

Alliance for Children on the Move: Standard Operating Procedures for Guardians

ASOP4G

Summary

The Institute of Child Health (GR), the University of Nicosia (CY), the Kazimieras Simonavičius University (LT) and Defence for Children International-Italia (IT) implement the project entitled "Alliance for children on the Move: Standard Operating Procedures for Guardians" [REC-CHILD-AG-2016/764244-ASOP4G, which is co-funded by the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020). ASOP4G project started on 8.01.2018 and is anticipated to end on 7.01.2020.

The project aims to implement common standards on guardianship for unaccompanied children; to improve the capacity-building of guardians in order to enhance their competencies and skills and thus better safeguard the rights of unaccompanied and separated children; to promote interagency cooperation and understanding and in this way to further contribute to a comprehensive child protection system; and to reinforce child protection in cross-border movement of children.

The project comprises of the following main activities that fall under four basic work packages:

- Networking
- Needs assessment of children and guardians
- Development of Handbook on Standard Operating Procedures for Guardians
- Development of National & EU index of legislation with regard to asylum, migration and child protection issues
- Development of transnational cooperation protocol for guardians in case of cross-border movement or missing children
- Development of training module for the capacity building of guardians
- Development of trainers' manual
- Accreditation procedure for guardians
- Capacity-building of guardians
- "Train the trainer"
- Workshop for professionals in the field of asylum, migration, welfare, education & health working with unaccompanied and separated children
- 8-month pilot implementation of SOPs and training for guardians
- Development of informative brochures for children and professionals working with unaccompanied and separated children with regard to the role of the guardian and children's rights
- Development of a website and use of other dissemination channels for the project's activities and results
- Evaluation of all major activities

Noteworthy that children will be involved in the implementation of the project by providing their opinion on guardian's capacity building and by evaluating them.

It is anticipated that in total almost 190 guardians or children's representatives will be trained and thus at least 190 children will be indirectly benefited from the project. Moreover, 140 professionals will participate to trainings and a minimum of 30 person will benefit from the train the trainer activity. Finally, with the collaboration of social work schools, around 200 students of social work will receive a training on the role of the guardian and relevant child protection and migration issues.

In the context of ASOP4G project, it is expected that the knowledge and skills of guardians will be improved and with all pertinent agencies' involvement a more comprehensive child protection system will be established so as to better safeguard the best interests of children with a focus on the refugee and migrant population.