



INTESYS

TOGETHER / Supporting
vulnerable children
through integrated early
childhood services



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POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS for strengthening integration in early childhood systems

SLOVENIA

Recommendations for policy makers

At the national level, it is important to provide systemic conditions that enable the implementation of an integrated system. For this to happen, policy makers should ensure that the following recommendations are implemented:

- Adapt legislation in order to support more intensive connections among different sectors;
- Adapt legislation in order to enable the implementation of integrated measures (to enable integrated working on the systemic level);
- Establish systemic conditions for creating multidisciplinary action teams in every municipality in order to ensure 'official' integrated working;
- Ensure information sharing that enables working in the best interest for children and families.

However, it is certainly not enough to provide conditions only at the policy level. It is important to build a competent system that will allow integration among different sectors. In order to develop such a system, we need to think about the inter-institutional level, institutional level and level of professionals, too.

Recommendations at inter-institutional level

- Define common values and goal(s) and develop a common vision
- Ensure adequate support for sensibilization of all key persons involved that come in regular contact with representatives of vulnerable groups
- Involve representatives of Romani community (vulnerable group) in planning, implementation and evaluation of integrated activities
- Understand that implementation of pre-school programs in a Roma settlement is a transitional form; an active effort of all involved actors to integrate Roma

children into regular kindergartens at least one year before entering school is a must

- Provide professional support for the group, especially in terms of understanding the concept of equal rights
- Develop shared responsibility for a joint success
- Implement advocacy activities in order to influence the policy level

Recommendations at institutional level

- Support organisations in order to develop strong leadership
- Set outreach activities as one of the core values of an organisation
- Ensure sufficient and recognised time for meetings with professionals from other sectors and for activities carried out

Recommendations regarding professionals

- Develop a shared understanding of the needs of the target group(s)
- Ensure enough time at the meetings in order to present, explore and understand each other's work for better planning of integrated activities
- Ensure support for professionals in order to understand the concept of equal rights ("There is nothing more unequal than the equal treatment of unequal people.")