3rd International Safe in Town Webinar:

# INTEGRATED CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND THE ROLE OF MONITORING AND SELF-REFLECTION

***Wednesday, 2nd December,* 2026 | *15:00 – 16:30* CET**

While the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child establishes a legal obligation to protect children from all forms of violence, **many contexts still face challenges in implementing comprehensive, coordinated and effective child protection systems.** Municipalities - the level of government closest to children's daily lives - play a pivotal role in turning these rights into tangible protections and safe environments for children.

The Safe in Town project, funded by the European Union and led by Defence for Children Italy in partnership with Defence for Children Greece, Hope for Children, and CESIS, advances the realisation of integrated child protection systems at municipal level. **Implemented in Genoa (Italy), Chania (Greece), Strovolos (Cyprus), and Matosinhos (Portugal), the project pilots coordinated, multi-sectoral child safeguarding and wellbeing policies at the municipal level, aiming to strengthen the role of cities in building proactive, preventive, and rights-based protection systems, reduce the risk of violence, and create safe, inclusive, and child-friendly environments for all children.**

The 3rd International Safe in Town Webinar will focus on "Integrated Child Protection Systems and the Role of Monitoring and Self-Reflection." It will explore how monitoring and self-reflection tools can help municipalities and other relevant actors assess and strengthen child protection policies and integrated child protection systems.

International experts, and municipal actors will come together to reflect, share experiences and jointly explore approaches that can inspire broader action across Europe, reinforcing cities as key drivers of child protection.

## Webinar objectives:

- **Present the know-do-be capacity framework** and its relevance for municipalities.
- **Explore what key components** are necessary to implement this self-reflection tool and to monitor the processes to strengthen integrated child protection systems.
- **Discuss practical approaches** for embedding this capacity framework.
- **Share experiences and lessons** from the Safe in Town project pilots in Italy, Greece, Cyprus, and Portugal, exploring the changes emerging at local level and how these can be monitored and sustained over time.

**Preliminary Agenda:**

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| *15:00-15:10* | **Welcoming remarks and objectives of the webinar**<br>Pippo Costella, Director, Defence for Children International Italia |
| *15:10-15:20* | **Present the Safe in Town Self-Reflection Tool**<br>*Applying the Know–Do–Be capacity framework to support self-reflection in integrated child protection systems.*<br>Defence for Children International Italia |
| *15:20-16:20* | **Practices, obstacles and solutions in implementing City Child Safeguarding and Wellbeing Policies**<br>*Experiences from Genoa, Chania, Strovolos and Matosinhos.*<br>Defence for Children International Italia / Defence for Children Greece / Hope For Children / CESIS |
| **15:20-15:35** | **Caterina, Defence for Children Italia and Simona Cosso, Municipality I Centro Est, Comune di Genova** |
| **15:35-15:50** | **Ana Cardoso, CESIS and Nuno Matos, Matosinhos Councillor responsible for Youth, Sports, Civic Participation and Education** |
| **15:50-16:05** | **Demitra Poutziouri, Child Protection Officer, "Hope for Children" CRC Policy Centre and Municipality of Strovolos** |
| **16:05-16:20** | **Defence for Children Greece, Ms Zervoudaki, the Deputy Mayor, and Eleni Katsigaraki, Municipality of Chania** |
| *16:15-16:30* | **Open discussion and closing reflections**<br>Moderated by Pippo Costella |

This webinar offers a platform for **policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders** to reflect on instruments of monitoring and self-reflection and to share insights on how local action can strengthen protection systems and ensure the realization of children's rights in practice.