



# CARE POLICIES



## Social policies

This Line of Action focuses on social protection and care policies for historically forgotten groups, such as children, the elderly and people with disabilities. In some countries, the action is aimed at supporting the construction of comprehensive care systems to cater for these three vulnerable groups and ensuring these systems constitute one of the cornerstones of the social protection network. In addition, the support in this area are focused on the institutional strengthening that allows these policies to be implemented and the recognition of the work of carers (in most cases women) as key actors in these systems , allowing them access to the social security and training systems that contribute to the professionalisation of the system.

### IN WHICH AREAS DOES IT WORK?

This line covers actions that express the region's most recent shift towards developing public policies to increase —or create, in some cases— care services. Although the differences between countries are quite marked, the configuration of a “care” pillar within the social protection systems is generally imposed as a guideline, targeting four groups: early childhood, the elderly, people with disabilities and caregivers (almost exclusively women). In some countries, interest is directed towards strengthening policies for one or other of these populations.



### WHICH SDG DOES IT INVOLVE?



### EUROPEAN CONSENSUS

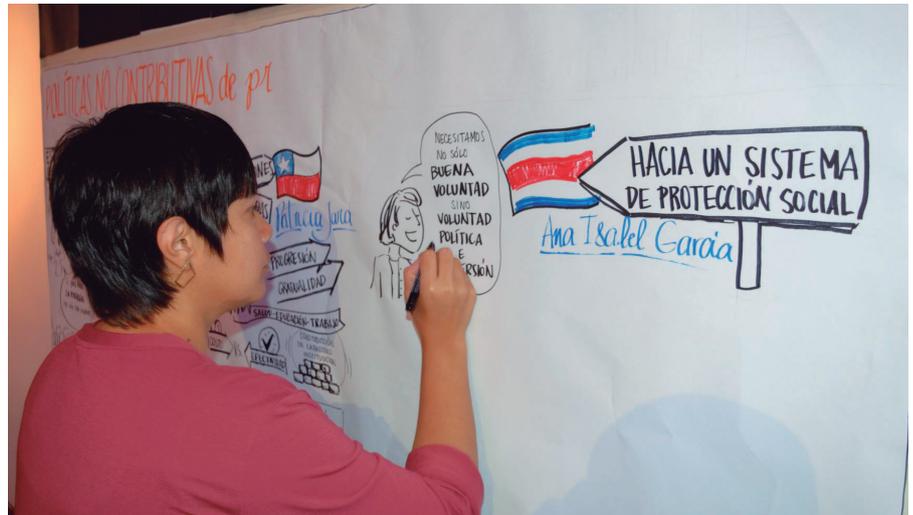
In accordance with the principle of leaving no one behind, the EU and its Member States will give special attention to the disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised, including children, the elderly, people with disabilities, LGBTI people and indigenous peoples. This will include measures to better guide, protect and support them and offer them the same opportunities and ensure non-discrimination.

Consortium led by:



## ACTIONS BY COUNTRIES

- ▶ COSTA RICA: we are incorporating the gender perspective into the child care services from the National Child Care and Development Network —REDCUDI—.
- ▶ ECUADOR: we are supporting the strengthening of the care policy from the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion —MIES—.
- ▶ PANAMA: we are contributing to the drafting of the National Plan for the Elderly by the Ministry of Social Development —MIDES—.
- ▶ PARAGUAY: we are collaborating in the construction of the Care Policy in Paraguay for the Ministry of Women.
- ▶ PERU: we strengthened the strategies for caring for people with disabilities in the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations —MIMP—.
- ▶ URUGUAY: we undertook a comprehensive accompaniment to improve the care for dependants in the Ministry of Social Development —MIDES—.



## PARTNERSHIPS

- ▶ IDB
- ▶ ECLAC
- ▶ National Organisation of the Blind of Spain (ONCE)
- ▶ Caisse Nationale de Solidarité pour l'autonomie (CNSA)

## PANAMA LAUNCHES ITS NATIONAL PLAN FOR THE ELDERLY

On 15 November 2018, the **Launch Event for the Panamanian National Plan For the Elderly** was held in Panama City.

The event was the culmination of the process to draft the Plan by the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), which the EUROsociAL+ Programme has supported through the specialised advice provided by an international expert consultant on the subject of the elderly.

Panama is in the middle of demographic transition. The National Plan responds to the commitment by the Panamanian State to ensure the well-being of the entire adult population and allows effective and efficient intersectoral coordination and organisation aimed primarily at ensuring the bio-psycho-social well-being of the elderly population, and with it, a reduction in levels of exclusion for the elderly in a state of extreme poverty.

The Plan is ambitious: it articulates and orders the existing interventions into three pillars (a) economic security, (b) health and well-being and (c) enabling and favourable environments. It is a plan designed with a highly participative methodology that seeks to guarantee the inclusion and integration of the elderly, through a holistic perspective that raises a spectrum of actions that must be assumed in a co-responsible manner by multiple actors in civil society, including the elderly themselves. The main principle of the Plan is the concept of active ageing - where 'active' refers not only to the need to recognise the productive potential of the elderly, but also to their continued participation in the social, economic,



cultural, spiritual and civic dimensions, all against a background of preserving their physical well-being and compensation for the loss of autonomy —so that they lose as little as possible it— as their health deteriorates.