



Implementation of the Child Participation Assessment Tool

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Purpose of the Child Participation Assessment Tool

- Starting debate on children's participation in CoE member states resulting in a collection of information and data, including good practices
- Base Line to measure further progress, resulting in:
 - Recommendations on further action and on gaps identified
- On-going process – assess periodically to review progress

Roadmap = Plan of Action – 1 Year

Three Phases:

1. **Preparatory Phase** – translation materials; appointment of national consultant and facilitators; prepare training and induction seminar (*2 months*)
2. **Implementation Phase** – Multi-stakeholder consultations, children's consultations (*9 months*)
3. **Concluding and Evaluation Phase** – Collection of national data; national report; Evaluation meeting (*2 months*)



Preparatory Phase

Responsible: National Authority

- Translation of CPA Tool and supporting materials (guidance note, guidance for children's facilitators) – ready by induction seminar
- Appointment of responsible person in Ministry and a national consultant
- Appointment of children's facilitators
- Preparation of Training and Induction Seminar – invite relevant stakeholders - Open Call Induction Seminar (option to include training on child participation) : *minimum 1 day; 25-30 participants*

Implementation Phase



Guidance Note providing directions on each of the ten indicators:

- ***What evidence needs to be collected?***
- ***Which stakeholders will be involved?***
- ***Which methodology needs to be used for the different indicators?:***
 - *children's consultations*
 - *research and data collection*
 - *meetings of professionals*



- **Key is to consider information from a range of different sources across the whole assessment**
- **Identify gaps in information: consider to include in action plan and next steps**
- **Be aware that children and young people increasingly use online and social media in engaging in decision-making**

Implementation Phase

- **Multi-stakeholder consultations:**

- ✧ Line Ministries and government agencies
- ✧ Professionals and their organisations working with/for children
- ✧ Legal professional working with/for children
- ✧ NGOs and civil society
- ✧ Children's Ombudsperson(if this exists)

- **Children's consultations:**

- ❖ Children's Focus Groups



Children's Focus Groups Consultations

10 Focus groups of each around 15-20 children:

- 5 groups from primary and secondary schools
- 5 groups with involvement of NGOs

Selection of children to be done in cooperation with schools and NGOs: ensure inclusion of disadvantaged children by cooperation with NGOs with specific expertise in working with these groups

Timing of focus groups: minimum of half a day to one full day

Focus Groups are led by a professional children's facilitator

Guide of good practice for children's participation in focus group meeting

To ensure meaningful participation by children and young people guidance has been developed for organising children's focus groups, including Questions to be addressed in focus group consultations.

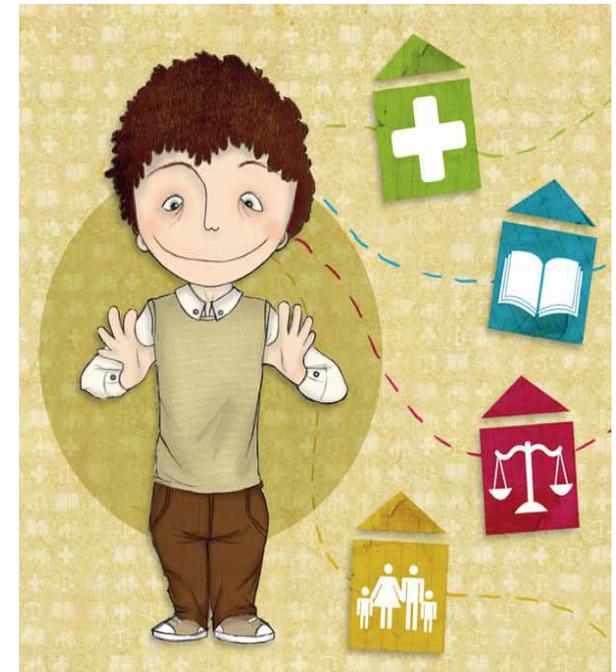


Questions to be addressed in children's focus group consultations

- **Indicator 3: independent children's rights institution is in place:** *e.g. do the children know the children's ombudsperson? Do they know how to get in touch with him/her?*
- **Indicator 5: child-friendly individual complaints procedures are in place:** *e.g. did the medical staff explain what treatment they were going to carry out?*
- **Indicator 7: children are provided with information about their right to participate in decision-making:** *e.g. did the children learn about child participation at primary or secondary school?*
- **Indicator 8: cyp are represented in forums:** *e.g. can the children say if they are members of school councils, local youth councils, etc?*
- **Indicator 9: child-targeted feedback mechanisms on local authority services are in place:** *e.g. are the children aware that they can give feedback to local authorities about services, such as education/schools; recreation/sports; child protection services?*

Consultation Meetings with different stakeholders on specific indicators:

- Professionals working with children, including teachers and social workers (on indicators 3 and 5)
- Legal professionals working with or for children (on indicator 4)
- Professionals in the area of law, education, health, social workers, responsible for immigration procedures and government officials responsible for housing (indicators 5 and 6, 7)
- Civil society (in particular NGOs) (indicators 7, 8, 9 and 10).



Concluding and Evaluation Phase

Responsible: National authority and national consultant

- **Collection of National Data from stakeholders consultations, desk research, children's focus groups** (*to be sent to national consultant*) (*by end of month 10*)
- **Compilation of National Report** (*by national consultant*)
- **Evaluation meeting:** to present the national report to all stakeholders involved; discuss key outcomes and proposals for moving forward
- **Provide feedback of the outcomes to the children who have been consulted**



- Council of Europe Children's Rights Division
- External Consultants
- 3 countries have already done the assessment:
Estonia, Ireland and Romania
- www.coe.int/en/web/children/participation

Questions

