



# EASPD NEWSFLASH

## CONTENTS

<b>EU and YOU</b> .....	<b>2</b>
Inclusion is the solution, not the enemy! EASPD SURVEY ON THE IMPACT OF THE CRISIS ON THE DISABILITY SECTOR .....	2
Structural funds reform 2014-2020: calling for a more community-based approach in the reform! .....	3
For Diversity against Discrimination campaign! .....	4
The Family Dimension of the United Nation Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities .....	5
<b>Project Updates</b> .....	<b>6</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> International Scientific and Practical Conference: “Education and Rehabilitation of Ageing People: research, experience and prospects” .....	6
Zagreb, Croatia, September 30, 2012 .....	6
My rights-my voice: 1 <sup>st</sup> newsletter! .....	6
IBB2 project: 3 <sup>rd</sup> e-letter and seminar on “Inclusive Care Teams” .....	7
<b>Events Notification</b> .....	<b>8</b>
FINAL CONFERENCE OF PROJECT PESSIS! .....	8
Program of the event: .....	8
“Arts for Living” during the Eurosong Festival .....	9
Pathways to Inclusion - Inclusive education and learning: Challenges and opportunities..	10

# EU AND YOU



## **Inclusion is the solution, not the enemy!**

### **EASPD SURVEY ON THE IMPACT OF THE CRISIS ON THE DISABILITY SECTOR**

In January 2012, EASPD surveyed its members on the impact of the financial and economic crisis on the disability sector, specifically with regards to the delivery of services to persons with disabilities.

- ⇒ EASPD members show that the crisis affects:
  - Long-term disability strategies (59%);
  - Annual disability plans and programmes (69%)
  - Operational programmes concerning service providers for people with disabilities (72%)
- ⇒ Significant reductions are observed in public budget for social services in 2011: up to minus 80% in public budget available for services at local or regional level (in 2011 vs. 2010)



The research shows that there is a shared perception that the crisis has a multi-faceted impact, as it affects long-term strategies, annual work plans as well as operational programmes concerning service providers for people with disabilities.

EASPD calls policy-makers to support infrastructure to prepare our future and to prevent re-institutionalisation. EASPD considers that helping the social care sector

will help also society and that supporting the social care sector will engender a twofold response to the crisis!

Read the full report: [here](#)

## **Structural funds reform 2014-2020: calling for a more community-based approach in the reform!**

In the previous 2007-2013 period of the Structural Funds, combined financial instruments were proven to be helpful in moving from institutional to community-based services.

Therefore, the reform 2014-2020 should facilitate social inclusion of the weakest parts of society and their access to quality social services, alternatively to segregating residential settings. Although the [Commission proposal on the repealing Regulation No 1080/2006](#) contained the “transition from institutional to community-based care” within the scope of the regulation and the “promoting social inclusion and combating poverty”, these provisions do not figure into the text modified by the [Council agreed on 24<sup>th</sup> of April](#).

Hence, the European Expert Group on Transition from Institutional to Community-based care (EEG), in which EASPD is member, calls upon both the Council and the European Parliament (co-responsible for the legislation) to:

- Include, under the ex-ante conditionalities of the objectives “promoting social inclusion and combating poverty”, measures for the shift from residential to community-based care in the national strategic policy frameworks to tackle poverty and social exclusion.
- Defend the general ex-ante conditionality requiring the existence of a mechanism which ensures effective implantation and application of the UN CPRD, with a special look to art.19.

[The EEG called the member of the EP and the member of the European Council to uphold the ex-ante conditionalities relevant to the Structural Funds \(cohesion policy\)](#), already present in the Commission proposal 2011/0275 (COD).

## For Diversity against Discrimination campaign!

The “[For Diversity. Against Discrimination](#)” advertising campaign is an initiative launched by the European Commission to draw attention to discrimination at work and direct people facing discrimination to their national equality body where they can find further information about their rights and seek for advice or help.

The campaign spreads the word about anti-discrimination message and the European values to live a life free from discrimination. It also aims to inform and empower people to combat discrimination wherever they see it in their everyday lives.

EASPD supports this initiative and welcomes the European Commission campaign “For Diversity, Against Discrimination” and hope to fight against discrimination of people with disabilities in Europe.

As well as highlighting discrimination at work, the adverts remind people of their rights thanks to EU anti-discrimination laws and direct them to help in their country. Anyone experiencing discrimination can contact their national equality body who will be able to offer advice and help him or her to make a complaint if necessary. Information including what discrimination, rights and responsibilities for employees and employers is available on Stop-Discrimination website:

[Website of the campaign](#)



## **The Family Dimension of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

On 15 May 2012 the Confederation of Family Organisations in the European Union (COFACE) presented the publication of *The Family Dimension of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* document.

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) explicitly acknowledges the critical role played by families for the promotion of human rights and the inclusion of persons with disabilities in society.

The handbook underlines that “to achieve the headline targets of the *EU 2020 Strategy* the entire social and economic involvement of people with disabilities is required”. EASPD supports and shares this view, as it has been highlighted by Ádám Kósa, first deaf and sign language user MEP in the European Union.

During the book presentation, a discussion on the implementation of the obligations foreseen by the Convention was brought up. EU Member States should better consider the family dimension and offer concrete measures to provide families with the conditions of contributing to the full and equal realization of the rights of disabled people.



The Family Dimension  
of the United Nations  
Convention on the Rights  
of Persons with Disabilities

Families are particularly likely to undertake a caring role and remain the first and most immediate environment where people with disabilities live and find supports. Thus, the enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities is strictly interdependent with the quality of life of their family members.

The whole book can be found here: [Coface website](#)

# PROJECT UPDATES

## 1<sup>st</sup> International Scientific and Practical Conference: “Education and Rehabilitation of Ageing People: research, experience and prospects”

ZAGREB, CROATIA, SEPTEMBER 30, 2012



The Conference is organised by the “Lifelong Learning needs for Ageing people with Sensory Disabilities “- **SensAge** project in which EASPD is a partner, and the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation.

This one-day-conference will be focused on the state of knowledge and SensAge’s developments about Ageing People and Sensory Disabilities. Topics covered during the conference will be:

- Life Long Learning - global solution
- Distribution of national and international experience of education and rehabilitation of ageing people with sensory disabilities
- Models of management-education, new strategies and prospects
- Supplementary education in information technology
- Family and education

It is a pleasure for us to invite you to this conference. For more information please click [here](#) or contact Stefana Cankova: [stefana.cankova@easpd.eu](mailto:stefana.cankova@easpd.eu)

For participation please fill in the registration form available on [SensAge page](#) on EASPD’s website and send it to Liliya Plastunova: [plastunova@yandex.ru](mailto:plastunova@yandex.ru). Registration deadline is **30 August 2012**

## My rights-my voice: 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter!

[My Rights-My Voice project released its first newsletter.](#) In this first issue the project ‘My Rights-My Voice’ and its partners are outlined together with an explanation of the overall goals of the project.

Please feel free to contact us if you wish to receive more information about the project. For additional information about the project please visit [www.myrightsmyvoice.eu](http://www.myrightsmyvoice.eu) or contact [Sonia.staskowiak@easpd.eu](mailto:Sonia.staskowiak@easpd.eu)



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

## IBB2 project: 3<sup>rd</sup> e-letter and seminar on “Inclusive Care Teams”

BELGIUM, BRUSSELS, 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2012

In this issue, the project partners are informing you about the progress, recent achievements and important forthcoming activities related to the project while particularly focusing on the state of play of the last training courses in diversity management and the mentoring process organised by the project partners.

Please feel free to [contact us](#) if you wish to receive more information on the project!

The 19th of June, IBB2 will organize a seminar in Brussels on Training for Disability Care Workers: Developing an integrated mentoring model to support starting a career as a disability care worker- sponsored by the Lifelong Learning Programme of DG Education and Culture.

For any Information on the project please visit [www.lebenshilfe-guv.at/ibb2](http://www.lebenshilfe-guv.at/ibb2).

For registration to the seminar (free of charge) please contact [Sonia.staskowiak@easpd.eu](mailto:Sonia.staskowiak@easpd.eu).



Education and Culture DG  
Lifelong Learning Programme



# ***EVENTS NOTIFICATION***

## **FINAL CONFERENCE OF PROJECT PESSIS!**

**BELGIUM, BRUSSELS, 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2012**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2012, EASPD organises the final conference of the PESSIS project: "Promoting employers' social services organisations in social dialogue", co-financed by the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

The conference will take place from 9.00am to 3.30pm at the European Economic and Social Committee in Rue Belliard, 99 B-1040, Brussels.



### **PROGRAM OF THE EVENT:**

#### **9.30: Opening and welcome**

Luk Zelderloo - EASPD

Jean-Paul Tricart, Head of Unit Social Dialogue, Industrial Relations Unit, DG Employment and Social Inclusion

Mathias Maucher – EPSU

Heather Roy – Social Services Europe

#### **10.30: Overview of the project,**

Irene Bertana, EASPD

#### **10.50: The research results**

Jane Lethbridge, PSIRU, Greenwich University

#### **12.00: Analysis of social dialogue systems and models of good practices**

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## **14.00: Policy recommendations**

### **Presentation**

Panel debate – Chair: Luk Zelderloo

Penny Clarke – EPSU

Jorge Nuño Mayer - Caritas Europa

Jan Spooren - Social Services Europe

European Commission, Social Dialogue Unit TBC

To register to the conference, you can send an email stating your name, surname, organization, email address and document number to: [francesco.larocca@easpd.eu](mailto:francesco.larocca@easpd.eu)

For more info, [click here](#)

## **“Arts for Living” during the Eurosong Festival**

**IRELAND, CORK, 27TH JUNE 2012**

Next 27th of June, in Cork, Ireland, the “Arts for Living” international conference will be held between 9am and 5pm in the CIT Cork School of Music. This conference will bring together a diverse range of arts initiatives that are happening around the world which contribute to the development of arts & inclusion for people with disabilities. The conference will be in English only.



For more information on the conference program, please [click here](#).  
To access the website, [click here](#).

## **Pathways to Inclusion - Inclusive education and learning: Challenges and opportunities**

HUNGARY, BUDAPEST, 13– 14 SEPTEMBER 2012

Organised by EASPD and the Association of Lifelong Learning in Hungary, in close cooperation with the 'Pathways to Inclusion' consortium

The right to inclusive and high quality education is universal and applies to all children, youth and adults, including those with disabilities. Since the Salamanca Statement of 1994 and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of 2006, political initiatives have been taken in the field of legislation and educational reform within the 27 EU countries. In practice, however, reaching the goals of a society guaranteeing equal opportunities for all is still a challenging process. In many special as well as mainstream schools still much uncertainty and a lack of knowledge can be seen. For that reason, the Comenius network 'Pathways to Inclusion' (P2i) was developed almost 3 years ago.



It is a pleasure for us to invite you to this conference. For more information please contact [goedele.avau@easpd.eu](mailto:goedele.avau@easpd.eu)

Online registration, programme and general information can be found on <http://www.pathwaystoinclude.eu>



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