

CHAPTER 20

Experience with new in-service training to improve quality of life, activity and participation in children with intense and complex support needs¹⁵

ENIKŐ BATIZ, REKA ORBAN, JO LEBEER, MIA NIJLAND,
BENO SCHRAEPEN, MARINA RODOCANACHI,
HELEEN NEERINCKX, CHRISTINE PLIVARD,
ZVEZDELINA ATANASOVA & ADELINDA CANDEIAS

To improve quality of life, activities and inclusion, particularly inclusive education, of children with complex and intensive support needs (CISN), we developed and experimented, within the framework of the “Enablin+” European partnership, an interprofessional in-service training. In this chapter, we will report the results of our development and a preliminary experimentation with this new training programme in eight EU countries. During 2015-17, we organized 64 pilot courses and training workshops on 41 topics in eight European countries, followed by a train-the-trainers course. While rooted in modern conceptual frameworks of disability (inclusion, quality of life, rights, capabilities), such training should offer true inter-professional, case-based learning, person- and family centred “case management”, reflective learning about belief systems and practices regarding inclusive activities and participation.

Background

The main goal of the Enablin+ project was to develop an interprofessional in-service training, to improve quality of life, inclusion and a range of activities. In many countries in the world, the needs of children and adolescents with CISN, their caregivers and supporters, are not

¹⁵ A different version of this chapter has been published in ALTER, the European Journal of Disability, 2022 (Lebeer et al., 2022)