

Development of standards of quality for community-based care for people with intellectual disabilities in Ukraine as alternative to current institutionalisation



Project Budget:
€249,680

Duration:
May 2006 - May 2008

Funded by:
European Union

Country of Implementation:
Ukraine

Project is implemented by:
• Global Initiative on Psychiatry (Netherlands)
• Coalition for People with Intellectual Disabilities (Ukraine)

Key Beneficiaries:
60 Ukrainian NGOs for people with intellectual disabilities

Project's Objectives and Tasks:

Overall objective:

To promote de-institutionalisation and social integration of people with intellectual disabilities in Ukraine as an alternative to currently keeping these people in big institutions and treating them as depersonalised objects.

Specific objective:

To promote implementation of the statutory guarantees on standards of quality care for people with intellectual disabilities in Ukraine as far as community based services are concerned in the best possible way: according to the standards that meet internationally proven approaches and principles and are developed by experts in the field to meet the needs of the target group and match the national context.

Project's tasks:

- Development and publication of a set of standards of quality for community based care (including supported living, supported and sheltered employment, day center services, early intervention);
- Research on the readiness of Ukrainian special agencies for standards' introduction;
- Piloting, monitoring and evaluation standards in 10 agencies;
- Promotion of the standards' approval by the Cabinet of Ministers through negotiation, lobbying, mass actions of direct influence coordinated by the newspaper for parents;
- Enhance public support for standards through PR campaigns (mass media, video film, open door days).

Project's achievements:

- A set of standards of quality for community-based care is developed, in particular:
 - first version of quality standards of five care services for people with intellectual disabilities: Complex Rehabilitation, Family Support, Occupational Therapy, Social Patronage, and Training Basic Living Skills;
 - first version of the list of free social care services necessary for people with intellectual disabilities;
 - first versions of two typical statutes of community-based agencies for people with intellectual disabilities: Supported Community-based Living and Complex Rehabilitation, including a list of typical staff of community-based agencies for people with intellectual disabilities, and drafts on social norms for community-based supported living and complex rehabilitation.
- A research to identify the level of readiness of Ukrainian special agencies for standards' introduction was carried out. The research demonstrated that managers and professionals of such agencies did not have a general holistic understanding of what quality standards of care mean; still their experience allowed them to realize what should be regulated by the standards. However, they considered their agencies ready for the development, piloting and introduction of service quality standards and were taking steps for their agencies to be prepared for introduction of quality standards.
- Five draft standards were carefully piloted to have reliable standards applicable in Ukrainian agencies to help care providers to ensure high quality of services.
- Draft quality standards of 5 care services for people with intellectual disabilities were approved by the Methodological Board of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and distributed among community-based agencies.
- The concept of community-based quality care has become widely disseminated and supported by media, authorities, professionals and general public.
- The following publications were produced by the Project:
 - A book with detailed description of the family support services (one of the services for which a quality standard was developed and approved);
 - Video materials about community-based services from piloting agencies Dzherelo Centre (Lviv), Djerela Charity Association (Kiev), Nadia NGO (Vinnitsa);
 - A book "Social Rehabilitation of People with Intellectual Disability: Social Patronage";
 - A book "Social Rehabilitation of People with Intellectual Disability: Training of Basic Living Skills".

ENPI - European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument

The European Union is the largest donor to Ukraine. EU assistance to Ukraine over 2007-2013 will principally be provided under the new European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) which is being established to promote the development of an area of prosperity and good neighbourliness between the EU and the partner countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy.

ENPI envelope for Ukraine will focus on the following three priority areas:

Support for Democratic Development and Good Governance

- Public administration reform and public finance management
- Rule of law and judicial reform
- Human rights, civil society development and local government
- Education, science and people-to-people contacts/exchanges

Support for Regulatory Reform and Administrative Capacity Building

- Promoting mutual trade, improving the investment climate and strengthening social reform
- Sector-specific regulatory aspects

Support for Infrastructure Development

- Energy
- Transport
- Environment
- Border management and migration including re-admission related issues

Indicative budget for Ukraine for the period 2007-2010 is €494 million:

Support for Democratic Development and Good Governance: €148.2 million (30%)

Support for Regulatory Reform and Administrative Capacity Building: €148.2 million (30%)

Support for Infrastructure Development: €197.6 million (40%)



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One of the many strong points of ENPI's national envelope is the range of thematic programmes based on country-specific strategy papers and national indicative programmes. One of these thematic programmes stems from EC's 'Good health for all' Programme which addresses the lack of health professionals, low levels of health awareness among the public in absence of economic and social sustainability, and related severe problems of the national healthcare system with provision of adequate or equitable health care services.

The European Union is committed to working with its partner, Ukraine, to improve the development of the country's healthcare system. Healthcare in Ukraine is currently facing a number of serious challenges as national mortality and morbidity rates more than double the EU average. Ukraine is also facing a rapid spread of poverty-related diseases such as HIV/AIDS.

Since 2000, the EU has provided substantial technical assistance to Ukraine in the field of healthcare through the Tacis programme. Four EU-funded projects related to the reform of the health sector were implemented during the last six years with a total value of about €14 million. The Primary Healthcare Support project developed a model for the introduction of an effective network of family doctors. The system has been tested in several pilot oblasts with a recommendation to introduce the system countrywide. A second EU funded project, Health Financing and Management, developed a set of 35 recommendations for the further development of the legal and administrative framework. The project on Support to the Development of the System of Medical Standards supported the Ministry of Health in setting up a centre for standards development where key health care providers were trained. Currently, the Support to Secondary Healthcare Reform in Ukraine Project is underway aiming to support the establishment of an effective, cost-efficient and equitable health care system in Ukraine, which will be supported by systematic secondary health care reform.

In 2003, the EU launched a project on strengthening the national comprehensive approach to HIV/AIDS prevention with the budget of €2 million. The project also envisioned all-inclusive healthy lifestyle education for schoolchildren of all educational and out-of school institutions. The €2.5 million worth of assistance to a project to support HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STI) prevention among uniformed services in Ukraine (see below) is the latest of the EU's projects in Ukraine to address HIV/AIDS.