

Bulgarian experience with audits in the field of Family policy

The Authorities in Bulgaria conducting the policy in the field of family support

The State policy in the sphere of family support is implemented by:

- The Agency for Social Assistance with the Minister of Labor and Social Policy is responsible for granting social assistance benefits and providing social services.
 - The National Employment Agency with the Minister of Labor and Social Policy conducts the state policy on employment promotion.
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The policy in the field of family support is implemented through:

- Social Assistance Benefits
 - Social Programmes
 - Employment Programmes
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Social Assistance Benefits

Social assistance benefits are monthly, target and lump-sum. /in cash and/or in kind /

- Monthly social assistance benefits of persons or families whose income for the previous month is lower than the guaranteed minimum.
 - Lump-sum social assistance benefits are provided to persons and families to meet their incidental needs for health care, education, conditions of living and the basic necessities of life.
 - Target social assistance benefits: for municipal dwelling rent; for traveling of mothers of large families by bus; for free of charge bus traveling of persons with permanent disabilities; as well as for diagnostics and medical treatment.
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Social Programmes

- Programme “Target benefits for heating”
 - Family Allowances for children Programme
 - Social integration of persons with disabilities Programme
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Employment Programmes

- National Programme From Social Assistance Benefits to Employment
 - National Programme Assistants to persons with disabilities
 - National Programme Assistance for Retirement
 - National Programme Support for the Maternity
 - National Programme for Employment and Vocational training of persons with permanent disabilities
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State Budget Funds for Family Support

In 2007 the expenditure for Family support appropriated under different social programmes amounted to BGN 623 215 824 or € 318 645 191 that is 4,33% of the State Budget of Bulgaria and 1,14 % of the GDP for 2007.

Audits in the field of family support

- Performance audit of the activity under the Programme Employment of young people with higher education in the Public Administration 2002-2005 (Start of Career Development) in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Employment Agency for the period 01.01.2002 – 31.12.2005.
 - Audit of National Programme From Social Assistance Benefits to Employment in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy for the period 01.01.2004 г. - 31.12.2006.
 - Audit of National Programme For Employment and Vocational training of persons with permanent disabilities in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Employment Agency for the period 01.01.2006 г. - 31.12.2006.
 - Audit of National Programme Assistants to the persons with disabilities in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Agency for Social Assistance and the Employment Agency for the period 01.01.2005 г. - 31.12.2007 г.
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Performance audit of the activity under the Programme Employment of young people with higher education in the Public Administration 2002-2005 (Start of Career Development) in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and the Employment Agency for the period 01.01.2002 – 31.12.2005

- **Audit Objective:** To provide the Legislature and the Executive and the auditees's management with an independent and impartial evaluation of the programme effectiveness
 - **Main findings:** slight interest by the candidates to the vacancies announced for the municipal administrations; lack of candidates for some specific positions; lack of sufficient number of candidates who meet the minimum conditions for inclusion in the programme. All the working documents under the programme have not been preliminary agreed with the employers. The approved budget funds for the programme during the audited period set up prerequisites for the effective implementation.
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Audit of the activity under the National Programme From Social Assistance Benefits to Employment in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy for the period 01.01.2004 r. - 31.12.2006.

- **Audit Objectives:** To make an assessment of the extent to which the goals have been achieved; identifying the weaknesses and support the auditee's management by making recommendations for improvement of the activity under the National Programme From Social Assistance Benefits to Employment.
- **Main findings:** The Employment Agency does not keep a record of the number of the newly established or repaired infrastructure objects to prove the results from improving the environment of the settlements.

National Programme From Social Assistance Benefits to Employment is effective for the target groups of unemployed on an unequal footing on the labour market – illiterate, unqualified, continuously unemployed, who receive social assistance

As there are no measurement indicators of the direct objectives of the National Programme From Social Assistance Benefits to Employment the effectiveness of the Programme implementation can not be determined.

Audit of the activity under the National Programme For Employment and Vocational training of persons with permanent disabilities in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Employment Agency for the period 01.01.2006 г. - 31.12.2006.

- **Audit Objectives:** To provide the Legislature and the Executive and the auditees's management and other stakeholders with an independent and impartial evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Programme in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and the Employment Agency for the period 01.01.2006 г. - 31.12.2006. To make an assessment of the effectiveness of the work among the institutions responsible for the realization of the Programme, the district and municipal administrations and the municipal enterprises in the Programmes implementation and to make recommendations for the improvement of the activity management .
 - **Main findings:** The control and monitoring system established under the Programme decreases the possibility for making errors and irregularities and is a prerequisite for improving the effectiveness on the Programme implementation.
No rules and procedures have been developed and approved concerning the coordination of the work among the institutions responsible for the Programme implementation.
The actions on establishing conditions for involving the organization of the persons with disabilities and the persons with disabilities themselves in the realization of the Programme are not sufficient.
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Audit of the activity under the National Programme for Assistants to the persons with disabilities in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Agency for Social Assistance and the Employment Agency for the period 01.01.2005 г. - 31.12.2007 г.

The Audit is being performed presently.

- **Audit objectives:** To provide the Legislature and the Executive and the auditees's management and other stakeholders with an independent and impartial evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the National Programme for Assistants to the persons with disabilities in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Agency for Social Assistance and the Employment Agency, as well as at the regional offices and branches of the auditees for the period 01.01.2005 г. - 31.12.2007.
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Thank you for your attention!
