

Management Response and Action Plan

Name of Evaluation Report:	Final Evaluation of the “Support to the Council of Europe Child-friendly Justice” Project (Joint EU-CoE CFJ Project) 3367		
Date of Evaluation Report:	16 June 2026	Date of Action Plan:	22 June 2026

Overall management response to the evaluation:

The evaluation was overall satisfactory and provided an overview of the main challenges such as the awareness raising sessions for children and parents/guardians. Corresponding recommendations will be taken into consideration during Phase II. A presentation has been conducted with the evaluator, the project team, the EU/DG JUST, the partners and experts of the project, during the Final Conference of the Project, in which the main findings and recommendations of the evaluation report have been displayed and discussed upon.

Management Decision ¹	Entity in Charge	Planned Actions ² (determined by Entity)	Justification ³ for Non-Acceptance	Target Date for Action	Person Responsible for Action	Priority Level (High/Medium)
Recommendation 1: Enhance institutionalisation and uptake of project outputs through embedding in regular systems: it is recommended to the Council of Europe and Project partners to further emphasise the importance of institutionalising and using key project outputs through their embedding in regular training and operational systems (e.g. judicial academies, professional training institutes, and relevant ministries). This could be reinforced through project design, implementation, and steering committee processes. It could also include clearer cascading arrangements for ToT programmes (e.g. multiplier plans, access to materials, and responsibilities for onward delivery), alongside simple mechanisms to track and periodically review uptake over time.						
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	CRD	Focus countries share the training materials developed with key authorities and institutions, integrate the material in institutional curricula of training of professionals and replicate it. Additionally, Phase II of the project will begin during the second semester of 2026 and will make use of the training materials developed.	N/A	30/06/2028 (end of Phase II)	Project Manager	High priority
Recommendation 2: Strengthen accountability for meaningful child participation from the design and funding stage: the Council of Europe is advised to use project implementation processes to promote greater awareness among donors and partners of meaningful child participation, including how to integrate children's perspectives at the earliest feasible stage. A more explicit and robust strategy for child participation is recommended, acknowledging the challenges of consistency and ensuring systematic feedback mechanisms, potentially through different groups or video statements.						
☐ Accepted ☒ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	CRD	Due to the procedures of the Council of Europe and the European Union, it is not	N/A	30/06/2028 (end of Phase II)	Project Manager	High priority

¹ The management decision is in relation to the Recommendation (Accepted, Partially accepted, Rejected).

² For implementing accepted recommendations.

³ For recommendations that are partially accepted or rejected.

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		possible to involve children at the design phase. Nonetheless, the Project Team will ensure that children consultation processes are included in all future projects as a transversal activity, including in the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation phases.				
Recommendation 3: Strengthening targeted inclusion and meaningful participation of children in vulnerable situations: the project should complement its holistic approach with more targeted measures for specific vulnerable groups. Future activities could include tailored or “micro” trainings focusing on groups such as children with disabilities, Roma and LGBTI children, or those with psychosocial needs.						
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	CRD	The project will continue to ensure that children in vulnerable situations are included during the awareness sessions, and the training will include sessions on the rights of these children. For example, in Belgium, one of the sessions was dedicated to the rights of children in the context of migration. In addition, disaggregated data will be collected on participation of children in vulnerable situations in project activities to ensure targeted action.	N/A	30/06/2028 (end of Phase II)	Project Manager	Medium priority

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Recommendation 4: Improve dissemination, visibility, and accessibility of outputs: greater emphasis should be placed on translations, coordinated communication and active dissemination of outputs, including accessible formats for both professionals and, where relevant, children and young people. Dissemination should explicitly target training institutes, local authorities and professional networks to support wider uptake beyond immediate project partners.						
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	CRD	The Child-friendly Justice Assessment Tool was developed in English and translated into French, Flemish, Polish, and Slovenian, and a child-friendly version was also published. In addition, the HELP course on child-friendly justice (already available in English and Polish) was translated into French, Flemish, and Slovenian. During Phase II, the Child-friendly Justice Assessment Tool will be translated into the languages of the focus countries, and child-friendly awareness-raising materials will be designed with and for children.	N/A	30/06/2028 (end of Phase II)	Project Manager	Medium priority

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Recommendation 5: Align project timelines with the availability of target groups: for future projects, the Council of Europe is advised to incorporate more flexible and context-sensitive planning of activities, particularly when working with children and other stakeholders with fixed schedules. This includes systematically accounting for school calendars, exam periods, and holidays during the design phase, as well as integrating buffer time to accommodate potential administrative delays. Such measures would help avoid compressed implementation phases and ensure more consistent participation from all stakeholders and continuity of activities.						
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	CRD	The Project has taken into consideration the schedules of children and other stakeholders. During Phase II, awareness-raising sessions for children and caregivers will be planned over a longer period – slightly less than a year – so that children and caregivers will be able to enrol in the sessions according to their availability.	N/A	30/06/2028 (end of Phase II)	Project Manager	High priority
Recommendation 6: Build on existing cooperation through post-project dialogue between the Council of Europe and the European Commission: the Institutions are recommended to hold a joint reflection after project completion to identify any opportunities for further strengthening cooperation in future initiatives, including in relation to policy linkages, visibility, and dissemination of findings at EU level.						
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	CRD	The Council of Europe will continue to ensure close coordination with the European Union by scheduling regular calls and meetings, sending updates, etc. Moreover, European Union legislation and policies will continue to be	N/A	30/06/2028 (end of Phase II)	Project Manager	High priority

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		referenced in all deliverables, and the joint European Union and Council of Europe communication guidelines will remain a key reference for any news items.				