Dear [Name],

I hope you are well. I realise it has been a few months since the April seminar in Brussels on Ending the Institutionalisation of Children, however I wanted to share with you a summary report of the discussions we had. Please also find a link to the LUMOS publication “Ending Institutionalisation of Children Globally – the time is now” http://wearelumos.org/sites/default/files/Lumos%20The%20Time%20is%20Now%20April2014%20FINAL.pdf

I am sure you will agree that there was tremendous energy in the event in April and a genuine commitment was made to finding ways to work more closely together to end the institutionalisation of children. We will keep in touch regarding other follow up activities.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to get in touch.

Best wishes,

[Signature]

Lumos

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We believe that no child should live in an institution, exposed to harm. We want to consign this practice to the history books. Please join us http://wearelumos.org/get-involved/stay-connected
Summary
This round table was co-hosted by Claude Moraes MEP and Lumos. The objective was to provide an opportunity to share experiences and expertise on the international funding of programmes for children with a particular focus on the importance of ending the use of international funds to support institutions for children.

The meeting aimed to:

- highlight the major progress exemplified by specific EU and US initiatives which prioritise the use of funding to end institutional care: The EU’s Structural Funds Regulations 2014-2020 and the US Action Plan on Children in Adversity;
- explore the need for policy coherence across different funding streams both within Europe and globally and;
- identify how the USA and EU could work together at the global level to further this important human rights issue.

The round table brought together representatives of EU structures, the US Mission to the EU and other National Governments, International Foundations and NGOs from both sides of the Atlantic with a view to exploring if it might be possible to develop a common agenda aimed at promoting strong beginnings for children, ending institutionalisation and protecting them from harm and abuse.

Introductory Session

Claude Moraes MEP, stressed the importance of the issue and the role of the European Parliament in securing the criteria on deinstitutionalisation which are found within the Structural Funds Regulations.

Lumos briefly illustrated the importance of coherent international action to end the institutionalisation of children and that the two good funding examples being focused on today should be used to inspire new efforts to ensure a consistent approach across all international funding mechanisms both in Europe and globally. This argument is made in the Lumos publication, “Ending the Institutionalisation of Children Globally – the time is now.”

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1. [http://wearelumos.org/sites/default/files/Lumos%20The%20Time%20is%20Now%20April2014%20FINAL.pdf](http://wearelumos.org/sites/default/files/Lumos%20The%20Time%20is%20Now%20April2014%20FINAL.pdf)
Special Adviser on Children in Adversity to the US Government and Chair of the Global Alliance for Children, presented the reasoning behind the US Government's focus on children in adversity, stressing the long-lasting impact on a child's development of adversity, especially in the early years. He stressed the three main areas of focus of the US government Action Plan on Children in Adversity: Build Strong Beginnings—increase the percentage of children surviving and reaching full developmental potential; Put Family Care First—reducing the percentage of children living outside of family care and ending institutionalisation; Protect Children—reducing the percentage of girls and boys exposed to violence and exploitation. For more information about this Action Plan, please see: http://www.usaid.gov/children-in-adversity

Discussion 1: How Deinstitutionalisation became a European Union priority

OHCHR Regional Office for Europe set the scene with a historic overview of the use of institutions for children across Europe stressing that it was a problem in Western European countries too. He highlighted the importance of UN tools such as the Guidelines On Alternative Care and key Conventions in particular the CRC and the CRPD in driving some of the progress in this area that we have seen in recent years.

DG Enlargement, DG REGIO, DG EMPL highlighted the European Union's experience so far of deinstitutionalisation and the important policy frameworks such as the Europe 2020 Strategy, the Social Investment Package, the Disability Strategy which support deinstitutionalisation and contain specific priorities related to ending child poverty. They further focused on the hard-won ex-ante conditionalities on compliance with the CRPD and on the transition from institutional to community based care in the Regulations on the European Investment and Structural Funds for 2014-2020. This was seen by all as an excellent example of change in regulation to forward the human rights agenda. Also highlighted was the work already done in Bulgaria to co-ordinate different EU funds to deliver a national action plan to get children with disabilities out of institutions and into community or family-based alternatives. The use of EU enlargement and neighbourhood funds to support deinstitutionalisation processes was highlighted with examples given from Montenegro and pre-accession Romania. This is in spite of there being no specific mention in the regulations for these funding streams of deinstitutionalisation as a funding priority.

Discussion 2: Towards Deinstitutionalisation as a Global Funding Priority

DG DEVCO, European Commission stressed the core importance of children's rights in the EU's external co-operation policy and highlighted Uganda and Cambodia as two countries where there could be significant interest in developing more actions related to deinstitutionalisation as work had already started there. The European External Action Service introduced the relevant mechanisms which could be used to ensure that policy and funding directed outside the EU is fully consistent with human rights principles and could potentially include a prioritisation of deinstitutionalisation projects. She highlighted in particular Human Rights Dialogues and the European Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy which is being finalised this year.

CEO of the World Childhood Foundation and the Global Alliance for Children introduced the Global Alliance for Children. The Global Alliance for Children is an alliance of philanthropic, multilateral and government funders working to improve the lives of young children in low- and middle-income countries. It formed in 2013 as a direct response to (1) currently fragmented efforts to address young children’s essential needs (e.g., health, nutrition, cognitive stimulation, positive parenting and protection from abuse); and (2) a scarcity of evidence-based solutions linking early child development, family care and child protection. The growing list of
Alliance Members now includes the GHR Foundation (US), Lumos Foundation (UK), World Childhood Foundation (Sweden), UBS Optimus Foundation (Switzerland), World Bank (multilateral), USAID (bilateral), US Department of Labor (government agency), Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (observer; bilateral), EIM Group (global investment firm), Save the Children (global NGO) and Maestral International (US). The GAC is in the process of selecting 6 countries around the world in which to implement the Action Plan as pilot examples – working closely with government and other stakeholders. This means that those countries, if they wish to be involved, will receive greater support to implement their reform programmes for children. Work is underway in Cambodia and in the European region, Moldova is being explored as an option. More information from: www.globalallianceforchildren.org

Counselor for Political Affairs of the US Mission to the EU reaffirmed the importance of deinstitutionalisation as a tool in development as it produced results and led to quality of life improvements across many different sectors. The US Mission would be ready to support this process and co-operation with EU colleagues if that would be helpful.

Of the European Foundation Centre highlighted that it was also important to engage international foundations in this area. EFC will be setting up a working group on Deinstitutionalisation this year and hopes to build knowledge and understanding of the importance of only funding projects that help the transformation from an institutional to a family or community-based model of care. There is potential, she said, for public and private donors to work together to build models of good practice in this field.

Additional contributors from World Vision, Oak Foundation and UNICEF all welcomed this initiative and stressed the importance of targeting all relevant stakeholders. Oak Foundation suggested that these should include celebrities and faith based donors, volunteers and existing bodies which focus on sharing good practice on child protection.

Discussion 3: Practical steps for future co-ordination

The final session was co-ordinated by Lumos. It was agreed that there was significant interest in exploring the need for coherence among different funding mechanisms so that institutions or orphanages are no longer funded by international aid and that aid is channelled instead towards funding support for families and community based services. A dedicated working group with clear parameters was suggested as a next step. Lumos agreed to communicate with interested parties about taking this idea forward.

For further information please contact:

Email: @lumos.org.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)
Dear All,

Please receive attached the draft minutes of the Open Meeting of the European Expert Group on transition from institutional to community-based care that took place on 23 April. Thank you in advance for your comments.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

With best regards,

---------------------------------------------

secretariat of the EEG
mos

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.
Inclusion Europe has sent their apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. EG has thanked for hosting the meeting of the EEG.

Subject 1. Introduction and review on the progress since last open meeting of 6 December 2011.

Key updates and upcoming developments:

- The proposal on the common provisions and specific regulations is on discussion in the Council’s meeting of 24 April. However the Danish Presidency has put forward a compromise text on ex-ante conditionalities that removes the general conditionalities referring to non-discrimination, gender equality, and disability from the Commission proposal for the Common Provisions Regulation. DG
REGIO’s position in support of shift from institutional to community based care hasn’t changed; DG REGIO strongly supports this matter. Some of the organizations have released statement documents promoting the original approach. This kind of awareness raising efforts is very important (ØÉN).

- EDF, together with AGE Platform Europe, European Anti-Poverty Network, European Foundation Center, European Network Against Racism, ILGA-Europe, and Social Economy Europe have released an emergency statement to Member States this morning. It is the response to the fact that the general conditionalities dealing with anti-discrimination, gender equality and disability, together with the obligation of the Member States to report on actions related on disability, and the proposed 20% ring-fenced funds for social inclusion and poverty reduction are under threat in the Council discussions of 24 April. The process has just started, and other organizations can join too (Simona Giarratano).

- OHCHR just drafted a letter of similar character to send to heads of the permanent missions. Gerard Quinn, prestigious professor and Director of the Centre for Disability Law & Policy of the National University of Ireland, who is currently taking analysis work for OHCHR, has made the disability argument particularly strong. He prepared a memorandum entitled ‘Legal Implications of a removal of ex ante conditionalities as they apply to disability in the draft General Regulation on the Structural Funds’ that will be handled to head of missions in a more informal manner this afternoon (see e-mail sent by Ines Bulic on 24 April); OHCHR is organising a seminar of the 7 May introducing the study of professor Gerard Quinn, to which the participants are welcome; It’s important to continue coordinating and make consensual statements.

- The proposal of the Danish Presidency cannot go through without unanimity from member states.

- EEG should formulate its position on this important development.

Country updates:

1) Slovakia (Update by)

- We have agreed on the Strategy for De-institutionalisation of the Social Services and Alternative Care System and the Action Plan. Due to the political changes, we were not able to introduce any legal proposal in the Parliament from October until March. This situation has lead to delays on our schedule. The Draft Project - selected open tender for partners for national project - will go into formal consultation. However the Managing authority for the regional development programme hasn’t included yet the call for proposals in the indicative list of the calls. We are in the approval process. There will be a meeting at political level with the regional and local authorities to get approval for the budgets and they should have ERDF money available to be used for the transformation.

- Presented a letter from the Minister inviting the members to nominate a representative to the Committee of Experts for De-institutionalisation. The Committee is consultative body in charge with monitoring the implementation of the Strategy for De-institutionalisation of the Social Services and Alternative Care System in Slovakia.

- 23 august – EASPD will co-organise an event together with the Ministry in Slovak Republic.

2) Czech Republic (Update by)

- In Czech Republic 220 institutions exists in total (long term care) where aprox. 14 000 persons are living;
- 32 organisations are involved in the projects of transformation and 27 out of them have already started to move their clients to community based care;
- Aprox. 1100 persons with physical disabilities are involved;
- 19 transformation plans have already been adopted;
- Education courses on transformation management are organized in each region, courses for direct care workers, courses on individual assessment of clients;
- Analyses undertaken: analysis on the transformation risks; from May a transformation risks register will be available;
- In preparation: Analysis for providers and carers, Good practice manual, workshops for carers.
• PR activities - round tables in regions for the public and municipalities, articles, exhibitions. The aim is to introduce municipalities into the whole DI transformation project and the system and to prepare them for future cooperation;
• Main actors - Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs, National Centre for the Support of Transformation of Social Services, and municipalities.

3) Hungary (Update by)

• The Call for proposals for DI was published. The amount available is 25 million Euro;
• The government has included people with mental disabilities among the target groups, however made no compromise on the number of 50 people/home. On the more positive side, all projects must be approved by a committee, which includes NGOs.

4) Bulgaria (Update by)

• De-institutionalisation is going to be one of the government priorities for the next programming period. The Bulgarian government has proven to be one of the strongest supporters of ring-fencing 20% of the funds for social inclusion and poverty reduction;
• A has quit her position as the head of the Bulgarian child protection agency. It’s a tremendous loss for the reform in Bulgaria, but the Bulgarian government is committed to take it further under strong political leadership (such as of the deputy minister);
• There are six separate ESF operations undergoing, and ERDF and EDF actions are moving forward.

Lumos has raised some concerns as presented by the National Network for Children:
- Quality of the DI process, together with the fact that the expertise of NGOs is not properly handed over; the way the structural funds are designed does not allow participation of NGOs;
- The creation of small group homes of 12 children;
- The funding of the social services - the lack of investment of the funds from the closed homes and capacities in the new services;
- The quality of trainings;
- The workload for the social workers (an average of 112 cases / social worker / year).
- Lack of prevention measures.

 has emphasized the need to include other actors and clients, respectively the Ministries of Health.
 has drawn the attention to the Pleven case, a childcare institution with terrible conditions, where 16 children have died in the last 18 months.
 has explained that the Pleven institution is under the Ministry of Health. In Bulgaria a huge amount of work has been done to involve the ministry of health and there is a plan to close baby institutions, including Pleven but it has been very challenging to get the project going. Lumos was involved in assessment of the families having children with disabilities in institutions (Out of 1800 families, 53% wanted to get in contact with their children, more than 100 families have already gotten in contact since assessment started).
 has mentioned that the key policy operations are in place. However all the details of the implementation are very important. In the area of foster care there are operations that did not involve NGOs and this was the decision of Bulgarian government. Pleven case is illustrative of the reluctance of the ministry of health to participate in the reform. EC is monitoring closely the actions of the ministry of health (putting in place some sanctions).
 has emphasized that DI is not limited to Eastern European countries, and that rich countries are also working on their de-institutionalisation programmes.
 the European Network of (ex-) Users and Survivors of Psychiatry drew attention that in Czech Republic a women died in a caged bed. A joint reaction of Mental Health Europe and European Disability Forum has been sent to the government; We were informed that a group NGOs from Hungary has sent a letter - about 3 weeks ago - to both DG REGIO and Employment informing about the de-institutionalisation process and the call for proposals.

**Subject 2. Presentation and launching the process of consultation of the Common European Guidelines on DI and the Toolkit on Structural Funds**

 has made presentations of the Guidelines and the Toolkit (for presentations see email of 19 April from secretariat).
Subject 3. Open discussion

- Both Guidelines and Toolkit are useful documents;
- To make the difference between strategic level and implementation level (in the Toolkit);
- The selection criteria should target the managing authorities;
- Should be clearer what is coming from the regulation and what are our suggestions (some slides like indicators and indicative actions appear to be derived from the regulation, but they are not);
- The dimension of the mental health in the Guidelines is not visible enough;
- As for the timeline of the project – it's very much depending on the current situation how the MS will draft the programming docs, but a.s.a.p. would be the best;
- To establish indicators around inspections – how long should monitoring and evaluation last;
- While being aware of the discussion about the maximum number of persons in residential care, it is very important to indicate at least what is not a good number;
- Dissemination and translation of the Guidelines and Toolkit are very important;
- Toolkit to differentiate between the role of the monitoring committees and from the role of the managing authorities;
- To look at the living arrangements and employability;
- It is very good to have benchmarks also at the project level: calculation of unit costs for eligible activities and a list of eligible activities;
- Regarding the integrated approach – cannot actually mix the funds from the different DGs under one priority if not connected under one Operational Programme per country per DI;
- The re-institutionalistion effect of the economic crisis.

Next meeting date: To be determined.
Dear All,

As per my email of 13 April, please receive attached two presentations illustrating the content of the first draft of the Guidelines on transition from institutional to community-based care and Toolkit as resulting from the research phase. The presentations will be made under the Subject 2 of the Agenda, regarding the 'Launching of the consultation around the Guidelines'.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

With kind regards,

[Name]

Secretariat of the EEG
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Toolkit on the use of Structural Funds for the transition from institutional care to community-based services

23 April 2012

LUMOS

Toolkit outline

1. Purpose of the toolkit
2. Main principles and the legal context

Purpose of the toolkit

- Main purpose: to help all public authorities in Europe involved in the programming and implementation of Structural Funds (and other relevant EU funds) to ensure that these funds support the transition from institutional care to community-based services.

- Relevant EU Funds: ESF, ERDF, EARDF, IPA

- Target groups:
  - Desk officers of the European Commission;
  - Managing authorities, intermediate bodies, monitoring committees, and project promoters in the EU Member States and in acceding, candidate and potential candidate countries.

Main principles

- What we mean by transition from institutional to community-based care (deinstitutionalisation)
- Why EU funds should support the transition to community-based care
  - The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
  - Cost-benefit of deinstitutionalisation: better use of taxpayers' money for a more inclusive growth
  - Structural Funds to support structural change in the health and social care systems
  - The importance of supporting sustainable reforms
  - Deinstitutionalisation as a tool for social innovation

The legal context

Legal basis to use the Structural Funds to promote deinstitutionalisation:
- Current regulations 2007-2013
  - General regulation (Article 16 non-discrimination)
  - ESF (social inclusion)
  - ERDF (health, social and education infrastructure)

- ESF regulation
  - Preamble (whereas 11): the ESF should promote the transition from institutional to community-based care
  - Article 8: specific actions with a view to facilitating the transition from institutional to community-based care

- ERDF regulation
  - Article 5: investing in health and social infrastructure which contribute to transition from institutional to community-based services

Draft regulations 2014-2020

- Common provisions regulation
  - Objective 9: "Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty"
  - Ex-ante conditionality: UN Convention Rights of Persons with Disabilities, measures to promote the shift from institutional to community-based care within the anti-poverty Strategies

- ESF regulation
  - Preamble (whereas 11): the ESF should promote the transition from institutional to community-based care
  - Article 8: specific actions with a view to facilitating the transition from institutional to community-based care

- ERDF regulation
  - Article 5: investing in health and social infrastructure which contribute to transition from institutional to community-based services
The Common Strategic Framework 2014-2020
The CSF aims to translate the thematic objectives of the Structural Funds regulations into key actions to be supported by the funds.

ESF key actions:
• "support for the transition from institutional care to community-based care services for children without parental care, people with disabilities, the elderly, and people with mental disorders, with a focus on integration between health and social services"
• "targeted early-childhood education and care services, including integrated approaches combining childcare, education, health and parental support, with a particular focus on the prevention of children's placement in institutional care".

ERDF key actions:
• "targeted infrastructure investments to support the shift from institutional to community-based care, which enhances access to independent living in the community with high-quality services"
• "support infrastructure investments in childcare, elderly care and long-term care".

General Implementation principles: the CSF funds may not be used for actions contributing to any form of segregation and discrimination.

Further key actions included under other thematic objectives (education, enhancing institutional capacity) can be complementary to the implementation of deinstitutionalisation measures.

Management of the Structural funds
Programming - involves negotiations between the European Commission and the Member States' national and regional authorities on the planning documents for a period of seven years;
Implementation - consists of the allocation and spending of the funds, normally through the selection and execution of projects;
Monitoring and evaluation - run in parallel with the first two stages, with the aim to ensure their quality, effectiveness and consistency

The Toolkit describes how to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate deinstitutionalisation reforms supported by the Structural Funds.

Programming - Partnership contracts
The partnership contracts should include a strategic vision of how individual Member States are going to use the relevant EU funds, in particular the ESF, the ERDF and the EARDF, to support the transition from institutional to community-based care.

Problem analysis - Article 14 (a) (I)
• Assessment of the needs of the population and the available services in the country
• Identification of the underlying causes of institutionalisation such as poverty, lack of services in the community, migration, stigma, professional attitudes

Expected results - Article 14 (a) (III)
Development of community-based alternatives to institutional care should be included as one of the main results expected for the objective "promoting social inclusion and combating poverty"

Main principles for the strategic use of the funds to achieve this result
• The Funds cannot be used to support long-stay residential institutions, regardless of their size
• The Funds must be allocated in a strategic, forward-looking manner
• All the relevant key actions under other thematic objectives (in particular "education" and "enhancing institutional capacity) should be planned within an integrated approach
• Users of services and their representative organisations, as well as service providers and other stakeholders, should be consulted throughout all the process of programming and implementation of the Funds

Integrated approach - Article 14 (c)
The Partnership contracts should identify the development of community-based alternatives to institutional care as an area of intervention where the ESF, the ERDF and the EARDF should work together in a complementary manner.

Fulfilment of ex ante conditionality - Article 14 (d) (II)
• Ex ante conditionality to the thematic objective "promoting social inclusion and combating poverty": national strategy for poverty reduction, which should include measures for the shift from residential to community-based care.
• The anti-poverty strategies should include a timetable and some key principles to guide the reforms towards the development of community-based services
• These key principles will need to be translated into:
  • specific national and/or regional strategies and action plans on deinstitutionalisation
  • the relevant Operational Programmes
• General conditionality about the existence of a mechanism which ensures effective implementation and application of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
Programming - Operational Programmes

**Identification of need** - Article 87 2 (a) (I)
Information should be provided on:

- ESF OPs:
  - People in institutional care, including disaggregated data
  - People in need of support living in the community
  - Type of services provided and the number of people served
  - Human resources
  - Legal and regulatory framework (to ensure services meet certain quality standards)
  - Resources allocated to the institutional care and to community-based services
  - Access to mainstream services

- ERDF OPs:
  - Number, size and location of long-stay residential institutions
  - Number, size and location of supported living units
  - Infrastructures housing community-based services, including where they are located

**Priority axis “Promoting social Inclusion and combating poverty”**

This part of an OP should describe the investment priorities and corresponding specific objectives, including output and result indicators, and a description of the planned actions to achieve the specific objective.

**ESF indicative actions**

- Needs assessment
- Activities to facilitate cross-sectoral coordination and management of the process of transition to community-based care
- Development of an integrated network of community-based services (including prevention and family support services, such as personal assistance, family counseling, day care, financial assistance, job search assistance, respite services, services at home, substitute family care (foster care), specialized residential care (such as respite care)
- Improving the quality and increasing capacity of existing community-based services
- Staff training and curriculum development for posts in the community-based services
- Improving the status and professionalisation of social workers
- Development of a communication strategy aimed at raising public awareness on the right to live independently in the community
- Activities to facilitate user involvement

**ESF Indicative Output Indicators**

- Number of individuals who have left institutional care
- Number of people accessing community-based services
- Number of new community-based services established
- Number of existing community-based services supported
- Number of long-stay institutions closed down
- Number of staff that were trained or retrained to work in the community-based services
- Number of activities to facilitate the involvement of service users
- Number of awareness raising activities aimed at tackling stigma and prejudice

**ESF Indicative Result Indicators**

- Increased range of services in the community
- Increased number of people leaving institutional care
- Decrease in the number of new admissions into institutions
- Improved access to mainstream services
- Improved regulation of the quality of services
- Increased number of staff trained to work in community-based services
- Improved involvement of service users
- Increased awareness about the right to live in the community

**ERDF indicative actions**

- Development and adaptation of social, health and education infrastructures for the provision of community-based services
- Improving the quality and capacity of existing infrastructures for community-based services
- Plans for the future use of the institutional infrastructure (buildings and material resources)
- Development of accessible housing for people with disabilities in the community
- Development of supported housing options integrated in the community
- Investment into social housing which will be available to those leaving the institutional care or at risk of being institutionalised
- Eligibility of actions on housing to be checked in accordance with the implementation rules developed by DG REGIO

**Programming - Operational Programmes**

**ERDF indicative Output Indicators**

- Number of supported living units
- Number of new or adapted infrastructures housing community-based services
- Number of long-stay institutions closed down
- Number of adaptations in the mainstream services

**ERDF indicative Result Indicators**

- Increased availability of ordinary housing in the community
- Increased housing options in the community
- Increased access to mainstream services
- Reduced number of institutional places

**Involvement of partners - Article 87 2 (e) (III)**

The OP should include a list of the “actions taken to involve the partners in the preparation of the operational programme, and the role of the partners in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the operational programme”.

Among the partners that should be involved are users of services, their representative organisations, families and service providers.
Implementation

- Selection criteria
  - How to ensure that projects funded will not segregate or exclude people from society, or that they will genuinely support the transition?
  - Role for the monitoring committees and desk officers at the European Commission
- Involvement of service users
- Questions and indicators for the selection of projects
- Good practice examples and lessons learned

Example questions and indicators

- Process
- Target groups
- Legal and regulatory framework
- Services
  - Living units
  - Other support services
- Resources (financial and human)
- User involvement
- Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring Checklist

- Active involvement of service users in the work of the monitoring committees
- Focus on indicators, progress towards targets and milestones defined during programming
- Progress reports to cover fulfilment of ex ante conditionalities (transition and UNCRPD)
- Annual review meetings to discuss progress toward milestones and fulfilment of ex ante conditionalities
- Recommendations by monitoring committees followed up with actions
- Action taken by EC in case ex ante conditionalities are not fulfilled
- Summary of progress reports publicly available

Evaluation Checklist

- Covers all stages of implementation – before, during and after
- Focus is on effectiveness, efficiency and the impact of projects funded
- Monitoring committees, involving civil society representatives, examine evaluations
- EC to ensure that evaluations provide adequate information about the projects funded
- Based on the outcome, the necessary actions are taken by the MS or the EC
- Evaluation process is adequately resourced
- Evaluations are carried out by independent experts
- Evaluations are available to the public

Questions for discussion

- Is there anything that is missing?
- Is there anything that should not be there?
- How can we make it more helpful for your work?
- Would you be interested in providing written feedback?
- Would you be interested in a training session on the Guidelines? What should this cover?
Common European Guidelines on the Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care (Working Title)

European Expert Group
23 April 2012

Objectives
• Raise awareness at EU level
• Ensure that EU and national policies and funding mechanisms support DI
• Offer expertise and impartial advice to EU and Member States
• Encourage Member States to fully involve user groups
• Gather and enhance knowledge
• Gather and promote practical examples of good practice

Target groups
• EU level officials (Social Agenda)
• EC and MS officials (Structural Funds)
• Politicians and civil servants in MS
• Local authorities
• Service providers
• NGOs and DPOs advocating for change

Introduction
• Key principles highlighted:
  — Vision
  — Engaging with civil society
  — Stakeholder involvement
  — Leadership for change

Guidelines Chapters
• Introduction and preface (scope and purpose etc.)
• Definition of the key terms
• Moving from institutional care to community-based services
  • Making the case for developing community-based alternatives to institutions
  • Developing strategies and action plans
  • Analysing the situation
  • Developing community-based services
  • Allocating financial, material and human resources
  • Developing individual plans
  • Preparing the individual and communities for the transition
  • Defining, monitoring and evaluating the quality of services
  • Developing the workforce
  • Establishing the legal framework for community-based services
• Horizontal aspects – user involvement, mainstreaming, working with the communities

Definitions
• No size-based definition of institution — instead, definition of institutional care
• De-institutionalisation
• Alternative care, including difference between family-based and family-like care (based on UN Guidelines)
• Community-based services and independent Living
• User groups
Chapter 1: Making the case
- Number of people in institutional care
- Political commitment at European and international level
  - At EU level: Charter, Europe 2020, Social OMC, Disability Strategy, Mental Health Pact, Structural Funds Regulations
- Human rights concerns
- Irreversible effects of institutionalisation
  - Focus on children, esp. 0 – 3
- Better use of resources

Chapter 2: Strategies and action plans
- Participants and process
- Developing a strategy
  - Principles
  - Components
- Developing an action plan
  - Key elements
  - Plans for individual institutions earmarked for closure

Chapter 3: Analysing the situation
- Assessment of needs
  - Defining an 'institution'
  - Information about institutions
  - Reasons for institutionalisation
  - Social and health care systems
  - Barriers to inclusion in mainstream services
- Assessment of resources (human, financial and material)
- Information about existing services

Chapter 4: Developing CBS
- Principles
- Prevention of abandonment and institutionalisation
  - Examples of services for families and children
  - Gate-keeping
- Alternative family-based options for children
- Community support and Independent Living
  - Examples of services
- Living arrangements
  - Accessible housing, supported living, group homes
- Involvement of users

Chapter 5: Allocating resources (financial, material and human)
- Planning stage
  - 'Hump' and double running costs
- Workforce considerations
  - Informal care
- Funding the new services
  - Ring-fencing the funding
  - Centralised or devolved?
  - Consumer-directed
  - Multiple funding sources
- Addressing potential barriers

Chapter 6: Developing individual plans
- Involvement of users (children and adults)
- Individual assessment
- Person-centred approaches to planning
- Developing individual care plans
- Challenges
  - Effects of institutionalisation
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  - Young people leaving care
  - Adults
• Supporting carers
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  - Different standards for institutions and CBS
• Implementing standards at different levels
  - Central government
  - Local/regional
  - Practice settings
• Defining the content
  - Different quality frameworks
• Monitoring and evaluation
• Inspecting institutional care

Chapter 9: Developing the workforce

• Planning stage
  - Paradigm shift
  - Workforce strategy
• Selection of staff
• Training and re-training
• Social work workforce
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Chapter 10: Legal framework for CBS

• Right to live in the community
• Legal capacity
  - Link between guardianship and institutionalisation
• Involuntary treatment and involuntary placement
• Provision of community-based services
• Access to mainstream services

Key dates 2012

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<td>First draft of the Guidelines</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>First draft of the Toolkit and consultation</td>
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Questions for discussion

• Is there anything that is missing?
• Is there anything that should not be there?
• How can we make it more helpful for your work?
• Would you be interested in providing written feedback?
• Would you be interested in a training session on the Guidelines? What should this cover?
Contact details

Thank you!
Dear All, 

Please receive the invitation to the next Open Meeting of the European Expert Group on Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care to be held on Monday, 23 April, from 14h to 16h. The meeting will take place in the building J54, situated in Rue Joseph II, 54, floor 0, room number 124.

The members of the Group are also invited to stay for an internal meeting from 16h to 17h30.

The agenda of the Open Meeting will be circulated soon.

Please let me know if you need any further information at this stage.

With best wishes,

Secretariat of the EEG
Advocacy Officer, Lumos

35 Rue Royale, B-1000 Brussels
t: +32 (0) | m: +32 (0) | e: @lumos.org.uk | www.lumos.org.uk
<http://www.lumos.org.uk/>
Many thanks for your reply and availability. Would 10:00 at DG JUST be fine for you?

Fine for me, just tell me what time would suit, welcome to come here of course), and I’ll block it.
Lumos, a J K Rowling funded NGO, chairs the expert group/coalition of NGOs on de-institutionalisation. This group is quite remarkable in achieving concerted efforts by civil society, mobilising DG REGIO, DG EMPL, DG SANCO staff to address DI, achieving the buy in of some MS authorities (e.g. SK very committed and present at meetings).

Funding: The SF package for 2007-13 is €347bn. It is difficult to ascertain what proportion of funding goes to institutions/deinstitutionalisation. DG AGRI also spends money on institutions under the Rural Development Fund; sometimes adversely funding efforts to keep institutions going where they are the lifeline of rural communities.

CZ: Social care homes cater to adults and children. 33 such homes are to be closed - €55m budget. Transfer to community centres. Examples of structural reconversions include from long stay hospital to flats.

In Europe, it is estimated that one million children are still in institutions and UNICEF says that the numbers are increasing.

Capacity-building must go hand in hand with the dismantling of institutions

One obstacle is that institutions are often funded per head, meaning there is no incentive to lower numbers.

BG: In Bulgaria responsibility for DI lies with the Ministry of Labour. LUMOS has worked on ensuring that an assessment is carried out (tool, training, consultants) of all children in institutions. In an assessment they did, they found 270 children out of 1800 who were starving. They asked the government to introduce emergency measures. The Pleven institute is a baby institute for abandoned children. Staff time is in issue in places like Pleven (there is no specialist care such as speech and language therapy for children with eating/drinking difficulties). There is also an issue with children with hydrocephalus (water on the brain), where 167 children were found untreated. The authorities could not afford to pay for surgical intervention because the shunts required cost €200-€300. The government has now agreed to pay for the shunts.

RO: 600 children died as a result of hydrocephalus, for want of medical intervention.

Definitions of institutions vary, with "residential special schools" sometimes below the radar

Much segregation: children easily dispatched to residential schools for the deaf/learning disabilities, after an assessment in Year 1 of primary school.

Where children are placed far from home, parents may not be able to visit and situations can quickly turn into "abandonment/adoption.

Deinstitutionalisation also includes detention centres: For example in CZ 3500 children who had been abused were in residential detention centres

Victims of abuse may be housed in the same institutions as offenders

Lumos is working with CZ, BG, Montenegro on strengthening child protection systems.

They have carried out social worker case audits (caseloads per social worker give rise to concern: one SW may have up to 500 cases)

Training in child protection is provided by Lumos
Footnote:
Despite the major challenges remaining with regard to children in institutions, on 25.4.2012, in the Council (http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/12/st08/st08207-ad02re02_en12.pdf) the general ex ante conditionalities on anti discrimination, gender equality and disability have been withdrawn, as well as the reference to the "shift from institutional to community-based care" in the thematic conditionality 10 concerning the social inclusion and anti poverty objective. Various actors are lobbying the EP, etc.
To be monitored.

European Commission
DG JUSTICE
Unit C1 Fundamental rights and rights of the child

EU children's rights website: http://ec.europa.eu/0-18/
MS Fundamental Right pages: https://e-justice.europa.eu/content/fundamental_rights-176-en.do
Call for tender on children's involvement in judicial proceedings EU27 - deadline 8 June 2012 for tenders:
http://ec.europa.eu/justicenewsroom/contracts/2012_131973_en.htm
D6 Justice calls for proposals (grants):
http://ec.europa.eu/justicenewsroom/contracts/index_en.htm
many thanks for your email. There is quite a lot of literature on DI for other categories of people than children, including standards. who is working as a researcher for our DI expert group common project on developing DI guidelines, is collecting all the relevant legal, policy and academic documents which will be included and referenced in the guidelines. As for your suggestions on indicators, we have just started the working groups of the project and we also discussed about the possibility of including indicators, so we’ll definitely look into that as well (and take into account your suggestion on focus on quality rather than quantity).

Upon agreement of all the NGOs participating in the project, we will certainly share the first draft with you and the other interested Commission services, and then organise an open meeting of the group where we can present the first draft and gather your views and suggestions. As for indicative dates for the informal consultation and the open meeting, it depends of course on how the work is going to proceed. According to our indicative project timeline we hope to have a first draft around mid-March. This would mean starting the informal consultation then, and organise the open meeting around end of March/beginning of April. In any case please consider this as indicative, since of course both the first draft and the date of the meeting need to be agreed by all the NGOs. I will keep you duly updated about these developments.

I hope this was helpful.

With my best regards,

---

As my questions do not only concern children, I should also have addressed you.

Here in the Commission we are looking at our work and role in de-institutionalisation. There is quite a good list of standards applicable mainly to children - but do you have other standards available for different target groups (the aged, mental health patients)? It would be helpful for all of us if these standards are clearly included and referenced in any guidance you draw up, so that we can all benchmark them in a transparent manner.

Secondly, in case there’s an opportunity to suggest some suitable indicators for de-institutionalisation, has your group done any work there? Will the guidance include proposals of relevant indicators? We want to keep the focus clearly on quality rather than quantity.
Lastly, when might you consult the Commission informally on the draft guidance?

Best regards,

Relevant reference documents and standards:

Reference documents

UN Convention on the rights of the child (notably Article 3.3)

UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (Article 19 in particular)

Report of the Ad Hoc Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care:
http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=614& furtherNews=yes


www.ec.europa.eu/esf/BlobServlet?docId=233&langId=en

UN Guidelines for the alternative care of children - a United Nations framework

European declaration on the health of children and young people with intellectual disabilities and their families (signed by WHO, Unicef and RO Min for Health, 26.11.2010)

*WHO Declaration Better health, better lives: children and young people with intellectual disabilities and their families.*
Quality4Children Standards for out-of-home childcare in Europe (and see also the toolkit)


(There's also a comparison by Nigel Cantwell of Q4C and the UN Guidelines)

Council of Europe recommendation on children living in residential institutions (2005) and follow-up:

http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/familypolicy/enfance/resstitutions_en.asp

Book for children and young people in care: discover your rights!


SOS Children's villages: Quality care counts

http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/About-us/Library/Pages/Quality-Care-Counts.aspx

SOS Children's villages: ageing out of care (report, background reading)


The SOS Children's villages I matter campaign (youth empowerment/participation project)

http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/About-us/Library/Pages/Facts-and-figures-that-matter-copy.aspx

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 12:39 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Transition to community-based care

There were queries from other DGs as to standards and guidelines existing for target groups other than children and I think all those present would welcome that existing standards are benchmarked and incorporated into the expert group guidance. Are you aware of other standards given those I listed focussed mainly on children?

Is there any information on when COM will be informally consulted on the draft guidance?
Dear Both,

There are also standards for other target groups referenced in the Forgotten Europeans study (page 42 ff), as the list below focuses on children.

Margaret

---

Dear [Name],

One complementary remark to our discussion last week. In 1. Purpose of the toolkit you read Common European Guidelines. It would be good to reference there the various existing standards, what do you think? You can find a list in the attachment.

Best regards,
Dear all,

as a follow-up to the last meeting of the European Expert Group on Transition from Institutional to Community-based care, please find attached FYI a common statement issued by the group on the ex ante conditionalities relevant to DI, which is being sent to the Member States Permanent Representations, the European Parliament and circulated through other communication channels by the expert group members.

Best regards,
as discussed yesterday during the open meeting of the European expert group on transition from institutional to community-based care, I'm sending to you a first feedback on the discussion held today in the Council of the EU on the future cohesion policy legislative package.

Unfortunately, the information that we had about the withdrawal, from the draft Common provisions regulation, of the ex ante conditionalities relevant to deinstitutionalisation has proven to be true. The Council has agreed on a "partial general approach" on this specific issue, which apparently is not an oxymoron in the Council decision making jargon. The press release of today's Council meeting (http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/genaff/129759.pdf) explains that "A general approach is a political agreement of the Council pending the adoption of a first reading position by the European Parliament. The general approach on the cohesion policy legislative package is partial since some elements are excluded, in particular the sums to be devoted to cohesion policy and the eligibility of different regions which will be decided under the EU's new multiannual financial framework".

As you can see from the agreed compromise text (http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/12/st08/st08207-ad02re02.en12.pdf) the general ex ante conditionalities on anti discrimination, gender equality and disability have been withdrawn, as well as the reference to the "shift from institutional to community-based care" in the thematic conditionality 10 concerning the social inclusion and anti poverty objective.

As discussed during the internal meeting, I can prepare a brief draft "position paper" explaining the importance of those ex ante conditionalities for the use of structural funds to support the transition from institutional to community-based care, advocating for their reinsertion within the next steps of the negotiations. This draft will then be shared with the expert group members that will comment and decide how to use it.

This email is addressed also to the colleagues from the European Commission that were present yesterday (and others who have been closely following this process) since it would be very much appreciated to receive from them any advice on how the EEG should proceed on this quite delicate issue (both in tactical and strategic terms).

Best regards,

LUMOS

www.lumos.org.uk

35 Rue Royale, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
phone: +32 2 641 22 00 | email: lumos@lumos.org.uk

Please consider the environment before printing this email.
Dear [Name],

FYI please see an article about the link between child trafficking, major sport events (London Olympics and Eurocup Poland/Ukraine) and institutionalisation. I’m going to send this information also to the EU Anti-trafficking coordinator.


Best wishes,

[Name]

LUMOS
www.lumos.org.uk

35 Rue Royale, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
phone: [Number] email: [Number]@lumos.org.uk

This email and any attachments to it are confidential. Any use, copying or disclosure other than by the intended recipient is unauthorised. If you are not the person for whom this email is intended, please notify the sender immediately by calling +44 20 7253 6464 or emailing postmaster@lumos.org.uk and delete this message and any copies from your computer and network. Lumos Foundation (Lumos) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales number: 5611912 | Registered charity number: 1112575 | Registered office: 12-14 Beny Street, London, EC1V 0AU, United Kingdom.
I hope this email finds you well. Please find attached the first draft of the DI Structural Funds Toolkit as results from the research phase and the internal NGOs consultation.

Please also see below an email exchange on a "focus group" meeting that we have planned with Structural Funds Desk Officers from DG REGIO and DG EMPL, with the main aim to test with them how the toolkit can be useful (and used) for their work on the current and future SF programming period. Talking with I thought that, since you've been closely followed the whole process, you also might be interested to join this focus group. Of course we would be very glad to have you there. Please let me know if you're interested (and available). The meeting will be on 27 June, from 14h to 17h, at DG EMPL SPA 3.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

From: martedì 12 giugno 2012 15:59
To: coordinator@community-living.info
Cc: 
Subject: Draft od the DI toolkit on the use of structural funds for the meeting of 27 June 14h-17h

Dear all,

as promised I'm sending you a draft of the DI toolkit on the use of structural funds, which is the result of the research phase and internal NGOs consultation. This draft will be the basis for our discussion on the meeting of 27 June. Of course please don't hesitate to contact me before then if you have any questions or comments.

Looking forward to meeting you all on the 27th.

Best regards,
Dear [Name],

Thank you very much for the meeting we had earlier this week. I am sending you attached our recommendations of which you received a hard copy.

As we said in the meeting, we hope DI of children will be addressed during the Forum on children’s rights. We would be happy to contribute to its content if you see any opportunity for this. I understand that you also met with [Name] this week. Do keep us in mind for your work related to the Communication on Child Protection that you referred to.

The Global Partnership on Children with Disabilities Task Force on Child Protection that we chair and hold secretariat is finalising a detailed literature review on child protection and children with disabilities which may be of interest to you. We will circulate that as soon as it is ready.

Best wishes,

Rue Royale / Koningsstraat 35
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium
Tel.:
Mob.:
Email:

LUMOS
Protecting Children. Providing Solutions.

t.: +44 20 7253 6464; www.wearelumos.org

With your help, we can change the lives of millions of children

Get Involved
From: vendredi 20 mars 2015 15:18
Sent: vendredi 20 mars 2015 15:18
To: (EEAS); (DEVCO); (JUST); (EMPL)
Subject: J. K. Rowling on the SDGs: Don't leave families behind
Importance: High

Dear All,

I would like to inform you about the campaign on the SDGs which Lumos has launched. Please see below the email we have sent to colleagues from the NGO sector to mobilise them for action.

Any support or ideas on how to take this further you could provide us with would be most appreciated.

Best wishes,

Dear Colleagues,

As you are well aware, the United Nations is in the process of defining a post-2015 development agenda. This 15-year agenda will be launched at a Summit in September 2015, which is the target date for realising the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The post-2015 agenda seeks to place people at the heart of sustainable development. Many of children’s holistic needs are included in the Synthesis Report on the Post-2015 Agenda and the Open Working Group proposal for Sustainable Development Goals, most notably health care, education, and protection from violence, exploitation, and abuse.

In a letter sent to international leaders this week, Lumos Founder and President J.K. Rowling noted that while there is widespread agreement that the post-2015 agenda should “leave no one behind”, as currently conceived, the Sustainable Development Goals are leaving families – and children living outside of family care – very far behind. They are not mentioned once.

Indeed, caring and protective families are central to a children’s health, development, and protection. It will be extraordinarily difficult to achieve targets in health, early childhood development, education, and protection without a concerted effort to engage families.

Services delivered to children do not work in a vacuum. They are most effective when they consider the vital role of family in children’s lives and well-being.

Representatives of the United Nations Member States will be meeting in New York next week to share perspectives on how the post-2015 goals and targets should be framed.

Join J.K. Rowling and Lumos in a call to ensure that the Sustainable Development Goals include families – and children living without them. We believe that it is absolutely within our reach to significantly reduce the number of children outside family care, including a reduction by half of the number of children living in institutions by 2030.

We have launched a social media campaign that mobilises our supporters and targets key decision makers who can influence and initiate change. We are asking supporters to directly appeal to key influencers through social media by...
Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your excellent chairing and presentations during the workshop on child protection systems and children with disabilities, illustrating some of the difficulties and challenges as well as good practice, and your clear contribution to the overall success of the Forum. A special thanks to Camille for the great summary of our discussions and reporting in the plenary.

Initial feedback both regarding the Forum as well as this specific workshop was very positive. Shortly we will send around a questionnaire to all participants (almost 200 people) and try to follow up on the feedback and suggestions we receive.

We will try to get the reports and presentations/speeches online as quickly as possible to avoid losing momentum.

Thank you again for making this year's Forum a meaningful and successful event.

Have a good weekend!

European Commission
Directorate-General Justice
Directorate C Unit C1: Fundamental rights and Rights of the Child

Dear all,

Here is the final update of the set-up of the Forum and the Workshop No5 - The role of child protection systems in protecting children with disabilities.

• Overall, we will have over 190 participants at the Forum, well over the ceiling of 140 we had originally set. Please find attached the final list of participants.

• There will be 27 participants in our workshop, please see the list below

• The workshop set up is as follows:

  **Chairs:**
  
  , Head of Unit, Rights of persons with disabilities, DG JUSTICE, European Commission
  
  Inclusion Europe

  **Panelists:**
  
  (Office of Ombudsman in Greece)
  
  (LUMOS)
  
  (Integrale Vroeghulp, NL) and
  
  (Integrated Youth Affairs, NL)

  **Rapporteur:**
  
  , Inclusion Europe (tbc)
inter-active workshop. If you can think of an open question to the workshop participants at the end of your speech, this might help us get the ball rolling.

- Your presentation should not be longer than +/- 10 min (max). We want to allow enough time for discussion.

- Please be aware of the background paper prepared for this workshop and the general background paper prepared for the Forum. They can serve as guidance for your presentation:

- As mentioned, please try and address some of the following cross-cutting issues, such as: data, child participation, best interests of the child, access to justice and child friendly justice, violence, poverty, inclusion. This would ensure that we are looking at the issue holistically, from different angles, and that we are looking at the role of different actors (professionals, organisations, ministries, agencies, parents, children etc).

- Time permitting, we could all meet in the evening on Tuesday during or after dinner and finalise any open issues.

I am looking forward to a good conference on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Regards
From: 
To: 
Cc: 

<JUST-CHILDREN-RIGHTS@ec.europa.eu>, <

Date: 12.05.2015 18:01
Subject: FW: Training course "Ending Institutionalisation: Applied Studies in Reforming Care Services"

Dear colleagues and members of the informal Expert Group on the rights of the child,

We have been informed of a four-day training course in London on ending institutionalization 7 - 10th of July, please for details below.

Our apologies for sending this through so late, the organisers have informed us that there are still two places available should someone from our informal Expert Group on the rights of the child be interested. Please inform <n í? j (see below and CC) should you be interested.

The link to registration is below also.

Many thanks and best wishes

From:
Sent: 17 April 2015 11:50
To: ' . ¿Peceurt, ¿uroo3 . eu' 
Subject: Training course "Ending Institutionalisation: Applied Studies in Reforming Care Services"

Dear

I am writing to let you know that we will be running a four-day training course in London on 'Ending Institutionalisation: Applied Studies in Reforming Care Services for Children' during the 7th - 10th July 2015. I might have already mentioned the course to you and I just wanted to send you some details and see if you can recommend participants who would benefit from the training?

You can see more information regarding the training in the attached flyer and on our website here: http://wearelumos.org/event/1437

The four day training is free to attend but
delegates are responsible for their travel and accommodation costs. We will also be sending a list of hotels for participants to contact directly to book their accommodation and further directions to the venue.

The course usually starts at 9am on the first day and finishes around 4pm on the last day.

We should be able to reserve a couple of places for participants recommended by you, but as the course always attracts a lot of interest and the places are limited, I would appreciate if you could let us know by 8 May please, so that we can consider other interested applicants, if needed.

Let me know, if you need any further information on the course at this point.

Kind regards,

Please note we have recently moved to the following address:

With your help, we can change the lives of millions of children

Please consider the environment before printing this email. This email and any attachments to it are confidential. Any use, copying or disclosure other than by the intended recipient is unauthorised. If you are not the person for whom this email is intended, please notify the sender immediately by calling +44 13525 003 00 or emailing

@lumos.org.uk and delete this message and
Ending Institutionalisation: 
Applied Studies in Reforming Care Services for Children

7-10 July 2015 
The Royal Foundation of St Katharine, 2 Butcher Row, London E14 8DS

About the training course

This four-day training course has been designed specifically for an international audience to guide policy-makers and senior level managers, and practitioners through the process of deinstitutionalisation (DI) and to help identify what needs to be done, at what stage and by whom. It helps explore the risks and the challenges of this process but also offers practical solutions that have been developed by peers and DI experts with decades of experience in deinstitutionalisation programmes.

The week long training is free to attend for relevant policy makers and senior level practitioners but delegates are responsible for their travel and accommodation costs. The training will be delivered in English only but we welcome enquiries about the course being developed in other languages for specific audiences.

"What I liked most about the training was the rich base of knowledge, the access to additional resources, group work and honest communication. The DI training was practical and inspiring, as well as evidence-based. It was useful to learn how to break the problem down and work systematically in the smaller parts - it made the whole process less daunting and more manageable."

- 2014 participant

Who should attend

- Government Ministers
- Senior policy-makers who are involved in social welfare and reform, children's services, education or health services.
- Local politicians and local government officials with responsibility for children's services
- NGO staff responsible for designing and delivering DI services

Course outline

The course is delivered through a mixture of tutor-led presentations, group discussions, break-out groups and workshops.

Booking Information

For further information or to apply for a place on this course, please contact

wearelumos.org, with a copy to wearelumos.org or call +44 (0)

Application deadline: 8 May
From: ШЯ/ШЯЯЯШ (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 2:13 PM
To: JMMMMHflp|9kB-AVRAMOPOULOS); <(JUST)
Subject: FW: Meeting with

FYI

From: ШЯЯЯЯШ (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 1:18 PM
To: ШЯЯЯЯШ (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)
Subject: RE: Meeting with

Dear (JST)

Prior to our meeting today, I am sending you Lemos' Recommendations in the area of anti-trafficking.

We look forward to our discussion.

Kind regards,
As you requested, some lines for the transparency register about this meeting:

I met with representatives of the UK NGO LUMOS. LUMOS presented the broad lines of its activities in favour of deinstitutionalisation, the process of transforming the care of children separated from their families from an institutional to a family and community based model of care, and the progress achieved so far. I explained that child protection is a priority for the Commission and invited LUMOS to make the Commission aware of relevant issues and developments with this regard. He showed the commitment of the Commission to promote international standards in the area of child protection, taking account of the child’s best interests.

Best

DG Home Affairs and Migration
European Commission
E-mail:

From: (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 12:02 PM
To: (HOME)
Cc: (JUST)
Subject: RE: LUMOS - Meeting request - PA - Deinstitutionalisation and the rights of children

Dear

Thank you very much for your efforts.
That’s great that you can participate.
Best regards,

From: (HOME)
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 11:47 AM
To: (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)
Cc: (HOME); (HOME); (HOME); (HOME); (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)
Subject: RE: LUMOS - Meeting request - PA - Deinstitutionalisation and the rights of children
Dear [Name],

Thank you for your message.

I had look at this organisation and it appears that the topic to discuss is deinstitutionalisation of children (eg orphans should be with foster families rather than in orphanages, because they will suffer a lot of harm in those institutions).

The EU policy and position on that (indeed in favour of de-institutionalisation, as advocated by this NGO) is run by our colleagues in DG JUST.

I believe our policies in DG HOME are only relevant at the sides (eg prevent child sexual exploitation, unaccompanied minors) and only to a limited extent.

I have contacted them, and, despite the extremely short notice, [Name] has kindly agreed to be present at the meeting.

I can also be present, if you wish, but I can only have a very limited role.

Best

CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS
DG Home Affairs and Migration
European Commission
Tel. +1
E-mail:

From: [Name] (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)  
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 11:24 AM  
To: [Name] (Cesar (HOME))  
Subject: LUMOS - Meeting request - PA - Deinstitutionalisation and the rights of children  
Importance: High  

Dear [Name],

[Name] would need you to be present today at this meeting at 16:00 here in BERL. Please let me know if you would be available. Otherwise we should find some replacement. Thank you.

Best regards,
Dear [Name],

Many thanks for your prompt reply.

Tuesday 9 June at 16h00 is fine. I will be accompanied by [Name], EU Advocacy Support Officer at Lumos, in cc to this email.

We look forward to meeting you.

Kind regards,

[Name]

Rue Royale / Koningsstraat 35
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium
Mob.: [Number]
Email: [Mail]
From: [Name]  
Sent: 07 May 2015 17:02  
To: [Name]  
Subject: RE: LUMOS Meeting request - PA - Deinstitutionalisation and the rights of children

Dear [Name],

Thank you for your e-mail.

I can propose you following dates:

Tuesday 9 June at 16h00
Wednesday 10 June at 11h00

Please let me know what would suit to you the best.

Kind regards,

[European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs & Citizenship]

European Commission

Dear [Name],

As per our phone conversation, please, see below my communication with [Name] regarding the meeting with [Name].

I look forward to hearing from you regarding the exact date and time of the meeting. As I said, I will be away till 4 June so, please, suggest a time from 5 June on.

Many thanks,

Kind regards,

[Name]

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From: [Name] [mailto: [Name]]
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2015 4:39 PM
To: [Name] (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)
Subject: FW: LUMOS - Meeting request - PA - Deinstitutionalisation and the rights of children

Dear [Name],

As per our phone conversation, please, see below my communication with [Name] regarding setting a meeting with [Name].

I look forward to hearing from you regarding the date and time of the meeting.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,

[Name]

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From: [Name]
Sent: 23 April 2015 17:07
To: [Name]
Subject: FW: LUMOS - Meeting request - PA - Deinstitutionalisation and the rights of children

Dear [Name],

As per our phone conversation, please, see below my communication with [Name] regarding setting a meeting with [Name].

I look forward to hearing from you regarding the date and time of the meeting.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,

[Name]

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From: [Name]
Sent: 17 April 2015 15:26
To: [Name]
Subject: RE: LUMOS - Meeting request - PA - Deinstitutionalisation and the rights of children
Dea[

Would 28 April be a convenient date for a meeting with [Name]?

If not, any other date in April would work for me apart from 30 April.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Rue Royale / Koningsstraat 35
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium
Mob.: [Number]
Email: [Email]

LUMOS
Protecting Children. Providing Solutions.

t.: +44 20 7253 6464; www.wearelumos.org

With your help, we can change the lives of millions of children

Get Involved

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Lumos Foundation (Lumos) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales number: 5611912 | Registered charity number: 1112575 | Registered office: Gredley House, 1-11 Broadway, Stratford, London, E15 4BQ.
Dear [Name],

We would like to thank you for your mail and your kind request for a meeting with [Name] and to inform you that he would be pleased to meet with you. Could you possibly please send us possible dates that would be of your convenience?

Thank you in advance,

Best regards,

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From: [Name] [mailto:irina.papancheva@lumos.org.uk]
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 4:49 PM
To: [Name] (CAB-AVRAMOPOULOS)
Subject: FW: Lumos - Request for a meeting
Importance: High

As discussed on the phone.

Kind regards,

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Rue Royale / Koningsstraat 35
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium
Tel.: [Number]
Email: [Mail]

LUMOS
Protecting Children. Providing Solutions.

t.: +44 20 7253 6464; www.wearelumos.org

With your help, we can change the lives of millions of children
I am writing to you on behalf of Lumos, an international children’s NGO working to end the institutionalisation of children worldwide. Lumos is a founding member of the European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community Based Care (EEG), which was set up by former European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Vladimir Špidla in 2009. You can find more information about our work on our website.

I would like to kindly request a meeting with you and relevant members of the Cabinet in the coming weeks to discuss how best to ensure that the deinstitutionalisation of children is addressed in all the relevant policies and initiatives in the new political period.

The UN estimates that 8 million children currently live in residential institutions. Contrary to common perceptions, around 90% of these are children are not orphans but were separated from their families because of poverty, disability, a lack of access to services, or discrimination. This is in violation of several international human rights instruments.

Sixty years of research demonstrates the harm caused by institutionalisation. In spite of best intentions, institutions do not protect children; instead they leave children more vulnerable to violence, abuse and neglect. In addition, institutions do not provide effective education, health or other services to children. This results in poor outcomes for children with dramatically reduced life chances. Conversely this failure to thrive impacts on a society’s ability to meet its own goals for development and growth. Later on in life, research suggests that these children are 10 times more
likely than their peers to be involved in prostitution; 40 times more likely to have a criminal record; and 500 times more likely to commit suicide. You can find more evidence on the negative impact of institutionalisation on children in our Factsheet: How institutions are harmful to children. I would also like to draw your attention to the strong connection between trafficking and institutionalisation of children which manifests itself in two ways: institutionalised children often become victims of trafficking but also when they are rescued the responsible authorities usually place them (back) to institutions. This creates a vicious circle, effectively penalising the child for its victimisation and does not provide working solutions.

Deinstitutionalisation, the process of transformation from an institutional to a family and community based model of care is the answer to the above mentioned issues. The EC has been a great supporter of deinstitutionalisation in the last six years and has successfully put the issue on the EU political agenda. Following its initiative in 2013, the European Union took a major step towards ending the institutionalisation of children. The decision that European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) should be used to enable the transition from institutional to community-based care (Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013) marked historic progress. Lumos is grateful for the commitment and perseverance that was shown by Commissioners Hahn and Andor during the previous term, which helped achieve this milestone.

The next five years provide an opportunity to expand the Union's commitment towards deinstitutionalisation and the rights of children, especially those from marginalised groups. Applying the spirit of the ESI Funds across all EU funding streams will ensure that no EU money is used to perpetuate outmoded and harmful systems of care, anywhere in the world.

Given that the portfolios of the Commissioner Avramopoulos's Cabinet include Home Affairs and Citizenship, and Coordination of the European Semester, we would like to discuss with you the following:

- How can the European Semester and in particular the Country Specific Recommendations be used to deliver commitments on the transition from institutional to community based care (deinstitutionalisation) across the EU?

- How can we make sure that the connection between trafficking and institutionalisation of children is addressed in all the relevant instruments and that adequate measures are put in place?

We believe that the results of the European Ombudsman's own-initiative inquiry into the respect of fundamental rights in the European Union's cohesion policy, focusing on how the European Commission ensures that EU funding is used in ways to comply with the Charter will provide a base for planning adequate actions where necessary.

We look forward to discussing these issues with you.

Please suggest a convenient date for a meeting.

Kind regards,