



WG2 Case study profile

To be submitted by 15 January 2013

WG2 Thematic Group	WG2.2. Children & childcare
Name(s) of proposer	Sergi Sánchez
Institution	University of Barcelona
Title of case study (and priority ranking)	<i>Social, economic and cultural conditions of vulnerable families accessing formal early childhood education and care services. A case study of the city of Tarragona.</i>
Country/region/place investigated	SPAIN (Catalunya- City of Tarragona)
Social service sector(s) investigated (Erase non relevant ones) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children/Childcare • Services in social assistance 	<i>I will interview low-income families with very young children that are new users of different types of ECEC services. I focus on what socioeconomic conditions are needed for the ECEC services to succeed in reducing child poverty and social exclusion.</i>
Category of case study ('what' is investigated) (Erase non relevant ones) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsector/policy/programme (meso-level) • Project/initiative/experience (micro-level) • Actor(s) 	<i>Impact of the financial cuts on the availability of ECEC services for low-income and vulnerable families.</i> <i>The low-income families' economic, social and cultural capital that favours their access to current ECEC services.</i> <i>The initial impact of the ECEC services on lifting families out of poverty and social exclusion</i>
Time frame considered (from when to when)	Short description: 2013-2014
Five 'perspectives' (Erase non relevant ones) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social and/or territorial cohesion • Gender • Cost efficiency/quality/user satisfaction 	<i>This research aims at identifying the heterogeneous circumstances and experiences within the low-income population using ECEC. Exploring the different needs of these families will show under what conditions ECEC services can actually help to reduce child poverty.</i> <i>Indirectly, this study could shed light on the impact that the obstacles to access to ECEC services might have on gender inequalities within the different fractions of the low-income families.</i> <i>These research will explore diverging definitions of "quality" in ECEC services that may emerge from the discourses of the different actors involved.</i>
Three processes in restructuring + crisis (Erase non relevant ones) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cuts/rationalization/management reforms (NPM, others) • Vertical subsidiarity (administrative re-arrangements between government levels) 	<i>The case study is carried out in a context where cuts in ECEC and other social policies have been recently carried out. These cuts may undermine the inclusive dimension of ECEC services.</i> <i>The study will explore how cuts carried out by regional authorities are implemented in the local context shaping the inclusive dimension of ECEC services.</i>
Specific questions/focus	
Local Stakeholder Network (LSN)	Do you intend to set up a LSN: YES