

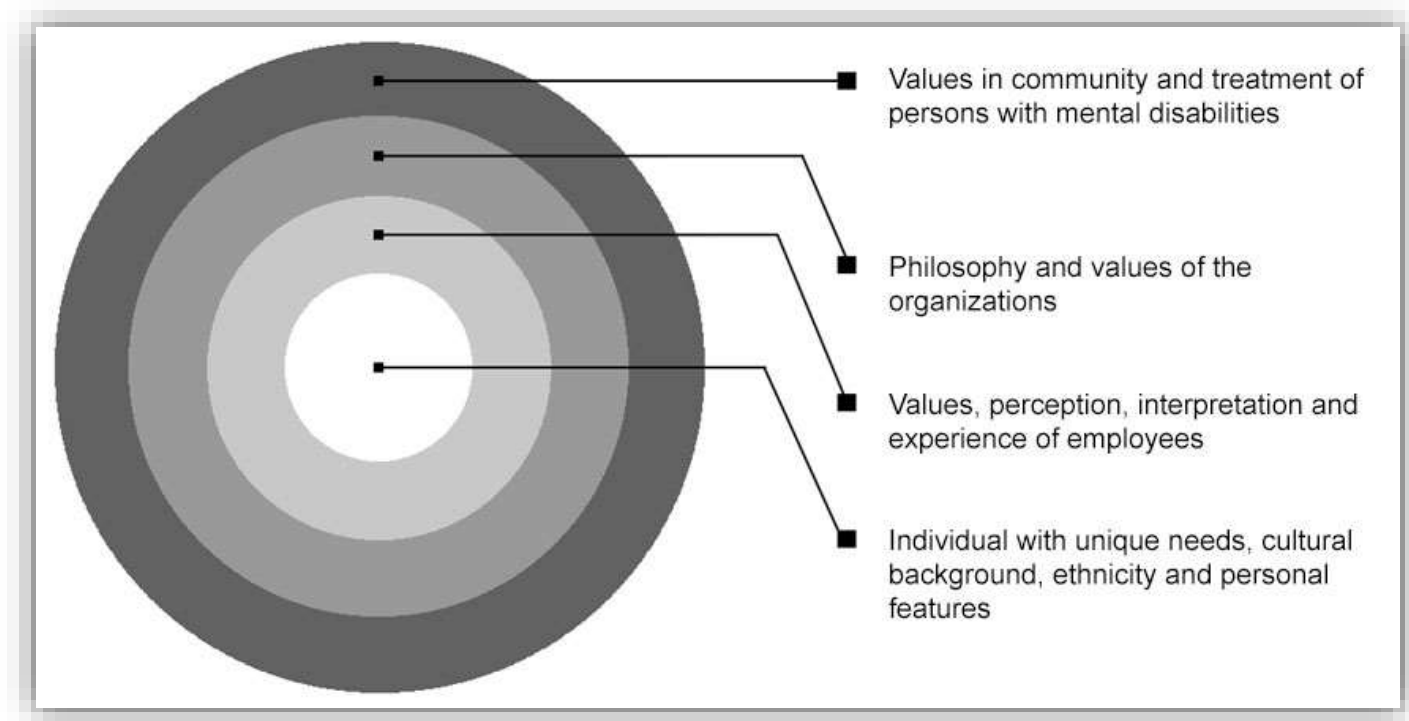


# European best practices on adult education and independent living

*Ph. D. Valerija Bužan*

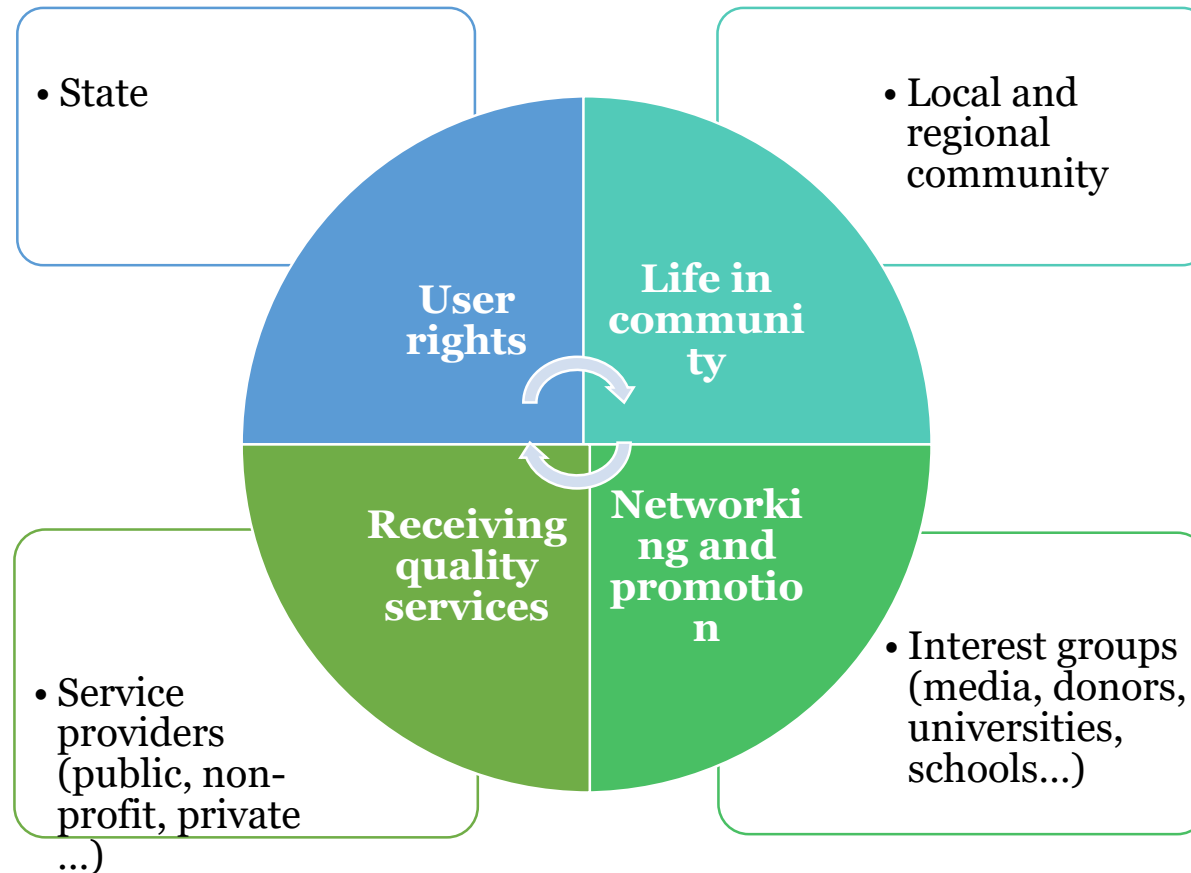
*Vice-president EASPD*

*Budapest, 7th June 2019*



CARNABY, 2007

## ***Socio-political context***

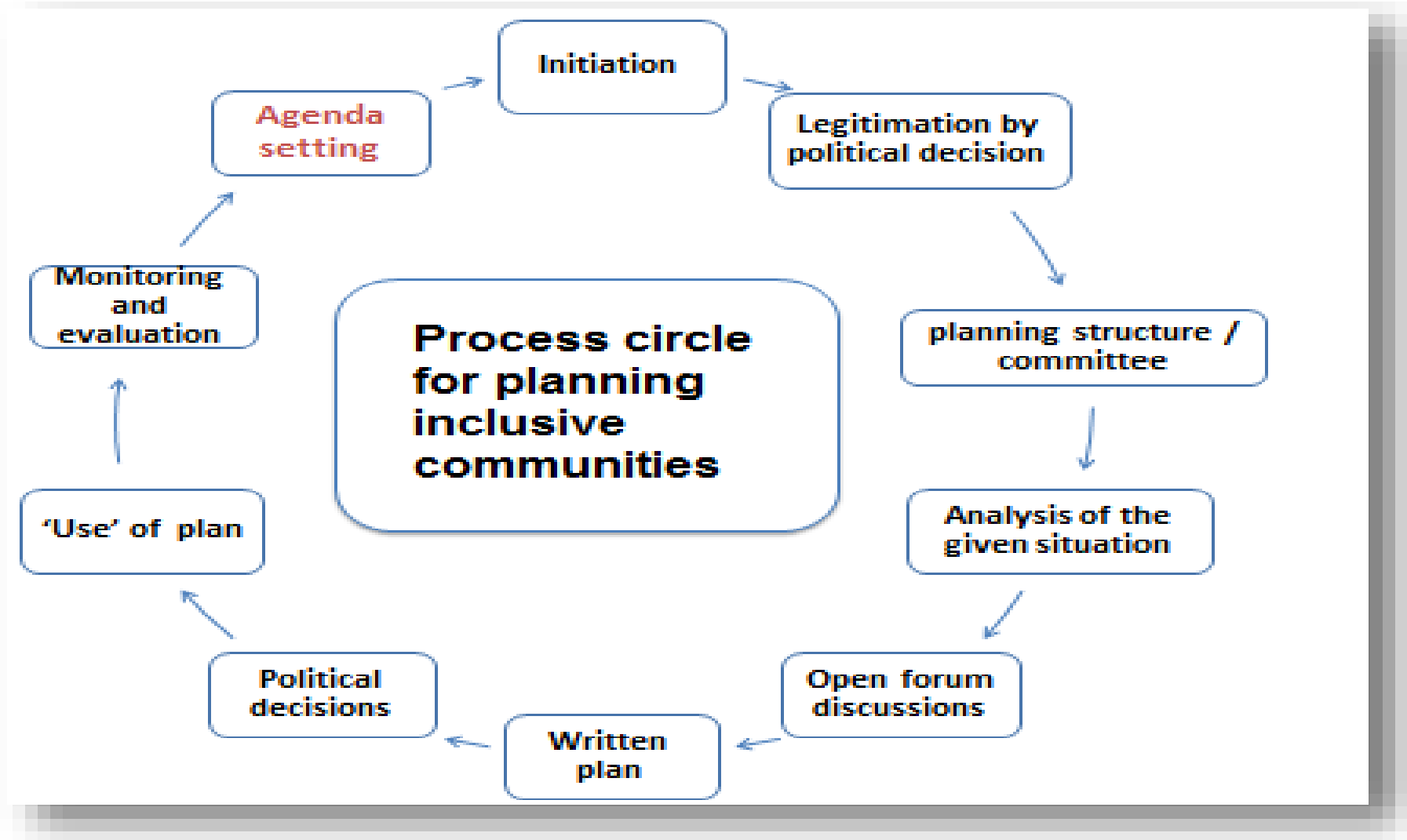


## *Syntax of studies*

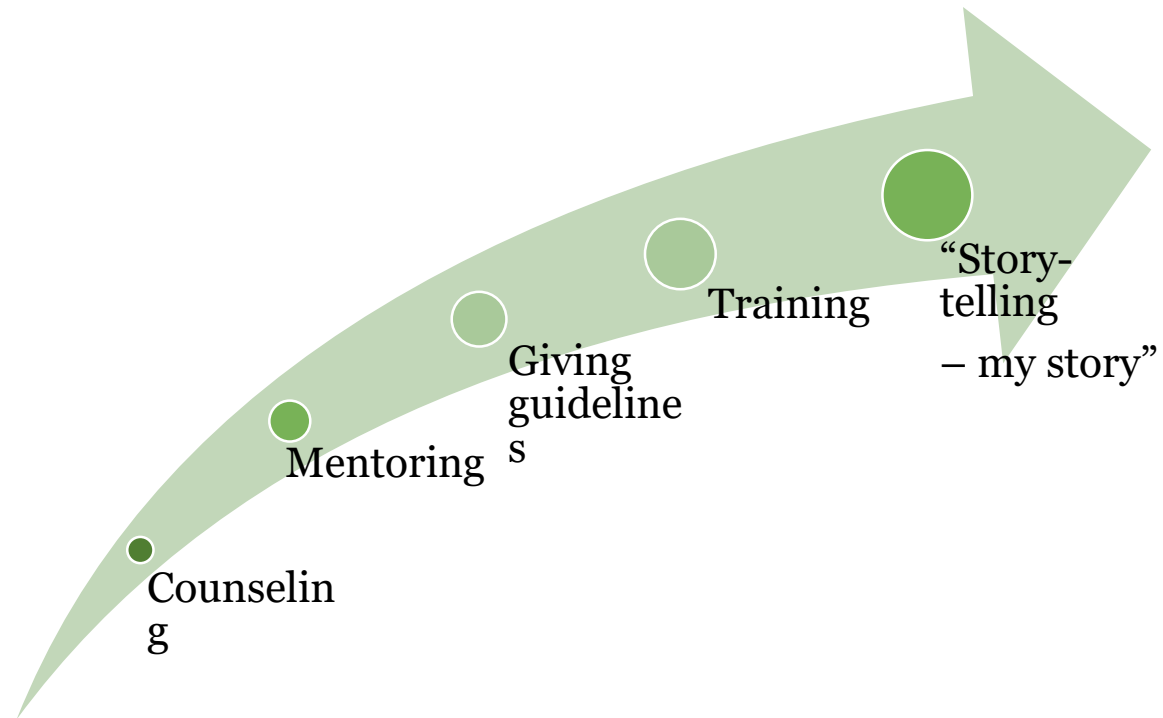


**Accessibility** is a universal rule for equal opportunities on all fields of social activities and includes architecture and communication obstacles





## ***Development of professional and public support dialogue***



## **DYNAMIC CONSERVATISM**

Social systems create resistance towards (dynamic conservatism).

The reason for this resistance is not misunderstanding an individual that can not understand what is good for them, but that the previous situation is familiar, safe and provides psychological and other benefits.

or:

- fear of unknown,
- losing safety of stable habits that provide comfort since there is no assured trust due to different individual processes and conflicts between subsystems.

This is one of the reasons that rational reasons are often not considered.



### *Fields for planing:*

- residency,
- employment and work,
- lifelong learning,
- spare time and recreation,
- self-advocacy and advocacy.

**Informing and exploring** – designing, implementing and evaluating politics in turn to people with special needs should be based on the most precise evaluation of needs and situation



## *Cooperation with public, partners and the city*

**It is necessary to work together with other external entities to fulfill the integration.**

- Cooperation of various different organizations (government, non-government entities), continuously creating a larger network of partners.
- It is important that service providers cooperate with policy creators on local as well as national level
- Informing the general public through different means and activities in community and using the media to make social services more popular and understood.





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**Care for health** means preventing, reducing and removing consequences of disease and disabilities



# Education – equal opportunities and chances for children and youth with special needs





## *Day centers*





**Professional-support services** – it is important that orthopaedic and other accessories along the services network for independant life are within reach in terms of price and costs



**Financial support and social protection** must take into account costs that people with special needs and their families are facing



## *Elderly people*





## Recreation and sports, are of great importance for the people with special needs



**Religion** – they can equally participate with religious activities



# Family life and personal integrity





**Culture** – they have numerous artistic inclinations that enrich themselves and the whole community



**Employment** – right to work, free choice of work, satisfactory work conditions and protection from unemployment

Key  
areas  
for our  
work



Introducti  
on of new  
methods  
of work  
and  
approach  
to users

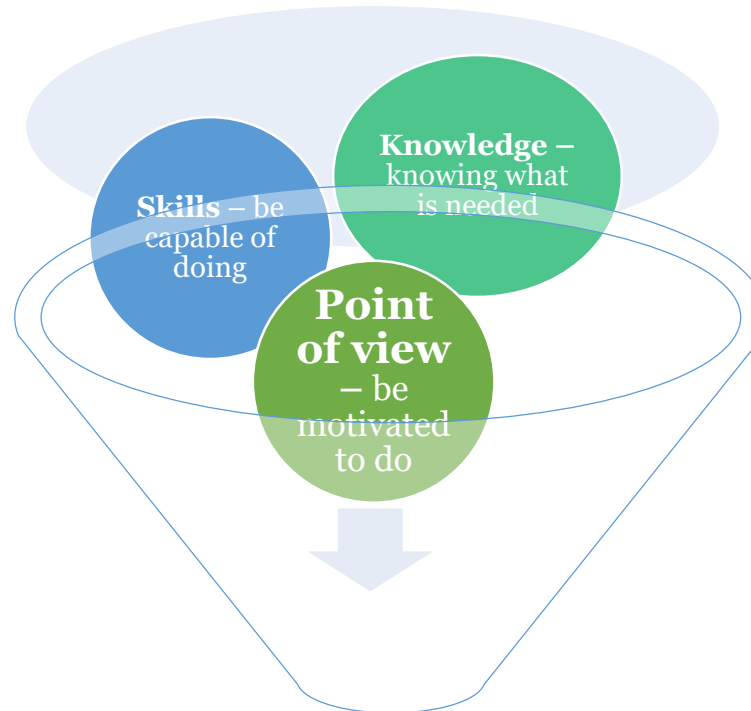


Involving  
users in the  
process of  
training,  
modification





## ***Developing work competence***



Work and employment are key society roles and as such key for effective functioning in everyday life of all people. Including persons with special needs and cognitive disabilities that require help in this field throughout whole life.

Competence as potential capability of an individual to finish goals, tasks, situations or context

Schools of  
not accept  
PSN or  
accept  
selectively



Employers  
employ PSN  
when the  
receive  
subsidies



Housing  
fund  
restricts use  
of  
apartments



Human and  
normative  
lacking



## *Beekeeper*



## *Working with animals*





## *Working on the farm*







## *Fashion shows*



## *Foto models*





# Art



## *Photo trailer*



## *Music performances*





## *Theater performances*





## PREVENTING RESISTANCE

- Is there consent that change is needed?
- There are numerous solutions for each problem! Are there available options?
- Do the people benefit or lose with the current situation?
- Are they aware of negative consequences?
- What beliefs, habits, behaviours ... Are affected by the change?
- Do the people understand and believe that changes bring benefits?
- Are the workers ensured they have long-term support for realization of agreed plans?
- Is the process enacted without manipulation?

The process must be understood also:

- as a change of relations between professionals and users,
- acquiring new social roles and users involvement and participation,
- a shift of power from the experts and institutions to the users and
- as a change of epistemology of long-term distress.

## **Experience in countries where deinstitutionalisation has been implemented, show:**

- that it takes time, but it needs to be implemented swiftly and decisively,
- that the intended effects cannot be achieved only by setting up community services. This must be accompanied by an active and efficient institutional closure,

For prompt, effective and successful deinstitutionalisation we need:

- ✓ solid political will,
- ✓ an active and democratic leadership of institutions,
- ✓ good (re)training,
- ✓ new methods and organisation,
- ✓ participation of civil society,
- ✓ a commitment to users' rights and their empowerment,
- and
- ✓ coordination of activities, good monitoring and routing process based on evaluations and research.



## ORGANISATION CULTURE

***Direction of institution (organization culture) tells about how employees understand their work, to what they give more or less attention, to what they have to turn their attention to.***

J.Johston: People are attracted to goals but are afraid of the path

## What is ECC?



- ECC is a European certificate, offering evidence of basic knowledge in the field of social work with people with special needs.
- There are 21 EU countries involved goal: to connect all of its countries
- The ECC is awarded after passing the exam under conditions proving knowledge on the basic European learning objectives – BESCLO

<http://www.eccertificate.eu/united-kingdom/menu-left/besclo.html>

**The Values of  
Social Care**

**Promote Life  
Quality for the  
Individuals  
you Support**

**Working with Risk**

**Understand your  
Role as a Care  
Worker**

**Safety at Work**

**Communicating  
Positively**

**Recognise and  
Respond to Abuse  
and Neglect**

**Develop as a  
Worker**

## Expected effects:

- Better quality of service for users
- Better motivation and happiness of employees
- Help for management and employees with ensuring and improving quality service
- Qualification of employees for consideration of quality specific for activity
- Acceleration of quality in institutions and social policies
- National and international comparison of homes
- Certification of specific activities and trademarks



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## ***The way forward: New types of services***

- ❖ Early intervention
- ❖ Family support systems (e.g. respite care)
- ❖ Mediation and disability-case broker support
- ❖ Provision of accessible information & legal advice
- ❖ Services for ageing people and their disabled family members

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

# ANY QUESTIONS?



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EASPD – European Association of Service providers for Persons with Disabilities

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