

# **EASPD in Brief**

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# EASPD

The European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD) promotes the **equalisation of opportunities for people with disabilities** through effective and high quality service systems in Europe.

EASPD represents close to 8000 service provider organisations across Europe.

Our objectives are achieved through:

- 1. Service provision to members (Information):** networking/offer exchange possibilities to members at European, national/regional and local level;
- 2. Policy-influencing (Impact):** offering service providers a voice in Europe;
- 3. Research and Development (Innovation):** as basis for innovation and improvement of service provision.

# EASPD II

EASPD has **4 Standing Committees** to go more in depth in certain topics:

- SC on Employment
- SC on Education
- SC on Enlargement
- Policy Impact Group

**The principles of EASPD:**

- aiming at **high quality** of services
- facilitating **full participation** and
- **inclusion in society** in an appropriate way of persons with a disability.

**To achieve this EASPD is committed to:**

- **User participation** in the development and delivery of services
- The implementation of **governance principles**
- Active **life long learning** opportunities for staff
- Focus on **Accessibility, Availability, Affordability** and **Adaptability** of services

# Key objectives 2006 / 07

1. Impact - Increase political impact on the EU and Council of Europe agenda
2. Information - Responding in a flexible way to the needs of members in relation with what is going on on the European scene
3. Innovation - Keeping projects developed in line with the overall objectives of EASPD:  
4 A's: accessibility, availability, affordability and adaptability.

# Impact

## **EASPD will**

1. Actively participate in:
  - the implementation of the **Disability Action Plan of the Council of Europe**,
  - the debate on **Services of General Interest (SGI)** and **Social Services of General Interest (SSGI)**,
  - **European Social Model**,
  - Future of social service provision in Europe,
  - **e-Accessibility** initiatives.
  - Working time directive
  - State Aid Regulation
  
2. Build on the contacts and good relation established with:
  - DG Employment and Social Affairs (Disability Unit)
  - DG Education and Culture
  - DG Competition
  - DG Health and Consumer Protection
  - DG Enlargement

# Impact II

## **EASPD will:**

- Promote better understanding of the providers perspective in The Social Platform
- Lobby, based on **Project outcomes**
- **Contact** the coming **presidencies of the European Union** in order to promote a providers perspective

# Information

## **EASPD will:**

1. Inform members on programs & project opportunities by issuing a **monthly email newsflash** and by posting information on the website
2. Organise a **project development workshop** in Sofia 2007
3. Start an **interactive website** as tool for the implementation of our Framework on person centred services and community based settings (STEPS)
4. **Develop** well selected **projects** to facilitate innovation

# Information II

## Standing Committees:

- The Standing Committees will follow-up, evaluate and respond to policy issues on behalf of the membership and the EASPD bodies
- A new Standing Committee on **Mental Health** and disability is to be discussed and even launched

## Membership:

- Increase the representativeness of EASPD
- Campaign to establish a strong **CoP network**
- Cooperation with **Handicap International** to promote membership in **Balkan countries**
- Organise **provider forums** in Romania, Bulgaria, Baltic States, Slovakia and Czech Republic
- **Visit key networks** in Spain, Italy, Germany and Scandinavia



# Innovation

## **EASPD will:**

1. Implement the Framework ‘STEPS’ and organise seminars on
  - Quality standards and policies - values and principles (October, NL),
  - Personalised Education and Cultural participation (December, FR)
  
2. Organise several conferences
  - Conference on Personalized Budgets (10-11 May 2007, Sofia)
  - Closing Conference Informal Learning project and Conversion project (20 – 21 September 2007, Strassburg)
  - Conference “walking with families” (9 – 10 November 2007, Lissabon)

# Innovation II

<b>EASPD Projects</b>	<b>Developed, handed in, in pipeline</b>
Conversion	
Contiempo	
ATLAS	Service Development project in Balkan Countries in close cooperation with Handicap international
EQM-PD	Seen, Needed, Confirmed
Informal Learning	Cost Comparison
Hop Skip Jump	WiSE-MoVE,
Finnish EQUAL Inclusive Diversity Project (HSJ)	
Belgian EQUAL Plug-in-Gaps Project (HSJ)	
Bridge	
Happy Farm	
Quality of Life in the workplace	
European Care License	

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