

Iceland's Prosperity Act

Aims

Iceland's Prosperity Act aims to improve children's health, wellbeing and development through barrier-free access to integrated services for children and families.

The legislation promotes a holistic approach to supporting children's physical, mental, intellectual and social development and places a strong emphasis on early intervention and coordinated support.



Responsible organization:
Ministry of Education and Children



Country
Iceland

Implementation Highlights

- Offers a rights-based, integrated, whole systems approach to early childhood development.
- Cross-sectoral involvement, with collaboration between the Ministry of Education and Children, Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, and Ministry of Health.
- Embeds access to a service coordinator from pregnancy onwards.
- Offers a three-tier model of support based on levels of need.
- Includes a national dashboard to monitor impact on five key dimensions of child wellbeing.



What makes this an innovative practice?

Impact: does it work?

Effectiveness and efficiency

Supports coordinated service delivery across sectors and includes monitoring of child outcomes across five wellbeing domains: education, quality of life, health and wellbeing, security and protection, and participation and social connection.

Evidence Base

Built on extensive stakeholder engagement and supported by national investment, with ongoing monitoring through a national child wellbeing dashboard.

Reach: who can benefit?

Equity and access

Provides barrier-free access to services and ensures support is tailored according to children's and families' needs through a layered model of support.

Transferability and scalability

National legislation creates a consistent framework for integrated service delivery that can be implemented across all regions and sectors.

References and additional tools to favour translation

- UNESCO. Nurturing Children's Wellbeing: Iceland's Pathway to Enhanced Rights and Access. Available from: <https://www.unesco.org/en/early-childhood-education/nurturing-childrens-wellbeing-icelands-pathway-enhanced-rights-and-access>
- Government of Iceland. Act No 86/2021 on the Integration of Services in the Interest of Children's Prosperity. Available from: [Act-Integration-Child-Services-Children-Prosperity-86-2021.pdf](#)
- OECD. Iceland's Act on the Integration of Services in the Interest of Children's Prosperity ("Prosperity Act"). 2025. Available from: [Iceland's Act on the Integration of Services in the Interest of Children's Prosperity \("Prosperity Act"\) | OECD](#)