

Contribution to the Focus chapter of the Fundamental Rights Report 2022: Social rights and equality in light of the recovery from the COVID- 19 pandemic.

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1 Measures implemented to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery from the pandemic

1.a Support for schoolchildren with pandemic-related learning backlogs

<p>Name of the measure in English</p>	<p>Reform Programme “Support for schoolchildren with pandemic-related learning backlogs“ (in the frame of the Federal Action Programme ‘Catching up after Corona for children and adolescents for the years 2021 and 2022’)</p>
<p>Name of the measure in the national language(s)</p>	<p>Reformprogramm “Unterstützung von Schülerinnen und Schülern mit pandemiebedingten Lernrückständen“ (im Rahmen des „Aktionsprogramms Aufholen nach Corona für Kinder und Jugendliche für die Jahre 2021 und 2022“)</p>
<p>Reference document for the measure</p> <p><i>Include an url, where available</i></p>	<p>Reform Programme: Reference „Deutscher Aufbau- und Resilienzplan (DARP)“, p. 670ff: deutscher-aufbau-und-resilienzplan-darp.pdf (bundesfinanzministerium.de)</p> <p>Information on the Federal Action Programme (frame): Post-Covid Action Programme for Children and Young People (bundesregierung.de)</p>
<p>Social rights covered by the measure</p> <p><i>Delete as appropriate</i></p> <p><i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to one discrete right</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - right to education (Article 14)

<p>Population group(s) covered by the measure</p> <p><i>Delete as appropriate</i></p> <p><i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to discrete population groups</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children and youth; - Unspecified: “vulnerable groups” and “disadvantaged people” <p>The measure is primarily intended for schoolchildren with pandemic-related learning backlogs, which often also belong to the group of disadvantaged students and thus to "vulnerable groups".</p>
<p>Summary description of how the measure applies to the population group(s)</p>	<p>The measure "Support for schoolchildren with pandemic-related learning backlogs" is embedded in the Federal Action Programme "Catching up after Corona for children and young people for the years 2021 and 2022" of the Federal Ministry for Education and Research and the Federal Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth. This programme aims at supporting the children and adolescents particularly hard hit by the corona pandemic with a variety of measures in early childhood and extracurricular education. The overall aim is to improve participation and employment opportunities, especially with a view to disadvantaged groups. In order to combat poverty and social exclusion, educational opportunities and improved labour market integration are seen as decisive fields of action.</p> <p>Because schools were closed several times for months due to Corona, millions of children could only study from home. In the past year, pupils were unable to attend school almost half the time. This specific measure offers additional learning opportunities to ensure that no one is left behind, and pupils gets the opportunity to compensate for learning deficits that have arisen in the Corona period. This is primarily intended for schoolchildren with pandemic-related learning backlogs, which often also belong to the group of disadvantaged students. The aim of such an initiative is to make up for these learning deficits through additional support such as holiday courses or additional language classes for the students concerned and thus enable a successful further educational career.</p> <p>In addition to measures offered by the education departments of a community, sub-programmes are being established on state level in cooperation with non-governmental partners such as the programme “LernBrücken” (Learning Bridges) in the state of Berlin,</p>

	<p>implemented by the Deutsche Kinder- und Jugendstiftung (German Children and Youth Foundation) offering individual advice and motivation to pupils to learn.</p>
<p>Summary description of how the measure will impact (positively or negatively) social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</p>	<p>It is currently assumed that around 25% of the students have learning delays caused by the pandemic-related loss of classes and caused by the switch to distance learning. Depending on how further concrete target group sizes are defined in the course of the negotiations and implementation between federal and state level, around 2 million schoolchildren can benefit from this initiative.</p> <p>This is primarily intended to support pupils with pandemic-related learning backlogs, who are often also part of the group of disadvantaged pupils, and thus address the as "vulnerable groups"</p>
<p>Summary description of the extent to which the measure foresees the provision of enabling social services</p>	<p>The measure is aimed at providing pupils with additional learning opportunities. According to the programme, the promotion of learning should take place under the roof of the schools or close to the school and involve stakeholders of the local learning environment around schools.</p> <p>The learning environment around schools is determined by a variety of public and private stakeholders and partners of schools including public authorities and agencies, social partners, civil society organisations and others, many of them acting as service providers in the context of education (e.g. in the frame of afternoon care at schools and/or mentoring programmes).</p> <p>The cornerstones of the initiative have been and are being continuously discussed with these stakeholders including the above mentioned, as well as with foundations, scientific institutions, teachers' representatives, and providers of mentoring and tutoring.</p>
<p>Entity or organisation responsible to implement the measure</p>	<p>The implementation of the measure lies within the responsibility of the 16 German states. On federal level, the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (<i>Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung BMBF</i>) coordinates and monitors the programme.</p>

Duration of the measure	Implementation of the measure is foreseen for the educational year 2021/22. The results of the accompanying evaluation process are prospected for the second half of 2022.
Budget allocated to implement the measure	No grants from the RRF budgeted yet. The measure constitutes a federal law for a reform in an area where the federal government has no funding competence (school/education sector). Expenses will be calculated in the course of implementation of the initiative and allocated among the federal and state budgets.
Summary description of how any foreseen impact assessment of the measure will be carried out	The Federal Ministry for Education and Research has installed an external process-accompanying evaluation process. For this report, no information on the contractor could be obtained. The results of the evaluation are prospected for the second half of 2022. The German States continuously report on the progress of the initiative.

1.b Childcare Expansion

Name of the measure in English	Special Fund "Childcare expansion" - Investment programme "Financing Childcare 2021"
Name of the measure in the national language(s)	Sondervermögen „Kinderbetreuungsbausau“ - Investitionsprogramm Kinderbetreuungsfinanzierung 2021
Reference document for the measure <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Reference „Deutscher Aufbau- und Resilienzplan (DARP)“, p. 732ff: deutscher-aufbau-und-resilienzplan-darp.pdf (bundesfinanzministerium.de)
Social rights covered by the measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - right to education (Article 14) - equality between women and men (Article 23), - the rights of the child (Article 24),

<p>Delete as appropriate</p> <p>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to one discrete right</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - integration of persons with disabilities (Article 26), - right to fair and just working conditions (Article 31)
<p>Population group(s) covered by the measure</p> <p>Delete as appropriate</p> <p>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to discrete population groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children and youth; - Persons with disabilities; - Others: Single Parents
<p>Summary description of how the measure applies to the population group(s)</p>	<p>The measure itself has been established as a special fund within the 5th Investment Programme “Childcare Financing 2020-2021” as part of the Federal Government's economic and crisis management package. With the additional financial aid anchored in the special fund “Childcare Expansion”, an expansion standstill is to be avoided and attention is to be paid to new requirements in child care.</p> <p>With this measure - by improving the day care opportunities – the Federal Government intends to foster the situation of multiple population- and target groups:</p> <p>Providing day care is understood as an important contribution to equal opportunities for all children: It helps to lay the foundation for the future educational and professional path and fosters integration. Attending a day-care centre is particularly of social benefit for disadvantaged children and strengthens their level of competence.</p> <p>Furthermore, day care supports families in their education and upbringing responsibilities and contributes significantly to the compatibility of family and work life. The availability of high-quality childcare options, also for off-peak times, creates the prerequisites for both parents and single parents to participate in the labour market or increase their working hours. This not only promotes employability, flexibility and opportunities for higher incomes, but also secures the individual pension income and the sustainability of the pension system in the long term.</p>

	<p>With a view to socially disadvantaged children (according to the country-specific Recommendations 2019), improving the quality of childcare as well as creating additional all-day places primarily through investments in equipment (e.g. construction of kitchens to provide lunch) as well as changed spatial concepts (e.g. creation of sports and exercise rooms, extensions for all-day care of a large number of children). Including measures such as investments in accessibility, construction of therapy and relaxation rooms or similar aim directly at integration in terms of health and or socially disadvantaged children.</p>
<p>Summary description of how the measure will impact (positively or negatively) social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</p>	<p>The German states and municipalities are facing a high demand for further care places as well as increased requirements (structural and spatial requirements, equipment of the places, etc.) Parent surveys by the German Youth Institute (<i>Deutsches Jugendinstitut DJI</i>) in 2019 indicate that the need for care expressed by parents in all federal states exceed significantly the available childcare places. Furthermore, the care offer for children up to school entry is expected to expand continuously.</p> <p>With the financial aid of the federal government in the frame of the national recovery plan and the proportional funds of the federal states and municipalities, up to 90,000 additional childcare places are to be created to benefit the target groups and objectives mentioned above.</p> <p>In addition, the Federal Government refers to the Disability Equality Act when implementing inclusive measures.</p>
<p>Summary description of the extent to which the measure foresees the provision of enabling social services</p>	<p>The provision of child care service in Germany is distributed over a large variety of institutions and organisations. Service providers include public institutions, welfare and church associations, other civil society organisations such as parents' initiatives, or private providers.</p>
<p>Entity or organisation responsible to implement the measure</p>	<p>On federal level, the Federal Ministry for Family, Women, Senior Citizens and Youth (BMFSFJ) signs responsible for the coordination of the measure. The 16 federal states carry the responsibility for the implementation of the programme. They each have specific (funding) guidelines which regulate the application process, approval and use of the funds in detail.</p>
<p>Duration of the measure</p>	<p>Federal legal regulations came into force on 17 July 2020 with a funding period ending on 30 June 2022. The deadline for the completion of the verification of the use of evidence for each beneficiary was set for 31 December 2023, and the submission of the final summary report for 30 June 2024.</p>

Budget allocated to implement the measure	Funded as part of the “5th Investment Programme “Childcare Financing 2020-2021””: For the 2020 supplementary budget EUR 500 million were allocated in 2020, and an additional EUR 500 million in 2021.
Summary description of how any foreseen impact assessment of the measure will be carried out	<p>Monitoring and reporting obligations result from the legal regulations under the Federal Financial Aid Act to Expand Day Care for Children (<i>Gesetz über Finanzhilfen des Bundes zum Ausbau der Tagesbetreuung für Kinder KitaFinHG</i>). Accompanying and final success control is carried out by the BMFSFJ as part of the country reporting (§28 and §30 KitaFinHG).</p> <p>The BMFSFJ delivers a final report. This contains the total number of childcare places in the respective country and the number of additional childcare places that were created with the financial aid in the state. The target is 90,000 additional childcare places.</p>

1.c

Name of the measure in English	Programme “Secure Apprenticeships”
Name of the measure in the national language(s)	Programm „Ausbildungsplätze sichern“
Reference document for the measure <i>Include an url, where available</i>	All documents and further information can be obtained from the Federal Agency for Employment: Bundesprogramm „Ausbildungsplätze sichern“ - Bundesagentur für Arbeit (arbeitsagentur.de)
Social rights covered by the measure <i>Delete as appropriate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - right to education (Article 14) - integration of persons with disabilities (Article 26), - right to fair and just working conditions (Article 31)

<p><i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to one discrete right</i></p>	
<p>Population group(s) covered by the measure</p> <p><i>Delete as appropriate</i></p> <p><i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to discrete population groups</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Others: People in vocational training, including disadvantaged and vulnerable groups
<p>Summary description of how the measure applies to the population group(s)</p>	<p>Due to the effects of the corona pandemic, both the numbers of available places for apprenticeships within the framework of the dual vocational training (-8.8%), as well as the demand for training places (-8.9%) have dropped significantly in 2020. The number of new completed apprenticeship contracts is reported as 11.0% lower than one year before. In order to avoid supply and demand decline permanently due to the corona pandemic, the Federal Government sees a priority in stabilising access to vocational training and to a recognized professional qualification, especially for younger and disadvantaged groups. The objective is to sustain the German apprenticeship model of a dual system: a combination of operational practice and vocational school that offers young people good prerequisites for their entry into working life.</p> <p>At the same time, the dual vocational training system is seen as an important key to integration and inclusion, providing tailored training opportunities to disadvantaged groups such as migrants and refugees, people with disabilities, and others.</p> <p>With the Federal Programme “Secure apprenticeships”, the Federal Government supports companies with up to 499 employees in all sectors, as well as specifically training institutions for health and social professions that are experiencing economic difficulties in the current situation. Funding is also available for inter-sectorial vocational training centres or other established training service providers. With this support, the target group of trainees is promoted, whose professional prospects shall be secured in the training.</p>

<p>Summary description of how the measure will impact (positively or negatively) social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</p>	<p>The measure “Secure apprenticeships” provides financial support for companies providing vocational training. The objective is to maintain the previous level of training, create additional training positions, forego short-time work for apprentices or take on apprentices from insolvent companies. For trainees who are temporarily unable to continue their training in the company, the possibility of a temporary subsidised company association or contract training is provided.</p> <p>The measure intends to help avoid the risk of a "Corona generation" on the vocational training market – a generation of adolescents affected by the social and educational restrictions caused by the pandemic. It shall promote high-quality employment opportunities and an appropriate range of apprenticeships for young people entering the labour market. The measure represents a reform or support measure in the field of education and labour market policy, which helps to cushion the social and economic consequences of the pandemic, to promote the conditions for high wage growth and to secure the supply of skilled workers.</p> <p>Specifically, the measure addresses target groups that are significantly affected by the pandemic: It supports the participation of women in training in industries particularly affected by the pandemic. The approach of the programme (broad stimulation of training places) shall also serve the interests of trainees with disabilities for the widest possible range of training opportunities, even in pandemic times.</p>
<p>Summary description of the extent to which the measure foresees the provision of enabling social services</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>
<p>Entity or organisation responsible to implement the measure</p>	<p>The measure is being implemented by the Federal Employment Agency (<i>Bundesagentur für Arbeit</i>) in close cooperation with three federal ministries. The social partners were involved in drawing up the measure. For this purpose, a technical working group was convened within the framework of the ‘Alliance for Vocational Training and Further Education’ (<i>Allianz für Aus- und Weiterbildung</i>).</p>
<p>Duration of the measure</p>	<p>Until 31 December 2022.</p>
<p>Budget allocated to implement the measure</p>	<p>For the Federal Programme “Secure apprenticeships” Euro 150 million were made available in 2020; of this, around 25 million EUR have been already spent. In 2021, 500 million euros are available. A further EUR 200 million are</p>

	<p>available as commitment appropriations for expenditures planned for the coming year. Overall, the expected costs therefore amount to around EUR 725 million.</p>
<p>Summary description of how any foreseen impact assessment of the measure will be carried out</p>	<p>The success of this measure can be evaluated in particular from the indicators “number of training places offered” and “number of training contracts concluded”. The quantitative goal of the federal programme is to keep the number of newly concluded training contracts at the same level as in the years before the pandemic.</p> <p>The programme is evaluated by the Institute for Employment Research (IAB). The IAB survey "Companies in the Covid 19 crisis" already shows that the majority of companies that are familiar with the funding programme are of the opinion that it can secure apprenticeships. However, the programme itself is not well known among the companies: Betriebliche Berufsausbildung in der Covid-19-Krise: Viele Betriebe kennen das Bundesprogramm „Ausbildungsplätze sichern“ noch nicht - IAB-Forum</p> <p>The Federal Employment Agency publishes current evaluations of the numbers of applications / use of the programme on a monthly basis.</p>

2 Tools or mechanisms to monitor the effectiveness of national schemes to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery from the pandemic

Name of the monitoring tool or mechanism in English	Impact Analysis of the German Recovery and Resilience Plan (DARP)
Name of the monitoring tool or mechanism in the national language(s)	Wirkungsanalyse des Deutschen Aufbau- und Resilienzplans (DARP)
Reference document for the monitoring tool or mechanism <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Reference „Deutscher Aufbau- und Resilienzplan (DARP)“: Impact Analysis, p. 1103ff: deutscher-aufbau-und-resilienzplan-darp.pdf (bundesfinanzministerium.de)
Organisation(s) involved in the monitoring tool or mechanism <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible</i>	- Other: German Institute for Economic Research (<i>Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung DIW</i>)

<p>Summary description of how these organisation(s) are involved in the monitoring tool or mechanism</p>	<p>The Federal Government has commissioned the German Institute for Economic Research (<i>Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung DIW</i>) to carry out a scientific analysis of the effects of the DARP measures (Impact Analysis).</p>
<p>Summary description of the functioning of the tool or mechanism used to monitor the effectiveness of schemes adopted to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</p>	<p>The impact analysis of the DIW follows the guidelines of the European Commission for the evaluation of the measures of the RIP. They provide for an evaluation of the individual measures based on various criteria. The qualitative effects of the measures in the DARP are assessed in particular with regard to their ecological and social added value and their contribution to social and territorial convergence.</p> <p>The assessment of social resilience is based on the standards of the EU to mitigate the consequences of the pandemic. These include protecting jobs, mitigating loss of income and supporting companies that are particularly at risk from the pandemic. At the same time, the social consequences are to be reduced to the population groups particularly affected by the pandemic. Last but not least, the public health systems are to be relieved and the spread of the pandemic contained.</p> <p>The impact analysis of the DIW (edited in June 2021) has been made available to the public and is available online.</p>
<p>Summary description of the obligations, standards and benchmarks against which the effectiveness will be evaluated</p>	<p>The reference for the assessment of social resilience and the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights is the European Commission's social policy scoreboard, which monitors the progress of the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, divided into the dimensions of equal opportunities and labour market access, dynamic labour markets and working conditions, social security and Inclusion. The dimensions are subdivided into further areas, such as inequality and social advancement, structure of the working population or health care.</p> <p>A reference to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities could not be identified.</p>

Summary description of what the tool or mechanism foresees when non-compliance with obligations and standards is identified, with a particular emphasis on enforcement and remedial action

Not applicable to this Impact Analysis.