



Detailed implementation report of the operational programmes co-financed by the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived in 2017

Written by Coffey
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List of abbreviations

AT Austria
BE Belgium
BG Bulgaria
CY Cyprus
CZ Czech Republic
DE Germany
DK Denmark
EE Estonia
EEA European Economic Area
EL Greece
ES Spain
ESF European Structural Fund
EU European Union
FEAD Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived
FI Finland
FR France
HR Croatia
HU Hungary
IE Ireland
IT Italy
LT Lithuania
LU Luxembourg
LV Latvia
MA Managing Authority
MT Malta
NL Netherlands
PL Poland
PT Portugal
RO Romania
SE Sweden
SI Slovenia
SK Slovakia

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) addresses the worst forms of poverty in the EU such as food deprivation, child poverty and homelessness. The fund is indispensable as 113 million people remain at risk of poverty and social exclusion in the EU. While this is below pre-crisis levels, it's still far from Europe 2020's headline targets.

The FEAD Mid Term Evaluation confirmed that the fund delivered much needed assistance to the most deprived, complementary to national and EU funds. FEAD supported on average 12.7 million persons per year, based on estimations by partner organisations, between 2014 and 2017¹. Member States implement the fund at national level through operational programmes (OP), which consists of the delivery of food and/or basic material assistance such as school supplies and hygiene products (OP I) or social inclusion programmes (OP II). They are implemented through partner organisations, either non-profit organisations or public bodies.

In 2017, the FEAD programme was on track with implementation on the ground. A total of 26 Member States delivered food, basic material assistance and social inclusion activities to 12.9 million people in the EU. This represented substantial progress compared to the previous year, as three Member States started delivering aid in 2017 and one Member State resumed food distribution after a year with no activity. By 2017, most Member States had well-established and functioning programmes in place that were under constant review and improvement by managing authorities. However, there were some Member States that were still in an early phase of implementation and/or experienced a setback in delivery, resulting in an aggregated drop of aid delivery figures compared to 2016. Close follow-up of these Member States would help to accelerate the financial implementation to tap all the available funding.

Of the people reached in 2017, 4 million were children (30 %), 1.1 million were migrants, people with a foreign background or minorities (9 %), 1 million were people aged 65 or above (8 %), 433 thousand were people with disabilities (3 %), and 370 thousand were homeless people (3 %). As in the previous years, around half of the end recipients were women. Compared to 2016, 71 % more homeless people received food and basic material support. Also, the number of persons with disabilities who received basic material aid was three times greater and the number of persons aged 65 or above nearly doubled. Basic material assistance for migrants, people of foreign background and minorities scaled-up to over 80 % in 2017.

Over 12 million of the people who were assisted received food aid (95 %) and 580 thousand people received basic material assistance (4.5 %) in 2017. Moreover, about 37 thousand people – 25 % more than in 2016 – participated in social inclusion programmes through OP II (0.3 %). NL and SE made significant progress by implementing different strategies to engage elderly people (NL) and women (SE) in the social inclusion activities proposed (e.g. social meetings, information technology classes, information sessions with health professionals).

Half of the Member States reached more people than in 2016, although there was an overall drop in the total number of end recipients (from 16 million in 2016 to 12.9 million in 2017). The drop was more significant amongst recipients of food aid (-20 %). This was mainly due to RO's non-delivery of food aid in 2017. In 2016, RO had assisted 3.3 million people. Nonetheless, most Member States increased the quantity of food delivered, compared to 2016. A total of 367 thousand tonnes of food were distributed, which amounts to 1.3 million tonnes since 2014. Moreover, 25 % more basic material aid was delivered in 2017, resulting in a total value of € 9.4 million in goods, € 1.9 million more than in 2016.

¹ European Commission: Mid-term evaluation of the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (SWD(2019) 148)

In addition to food and basic material aid, Member States implemented accompanying measures aimed at supporting the social inclusion of the most deprived. These included different forms of counselling (social, nutrition, financial), psycho-social support, healthy diet advice, budget management support, provision of advice and information on social services, social and leisure activities, educational activities and skills-training programmes.

Accompanying measures were found to be particularly useful for specific target groups such as people in remote areas, people isolated due to cultural, health or social issues, children, single parents and large families. They also helped partner organisations to understand the target groups' needs better, direct them to relevant social services and/or adopt more personalised approaches for delivering the assistance (e.g. through house visits).

Member States had to comply with several horizontal principles. The first one was on ensuring coordination with the European Social Fund (ESF) and other Union policies. Member States considered that the ESF and FEAD were mutually reinforcing and/or complementary in reducing poverty and social exclusion in the EU. Most Member States had bodies or mechanisms in place to prevent double funding and to work in a coordinated way.

In addressing the principle of gender equality and non-discrimination, Member States ensured that assistance was solely objectively needs-based. Some Member States adapted the items/services delivered to specific groups or needs (e.g. single parents), developed guidelines or organised workshops to guide partner organisations on addressing this principle.

To reduce food waste and address climatic and environmental aspects, Member States distributed food with a long shelf-life and redistributed surplus food to other (charity) organisations or additional end recipients. They also minimised unwanted products, used sustainable materials, minimised transport and carbon emissions, and established environmental standards for food/basic material suppliers. To contribute to the balanced diet of the groups reached, Member States consulted nutrition experts and/or partner organisations on food selection. This was generally low on salt, carbohydrates, sugar and fat, and high in protein, fibre, vitamins and minerals. Target groups' needs and eating habits were considered too. Through accompanying measures, many Member States also provided advice on healthy diets and cooking classes for end recipients.

The surveys of end recipients conducted by Member States in 2017 revealed that the assistance provided by FEAD made a difference to them or to their households. They also showed that in most Member States accompanying measures were considered useful or very useful and that there was a positive correlation between the provision of accompanying measures and overall FEAD satisfaction. Areas for improvement include the amount and variety of food and how it was delivered to end recipients (e.g. reducing the weight of food packages). Member States that implemented OP II conducted evaluations or research studies on the programme to evaluate the assistance system and to gain insights about the situation of various target groups. The results of these evaluations served to improve the design of the next round of FEAD funding and generate greater impact on the target groups.

Finally, although in 2017 there were advances in the completeness of the reporting of Member States, including on accompanying measures, some gaps remain. For example, reporting on horizontal principals, delivery processes, and challenges encountered could be improved to allow for a more accurate review of the progress made and the identification of areas for improvement.

2. NOTE DE SYNTHÈSE

Le Fonds européen d'aide aux plus démunis (FEAD) vise à remédier aux pires formes de pauvreté dans l'Union européenne, telles que la privation de nourriture, la pauvreté des enfants et le sans-abrisme. Ce fonds est indispensable, 113 millions de personnes dans l'Union européenne étant toujours menacées de pauvreté et d'exclusion sociale. Bien que ce chiffre soit inférieur aux niveaux observés avant la crise, les grands objectifs de la stratégie Europe 2020 sont loin d'avoir été atteints.

L'évaluation à mi-parcours du FEAD a confirmé que le Fonds a fourni une aide précieuse aux plus démunis, en complément des fonds nationaux et européens. D'après des estimations effectuées par des organisations partenaires, le FEAD a soutenu en moyenne 12,7 millions de personnes par an, entre 2014 et 2017². Les États membres mettent le Fonds en œuvre au niveau national à travers des programmes opérationnels (PO), qui consistent à fournir une aide alimentaire et/ou une aide matérielle de base (fournitures scolaires et produits d'hygiène – PO I), ou des programmes d'inclusion sociale (PO II). Ces programmes sont exécutés par des organisations partenaires, qu'il s'agisse d'organisations à but non lucratif ou d'organismes publics.

En 2017, la mise en œuvre sur le terrain du programme FEAD était en bonne voie. Au total, 26 États membres ont fourni une aide alimentaire, une aide matérielle de base et des activités d'inclusion sociale à 12,9 millions de personnes dans l'Union européenne. Il s'agit là d'un progrès considérable par rapport à l'année précédente, trois États membres ayant commencé à octroyer une aide en 2017 et un État membre ayant repris la distribution de denrées alimentaires après une année d'interruption. En 2017, la plupart des États membres disposaient de programmes bien établis et performants, qui étaient constamment révisés et améliorés par les autorités de gestion. Cependant, certains États membres n'en étaient encore qu'au début de la phase de mise en œuvre et/ou ont enregistré un recul dans l'acheminement de l'aide, ce qui a entraîné une baisse globale des chiffres relatifs à la fourniture de l'aide par rapport à 2016. Un suivi étroit de ces États membres contribuerait à accélérer l'exécution financière pour tirer parti de tous les financements disponibles.

En 2017, 4 millions d'enfants (30 %), 1,1 million de migrants, de personnes d'origine étrangère ou de minorités (9 %), 1 million de personnes âgées de 65 ans ou plus (8 %), 433 000 personnes handicapées (3 %) et 370 000 personnes sans domicile (3 %) ont bénéficié d'une aide. À l'instar des années précédentes, les femmes représentaient environ la moitié des bénéficiaires. Le nombre de personnes sans domicile ayant bénéficié d'une aide alimentaire et d'une aide matérielle de base a augmenté de 71 % par rapport à 2016. Par ailleurs, le nombre de personnes handicapées ayant bénéficié d'une aide matérielle de base a triplé et le nombre de personnes âgées de 65 ans ou plus a presque doublé. En 2017, l'aide matérielle de base destinée aux migrants, aux personnes d'origine étrangère et aux minorités a dépassé 80 %.

La même année, plus de 12 millions de bénéficiaires ont reçu une aide alimentaire (95 %) tandis que 580 000 personnes ont bénéficié d'une aide matérielle de base (4,5 %). Par ailleurs, quelque 37 000 personnes (25 % de plus qu'en 2016) ont participé à des programmes d'inclusion sociale à travers des PO II (0,3 %). Les Pays-Bas et la Suède ont accompli d'importants progrès en mettant en œuvre différentes stratégies pour encourager la participation des personnes âgées (NL) et des femmes (SE) aux activités d'inclusion sociale proposées (par exemple, réunions sociales, cours sur les technologies de l'information, sessions d'information avec des professionnels de la santé).

Dans la moitié des États membres, le nombre de bénéficiaires a augmenté par rapport à 2016, bien que, dans l'ensemble, le nombre total de bénéficiaires ait diminué (16 millions en 2016 contre 12,9 millions en 2017). La baisse du nombre de personnes bénéficiant

² Commission Européenne : évaluation à mi-parcours du Fonds européen d'aide aux plus démunis [SWD(2019) 148]

d'une aide alimentaire a été particulièrement marquée (-20 %). Cette diminution est principalement attribuable au fait que la Roumanie n'a pas fourni d'aide alimentaire en 2017. En 2016, la Roumanie avait fourni une aide à 3,3 millions de personnes. Néanmoins, par rapport à 2016, la quantité de denrées alimentaires fournies a augmenté dans la plupart des États membres. Au total, 367 000 tonnes de nourriture ont été distribuées, ce qui représente 1,3 million de tonnes depuis 2014. En outre, la fourniture d'une aide matérielle de base a enregistré un bond de 25 % en 2017, portant la valeur totale des biens à 9,4 millions d'euros, soit 1,9 million de plus qu'en 2016.

En plus d'une aide alimentaire et d'une aide matérielle de base, les États membres ont mis en œuvre des mesures d'accompagnement visant à soutenir l'inclusion sociale des plus démunis. Ces mesures comprenaient différentes formes d'assistance (sociale, nutritionnelle, financière), un soutien psychosocial, des conseils pour une alimentation saine, une aide à la gestion du budget, la fourniture de conseils et d'informations sur les services sociaux, des activités sociales et de loisirs, des activités éducatives et des programmes de formation-d'acquisition de compétences.

Les mesures d'accompagnement ont été jugées particulièrement utiles pour des groupes cibles spécifiques, tels que les habitants des zones reculées, les personnes isolées pour des raisons culturelles, sanitaires ou sociales, les enfants, les parents seuls et les familles nombreuses. Elles ont également permis aux organisations partenaires de mieux comprendre les besoins des groupes cibles, de les diriger vers les services sociaux compétents et/ou d'adopter des approches plus personnalisées en ce qui concerne la fourniture de l'aide (par exemple, à travers des visites à domicile).

Les États membres ont dû respecter plusieurs principes horizontaux. Le premier principe consistait à assurer la coordination avec le Fonds social européen (FSE) et d'autres politiques de l'Union. Les États membres ont estimé que le FSE et le FEAD se renforçaient réciproquement et/ou qu'ils étaient complémentaires en ce qui concerne la réduction de la pauvreté et de l'exclusion sociale dans l'UE. La plupart des États membres disposaient d'organismes ou de mécanismes permettant d'éviter le double financement et de travailler de manière coordonnée.

S'agissant du principe de l'égalité entre les hommes et les femmes et de la non-discrimination, les États membres ont veillé à ce que l'assistance soit uniquement et objectivement fondée sur les besoins. Certains États membres ont adapté les éléments/services fournis à des groupes ou besoins spécifiques (par exemple, aux parents seuls), ont élaboré des lignes directrices ou ont organisé des ateliers pour aider les organisations partenaires à appliquer ce principe.

Afin de réduire le gaspillage alimentaire et de tenir compte des aspects climatiques et environnementaux, les États membres ont distribué des denrées alimentaires ayant une longue durée de conservation et ont redistribué les excédents alimentaires à d'autres organisations (caritatives) ou à des bénéficiaires supplémentaires. Ils ont également réduit au minimum les produits indésirables, utilisé des matériaux durables, réduit au minimum le transport et les émissions de carbone du transport et établi des normes environnementales pour les fournisseurs de produits alimentaires/de matériel de base. Pour contribuer à l'alimentation équilibrée des groupes cibles, les États membres ont consulté des experts en nutrition et/ou des organisations partenaires pour le choix des aliments. Ceux-ci étaient généralement pauvres en sel, en hydrates de carbone, en sucre et en graisse et présentaient une teneur élevée en protéines, fibres, vitamines et minéraux. Les besoins et les habitudes alimentaires des groupes cibles ont également été pris en considération. À travers les mesures d'accompagnement, de nombreux États membres ont également fourni aux bénéficiaires des conseils pour une alimentation saine et des cours de cuisine.

Les enquêtes auprès des bénéficiaires, effectuées par les États membres en 2017, ont révélé que l'assistance fournie par le FEAD avait changé leur vie ou celle de leur ménage. Elles ont également montré que, dans la plupart des États membres, les mesures d'accompagnement étaient jugées utiles ou très utiles et qu'il existait une corrélation

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positive entre les mesures d'accompagnement et la satisfaction générale à l'égard du FEAD. Des améliorations restent possibles, notamment en ce qui concerne la quantité et la variété des aliments et la manière dont ils ont été fournis aux bénéficiaires (par exemple, en réduisant le poids des emballages alimentaires). Les États membres qui ont mis en œuvre un PO II ont procédé à des évaluations du programme ou ont mené des travaux de recherche pour évaluer le système d'assistance et mieux comprendre la situation des différents groupes cibles. Les résultats de ces évaluations ont permis d'améliorer la conception de la prochaine série de financements au titre du FEAD et d'avoir une plus grande incidence sur les groupes cibles.

Enfin, bien qu'en 2017 des progrès aient été accomplis en ce qui concerne l'exhaustivité des rapports présentés par les États membres, notamment sur les mesures d'accompagnement, des lacunes subsistent. Par exemple, les rapports sur les principes horizontaux, les procédés de livraison et les défis rencontrés pourraient être améliorés pour permettre un examen plus détaillé des progrès accomplis et un recensement des aspects à améliorer.

3. ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Der Europäische Hilfsfonds für die am stärksten benachteiligten Personen (FEAD) leistet einen Beitrag zur Linderung der schlimmsten Formen der Armut in der EU, wie Nahrungsmangel, Kinderarmut und Obdachlosigkeit. Der Fonds ist unverzichtbar, da immer noch 113 Millionen Menschen in der EU von Armut und sozialer Ausgrenzung bedroht sind. Diese Zahl liegt zwar unter dem Vorkrisenniveau, ist aber noch weit von den Kernzielen der Strategie Europa 2020 entfernt.

Die FEAD-Halbzeitbewertung bestätigte, dass der Fonds den am stärksten benachteiligten Personen dringend benötigte Unterstützung als Ergänzung zu nationalen und EU-Mitteln bereitgestellt hat. Nach den Schätzungen von Partnerorganisationen unterstützte der FEAD zwischen 2014 und 2017 durchschnittlich 12,7 Millionen Menschen pro Jahr³. Die Mitgliedstaaten führen den Fonds auf nationaler Ebene im Rahmen operationeller Programme (OP) durch, die die Bereitstellung von Nahrungsmittelhilfe und/oder materielle Basisunterstützung, wie Schulbedarf und Hygieneartikel, beinhalten (OP I) oder die soziale Inklusion fördern (OP II). Die Programme werden von Partnerorganisationen durchgeführt, bei denen es sich um gemeinnützige Organisationen oder öffentliche Einrichtungen handelt.

Im Jahr 2017 verlief die Durchführung des FEAD-Programms vor Ort planmäßig. Insgesamt stellten 26 Mitgliedstaaten für 12,9 Millionen Menschen in der EU materielle Basisunterstützung und Maßnahmen zur sozialen Inklusion bereit. Dies stellte einen erheblichen Fortschritt gegenüber dem Vorjahr dar, da 2017 drei Mitgliedstaaten mit der Bereitstellung von Hilfe begannen und ein Mitgliedstaat nach einem Jahr ohne Aktivität die Lebensmittelverteilung wieder aufnahm. Bis 2017 verfügten die meisten Mitgliedstaaten über fest etablierte und funktionierende Programme, die von Verwaltungsbehörden kontinuierlich überprüft und verbessert wurden. Einige Mitgliedstaaten befanden sich jedoch noch in einer frühen Phase der Durchführung bzw. verzeichneten Rückgänge bei der Bereitstellung von Hilfe, was zu einem aggregierten Rückgang der Zahlen für Hilfeleistungen im Vergleich zu 2016 führte. Eine gründliche Weiterverfolgung der Entwicklung in diesen Mitgliedstaaten würde dazu beitragen, die finanzielle Durchführung zu beschleunigen, um alle verfügbaren Mittel zu nutzen.

Unter den im Jahr 2017 unterstützten Menschen waren vier Millionen Kinder (30 %), 1,1 Millionen Migranten, Menschen ausländischer Herkunft oder Minderheiten (9 %), eine Million waren Menschen ab 65 Jahren (8 %), 433 000 Menschen mit Behinderungen (3 %) und 370 000 Obdachlose (3 %). Wie in den Vorjahren handelte es sich bei rund der Hälfte der Endempfänger um Frauen. Im Vergleich zu 2016 erhielten 71 % mehr Obdachlose Nahrungsmittelhilfe und materielle Basisunterstützung. Zudem war die Zahl der Menschen mit Behinderungen, die materielle Basisunterstützung erhielten, dreimal so hoch und die Zahl der Personen ab 65 Jahren hat sich nahezu verdoppelt. Die materielle Basisunterstützung für Migranten, Menschen ausländischer Herkunft und Minderheiten erhöhte sich 2017 auf über 80 %.

Mehr als 12 Millionen der unterstützten Menschen erhielten im Jahr 2017 Nahrungsmittelhilfe (95 %) und 580 000 Menschen erhielten materielle Basisunterstützung (4,5 %). Darüber hinaus nahmen etwa 37 000 Menschen - 25 % mehr als 2016 - über das OP II an Programmen zur sozialen Inklusion teil (0,3 %). NL und SE erzielten erhebliche Fortschritte, indem sie verschiedene Strategien zur Einbeziehung von älteren Menschen (NL) und Frauen (SE) in die vorgeschlagenen Aktivitäten zur sozialen Inklusion umsetzten (z. B. Treffen für geselliges Zusammensein, Computerkurse, Informationsveranstaltungen mit Angehörigen der Gesundheitsberufe).

Die Hälfte der Mitgliedstaaten erreichte mit ihrer Unterstützung mehr Menschen als 2016, wengleich die Gesamtzahl der Endempfänger rückläufig war (sie fiel von 16 Millionen im

³ Europäische Kommission: Halbzeitbewertung des Europäischen Hilfsfonds für die am stärksten benachteiligten Personen (SWD(2019) 148)

Jahr 2016 auf 12,9 Millionen im Jahr 2017). Bei den Empfängern von Nahrungsmittelhilfe war der Rückgang deutlicher (-20 %). Dies war hauptsächlich darauf zurückzuführen, dass RO im Jahr 2017 keine Nahrungsmittelhilfe bereitstellte. Im Jahr 2016 hatte RO 3,3 Millionen Menschen unterstützt. Dennoch haben die meisten Mitgliedstaaten die Menge der gelieferten Lebensmittel im Vergleich zu 2016 erhöht. Insgesamt wurden 367 000 Tonnen Lebensmittel verteilt, was 1,3 Millionen Tonnen seit dem Jahr 2014 entspricht. Darüber hinaus wurden 2017 25 % mehr materielle Basisunterstützung bereitgestellt, was auf einen Gesamtwert von 9,4 Millionen an Waren hinausläuft - 1,9 Millionen mehr als im Jahr 2016.

Neben der Bereitstellung von Nahrungsmittelhilfe und materieller Basisunterstützung führten die Mitgliedstaaten flankierende Maßnahmen durch, die darauf abzielten, die soziale Inklusion der am stärksten benachteiligten Personen zu fördern. Dazu gehörten verschiedene Formen der Beratung (Sozial-, Ernährungs- und Finanzberatung), psychosoziale Unterstützung, Empfehlungen für eine gesunde Ernährung, Unterstützung bei der Haushaltsführung, Beratung und Bereitstellung von Informationen über Sozialdienste, gesellschaftliche und Freizeitaktivitäten, Bildungsmaßnahmen und Qualifizierungsprogramme.

Für bestimmte Zielgruppen erwiesen sich flankierende Maßnahmen als besonders nützlich, so z. B. für Menschen in abgelegenen Gebieten, Menschen, die aufgrund kultureller, gesundheitlicher oder sozialer Probleme isoliert sind, sowie für Kinder, Alleinerziehende und Großfamilien. Außerdem ermöglichten diese Maßnahmen es Partnerorganisationen, die Bedürfnisse der Zielgruppen besser zu verstehen, die Betroffenen an die relevanten Sozialdienste zu verweisen und/oder individuelle Ansätze für die Bereitstellung von Hilfe zu verfolgen (z. B. durch Hausbesuche).

Die Mitgliedstaaten mussten mehrere bereichsübergreifende Grundsätze einhalten. Der erste bestand in der Sicherstellung der Koordinierung mit dem Europäischen Sozialfonds (ESF) und anderen Unionspolitiken. Die Mitgliedstaaten waren der Ansicht, dass sich ESF und FEAD bei der Reduzierung von Armut und sozialer Ausgrenzung in der EU gegenseitig verstärken und/oder ergänzen. Die meisten Mitgliedstaaten verfügten über Einrichtungen oder Mechanismen zur Vermeidung von Doppelfinanzierungen und zur koordinierten Zusammenarbeit.

Bei der Umsetzung des Grundsatzes der Gleichstellung der Geschlechter und der Nichtdiskriminierung stellten die Mitgliedstaaten sicher, dass die Unterstützung ausschließlich bedarfsorientiert erfolgt. Einige Mitgliedstaaten passten die bereitgestellten Güter/Dienstleistungen an spezifische Gruppen oder Bedürfnisse an (z. B. Alleinerziehende), entwickelten Leitlinien oder veranstalteten Workshops, um Partnerorganisationen bei der Umsetzung dieses Grundsatzes zu unterstützen.

Um Lebensmittelabfälle zu reduzieren und Klima- und Umweltaspekte zu berücksichtigen, verteilten die Mitgliedstaaten Lebensmittel mit langer Lagerfähigkeit und leiteten überzählige Lebensmittel an andere (gemeinnützige) Organisationen oder zusätzliche Endempfänger weiter. Außerdem reduzierten sie die Zahl unerwünschter Produkte, verwendeten nachhaltige Materialien, minimierten Transport und CO₂-Emissionen und legten Umweltstandards für Lieferanten von Lebensmitteln und materieller Basisunterstützung fest. Um den erreichten Gruppen zu einer ausgewogenen Ernährung zu verhelfen, konsultierten die Mitgliedstaaten Ernährungsexperten und/oder Partnerorganisationen im Hinblick auf die Auswahl der Lebensmittel. Diese Lebensmittel wiesen allgemein einen geringen Gehalt an Salz, Kohlenhydraten, Zucker und Fett und einen hohen Gehalt an Proteinen, Ballaststoffen, Vitaminen und Mineralstoffen auf. Die Bedürfnisse und Essgewohnheiten der Zielgruppen wurden ebenfalls berücksichtigt. Im Rahmen flankierender Maßnahmen boten viele Mitgliedstaaten den Endempfängern Beratung zu gesunder Ernährung sowie Kochkurse an.

Die von den Mitgliedstaaten im Jahr 2017 unter den Endempfängern durchgeführten Erhebungen ergaben, dass die vom FEAD bereitgestellte Unterstützung auf sie selbst oder

ihre Haushalte eine spürbare Wirkung entfaltete. Ferner ging daraus hervor, dass in den meisten Mitgliedstaaten flankierende Maßnahmen als nützlich oder sehr nützlich angesehen wurden und dass ein positiver Zusammenhang zwischen der Bereitstellung flankierender Maßnahmen und der allgemeinen Zufriedenheit mit dem FEAD besteht. Zu den Bereichen mit Verbesserungspotenzial gehören die Menge und Vielfalt der Lebensmittel und die Art und Weise der Lieferung an die Endempfänger (z. B. Reduzierung des Gewichts von Lebensmittelverpackungen). Die Mitgliedstaaten, die das OP II umsetzten, führten Evaluierungen oder Forschungsstudien in Bezug auf das Programm durch, um das Unterstützungssystem zu bewerten und Erkenntnisse über die Situation der verschiedenen Zielgruppen zu gewinnen. Die Ergebnisse dieser Evaluierungen dienten dazu, die Ausgestaltung der nächsten Runde der FEAD-Förderung zu verbessern und die Wirkung auf die Zielgruppen zu erhöhen.

Auch wenn 2017 im Hinblick auf die Vollständigkeit der Berichterstattung der Mitgliedstaaten, einschließlich jener über flankierende Maßnahmen, Fortschritte erzielt wurden, bestehen in einigen Bereichen weiterhin Defizite. So könnte beispielsweise die Berichterstattung über bereichsübergreifende Grundsätze, Bereitstellungsprozesse und aufgetretene Herausforderungen verbessert werden, um eine genauere Überprüfung des erzielten Fortschritts und die Ermittlung von Bereichen mit Verbesserungspotenzial zu ermöglichen.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1. Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)

FEAD addresses the worst forms of poverty in the EU such as food deprivation, child poverty and homelessness.⁴ FEAD supported on average 12.7 million persons per year between 2014 and 2017. The total available amount of funding is € 3.8 billion at current prices. The EU provides a maximum of 85 % matching funding to complement resources allocated by the Member States, bringing the total value of the fund to around € 4.5 billion. Its added value is the provision of dedicated support to a group of people who may not be able to directly access and benefit from other EU funding instruments, such as the European Structural and Investment Funds⁵.

Member States implement the fund at national level through operational programmes (OP), which consist in the delivery of food and/or basic material assistance (OP I) or social inclusion programmes (OP II). Member States determine the target groups, the specific types of support to be provided and the geographic coverage of their programmes. Food and/or basic material assistance must be complemented by accompanying measures (e.g. referring them to the appropriate social services, offering guidance on a balanced diet and organising social and leisure activities). Member States cooperate with partner organisations to implement FEAD programmes. These are most often non-profit organisations and public bodies.

4.2. Objectives of the report

The objective of this report is to present a detailed overview of the implementation of the fund across the Member States during 2017. The report supports the monitoring of the FEAD by providing evidence of progress, achievements and lessons learned. As such, it will feed into the final implementation report and ex-post evaluation of the FEAD to be conducted by 2024.

4.3. Methodology and sources of data

The report is based on the information contained in the Member States' 2017 annual reports, which were presented to the European Commission in 2018 to comply with the FEAD Regulation.⁶ All Member States except the UK (which is at the time of reporting not implementing FEAD) submitted a report. The Member States were provided with the list of indicators which needed to be reported and, in all cases, they complied with this. However, in the case of the descriptive parts of the annual reports, the Member States provided information in the format that they saw fit. Some limitations to data apply. In particular, values for a number of indicators (e.g. end recipients reached) are determined based on the informed estimations of partner organisations and cumulative values have to be treated with caution. Moreover, the descriptive parts of the annual reports showed significant variations in the level of quality and completeness of information provided (Text Box 1)⁷.

⁴ Regulation (EU) No 223/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (OJ L 72, 12.3.2014, p. 1).

⁵ Strategic report 2017 on the implementation of the European Structural and Investment Funds, COM(2017) 755 final.

⁶ Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) No 223/2014.

⁷ For example, while some Member States (ES, MT, LV, SK, among others) submitted very detailed and complete reports with comprehensive descriptions of the implementation of the programme, others (CY, IE, IT, NL, PT, SE) provided much less information.

Text Box 1: Assessment of evidence provided in annual reports

The evidence at hand and the methodology followed (which consisted of a systematic review of annual reports by national experts using analytical tools developed specifically for this study), allowed us to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the FEAD across the EU. The analysis suggested commonalities and differences between Member States and it also allowed us to identify lessons learned, as well as specific issues related to Member States' reporting of progress and results.

Generally, however, an imbalance was notable between the systematic quantification of results pursued through the FEAD common indicators and the descriptive text in the reports. Some reports contained text which was not self-explanatory or did not link well to the headings provided in the annual report template.

While a good number of annual reports were complete and provided quality data, we noted a lack of or unclear information in annual reports particularly in relation to:

- **Delivery process:** only a few Member States provided comprehensive descriptions of the programme's delivery process, for example in terms of identification of eligible end recipients, procurement of goods, periodicity of distributions, distribution points and forms of delivery, communication with end recipients, etc. There was also limited information on how managing authorities/Intermediary Bodies interacted with and organised the (sometimes hundreds of) local organisations involved in the process.
- **Horizontal principles:** the reporting improved compared to 2016 as all Member States provided at least some information on how they had addressed horizontal principles. However, many Member States resorted to writing quite generic statements on their actions and/or missed to provide information on one or more of these principles.
- **Accompanying measures:** the reporting improved compared to 2016 as almost all Member States provided information on accompanying measures. However, the quality and completeness varied significantly⁸. There was limited information particularly regarding the effects, benefits or added value of accompanying measures, as well as the barriers faced during their implementation. It should be noted that, even though the provision of information on the accompanying measures is mandatory, the annual report template does not explicitly guide Member States on how to report on these measures.
- **Challenges and obstacles:** only a few Member States highlighted problems or challenges encountered during the financial and/or physical implementation of the programme. In occasions, it was difficult to assess or identify the elements of the programme that were working particularly well / not well in the different Member States.
- **Structured surveys and evaluations:** generally, Member States provided very limited information on the results of surveys/evaluations or did not mention them at all. It is worth noting that in addition to the annual report, Member States had to submit a report on the results of the structured surveys. It is likely that Member States resorted to not repeat/duplicate the information on the survey that was already included in the survey reports.

The report is structured around key themes (e.g. overall developments, food assistance, basic material assistance, accompanying measures, social inclusion programmes, target groups reached, etc.) and presents developments for all Member States, emphasising key areas on which progress has been made (or not). It also includes text boxes with examples of actions undertaken or results achieved. These serve to illustrate the findings of the analysis. The report is accompanied by four annexes with a brief overview of the study's methodology (Annex 1), tables of FEAD common indicators (Annex 2), and overviews of accompanying measures and horizontal principles for all Member States (Annexes 3 and 4). The report is complemented by 26 country fiches with key implementation information for Member States (submitted in a separate document).

⁸ IE has not yet officially reported on accompanying measures, but they are well aware of the obligation to implement and report on them. They are investigating appropriate measures.

5. OVERALL DEVELOPMENTS

In 2017, a total of 26 Member States delivered food, basic material assistance and social inclusion activities to 13 million people in the EU (Figure 1). This represents substantial progress from the previous year, as CY, HU and HR started distributing aid in 2017 and PT resumed food distribution, which had been halted in 2016 (Text Box 2). Of these, 22 Member States distributed food and/or basic material assistance, as well as accompanying measures (OP I), and four implemented social inclusion programmes (OP II; Figure 2). Besides the UK, the only Member State that did not deliver assistance in 2017 was RO, which had to redesign its operational programme following institutional changes.

Figure 1: Geographical distribution of the distinct types of FEAD assistance in 2017

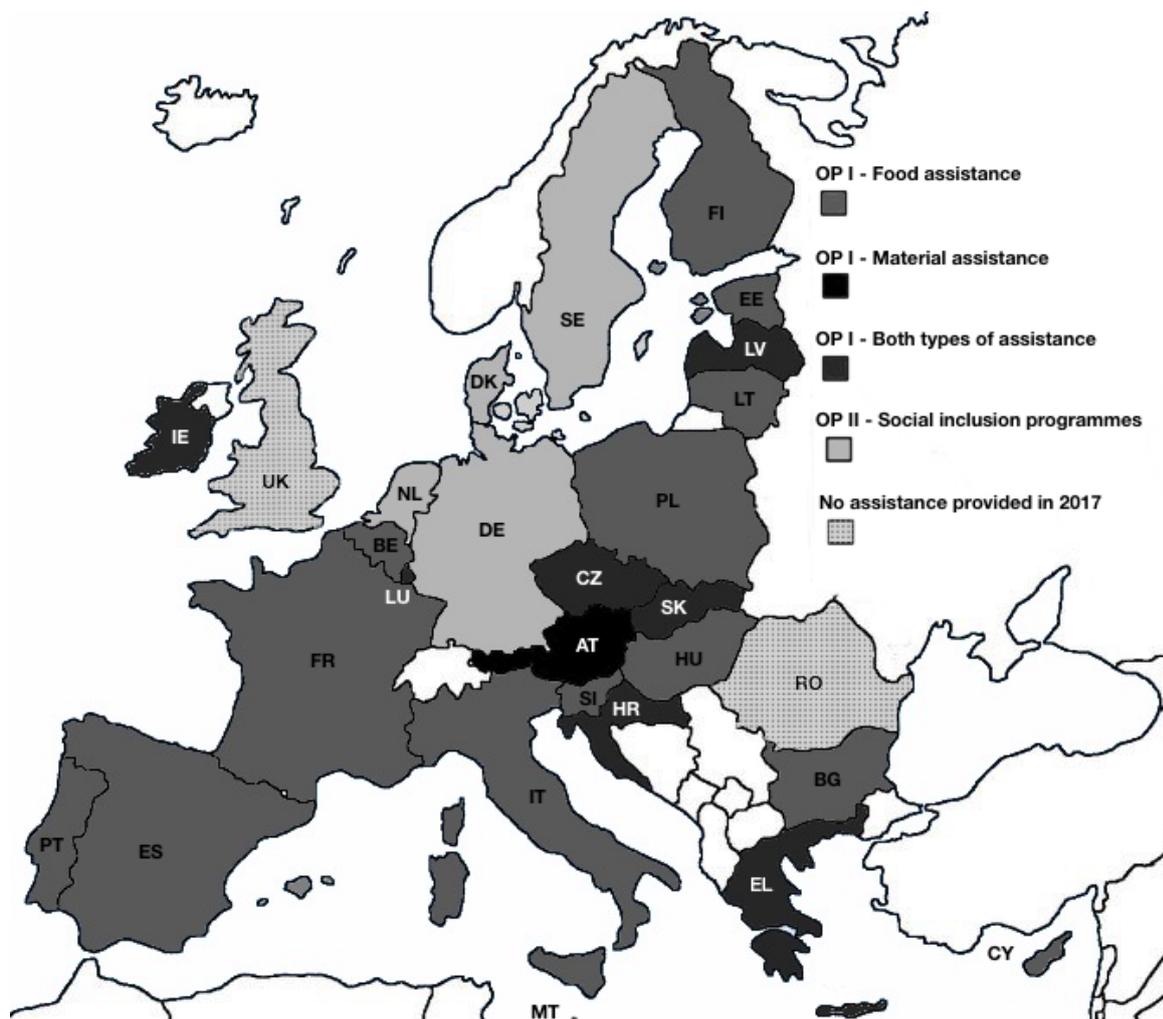


Figure 2: Type of assistance delivered in 2017

OP	Type of assistance	Member State
OP I	Food	BE, BG, CY, EE, ES, FI, FR, HU, IT, LT, MT, PL, PT, SI (14)
	Basic material	AT (1)
	Both	CZ, EL, HR, IE, LU, LV, SK (7)
OP II	Social inclusion	DE, DK, NL, SE (4)

Several Member States introduced changes in their programmes in 2017, demonstrating the ability to make the design of interventions or specific implementation arrangements more effective. For example, in BE, the number of storage and distribution points was significantly reduced to decrease costs of transport and logistics. BG adopted long-term programming for food support operations starting from 2017 (3-years periods). Both BG and CY broadened their programmes to cover additional target groups and types of assistance (Text Box 2). In LT, partner organisations were authorised to obtain FEAD funding for accompanying measures, which they had previously covered with their own resources.

Text Box 2: Member States that started, resumed or broadened their programmes in 2017

BG significantly scaled up its provision of ready-made meals, distributing approximately four times more hot lunches than in 2016 (1.6 million in 2016 compared to 8 million in 2017). It also expanded the assistance to reach additional target groups such as people with disabilities, parents of children with disabilities and single mothers who raised children below one year of age and received social benefits and not only elderly people, as in previous years. This was enabled mainly by a budget increase, as well by the simplification of reporting and accounting obligations for partner organisations.

CY redesigned its approach to the programme and adopted a revised OP in early 2017. The original OP, which included the provision of food only, was expanded to cover both types of aid: meals for children from low income families attending public schools and basic material assistance for families with babies (the latter started to be distributed in 2018).

HR adopted the programme in 2016 but started delivering both food and basic material assistance in 2017. During the year, ready-made meals and a variety of daily need items were distributed to schoolchildren and adults with low incomes. HR also implemented a broad range of accompanying measures, including workshops on cooking, healthy diet, personal hygiene, budget management, and psychological counselling.

IE's OP covered both food and basic material assistance, but it started delivering the latter only in 2017. Basic material assistance consisted of welcome packs for migrants entering the country and school material and hygiene packs for children from low income families.

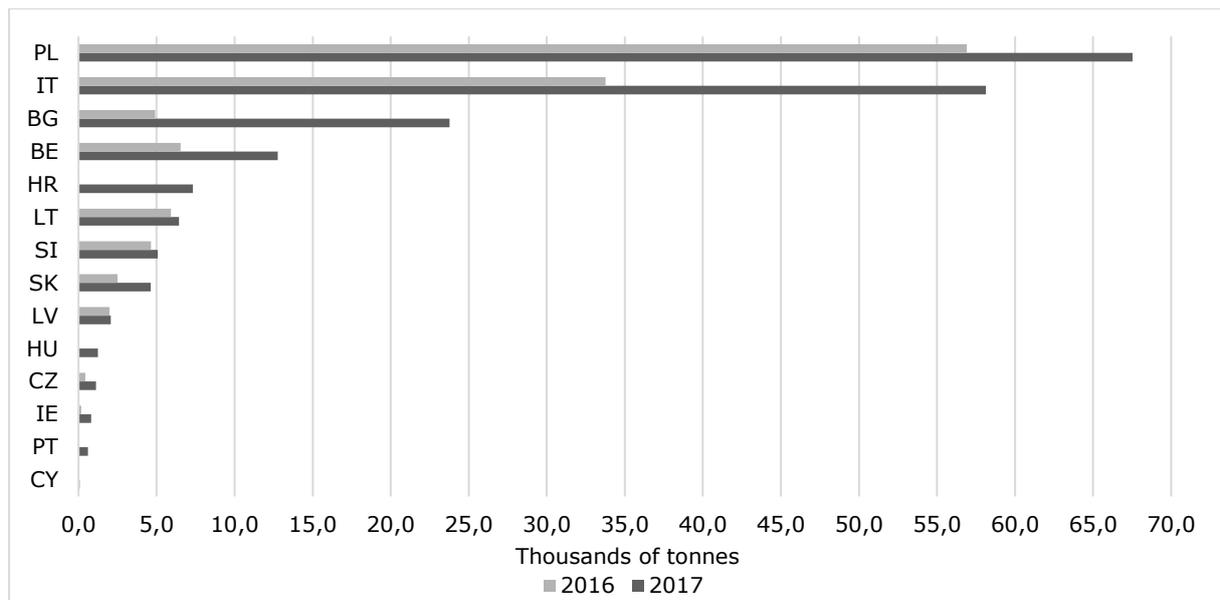
The acceleration of the financial implementation of FEAD programmes continued in 2017. € 637.3 million were committed to supporting FEAD operations in 27 Member States in 2017, exceeding commitments in 2016 (€ 569.5 million) and significantly higher than those in 2015 (€ 444.2 million). This brought the cumulative committed expenditure for 2014-2017 to € 1 973.5 million, representing 44 % of the total resources of the programmes (EU and national co-financing).

In 2017, most payments continued to go to food and basic material support operations: 97%, as in 2016. The share of payments going to social inclusion activities has remained at the level (3%) in both 2016 and 2017. The detailed financial breakdown, including a split by Member State, is presented in Annex 2 in Table I.

6. FOOD ASSISTANCE

Most Member States increased the quantity of food delivered, compared to 2016. A total of 367 thousand tonnes of food were distributed, which amounts to 1.3 million tonnes since 2014. The highest increases were in IT and BG, where the food aid programme was expanded (Figure 3). They distributed 24 thousand and 19 thousand more tonnes of food (respectively) than in 2016. IE expanded the number of partner organisations involved in the programme and incorporated additional food items. This allowed it to distribute 623 more tonnes of food than in 2016. Other Member States that increased the amount of food delivered were BE, CY, CZ, HR, HU, LT, LV, PL, PT and SK (Figure 3).

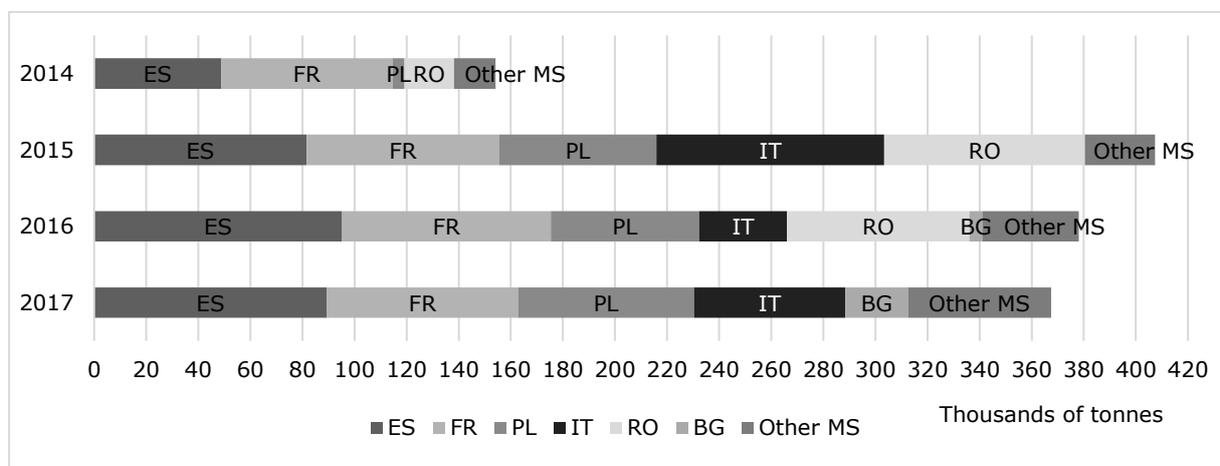
Figure 3: Member States that scaled-up, started or resumed food assistance in 2017 (thousands of food)



Source: FEAD common output indicator (ID 11), 2016-2017

Despite the increase in food aid registered in several Member States (as described above), the total amount of food distributed fell by 3 % compared to 2016 and was due mainly to RO not providing its food assistance in 2017 (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Food assistance provided in 2014-2017 (thousands of tonnes)



Source: FEAD common output indicator (ID 11), 2014-2017

As in previous years, Member States delivered ready-made meals and/or food packages (Figure 5). Two Member States focused on the distribution of ready-made meals instead of food packages (BG and EL) and CY started to provide these also in 2017. This caused the total number of ready-made meals to rise by 20 % in 2017 (from 54 million in 2016 to 65 million in 2017). Ready-made meals were provided mainly to school children (CY, CZ, HR, IT) and to homeless people (FI, HU, IT, LV, PL, SK).

In terms of food packages, a total of 148 million food packages were delivered by 20 Member States in 2017, representing a 52 % decrease from 2016. This was due to the changes in BG and EL explained above and to RO not delivering food packages in 2017. In most Member States (BG, BE, EE, ES, HU, LT, LV, MT, PL, PT, SK) food packages were standardised (i.e. contained a pre-defined set of items) (Text Box 3). In the rest of the cases, partner organisations tailored food items to target group needs (FI, HR, IE, SI).

Figure 5: Form of delivery of food assistance in 2017

Form of food distribution	Member State
Both ready-meals and food packages	BE, BG, CZ, ES, FI, EL, HR, HU, IE, IT, LV, PL, SK (13)
Food packages only	EE, FR, LT, LU, MT, PT, SI (7)
Ready-made meals only	CY (1)

Text Box 3: Standardised food packages distributed to end recipients

ES distributed two types of food packages: general packages and infant packages. The first consisted of white rice, lentils, boiled chickpeas, UHT milk, olive oil, conserved tuna, pasta, tomato sauce, vegetable cream, cookies, green beans, conserved fruit, sardines and instant cacao. Infant package included fruit purees, infant chicken pots and infant cereals.

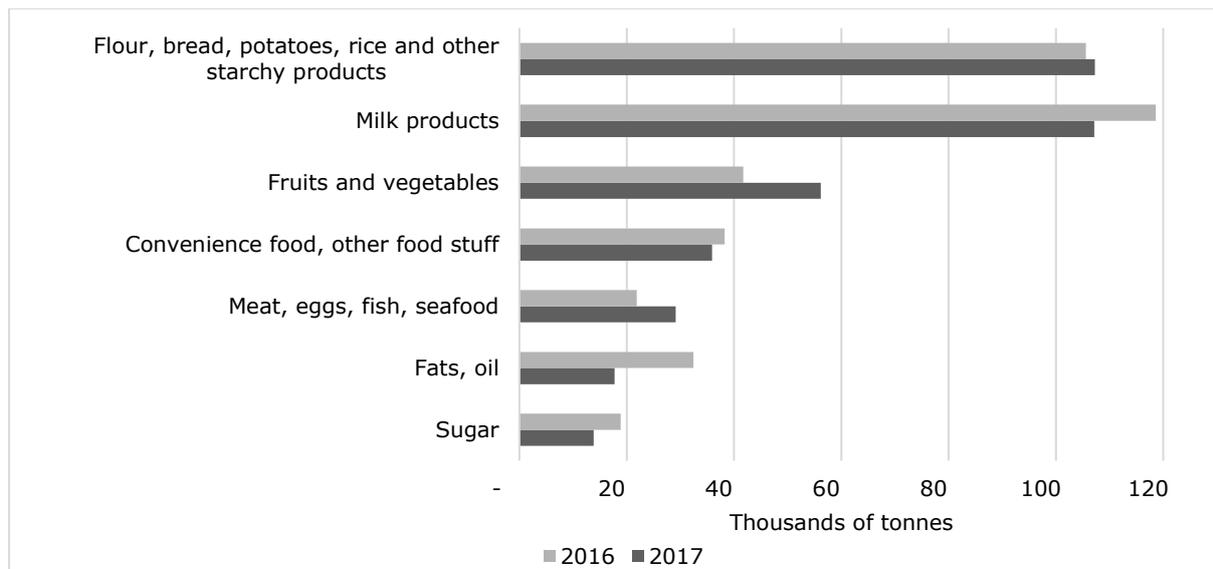
LV provided several types of food packages, which included three types of infant packages designed according to specific alimentary needs of children aged 7-12 months, 13-18 months and 19-24 months. Generally, these packages included age-tailored formula milk, dry porridge mixture, rusks, fruit purees, vegetable purees, and meat/vegetable purees.

SK provided food packages which consisted of two types of pasta, egg barley, dried beans, dried peas, dried lentils, oil, sugar, two types of flour, three types of meat cans, two types of sardine-cans, three types of instant soup, tomato puree and dried milk.

In relation to food composition, Member States generally aimed at helping end recipients achieve a healthier diet. While the overall composition of food delivered (in food packages and/or ready-made meals) remained similar to previous years, the share of fruits and vegetables rose (from 11 % in 2016 to 15 % in 2017) and the share of fats and oil decreased (from 9 % in 2016 to 5 % in 2017). Moreover, two thirds of food aid delivered in 2017 consisted of dairy products and flour, bread, potatoes and other starchy products (Figure 6).

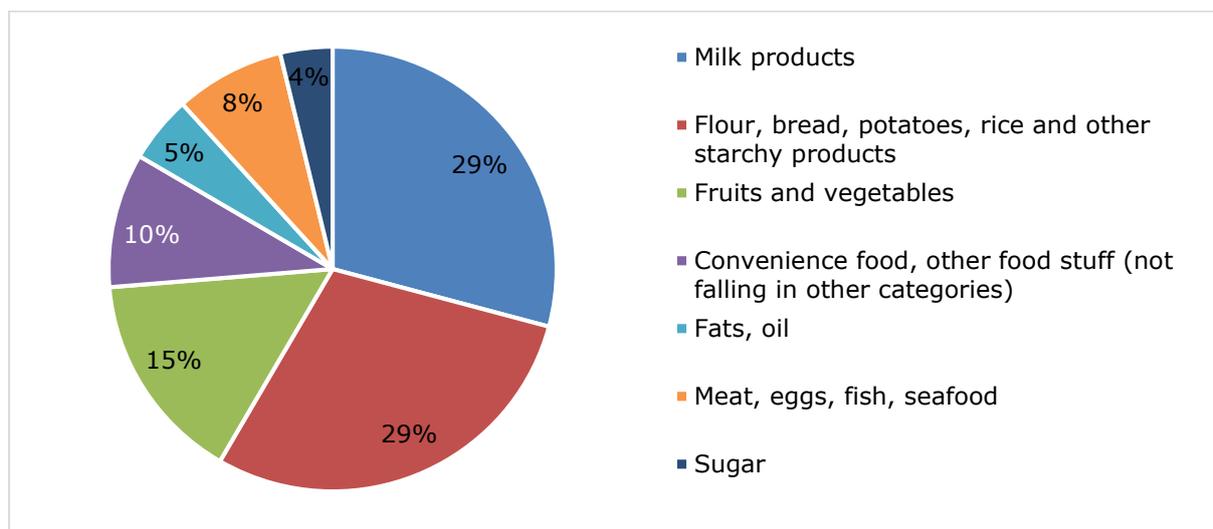
Seven Member States (CZ, ES, HU, IE, LT, LV, PL) also expanded or adjusted the variety of distributed food items. The most common change was the addition of infant or baby food items (CZ, ES, LV). LT reported a general shift to healthier products (fruits, vegetables, meat, fish instead of starchy products); ES added instant cacao, sardines in oil and provided cooked chickpeas instead of dried lentils. HU reported leaving out two items from the basket (millet balls, processed baby food) due to negative feedback from the end recipients. Figure 7 shows the composition of food provided to the most deprived in 2017.

Figure 6: Changes in food aid composition 2016-2017 (thousands of tonnes of food)



Source: FEAD common output indicators (IDs 4 to 10) 2016 and 2017

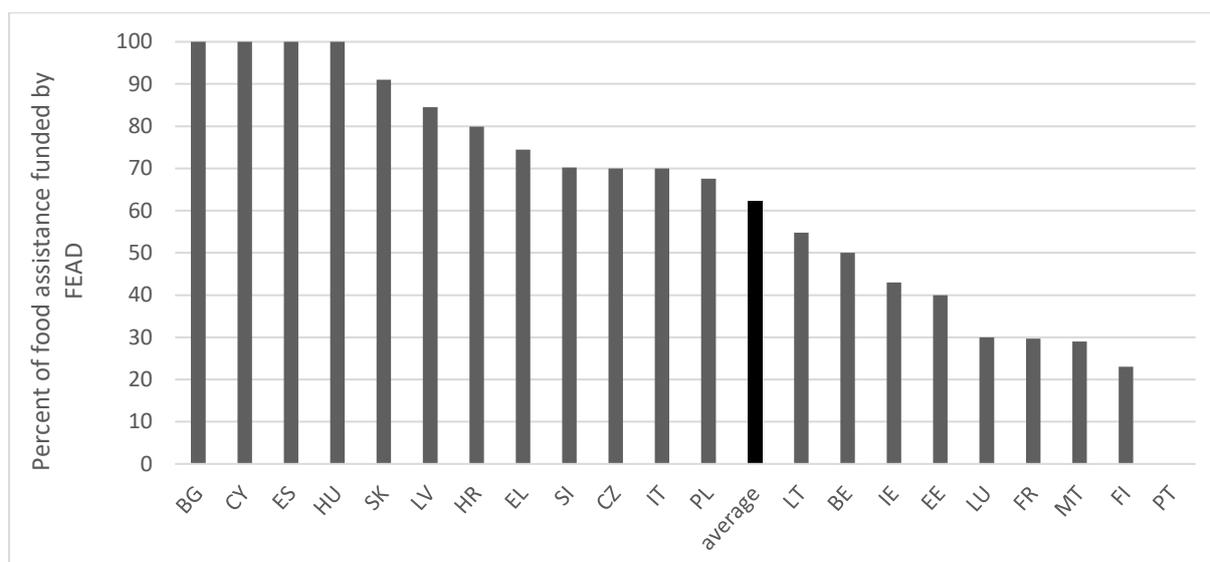
Figure 7: Composition of food assistance provided in 2017



Source: FEAD common output indicators (IDs 4 to 10) 2017

Food assistance delivered by partner organisations in BG, CY, HU and ES was entirely funded by FEAD. In the other Member States, partner organisations complemented FEAD food aid with food products funded or donated from other sources (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Proportion of FEAD co-financed food products of total volume of food distributed by partner organisations



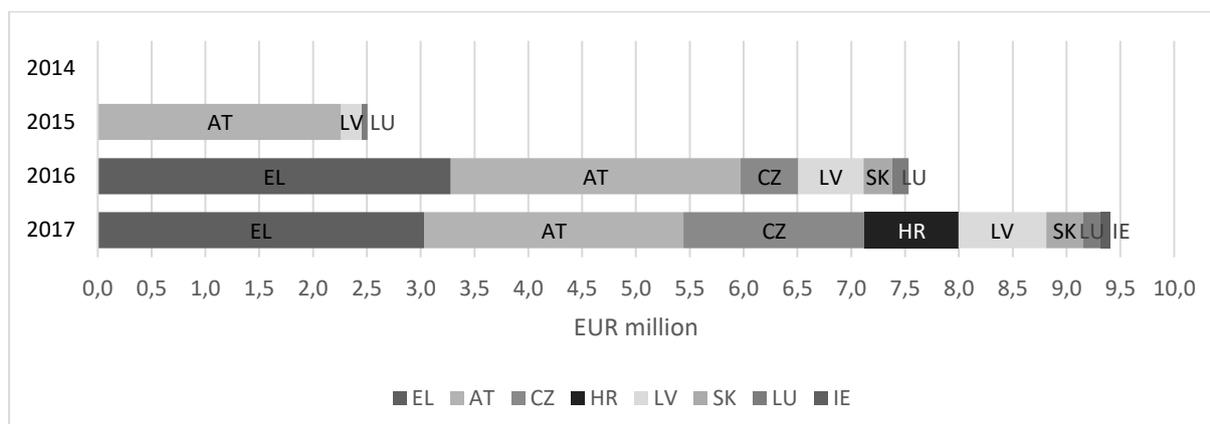
Source: FEAD common output indicator (ID 11b) 2017

7. BASIC MATERIAL ASSISTANCE

In 2017, the number of Member States distributing basic material assistance rose from six to eight (AT, CZ, EL, HR, IE, LU, LV, SK). Together they distributed 25 % more basic material aid than in 2016 (total value of € 9.4 million in goods). This represented € 1.9 million more than in 2016. Over three-fourths of the goods (76 %) were distributed in three Member States: AT, CZ and EL (Figure 9). Except for AT, all the other Member States delivered basic material in addition to food aid.

The significant increase in basic material aid was due mainly to CZ, which in 2017 distributed € 1.1 million more in goods (+214 %) than in 2016 (Text Box 4). Moreover, HR and IE, which provided basic material assistance for the first time in 2017, added approximately € 1 million more in goods to the total. The value of goods distributed rose also in LV and SK. However, AT and EL distributed € 530 thousand less than in 2016.

Figure 9: Total monetary value of basic material assistance in 2014-2017 (EUR million)



Source: FEAD common output indicator (ID 15), 2014-2017. NB: There was no distribution of basic material aid in 2014.

Text Box 4: Member States that scaled-up basic material assistance in 2017

CZ widened the range of products delivered to end recipients, distributing kitchen equipment, clothes and linens to homeless people for the first time in 2017.

LV introduced a new type of hygiene package for children aged 0-24 months.

SK scaled up its basic material assistance to families with multiple children. Families with two or three children and families with four or more children could obtain more hygiene articles than in 2016.

Member States mainly distributed school supplies and hygiene products to families with children. CZ, HR and SK also targeted homeless people and provided them with hygiene articles and other equipment. Items delivered to families with children included stationery and school equipment (AT, HR, IE, LV) and school bags (AT, HR, LV). LV and SK also included personal hygiene articles, and HR included layette, sports equipment and clothes. Homeless people received mainly personal hygiene articles. HR also distributed sleeping bags/blankets and household linen.

Five Member States (AT, CZ, IE, LV, SK) reported that they distributed basic material assistance in the form of one or more types of standardised packages. In LV and SK, these packages were distributed together with food packages (Text Box 5).

Text Box 5: Basic material packages distributed to end recipients

AT provided school bags and other school equipment (stationery, exercise books, pens, painting and other equipment) to children in households at risk of poverty. There were 11 packages in total from which the household could choose.

CZ distributed two types of hygiene packages. One was distributed to families with young children and included nappies in five different sizes and other hygiene articles for infants; the other was distributed to women and consisted of underwear and sanitary towels.

IE provided "welcome packs" with emergency provisions including hygiene articles and other items to migrants entering the country. In 2017 it also piloted the provision of school materials and hygiene items to families with children; these packages were varied according to the age of children in the household.

LV distributed four types of hygiene packages for infants tailored according to their age (0-6 months, 7-12 months, 13-18 months, 19-24 months). The packages included diapers, cream, soap, baby toothpaste and toothbrush, and shampoo. Two types of packages with school bags and school supplies were distributed to children aged 5-10 and 11-16 years.

SK distributed hygiene packs to all programme end recipients along with food aid. The packs contained toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and shampoo. Households with one child obtained one hygiene pack, households with two or three children were provided with two packs and households with four or more children received three packs.

8. ACCOMPANYING MEASURES

Accompanying measures were activities provided by partner organisations in addition to food and/or basic material aid aiming at supporting the social inclusion of the most deprived.⁹ Most Member States delivered more than three types of accompanying measures and, as stated above, a few chose to focus on one or two groups or activities.

⁹ Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 223/2014.

Annex 3 provides a detailed overview of the accompanying measures delivered by Member States in 2017. As way of summary, accompanying measures mainly consisted of¹⁰:

- **Social counselling / psycho-social support** (BE, BG, CY, CZ, EE, FR, EL, HR, HU, LV, SI, SK), such as free psychological support for children in public schools (if requested by parents/guardians) or counselling on difficult life situations;
- **Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice** (BE, BG, CZ, EE, FI, FR, EL, HR, LU, LV, MT, PL, PT, SI, SK), including advice on food preparation, storage and recycling and organisation of cooking workshops and educational classes to promote healthy eating;
- **Financial counselling / budget management support** (BE, BG, CZ, EE, EL, FR, HR, LV, MT, PL, PT, SI, SK), for example, to help with reducing the indebtedness of end recipients;
- **Advice / information on social/medical services** provided by other public institutions or NGOs (AT, BE, BG, CZ, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, IT, LU, LV). In the case of IT, this included accompaniment/guidance.
- **Social and leisure activities** (EE, FI, FR, EL, LT, LU, LV, MT, SI), such as social eating events, cultural activities and organised holidays, summer camps for children, Carnival/Christmas celebrations, and sports.
- **Educational activities and skills-trainings/programmes** (EE, ES, FR, LV, SI), covering labour market integration, language learning, or workshops on methods to promote children's learning.
- **Miscellaneous household skills** (BE, FR, HR, LU, LV, MT, PL, SI), mostly cooking but also cleaning, sewing/stitching, recycling, etc.
- **Other services/activities** included providing advice on what to do in case of an emergency/disaster (BG), organising renewable energy activities (LU, MT), providing legal advice (SI) and supplementary tuition to schoolchildren (EL).

IE, PT and RO did not implement accompanying measures in 2017, although PT and RO had some activities planned for the next year.

Text Box 6 provides some examples of Member States' assessment of the added value of accompanying measures to social inclusion.

Text Box 6: How accompanying measures contributed to enhancing social inclusion

In BG, the survey of end recipients revealed that 30 % of end recipients who participated in accompanying measures were more informed on how to manage their family budgets and 23 % on their entitlement to health services. Moreover, over 7 % of those assisted found jobs after completing the qualification courses and 6 % stated that the assistance received had increased their chances of finding a job.

In FI, partner organisations stated that the distribution of food at delivery points or open eating events enabled social interaction among end recipients. Indeed, it allowed them to mingle and share daily life experiences with others.

In FR and SK, partner organisations said that handing out food created opportunities to meet end recipients and ask them whether they needed more personalised help. It also allowed social workers to understand people's needs better and address them more effectively.

In IT, results of the survey of end recipients showed that food distribution and accompanying measures were essential for marginalised people and their families. The assistance received not only addressed their more basic needs and provided relief, but it also paved the way to social inclusion.

¹⁰ In BE, CY, EE, FI, FR, LT, MT, RO, HU, the accompanying measures were not funded by FEAD.

In MT, several households were visited by social workers. The visits helped to follow-up on the households' developments and address their needs as these aroused. Drawing on this, in 2017, 30 families received second-hand furniture and clothing and 250 households had their appliances exchanged for newer ones.

Some Member States considered that accompanying measures were particularly important for specific groups among those most deprived. For example, for people in remote areas (EE, FI) or people who were more isolated because of cultural, health or social issues (BG, HR, EL, LT, LV, SI, SK). Also, for children aged 15 or below (AT), children in public schools (CY), socially disadvantaged elderly people (CZ), people with mental disorders and the homeless (HU), and single parents and large families (LT). In these cases, activities were aimed at understanding their needs better and connecting them to specific social or health services that could help them further (Text Box 7).

Text Box 7: How Member States focused on particular groups or measures

HU focused on providing social counselling / psycho-social support to people with mental disorders/addiction problems and to homeless people for improving their quality of life. In 2017, two psychiatrists, one psychologist and one expert in addictions delivered the activities in five locations in Budapest. The reception of activities by the target groups was positive overall. In 2018, the managing authority expects to increase this to 23 professionals and reach nearly 10 thousand persons with psycho-social support and 230 others with group or individual therapy.

In LT, some partner organisations targeted families with multiple children or single parents and, in addition to food and clothes, they organised summer camps for children.

In SK, FEAD aid was delivered in the home of end recipients who could not attend distribution points or services due to their health, age, disability, lack of money or a low level of trust in formal institutions.

9. SOCIAL INCLUSION PROGRAMMES

In 2017, four Member States (DE, DK, NL and SE) continued with the implementation of social inclusion activities through OP II. The activities were quite diverse and focused on specific groups and needs, depending on the Member States. Figure 10 overleaf provides an overview of the target groups, activities undertaken, and most significant achievements and challenges encountered by each Member State.

Overall, Member States were quite successful reaching the target groups (see section 10), even though most of them started implementing their programmes only in 2016. Moreover, all four Member States managed to reach (or even exceed) most of their yearly targets. The Text Box below provides an illustration of activities implemented in some of the Member States and the results achieved.

Text Box 8: Social inclusion activities for elderly people

The project "Living & Learning - Elderly in the neighbourhood" in the Netherlands performed very well in 2017. The project aimed to alleviate social exclusion of disadvantaged elderly people. A range of activities were offered to the target group, from information technology classes to movie nights and museum visits, as well as social meetings targeting elderly migrants e.g. Hindu, Chinese, Turkish and Surinamese people. The activities were organised by Libraries in Utrecht, The Hague, Rotterdam and Amsterdam, in cooperation with the Mira Media foundation.

The project was officially launched in 2015, but the first participants only joined in 2016. By mid-2017, only 567 participants had been reached (target was 1 200). The managing authority and the Commission agreed on an "accelerator" plan to reach the target. The plan consisted in intensifying contacts with potential participants and following up on their involvement in activities. By October 2017, NL managed to engage three times more individuals than in 2016. Most importantly, after one year in the programme, 52 % of the elderly people reached were still involved in it, 39 % said that they had improved their social network and 43 % had strengthened their digital and financial competences.

According to the managing authority, the elderly found it pleasant to talk with the project staff. Conversations helped them to overcome their social isolation. Hostesses also played a key role in encouraging them to participate in activities that would strengthen their financial and digital skills.

Text Box 9: Social inclusion activities for deprived women

Sweden implemented the project "Better Health" (Bättre Hälsa) aimed at health promotion. It targeted vulnerable, unemployed and homeless women, often migrants or with a foreign background. The project aimed to: increase their knowledge regarding preventative healthcare; empower them to make decisions on their body and health; and increase their access to health services. The project was led by Gothenburg City Council and engaged 250 women in three cities (Gothenburg, Malmö and Stockholm).

The activities included information sessions with health professionals (translation of information was offered too, if needed). To make sessions accessible to illiterate women, project staff ensured that pictures or films were used to transmit the information. Due to the sensitive nature of some topics covered in the sessions (e.g. contraception, pregnancy, mental health, etc.), project staff had to ensure that the activities took place in a secure and familiar environment which would encourage them to speak up and ask questions. Encouraging women to speak up in group sessions was challenging, especially in groups with women of different origin.

The project also involved cooperation with other non-profit organisations which could provide other services to the target group. Apart from the information sessions, the project organised special events, such as celebrations and other social events, where participants were encouraged to socialise and get to know each other and the project staff. Thus, despite the health focus of the project, the participants obtained informal assistance in community integration as well.

Figure 10: Social inclusion activities, achievements and challenges encountered by Member States implementing OP II

Member State	Social inclusion activities	Overall progress and achievements	Challenges / obstacles encountered
Germany	<p>Continued with the implementation of 81 social inclusion projects that commenced in 2016. These aimed to improve access of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) disadvantaged, newly arrived EU-citizens (mostly Roma)¹¹ to regular counselling and support measures - over two-thirds of all projects; (2) disadvantaged, newly arrived children of EU-citizens¹² to early education and social inclusion measures (e.g. language courses, leisure activities, childcare facilities) – over one-third of all projects; and (3) homeless people and people at-risk-of-homelessness to regular counselling and support measures – every four out of ten projects focused on this group. 	<p>Germany showed varying levels of success in reaching the expected number of people; however, the activities proved to be useful to the target groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) 18 thousand newly arrived EU-citizens were engaged in activities in 2017, exceeding the target of 18 thousand people set for the 2014-2020 period. Of those assisted, 86 % used regular support measures offered, which was well above the target (70 %). (2) a total of 4 thousand children and 4 thousand parents were reached in 2017, 50 % more than the previous year but still away from the target of 20 thousand children and parents to be reached by 2020. The activities were quite successful though, as the proportion of children and parents who used the support measures offered was 86 % (children) and 85 % (parents). This was far above the target (50 %). (3) a total of 7 thousand homeless people and people at risk of losing their homes were supported in 2017, which represented a 25 % year-to-year increase. Additional efforts are needed to reach the target of 21 thousand individuals by 2020. Over 80 % of those reached, made use of social services offered, exceeding the target of 70 %. 	<p>Two projects ceased in 2017: one in Bonn that targeted homeless people (the municipality took over and integrated it to the regular assistance system) and another one in Dresden which targeted delinquent homeless people (stopped because a re-launched ESF project targeted the same group).</p>
Denmark	<p>Continued with the implementation of the two projects initiated in 2016 (<u>Kirkens Korshær</u> in Copenhagen and <u>Fonden Udenfor</u> in Aarhus). These focused on improving the conditions of homeless persons by offering access to shelters and social workers. The</p>	<p>Good progress was made in assisting the target group. 958 individuals have been reached overall until end 2017, which put Denmark on track for reaching the target of 1 400 participants by the end</p>	<p>Ensuring the correct registration of project participants was challenging. Individuals were sometimes reluctant to provide their names, age, nationalities and/or provide a residence permit to the authorities.</p>

¹¹ Newly arrived EU-citizens were defined as people with no access to basic social services, little to no German language skills, no health insurance, low qualifications and encountering barriers to enter the labour market and get adequate housing.

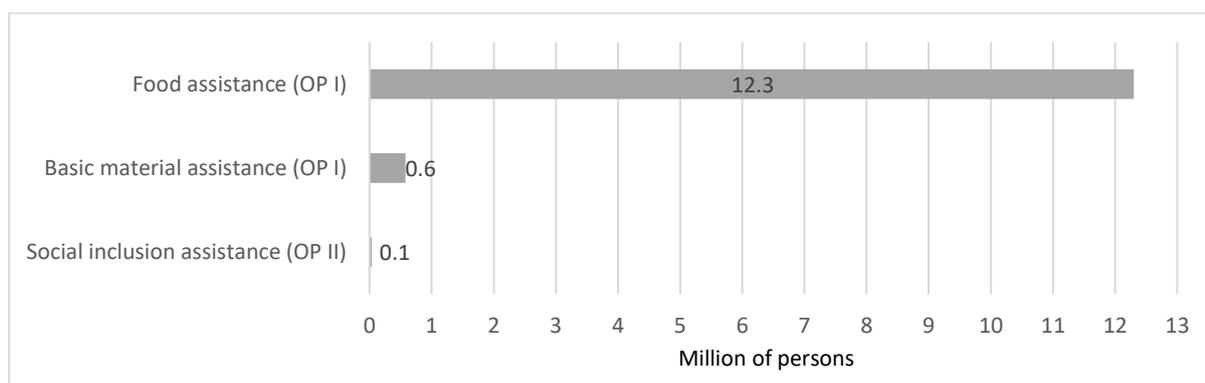
¹² Children of kindergarten age who are not yet fully integrated to Germany's education and childcare system – either because the parents are not familiar with the system or because of specific barriers.

Member State	Social inclusion activities	Overall progress and achievements	Challenges / obstacles encountered
	<p>most vulnerable target group was street sleepers with challenges such as psychological problems, substance abuse problems, debt, poverty, very limited connection to the municipal homelessness services, and no or very poor connection to the labour market.</p>	<p>of the programming period. Of those assisted, 49% used the services offered, 67 % more than in 2016.</p>	<p>Moreover, one of the projects registered fewer participants than expected. The project targeted vulnerable homeless citizens with alcohol and drug abuse issues and/or mental illnesses. It proved difficult and time-consuming to build up a relationship and cooperate with them.</p>
Netherlands	<p>Continued with the implementation of a project that started in 2016 in Rotterdam, Amsterdam, The Hague, and Utrecht. This focused on helping vulnerable elderly people (persons aged 65 years or above who have low incomes, poor health and are socially excluded or at the risk of this) to access social inclusion activities offered by NGOs and social services. The objectives of the project were to: (1) make the elderly aware of the existing local support and social activation offer; (2) strengthen their social network; and (3) strengthen their digital competences (see Text Box 8).</p>	<p>The project managed to engage three times more individuals than in 2016 (1 217 assisted in 2017). This was due to the intensification of activities for identifying and contacting members of the target group. Most importantly, after one year in the programme, 52 % of the elderly people reached were still engaged with aid organisations and municipalities, 39 % said that they had improved their social network and 43 % had strengthened their digital and financial competences. Nonetheless, more efforts are still needed to reach the target of 5 000 individuals by 2020 and reach the social inclusion objectives.</p>	<p>Despite several attempts to reach out to elderly people with a foreign background, this proved to be more difficult than expected, especially people with a Turkish and Moroccan background. Moreover, given the vulnerability of the target group, it proved difficult to talk about issues like loneliness or disposable income in the public places where recruitment took place. The target group felt scared or ashamed to talk about such issues at times. In addition, they did not want to share personal information, out of fear that they would fall victim to crimes.</p>
Sweden	<p>Continued with the implementation of five projects which focused on providing community-orientation measures and health promotion activities to EU/EEA citizens living temporarily in Sweden and thus without the right to access social assistance measures. The projects were intended to: (1) improve the target group situation by providing social and health information, as well as education on family planning and citizen rights; (2) empower participants by providing them with access to technology (e-inclusion) and language trainings; and (3) improve women's health through a health course and physical activity guided by a physiotherapist.</p>	<p>Sweden made substantial progress reaching out to its main target group (EU/EEA citizens living temporarily in Sweden). A total of 1 097 people were engaged in the activities in 2017 (over 50 % increase, compared to the previous year). This is slightly below the target of 1 225 people to be reached by 2020.</p> <p>Significant improvements were made in relation to the set goals: the share of people who stated that they had received assistance was 63 % in 2017, which was above the target of 40 % and significantly higher than in 2016 (43 %). Moreover, the share of people who stated that they could take better care of their health and hygiene was 64 %, which was also above the target (40 %) and higher than in 2016 (38 %).</p>	<p>There were some difficulties collecting participants' information and data for indicators given that some people got scared or felt insecure about providing personal information. New forms for registering participants were implemented to address this.</p> <p>In addition, participants of different nationalities rarely mixed in the proposed activities (e.g. Bulgarians and Romanians). Women also struggled to speak up in groups. It was important to build participants' confidence before approaching sensitive issues.</p> <p>There were also continued struggles with human resources in 2017. On top of the difficulties of recruiting workers and volunteers for its projects in 2016, in 2017 it had difficulties ensuring the long-term continuity of employees and/or volunteers.</p>

10. TARGET GROUPS REACHED

As mentioned before, 13 million people were estimated to have benefited from FEAD assistance in 2017, which is above the average of 12.7 million people reached per year between 2014 and 2016. Of those reached in 2017, over 12 million people (95 %) received food aid, approximately 580 thousand (4.5 %) received basic material assistance¹³ and around 37 thousand (0.3 %) participated in social inclusion programmes through OP II¹⁴ (Figure 11).

Figure 11: End recipients of food, basic material and social inclusion assistance in 2017 (millions of persons)



Source: FEAD common output indicator (ID 14, 19 and 20) 2017

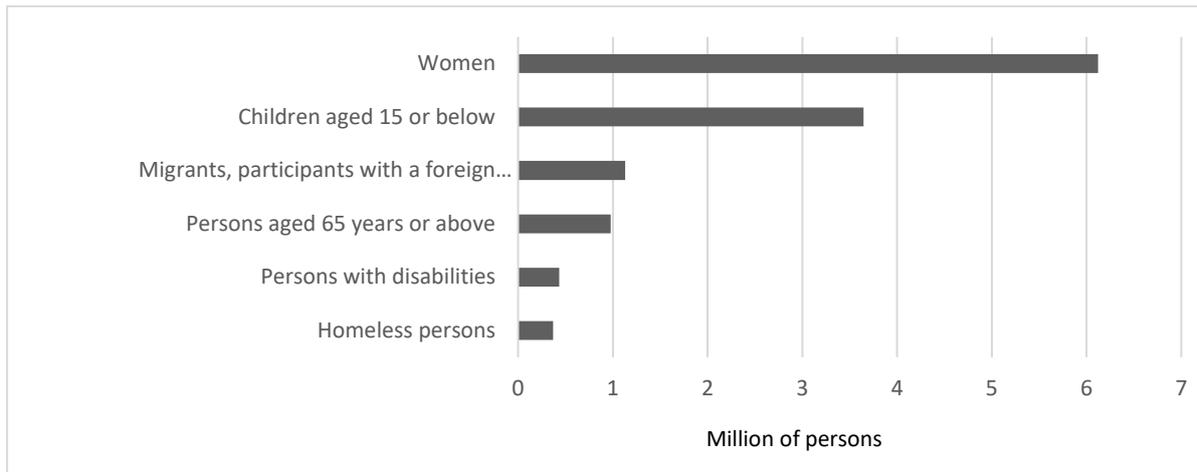
Half of the Member States reached more people than in 2016, although there was an overall drop in the total number of end recipients (from 16 million in 2016 to 13 million in 2017). The drop was more significant amongst recipients of food aid (-20 %). This was mainly due to RO non-delivery of food aid in 2017. In 2016, RO had aided 3.3 million people. The overall drop was partially compensated by 13 Member States (AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, DK, FR, IE, LU, LV, NL, PL, SE) which cumulatively reached approximately 362 thousand end recipients more than in 2016. Moreover, CY, HU, HR and PT launched the delivery of assistance in 2017, adding around 340 thousand people more to the total reached. In addition, IE, which until 2016 had provided food assistance only, in 2017 delivered basic material assistance to over 5 thousand individuals.

Children represented around 30 % of the 13 million people who received food, basic material or social inclusion assistance in 2017. Overall, 4 million children received support. As in the previous years, around half of all persons assisted were women (6 million). 9 % of persons supported were migrants, people with a foreign background or minorities (1.1 million people). Moreover, 8 % of end recipients were persons aged 65 or above (1 million), 3 % were people with disabilities (433 thousand) and 3 % were homeless people (370 thousand) (Figure 12).

¹³ In OPs where both forms of support are provided, a degree of overlap may exist as it may count the same persons reached more than once.

¹⁴ The figures presented were based on estimates made by the partner organisations. It is possible that end recipients were counted more than once.

Figure 12: Target groups reached with food, basic material and social inclusion assistance in 2017 (millions of persons)



Source: FEAD common output indicator (ID 14, 19 and 20) 2017

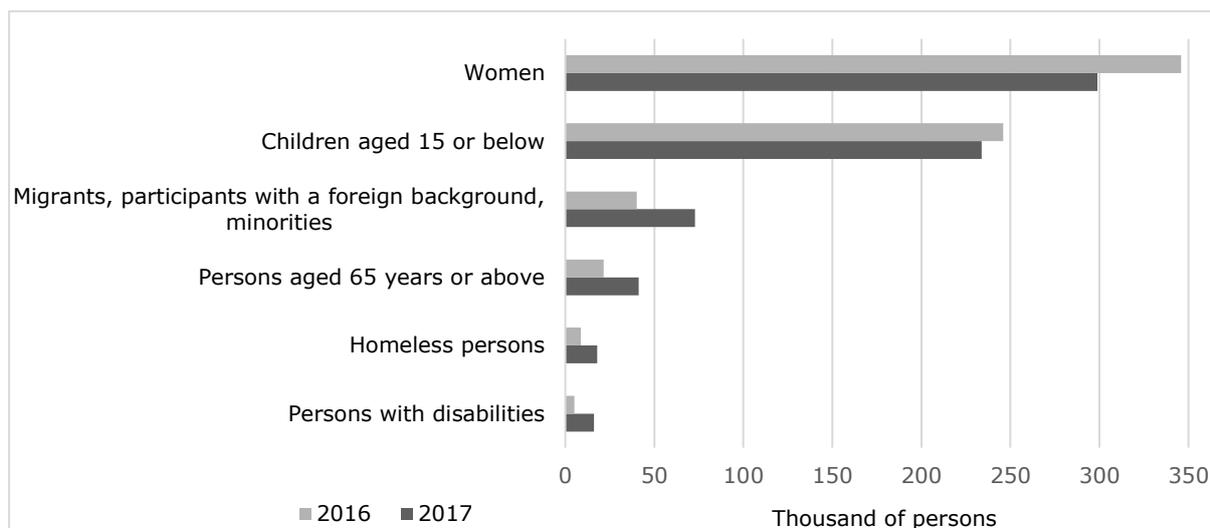
The drop in the total number of end recipients affected all target groups, except homeless people. The estimated number of homeless people who received FEAD assistance rose by 71 % in 2017 to over 370 thousand persons. Around two thirds of the additional homeless people reached were in IT, which extended its programme of ready meals provision to reach additional people. BE and CZ also significantly increased the number of homeless people reached; BE with food assistance and CZ with both food and basic material aid. BG, IE, LV, SE and SK also reported increases in this target group, and HR, HU and PT started assisting them for the first time using FEAD funds in 2017¹⁵.

The total number of persons with disabilities and elderly people who received basic material aid increased significantly too in 2017. The number of persons with disabilities assisted was three times greater than in 2016. The number of persons aged 65 and more nearly doubled. This was mainly due to CZ scale-up of basic material aid to these groups (20 thousand more people), as well as to HR, which started to distribute basic material aid to them in 2017 (16 thousand people).

The numbers of migrants, people of foreign background and minorities who received basic material aid increased over 80 %, compared to 2016. Seven out of eight Member States which distributed basic material aid in 2017 increased assistance to this group. The highest increases were in CZ (19 thousand more people) and HR (8 thousand) (Figure 13).

¹⁵ FR did not provide an estimation of the indicator 14f (homeless people).

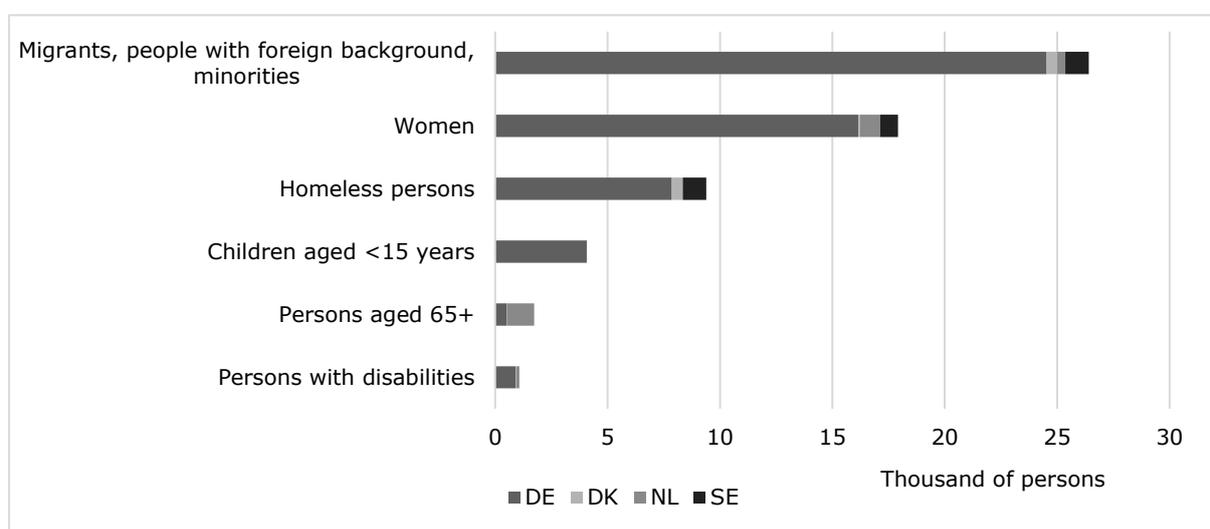
Figure 13: Target groups reached with basic material assistance in 2016 and 2017 (thousands of persons)



Source: FEAD common output indicators (IDs 19a to 19f) 2016 and 2017

The four Member States that implemented social inclusion programmes reached 25 % more individuals than in 2016 (37 thousand people). NL and SE showed outstanding year-on-year increases of 333 % and 117 % respectively by implementing different strategies for engaging end recipients in the social inclusion activities proposed (these were presented in section 9). In the four Member States, the main groups that were assisted were migrants, participants with a foreign background and minorities (72 %), women (49 %) and homeless persons (26 %), as can be seen in Figure 14.

Figure 14: Target groups reached with social inclusion programmes (thousands of persons)



Source: FEAD common output indicators (OPII) (IDs 20a to 20f) 2017

11. HORIZONTAL PRINCIPLES

This section presents the actions undertaken by Member States to address the horizontal principles stated in Arts. 5(6), 5(11) and 5(13) of the FEAD Regulation: (1) coordination with the European Social Fund (ESF) and other Union policies; (2) integration of a gender perspective throughout the project cycle and committing to non-discrimination; (3) climatic and environmental aspects, particularly to reduce food waste; and (4) contribution to a

balanced diet of the most deprived people¹⁶. Annex 4 provides an overview of how each Member State addressed these horizontal principles.

11.1. Coordination with the ESF and other Union policies

Member States considered that the ESF and FEAD were mutually reinforcing and/or complementary in achieving the goals of reducing poverty and social exclusion in the EU. Most Member States had bodies or mechanisms in place to ensure that there was no double funding and that both programmes worked in a coordinated way. For example, Member States had one managing authority for both ESF and FEAD, coordination / working groups, and/or regular information exchanges and meetings between ESF and FEAD staff. Moreover, in many cases, complementarity with ESF funded initiatives happened through accompanying measures (e.g. by referring end recipients to ESF activities) (Text Box 10).

Text Box 10: Synergies between FEAD and ESF

Through accompanying measures, BG, EE, ES, LV, PL provided information to end recipients on the services provided under the ESF.

In CZ, many FEAD partner organisations also worked on ESF-funded projects and explained that their activities complemented each other.

In ES, the Red Cross (partner organisation for both FEAD and ESF) adopted an integrated approach towards meeting the needs of the most deprived: it intervened directly (e.g. through the provision of food funded by FEAD) and coordinated actions with other public services (e.g. referred end recipients to regional employment offices that provided ESF programmes).

In DE a nationwide networking meeting of partner organisations was used to talk about FEAD/ESF coordination. It was recommended that partner organisations consulted websites of local/regional ESF projects and, if necessary, established contact with them.

LV had an extensive set of measures in place for avoiding double-funding, including: national regulations that prohibited double-funding of FEAD and other Union policies; agreements with partner organisations which contained a double-funding prevention clause and an obligation for them to prove the absence of double-funding; regular checks and inspections to ensure there were no overlapping funds, etc.

11.2. Integrating a gender perspective throughout the project cycle and committing to non-discrimination

All Member States ensured that assistance was solely objectively needs-based and that there was no discrimination based on gender, ethnic origin, etc. Some Member States also adopted comprehensive approaches and addressed this horizontal principle in various ways. For example, by adapting the items delivered, the location of pick-up points, and/or the topics of workshops organised through accompanying measures to the needs of specific groups (e.g. single parents, women, disabled people, etc.). In some cases, the managing authority developed guidelines for partner organisations on how to address this horizontal principle or organised workshops to sensitize project staff on these issues. Taking gender equality and non-discrimination measures was also a requirement in partner organisation's applications for funding (Text Box 11).

Text Box 11: Actions to ensure gender-equality and non-discrimination

In DE, as part of the evaluation of the FEAD, seven anti-discrimination workshops were delivered by an external consultancy. These were aimed at sensitising staff of executing agencies, public institutions and administrations on prejudices and discrimination. The workshops showed that most FEAD-projects had had experiences of racism against Roma people. Drawing from this, the

¹⁶ Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 223/2014.

evaluation recommended that for the second funding-round, the managing authority defines a methodology and technical requirements for addressing these issues.

In ES, there were accompanying measures specifically designed to help single-parent families and/or individuals with dependent family-members (seniors / people with disabilities) to integrate into the society and the labour market. This included child care services and care for the elderly / disabled.

In HU, food distribution took place in locations accessible to disabled people. In MT, disabled people received food packages at home.

In SK, gender equality was integrated to all project stages. The measures adopted covered: (i) selection of employees and partner organisations (no discrimination based on gender, age, ethnicity, religion or physical handicap); (ii) obligations of partner organisation (these were required to respect gender equality during the whole implementation period); and (iii) selection of food and basic material aid (specific needs of end recipients, based on gender, age and family situation, were considered).

11.3. Considerations on climatic and environmental aspects, particularly to reduce food waste

To reduce food waste, most Member States distributed food with a long shelf-life and redistributed excess food to other (charity) organisations or additional end recipients. Other Member States focused on minimising the delivery of unwanted products by ensuring that the selection of food met target groups' needs and tastes. A few Member States also distributed donated food.

Some Member States also took broader climate and environmental aspects into consideration by opting for sustainable materials, minimising transport and carbon emissions, setting environmental requirements for suppliers, and/or organised educational workshops for end recipients on environmental issues (Text Box 12).

Text Box 12: Actions to reduce food waste and address climatic aspects

In LU, Caritas and the intermediary partner organisation issued a quality label (SuperDrecksKëscht fir Betriber) rewarding environmentally responsible actions by food suppliers. All contracted companies had to meet the waste management requirements as defined under ISO 14024. Moreover, food products collected from the supermarkets were transported through the shortest route to prevent food waste. Partner organisations also handed reusable bags to end recipients and encouraged them to bring the bags in their next visit.

LV implemented various measures to protect the environment and prevent food waste. For example, food packages were distributed and stored in locations that were under the surveillance of the State Food and Veterinary Service. This ensured compliance with hygiene requirements. Moreover, delivery was organised in a way that avoided lengthy storage of food and expiry of products' shelf life. Regular communication with local social services allowed close follow-up of the estimated number of packages to be delivered to the target groups. In addition, there were events and informative material on how to cook using the food packages content. There were other informative activities on how to decrease waste, recycle and store food. LV also organised the redistribution of food packages among partner organisations in case of leftovers or returned food.

11.4. Contributing to a balanced diet of the most deprived people

In most Member States, the types of food delivered to end recipients were selected in consultation with nutritional experts and/or partner organisations. To help end recipients achieve a balanced diet, Member States offered food that was low in carbohydrates, salt, sugar and fat, and high in protein, fibre, vitamins and minerals. Needs and eating-habits of end recipients were also considered in the choice of food for distribution.

Through accompanying measures, there were also many Member States that provided cooking classes/workshops to end recipients and/or advice on healthy and balanced diets.

Text Box 13: Actions to contribute to healthy and balanced diets

In CZ, the selection of ingredients for school meals had to meet the national regulations on dietary requirements for school meals. Compliance was through the monitoring of the National Audit Authority under the Czech School Inspectorate. Food packages delivered to other target groups were defined based on nutritional value, quality of food and preservation time. There were also consultations with partner organisations on the content of food packages as they had the knowledge of needs and eating habits of end recipients.

In EE, the contents of food packages were decided between the National Institute for Health Development and partner organisations. Food packages were diverse, containing canned meats/fish, dried fruits and grains with high nutritional value. Allergenic foods (e.g. nuts) were not included. Food packages also included information on healthy and balanced diets and healthy recipes.

In LV, accompanying measures were the main mechanism established for ensuring that end recipients had a healthy and balanced diet. Activities on health promotion, including healthy diet, attracted 1863 participants in 2017. Cooking lessons, which used items provided in food packages, were attended by 1785 people. Moreover, the survey of end recipients conducted in 2017 revealed that 84 % of end recipients thought that food support had enabled them to save some money and use this to improve their diets e.g. by buying meat, vegetables, dairy products, eggs, oil, butter, fruit, etc.

In MT, the distributed food items had the nutritional qualities needed for a balanced diet. Moreover, partner organisations consulted end recipients on a regular basis regarding the content of food packages.

12. FEAD DELIVERY

One of the main differences in how Member States organised the delivery of FEAD assistance was in the type of partner organisations involved, as well as in their number. Most Member States involved non-governmental organisations (NGOs), which were generally national branches of the Red Cross and/or Caritas or international Food Banks. Many Member States also relied on religious organisations, local NGOs' or charities which typically operated at local level (Figure 15). Many Member States also involved national, regional or local administration bodies in the delivery of assistance.

Figure 15: Non-governmental organisations involved in FEAD delivery

Partner organisations	Member States
National Red Cross	AT, BE, BG, ES, FR, HU, IT, LT, LU, LV, PL, SI, SK (13)
National Caritas	DE, LU, PL, SI, SK (5)
Food Banks	BE, CZ, EE, ES, FR, IE, IT, LT, PL, SK (10)
Churches, parishes, religious organisations	FI, HU, LV, SE (4)
Local NGOs, charities	CZ, BE, DE, ES, FI, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, PL, SE, SI, SK (16)

A few Member States also established cooperation with other types of organisations to distribute food or implement accompanying measures. These other organisations were, for example, schools (e.g. in Member States that distributed ready-meals to school children) and libraries (Figure 16).

Figure 16: Other types of organisations involved in FEAD delivery

Organisations	Member States
Schools	CZ, HR, SI (3)
Libraries	NL (1)

The number of partner organisations involved in the delivery of assistance varied a lot across Member States. In some cases, there were several hundreds or thousands of cooperating organisations (BE, ES, FR, IT, PL), with one (or a few) of them being responsible for procuring the food/basic material and organising the distribution scheme and many smaller, local organisations which distributed assistance to end recipients. In other Member States (AT, EE), there were fewer partner organisations which implemented all instances of the programme (i.e. procurement, distribution, delivery to end recipients, etc.) (Text Box 14).

Text Box 14: How Member States organised the distribution of assistance

In AT, the Red Cross was responsible for procuring and distributing the school packages to eligible families with school-aged children.

In ES there were two delivery organisations selected through a public selection procedure (Spanish Red Cross and Spanish Federation of Food Banks). These were responsible for managing the food supplies and distributing them to storage and distribution centres. Adding to this, there were around 6000 distributing organisations (often small/local NGOs) which were responsible for delivering food to end recipients.

In LV, there were 29 partner organisations: 13 local governments or their specific institutions, 13 national/local NGOs and 3 religious organisations. Partner organisations were responsible for reaching eligible end recipients and ensuring that distribution points were accessible to all. Some of them relied on volunteers, especially for the provision of accompanying measures.

In SK, four main partner organisations were involved in the distribution of food packages and basic material aid at national level: (1) the Slovak Red Cross operated in 36 districts and was assisted by 23 other organisations (Red Cross local branches); (2) the Slovak Catholic Charity (Caritas) operated in 41 districts as was assisted by 9 other organisations; and (3) St. Elisabeth Charity operated in 2 districts. In many cases, they cooperated also with local district authorities or other entities (municipalities, social workers, police officers). An additional partner organisation (Food Bank Slovakia) was selected to support the distribution of donated food.

Regarding the identification of eligible end recipients by Member States, this was done either by managing authorities using social security data or by partner organisations according to their knowledge and understanding of target groups' socio-economic situation and needs. This is in line with the legal basis of the FEAD programme as it is up to each Member State to decide on identifying the most deprived, based on objective criteria, and in consultation with stakeholders (Text Box 15).

In some Member States (IT, LT, LV, SI), the managing authority required end recipients to fill in an application form to be eligible. Other Member States used different methods. In LU, end recipients were assessed on a case by case basis by a professional, and in FI, partner organisations held mostly "open delivery events" and provided food to anyone who requested it. Ready-made meals for homeless people were normally provided to anyone who requested them or attended the distribution points (FI, HU, IT, LV, PL, SK).

Text Box 15: How Member States identified school children eligible for ready-made meals and basic material assistance

In CZ, ready-made meals were provided to children of 3 to 15 years old who were at risk of poverty and social exclusion. This was done at their kindergartens and primary schools. A child was considered eligible when he/she came from a family which received subsistence and/or housing benefits provided by the government. These families were identified by local employment offices

using national social security data. In one school only, children were identified by partner organisation.

In HR, ready-made meals were provided to school children living in poverty or at risk of poverty. They were identified according to criteria set by partner organisations and in compliance of the principle of gender equality and non-discrimination.

In IE, basic material assistance to school children was delivered as part of a pilot project in 2017. The assistance was provided to children coming from families which were already receiving food assistance through FEAD. Families recipients of FEAD aid were identified by local charities.

13. SURVEYS AND EVALUATIONS

In 2017, all Member States that implemented OP I carried out structured surveys of end recipients, as required in the FEAD Regulation¹⁷. The objective was to gain insights into end recipients' socio-economic background, current and past situation and their satisfaction with FEAD assistance, as well as to collect data from partner organisations on the distribution of material support and type of accompanying measures offered.

Member States that implemented OP II conducted evaluations or research studies on the programme to evaluate the assistance system and gain insights about the situation of various target groups.

13.1. Structured surveys of end recipients

The surveys of end recipients revealed that the assistance provided by FEAD had made a difference to end recipients' households. End recipients generally considered that the assistance received had made a difference to them or to other members in the household (for example, 75 % of end recipients in BE thought this, 93 % in EE, 93 % in FI, 87 % in IE, 76 % in HR, and 73 % in SK). In addition, most said that, a year ago, they or their household would not have been able to buy the items distributed by FEAD (for example, 64 % said this in EE, 60 % in FI, 52 % in LU, 80 % in SK).

The surveys showed that in most Member States, accompanying measures were considered useful or very useful; there was also a positive correlation between the provision of accompanying measures and overall FEAD satisfaction. The surveys also showed that most of the programme's end recipients were citizens of the Member States where assistance was distributed (90 % in FI, 67 % in FR, 70 % in IT, 87 % in SI), except for LU where most were non-nationals. A few Member States also reported that most of the people assisted in 2017, had been assisted by FEAD in previous years too (85 % said this in EE, 96 % in ES, 76 % in FI and 81 % in FR).

The surveys also served to highlight some areas for improvement in the delivery of assistance, for example, in terms of the amount and variety of food provided and how it was delivered to end recipients. In ES, end recipients demanded a greater variety of food so that it met the cultural diversity of end recipients. In EE, some end recipients reported that they had experienced difficulties in obtaining the food aid due to the weight of food packages or distance from the distribution centres. In IT, partner organisations stressed the high administrative burden that came from working with volunteers in delivering assistance.

¹⁷ Article 17(4) of Regulation (EU) No 223/2014.

Text Box 16: Survey implementation in Malta and Slovakia

In MT, the survey was carried out by The National Statistics Office (NSO) during the final distribution of FEAD assistance in October and November 2017. The process consisted of several phases:

1. Preparation, during which the NSO, managing authority, partner organisations and other relevant entities discussed the survey methodology and sample;
2. Trainings provided to interviewers and distribution centres' staff;
3. Communication on the survey to end recipients through a notification letter (survey was voluntary); and
4. Implementation of the survey, which took place at the time of distribution of the assistance.

In SK, the survey was carried out by the Institute for Labour and Family Research (ILFR) between July and December 2017. The implementation of the survey consisted of several steps:

1. Preparation of survey methodology (drafting and review of questionnaire);
2. Collection of background data of end recipients;
3. Definition of the sample of respondents, which had to reflect the regional distribution of assistance and the types of institutions involved in the process; and
4. Implementation of the survey through face-to-face interviews with end recipients.

Respondents participated on a voluntary basis (no material or financial reward was offered).

13.2. Evaluations

The evaluation conducted in Germany examined the initial situation of the target groups and how the support provided by the FEAD had impacted it. The results were used to design the second FEAD funding round. The evaluation consisted of the analysis of programme monitoring data, a telephone survey of all projects and 14 project case studies. Sweden conducted an evaluation aimed at assessing the objectives of the programme and identifying areas for improvement in the delivery process, for example, in terms of selection of projects and partner organisations. The programme in the Netherlands was evaluated by an external consultancy firm.

Some Member States that implemented OP I complemented the structured survey of end recipients with other evaluations or research studies. France conducted a comparative study of the programme in six Member States that revealed that France and the Czech Republic were the ones that delivered the greatest variety of food to end recipients. Lithuania conducted a full assessment of the programme that served to identify some areas for improvement including the need to enhance complementarity of the programme with labour, health and social national policies and to encourage the exchange of best practices between partner organisations.

Text Box 17: Evaluation of the FEAD in Germany

The evaluation of the FEAD programme in DE was conducted by an external consultancy. The evaluators first assisted the managing authority in examining existing monitoring data and then carried out an exploratory evaluation of three projects. Following this, a telephone survey of all 77 projects was conducted, as well as 14 case studies.

The telephone survey enquired about the profile of the target group, the volume and type of assistance provided to end recipients, the methods of cooperation with partner organisations and the regional government's assistance system. Issues of gender-equality and non-discrimination were also a key element of the survey.

The case studies explored the initial situation of the target groups, mapped the support provided to them and assess its results. In total, 105 interviews were conducted.

14. OBSERVATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

- Halfway through the implementation of the FEAD (which will run until 2020), most Member States had well-established and functioning programmes in place. The provision of basic material assistance, which had initially lagged behind food aid, unfolded as second important component of OP I support.
- The homeless were reached in higher numbers than in previous years with both food and basic material aid. Moreover, an increased number of persons with disabilities, elderly people, and migrants, people of foreign background and minorities received basic material assistance in 2017.
- The social inclusion programmes delivered in four Member States made significant achievements in terms of number of people reached and impact on social inclusion. Establishing mutual-trust relationships with end recipients was key to achieve these results.
- Collecting feedback from end recipients through structured surveys or evaluations enabled Member States to generate greater impact on the target groups. They allowed to identify and act on the strengths and weaknesses of the programme, as well as to know the target groups and address their needs more effectively.
- One important lesson learned in relation to accompanying measures was that these were particularly important for enhancing the social inclusion of specific groups among those most deprived. For example, of people in remote areas or isolated due to cultural, health or social issues, children, single parents and large families. Through accompanying measures, partner organisations could understand their needs better and connect them to specific services that could help them further.
- In some Member States, accompanying measures were also a means for gathering more information on the target groups and assess the need to adopt more personalised approaches for delivering the assistance (e.g. through house visits).
- There were some Member States that by 2017 were still in an early phase of implementation and/or experienced a setback in delivery, resulting in an aggregated drop of aid delivery figures. Close follow-up of these Member States would help to accelerate the financial implementation to tap all of the available funding.
- Although in 2017 there were advances in the completeness of the reporting of Member States, including on accompanying measures, some gaps remain. For example, reporting on horizontal principals, delivery processes, challenges encountered could be improved by providing more complete information.

ANNEX 1: METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

The methodological approach involved the development of an analytical framework which included key research issues, questions, indicators, and sources of data. The tool guided the collection and analysis of evidence, as well as the drafting of the Summary and Detailed Implementation Reports.

ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

Table 2 overleaf presents the analytical framework for the assignment. At the outset of the study, a set of research issues were defined (e.g. developments at EU level, state of play of implementation, accompanying measures, etc.) which were broken down into relevant analytical questions. These were then matched to appropriate indicators and data sources. The indicators covered the FEAD's common indicators, as well as additional qualitative indicators for addressing the analytical questions in an integrated way. The analytical framework included references to the specific sections in the annual reports where evidence could be found.

It is important to note that this study was not an evaluation of the FEAD, but, as stated in the technical specifications, it was a study to collect, analyse, synthesise and aggregate information provided by Member States in the AIRs. Therefore, we did not generate additional quantitative or qualitative primary data beyond the evidence provided in the annual reports. Nevertheless, in addition to the existing evidence base, we considered the views and perceptions collected through exploratory interviews with stakeholders conducted at the outset of the study, as well as the findings of the mid-term evaluation of the FEAD carried out by an external contractor in 2017/18. The level of depth and comprehensiveness of the analysis therefore depended on the amount and quality of existing data.

DATA COLLECTION

The first step was to collect the quantitative and qualitative evidence from the AIRs. For this, we developed a database and desk research tool. Using common tools for all Member States ensured a consistent approach to gathering and analysing the evidence.

Table 1: Data collection tools

Tool	Type of data	Description
Database	Quantitative	Matrix in MS Excel, with different spreadsheets for the different OPs (OP I and OP II) and indicators (input, output, result, programme-specific). The Member States were displayed in the rows and the different variables/indicators in the columns. There were also specific columns for yearly and cumulative values. To develop this database, we considered the structure of the FEAD database stored in SFC2014 ¹⁸ and which contains indicators' values for 2014 to 2017.
Desk research tool	Qualitative	Matrix in MS Excel but structured around the main research issues and questions presented in the analytical framework (Error! Reference source not found.). Following the different questions, we extracted the relevant evidence from the AIRs and elaborated a response (in English) to each question, providing as much detail as possible.

¹⁸ SFC2014 – Implementation Report Common and Specific Output_Result Indicators (FEAD)_v2.0, provided to the evaluators by the Commission

Table 2: Analytical framework for the analysis of Member States annual reports

Main research issues	Analytical questions	Indicators	Data sources
Developments at EU level	What were the main developments regarding the implementation of the fund at EU level in 2017?	Developments related to, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in FEAD's legislative framework Emergencies or exceptional situations attended Activity of the FEAD Network, Expert Group, and stakeholder consultations FEAD's mid-term evaluation 	Exploratory interviews with relevant stakeholders Mid-term evaluation draft final report
State of play of the financial implementation of the FEAD (inputs)	<p>What was the amount of resources committed by the EU and MS for the implementation of the fund and 2017?</p> <p>What was the evolution of total expenditure from year to year and in relation to financial targets of the FEAD?</p> <p>How was the composition of total expenditure?</p> <p>What was the amount of donations and 2017?</p> <p>What are the main factors that have influenced financial implementation (where relevant)? Are there any bottlenecks?</p>	<p>Input indicators: 1, 2, 3 (per OP, MS, type of assistance)</p> <p>Annual and cumulative values from 2014 to date</p> <p>Composition of expenditure (per OP, MS, type of assistance etc.)</p> <p>Amount of donations</p> <p>Factors influencing financial implementation</p>	<p>AIR (section 2.1, 2.3)</p> <p>Other evaluation/survey findings available in AIRs</p> <p>Exploratory interviews with relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Mid-term evaluation draft final report</p>
State of play of the physical implementation of the FEAD (outputs)	<p>Have there been any changes to Member States' OPs?</p> <p>What were the delivery mechanisms used in the different Member States? What types of organisations were involved in the delivery process?</p> <p>What was the amount and type of assistance provided by MS through the different OPs in 2017? How were food donations integrated?</p> <p>What are the changes in the type and amount of assistance provided compared to</p>	<p>Changes to OPs as reported in AIRs and/or SFC2014</p> <p>Delivery mechanisms and type of organisations involved</p> <p>Output indicators: 4-13, 15-18, 20 and programme-specific indicators for OP II countries (per OP, MS, type of assistance)</p>	<p>AIR (section 2.1, 2.3)</p> <p>Other evaluation/survey findings available in AIRs</p> <p>Exploratory interviews with relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Mid-term evaluation draft final report</p>

Detailed implementation report of the operational programmes co-financed by the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived in 2017

Main research issues	Analytical questions	Indicators	Data sources
	<p>previous years and per OP? What if any changes are particularly significant and why?</p> <p>What progress has been made in the implementation of OP II in 2017? Are there any bottlenecks in the delivery of this OP (e.g. issues with public procurement of goods)?</p>	<p>Annual and cumulative values from 2014 to date</p> <p>Reasons for changes in the type and amount of assistance provided</p> <p>MS that have initiated/continued/expanded the implementation of actions within OP II</p> <p>Factors influencing the delivery of OP II</p>	
<p>Performance of the FEAD (results)</p>	<p>How many people and what target groups have been reached in 2017 by the different OPs?</p> <p>What are the changes in the number of people and groups reached compared to previous years? Are there any explanations as to why there were changes?</p> <p>What is MS and POs' assessment of the achievements of the fund in their countries during 2017? Which factors have had a positive impact on achievements?</p> <p>Are there any significant indirect effects (e.g. in relation to capacity building)?</p> <p>Are there any factors challenging the delivery of assistance in the different countries? What strategies are being used to mitigate these challenges?</p> <p>Have Member States conducted any evaluations of the FEAD and/or structured surveys with end recipients? What have these shown regarding the results of the fund at national level?</p>	<p>Result indicators: 14, 19 (for OP I) and specific indicators defined by OP II countries</p> <p>Annual and cumulative values from 2014 to date</p> <p>Groups targeted more / less often and reasons for it</p> <p>Perceptions of MAs and POs in relation to achievements and factors that have had an influence on results</p> <p>Indirect effects as reported by stakeholders (e.g. solidarity, cohesion, synergies, leverage effects from volunteering, strong commitment from the civil society, prevention of humanitarian and health crises etc.)</p> <p>Factors challenging delivery of assistance and strategies to mitigate them (e.g. reaching undocumented people or not registered in local social services)</p> <p>Lessons learned on the implementation of the different OPs</p>	<p>AIR (section 2.1, 2.3, 3.1, Annex)</p> <p>Other evaluation/survey findings available in AIRs</p> <p>Exploratory interviews with relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Mid-term evaluation draft final report</p>

Main research issues	Analytical questions	Indicators	Data sources
Accompanying measures (for OP I only)	<p>Which MS have implemented accompanying measures in 2017? How they have done this? What groups have been reached and with what results?</p> <p>What problems/challenges have been encountered?</p> <p>How they have contributed to the FEAD's social inclusion objective?</p>	<p>Characteristics and results of accompanying measures</p> <p>Problems/challenges encountered</p> <p>Perceptions of stakeholders in relation to the added value of accompanying measures</p>	<p>AIR (section 2.1, 2.3, 3.1, Annex)</p> <p>Other evaluation/survey findings available in AIRs</p> <p>Exploratory interviews with relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Mid-term evaluation draft final report</p>
Actions related to the horizontal principles set out in Arts 5(6), 5(11) and 5(13) of the FEAD Regulation	<p>How have MS applied horizontal principles? What type of activities they have carried out and with what results?</p> <p>Were there any problems/challenges in the application of these principles?</p>	<p>Actions implemented in relation to horizontal principles and results achieved</p> <p>MS that have (have not) implemented actions in this respect</p> <p>Problems/challenges encountered in addressing horizontal principles</p>	<p>AIR (section 2.2)</p> <p>Other evaluation/survey findings available in AIRs</p> <p>Exploratory interviews with relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Mid-term evaluation draft final report</p>
Examples of good practices	<p>Are there any success stories / good practices in relation to the implementation, monitoring and/or evaluation of the OPs during 2017?</p>	<p>Examples of good practices identified by MS in the AIR and/or by other stakeholders</p>	<p>AIR (section 2.1, 2.2, 3.1)</p> <p>Exploratory interviews with relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Other evidence available (e.g. 2017 Case Study Catalogue and reports from FEAD Network meetings)</p> <p>Mid-term evaluation draft final report</p>
Surveys and evaluations	<p>How have MS carried out surveys and evaluations of the programme?</p> <p>What are their main findings and conclusions?</p>	<p>Description of the survey/evaluation processes</p> <p>Examples of partial findings</p>	<p>AIR (Section 2.1)</p>

Detailed implementation report of the operational programmes co-financed by the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived in 2017

Before populating the data collection tools with the evidence provided in the AIRs, we tested the study approach and tools with a sample of six AIRs (CZ, DE, IE, MT, SK and ES). We reviewed the reports, extracted the data and compiled the evidence in the tools. We took note of any relevant issues related to how the tools worked, what problems/challenges were encountered during the research, what was generally the quality and completeness of the evidence provided in reports, etc. Based on this, we did a final review of the tools to ensure that they were 'fit for purpose'. This ultimately allowed us to achieve the aims of the assignment on timely manner and with high quality.

As most of the AIRs were in Member States' national languages, we put together a team of 20 research experts that covered of all EU languages. To ensure a common approach to the research, we provided them with a package of documents containing:

- Brief introduction to the FEAD
- Member States OPs, 2016 AIRs and other relevant background documentation
- Copy of the database in MS Excel
- Copy of desk research tool
- Detailed instructions on how to use the tools and report on the data
- Indications in terms of days to be allocated to the research, deadlines, writing style and quality assurance process

We also organised a Q&A session to discuss anything that was unclear in the guidelines and documents provided, as well as to provide additional information on the fund to ensure that experts had a full understanding of it. A senior member of the core team was in regular contact with experts and closely followed-up their work to identify any gaps and/or conflicts with the data or research process as early as possible.

Shortly after the testing period and briefing of experts, they started reviewing the AIRs and populating the database and desk research tool with the evidence available. The experts were asked to provide as much detail as possible relating to the different analytical questions, to allow for a comprehensive assessment of the implementation and performance of the fund during the year in question. The experts translated to English the evidence provided in the national languages, before adding it into the desk research tool.

Once we collected all tools from the research experts, we reviewed the gaps and inconsistencies in the evidence gathered. As confirmed by DG EMPL's Evaluation Unit, plausibility checks had been carried out on the 2017 data for the FEAD common indicators already; therefore, we focused our assessment on identifying gaps/inconsistencies in the qualitative evidence provided in the descriptive parts of the reports. Some limitations of the data were identified, which were presented in section 1.3 of the 2016 Detailed Implementation Report.

ANALYSIS

The next phase entailed analysing the quantitative and qualitative evidenced collected in the database and the desk research tool. In doing this, we followed these steps:

- i. Descriptive analysis of quantitative data collected. We started with a descriptive analysis of key facts and figures (i.e. yearly and cumulative values of common FEAD indicators and programme-specific indicators in the case of OP II Member States). The descriptive analysis of data allowed us to identify particularly relevant / interesting results to be examined in the textual parts of the Summary and Detailed Implementation Reports.

- ii. Qualitative data analysis. We then undertook an in-depth examination of the qualitative data collected in the desk research tool. This involved synthesising and analysing text to derive trends. The aim was to complement and make sense of the quantitative data collected and to highlight the important findings in relation to the implementation and performance of the FEAD in the years in question.

REPORTING

The last stage of the study was to present the results and findings in the form of a Summary Report and a Detailed Implementation Report for year 2017. Based on the analytical framework, we drafted the tables of contents for both reports. These considered the structure and contents of the past Summary Reports (2014, 2015 and 2016) but added the Steering Group's views on what would be relevant / interesting to examine in 2016 (e.g. accompanying measures, surveys and evaluations). The tables of contents were validated with the Steering Group before we started to draft the reports.

We first provided DG EMPL with the 2017 Summary Report, which presented a concise assessment of the implementation and performance of the FEAD during 2016. It presented the yearly and cumulative values of the FEAD common indicators, as well as programme-specific indicators of OP II countries. But it also went beyond the aggregated reporting of indicators and was accompanied by elements of qualitative assessment. The report included an annex with values reported by Member States for all indicators.

Once the 2017 Summary Report was reviewed and approved by DG EMPL, we started drafting the 2017 Detailed Implementation Report. This was structured around key themes and presented developments for all relevant countries within each OP, emphasising key areas on which progress had been made (or not). It also included an annex with country fiches with key implementation information for each Member State.

The Draft and Final versions of these reports were submitted to the Steering Group once the Quality Assuror (Vanessa Ludden, from Ramboll) had reviewed and approved them. All reports went through a quality review process to ensure their technical, editorial and language quality.

ANNEX 2: TABLES OF INDICATORS

This annex presents tables of:

- Common input indicators (OP I and OP II) 2014-2020
- Common output indicators on food support distributed (OP I) 2014 – 2020
- Common result indicators on food support distributed (OP I) 2014 – 2020
- Common output indicators on basic material assistance distributed (OP I) 2014 – 2020
- Common result indicators on basic material assistance distributed (OP I) 2014 – 2020
- Common output indicators on social inclusion assistance (OP II) 2014 – 2020

I. Common input indicators (OP I and OP II) 2014 – 2020

Member State	Indicator no. 1		Indicator no. 2		Indicator no. 2a		Indicator no. 2b		Indicator no. 3	
	Total amount of eligible public expenditure approved in the documents setting out the conditions for support of operations (EUR)		Total amount of eligible public expenditure incurred by end recipients and paid in implementing operations (EUR)		Total amount of eligible public expenditure incurred by end recipients and paid in implementing operations relating to provision of food support, where relevant (EUR)		Total amount of eligible public expenditure incurred by end recipients and paid in implementing operations relating to provision of basic material assistance (EUR)		Total amount of eligible public expenditure declared to the Commission (EUR)	
Period	2017	Cumulative ¹⁹	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative
AT	3,028,336.00	8,908,034.00	2,740,730.00	8,512,250.92	-	-	2,713,082.00	7,788,517.83	3,001,183.21	5,632,630.47
BE	14,075,586.71	51,149,686.46	12,625,165.73	41,564,785.66	12,142,596.27	40,080,896.45	-	-	17,468,341.37	36,283,173.47
BG	61,334,509.62	107,498,974.20	33,050,738.66	47,743,184.57	31,921,242.82	45,844,223.44	-	-	30,088,715.07	36,163,632.76
CY	563,081.00	615,608.77	306,951.91	359,479.68	289,131.40	289,131.40	-	-	174,560.71	217,609.50
CZ	7,745,877.66	15,017,097.44	4,075,180.92	5,391,104.47	2,142,161.76	2,845,861.32	1,462,155.64	1,817,473.94	2,273,212.68	3,510,618.99
EE	1,486,262.00	4,332,130.00	1,486,262.00	4,326,576.00	1,486,262.00	4,326,576.00	-	-	1,511,798.43	3,650,830.43
EL	47,311,127.97	69,665,872.90	9,170,407.05	24,747,545.10	8,917,369.09	21,432,276.42	253,037.96	3,315,268.68	8,449,421.36	21,695,155.27
ES	92,985,998.82	324,901,983.31	83,408,475.80	301,075,953.06	78,902,737.70	286,315,330.63	-	-	97,264,360.87	252,142,840.52
FI	3,786,000.00	14,703,000.00	1,794,388.55	7,293,888.25	1,674,399.71	6,919,405.95	-	-	5,511,968.90	7,286,611.75
FR	83,008,489.27	322,781,115.65	83,074,444.23	257,650,239.90	82,299,567.87	257,300,533	-	-	38,476,798.78	82,903,682.38
HR	906,206.15	14,847,816.27	7,467,772.82	7,599,657.96	5,735,282.70	5,735,895.69	1,280,780.28	1,280,780.28	3,174,686.65	3,305,400.67
HU	5,816,672.04	115,461,946.72	3,651,523.77	3,652,594.31	3,646,200.74	3,646,200.74	-	-	2,923,952.48	2,925,023.02
IE	2,563,518.92	3,447,361.92	2,468,932.41	3,337,932.41	2,383,842.90	3,252,842.90	85,089.51	85,089.51	-	-
IT	56,385,000.00	208,310,000.00	47,129,486.21	154,774,838.94	47,129,486.21	154,774,838.94	-	-	65,544,642.27	98,556,589.27
LT	32,834,000.00	60,857,522.24	3,326,872.20	31,251,615.13	3,326,872.20	31,251,615.13	-	-	13,807,520.38	24,812,207.38
LU	605,862.00	2,252,945.00	825,705.45	1,723,139.05	553,264.08	1,057,552.28	158,510.63	366,525.53	536,440.60	762,818.42
LV	6,889,465.00	26,757,876.00	5,569,223.00	13,486,773.80	4,407,316.00	10,659,359.47	859,310.00	1,834,647.52	5,572,251.88	12,182,832.45
MT	-	4,640,777.00	680,231.71	1,599,813.23	615,056.52	1,534,638.04	-	-	654,410.28	1,129,371.44
PL	94,442,666.52	250,950,646.36	78,914,725.71	178,333,626.21	78,914,725.71	178,333,626.21	-	-	87,044,132.62	161,570,133.33
PT	78,225,561.20	101,641,489.43	1,208,117.97	22,197,957.10	730,330.87	21,636,824.69	-	-	-	20,906,493.82
RO	3,798,721.24	180,098,390.41	-	170,526,432.36	-	170,526,432.36	-	-	72,331,978.39	76,622,690.32
SI	3,731,600.00	14,480,428.64	3,616,926.98	8,317,103.44	3,482,887.94	8,002,328.84	-	-	3,939,039.48	6,655,713.32
SK	16,670,333.20	25,879,077.17	6,881,743.48	11,000,624.95	6,084,968.62	9,831,509.05	623,727.00	623,727.00	10,765,617.06	10,895,245.25
DE	18,186,090.19	33,088,906.69	8,468,224.84	20,458,520.51	-	-	-	-	2,634,528.82	2,634,528.82
DK	719,657.12	958,264.55	682,572.75	909,597.40	-	-	-	-	611,708.06	814,524.37
NL	135,637.63	4,719,940.63	805,841.79	1,555,254.79	-	-	-	-	569,909.64	667,510.64
SE	53,828.00	5,509,113.00	1,755,536.00	2,226,958.00	-	-	-	-	691,828.02	839,865.02
Total	637,290,088.26	1,973,476,004.76	405,186,181.94	1,331,617,447.20	377,485,703.11	1,265,597,898.87	7,435,693.02	17,112,030.29	475,023,008.01	874,767,733.08

¹⁹ The Member States have the possibility to change the values reported for an indicator for previous years. The column 'Cumulative', which presents the sum of the values reported for each indicator from 2014 onwards, incorporates any changes introduced by Member States for the values reported for 2014 to 2016 in their 2017 implementation reports.

II. Common output indicators on food support distributed (OP I) 2014 – 2020²⁰

Member State	Indicator no. 4		Indicator no. 5		Indicator no. 6		Indicator no. 7		Indicator no. 8		Indicator no. 9	
	Quantity of fruits and vegetables (tonnes)		Quantity of meat, eggs, fish, seafood (tonnes)		Quantity of flour, bread, potatoes, rice and other starchy products (tonnes)		Quantity of sugar (tonnes)		Quantity of milk products (tonnes)		Quantity of fats, oil (tonnes)	
	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative
AT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BE	2,422.21	5,237.56	256.40	1,477.99	3,640.44	7,747.10	488.31	488.31	3,893.09	11,040.21	420.50	1,117.65
BG	4,839.14	5,918.77	2,393.75	2,731.98	12,727.02	16,326.53	2,850.47	2,867.31	530.34	681.98	217.00	261.34
CY	16.01	16.01	8.43	8.43	26.69	26.69	-	-	8.43	8.43	-	-
CZ	134.74	188.81	144.09	214.63	267.22	376.08	99.23	129.83	156.62	180.30	86.73	121.99
EE	16.00	93.00	189.00	578.00	197.00	710.00	97.00	285.00	-	-	95.00	278.00
EL	2,274.18	6,116.95	1,897.20	3,017.27	1,296.69	2,267.91	435.54	1,236.37	693.46	1,517.42	387.45	973.90
ES	16,844.84	50,107.46	5,039.40	13,657.76	13,001.89	56,471.04	-	-	38,206.33	110,964.79	2,124.74	13,282.37
FI	-	-	197.88	456.45	1,269.26	3,028.65	-	-	134.98	311.85	-	-
FR	7,619.62	28,948.51	4,697.76	15,367.46	9,865.82	40,168.17	2,152.08	10,291.97	39,914.37	164,408.91	2,821.20	12,746.99
HR	1,690.39	1,690.39	434.35	434.35	2,177.09	2,177.09	461.20	461.20	946.41	946.41	405.67	405.67
HU	115.96	115.96	30.96	30.96	541.16	541.16	98.86	98.86	187.01	187.01	98.86	98.86
IE	247.54	295.19	23.80	23.80	254.13	302.77	124.67	152.50	-	6.51	-	-
IT	4,986.28	17,638.23	814.32	2,119.92	37,443.00	72,120.15	34.75	3,811.73	3,590.25	56,677.06	4,067.09	8,708.24
LT	362.36	577.33	338.74	927.89	2,755.38	12,300.07	715.94	2,670.10	359.24	875.71	832.52	2,410.37
LU	339.00	626.00	282.00	703.00	228.00	510.00	60.00	163.00	642.00	1,135.00	63.00	220.00
LV	26.92	26.92	295.94	577.69	1,275.09	3,508.88	168.65	381.24	138.07	399.22	167.03	493.45
MT	61.97	155.94	16.56	41.84	65.65	165.40	-	-	42.80	107.70	-	-
PL	13,537.63	33,404.42	11,437.63	29,754.67	15,804.22	48,951.53	5,685.29	20,626.04	14,953.03	40,639.03	5,211.17	14,929.29
PT	127.40	2,712.40	72.35	1,915.35	108.27	3,794.27	-	981.00	266.34	5,758.34	19.09	1,389.09
RO	-	-	-	22,210.00	-	80,692.00	-	22,247.00	-	-	-	30,164.00
SI	-	-	-	-	1,795.32	4,990.33	-	-	2,313.03	5,119.37	379.38	879.66
SK	542.31	837.81	533.27	823.85	2,530.79	3,909.82	361.54	558.54	144.62	223.42	361.54	558.54
Total	56,204.50	154,707.66	29,103.83	97,073.29	107,270.13	361,085.64	13,833.53	67,450.00	107,120.42	401,188.67	17,757.97	89,039.41

²⁰ Indicators 4 to 11 include any form of these products: e.g. fresh, canned and frozen foodstuff.

Member State	Indicator no. 10		Indicator no. 11		Indicator no. 11a	Indicator no. 11b	Indicator no. 12		Indicator no. 13	
	Quantity of convenience food, other food stuff (not falling in other categories) (tonnes)		Total quantity of food support distributed (tonnes)		Share of food for which only transport, distribution and storage were paid for by the OP (%)	Proportion of FEAD co-financed food products of total volume of food distributed by the partner organisations (%) ²¹	Total number of meals distributed partly or totally financed by the OP (number) ²²		Total number of food packages distributed partly or totally financed by the OP (number) ²³	
Period	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	2017	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative
AT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BE	1,637.94	3,478.45	12,758.89	30,587.27	-	50.00	978,223.00	4,796,568.00	1,789,069.00	6,565,321.00
BG	216.57	334.81	23,774.29	29,122.72	-	100.00	7,986,845.00	10,039,842.00	-	265,000.00
CY	-	-	59.56	59.56	-	100.00	280,941.00	280,941.00	-	-
CZ	227.43	343.64	1,116.06	1,555.28	-	70.00	256,295.00	289,143.00	312,663.00	400,087.00
EE	80.00	228.00	674.00	2,172.00	-	40.00	-	-	48,120.00	138,778.00
EL	1,395.63	2,372.64	8,380.15	17,502.46	-	74.47	2,945,999.00	3,171,727.00	23,887,242.00	182,910,200.00
ES	14,178.87	70,459.06	89,396.07	314,942.48	-	100.00	28,673,863.00	107,282,352.00	4,163,826.00	15,776,095.00
FI	240.42	561.94	1,842.54	4,358.89	-	23.00	55,754.00	123,194.00	271,723.00	658,499.00
FR	6,325.08	21,586.56	73,395.93	293,518.57	-	29.68	-	-	57,714,869.00	283,365,371.00
HR	1,213.65	1,213.65	7,328.76	7,328.76	3.70	79.86	1,296,547.00	1,296,547.00	299,821.00	299,821.00
HU	165.84	165.84	1,238.65	1,238.65	-	100.00	928,484.00	928,484.00	98,855.00	98,855.00
IE	165.55	197.25	815.69	978.02	-	43.00	1,574,590.00	1,840,983.00	245,566.00	357,472.00
IT	7,196.83	18,336.70	58,132.52	179,412.03	-	70.00	17,307,881.00	52,098,256.00	49,647,761.00	152,609,723.00
LT	1,066.88	1,839.48	6,431.06	21,600.95	-	54.76	-	-	1,034,848.00	4,479,324.00
LU	158.00	1,636.00	1,772.00	4,993.00	34.00	30.00	-	-	26,198.00	46,158.00
LV	-	-	2,071.70	5,387.40	-	84.50	307,170.00	514,275.00	335,533.00	988,346.00
MT	11.13	28.00	198.11	498.88	-	29.00	-	-	12,145.00	25,973.00
PL	889.16	889.16	67,518.44	189,194.45	-	67.60	2,455,137.00	4,111,947.00	7,499,637.00	19,904,531.00
PT	8.39	8.39	601.84	16,558.84	-	0.01	-	-	19,577.00	877,000.00
RO	-	11,085.00	-	166,398.00	-	-	-	-	-	15,096,901.00
SI	587.84	841.78	5,075.57	11,831.14	-	70.20	-	-	855,463.00	2,712,321.00
SK	138.14	208.43	4,612.21	7,120.41	-	91.02	11,391.00	12,859.00	361,542.00	558,547.00
Total	35,903.35	135,814.78	367,194.04	1,306,359.76			65,059,120.00	186,787,118.00	148,624,458.00	688,134,323.00

²¹ Values for this indicator are established by an informed estimation of the partner organisations.

²² The definition of what is to be understood as a meal can be provided at the level of the partner organisation/operation/managing authority. Values for this indicator are established by an assessment by the partner organisations.

²³ The definition of what is to be understood as a food package can be provided at the level of the partner organisation/operation/managing authority. Packages do not need to be standardised in size or content. Values for this indicator are established by an assessment by the partner organisations.

III. Common result indicators on food support distributed²⁴ (OP I) 2014 – 2020

Member State	Indicator no. 14 Total number of persons receiving food support		Indicator no. 14a Number of children aged 15 years or below		Indicator no. 14b Number of persons aged 65 years or above		Indicator no. 14c Number of women		Indicator no. 14d Number of migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities		Indicator no. 14e Number of persons with disabilities		Indicator no. 14f Number of homeless	
	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative
AT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BE	311,205	1,110,401	88,141	295,276	21,980	71,895	98,913	345,813	102,269	381,864	9,788	31,270	20,414	63,162
BG	361,361	640,418	8,647	14,310	123,280	228,847	241,575	424,841	49,444	101,655	49,323	72,874	1,111	1,335
CY	1,972	1,972	1,814	1,814	-	-	986	986	769	769	-	-	-	-
CZ	108,308	169,983	46,625	71,801	9,739	14,419	49,390	80,407	35,941	55,869	13,489	16,623	26,514	42,708
EE	28,453	84,577	10,097	29,697	551	1,488	14,505	43,028	4,909	14,646	4,267	13,155	1,000	3,022
EL	263,976	673,976	70,888	179,043	15,499	33,456	139,742	353,308	-	5,000	-	727	-	1,000
ES	1,423,288	6,816,589	433,373	2,004,080	93,149	452,290	744,664	3,548,415	351,827	1,754,002	24,809	122,554	20,997	114,742
FI	284,352	687,367	40,784	97,067	71,194	153,493	119,834	257,838	26,424	55,022	8,046	13,920	2,375	4,484
FR	4,459,019	17,120,670	1,547,553	6,018,102	178,253	789,676	2,348,631	9,288,523	-	-	-	-	-	1,010,198
HR	208,401	208,401	51,883	51,883	45,842	45,842	104,793	104,793	17,053	17,053	5,774	5,774	1,003	1,003
HU	25,260	25,260	24,522	24,522	-	-	738	738	12,630	12,630	1,263	1,263	4,440	4,440
IE	95,922	150,527	40,971	60,971	12,889	20,210	49,136	74,832	13,738	17,385	5,969	8,678	13,234	20,307
IT	2,700,012	8,287,350	454,901	2,202,340	197,756	755,853	860,537	3,514,874	379,446	2,783,547	38,501	139,142	217,407	440,772
LT	193,795	935,237	52,994	228,582	9,927	28,174	97,880	359,072	2,201	9,040	19,140	71,409	449	1,521
LU	12,453	33,424	3,764	10,101	233	553	6,469	17,750	8,469	22,746	498	1,159	48	143
LV	63,799	194,172	14,223	46,657	8,158	20,367	32,832	105,539	434	2,963	7,196	21,318	1,045	1,693
MT	13,246	30,297	6,528	14,548	776	1,624	7,448	16,934	860	2,022	65	151	-	-
PL	1,365,491	4,123,031	390,528	1,283,555	112,086	260,321	687,879	2,071,984	6,231	36,377	210,615	628,844	26,290	85,329
PT	37,615	895,038	10,922	218,973	1,855	89,525	20,218	389,114	5,693	5,693	778	778	21	21
RO	-	6,347,777	-	1,277,604	-	1,555,962	-	2,879,267	-	-	-	1,101,702	-	-
SI	166,448	550,192	31,868	116,257	26,662	76,398	87,420	287,035	13,847	44,733	6,082	17,897	2,545	7,412
SK	175,448	350,451	77,529	153,078	4,864	8,908	92,816	185,679	-	-	9,714	18,949	3,920	4,755
Total	12,299,824	49,437,110	3,408,555	14,400,261	934,693	4,609,301	5,806,406	24,350,770	1,032,185	5,323,016	415,317	2,288,187	342,813	1,808,047

²⁴ Values for these indicators are determined based on the informed estimation of the partner organisations. It is neither expected nor required that they are based on information provided by end recipients. The values reported must be taken as a rough *estimate* of the number of *cases of participation*, rather than of individual participants.

IV. Common output indicators on basic material assistance distributed (OP I) 2014 – 2020

Member State	Indicator no. 15		Indicator no. 15a		Indicator no. 15b		Indicator no. 15c	
	Total monetary value of goods distributed (EUR)		Total monetary value of goods for children (EUR)		Total monetary value of goods for the homeless (EUR)		Total monetary value of goods for other target group (EUR)	
Period	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative
AT	2,406,846.32	7,347,771.31	2,406,846.32	7,347,771.31	-	-	-	-
BE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CZ	1,685,195.96	2,222,588.46	727,371.70	952,898.30	239,937.13	338,235.73	717,889.21	931,456.51
EE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EL	3,035,089.21	6,326,641.97	216,656.70	753,322.17	8,888.94	49,685.33	2,809,543.57	5,523,635.37
ES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HR	868,331.47	868,331.47	302,222.97	302,222.97	36,764.00	36,764.00	529,344.51	529,344.51
HU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IE	94,586.51	94,586.51	85,089.51	85,089.51	-	-	9,497.00	9,497.00
IT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LU	158,510.63	366,525.36	-	-	-	-	158,510.63	366,525.36
LV	815,378.32	1,613,039.70	815,378.32	1,613,039.70	-	-	-	-
MT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SK	344,214.00	610,350.00	321,078.00	568,584.00	7,416.00	10,428.00	15,720.00	31,338.00
Total	9,408,152.42	19,449,834.78	4,874,643.52	11,622,927.96	293,006.07	435,113.06	4,240,504.92	7,391,796.75

(16)	Categories of goods distributed to children ²⁵	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU ²⁶	LV	MT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK
16a	<i>Layette</i>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
16b	<i>School bags</i>	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
16c	<i>Stationery, exercise books, pens, painting equipment and other equipment required in school (non-clothes)</i>	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
16d	<i>Sports equipment (sport shoes, leotard, swimsuit, etc.)</i>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
16e	<i>Clothes (winter coat, footwear, school uniform, etc.)</i>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

(17)	Categories of goods distributed to the homeless ²⁷	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	EE	EL	ES	FI	FE	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK
17a	<i>Sleeping bags/blankets</i>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
17b	<i>Kitchen equipment (pots, pans, cutlery, etc.)</i>	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
17c	<i>Clothes (winter coat, footwear, etc.)</i>	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
17d	<i>Household linen (towels, bedclothes)</i>	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
17e	<i>Hygiene articles (first aid kit, soap, toothbrush, disposable razor, etc.)</i>	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y

²⁵ The list includes all relevant categories covering at least 75 % of the goods distributed.

²⁶ LU distributed hygiene articles such as toothpaste, shower gel, shampoo, and toilet paper. It did not report on them under ID 17e, but as 'additional categories of goods distributed to other target groups' (ID 18a-1).

²⁷ The list includes all relevant categories covering at least 75 % of the goods distributed.

V. Common result indicators on basic material assistance distributed²⁸ (OP I) 2014 – 2020

Member State	Indicator no. 19		Indicator no. 19a		Indicator no. 19b		Indicator no. 19c		Indicator no. 19d		Indicator no. 19e		Indicator no. 19f	
	Total number of persons receiving basic material assistance		Number of children aged 15 years or below		Number of persons aged 65 years or above		Number of women		Number of migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities		Number of persons with disabilities		Number of homeless	
Period	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative
AT	44,861	119,068	38,446	102,904	-	-	21,533	57,562	21,085	48,520	-	-	-	-
BE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CZ	97,467	138,884	45,160	64,480	15,875	19,236	45,669	68,539	34,238	49,060	9,260	10,644	16,005	23,224
EE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EL	194,975	617,490	45,386	155,062	11,860	29,935	104,595	320,559	-	-	-	-	97	1,097
ES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HR	72,029	72,029	16,412	16,412	13,252	13,252	38,440	38,440	8,292	8,292	3,192	3,192	614	614
HU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IE	4,673	4,673	4,031	4,031	-	-	2,350	2,350	673	673	-	-	-	-
IT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LU	12,453	33,424	3,764	10,101	233	553	6,469	17,750	8,469	22,746	498	1,159	48	143
LV	18,331	63,663	15,110	47,299	-	-	9,558	32,246	104	1,462	711	2,388	-	-
MT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SK	134,259	272,886	65,511	132,023	36	47	70,329	143,302	-	-	2,584	5,176	1,236	1,738
Total	579,048	1,322,117	233,820	532,312	41,256	63,023	298,943	680,748	72,861	130,753	16,245	22,559	18,000	26,816

²⁸ Values for these indicators are determined based on the informed estimation of the partner organisations. It is neither expected nor required that they are based on information provided by end recipients. The values reported must be taken as a rough *estimate* of the number of *cases of participation*, rather than of individual participants.

VI. Common output indicators on social inclusion assistance (OP II) 2014 – 2020

Member State	Indicator no. 20 Total number of persons receiving social inclusion assistance		Indicator no. 20a Number of children aged 15 years or below		Indicator no. 20b Number of persons aged 65 years or above		Indicator no. 20c Number of women		Indicator no. 20d Number of migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities		Indicator no. 20e Number of persons with disabilities		Indicator no. 20f Number of homeless	
	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative	2017	Cumulative
DE	33,787	61,858	4,041	6,686	508	912	16,156	29,492	24,524	45,286	898	1,729	7,862	15,000
DK	484	958	-	-	10	33	60	128	484	958	49	51	484	958
NL	1,217	1,498	-	-	1,217	1,498	920	1,130	358	445	130	133	-	-
SE	1,097	1,602	25	50	-	3	777	1,102	1,041	1,545	-	-	1,049	1,546
Total	36,585	65,916	4,066	6,736	1,735	2,446	17,913	31,852	26,407	48,234	1,077	1,913	9,395	17,504

ANNEX 3: OVERVIEW OF ACCOMPANYING MEASURES

Member State	Type of accompanying measure	Target groups	Brief description of measures undertaken	Effects, benefits, added value of accompanying measures	Obstacles/challenges encountered
AT	- Advice and/or information on social/medical services	Children aged 15 or below	Activities included providing leaflets with information on activities and support measures for children (e.g. leisure activities). These were distributed to families that applied to receive basic material assistance such as school bags.	N/A	N/A
BE	- Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Financial counselling / budget management support - Social counselling / psycho-social support	End recipients of the programme	Activities included: 1) advice on food preparation, storage and recycling; 2) cooking workshops and educational classes to promote healthy eating; 3) promotion of social services; 4) help with debt mitigation/budget management; 5) listening sessions/individual coaching; 6) advice on personal hygiene; 7) psychological and therapeutic support.	54% of end recipients who participated in accompanying measures praised the assistance and information received.	N/A
BG	- Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Disaster/emergency action support - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Financial counselling / budget management support - Social counselling / psycho-social support	End recipients of the programme (including Roma community)	Activities included: 1) advice on healthy and balanced diets; 2) help with family budget management; 3) assistance in applying to social services; 4) information on the services provided under the ESF; 5) advice on what to do in case of disaster/emergency; 6) individual/group counselling on identified needs and issues; 8) information on social rights.	A total of 61 945 people participated in accompanying measures. Of these, 30 % (18 773) recorded a positive impact on their personal situation. More specifically: 30 % were more informed on how to manage their family budget; 23 % were more informed on their entitlement to health services; 17 % stated that the assistance received allowed them to take better care of their children; 13 % felt more secure after receiving support for accommodation; 11 % were more informed on education services; 7 % found jobs after completing training courses; 6 % stated that the assistance received had increased their chances of finding a job.	N/A
CY	- Social counselling / psycho-social support	Schoolchildren in public schools	Free psychological support services for schoolchildren in public schools.	N/A	N/A

Member State	Type of accompanying measure	Target groups	Brief description of measures undertaken	Effects, benefits, added value of accompanying measures	Obstacles/challenges encountered
CZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Financial counselling / budget management support - Social counselling / psycho-social support 	End recipients of the programme	Activities included: 1) social counselling; 2) information on existing social services; 3) nutrition counselling; 4) financial counselling; 5) counselling on difficult life situations.	Based on partner organisations' assessment, accompanying measures were more useful for single-parent families and socially disadvantaged elderly people than for homeless people. Moreover, end recipients were more willing to accept and participate in accompanying measures when these organised during the distribution of food/basic material aid.	Accompanying measures more accepted after engaging and building trust of end recipients.
EE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Social counselling / psycho-social support - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Financial counselling / budget management support 	End recipients of the programme (including people living in remote areas)	Activities included: 1) distribution of a magazine with healthy recipes as well as information on municipal/ESF programmes and benefits; 2) debt counselling; 3) support persons, transport and care for the elderly or the disabled; 4) clothing; 6) nutritional counselling; 7) counselling for ex-prisoners and treatment for alcoholism.	<p>An additional 5 % of end recipients received accompanying measures, compared to 2016; meaning that more people received job counselling, trainings, treatments for alcoholism etc.</p> <p>77 % of end recipients who were in formal education participated in ESF training programmes and/or in the Unemployment Insurance Fund services, after receiving the information through accompanying measures.</p>	To be eligible for food assistance in Estonia, people must apply for national subsistence benefits first. This excluded people from the programme who did not apply, but possibly still needed food assistance.
EL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social counselling / psycho-social support - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Social and leisure activities - Financial counselling / budget management support 	End recipients of the programme (including Roma community)	Activities included: 1) nutrition counselling; 2) psycho-social and social inclusion support at individual and family level (and in some cases in events open to all end recipients); 3) advice on family budget management; 4) supplementary tuition for schoolchildren; 5) cultural and creative activities for children; 6) sports activities for women and children.	N/A	N/A

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Member State	Type of accompanying measure	Target groups	Brief description of measures undertaken	Effects, benefits, added value of accompanying measures	Obstacles/challenges encountered
ES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Labour market integration services and training 	End recipients of the programme	Activities included: 1) providing information on social services through brochures distributed to families receiving food assistance; 2) contacting organisations that provided social assistance and establishing referral channels with individual end recipients; 3) direct provision of services, activities and programmes aimed to assist in integration of the end recipients into the society and the labour market.	<p>1 100 000 brochures with information on social services distributed and published online.</p> <p>The accompanying measures were considered useful by most of the respondents (no further details provided).</p>	N/A
FI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Social and leisure activities 	End recipients of the programme (including people living in remote areas)	Activities included: 1) informing about services/projects of the public/third sectors supporting social inclusion; 2) guiding and referring end recipients to social, housing and/or employment services and/or assisting them in the use of these services; 3) providing nutritional counselling; 3) organisation of meal gatherings, provision of newspapers and computer network, clothing and childcare during dinner time.	Partner organisations stated that food assistance facilitated social interaction among end recipients. It helped end recipients finding peer support and sharing daily life experiences with others. Moreover, in many distribution locations, end recipients themselves helped others who were in need too.	N/A
FR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Social counselling / psycho-social support - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Social and leisure activities - Labour market integration services and trainings 	End recipients of the programme	Activities included: 1) reception/listening to people's needs; 2) cooking workshops; 3) nutrition counselling; 4) information about social benefits, access to healthcare, and social rights; 5) French classes; 6) school support; 7) integration through employment; 8) access to culture and leisure activities and holidays.	Partner organisations stated that handing out food created opportunities to meet end recipients and ask them whether they needed more personalised help. It also allowed social workers to understand people's needs better and address them more effectively.	N/A

Member State	Type of accompanying measure	Target groups	Brief description of measures undertaken	Effects, benefits, added value of accompanying measures	Obstacles/challenges encountered
HR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Social counselling / psycho-social support - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Financial counselling / budget management support - Personal hygiene support/counselling 	End recipients of the programme	Activities included: 1) nutritional counselling/activities; 2) cooking workshops; 3) advice on food storage and food waste; 4) personal hygiene counselling; 5) redirection to existing social services; 6) individual counselling and workshops; 7) psychological and psychotherapeutic support; 8) support on budget management; 9) provision of information and advice through brochures.	For the managing authority, accompanying support the realisation of the goals of the National Strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion.	N/A
HU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social counselling / psycho-social support 	End recipients of the programme	Activities included: 1) facilitating treatment for people with mental disorders/addiction problems; 2) services for homeless people for improving their quality of life; 3) individual psychiatric/psychotherapeutic sessions.	The reception of accompanying measures by target groups was positive overall. In 2017, two psychiatrists, one psychologist and one expert in addictions provided accompanying measures for target groups in five locations of Budapest. In 2018, the managing authority expects to increase this to 23 professionals and reach 9 500 persons with psychiatric treatments and 230 others with group or individual therapy.	N/A
IE	No accompanying measures reported in 2017				
IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Guidance and accompaniment to social/health services - Shelter/accommodation services 	End recipients of the programme	Activities included: 1) shelter services; 2) information, guidance and accompaniment to social services.	Results of the survey of end recipients conducted in 2017 showed that food distribution and accompanying measures were essential for marginalised people and their families. The assistance received not only addressed their more basic needs and provided relief, but it also provided them with opportunities for enhanced social inclusion.	N/A
LT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social and leisure activities - Advice / information on food preparation, hygiene, health, personal finance management etc. 	End recipients of the programme (including Roma community), but focusing on single parents and families with multiple children	Activities included: 1) distribution of clothes and various goods; 2) summer camps, day camps, sport camps, visiting museums, educational activities; and 3) distribution of leaflets on how to prepare food, seminars about hygiene, health, personal finance management etc.	According to the survey of end recipients implemented in 2017, additional measures are needed to provide end recipients with better access to employment, income growth and public services. But these do not need to be financed necessarily through FEAD. They could be funded by other sources (e.g. to organise ESF funded projects for FEAD end recipients).	N/A

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Member State	Type of accompanying measure	Target groups	Brief description of measures undertaken	Effects, benefits, added value of accompanying measures	Obstacles/challenges encountered
LU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Household skills workshops - Shelter/accommodation services - Social and leisure activities 	End recipients of the programme	Activities included: 1) advice and information on available social and financial services/benefits; 2) socio-educational counselling; 3) socio-cultural activities; 4) basic material help and emergency accommodation; 5) assistance in registering in social security system; 6) referral to specialised services; 7) encouraging applicants to take measures to improve their individual situation; 8) workshops/meetings; 9) cooking classes; 10) creative workshops; 11) Carnival/Christmas celebrations; 12) workshops for children; 13) renewable energy workshops; 14) picnics.	98 events/meetings were organised in 2017 (e.g. coffee for parents, cooking classes, creative workshops for children, Carnival/Christmas festivals, etc.). The events/meetings were attended by at least 805 end recipients.	N/A
LV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Life-skills trainings - Social counselling / psycho-social support - Social and leisure activities - Financial counselling / budget management support 	End recipients of the programme (including Roma community)	Activities included: 1) informative activities on opportunities for receiving support related to daily-life problems, crisis situations, employment, education, public health, sports, leisure, ESF and other projects; 2) individual and group meetings; 3) professional consultations; 4) support or self-help groups for addressing social problems; 5) educational activities to acquire practical skills, including cooking, laundry, cleaning, budgeting of household expenses, childrearing and job seeking.	1 217 activities were implemented in 2017, with 7 960 end recipients who attended them. Activities most attended were on health (23%), cooking skills (22%) and domestic skills (18%). The support and self-help groups, the individual consultations and the reading sessions were less popular among end recipients.	Participants of accompanying measures decreased by 5 %, compared to 2016. This was due to a general decrease in the number of most deprived people in the country (-9.5 %), as well as administrative changes in the largest partner organisation involved in the programme (which covered 68 % of the distribution area).

Member State	Type of accompanying measure	Target groups	Brief description of measures undertaken	Effects, benefits, added value of accompanying measures	Obstacles/challenges encountered
MT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Financial counselling / budget management support - Collaboration with various local initiatives 	End recipients of the programme	<p>Activities included: 1) information sessions on key priority areas, including nutrition/healthy eating, cooking on a budget and household budgeting; 2) booklets on these key priorities handed to end recipients during food distribution; 3) outreach/house visits and advice for those giving consent to house visits: end recipients were contacted by mentors and provided with advice on training courses and employment opportunities; 4) delivering second-hand household equipment to vulnerable families; 5) distributing clothes, uniforms and childcare goods; 6) collaborating with other organisations on local initiatives regarding literacy, energy saving, victim support, home economics and community sessions</p>	<p>The outreach process was further consolidated during food distributions in 2017. In cooperation with other public bodies and NGOs, the programme organised additional activities such as a scheme to help low-income individuals to access housing (in cooperation with the Housing Authority). Moreover, with the National Literacy Agency, the programme organised "read with me sessions" for children under 3 years. In cooperation with the Water and Energy agency, 1-on-1 sessions on energy saving were organised, which proved to be particularly successful among end recipients. Attendees' feedback on the different events was always positive and encouraging.</p> <p>1 000 booklets were distributed at food distribution centres. Feedback was very positive. Some end recipients recommended suggestions on how to improve the booklets.</p> <p>During 2017, more than 30 families were assisted with household equipment/furniture. Moreover, over 250 households which were recipients of FEAD assistance had one of their appliances exchanged for free with a brand-new appliance, covered with 5 years warranty. It was envisaged that this scheme would be replicated in 2018.</p>	N/A
PL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Financial counselling / budget management support - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Activities preventing food waste - Household skills workshops 	End recipients of the programme	<p>Activities included: 1) workshops on household skills e.g. cooking classes, dietary seminars, food saving and healthy eating, budget management; 2) distribution of brochures, photo exhibition, sharing seminars, TV/press campaigns.</p>	<p>9 373 accompanying measures were organised, which were attended by 170 132 participants. These were mainly women (73 %), followed by people with disabilities (16 %) homeless people (4 %) and migrants and people with a foreign background (0.5 %).</p>	N/A

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Member State	Type of accompanying measure	Target groups	Brief description of measures undertaken	Effects, benefits, added value of accompanying measures	Obstacles/challenges encountered
PT	<p>Accompanying measures still in preparation. Those foreseen are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Prevention of food waste - Family budget management 	End recipients of the programme	No measures undertaken in 2017, merely preparations. Preparations for activities took place through: 1) roadshow on promoting the OP among potential partner organisations and 2) explanation sessions on the information system that would be used to manage the programme.	16 explanation sessions with more than 2 600 participants. The 134 approved partner organisations said that they were interested and willing to develop accompanying measures on e.g. healthy diet, prevention of food-waste and family budget management.	N/A
RO	<p>Accompanying measures still in preparation. Those foreseen are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Labour market integration services - Legal advice 	End recipients of the programme	No measures undertaken in 2017, merely preparations. The following activities are planned for 2018: 1) education on body hygiene and housing; 2) facilitation of access to medical and social services; 3) orientation towards social services; 4) orientation towards professional insertion, job search support; 5) culinary recommendations and nutritional balance advice; 6) facilitation of access to legal counselling.	N/A	N/A
SI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social counselling / psycho-social support - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Social and leisure activities - Household skills workshops - Financial counselling and budget Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Legal advice 	End recipients of the programme (including Roma community)	Activities included: 1) engaging and providing information to end recipients; 2) psycho-social counselling; 3) individual counselling (including support to addicts); 4) education and empowerment courses (children's learning workshops & holiday programmes, parent group discussions); 5) free medical assistance for homeless people; 6) strengthening social skills, knowledge and job-skills; 7) various courses and workshops on stitching, cooking, computing, healthy lifestyle and diet, languages, financial literacy, manual skills, basic first aid, coping with stress or conflicts; 8) leisure workshops for children/youth socially marginalised and psycho-social support in case of natural and other emergencies; 9) free legal advice for vulnerable individuals.	99 812 persons participated in accompanying measures in 2017. This represented 60 % of the people who received food assistance that year.	N/A

Member State	Type of accompanying measure	Target groups	Brief description of measures undertaken	Effects, benefits, added value of accompanying measures	Obstacles/challenges encountered
SK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and/or information on social/medical services - Social counselling / psycho-social support - Financial counselling and budget management support - Nutrition counselling / healthy diet advice - Personal hygiene support/counselling 	End recipients of the programme (including Roma community)	Activities included: 1) social counselling (individual and group) and counselling regarding family relations (prevention of crises emerging out of poverty-induced stress); 2) provision of local organisations' contact details and information/advice through leaflets on healthy nutrition, food storage, family budget, recipes, hygiene routines.	According to the survey of end recipients that was carried out in 2017, 89 % thought that accompanying measures were useful. For certain groups of end recipients, it particularly important that FEAD aid was provided in their homes. This was the case of those that could not attend distribution points or services due to their health, age, disability or lack of money. Moreover, people with a low level of trust in formal institutions were reached and aided this way too. In addition, partner organisations mentioned that through accompanying measures they could gain further insights into end recipients' particular situations. They also reported that end recipients were increasingly interested in accompanying measures.	N/A

ANNEX 4: OVERVIEW OF HORIZONTAL PRINCIPLES

Acronyms: PO=partner organisations

Member State	Coordination with ESF and EU policies	Gender equality and non-discrimination	Climatic, environmental aspects and food waste	Contribution to a balanced diet
AT	No risks of double funding of activities through FEAD and ESF have been identified.	The POs ensured that assistance was accessible irrespective of gender. Access to the programme was defined according to end recipients' entitlement to national social benefits.	The school bags distributed by the managing authority contained sustainable, long-lasting materials and articles.	N/A
BE	No risks of double funding of activities through FEAD and ESF have been identified.	Eligibility criteria for aid were based on the national poverty line. The managing authority also regularly reminded POs that they had to prevent discrimination and ensure equality between men and women.	Waste sorting classes were organised with the end recipients. Moreover, one PO stored its boxes and papers and invited end recipients to deposit their cardboard and paper-waste at the organisation.	POs provided advice on preparation, storage and recycling of food. They also organised cooking workshops and information sessions to promote healthy eating.
BG	Through accompanying measures, end recipients were provided with information on the services provided by the ESF.	The principle of gender equality was implemented at all levels of the programme by the managing authority.	Representatives of the managing authority were assigned to supervise the deliveries, storage and acceptance of goods in 10 regional warehouses of the PO (Bulgarian Red Cross), which were selected according to risk assessments results. In addition, licensed laboratories (accredited in compliance with the European and National legislation) confirmed complete compliance of the delivered food products with the procedural requirements. Lastly, excess food products were distributed to additional target groups.	The managing authority consulted the chosen food products with the Ministry of Health.
CY	The PO designated an intermediary body for ESF and FEAD to exclude double funding and ensure coordination and complementarity between the two programmes.	N/A	The "Free Breakfast" programme was very effective avoiding food waste as individual end recipients and their total number was known.	N/A

Member State	Coordination with ESF and EU policies	Gender equality and non-discrimination	Climatic, environmental aspects and food waste	Contribution to a balanced diet
CZ	Members of the managing authority of the ESF-funded programme "Employment" (OP FME) and representatives of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) participated in the working group of the programme on Food and Material Assistance (OP FMA-FEAD). Moreover, many POs working on FEAD are working on ESF funded projects as well, while the MEYS funded similar programmes to FEAD. In these cases, all the measures were mutually complementary. For instance, the programme funded by MEYS targeted persons who did not belong to the target group of the OP FMA.	The selection of assistance items, as well as the distribution process and the types of accompanying measures offered reflected the needs of particular target groups.	Certain items of material assistance were made of recycled material, such as toilet paper and tissues.	OP I school meals' ingredients, diet composition and monitoring of distributed portions were regulated and monitored by the National Audit Authority – the Czech School Inspectorate. OP II meals focused on balanced diet, quality of food and preservation time. In addition, consultations with POs that had hands-on knowledge of needs and eating habits of the end recipients took place.
DE	A nationwide networking meeting where the possibilities and limits of FEAD were pointed out was used to remind projects of the demarcation between FEAD and ESF. Participants were provided with useful tools, e.g. websites on local/regional ESF projects and ways in which they could inform FEAD end recipients about ESF projects and, if necessary, establish contact.	The objective of gender equality was a focal point of the FEAD evaluation in Germany. Seven anti-discrimination workshops were organised to sensitise the staff of executing agencies, institutions and administrations to existing prejudices and the resulting discrimination.	N/A	N/A
DK	ESF/FEAD double financing and/or overlap was avoided through manual control.	The incorporation of gender equality in the grant application of project applicants was a requirement for receiving financial support.	N/A	N/A
EE	The Ministry of Social Affairs cooperated with other governmental institutions (e.g. Statistics Estonia) to confirm that the right benefits were distributed to the right end recipients. Moreover, through accompanying measures, end recipients were provided with information on the services provided by the ESF.	Making the OP part of the Welfare Development Plan -which included aims for gender equality and fair treatment- enabled the promotion of gender equality within the programme.	The food items included in food packages had a long shelf-life and did not need to be refrigerated.	The contents of food packages were decided with the National Institute for Health Development and partner organisations. The food packages were diverse, containing canned meats/fish, dried fruits and grains with high nutritional value.

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Member State	Coordination with ESF and EU policies	Gender equality and non-discrimination	Climatic, environmental aspects and food waste	Contribution to a balanced diet
ES	<p>One of the POs, the Spanish Red Cross, is also a direct ESF beneficiary. Hence, it provided comprehensive and integrated assistance to the target group and used multiple ways to intervene. FEAD and ESF initiatives were therefore functioning in a synergic way. Moreover, through accompanying measures, end recipients were provided with information on the services provided by the ESF. As a result, ESF funded services may be offered to those FEAD recipients who get to these offices as a result of taking part in accompanying measures.</p>	<p>Accompanying measures were designed especially for single-parent families. Access to child care services and care for people in a situation of dependency (seniors / people with disabilities) was offered.</p>	<p>The food donated was easy to handle, not fragile and in packages with low risk of rupture. It had a long shelf life and did not require refrigeration or controlled temperature.</p>	<p>Suggestions of nutrition experts were considered when selecting food, based on criteria of nutritional values, quality, variety, easy manipulation and shelf life.</p>
EL	<p>Relevant coordinating bodies pursued a series of actions to monitor activities of ESF with potential synergies with FEAD.</p>	<p>A Ministerial decision on FEAD contained provisions ensuring equality and non-discrimination in terms of gender, ethnic origin, religion, beliefs, disability, age and gender orientation.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
FI	<p>There were ESF co-funded projects which acted in part as socially inclusive accompanying measures of the POs participating in them; those projects were not funded by FEAD.</p>	<p>Distribution of food assistance was dependant on respect of gender equality and non-discrimination principles.</p>	<p>During the preparation phase of the programme, managing authority issued a memo on how to take account of environmental impacts in the preparation of the Socio-Economic Assistance Programme 2014-2020. In addition, POs had to comply with the Food Safety Authority's Guidance on Food supplies to be supplied for food assistance -guide, which aimed to guide activities to reduce the amount of food loss.</p>	<p>For product selection, diversity and food safety were considered. Moreover, product transportability, PO's storage capacity and product durability were taken into account too.</p>
FR	<p>ESF and FEAD responsible institutions shared their experiences and informally exchanged information.</p>	<p>Criteria to receive aid were set objectively and in a way that did not allow for discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation.</p>	<p>The carbon footprint of food providers was considered when choosing companies for shipping products.</p>	<p>Dietary workshops were provided for the end recipients.</p>

Member State	Coordination with ESF and EU policies	Gender equality and non-discrimination	Climatic, environmental aspects and food waste	Contribution to a balanced diet
HR	One of the eligibility criteria for funding was that the proposed measures did not overlap with the activities already co-financed by the ESF. Also, a Monitoring Information System (MIS) audit was carried out to determine whether the applicants and POs contracted under FEAD were already ESF beneficiaries.	Project eligibility for funding was dependant on a clear description of the activities that seek to prevent any kind of discrimination and respect for the dignity of the most vulnerable people. In addition, when implementing projects, some POs also implemented measures to promote awareness of the principles of equality and the prevention of discrimination as part of the accompanying measures.	Project eligibility for funding was based on including measures related to environmental protection, rules on food waste, consumer safety and public health protection.	A quality assessment ensured control over the extent to which the chosen method and type of diet corresponded to the proposed users and their needs.
HU	The operations carried out under the FEAD were linked to the EFOP programme's social inclusion measures. The separation of subsidies granted by RSZTOP and EFOP was ensured, due to the complementary nature of the connection.	Special needs of persons with disabilities were considered during the process of food distribution. Food distributions took place in accessible locations. Also, the family and child welfare services involved in the division were registered in a service register.	Distribution was organised to reduce emissions during transport and food to be heated / hot food was delivered by means of selectively collected plastic trays.	Food packages consisted of healthy nutrition with a rich composition of minerals and vitamins with a 3-month quality preservation.
IE	N/A	N/A	The distribution system ensured recipients did not receive unwanted products and that food waste was not encountered.	N/A
IT	There was coordination with the National Operational Programme for Schools, actions financed by the Ministry of Education, University and Research, and the National Operational Programme for Inclusion (which contributed 25 000 000 EUR, while FEAD contributed the other half).	Gender parity was taken into account for the selection of end recipients to avoid discrimination, in accordance with Regulation 223/2014.	Products for distribution were selected based on quality controls and taking their shelf life into consideration. Moreover, the adequacy of storage warehouses was considered when selecting Lead POs, in compliance with the relevant legislation.	The selection of products took into account the need for an adequate supply of proteins and carbohydrates typical of a Mediterranean diet, in compliance with the relevant legislation.
LT	The OP was placed under the same managing authority as the intermediate institution of the ESF-funded programmes. Therefore, coordination was ensured via the employees of the institution.	Food assistance was provided in line with the income per person criteria, regardless of gender.	To reduce food waste and protect the environment only long expiration products were bought. In case food was not picked up, family members could do so and otherwise other families in need could receive it. In rare cases where this did not happen, POs gave food to other charity organisations.	Diet specialists were consulted by POs on food quality of products. Moreover, more canned meat/fish and canned vegetables were provided this year.

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Member State	Coordination with ESF and EU policies	Gender equality and non-discrimination	Climatic, environmental aspects and food waste	Contribution to a balanced diet
LU	A member of the FEAD managing authority of the Ministry of Family was also part of the committee supervising ESF. A Ministry of Labour, Employment and Solidarity delegate attended the FEAD collaboration platform. Double-financing was prevented by selecting different NGOs for the management of ESF and FEAD.	An analysis conducted by public social help officers determined that 52% of end recipients were women and that a candidate's sex did not influence their chances of obtaining help.	A quality label "SuperDrecksKëscht fir Betriber" was issued, rewarding responsible action and commitment to the environment by suppliers. All contracted companies also met ISO 14024 waste management requirements. Products were transported by the shortest route and at rational loads to prevent food waste. The use of reusable bags was promoted by handing them out free of charge.	Culinary workshops were organised as part of the accompanying measures.
LV	Payment inspections and on-the-spot checks were used to prevent double financing. Institutions involved in management/implementation of FEAD ensured separate accounting of activities to indicate FEAD support.	Guidelines were developed to promote gender equality. Non-discrimination was also ensured with certificates attesting good practice of non-discrimination. In addition, accessibility of distribution points for the disabled, elderly and parents with small children was promoted. Accompanying measures included discussions on discrimination awareness.	Food waste was reduced by POs through using hygiene compliant warehouse locations; enhanced delivery schedule of food packages; frequent communication to better estimate delivery needs; activities on decreasing waste; redistribution of food packages among POs. Institutions involved recycled paper and avoided waste.	Food selection was based on nutritional value. Moreover, additional activities on health promotion also provided information on healthy diet and lifestyle.
MT	Complementarity is observed between FEAD and ESF funded projects (e.g. LEAP), as well as AMIF (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund), and other national initiatives (such as SFFD). In these cases, there is clear demarcation regarding the activities funded by each of the programmes.	A structured survey by the National Statistics Office took into consideration respondents by sex, category, age-group and locality of distribution point. Moreover, POs continuously ensured the provision of tailor-made accompanying measures to meet various needs, from parenthood to helping people with disability.	POs ensured that uncollected packages were kept for next distributions. Moreover, selection focused on food items having a longer shelf life whilst maintaining a healthy balance.	Distributed food items had all the nutritional qualities needed for a balanced lifestyle. POs also continuously consulted end recipients with regards to the choice of food items in their package.
NL	N/A	Gender-equality and non-discrimination principles were taken into consideration when implementing the programme: 75% of end recipients were women. Moreover, people with a migrant background made up 30% of all end recipients.	N/A	N/A

Member State	Coordination with ESF and EU policies	Gender equality and non-discrimination	Climatic, environmental aspects and food waste	Contribution to a balanced diet
PL	Through accompanying measures, end recipients were provided with information on the services provided by the ESF.	Care was taken to deliver packages to both genders and for women not to carry heavy packages.	Products of long expiry dates were chosen. Paper packages were chosen to protect the environment. POs also monitored food storage conditions in warehouses. Moreover, workshops taught participants about recycling and effective use of gas, electricity and water at home.	Workshops on nutrition were organised to promote a balanced diet of end recipients.
PT	N/A	N/A	The selection of food was carried out to prevent waste and optimise household budget management.	The food basket was developed considering the nutritional needs of the final recipients, together with the General Directorate of Health (DGS). Also, in cooperation with the DGS, a cookbook was developed and published with products that were distributed together with food of easy and inexpensive acquisition to demystify difficulties in preparing food.
RO	The programme was placed under the responsibility of the same Management Authority as the ESF and other related EU policies, strategies and instruments.	At project team level, the principle of equal opportunities was implemented through the constitution of a team of men and women equally. At the final end recipient level, food distribution also functioned in accordance with the equal opportunities' principle.	Several measures were taken to reduce the environmental impact of measures financed under FEAD such as collection of pallets, reducing paper waste and "promoting the principle of sustainable development in all the ancillary activities carried out".	N/A
SE	FEAD was placed under the same managing authority as the Swedish ESF.	Five programmes, all subject to gender-mainstreaming, aimed and reached 60% women and 40% men. Two projects focused on the importance of women's' health.	N/A	N/A
SI	Assistance under the FEAD was complemented by measures co-financed by the ESF.	The only criterion in the disbursement of food was the socio-economic status of the individual.	Based on an agreement with major grocers in Slovenia, POs collected and disbursed food surpluses to deprived individuals.	The Slovenian Ministry procured products that are part of basic nutrition. POs also added preserved and fresh fruit and vegetables, canned fish, legumes and meat, which ensured a balanced package of food products.

Member State	Coordination with ESF and EU policies	Gender equality and non-discrimination	Climatic, environmental aspects and food waste	Contribution to a balanced diet
SK	In 2017, there was no similar programme to the FEAD implemented at national level. There was also no project providing food and material assistance funded or partly funded from the EU.	Gender equality and non-discrimination were considered during employee selection and as a legal obligation for POs. Moreover, food and material assistance packages were adjusted to end recipients' different needs and situation (resulting from gender, age, family situation, health). The packages' weight was limited for those with limited physical strength.	Food waste was prevented by selecting food items that are common and in line with alimentary Slovak culture and easy to cook. In addition, only long shelf life items that are easy to store were selected.	Products of food packages were consulted with experts from NGOs and charities and assessed by the Public Health Authority on nutritional benefits.

ANNEX 5: COUNTRY FICHES

In a separate document, we present individual country fiches with information on key implementation variables for the Member States that delivered FEAD assistance in 2017, including:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
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