

Mainstreaming disability in Policies for Social Inclusion

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The content

- Social active inclusion:
 - policies and examples
- Social protection and poverty risk
 - policies and examples
- Independent living and long term care
 - policies and examples

Social active inclusion

- **Anti- discrimination laws**
Progress concerning non-discrimination and equality legislation for PwD but ...
shortcomings mainly related to the implementation
- **Mainstreaming education**
measures that contribute to improve school monitoring and avoid early leaving of children with disabilities from school
- **Involvement of PwD in evaluation and decision making process**
Networks of PwD involved not only as observers in consultations, but also active in the process of decision-making of policy measures addressed to them

Social active inclusion: examples

- Fighting discrimination – “Don’t Let Yourself be discriminated against” (Hungary)
- Mainstreaming education - the example of Egmont High School (Denmark)
- Empowering people with disabilities through participation in decision-making – “Instrument of goal agreement” (Germany)

Social protection and poverty risk

- The **medical model** is still operational in some EUMS, e.g. “*Beside-table and bed*” mentality (Austria)
...but trend towards the concepts of working ability and participation
- **Persistence of poverty**: women and elderly people with disabilities suffer more from poverty and exclusion compared to males and younger ones
- Other studies (Applica, 2007) showed that men with strong limitations are poorer than women, age category 16-64 and 65+

Social protection and poverty risk

	<i>Share of PwD receiving disability pensions below the poverty line</i>	<i>Total population with an income level below the poverty line</i>
Austria 2007	18%	12%
Greece 2005	19.60%	
Norway 2004	6%	10%
Poland 2005	21.20%	17%

Guaranteeing independent living for PwD

- **De-institutionalisation** in long-term care services
 - Countries are at different stages in implementing it;

Example of blurring the frontiers between institutions and home-care – Nordic countries
- **Direct payments**
 - New approach to empower PwD in choosing and managing their own care;
 - Promising development, although further information is needed.

Example of providing with means to choose own care: direct payments
– UK, Slovak Rep, Germany, Italy, Austria, Czech Rep and the Netherlands

Barriers in accessing long-term care services

- **What could cause barriers in accessing long-term care services?**
 - Legal framework;
 - Affordability of care;
 - Unavailability of care and limited choices;
 - Regional differences;
- Examples**
- No free medicines (Malta) - Legal;
 - Freeze in benefit levels (Austria and Germany) - Affordability;
 - One country, different care (Hungary, Austria...) - Regional differences;

Barriers in accessing long-term care services

- **Who is being left out?**
 - Young: born with disability vs. acquiring disability during working life;
 - Mental illness;
 - Learning and intellectual disabilities;
 - Complex care needs.
- **Examples**
 - Young and institutionalised (UK, Bulgaria, Norway);
 - Some benefiting more than others? (UK) - Mental health condition
 - When parents are no longer there (Austria) – Learning and intellectual disability;
 - Complexity limits choice (Finland, Iceland...) - Complex care needs;

Key messages

- Mainstreaming education would enhance:
 - integration in the labour market
 - less income constraint
 - less poverty risk for people with disabilities
- Support for an independent living
- Need for specific data and research on people with disabilities

Thank you for your attention
