FEAD & the right to adequate food

FACTS AND FIGURES

Johanna Greiss & Bérénice Storms
Herman Deleeck Center for Social Policy, University of Antwerp
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Principle 14: Everyone lacking sufficient resources has the right to adequate minimum income benefits ensuring a life in dignity at all stages of life, and effective access to enabling goods and services. For those who can work, minimum income benefits should be combined with incentives to (re)integrate into the labour market.
The right to **adequate** minimum benefits

**Principle 14:** The EP highlights the importance of adequate minimum income schemes for maintaining human dignity ..., The EP invites the Commission and Member States to **assess** minimum income schemes in the European Union, including whether the schemes enable households to meet their needs; ...

EP A8-0391/2016

**Social Scoreboard indicators:**
- SMD, LWI
- No income based benchmark
- AROP
- Threshold not related to needs
- Threshold don’t give information on the living standard of people below
- Outcome indicator, not responsive to policy measures

**Principle 6:** Adequate minimum wages shall be ensured, in a way that **provide for the satisfaction of the needs of the worker and his / her family** in the light of national economic and social conditions, whilst safeguarding access to employment and incentives to seek work. In-work poverty shall be prevented.
Reference budgets

Minimum resources illustrating what people need to adequately participate in society

➢ To participate adequately = being able to adequately play the various social roles one should be able to play as a member of a particular society

➢ Minimum resources = minimum out of pocket costs illustrating adequate baskets of goods and services (e.g. adequate food, clothing, housing, leisure, mobility, …)
Core elements of the right to adequate food (CESCR, General Comment 12)

• The **availability** of food in a quantity and quality sufficient to *satisfy the dietary needs* of individuals, free from adverse substances, and **acceptable** within a given culture;

• The **accessibility** of such food encompasses both economic and physical accessibility:
  • **Economic accessibility** implies that the financial costs associated with the acquisition of food for an adequate diet should be at a level such that the attainment and satisfaction of other basic needs are not threatened or compromised
  
  • **Physical accessibility** implies that adequate food must be accessible to everyone, including physically vulnerable individuals, such as young children, elderly people, the physically disabled, the terminally ill and persons with persistent medical problems, including the mentally ill.
Cross-national comparable reference budgets, the development of comparable food baskets for healthy people, living in Eu capital cities, 2015

Drawing up healthy food baskets, based on the food-based dietary guidelines.

Drawing up total food baskets fulfilling essential physical and social needs.

3 Focus Group discussions

Pricing Food Baskets

Country report

Based on: Storms, Penne, Carrillo, Boeckx, Stockman, Pintó & Goedemé, in : Goedemé et al., 2015
% singles who cannot afford a healthy meal with meat, chicken, fish (or vegetarian equivalent) every second day in relation to the monthly minimum cost of a healthy food basket (for singles, living in EU-capital cities) and the median incomes of single

Based on: Goedemé et al. (2015), ilc_mdes03 & ilc_di04
Total food baskets for a single woman as a % of their net social assistance income

Source: Greiss, Cantillon, Marchal & Penne, 2019
Policy practices on adequate food: the impact of food packages on food adequacy for households with social assistance in Belgium, 2018

Based on: Hermans, 2019