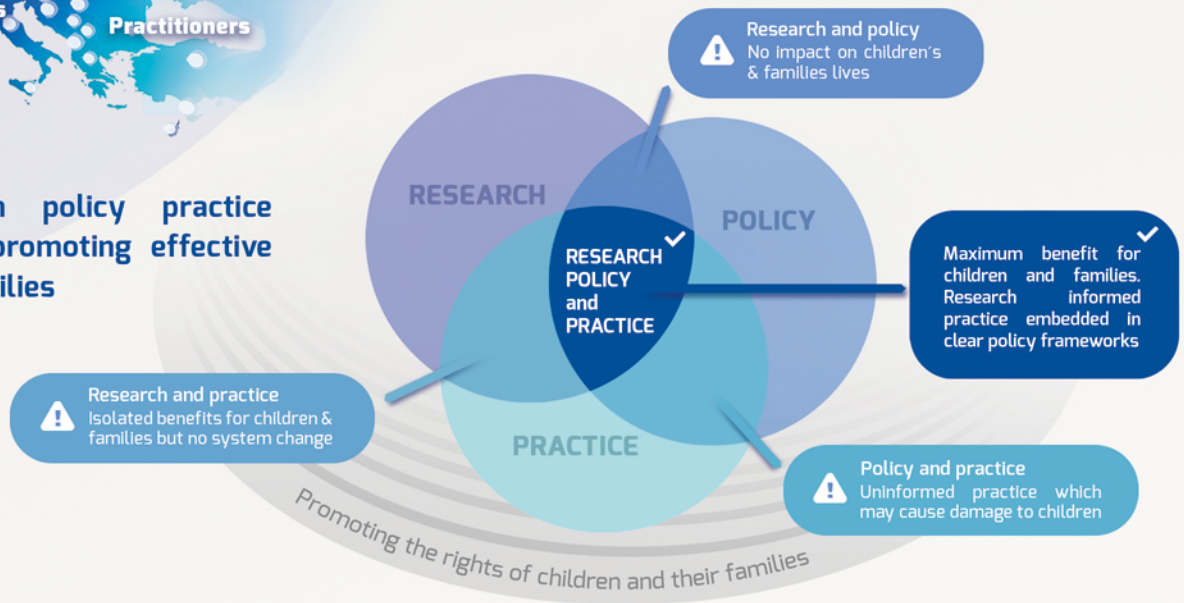


Supporting families to meet children's needs by making quality family support a right for all children



EurofamNet is a **bottom-up, evidence-based, multidisciplinary network** that aims to improve the lives of children and families by informing family policies and practices in Europe by **building collaborations** between researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, children and families, public and private agencies, and general society.

The research policy practice diagram for promoting effective work with families



A comprehensive and collaborative framework for family support policy, provision & practice



EurofamNet has developed a **multi-dimensional, multi-level** conceptualisation for family support. We propose that a reform agenda for family support requires a focus on **policy, provision and practice**, rooted in a **participatory approach for family welfare, children's rights, gender equality and social justice**.

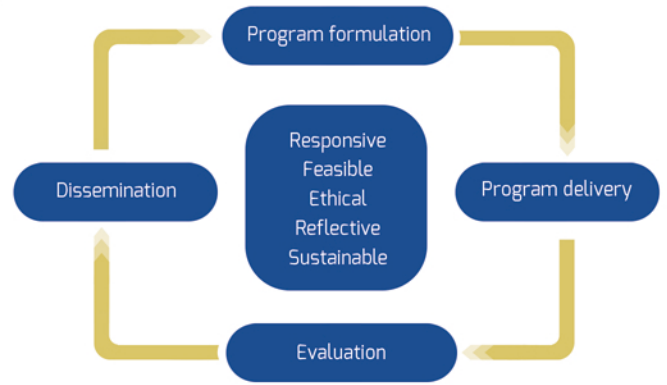
To meet the **diverse needs of families** and respond to challenges in their circumstances across the range of social and economic domains, family support must be underpinned by a well-developed infrastructure of policy that supports a comprehensive suite of provisions and practices.

A participatory ethos is necessary so that supports meet the needs of families in diverse circumstances, while respecting the **agency** of family members in determining their own lives.

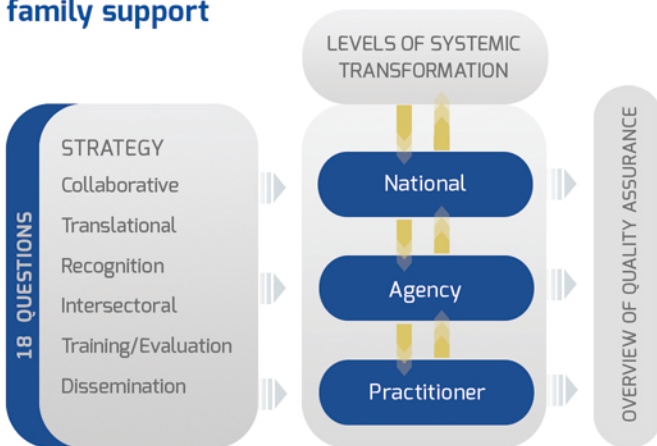
The EurofamNet quality standards in family support provision

EurofamNet has established standards for **different phases of the lifecycle of family support programmes** from the programme formulation to delivery, evaluation of impact, and to dissemination. The development of these standards was informed by both research on best practices and established standards in other areas of the prevention field. A unique aspect of the EurofamNet quality standards is the five fundamental considerations that informed the development of the standards recommendations.

These fundamental considerations comprise the core of the EurofamNet Quality Standards document to promote the development and use of family support programmes that are **responsive, feasible, ethical, reflective, and sustainable** to maximize the benefits to the children and families.



Comparative study on EBP (evidence-based practices) adoption in EurofamNet countries for a quality family support



Working model for adoption of evidence-based practice

EurofamNet has studied the **extent to which evidence-based standards are used as a model of professional practice** in support provision systems in Europe.

The evaluation was based on a working model that conceives the process of EBP adoption as involving a **systemic bidirectional transformation in the support provision** that should take place at national, agency, and practitioner levels.

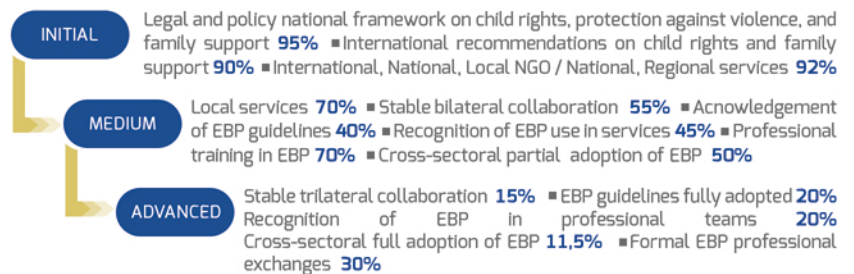
This transformation requires the implementation of collaborative, translational efforts on EBP guidelines, EBP recognition of services and practitioners, multi-agency and intersectoral EBP adoption, professional training on EBP guidelines, and dissemination strategies, which ultimately provide an overview of quality assurance process.

The evaluation is designed for a **self-directed assessment** to promote **self-reflection and identifying ways of improvement** in the EBP adoption, not for ranking purposes.

Responses of EU members, candidates, and non-EU countries to 18 questions were provided on consensual basis by members of EurofamNet national supportive networks made up of entities at the national, regional, and local level (e.g., services, NGO) in social, education, and health sectors.

The results show the **progression from initial to more advanced levels of EBP adoption**, showing a progressive reduction in % of countries from initial to advanced levels.

Levels of progression in EBP (evidence-based practice) adoption



Progression of countries from initial, medium to advanced levels



Challenges for quality family support: practical implications

- Increase national awareness of the need to adopt EBP to improve the quality of services.
- Engage stakeholders to advocate for quality services and ensure participation of children and families in the process.
- Disseminate EBP guidelines in social, education, health, and community sectors to facilitate collaborative work in the child and family support.
- Provide inter-professional training for the workforce in accordance with competency standards.
- Ensure the sustainability of quality assurance, especially in times of economical and health crisis, to guarantee the child and family wellbeing.
- Promote recommendations at the European policy level to strengthen quality family support in all countries to overcome inequalities in child and social rights.