



# AGID- Developing Training Modules for Staff On Ageing and Disability Issues

AGID – Newsletter N°4/2014

Dear readers,

Welcome to the last newsletter of the AGID project. This issue will focus on the Final Dissemination Conference of the AGID project and co-production of services for ageing people with ID. Please feel free to contact us if you wish to receive more information about the project.

For further information please visit the website [www.agid-project.eu](http://www.agid-project.eu).

We hope you will enjoy reading the newsletter!

## THE AGID PROJECT – short summary

The AGID project consists in developing an e-learning platform targeting frontline staff working with elderly and aging persons with Intellectual Disability.

Co-funded by the European Commission, the project has developed a training program in e-format (in English, French, German, Italian and Flemish language) on Aging and Disability issues with the primary aim to provide quality services to aging people with ID. The multinational consortium consisting of highly motivated partners, aims to provide services that will better meet the specific and evolving needs of this new emerging population- aging people with intellectual disabilities, through quality training of the staff and professionals working with the user.

## Final Dissemination Conference in Vienna 25.02.2014 “Co-production of service and Knowledge Transfer“



The Final Dissemination Conference of the AGID project took place in Vienna on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. The presentation of the training platform on Ageing and Intellectual Disability explored many classic and interactive methods of knowledge transfer. The AGID achievements and outcomes have been presented through: key note speakers; roundtable; direct online testing of the training platform; and world café setting focused on co-production of services for disabled.



## **Users Involvement:**

### **Harald Ellbogen, Self-Advocate, Lebenshilfe Austria**

*I wish that you take people seriously with learning disabilities in old age. Older people with learning disabilities should be able to decide for themselves and choose HOW and WHERE they want to live. It is also important that health and social care staff acquires better knowledge of the needs of older people with learning difficulties and you should also provide us with information on treatments and medicines in easy to read.*

## **Policy makers:**

### **Maria Cristina Cocchi - Director of Social Health-Bologna District**

*The increase and diversification of needs requires special attention to the **personalization and quality** of interventions, as well as answers truly flexible through different pathways of individualized care; the sustainability of this line of action requires a strong innovation of our supply structure.*

## **Academics and researchers:**

### **Maria Bruckmüller - Honorary President of Lebenshilfe Austria**

*People with disabilities experience ageing nowadays and improvement of their living conditions is a new experience and we must make sure that is a positive one.*

### **Germain Webe r- Dean Faculty Psychology University of Vienna**

*We must develop education programs, training, and information provision on ageing and disability issues (knowledge, attitudes and values), including human rights and citizenship perspective for staff and other careers.*

## **Professionals in the Field of Disability:**

### **Raymond Ceccotto - General Director of A.P.E.M.H. / President of ARFIE**

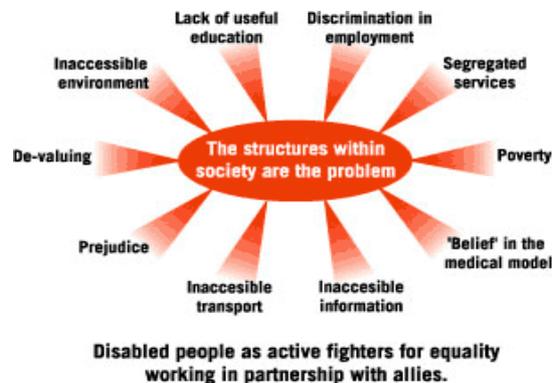
*Capacity building of the workforce in delivering personalized care for older people with ID shall be priority of the decision makers and for public financing*

### **Patrice MOREL / Director Les Genêts D'Or**

*We need to be proactive in anticipating and developing specific support for ageing people with disabilities who live with ageing family careers.*

## Co-production people with Intellectual Disabilities

Co-production: defines people who use services as assets with skills; is built on people's existing capabilities and breaks down the barriers between consumer (Person with ID) and producer (Service provider) by reciprocity and mutuality (people working together to achieve their shared interests).



Co-production involves: **Co-design (planning of services); Co-decision making in the allocation of resources; Co-delivery of services and Co-evaluation of services.**

The literature suggests that there is no single definition of co-production; the concept represents a set of values and principles, which have emerged over a period of time.

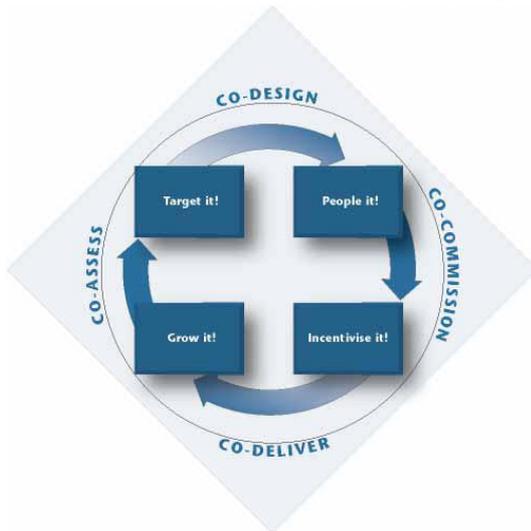
"Co-production is when you as an individual influence the support and services you receive, or when groups of people get together to influence the way that services are designed, commissioned and delivered."

Co-production refers to active input by the people who use services, as well as – or instead of – those who have traditionally provided them. So it contrasts with approaches that treat people as passive recipients of services designed and delivered by someone else. It emphasizes that the people who use services have assets, which can help to improve those services, rather than simply needs which must be met. These assets are not usually financial, but rather are the skills, expertise and mutual support that service users can contribute to effective public services.

Organizations seeking to build co-production into their organizational frameworks need to work with staff, users and careers to take the first step to define what co-production means for their organization:

The key features of co-production are:

- define people who use services as assets with skills
- break down the barriers between people who use services and professionals
- build on people's existing capabilities
- include reciprocity (where people get something back for having done something for others) and mutuality (people working together to achieve their shared interests)
- work with peer and personal support networks alongside professional networks
- facilitate services by helping organizations to become agents for change rather than just being service providers.



Co-production consists of co-design, including planning of services; co-decision making in the allocation of resources; co-delivery of services, including the role of volunteers in providing the service; and co-evaluation of the service. Hence this model is a fully inclusive process that transforms the way we look at the planning and delivery of services. In this model users, carers, commissioners, professionals and other service agencies work in equal partnership in

developing services. Hence co-production is about transformation of services and the emphasis is on the involvement and participation towards people who use services and carers having an equal, more meaningful and more powerful role in services.

Services for people with intellectual disabilities of all ages can be improved using the co-production model, as this will be a fully inclusive process and will transform the way we go about the planning and delivery of services for vulnerable people in our society.

**AGID - Another Final dissemination conference 03.04.2014**  
**"Quality Service in an Ageing Society- the Importance of Life Long Learning"**



In collaboration with ANEFOR (Luxembourgish Agency for Education and Culture) and hosted by the European Commission, AGID's dissemination conference took place on 03.04 in Luxembourg. A.P.E.M.H. Foundation together with COPAS organized this conference/study day on what quality service provision to disabled in an ageing society means, and the positive impact of Life Long Learning on quality service provision. The objective of the conference was to disseminate AGID outcomes as also discuss and identify with the different stakeholders common quality criteria when concerned services to ageing people with disabilities.

Professor **Johann Behrens** draw the attention to a very important consideration: saying that *health professionals tend to think they know what is right when treating the user- opposite to self-determination of the user as foreseen by UN CRPD!*

**Rol Anen - A.P.E.M.H. President:** *We must take into account the individual needs of the person, since self-determination of the user has demonstrated to be the most important milestone into achieving quality of support.*

**Georges Bingen - host of AGID conference at the European Commission in Luxembourg** talked about how we must provide Active Ageing opportunities for people with ID and how active ageing is connected with EU citizenships rights agenda.

**Daniela Janeva - AGID Project Coordination** reminded that:

***Active ageing “is the process of optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age”.*** *It is important to note that the word “active” does not just refer to physical activity, but to participation in relevant social, spiritual, economic, cultural and civic affairs as well. Therefore a disability that prevents engagement in physical activity is not necessarily a barrier to active ageing, as that person could still be active in other ways within their community.*

### AGID: Achievements and Recommendations

AGID training platform on Ageing and Disability shall have great outreach and target large number of staff working with the user, due to the wide spectrum (5 languages: English, French, German, Italian and Flemish) of languages in which the training material is available. The AGID web platform will be active beyond the lifetime of the project permitting to guarantee better exploitation of results; the outcomes shall reinforce EU's and Members State's strategies on quality services for Ageing and Elderly people with ID. The Standardization of training modules for the caregivers shall improve the quality of services; and through the Improvement of the quality of the services provided we will improve the quality of life of the user.

- (1) AGID considers the inclusion and person centered care for elderly and ageing people with intellectual disabilities, a MUST within the service provision as to achieve SOCIAL EUROPE
- (2) AGID's believes that capacity building of the workforce in delivering personalized care for older people with ID shall be priority of the decision makers and for public financing
- (3) AGID sees the Implementation of the UN-Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, compulsory as to achieve equal rights and opportunities for ALL
- (4) AGID believes that the EU and Member states MUST enable access to better and safer healthcare for all citizens, so that everybody can benefit from high quality care, regardless of whom they are and where they live.
- (5) AGID highlights the need to adopt a human rights and person center approach into enabling ageing people with disabilities to live and participate in their community.
- (6) AGID strongly believes that we need to develop formal education programmers, training, and information provision on ageing and disability issues (knowledge, attitudes and values), including human rights and citizenship perspective for staff and other carers.
- (7) AGID finds of primary importance: the need to be proactive in anticipating and developing specific support for ageing people with disabilities who live with ageing family carers.



## AGID Consortium



**La Fondation A.P.E.M.H.** (Association de Parents d'Enfants Mentalement Handicapés) is a national NGO working in Luxembourg for the support of people with intellectual disabilities, multiple disabilities and dual diagnosis. The principal aim of the association is to improve the quality of life of their client groups and to ensure their social and vocational inclusion. A.P.E.M.H. has numerous services in various areas, such as residences, educational support structures to enable people to live in the community, sheltered workshops and a training centre -UFEP- for professionals in the field.

[www.apemh.lu](http://www.apemh.lu)



**University of Vienna** is the largest teaching and research institution in Austria. The project partner will be the department of clinical psychology, which has a special focus on research topics in the field of intellectual disability and ageing. The partner has a high competence in designing and offering training courses, in designing research and evaluation, and in dissemination activities (publications and conferences). The partner organisation has broad experience in jointly developing curricula and training modules especially in the context of EC funded projects.

[www.univie.ac.at](http://www.univie.ac.at)



**ARFIE**- Association de Recherche et de Formation sur l'Insertion en Europe brings together at European level various partners involved in the care and support of disabled people, associations of and for disabled people, training bodies, researchers and professionals all working in initial and continuing training; ARFIE is a member of the European Disability Forum and has been organizing training modules for professionals working with people with disabilities. It has also held conferences and issued reports on various important issues in the disability sector. The role of ARFIE will mostly focus on dissemination of the project outcomes through its European network (EDF and Inclusion Europe). ARFIE could also promote regional surveys and targeted studies through members not directly involved. ARFIE will play an active role during the project Final Conference through direct dissemination among its members.

[www.arfie.info](http://www.arfie.info)



**CADIAI** (Cooperativa Assistenza Domiciliare Infermi Anziani Infanzia) is a social cooperative and has been operating in the services to disabled people as a managing agency of services. It has also assisted many persons in the difficult transition to aging. CADIAI has created a work group called "Disabled become Old" composed of an expert in training process, a pedagogue and two researchers of the University of the Studies of Bologna. CADIAI operates since its foundation (1974) in the area of the services to the elderly, in domiciliary, semi residential and residential services.

[www.cadai.it](http://www.cadai.it)



**Association "Les Genêts d'Or"** was created to promote the establishment of structures to meet the needs of rural families in the department of Finistère (France). Its statutes define its purpose by the recognition, hospitality, support and integration of persons with disabilities and dependent people. It currently manages 24 properties, hosting over 1500 people and conducts studies on the ageing of the population. It also provides individual responses and / or group best suited to peculiar situations.

[www.lesgenetsdor.org](http://www.lesgenetsdor.org)



**ZONNELIED vzw** is a national NGO working in Belgium for the support of people with an intellectual disability, multiple disabilities and dual diagnosis. The principal aim of the association is to improve the quality of life of their client groups. They have numerous services in various areas, such as residences, day care center, supported employment. ZONNELIED vzw has been working for 30 years as a service provider (home, work, leisure, education, health, support ...) and has been faced with the growing challenge of aging of people with disabilities.

[www.zonneliedvzw.be](http://www.zonneliedvzw.be)



**De Montfort University** is based in Leicester, in the heart of England and consists of four Faculties - Health and Life Sciences, Business and Law, Technology and Art, Design and Humanities. The four faculties offer 400 diverse undergraduate and postgraduate subjects, with full-time, part-time and distance learning options offering much flexibility. The university's pioneering research is driven by over 1,000 research students and supported by 500 staff.

[www.dmu.ac.uk](http://www.dmu.ac.uk)



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Gesundheit Österreich  
GmbH



Additionally the project has been co-financed in Austria by the "Fonds Gesundes Österreich".

[www.fgoe.org](http://www.fgoe.org)