Theory of Change
Eurochild: Putting children at the heart of Europe

A society where children and young people grow up happy, healthy and confident and respected as individuals in their own right

Vision
- Promoting the rights and well-being of children in policy and practice through advocacy, membership exchange and research

Mission
- Recognising the value of participation and sustainable movements, Eurochild is putting children at the heart of Europe through empowerment of civil society, and children and young people themselves

From goals to accomplishing the mission
- Eurochild aims to harness the EU’s economic and political strength to promote children’s rights and well-being across Europe
- Members are better equipped to deliver change through their active engagement in the Eurochild network
- Children and young people are increasingly engaged in collaborative work with the Eurochild network

Goals
- The EU’s governance and coordination tools better support Member States to reduce child poverty & promote children’s well-being
- National child protection systems, that strengthen families and ensure high-quality family and community based alternative care for children, are developed in countries where Eurochild is active
- The EU budget invests more and better in children
- Children’s rights are better reflected in EU policy & legislative initiatives

Eurochild
This theory of change showcases the **unique value of Eurochild network**. It shows how we, the secretariat and the membership, envision a society and our role in reaching this vision. It recognises the unique nature of this network and **helps us take decisions on where we put our efforts to put children at the heart of Europe.**

For greater clarity among our partners, governments, and ourselves, we have chosen to develop a visual that explains our **two-pronged approach** to achieving our vision for a society where children are happy, healthy, confident and respected as individuals in their own right. Firstly, we are **harnessing the potential of the European Union** to create a large-scale impact in the lives of children. Through improved social and economic policies and greater engagement of decision-makers, we can create long-term, sustainable improvements in the lives of children.

Secondly, the **true power of a movement lies in its active membership**. We recognise that supporting and empowering our members and children and young people themselves will bring forth a stronger movement that can allow us to leap forwards collectively. We are also working hard to **meaningfully engage children and young people** in our work to influence policies, plan strategically and organise events with and for children.

The six goals help us concretely define where our efforts are directed in the period 2017-2018. With this approach, we aim to be better placed to deliver on our current strategic goals and **prepare ourselves for the future**. As Eurochild network transitions from its 4-years strategic plan into its next one, this theory of change will help us in 2017-2018 to be more **focused, recognised and impactful**.

We invite you to use this as a guide to help the network prepare its future.