

# Plenary 1: Community Care in Europe

## Where do we stand?



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# Drivers and barriers of deinstitutionalisation for persons with disabilities

ESN Seminar “Social Services Leading Care in the Community”

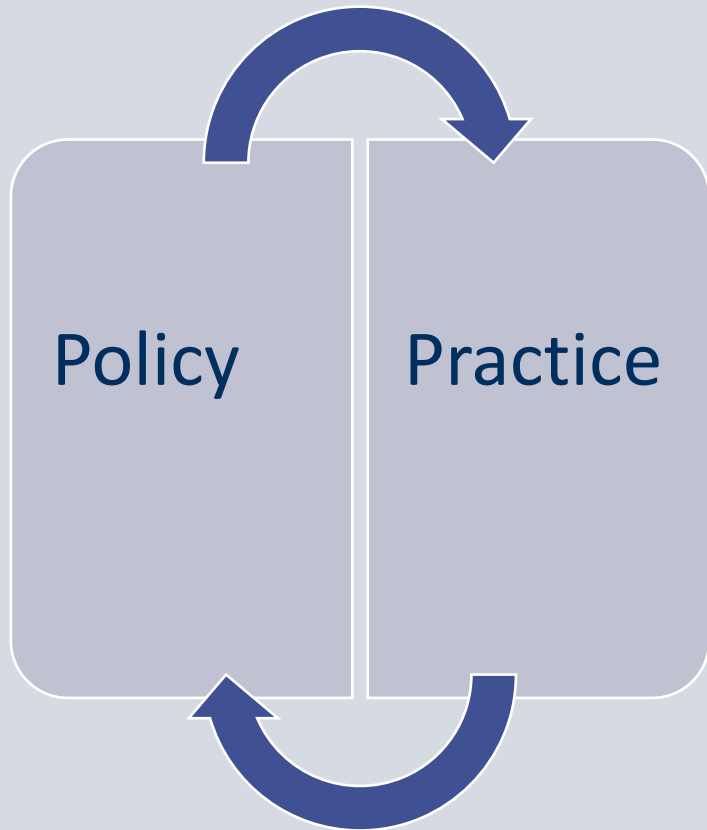
Nevena Peneva

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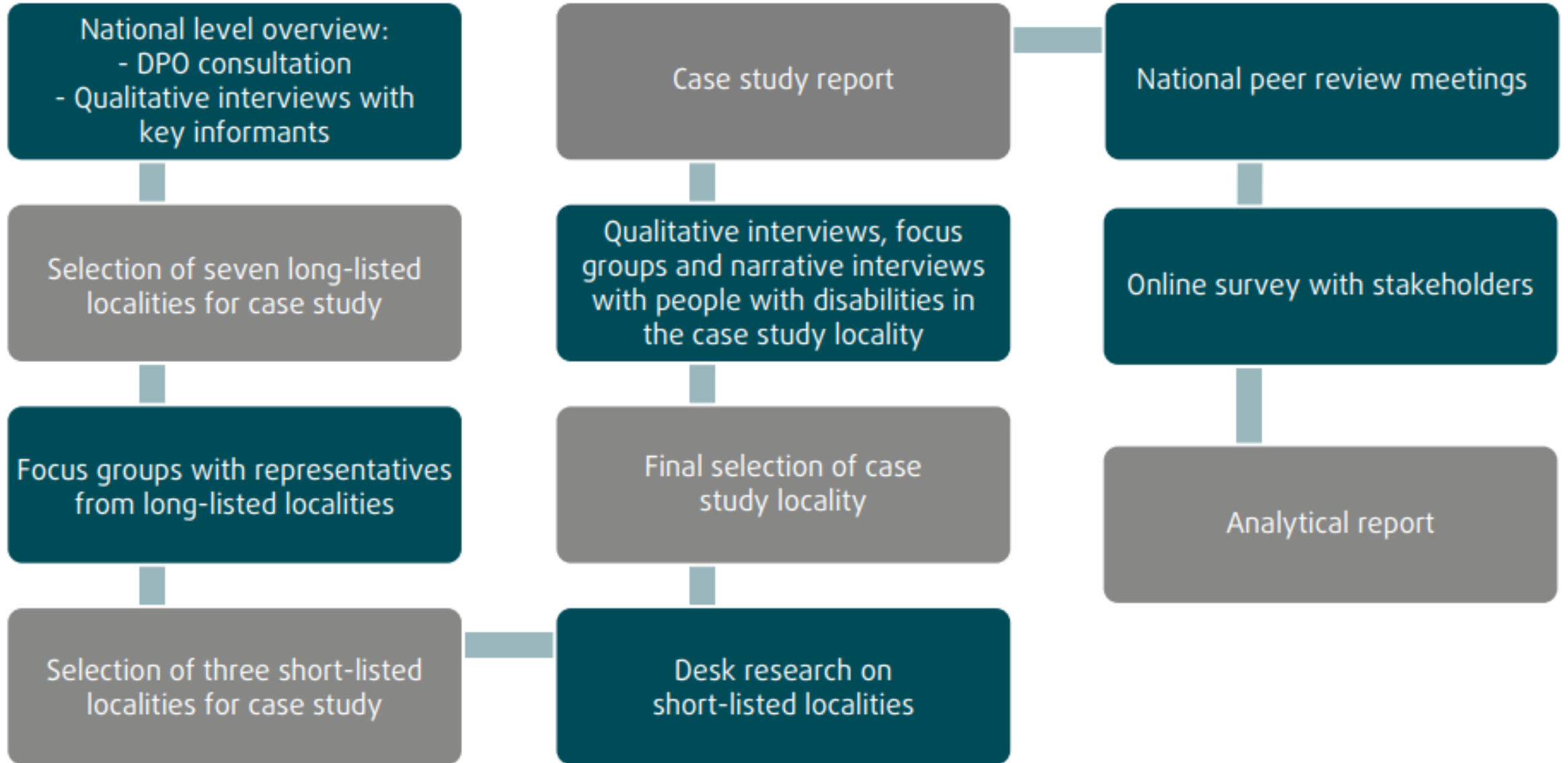
## Three interrelated activities

1. Taking stock (in 2014)
  - overview of types and characteristics of institutional and community-based services
  - background country data for each Member State
2. Identifying implementation gaps – human rights indicators (2015-2016)
  - Part I: commitments and structures
  - Part II: funding and budgeting
  - Part III: outcomes for persons with disabilities
3. Examining the situation on the ground (2017)
  - qualitative fieldwork in five EU Member States (Bulgaria, Finland, Ireland, Italy and Slovakia)

## Why this research?



# Main activities of the fieldwork research



## Who did we speak to?



## What did we find?

- **Drivers** and **barriers** are **similar** across the five countries
- Deinstitutionalisation has an overwhelmingly **positive impact** on persons with disabilities
- Meaningful deinstitutionalisation requires both a **physical** and a **cultural transformation**
- Some actors **do not support** deinstitutionalisation for all persons with disabilities

## Five essential features of successful Deinstitutionalisation (DI)

Commitment

A change in attitudes towards persons with disabilities

Active cooperation between the people involved

Practical organisation

Availability of guidance



# Commitment to deinstitutionalisation



## Drivers

- National and local **commitment** to DI
- External **pressure**
- **Persons with disabilities** demanding DI

## Barriers

- Insufficient, difficult to access or poorly assigned **funding**
- Vested **interests**
- Deprivation of **legal capacity**

# A change in attitudes



## Drivers

- Change in **public attitudes** towards persons with disabilities
- Changes in **staff attitudes** towards persons with disabilities
- Individual **stories and media action** to redefine perceptions

## Barriers

- **Institutional** models of 'care' persist
- **Learned dependence** of persons with disabilities
- **Family resistance** to deinstitutionalisation

# Availability of guidance



## Drivers

- **Pilot** projects
- Staff **(re-)training** and **recruitment**

## Barriers

- Insufficient guidance from the **national** to the **local** level
- Insufficient **preparation** and **information** for persons with disabilities and their families

# Active cooperation



## Drivers

- Cooperation at **local level**
- Cooperation with the **families** of persons with disabilities
- Cooperation with actors bringing **innovation and change**

## Barriers

- Lack of **cooperation** between and across **sectors**
- Lack of **cooperation** between different levels of **governance**
- Lack of **cooperation** with the **local community**

# Practical organisation



## Drivers

- **Individual** support plans
- Developing independent living **skills**

## Barriers

- Lack of **specialised support** services in the community
- Inaccessible **general services**
- Inflexible **rules** and **regulations** on service provision
- Lack of **employment** opportunities
- Concerns about **staff working conditions**

# Thank you!

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