Early and integrated support (EIS) for children and young persons

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Local collaboration with several actors

Source: The National Board of Health and Welfare; Collaborate in the best interest of children - a guide into children’s needs for efforts from several actors. Art. Nr.: 2013-8-1
A government assignment (2017-2020)

- Shared responsibility between The National Board of Health and Welfare and Swedish National Agency for Education
- The aim is to improve collaboration between school, healthcare and social services in order to ensure that early and integrated support is available to children and young persons

The assignment involves:

- the mapping and identification of good examples
- outlining legal and structural obstacles
- following up on, evaluating and distributing the results to important actors

- Perspectives to consider: children’s rights, disability and equality
Definition of early and integrated support

- Promotional, preventative or corrective support that are applied at an early stage of a unfavourable development
- Early discovery is postulated
- Support is organised as a functioning unit from a child/young persons perspective
The 40 participating projects
The national support within EIS

- Distribution
  - Network coordinators
    - 40 projects/5 network
  - Evaluation
  - Targeted funding
  - Education
    - (16)
Expected outcomes

• We know more about structural conditions for collaboration, and it has established working structures for the EIS
• Children's need for support does not fall between the chairs
• Children / parents do not need to coordinate support - it is the responsibility of the agency
• Integrated support is given at an early stage of unfavorable development
• The support is organized as a well-functioning whole, where children and young persons can participate as active co-creators
Encountered challenges and opportunities

Challenges:

• unclear assignments for each agency
• insufficient resources
• unreasonable expectations of what the collaborative partner can achieve

Opportunities:

• by 2020, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child will be legislated in Sweden (today it is ratified in law)
• the child's need for support goes before the need of the agency