Planning and provision of social services at the regional level

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### Aims
Development of the system for planning and provision of social services at the regional level’ is part of the measures envisaged to improve the skills of professionally employed carers, volunteers or family members in relation to operational objective 5 ‘Development and modernization of long-term care and ensuring equal opportunities for access to social services for adults of the ‘National Concept for Promoting Active Aging in Bulgaria’ (2012–2030);

An activity was launched in October 2014 entitled ‘Analysis of the status of specialized institutions for elderly people – people with mental disorders, with physical disabilities and sensory disturbances; for people with dementia; for people with mental retardation and the elderly’. The main objectives of the activity are to support the process of deinstitutionalization of care for the elderly and the implementation of the objectives and measures envisaged in the National Strategy for Long-term Care objectives as well as providing an overview of the status of specialized institutions for adults with disabilities and the elderly in Bulgaria.

### Implementation
Regional coordinators perform on-site visits by monitoring and collecting information on social services as well as participate in the preparation of the annual monitoring reports in relation to the implementation of regional strategies for social services development. In 2014, various trainings were conducted: training of trainers for the management and provision of social services and supervision; training of representatives of the target groups for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of policies and strategies for development of social services, risk assessment and implementation of supervision and crisis interventions as well as control of the quality of provision of social services; training of employees of municipal administrations aiming at management, quality control and procurement of the management of social services; training of social service providers for management and quality provision of services.

Development of a methodology for evaluation, including evaluation cards necessary for the study of all boarding-house type homes for the elderly.

### Target group
Elderly people, people with disabilities, vulnerable groups living in poverty, home helpers, volunteers, carers.

### Eligibility criteria
No eligibility criteria have been specified.
### Resources
Social services funding in Bulgaria is both centralized and decentralized. The financial resources for social services development and support are stipulated in chapter VII of the Social Assistance Act and include the following sources: state budget, municipal budgets, national and international programs, donations from local and foreign individuals and legal entities, ‘social support’ fund, etc.

Please see page 2 of the Bulgarian country report ‘Emerging Policy Developments in Long-term Care.’

### Performance assessment and monitoring
At national level by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Council of Ministers.

The monitoring and assessment are prepared by the MLSP while the final decision is made by the Council of Ministers.

### Evidence of success (outcomes, quality, satisfaction, awareness)

www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=764

### Transferability/uniqueness
The heterogeneity of the schemes funded makes it difficult to draw conclusions about its transferability, at least at this stage.

### Is this an emergent practice?
Long-term care policy in Bulgaria through expansion of social services is still in its infancy.

The Council of Ministers seeks to expand and develop the whole system (policy).

### Degree of innovation
Long-term care policy in Bulgaria through expansion of social services is still in its infancy.

### Sustainability
Intended to be sustainable.

### Academic literature on this action


### Documents
See section above

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**POLICY SUMMARY: Bulgaria**
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