



TURKEY

NATIONAL POLICY BRIEF

The objective of this policy brief is to present the current situation and progress made in family support on behalf of the children's rights in Turkey towards achieving quality standards using the quality assurance protocol for family support services developed by the 19 countries participating in the COST Innovators Grant IG18123, QA[4]EuroFam. The aim is to provide key messages on current strengths as well as recommendations to key audiences, bringing relevant views and appraisals from the group of interdisciplinary experts, representatives of various sectors in the field at national level.

National Working Group

Consensual responses were provided by members of Turkish National Working Group made up of 9 researchers and coordinators of services and social entities at national, regional and local levels in social, education, health, and community sectors.

1. Contextualization and characterization of family support in Turkey

Q Definition and understanding of family support: Based on the consensus of national group members, in Turkey, family support described as providing resources and services to empower of families in terms of psychological, economic, social aspects, especially for families those include disadvantaged individuals. Family Support presented to families most likely to increase families' functioning which includes topics related to child education, development and health. FS targets both children and their parents or caregivers.

Q Family support services in context: The conceptualising family support provision in Turkey, to serve preserving the unity of the family, empowering parenting, protecting child rights. Unfortunately, we do not have strong evidence-based reports or guidelines how to reach out FS to the families in the different context. However, the current Family Support programs in Turkey aim to increase the accessibility of Family Support to the targeted families.

Q Political perspective on family support: The principles to approach family support track from top to bottom as well as the organizations could provide their own family support resources to the families. We can basically define the process from government, ministries, local and legal organizations, then municipalities, and last to neighborhood representatives. These organizations work to increase welfare of families.

2. Key messages from the National Strengths and Recommendations Report



Families and Children

STRENGTHS

1. There are recent empowering programs target families and children

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Enhance awareness of families to apply appropriate resources regarding their needs.



Professionals

STRENGTHS

1. The increasing qualified service provider trainings to serve FS with appropriately.

RECOMMENDATIONS



Policymakers

STRENGTHS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To increase collaboration with professionals and academics
2. Implement and provide budget for evidence-based programs



Academics

STRENGTHS

1. The strength is that there are several eminent academicians in the area of FS.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Eminent academicians should be supportive and volunteer to promote young and early career researchers' capacities in the topic of FS.

3. Insights and lessons learned regarding the quality of family support

1 It is crucial to increase family support programs at national level.

2 Quality family support programs should also include the needs of emerging adults, such as becoming new parents, or the process childbearing.

3 At national level, all family support programs should be organized and implemented well-structured way.

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