



## **Children Emergency Preparedness Kit**

*Educational materials about emergency preparedness and use of 112*

EENA believes that European citizens have the fundamental right to know about the existence of the European emergency number 112 as it can save their lives. Together with the 112 Foundation, EENA aims at promoting the knowledge and efficient use of the European emergency number 112 by serving as a discussion platform gathering all the stakeholders (emergency services, associations, international organisations, politicians, companies and citizens) involved with the development and implementation of 112.

Following a call for proposal of the European Commission, the EENA has decided to submit a project aiming at providing educational materials to all organisations willing to educate children on how to behave in case of emergency situation and on the European emergency number 112.

The Children Emergency Preparedness Kit project will focus on encouraging the introduction in schools of educational materials (standardised tools and resources) on emergency in order to prevent injuries as well as to drop their severity. It will review and gather existing materials, as well as related literature, from EU Member States and develop standardised content in all EU official languages based on a common graphic identity thanks to the participation and advices of experts from emergency services, child safety and education backgrounds. The materials will be available online free of charge to any organisation willing to educate on emergency preparedness and 112. Safety and education professionals will be invited to disseminate and use the output.

18 years after its creation, only 24% of Europeans know about 112 as the number to dial for all emergencies in the European Union. The EU has recently taken several initiatives to promote the knowledge and appropriate use of the 112 such as the creation of the European 112 Day that is set on 11 February. A quality standardised educational programme on how to behave in an emergency and how to use the European emergency number 112 will contribute to improve public awareness of safety issues.

Primary school children will be the main target, as it will enable to raise awareness on 112 and foster emergency preparedness applicable in the present and in the future. A multiplier effect is expected: if children are taught about 112, they will inform their parents who in turn will inform their friends or colleagues. Teachers will be secondary targets, as first they must be provided with educational materials in order to be able to teach on emergency preparedness.

The set of materials will be validated by emergency services from several member states of the EU and by organisations dealing with safety and education of children (focused tested with children and teachers). This will facilitate the acceptance and the use of the Children Emergency Preparedness Kit developed.

The Children Emergency Preparedness Kit project will contribute to reducing both the number injuries and their severity by making sure that Europeans are aware of



appropriate emergency tips when emergency occurs as well as of the 3 digits that can be dialled to help emergency services intervene as fast as possible at the scene of incident.

The project will gather partners with complementary expertises (EENA and its network; European Child Safety Alliance; European Trade Union Committee for Education; European Association of Teachers...) who will contribute to develop a relevant and consistent Children Emergency Preparedness kit.

EENA wish to thank 112 ESSN members who already have agreed to participate to this project. The EC will announce elected projects by September. Every member of the 112 ESSN who would like to join us should feel free to contact us at [jp@eena.org](mailto:jp@eena.org).

By Jérôme PÂRIS