

# **Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in Ukraine** **(2008-2013 and beyond)**



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Dr. Susan L. Hardie, PhD  
Executive Director, Canadian Centre on Disability Studies (CCDS)

# Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in Ukraine

Inclusive education brings a new point of view.

Those with different opportunities should have equal rights too!

There is a world in every child, no matter how small...

Education, respect and equality for all!





# Project Overview



Chief Executing Agency: CCDS  
Project Co-Leads  
Canada: CCDS  
Ukraine: Ukrainian Step by Step Foundation (USSF)



Policy  
CCDS (Canada)  
NAIU (Ukraine)

Education  
Grant MacEwan University  
(Canada)  
Institute of Special Pedagogy  
(Ukraine)

Civil Society  
CCDS (Canada)  
USSF (Ukraine)

# Pilot Regions

***Two pilot regions*** with Inclusion Resource Centres established:

- Lviv region (Western Ukraine)
- Capital City of Crimea (Simferopol) (prior to annexation)

***USSF: National level (Kyiv)***

- Worked closely with the Ministry of Education



# Policy Achievements

## ***Direct Project Outcome***

New Pedagogical Medical Psychological Consultation (PMPC) Regulation

## ***Project Offshoot***

National Action Plan for Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) (2012)



# Education Achievements

- Developed and introduced four educational modules into curricula (Pedagogical College of Ivan Franko National University of Lviv)
- Developed Teacher Assistant positions with Ministry of Education
- Project results were disseminated into additional regions

## **Outcome Evaluation:**

High satisfaction with inclusive practices



# Civil Society Achievements

- Strengthened parent groups and NGOs
- Established Inclusion Resource Centres (IRCs)
- Enhanced communications between parents and professionals
- Fostered innovative grant programs supporting Inclusive Education (IE)



# Since 2013

## ***Teacher training***

- Integration of an inclusive education course into national curriculum. (Institute of Special Pedagogy)

## ***Ongoing professional development***

- Integration of five courses on inclusive education





# What we learned

## ***The importance of:***

- Providing opportunities for parents, educators and professionals to collaborate
- Supporting parents to bring forth their diverse experiences
- Working with “champions” with positional power
- Establishing buy-in from the outset
- Fostering and sustaining collaborative planning processes.



## ***The challenge of:***

- Ensuring collection of baseline data
- Understanding the context (country, culture, systems, etc.)



# Consideration for Future Projects

- Implement policy supporting participation of **ALL** IE stakeholders
- Examine fiscal mechanisms to further invest in IE
- Re-examine paradigm informing work in disability issues (i.e Social? Medical? Capability? Intersectionality and Inclusion?)
- Use of Intellectual Property Agreements with all stakeholders
- Develop a shared glossary and associated definitions
- Develop a team of translators and create keyword translation list
- Embrace the principle: “Inclusive education benefits all”

