

TABLE 4



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT-GENERAL
Recovery and Resilience Task Force

REPORTING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS:
DESCRIPTION OF MAIN MEASURES AND THEIR ESTIMATED IMPACT

Pillar principle	List of main contributing measures	Estimated impact of the measures (qualitative and/or quantitative)
1. Education, training and life-long learning	1. Special Scheme for the Vocational Training of the Unemployed in Organisations of the Public and broader Public sector, Local Government Authorities, Non-Governmental Organisations and Non-Profit Institutions	1. 2021: 563 beneficiaries, total expenditure €2,06m 2022: 717 beneficiaries, total expenditure €1,00m 2023: 300 beneficiaries, budget €1,20m <i>(The placement of new unemployed persons ended on 31/12/2022)</i>
	2. Scheme for the Employment and Training of Tertiary Education Graduates	2. 2021: 767 beneficiaries, total expenditure €4,54m 2022: 1.104 beneficiaries, total expenditure €6,61m 2023: 1.400 beneficiaries, budget €8,30m
	3. Scheme for the Training of the Long-term Unemployed in Enterprises/Organisations	3. 2021: 94 beneficiaries, total expenditure €348.441 2022: 78 beneficiaries, total expenditure €293.234 2023: 300 beneficiaries, budget €1,10m
	4. Training Programmes for the Unemployed	4. 2021: 28 beneficiaries, total expenditure €14.952 2022: 66 beneficiaries, total expenditure €46.547 2023: 500 beneficiaries, budget €1,50m
	5. Standard Multi-Company Training Programmes -	5. 2021: 601 participations, total expenditure €138.600

	<p>Participation of the unemployed</p> <p>6. Single-Company Training Programmes in Cyprus</p> <p>7. Single-Company Training Programmes Abroad</p> <p>8. Standard Multi-Company Training Programmes - Participation of the employed</p> <p>9. High Priority Multi-Company Training Programmes</p> <p>10. System of Vocational Qualifications (SVQ) (ESF 2014-2020)</p> <p>10.(i) Expansion and Operation of the System of Vocational Qualifications (SVQ)</p> <p>10.(ii) Development of Vocational Qualifications Standards (VQS)</p> <p>11. System for the Assessment and Accreditation of Training Providers</p>	<p>2022: 671 participations, total expenditure €140.640 2023: 500 participations, budget €110.000</p> <p>6. 2021: 26.805 participations, total expenditure €4,25m 2022: 29.576 participations, total expenditure €4,59m 2023: 40.000 participations, budget €7,15m</p> <p>7. 2021: 14 beneficiaries, total expenditure €43.842 2022: 87 beneficiaries, total expenditure €245.012 2023: 400 beneficiaries, budget €600.000</p> <p>8. 2021: 9.811 participations, total expenditure €3,71m 2022: 14.725 participations, budget €4,44m 2023: 14.000 participations, budget €4,50m</p> <p>9. 2021: 1.397 participations, total expenditure €2,12m 2022: 2.567 participations, total expenditure €4,00m 2023: 1.400 participations, budget €2,04m</p> <p>10.(i) 2021: 286 certified persons, total expenditure €215.874 2022: 310 certified persons, total expenditure €248.504 2023: 1.774 candidates, budget €1,00m</p> <p>10.(ii) 2021: total expenditure €292.526 2022: total expenditure €196.881</p> <p>11. 2021: total expenditure €84.751 2022: total expenditure €71.274 2023: budget €105.000</p>
--	---	---

	<p>12. Scheme for the Utilisation of Alternative Forms of Learning</p> <p>13. Scheme for the Support of Training Infrastructure</p> <p>14. Training programmes for the acquisition of digital skills (RRP 2021-2026)</p> <p>15. Training programmes for the acquisition of knowledge and skills related to the green economy (RRP 2021-2026)</p> <p>16. Training programmes for the acquisition of knowledge and skills related to the blue economy</p> <p>17. Training programmes for the unemployed to acquire entrepreneurship knowledge and skills (RRP 2021-2026)</p> <p>18. Individual Learning Accounts (ILAs) (Programme «THALIA» 2021-2027)</p> <p>19. Training programmes for young people aged 15-29 not in education, employment, or training (NEETs) to acquire basic knowledge and skills (Programme «THALIA» 2021-2027)</p>	<p>12. 2023: 1.000 participations, budget €400.000</p> <p>13. 2023: budget €75.000</p> <p>14. 2023: 4.800 participations, budget €2,00m 2021-2026: 20.210 beneficiaries, budget €7,79m</p> <p>15. 2023: 710 participations, budget €416.000 2021-2026: 3.000 beneficiaries, budget €1,7m</p> <p>16. 2023: 120 participations, budget €114.000 2021-2026: 500 beneficiaries, budget €510.000</p> <p>17. 2023: 575 participations, budget €1,25m 2021-2026: 1.935 beneficiaries, budget €4,0m</p> <p>18. 2023: 1.800 beneficiaries, budget €943.000 2021-2027: 1.800 beneficiaries, budget €5,0m</p> <p>19. 2023: 560 participations, budget €965.000 2021-2027: 2.800 beneficiaries, budget €5,0m</p>
--	--	--

	<p>20. A number of policies are being implemented on a national level aiming to make Early Childhood Education available and affordable to all children, and identify and address financial and non-financial barriers to participation.</p> <p>21. A Project on “Addressing Skills Mismatch between Education and the Labour Market”, which includes the “Development of a national Graduate Tracking Mechanism and design and implementation of an “Employers’ Skills Survey” has started being implemented</p> <p>22.1 The project "School and Social Inclusion Actions +" program aims at promoting and enhancing equal access for all children to the education system, regardless of social group, ethnic origin, learning status or other particularities, utilizing a number of benefits to promote social justice.</p> <p>22.2 A Policy for the smooth integration of pupils with migrant background in the Cypriot educational system based on an Action Plan 2019-2022 is being implemented</p> <p>23. The designing of a new teacher and school evaluation system is under way</p>	<p>20. Enhance the affordability of ECE and thus increase the attendance to ECE. Childcare Services Grant Scheme: 2022 (Sept-Dec): 6.688 beneficiaries, budget €4,0m</p> <p>21. Enhance the responsiveness of the Cyprus education and training system to the labour market needs.</p> <p>22. Reduction of early school leaving. Enhancement of inclusion and effectiveness of education</p> <p>23. Increase of the effectiveness of education system</p>
--	--	---

	<p>24. The Project titled “Digital Transformation of the curriculum aiming to enhance digital skills and skills related to STEM education” has started being implemented. It includes 4 dimensions: (1) Digital equipment of school classrooms (e-classes), (2) Curriculum transformation, (3) Teachers’ in-service training, (4) Subsidising the cost of students’ equipment (laptops/tablets) based on eligibility criteria.</p> <p>25. The strengthening of the quality, relevance and capacity of Technical Vocational Education and Training is supported through the implementation of a relevant European Social Fund supported project</p> <p>26. A new Lifelong Learning Strategy for the years 2021-2027 has been developed and approved by the cabinet of Ministers in September 2022, with an emphasis on upskilling and reskilling of low qualified and low-skilled adults</p> <p>27. Training programmes in digital skills for people over the age of 55</p>	<p>24. Increase of digital skills among students and teachers</p> <p>25. Increase the relevance of education with the labour market and lowering of unemployment</p> <p>26. Improve the percentage of participation of adults in LLL</p> <p>27. Training of at least 2.550 people by the end of 2025</p>
2. Gender equality	<p>1. Re-organisation of the work of the inspectorate mechanism, so that inspections on the implementation of the Equal Pay Legislation are more targeted and clearly linked to sectoral and occupational segregation, including review of the investigation procedures and of compliance means.</p> <p>2. Scheme providing incentives to employ unemployed</p>	<p>1. -Better performance of the inspection mechanism -Unjustified pay differences will be more easily identified and will reveal the extend and true nature of differences in pay in different sectors and occupations -Investigation results will be more easily translated to the corrective actions needed.</p> <p>2. Budget: €7mln, 820 beneficiaries</p>

	<p>women: Expected to be announced in 2024.</p> <p>3. Scheme providing incentives for flexible employment arrangements of inactive women: The Scheme is planned for the period 2022-2027 with ESF+ co-financing. Expected to be announced in 2024.</p>	<p>3. Budget: €4 mln, 470 beneficiaries based on various forms of flexible working conditions.</p>
3. Equal opportunities		
4.Active support to employment	<p>1. Program for guidance and support to vulnerable jobseekers (adopted 10/2018)</p> <p>2. More focused provision of guidance to employees and employers by the Employment Counsellors (implemented 10/2018)</p>	<p>1. The design, implementation and evaluation of 4-month Programs aiming to provide Individualized Guidance and Support to Vulnerable Jobseekers, which were incorporated in the PES practice since the end of 2018, have been interrupted due to problems created by the pandemic of COVID-19 and started again since the end of 2022. The fourth Program (November 2022 – February 2023) was targeted to all new vulnerable groups, such as: long-term unemployed, young unemployed aged 15-29, women with difficulties to find a job, persons with disabilities, unemployed recipients of GMI etc.</p> <p>2. Employment counsellors focused in depth on quality issues such as provision of guidance and information about available training and employment opportunities to unemployed, development of a productive dialogue with employers aiming to facilitate the recruitment of unemployed promoting thus the recovery of the economy especially in those sectors affected most (e.g. touristic, and the entertainment, recreation etc) increasing thereby the ability to recognize or capture needs for up-skilling (digital skills) or re-skilling.</p>

	<p>3. Temporary recruitment of 30 employment counsellors extended until the end of 2029 (adopted 6/2018)</p> <p>4. Development of Employers' Unit</p>	<p>3. The capacity of the Cyprus PES is being strengthened with the temporary recruitment of the 30 Employment Counsellors which will be extended until the end of 2029. The new qualified staff has a considerable positive and qualitative impact on the PES performance. In particular, the capacity of the PES has been enhanced in dealing effectively with its customers, especially with the most vulnerable, facilitating the implementation of specific policy programs and initiating a positive culture change of clients and officers. The PES increased considerably the provision of individualized guidance and support to vulnerable unemployed, the referrals of unemployed to job vacancies, and their integration into the labour market strengthening the PES position in the local labour markets, enriching and expanding the knowledge of clients and officers as regards the obligations/ responsibilities and rights of each group.</p> <p>4. An Employers Unit has been developed in each District Labour Office, with two Employment Counsellors each, dealing with employers' issues and vacancies. The PES is currently in the process of developing the new strategy of the services provision to employers which will envisage to enhance the cooperation between PES and Employers aiming to attract more and better vacancies increasing thus the PES vacancy share. Part of this strategy is the outreach of particular categories of employers through visits to their places, the use of a questionnaire about their needs in personnel and an opinion survey for evaluating the services provided by the PES and through the online Platform for the self-service of employers.</p>
--	---	--

	<p>5. IT system of PES</p> <p>6. Preparation of a legislative proposal regarding PES operation</p> <p>7. A strategic document for the design and implementation of ALMPs (In consultation with social partners)</p>	<p>5. The upgrading of the IT system of the PES, with the technical support of the Department of Information Technology Services, remains an ongoing process for further facilitation and enrichment of the PES processes, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Upgrading of the matching electronic tool through the enrichment of the Information gathered regarding the supplied and demanded Labour, · Upgrading of the electronic module for the application of individualised guidance and Support of vulnerable unemployed, · Construction of tables for the measurement of the PES performance through an automated extraction of statistical data every month. <p>6. The legislative proposal regarding the PES operation, the preparation of which started in 2019, is going to be finalized and then submitted to the House of Representatives for approval.</p> <p>7. The strategic document for the design and implementation of ALMPs was submitted to the EU for approval. This document includes among others, measures for strengthening the administrative capacity of PES for the design evaluation of ALMPs</p>
--	---	---

	<p>8. Mapping of NEETs (adopted 9/2019 and 11/2021)</p> <p>9. NEETS: Production of informative leaflets, digital/ on line promotion material as well as user friendly videos and media advertisements. (6/2022)</p> <p>10. The operation of four mobile units of PES for NEETs (announced 7/2022)</p> <p>11. Development of a digital Performance Management System (PMS) and a digital early warning system for NEETs (announced 2023-24).</p>	<p>8. After the evaluation of results of the second exercise of the mapping of NEETs, a problem with the reliability of the data has been identified which has to be solved before conducting the next mapping exercise.</p> <p>9. The new future changes towards the virtual era of PES include among other activities, the production of informative leaflets, digital/ on line promotion material as well as user friendly videos and media (TV, Radio and On line) advertisements.</p> <p>10. The development and operation of mobile units of PES will promote outreach activities for NEETs in all districts of Cyprus with the purpose to minimize the risks of social exclusion and increasing the opportunities for their integration in the labour market.</p> <p>11. The development of a digital Performance Management System and a digital early warning system for NEETs had been approved to be promoted under the Recovery and Resilience Plan through outsourcing. The development of PMS will be based on the use of new technological advances and on a new management philosophy and procedures with clear goals, tasks and targets which will assist, motivate and lead the PES personnel. Through the PMS efforts will be promoted for identifying room for</p>
--	---	--

	<p>12. Promotion of the profiling of NEETs (implemented 9/2019)</p> <p>(i) Scheme Providing Incentives for the employment of unemployed 1st, 2nd & 3rd call (17m + 4 m + 4m) (2312 2310 applications + 764 + 470 942).</p> <p>(ii) Scheme Providing Incentives for the employment of long-term unemployed</p>	<p>improvement initiating continuous learning for the personnel. The digital early warning system will be an IT module connected to the Candidate Placement System of the PES that will promote preventative actions for minimizing the risks for the increase of the long-term unemployment of NEETs. An expert is assisting the PES in the design of both systems and the preparation of the tender documents.</p> <p>12. Cooperation of the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance with other stakeholders (Human Resource Development Authority, the Ministry of Education and Culture, Cyprus Productivity Centre, Employers' Organizations and companies, Youth Board, NGOs, Public and private universities) has been enhanced for the promotion of the profiling of NEETs, outreach and activation support, the enrichment of the training opportunities, and the gathering of information necessary for the analysis of the NEETs' characteristics.</p> <p>(i) The total budget of the 3 calls (10/2020, 5/2021, 11/2021) is €25 m. and 4016 applications have been received, thus contributing to the employment of 3546 people.</p> <p>(ii) The total budget of the scheme that is expected to be announced in 2024, is €2 m. and 235 applications are expected to be received for the employment of 235 long term unemployed people.</p>
--	---	--

	<p>(iii) Scheme that provides incentives for the Labor Restoration of Detainees.</p> <p>(iv) Scheme Providing Incentives for the employment of unemployed people over 50 years old.</p> <p>(v) Scheme Providing Incentives to employ people with disabilities.</p> <p>(vi) Scheme Providing Incentives to employ people with chronic diseases.</p> <p>(vii) Scheme Providing Incentives for the employment of Minimum Guaranteed Income (GMI) Beneficiaries.</p> <p>(viii) Scheme Providing Incentives for the employment of Asylum Seekers.</p> <p>(ix) Flexible work arrangements in the form of telework</p>	<p>(iii) The total budget of the scheme that was announced in 10/2020 is €4 mln. for the employment of 200 unemployed detainees.</p> <p>(iv) The total budget of the scheme that is expected to be announced in 2024, is €4 mln and 470 applications are expected to be received for the employment of 470 unemployed people over 50 years old.</p> <p>(v) The total budget of the scheme that was announced in 11/2021 is €2 mln for the employment of 100 unemployed people with disabilities.</p> <p>(vi) The total budget of the scheme that was announced in 11/2021 is €2 mln for the employment of 100 unemployed people with chronic diseases.</p> <p>(vii) The total budget of the scheme that is expected to be announced in 2024, is €1 m. and 120 applications are expected to be received for the employment of Minimum Guaranteed Income (GMI) Beneficiaries.</p> <p>(viii) The total budget of the scheme that is expected to be announced in 2024, is €1 m. and 120 applications are expected to be received for the employment of Asylum Seekers.</p> <p><i>The above schemes will be co-financed by the European social fund plus (ESF+).</i></p> <p>(ix) The total budget of the scheme that is expected to be announced in 2023, is €3.9 m. and applications are</p>
--	---	--

	<p>13. Schemes that provide incentive for the employment of young people (aged 15-29) not in employment nor Education or Training (NEETs)</p> <p>(i) Scheme that provides incentives to employ Young People (aged 15-29) not in employment nor Education or Training (NEETs) 1st ,2nd & 3rd call (10 m + 2.5 m + 2.5m) (1338 applications+ 446 + 513).</p> <p>(ii) Scheme Providing Incentives for flexible recruitment of young people aged 15-29 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs), who have difficulty entering and remaining in the labor market without assistance and wish to work based on some flexible form of employment.</p> <p>(iii) Scheme that provides incentives to employ Young People (aged 15-29) not in employment nor Education or Training (NEETs) with 2 months training</p>	<p>expected to be received for the employment of 450 people based on teleworking.</p> <p>This scheme will be co-financed by the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP).</p> <p>(i) The total budget of the 3 calls (10/2020, 5/2021, 11/2021) is €15 m. and 2297 applications have been received, thus contributing to the employment of 2297 young people not in employment nor Education or Training (NEETs).</p> <p>(ii) The total budget of the scheme that is expected to be announced in 2024, is €10 m. and 1165 applications are expected to be received for the employment of 1165 young people not in employment nor Education or Training (NEETs) based on various forms of flexible working conditions.</p> <p>The above schemes will be co-financed by the European social fund plus (ESF+) & Youth Employment Initiative (YEI).</p> <p>(iii) The total budget of the scheme that is expected to be announced in 2022, is €7.8 m. and 815 applications are expected to be received for the training and employment of 815 young people not in employment nor Education or Training (NEETs).</p>
--	--	--

	<p>14. Digitalization of services (substituting the traditional provision of physical services) and distant services (mostly via telephone) (Implemented 3/2020 and 15/6/2021)</p> <p>15. Introduction of advanced digital technology (announced 12/2022)</p>	<p>This scheme will be co-financed by the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP).</p> <p>14. In the beginning of the pandemic the registration of unemployed people was being made via the use of emails or faxes for receiving all documents needed for registration supplemented by a telephone conversation between the unemployed and the Employment Counsellor to complete, confirm and finalise the registration. Renewals of existing registrations were done automatically by the system. Since June of 2021, the registration of unemployment and their renewals are made through the online platform of PES by unemployed themselves. PES mediation and matching services are communicated to job seekers via telephone or e-mail as well and the required contact with Employers is done in the same way.</p> <p>15. Cyprus PES is in the process to introduce advanced digital technology to cover all the services provided to the clients. This transformation of services will be followed by changes in the processes of delivering the daily work. The change will entail modifications in the duties, responsibilities and the culture of PES staff and on behalf of the customers, redesigning of objectives and time schedules, organisation of workshops and training for all PES staff in order to provide the information and knowledge about new procedures and ensuring a high degree of commitment and understanding by the PES staff.</p>
--	---	--

	<p>16. Online platform for the self-service of Employers (implemented 9/2018)</p> <p>17. Monitoring and evaluation of ALMPs (implemented 3/2019)</p>	<p>16. The first evaluation of the operation of the online platform for the self-service of employers has been conducted aiming to promote corrective measures for its improvement. The second evaluation of the platform's operation will be promoted in 2022.</p> <p>17. In the beginning of 2019, the IT system for Monitoring and Evaluation of ALMPs was launched. Corrective measures were taken for overcoming identified technical constraints and shortcomings.</p>
5. Secure and adaptable employment	1. Adoption of legislation regulating telework.	1. Through this initiative, the Ministry aspires to increase the use of telework so that Cyprus can benefit from the advantages it offers in the economic and social areas. Social Dialogue in relation to the new legislation is underway and expected to be adopted within 2022.
6. Wages	<p>1. Cyprus is among the EU countries that do not have a national minimum wage covering all occupations. Generally, wages in Cyprus are determined, freely, through collective bargaining, which leads to signing collective agreements. Unlike most continental European countries, collective agreements in Cyprus are voluntarily applied. When the employers and the employees agree not to determine terms and conditions of employment through collective agreements, they can agree personal agreements, which must be communicated to the employee in writing.</p> <p>Today, minimum wages cover the hotel industry and some other professions, namely, salespersons, clerks, child-care workers, school assistants and personal care workers, security guards and cleaners.</p> <p>Given the above-mentioned situation, the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance plans to legislate minimum</p>	1. This initiative will minimise the disparities towards minimum wages offered to employees by employers leading to the goal of promoting decent work.

	<p>wage for all employees in Cyprus. This initiative will minimise the disparities towards minimum wages offered to employees by employers leading to the goal of promoting decent work.</p> <p>Finally, the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance is actively participating in the process regarding proposal for a Directive on Adequate Minimum Wages.</p>	
7. Information about Employment conditions and protection in case of dismissals	<p>1. A new legislation is underway concerning the harmonisation with the EU Directive (EU) 2019/1152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on Transparent and Predictable Working Conditions in the European Union</p>	<p>1. - The employer's obligation to provide information is strengthened.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electronic information of the employee increases productivity - Limitations regarding the probationary period - New employee rights are introduced like the right to training, the right for a statement regarding the detailed components of remuneration - For employees whose work schedule is not predictable, the employer is obliged to provide the time frame and the guaranteed remuneration in case the and additional information for employees employed outside the Republic.
8. Social dialogue and involvement of workers	<p>1. The project "Reform of the Social Insurance System and Restructure of the of the Social Insurance Services" that entails the revision of Social Security System legislation in order to extend the coverage to self-employed and non-standard forms of employment, includes the development of social partners' capacity on the matter of non-standard forms of employment.</p> <p>2. Social Partners are currently being consulted in the Labour Advisory Board on important policies like the Statutory minimum wage, new legislation on telework, legislation regarding PES operations and Pension System Reform.</p>	<p>Budget: €300.000 mln for the period of 2023-2024</p>

9. Work-life balance	The Government has transposed Directive 2019/1158 into national legislation as of 16/12/2022	In addition, the Social Insurance law of 59(I)/2010 was amended in order to open up paternity benefit to all fathers regardless of marital status and to extend this benefit in the case of the death of the mother. The amendment also provides for parental leave benefit to all employed parents up to a total 6 weeks (to be increased to 8 weeks on 2/08/2024) per child up to the age of 8. Finally, the amendment secures the social insurance rights for any period of unpaid parental leave, carers leave, and for periods of absence from work due to force majeure by providing insurance credits for these periods
10. Healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment and data protection		
11. Childcare and support to children	1. Childcare Services Grant Scheme (0-3years and 8 months): Announced 13/1/2021 and implemented since Sept 2022. The Scheme aims to support families with young children, through the subsidy of Child Care Services for children up to 4 years, for all families with children based on income and property criteria. The total budget for the scheme is €48 mln with 27 mln co-funded for the period 2022-2025 by the ESF+. The scheme is already implemented since Sipt 2022 with 7000 children already receiving up to 80% of monthly tuition supplement, which corresponds to 44% of the possible beneficiaries.+.	1. Budget: €48mln

	<p>4. National Strategy for Early Childhood Education and Care (including a National Action Plan)</p> <p>5. Scheme “Dowry of the Baby”</p> <p>6. Establishment of structures for hosting children under the care of the Director of Social Welfare Services</p>	<p>4. Based on the recommendations of the above mentioned TSI Project the first National Strategy on ECEC and its accompanying Action Plan will be prepared by the end of 2024.</p> <p>5. Ongoing action: The purpose of the "Dowry of the Baby" Project is to reduce material deprivation and reduce the risk of social exclusion of the benefiting families, through the provision of defined basic consumer goods free of charge, as well as by pursuing accompanying measures that mainly concern the guidance and networking with important services. The Package of the Baby Dowry includes basic consumer goods, such as equipment, linen, baby diapers and personal hygiene and care items for babies.</p> <p>Project budget €2.6 mln</p> <p>6. The aim of the action is to enhance the ability of the Social Welfare Services to respond to the hosting and care needs of unaccompanied minors as well as other children under the care of the Director of the SWS with the establishment of 8 Homes for unaccompanied minors, 1 Home for pregnant young girls and young mothers with infants, 2 Homes for children aged 13-18 years, 1 Home for children 5-12 years and 1 Children’s House (2nd Home). Project budget €8 mln</p>
--	---	--

	<p>7. Establishment of Homes and structures for the provision of daily services to adolescence with conduct disorders.</p> <p>8. Establishment of Multifunctional Centers for Children and Childcare Centers</p>	<p>7. The action will involve the establishment of 2 Hostels and 2 Day Care Programs infrastructure of minors with conduct disorder issues addressed to boys and girls 12-18 years. The hostels will accommodate minors showing symptoms of conduct disorders such as delinquent behavior, use of addictive substances who live in an inappropriate family environment or who are under the care of the Director of Social Welfare Services. The project will be implemented in collaboration with the Cyprus National Addictions Authority.</p> <p>8. The objectives of this action is the establishment of new or enhancing/improving existing Multifunctional Centers for Children (aged 0-4 yrs and 6-13yrs) as well as Childcare Centers (for children aged 0-4yrs). In this direction, a new State Aid Scheme of the Social Welfare Services was announced on the 24.02.2023. Beneficiaries are non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and local authorities (LAs), which will receive a grant/state aid for the establishment of at least 30 new or the enhancement of existing Multifunctional Centers for Children and Childcare Centers by June 2026. Mid-term target/milestone is the provision of grant/state aid to at least 11 NGOs or LAs for the establishment of the abovementioned structures. The objective of this action is the provision of affordable quality care and social development services for children. This will contribute to increasing women's participation in the labour market, gender equality, improve employment in general and contribute to increasing the fertility rate, reducing the risk of poverty as well as reducing</p>
--	--	--

		<p>inequalities. Project budget €15 mln</p>
12. Social protection	<p>1. The Cyprus RRF plan the government includes the modernization of the social insurance legislation to expand and improve the coverage of various types of benefits for the self-employed, the short-term contract workers and the platform workers (e.g. parental leave benefits, benefits for accidents at work and occupational diseases)</p> <p>2. Scheme for the Financial Support and Support of Released Prisoners</p> <p>3. a). Protocol of Cooperation for the effective implementation of Social Intervention for beneficiaries of GMI (Guaranteed Minimum Income) with addiction disorders for their referral in Addiction Rehabilitation Programs approved by the Cyprus Addiction Treatment Authority.</p> <p>b) Department of Social Intervention in the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare</p>	<p>An amending bill of the Social Insurance legislation has been prepared which extends the coverage of parental leave benefits, and benefits for accidents at work and occupational diseases). An actuarial study has also been concluded regarding the cost of such changes and their impact to the Social Insurance Fund. The bill after consultation with social partners, will be sent for legal venting to the Attorney General’s Office and will be sent to the Parliament</p> <p>2. Ongoing action</p> <p>3. a) The purpose of the Protocol is the implementation of Social Intervention by the Welfare Benefits Administration Service and the Social Welfare Services to persons who have reached the age of 18, face a problem with addictive substances and addictive behaviors and are applicants and / or beneficiaries of a Guaranteed Minimum Income, including their family members, in the context of the Guaranteed Minimum Income and other Welfare Benefits Law 2014 as it is amended or superseded.</p> <p>b) According to the Decision of the Council of Ministers dated 26/01/2023 (No.117/2023), the Social Intervention Program is implemented by the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare. Social intervention is defined as the combination of actions, for applicants/beneficiaries of</p>

	<p>4. Granting of the Honorary grant for a Large Family Mother (Mother's Allowance)</p> <p>5. Continuation and evaluation of the program "Children's House"</p>	<p>GMI and their family members, to (a) solve practical difficulties, (b) increase motivation to look for work and at the same time, (c) manage various psychosocial problems that increase the likelihood of losing the job again or relapsing into non-job-seeking behaviors and being trapped in the GMI. The aim of Social Intervention is to increase the probability of employment of a person - a beneficiary of the GMI through the treatment of possible psychosocial problems or through their activation for job-seeking behavior, as well as the management of any psychosocial factors that may act as an inhibitor for a successful employment or their social integration. For this purpose, a social intervention guide has been prepared, which aims to investigate the various variables and develop an individualized action plan for each client. Implementation is expected to begin in September 2023.</p> <p>4. Ongoing action For 2022 approximately €6.350 millions where provided for 16,037 beneficiaries</p> <p>5. The Council of Ministers approved by Decision No. 79.116, dated 14/07/2015 for the establishment of an Ad-hoc Ministerial Committee, with the participation of the Ministers of Labour, Social Insurance, Education and Culture, Health and Justice and Public Order, which coordinated the preparation of the National Strategy for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse and Child Pornography 2016-2019, which was approved by the Council of Ministers by Decision No. 80,430 on</p>
--	---	---

	<p>6. Operation and expansion of the "Women's House" Program</p>	<p>21/03/2016. The first priority of the National Strategy was the creation of the Children's House (following the model of Iceland), aims at the immediate access of the child to necessary services and the reduction of any possibility of stigmatization of the child victim. The operation of the Children's House has been assigned to the Organisation "Hope for Children" CRC Policy Center and began its operation in September 2017. The overall supervision of the Children's House of the Child is under in the Social Welfare Services and in cooperation with other co-competent services such as Ministry of Justice and Public Order, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth) it provides an inter-service, multidisciplinary, child-friendly approach to the management of cases of child sexual abuse, based on good practices already in place in other European countries. Services are provided such as the taking of a videotaped deposit of the child, medical examinations, psychological support / therapy and social support and rehabilitation. The operation of the Children's House is fully Subsidized by government funds.</p> <p>6. In the context of the implementation of the obligations arising from the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, the Council of Ministers by its Decision, no. 88.585 and dated 27/11/2019, approved the implementation of a relevant proposal for the operation of the Women's House which has begun its operation since 01/12/2020 under the supervision of the Social Welfare Services. The Women's House operates as a</p>
--	--	---

	<p>7. Project for the Restructuring of the Social Welfare Services</p>	<p>multidisciplinary center, friendly to victims of violence, where professionals from various specialties and State Officials, such as Social Workers, specially trained members of the Police, and others, work under the same roof / structure in order to provide protection and specialized support to victims of violence. Specifically, the Women's House provides the following services to women as well as to their dependent children, victims of violence, without any discrimination, including women immigrants or refugees regardless of their migrant or refugee status. The management of the Women's House was assigned with a state subsidy by the State Aid Plan of the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare to the Association for the Prevention and Confrontation of Violence in the Family.</p> <p>7. The vision of the Social Welfare Services that is pursued through the Project of their restructuring is to provide high quality services that are accessible, friendly and personalized, ensuring the holistic support of the individual and the family, in a human-centered way, ensuring the empowerment and dignity of the rights of vulnerable people of the population and contributing to the improvement of their lives and their development, to the best of their abilities. Project budget €37 mln</p>
<p>13. Unemployment benefits</p>		

<p>14. Minimum income</p>	<p>1. Guaranteed Minimum income</p> <p>2. Scheme supporting pensioners' households with low income</p> <p>3. Child Benefit and Single Parent Benefit</p> <p>4. Provision of disability benefit and social cohesion measures to persons with disabilities, beneficiaries of the Guaranteed Minimum Income</p> <p>5. Operation of the Welfare Benefits Administration Service - Simplification and recording of procedures and implementation of a Unified Computerized System of Benefits</p>	<p>1. Ongoing action GMI: For 2021 approximately €163.184 mln where provided for 23,533 beneficiaries</p> <p>2. Ongoing action For 2021 approximately €89.081millions where provided for 31,192beneficiaries</p> <p>3. Ongoing action Child benefit: For 2021approximately €74.076millions where provided for 61,828 beneficiaries</p> <p>Single Parent Benefit: For 2021 approximately €34.757millions where provided for 11,619 beneficiaries</p> <p>4.Ongoing action Budget of €40 million per year It is a financial support to address expenses caused by disability in the life of the person</p> <p>5. Ongoing action Project budget €11 million</p>
---------------------------	--	---

15. Old age income and pensions	Pension System	Social Dialogue on the reform of the pensions system started in July 2021 in the Labour Advisory Body. The government's aim is to modernize the pension system in order to tackle existing problems and provide adequate income replacement for all. In Oct.2022 the Government signed an agreement for technical cooperation with ILO on the pension Reform. The first deliverable - a policy direction report was submitted in January 2023.
16. Health care		
17. Inclusion of people with disabilities	1. Development of a new legislative and institutional framework for the provision of social inclusion services and benefits to persons with disabilities	1. Expansion of the types and quantity of support services and benefits provided to persons with disabilities offering increased opportunities and enablement for social inclusion

<p>18. Long-term care</p>	<p>1. Long-Term Care</p> <p>2. Program for the provision of social workers in communities or clusters of communities and in Local Government Authorities</p> <p>3. Continuation of the implementation of a State Aid Plan</p>	<p>1. Ongoing action For 2021 approximately €16.001millions where provided for 6076 beneficiaries</p> <p>2. The aim is to introduce and develop the institution of Social Work with the Community with the involvement of the local community in identifying and reporting vulnerable individuals and social problems of the community for more direct management and response. In this context, specialized family support services will be provided (e.g. also called Family Support Centres). In this context, groups of professional social workers will be established by the Authorities, in order to create cooperation with the Social Welfare Services for the identification, provision of services and networking with services and programs. Project budget of €11 million</p> <p>3. Ongoing action The Social Welfare Services provide State Aid by applying Regulation 360/2012 of the European Union and Decision 2012/21 on the provision of Services of General Economic Interest. In this context, financial support is granted in the form of state aid for the establishment, operation or expansion of relevant programs that fall within the field of social care and concern programs such as: Roofs of the Elderly, Child Protection and Employment Centers, Programs for people with disabilities and other specialized programs concerning victims of trafficking, victims of violence and unaccompanied minors.</p>
---------------------------	---	--

<p>19. Housing and assistance for the homeless</p>	<p>1. Provision of assistance to a non-beneficiary</p> <p>2. Guaranteed Minimum Income - Housing</p>	<p>1. Ongoing action The Deputy Minister may provide assistance to a person who does not receive a monthly guaranteed minimum income and is in an extremely urgent and / or emergency situation as a result of personal circumstances or an unexpected or emergency situation if these needs are not met from other state resources or from another source.</p> <p>2. Ongoing action GMI-Housing: For 2021 approximately €10.811millions where provided for 4,002 beneficiaries</p>
<p>20. Access to essential services</p>	<p>1. Free Transportation by Bus for Pensioners with low Income</p>	<p>1. Ongoing action The beneficiaries of the Scheme supporting pensioners' households with low income are entitled to free transportation by bus and domestic road passenger transport services. This measure aims at expanding the provision of essential and quality services to the beneficiaries of this Scheme, whose income from all sources does not exceed the poverty threshold and who have increased needs to use public transport for their movement.</p>