

Violence against children with disabilities

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Overview of FRA's project on violence against children with disabilities

- What?
 - Legal and policy framework
 - Extent, triggers, forms and contexts
 - Challenges and promising practices
- How?
 - Desk research on laws and policies in 28 EU Member States
 - 132 interviews with stakeholders in 13 EU Member States
- Why?
 - Under-researched area
 - Falling between the gaps

*"Children with disabilities are among the most stigmatised and marginalised children. The risk of violence is higher as they are ignored by society and there is traditional negative mind set."
(Interview respondent)*

Extent of violence against boys and girls with disabilities

- More vulnerable to violence than children without disabilities
- Children with 'invisible disabilities' at higher risk
- Children with multiple and severe impairments, and children who communicate in a non-traditional way are particularly vulnerable

*"The degree of disability is a deciding factor, who suffers from a serious or a severe disability, s/he will never report any abuse"
(Interview respondent)*



Figure 12: Factors contributing to the persistence of violent behaviour against children with disabilities in educational systems, as identified by respondents

Societal attitudes

Exclusion

Lack of knowledge about disability

Prejudice and fear of 'otherness'

Structural weaknesses

Lack of inclusiveness

Lack of prevention mechanisms

Lack of support measures

Lack of targeted training

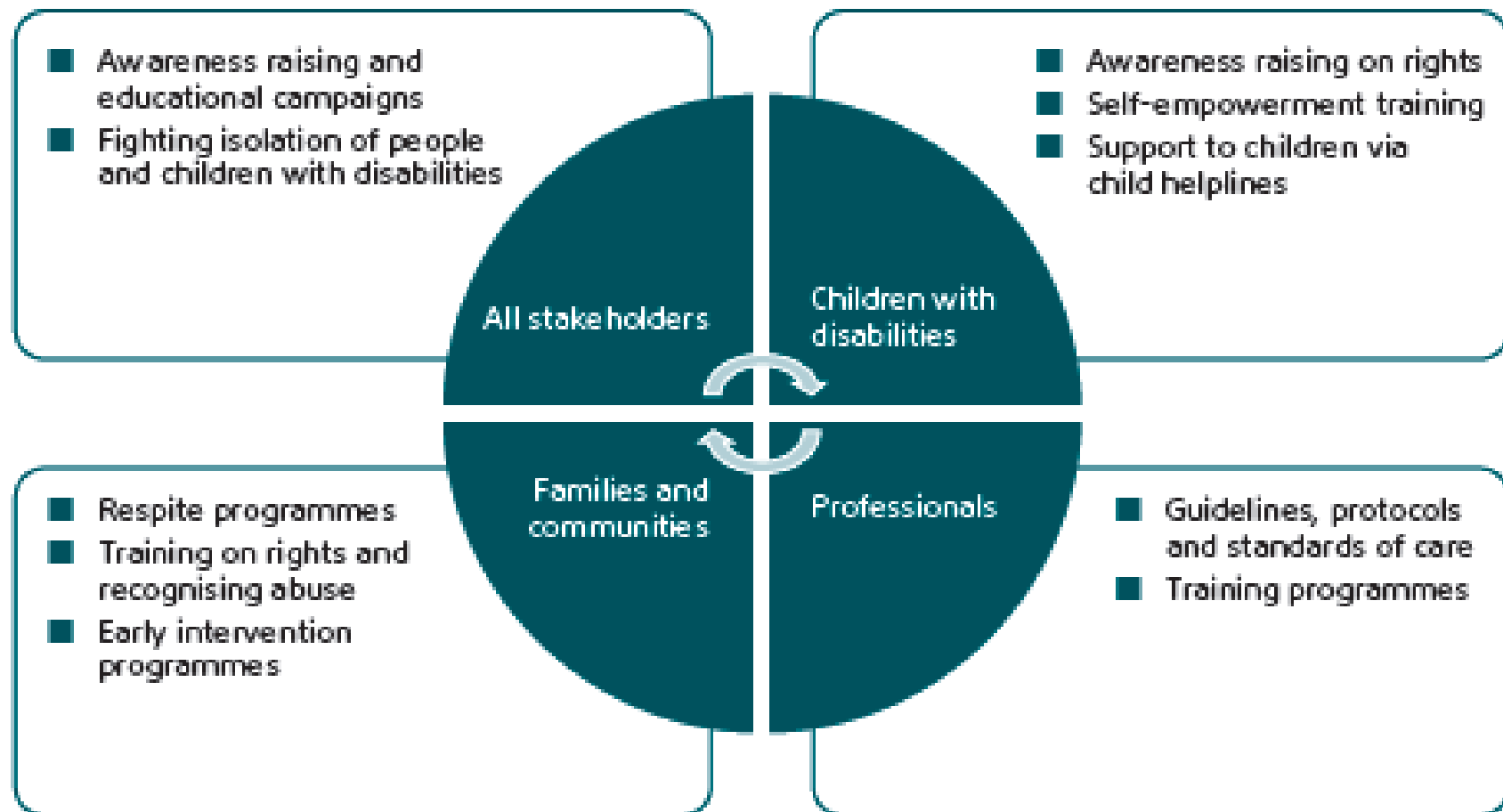
Staff issues

Lack of competence, awareness and willingness

Inadequate communication techniques

'Bad examples' to children

Figure 14: Target groups and select measures and initiatives for preventing and protecting against violence



Ways forward

- Establishing more inclusive child protection systems
- Addressing societal attitudes and countering isolation
- Promoting child focused prevention measures and child participation
- Ensuring inclusive education and participation in all aspects of life



EQUALITY

Violence against children with disabilities: legislation, policies and programmes in the EU

Violence against children with disabilities



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