the implementation of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030 at the local level;
- c)* To provide training to the technicians from the entities that are part of the NLGPI.

Commitment 4

Child Guarantee Local Units (NLGPI)

Considering the provisions of the previous articles and the general framework of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030, the NLGPI is specifically responsible for:

- a)* Carrying out the social diagnosis, which includes a characterisation of the child poverty phenomenon, as well as the problems identified in terms of effective or effective and free access to early childhood education and care, education and school-based activities, at least one healthy meal per school day, healthcare, healthy eating and adequate housing;
- b)* The inclusion in the social development plan of a strategic axis dedicated to prevention and intervention in the field of child poverty, where strategies are defined to improve responses to existing problems and implement new responses;

- c)* The adoption of the integrated and participatory intervention model advocated by the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030, making the corresponding adaptations according to the dynamics in the territory;
- d)* The implementation of a system for collecting and sharing information that allows for an up-to-date social diagnosis and contributes to the monitoring of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030.

Commitment 5

Specific activities of the NLGPI

Without prejudice to the specific powers and competences of the Partners in this Protocol, the NLGPI shall carry out the following actions, namely:

- a)* At the level of diagnosis and planning:
 - i)* To prepare and/or update the local diagnosis on child poverty and social exclusion, as a basis for planning the respective activity and contributing to the Social Network's diagnosis;
 - ii)* To identify and mobilise the necessary resources to solve the problems detected, facilitating the combination of efforts and the optimisation of resources;
 - iii)* To plan initiatives and activities within the scope of the Social Network;
 - iv)* To ensure that the respective initiatives and activities are coordinated and consistent with the national and/or European policies on child poverty and social exclusion, necessarily considering local, integrated and participatory intervention;
 - v)* To identify training needs and carry out the respective programming;
 - vi)* To participate in the training promoted by the National Coordination of the Child Guarantee;
 - vii)* To prepare annual activity reports.
- b)* At the level of intervention and follow-up:
 - i)* To participate, whenever necessary, in meetings to analyse concrete situations, in accordance with the diagnoses and needs presented, complying with the legislation applicable to the protection of personal data;
 - ii)* To promote the communication and coordination between public, private and social sector entities, aiming at the coordination and optimisation of resources and a timely, integrated and adequate action;

- iii)* To ensure the follow-up of children and young people in social vulnerability situations, particularly those covered by the Child Guarantee Social Benefit, and their families;
 - iv)* To promote community information and awareness-raising actions on child poverty and social exclusion issues;
 - v)* To develop initiatives in order to promote the access of children and young people to information and knowledge about their rights, and the establishment of associations, participation and civic intervention by children, young people and their families;
 - vi)* To monitor and assess the initiatives and actions developed by the NLGPI.
- b)* At the level of monitoring and assessment: to contribute to the monitoring and assessment of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030, so that the progress report on the implementation of the Recommendation establishing a European Child Guarantee can be submitted to the European Commission every two years, namely via the website of the National Coordination of the Child Guarantee.

Commitment 6

Duration

This Protocol shall enter into force on the day of its signature and its duration shall coincide with the validity period of the Child Guarantee Action Plan 2022-2030, without prejudice to the fact that it may be revised or amended by agreement between the Partners.

(Place), (date)

The First Partner

Dr _____

President of the Municipal Council of _____

(in his capacity as Chairman of the Social Action Local Council of _____)

The Second Partner

Dr Sónia Almeida

National Coordinator of the Child Guarantee

ANNEX III
SUMMARY TABLE OF THE MEASURES

PILLAR	Strategic Objective	Measure	Funding Source	Targets						Financial Allocation	Interim Implementation				Implementation Assessment 2023					No. of children covered						
				2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027		2028	2029	2021	2022	2023	2024	Surpassed	Achieved	Under development		Planned	Not achieved				
I EMPLOYMENT, QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS	O1 - TO PROMOTE INTEGRATION IN THE LABOUR MARKET AND INCREASE WAGES	1. Development of specific territorial projects to create jobs, aimed at the most vulnerable populations (Social Employment Market); f)	FSE+			6 200					36 300	€ 105 000 000/FSE (€ 123 529 411,76/DPT)	8 736	8 698	7 932		X						N/A			
		2. Adaptation of access conditions and the value of support provided for its active employment policy measures, depending on the composition of families with children in vulnerable situations.	FSE+			11 000 Unemployed adults 13400 young in between 8 e 29 a)			117 700 Unemployed adults 97700 young in between 18 e 29 a)				€ 690 000 000,00 FSE a)	Adults: 17 847 Youngs: 24 065	Adults: 17 984 Youngs: 22 840	Adults: 16 200 Youngs: 22 643		X								
		3. Increase in wages and valorisation of young people in the labour market; g)	N/A						€300				N/A	€665	€705	€760		X				X				
		4. Strengthening of the parental leave scheme in order to promote equality between women and men, improve the management of working hours and combat precariousness.	N/A						X				N/A			Decree Law no. 53/2023 of 5 July - Regulates the Decent Work Agenda		X								
	O2 - TO INCREASE THE QUALIFICATIONS/SKILLS OF ADULTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHOSE FAMILIES HAVE CHILDREN	5. Development of local qualification promoting projects aimed at adults with very low qualifications and reinforcement of mechanisms to stimulate the conclusion of processes of recognition, validation and certification of competencies by adults.	RRP RE-C06-03: Adults Incentive									€36 000 000: Adults Incentive - Local qualification-promoting projects for levels B1/B2/B3 - € 40 050 000,00 C06-03.02 - Adults Incentive - Accesorio Qualifica - € 50 000 000,00				1,3 million people certified (cumulative value since 2017)	1000 people enrolled						X			N/A
		6. Adaptation of access conditions to training courses by persons with children in vulnerable situations for the cases where the barriers need to ensure their children to third parties so that they may attend a training course.	N/A						X				N/A									X				
II SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL ACTION	O3 - TO STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES	7. Granting of an annual amount of exceptional social support for all children and young people at risk of extreme poverty.	NF	X								€ 185.000.000,00			Regulatory Decree no. 3/2022 of 19 August Child Guarantee Benefit - €100/child	Child Guarantee Benefit - €100/child	Child Guarantee Benefit - €122/child				X				Nov./2023 146.231	
		8. Increase in the child benefit amount to ensure that all children and young people have State support of at least €600,00/year, either through the benefit amount or through taxation measures.	NF	X												Ministerial Order no. 55/2023 of 1 March						X				80.200 families with children covered
		9. Automatic granting of social benefits aimed at children and young people.	RRP TD-C17-03: Digital transition in Social Security						X			€200 000 000,00 a)				Automatic granting of the Child Guarantee Benefit		February - Automatic granting of the Family Benefit				X				5/D
	O4 - TO PROMOTE CLOSE AND INTEGRATED SOCIAL ACTION AIMED AT FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE	10. Creation of Child Guarantee Local Units (NLGR) within the scope of Local Social Networks.	N/A			20 Pilot projects						N/A				57 NLGR	64 NLGR (MARCH)				X					49.963
		11. Renewal of integrated territorial instruments to combat poverty in disadvantaged zones of the Metropolitan Area.	RRP RE-C03-006 Integrated operations in disadvantaged communities of the Metropolitan Area of Lisbon and Porto					X				€243 000 000,00 a)			Porto - NOTICI No. 01/CO3-106.02/2022 of 4/02/2022, Republished on 18/02/2022							X				N/A
		12. Promotion of local social development projects that contribute to the achievement of the Child Guarantee objectives.	ESF+			125 b)						€31 250 000/ ESF (€36.764.705,88/Total Public Allocation (DPT) b)				Ministerial Order no. 428/2023 of 12 December.		Order no. 514/2024 of 18 January Order no. 2393/2024 - Defines the list of municipalities to be intervened by the 5th Generation of the Social Development Local Contracts Programme (CLDS-5G) in territories that require intervention.				X				N/A
O5 - TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD RESPONSES	13. Strengthening of identification and follow up actions aimed at NEETs aged up to 18.	N/A					X				N/A					February Launch of new Digital Identification and Monitoring of Young NEETs				X					5/D	
	14. Extension of the response capacity of early childhood education and care facilities to meet the demand needs.	RRP RE-C03-001: New Generation of Social Facilities and Responses						5.586 New places			€54 044 550,00			February Notice 02/CO3-05/2021 Early Childhood Education and Care - 3994 Vacancies November Notice 04/CO3-06/2022 Early Childhood Education and Care - 8118 Vacancies TOTAL - 12 112	December Notice 09/CO3-04/2023 Early Childhood Education and Care - + 12 000					X				38.499		
	15. Progressive implementation by 2024 of the access to early childhood education and care.	NF			3 298 (New and renewed)						€25 658 438,00				Ministerial Order no. 180-A/2023 of 5 July (+11.143 vacancies - 7656 social sector + 3487 private sector) Programa PARES 3.0 - to create or renovate +1071 new vacancies					X					91.150	
	16. Definition of a qualification plan for social responses aimed at children aged 0-3 (kindergartens, family kindergartens and childminders).	N/A			X						€120 000 000,00		31.589	50.732	91.150						X				91.150	
											N/A					January Public Consultation on the Pedagogical Guidelines for Early Childhood Education and Care were prepared				X					N/A	

Pillar	Strategic Objective	Measure	Funding Source	Targets							Financial Allocation	Interim Implementation				Implementation Assessment 2023					No. of children covered	
				2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028		2029	2021	2022	2023	2024	Surpassed	Achieved	Under development	Planned		Not achieved
III QUALITY SERVICES	06 - TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE AND SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES	17. Promotion of visual, hearing and oral health screenings in schools.	NF	90%	95%							N/A		46% 1 st CB					X	S/D		
		18. Provision of equipment with internet access, as well as quality digital educational resources for schools, students and teachers.(N)	RFP TD-C20-01/ Digital transition in Education				X					€30 300 000,00		1 050.000 laptops to be used by teachers and students in public basic and secondary schools (school year 22/23)		X					S/D	
		19. Creation of a public system for lending eBooks and digital content to public schools)					X					€6 500 000,00		In the preparation phase of the public tender				X			S/D	
		20. Increase in the number of school textbooks in accessible formats.	NF					X				€1 000 000,00		No. of school textbooks from the 1 st to the 12 nd grade (including Vocational Education) adapted and transcribed in braille - 118 No. of school textbooks granted to students in digital format - 3.620	No. of school textbooks from the 1 st to the 12 nd grade (including Vocational Education) adapted and transcribed in braille - 124 No. of school textbooks granted to students in digital format - 4.430			X			Braille 143 Digital Format 1 160	
		21. Creation of accompanied study spaces either by peer mentoring or tutorial processes.	ESF+				809 School groups or non-grouped schools (I)					809 School groups or non-grouped schools (I)	€I		795 School groups/non-grouped schools with personal, social and community development plans (school year 22/23)				X		2021 (2022) 15 371 (tutorial support) 2022/2023 16 181 (tutorial support)	
		22. Implementation of a transversal programme of informal or non-formal learning.	ESF+				809 School groups or non-grouped schools (I)					809 School groups or non-grouped schools (I)	€I		Application rate 1 st Cycle of Basic Education 7%, 2 nd Cycle of Basic Education 6%, 3 rd Cycle of Basic Education 8% (school year 22/23)				X		N/A	
		23. Promotion of universal access to extracurricular activities, family support and entertainment, leisure and holiday activities.	PORPT2030									221 000 Students	€99 800 000,00		Lisbon Region - Open notice Dec/23 allocation €9 000 000,00	Aletojo Region - Notice in publication Jan/24 - €5 000 000,00 Algarve Region - Notice in publication Jan/24 - €2 400 000,00 Central Region - Notice to be published Feb/24 - €10 000 000,00 Northern Region - Notice to be published mar/24 - €50 000 000,00			X		N/A	
		24. Promotion of community school and adapted sports.	RFP RE-C01-009- Universal Active Life Support System				809 School groups or non-grouped schools (I)					809 School groups or non-grouped schools (I)	€10 020 000,00 e)		School Sports on Wheels Desporto Escolar sobre Rodas) - Cycling equipment to be allocated to establishments with the 2 nd and 3 rd cycle of basic education, running until the end of 2024. Community School Sports - Cycling equipment to be allocated to 200 School Groups and Non-Grouped Schools until the end of 2024.				X		School Sport 88886 of which with Functional Limitations: 5818	
		25. Digital Education Laboratories]	RFP TD-C20-01/ Digital transition in Education										€21 000 000,00		In the preparation phase of the public tender To install 1300 Digital Education Labs (LED Laboratórios de Educação Digital					X	The distribution of Digital Education Labs began in October 2023 (school year 2023/2024), so there were no children covered in 2022/2023.	
		26. Adjustment of the training offer to the challenges of the industry and the digital society in	RFP RE-C06-01/ Modernisation of education and vocational training offer and of the educational establishments						X				€480 000 000,00		476 applications submitted and 104 applications approved for the renovation or construction of Technological Specialisation Centres (school plan 22/23)				X			
		27. Extension of the Living Science Clubs Network in Schools Clubes Ciência Viva na Escola.	RFP RE-C06-04/ Young People Impulse STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics)							600 Clubs			€8 000 000,00		877 Clubs formed		X				717941	
		28. Completion of the renewal process of the Educational Territories of Priority Intervention Programme (TEIP - Programa Territórios Educativos de Intervenção Prioritária)	ESF+				170 Organisational Units					170 Organisational Units	€130 041 093,00 /ESF (€152 989 521,18 /Total Public Allocation (DPTI)		Ministerial Order no. 7786/2023 of 28 July approved the TEIP4	Applications submission until 31 March 2024				X		N/A
		29. Strengthening of response capacity of the Inclusive Education Multidisciplinary Support Teams (EMAE - Equipes Multidisciplinares de Apoio à Educação Inclusiva).	ESF+				806 School groups or non-grouped schools (I)					806 School groups or non-grouped schools (I)	€I		400 School groups/Non-grouped Schools reported having used a maximum of 4 hours to strengthen the EMAE; 49 School groups/Non-grouped Schools reported having used between 1 and 3 hours to strengthen the EMAE (school year 22/23)				X		School year 2021/2022 81.431 children and young people	
30. Implementation of a programme that promotes the mobilisation of students for democratic participation at the service of everyone's recovery and the resilience of their schools.	NF							X			€1 400 000,00		814 participating schools (school year 22/23)				X		N/A			
31. Provision of at least one healthy meal at school every school day, free of charge, for students with disadvantaged backgrounds.	NF		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A		191 982		X					191 982 had their meals co-financed in 100% 168 373 had their meals co-financed in 50%.		
32. Promotion of the access to free school transport.	NF		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A		School transport between the place of residence of the students and the place of the educational establishments (first and second cycles of basic education and secondary education) if the distance is more than 3 km.	Ministerial Order no. 7-A/2024 of 5 January Free public transport passes for pre-school, basic and secondary education students (and higher education students).	X					S/D		
33. Reinforcement of the number of higher education vacancies for kindergarten teachers and basic education teachers.	N/A						X				N/A							X		N/A		

PILLAR	Strategic Objective	Measure	Funding Source	Targets							Financial Allocation	Interim Implementation				Implementation Assessment 2023					No. of children covered			
				2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028		2029	2021	2022	2023	2024	Surpassed	Achieved	Under development	Planned		Not achieved		
07 - TO STRENGTHEN THE ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE, HEALTH PROMOTION, DISEASE PREVENTION AND SPECIALISED CARE		34. Promotion of the access for all children to oral health screenings and neonatal and child hearing health screenings.)	RRP RE-C01-I01-I01 Primary health care with more responses					144 Oral health/dental offices			€7 200 000,00		RRP - Notice no. 10/C01-I01/2022 To create Oral Health Offices in the Health Centres	RRP - Notice no. 10/C01-I01/2022, Re-published: 12/07/2023 42 Oral health offices			X				N/A			
		35. Promotion of the access for all children and young people to proximity consultations in Primary Health Care services.						778 Health Care Vehicles (CV) 34 Mobile Units			€23 340 000,00 €2 565 000,00		RRP - Notice no. 08/C01-I01/2022 To provide electric vehicles to support the provision of home-based health care services by the Health Centres	RRP - Notice no. 08/C01-I01/2022, Re-published: 12/07/2023 - To provide electric vehicles to support the provision of home-based health care services by the Health Centres 15 Health Centre Vehicles			X				N/A			
		36. Reinforcement of the paediatric hospitalisation response.		Re-C1-I03: Conclusion of the Mental Health Reform and Implementation of the Dementia Strategy: creation of new inpatient units in General Hospitals				X				€1 500 000,00								X			N/A	
		37. Qualification and specialisation of intervention within the scope of the National Early Childhood Intervention System (SNPI) in the sense of an approach aimed at full inclusion.		ESF+								€7 000 000,00 ESF+ (€8 235 294,12/Total Public Allocation (DPT))	18 Projects								X			24518 (2023)
		38. Implementation of the National and Regional Mental Health Plans, namely with regard to the area of childhood and adolescence, and creation of a national coordination unit and 5 regional mental health coordination units.		N/A			X					N/A		Decrete-Law no. 113/2021 of 14 December General Principles and Rules for the Organization and Operation of Mental Health Services						X				N/A
		39. Creation of community mental health teams composed of a paedopsychiatrist, psychologist, nurse, social worker, occupational/psychomotor therapist.		RRP RE-C01-I03: Conclusion of the Mental Health Reform and Implementation of the Dementia Strategy					20 Mental Health Community Teams (ECSM) (10 adults and 10 pediatric patients)			€5 200 000,00				10 (total accumulated until Jan 2024)				X				N/A
		40. Implementation of the Mental Health and Parenting Programme in Primary Health Care to support pregnancy and first year of life.		NF							X		€100 000,00								X			S/D
		41. Creation of mental health facilities for children and adolescents (ECISM - Integrated Continued Mental Health Care) in the National Network of Integrated Continued Care providing free access to these services for children and young people in poverty.		RRP RE-C01-I03: Conclusion of the Mental Health Reform and Implementation of the Dementia Strategy					1000 places (adults, children and adolescents)			€25 200 000,00 a)						X Free access	X Increase in vacancies					N/A
		42. Development of school health activities, prioritizing access for vulnerable children and young people.		NF							X		N/A								X			N/A
		43. Development of smoking prevention training programmes.		NF			X	X	X	X			€25 000,00 P/ year									X		N/A
		44. Extension of suicide prevention programmes throughout the national territory.		NF			X	X	X	X			€100 000,00 / year									X		N/A
		45. Creation of a referral system for nutrition consultations for overweight children and young people.		N/A							X		N/A			Publication of Order no. 12604/2023 of 11 December, which determines the implementation of the Integrated Care Model for the Prevention and Treatment of Obesity				X				N/A
		46. Promotion of the youth health programme.		NF	X	X	X	X	X				€500 000,00 P/year	13.344	47.808	39.480		X						100 632

PILLAR	Strategic Objective	Measure	Funding Source	Targets									Financial Allocation	Interim Implementation				Implementation Assessment 2023					No. of DI-260 children covered		
				2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2021		2022	2023	2024	Surpassed	Achieved	Under development	Planned	Not achieved				
08 - TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO HEALTHY EATING		47. Implementation of a food distribution system using electronic cards.	ESF + FEAD/NF		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	€202 000 000,00 at			Public tender awarded. Devices in the development phase.			X				N/A		
		48. Distribution of nutritionally balanced food baskets.		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				70 819 adults, of which 32 274 were children		X					32 274		
		49. Development of awareness raising actions and follow up of families with children and young people, promoting healthy eating.	NF	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Launch of the "I choose to eat well!" campaign, within the scope of PNPAS 2022-2030		X					N/A		
		50. Preparation and dissemination of information on quality food and nutrition, particularly aimed at families with children.	NF			X	X	X					€20 000,00 P/year			Publication of the Manual "Guide for healthy school tracks" from the Directorate-General for Health and the Directorate-General for Education and publication of content to disseminate and promote healthy eating in digital media		X						N/A	
		51. Implementation of a pilot project for monitoring the nutritional status of children aged under 5 and carry on with the system for monitoring the nutritional status of school-aged children (6-9 years).	NF				X						€750 000,00				Opening of the Public Tenders to carry out the new National Food and Physical Activity Survey and Publication of the COSI Portugal 2022 report			X				N/A	
		52. Development of initiatives on healthy eating, through the use of digital media and the involvement of local authorities.	NF			X	X	X					€20 000 00 P/year							X				N/A	
		53. Integration of nutritionists in school health teams and the provision of training actions on healthy eating aimed at these teams.	NF						X				N/A				Publication of Order no. 12634/2023 of 11 December, which determines the implementation of the Integrated Care Model for the Prevention and Treatment of Obesity			X					N/A
		54. Implementation of actions to ensure the adequacy of food supply in schools, and provision of training actions on nutrition.	N/A						X				N/A			Publication of Order no. 8127/2021, which determines the food supply in schools				X				N/A	
		55. Development of guidelines on food provision for early childhood education and care facilities and other social responses aimed at children.	N/A					X					N/A			Monitoring study of the implementation of Order no. 8127/2021, which determines the food supply in schools			X					N/A	
		56. To ensure the implementation of the Housing Access Support Programme, which covers families with dependent children and young people?	RRP RE-CO2-01: Housing Access Support Programme			293 Cooperation agreements		to be defined						to be defined			Housing Intervention Programme (PIH - Programa de Intervenção do Imobiliário) (PIH - Notice no. 3/CO3-02/2022 - Reimbursements and final balance			August 272 Agreements concluded		February 293 Agreements concluded			
09 - TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO DECENT HOUSING FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN VULNERABILITY SITUATIONS		57. Promotion of the access to emergency or transitional housing solutions.	RRP RE-CO2-02: National reserve pool for urgent and temporary accommodation					to be defined				to be defined			Notice no. 1/CO2-02/2021 National Reserve Pool for Urgent and Temporary Accommodation (published on 12 November 2021)			Notice no. 2/CO3-02/2021 National Reserve Pool for Urgent and Temporary Accommodation (published on 27 November 2023)			X				S/D
		58. Promotion of accessibility interventions in the houses of people with disabilities.	RRP RE-CO3-02D - 360° Accessibility Programme			190	1000					€14 340 000,00			Notice no. 03/CO3-02/2022 Housing Intervention Programme					X				S/D	

ANNEX IV
NEW MEASURES

New Measures Government Area of Youth and Sports

Strategic Objective	MEASURE (NEW)	Strategy / Programme / Plan	Responsible Area	Funding source	Targets							Financial Allocation	Target Group (Recommendation EU 2021/2004 - Paragraph 5)	
					2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028			2029
06 - TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE AND SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES	316 - Promotion of the generalisation of sports through the implementation of the National Programme Sports for All ("Desporto para Todos").	ENCP	YOUTH AND SPORTS	NF			650	800					50.000,00 €	All children (Paragraph 5)
	318 - Support to the development of social projects by the associative movement within the scope of the Sports for All Programme.	ENCP	YOUTH AND SPORTS	NF			75	100					30.000,00 €	All children (Paragraph 5)
	330 - Promotion of the inclusion of all students in all School Sports activities.	Strategic School Sports Programme	EDUCATION	NF						8.500			N/A	All children (Paragraph 5)

New Measures Government Area of Culture

Strategic Objective	MEASURE (NEW)	Strategy / Programme / Plan	Responsible Area	Funding source	Targets							Financial Allocation	Target Group (Recommendation EU 2021/2004 - Paragraph 5)	
					2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028			2029
011 - TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A MIGRANT BACKGROUND OR ETHNIC MINORITY BACKGROUND, IN PARTICULAR FROM THE PORTUGUESE ROMA COMMUNITY	726 - Promotion of school initiatives that foster the recognition and appreciation of cultural diversity, involving local partners and intercultural mediators and strengthening the School Network for Intercultural Education.	ENCP	EQUALITY AND MIGRATIONS EDUCATION	NF Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)			10	12					18.000,00€ 621.000,00€	Paragraph 5(b) – Children with a migrant or ethnic minority background, in particular Roma children
	728 - To ensure the teaching of Portuguese as a non-mother tongue (all schools in the country for children and young people speaking for and benefiting from international protection.	ENCP	EQUALITY AND MIGRATIONS EDUCATION	AMIF			60%	70%					N/A	Paragraph 5(b) – Children with a migrant or ethnic minority background, in particular Roma children
06 - TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE AND SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES	320 - Promotion of an accessible and inclusive viewing policy at facilities accredited by the Portuguese Theaters and Cinemas Network.	ENCP	CULTURE					X					740.000 €	Paragraph 5(b) – Children with disabilities
	326 - Promotion of the accessibility to cultural heritage, through free access to Museums and National Monuments, particularly for disadvantaged groups.	ENCP	CULTURE					X					8,9 M€	All children (Paragraph 5)
	329 - Raising awareness and promoting knowledge of Heritage, arts and culture among children and young people, particularly in coordination with the school community.	ENDC	CULTURE				X						N/A	All children (Paragraph 5)
	336 - Promotion of the access and participation of children and young people in artistic and cultural activities (exhibitions, workshops, masterclasses and other activities that enhance the acquisition of skills essential to training and personal development).	ENDC ENDC	CULTURE					X					N/A	All children (Paragraph 5)
	346 - Promotion of the access of children and young people to cultural facilities and services (museums, palaces, monuments and theatres).	ENCP	CULTURE					X					65.7M€	All children (Paragraph 5)
	348 - Promotion of the conditions of access to cinema, implementing the literacy and knowledge of cinematographic works, particularly the national ones, making cinema an art form and as a means of reflection and recognition of values such as diversity, tolerance and inclusion.	ENDC	CULTURE				X						N/A	All children (Paragraph 5)

New Measures Government Area of Housing

Strategic Objective	MEASURE (NEW)	Strategy / Programme / Plan	Responsible Area	Funding source	Targets							Financial Allocation	Target Group (Recommendation EU 2021/2004 - Paragraph 5)	
					2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028			2029
09 - TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO DECENT HOUSING FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN VULNERABILITY SITUATIONS	366 - To ensure the implementation of the Financial Support Programme that covers access for single-parent families.	New Generation of Housing Policies (Povo 01)	MRU	RRP RE-032-01: Housing Access Support Programme					X				1.211.000,00 €	All children (Paragraph 5)
	368 - To ensure the implementation of the Financial Support Programme that covers access for Young People aged between 18 and 35.	New Generation of Housing Policies (Povo 02 Avenue)	MRU	RRP RE-032-01: Housing Access Support Programme					X					All children (Paragraph 5)