

# ***VIII National Forum Successful Transition***

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- EU Disability Strategy (2010-2020)
- EU 2020
- Public Procurement Package
- Employment Package
- Social Business Initiative
- Social Investment Package (SIP)
- New structural fund framework

# I. Relevant EU Policies and Strategies



## EU Disability Strategy. Areas of Action





## Social Investment Package

- **The SIP is accompanied by several working documents on:**
  - Long Term Care
  - Confronting homelessness
  - Investing in Health
  - On how the European Social Fund will contribute to implementing the Social Investment Package
  - Evidence on demographic and social trends and the role of social policies



## **New Structural Funds Framework (2014-2020)**

- State of play: EP and Council
- Proposal from the EU Commission
- Focus on D.I.
- Quality of Services
- Poverty and Social Sector Targets

## II. Relevant projects



### Pathways to Inclusion (P2i)

- **P2i** EU project on inclusive education (Comenius) led by EASPD ended in September 2012.
- **A comparative research** on inclusive education in partners' countries on:
  - legislation, practice and progress.
- **A Manifesto on inclusive learning** was published for P2i's final conference, Budapest Sept. 2012.

## II. Relevant projects



### P2i Manifesto Principles and Values

#### **UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 (Article 24, Education)**

1. States Parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to education (...) without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunity, States Parties shall ensure an inclusive education system at all levels and life long learning (...)
2. (...) States Parties shall ensure that:
  - Persons with disabilities are not excluded from the general education system on the basis of disability, and that children with disabilities are not excluded from free and compulsory primary education, or from secondary education, on the basis of disability; (...)

## II. Relevant projects



### Manifesto The daily reality

- **Fundamental barriers to inclusive education remain:**
- Mainstream schools buildings do not comply with accessibility standards
  - Assistive transport is often only provided to special schools
  - Education of teachers for learners with SEN is still dominated by the special school's perspective
  - The economic crisis threatens existing achievements ... cost cuttings ...

**Inclusive lifelong learning is not only a right but is crucial to achieving growth and jobs, social inclusion and active citizenship.**



## II. Relevant projects



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme

### A Leonardo Da Vinci Project

# INVESTT

Inclusive Vocational Education and  
Specialized Tailor-made Training

## II. Relevant projects



### Investt Partnership

- Follow-up of P2i (2009-2012) project
- Duration: 3 year project (Dec 2012-Nov 2015)
  
- Coordinator: EASPD
- 13 partners from 4 'countries' – AT/DE, BE, NO, SI
  
- Each national team is composed of:
  - A service provider
  - A vocational school
  - A research institute, university

## II. Relevant projects



### Investt Main Objectives

#### **Mission!**

“Applying Universal Design in Vocational Education and Training to guide all students, with a wide range of abilities, towards success in the open labour market.”

#### **Investt is building up ...**

**1) A strategy** at European level to help practitioners apply a universal design in their local VET environment. Based upon 2 *key concepts* (UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006):

- reasonable accommodation
- universal design’

## II. Relevant projects



### Investt Main Objectives

**2) One VET programme in each partner country**, adapted for the school and participating students. The programme will include a list of reasonable accommodations.

**INVESTT also addresses the lack of practical information on 'Inclusive VET for all'... with:**

**3) A network** of all those committed to inclusive education, focusing now on stakeholders from the VET sector.

**4) A web based Knowledge Centre** that will provide new and accurate information on inclusive VET [www.investt.eu](http://www.investt.eu)

## II. Relevant projects



### Investt Key Messages

- **Investt** supports the rights of persons with Special Education Needs.
- **Investt** brings solutions to bridge the gap of exclusion in VET environments.
- **Investt** offers a model of good practice for all VET practitioners.
- **Investt** provides young persons with disabilities a better life through inclusive education.
- **Investt** can strengthen the EU strategy on employment by promoting inclusive education.

More info: [www.investt.eu](http://www.investt.eu)



## Conclusions

Successful transition means:

- Holistic approach
- Investment in special needs and focused support
- Inclusive solutions
- Next to primary and secondary also third level education!

# Inclusive Learning: Challenges and Opportunities



**Questions?**  
**Thank you!**