



Report on the social inclusion and social protection of disabled people in European countries

Country: Portugal

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Background:

The [Academic Network of European Disability experts](#) (ANED) was established by the European Commission in 2008 to provide scientific support and advice for its disability policy Unit. In particular, the activities of the Network will support the future development of the EU Disability Action Plan and practical implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People.

This country report has been prepared as input for the *Thematic report on the implementation of EU Social Inclusion and Social Protection Strategies in European countries with reference to equality for disabled people*.

The purpose of the report ([Terms of Reference](#)) is to review national implementation of the open method of coordination in Social inclusion and social protection, and in particular the National Strategic Reports of member states from a disability equality perspective, and to provide the Commission with useful evidence in supporting disability policy mainstreaming.

The first version of the report was published in 2008. This is the second version of the report updated with information available up to November 2009.

Summary of changes since 2008

Housing and homelessness

Cross-cutting measures have been implemented in order to reduce poverty amongst some vulnerable groups. These measures have entailed reinforcing and consolidating the component of Social Integration Income; intervention in the housing market to rehabilitate and re-qualify accommodation and rehousing citizens, and improving access to housing at prices compatible with the incomes of families PROHABITA Programme; Door 65 Initiative, Programme to Support the Construction of Low Cost Housing for Young People; Special Re-housing Programme). Other measures have included: territorial intervention to promote inclusion in problematic areas, combating desertification and isolation, and favouring social integration of specific populations (Social Development Local Contracts ; the Critical Neighbourhoods Initiative; the Choices Programme). Information is also available for families in financial difficulties, (Offices to Support Consumers with Debts; Offices for Consumer Debt Advice).

According to the National Strategy for Social Protection and Social Inclusion 2008/2010 there is no detailed information about the number of homeless people living in Portugal. However, some studies show that homeless population is composed above all, of men of active economic age (30-49 years), single and/or divorced. The majority have Portuguese nationality and have basic schooling. They are distributed mainly throughout large metropolitan areas (Lisboa and Porto), followed by the medium-sized cities of Setúbal, Faro and Braga. A new generation of homeless people has clearly emerged, with a growing number of people with mental health conditions, drug addicts, alcoholics, ex-convicts and other individuals who face adverse circumstances – breakdown of social and family ties, professional instability, difficulties in accessing housing and employment, low incomes, the absence of rules and routines, self-marginalisation, loss of work habits, regression in terms of cognitive capabilities – and they do not have any kind of social, psychological and economic support.

The main factors that contribute towards the situation of the homeless who sleep in night shelters are essentially unemployment, loss of homes owing to an absence of income, illnesses (drug addiction, chronic and mental illnesses) and marriage and family breakdown.

The absence of legal rules that fit the implementation of policies and benefits to homeless people and the diversity of issues related to this phenomenon, have determined a need to define a coordinated strategy aimed at developing an integrated intervention to prevent and resolve the situation of homeless people in Portugal. In 2009 the National Strategy for the Integration of Homeless People (2009-2015) was adopted. Among other measures, the strategy will:

- Housing - Create housing conditions by providing public or private housing allocated directly or through mediation;
- *Employment - Providing solutions for appropriate vocational training and employment;*
- *Social Protection - Ensuring access to protective measures;*
- *Promotion of self-esteem and autonomy.*

There is no relevant data about persons with disabilities who are homeless, because most live in institutions when they have no family or they lack resources. Nevertheless they are eligible for the same support that is granted to citizens.

New strategies and actions for the inclusion of disabled people

UN Convention

Portugal ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol on the 23rd September 2009.

Higher Education

Legislation reflects the great effort made to promote access to higher education of young persons with disabilities. This is regulated by Decree-Law No. 184/92 of 3 September. This system is revised every academic year. In 2009, in order to continue promoting the participation and inclusion of People with Disabilities in universities, Ordinance No. 743-A/2009, 17th July was published, which approves the Regulations of the Application to Public Higher in the Academic Year 2009-2010. This regulation establishes a measure of positive action for students with disabilities, namely there is a special quota for candidates with physical or sensory impairments: 2% of the total places available or two places in every course.

New changes in incomes, benefits and pensions

IAS - Indexation Mechanism for Social Supports

Law No 53-B/2006, of 29 December, has instituted IAS, an indexation mechanism to calculate the amount of social benefits. This mechanism replaces the national minimum wage as a reference for calculating and adjusting the amounts of social pensions, benefits and contributions.

It applies from 1 January 2007.

IAS is annually adjusted by an administrative act, namely a decision by the Minister of Finance and Public Administration and Minister of Labour and Social Solidarity.

Table I shows the evolution of IAS since 2007.

Table I

Amount of IAS	
2009	€ 419,22
2008	€ 407,41
2007	€ 397,86

ISS/2009

Family benefit for children and young persons

The amount of family benefits for children and young persons varies according to the age of the child and young person, the employment situation of the parents, the number of persons that live in the same household and the amount of household income.

The reference income is calculated from the sum of the total income of each family member, divided by the number of children and young persons entitled to family benefit. Reference income is grouped in levels indexed to IAS.

Income levels: determination of income level depends on the amount of IAS, set yearly. It is related with to household earnings. Table II shows income levels and the amount of family benefits in 2009.

Table II - Family benefits

Income Levels	Amounts	
	Family Benefits for Children and Young Persons	
	Up to 12 months	More than 12 months
1st	€ 174,72	€ 43,68
2nd	€ 144,91	€ 36,63

3rd	€ 92,29	€ 26,54
4th	€ 56,45	€ 22,59
5th	€ 33,88	€ 11,29

ISS/2009

There is an additional amount to family benefit which is payable in September to compensate for the costs of education of children and young people in school.- Increased family benefit for children and young persons corresponds to a higher amount of family benefit for those children aged between 12 and 36 months. The amount (Table III) is doubled from the 2nd child wards and trebled from the 3rd child and following.

Table III – Increased Family Benefit

Income Levels	Amounts	
	Increased Family benefits for Children and Young persons	
	Households with 2 family recipients	Household with more than 2 family benefit recipients
1st	€ 43,68	€ 87,36
2nd	€ 36,63	€ 72,46
3rd	€ 26,54	€ 53,08
4th	€ 22,59	€ 45,18
5th	€ 11,29	€ 22,58

ISS/2009

Scholarship (Basic and Secondary School)

The monthly amount of the scholarship is equal to twice the amount of the family allowance for children and young people.

Single parents have a right to an increase in the amount of family benefit. In these cases this amount increases by 20% for:

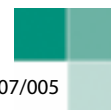
- children and young persons living with only one relative or in-laws in a direct line or collateral line until the second degree or equivalent and
- pregnant women from the 13 weeks of pregnancy living alone entitled to pre-natal family benefit or living only with children and young persons entitled to family benefit.

Rise in the amount of supplement to family benefits for children and young persons with disabilities - single parent families

According to Decree-Law no. 87/2008, of 28 May, the supplement to family benefit for children and young persons with disabilities increased by 20% in the case of recipients living in single parent families. This law has applied since 01/04/2008.

LONG TERM CARE AND DISABILITY BENEFITS

Families with children and young person with disabilities have the right to a supplement in addition to the family benefit. The amount of this supplement increases 20% for beneficiaries living in one-parent families.

**Table IV - Amount of disability supplement**

Payable according to age limits	Amount
Up to the Age of 14	€ 59,48
From 14 up to 18	€ 86,62
From 18 up to 24	€ 115,96

ISS/2009

Persons with disabilities can also be apply for a housing benefit (rate benefit) of € 176,76.

Elderly Solidarity Supplement

The Elderly Solidarity Supplement (SS) is granted to elderly people with low incomes and a lack of economic resources. It is a supplement to the Lifelong Monthly Benefit and aims to guarantee a minimum social benefit to all elderly people, even those who have not made contributions during their active life.

Parents can also get an allowance for attendance at special education establishments when inclusion in regular schools is not the best solution for children. The amount of this monthly allowance is defined each year by an administrative decision of the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity and is related to household income.

Invalidity and old age pensions

Social security general scheme

In 2009, the following minimum amounts are guaranteed, according to the pensioner's insurance career:

Table V- Social Security pensions

General Scheme	
<i>Insurance Career Number of Years</i>	Pension Minimum Value
Less than 15	€ 243,32
From 15 to 20	€ 271,40
From 21 to 30	€ 299,49
Equal to or Higher than 31	€ 374,36

ISS/2009

Other invalidity and old age benefits

The Long Term Care Supplement is granted according to the degree of incapacity and the contributory or non-contributory scheme.

Table V I- Long Term Care Supplement

Degree of Dependence	Supplement Amount	
	Social Security General Scheme	SSS SAA Non Contributory Scheme and Equivalent Schemes
1st degree	€ 93,60	€ 84,23
2nd degree	€ 168,47	€ 159,10

ISS/2009

A Dependant Spouse's Supplement (General Scheme) of € 36,35 may also be granted.

Strategy for long-term care and support (2006-2016)

The Portuguese National Network for Integrated Care (RNCCI) was established to improve the quality of services and the complementarity of social and health services granted to persons that face incapacity and lack of autonomy.

The RNCCI promotes new organisational approaches incorporating a new paradigm building on the principles of intersectoral partnerships, integral planning and multidisciplinary practice within the social and health systems.

According to the RNCCI report 2008, more than 2,870 beds in the national network for integrated care were available. In 2008 there were 72 community-based integrated care teams (ECCI) and there were 18.323 users of the RNCCI.

Results from the 1st semester of 2009 show that 26.9% (3377) of users were referred to Convalescence care; 24.65% (3,095 users) to ehabilitation care; 24.93% (3130 users) for Long Term and Maintenance; 15.14% (1,901 users) for ECCI (0.2% were referred for palliative care counseling) and 8.38% (1,052 users) to Palliative Care Units.

The RNCCI has been evaluated on a regular basis and some information about the implementation of this project is available, namely:

User's characteristics in 2008:

- 79 % were over 65 years old;
- 79% lived with their natural family; 13% lived alone; 4% lived in an institution;
- Family members were the main source of informal support of users (67% of all cases), followed by formal home care support (24%);

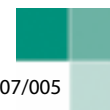
After the evaluation of the first semester of 2009 it was possible to conclude that:

- Of the population referred to RNCCI, 52% were women;
- Persons under 60 years were mainly men (64%), while 55% of those over 61 years were women;
- Regarding marital situation of users, the highest percentage, 45%, was married;
- 81% of RNCCI users lived with their natural families, 10% lived alone and 4% in an institution;
- Family support is the backbone of users' assistance (83% of cases), followed by home social support (17%).



Implications of the economic crisis

There is no data about the impact of the crises in persons with disabilities. The Social Security System that maintains social allowances and cooperation protocols with institutions that provide services to persons with disabilities has not imposed any restrictions. Nevertheless, since the unemployment rate is rising and there have been several large-scale redundancies, workers with disabilities face specific concerns concerning maintaining jobs or getting new ones.



PART ONE: SOCIAL INCLUSION PLANS (GENERAL)

1.1 published plans for social inclusion and protection

Up to 2000 the policies for fighting poverty and social exclusion in Portugal were based on a strategy defined within the European context, through the implementation of specific Programmes for target groups or concrete geographic areas (European Programme to Fight Poverty II and III and the INTEGRAR Programme).

In the Lisbon Summit 2000, the commitment to adopt measures with a decisive impact on the eradication of poverty and social exclusion was assumed. At national level, the fight against poverty and social inequalities became a priority at political level and was mainstreamed in several sectorial areas according to the successive National Action Plans for Inclusion (PNAI) which have been implemented since 2001 (2001-2003; 2003-2005; 2006-2008; 2008-2010), based on the Open Method of Coordination.

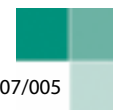
The National Strategy for Social Protection and Social Inclusion 2008-2010 build on the previously defined policy objectives for the period 2006-2008, while maintaining the targets in three key areas, which are "combating poverty among children and the elderly", "correct disadvantages in education and training / qualification "and" overcome discrimination, reinforcing the integration of specific groups, including people with disabilities and impairments, immigrants and ethnic minorities "

These priorities were also approached from a gender perspective and were considered as situations of multiple discrimination. Also, the preparation of this Plan entailed an approach that was aimed at mainstreaming disability.

The National Action Plan for Inclusion (NAPs/incl), which incorporates a variety of measures in this domain, has examples of cases in which disability issues appear transversally in the respective sectorial fields and can contribute to achieving the goal of equal opportunities for this population.

The targets defined in the **NAPincl 2008-2010** for people with disabilities are:

- Increase the basic value of tax deductions in the case of dependants with disabilities and parents with disabilities, by 2009.
- Create 1400 places in facilities for people with disabilities.
- Create 1,000 places providing solutions for long term care in the area of mental health.
- Cover 2,978 people with disabilities who are to be enrolled and channelled by Employment Centres under Employment Plans.
- Ensure legal assistance for people with disabilities whenever they are part of legal suits.
- Respond to 50% of requests, increase the quality and number of participants through a Resource Centre for Adapted Motor Activities and Sports Activities for People with Disabilities (Autonomous Region of Madeira).



Policy measures to be implemented:

- Revise the regime of protection for people with disabilities
- Increase the level of tax benefits
- Simplify the allocation and funding of Technical Assistance
- Reinforce facilities for people with disabilities
- *Social Facilities Programme (POPH)*
- *Social Services and Equipments Network Programme (PARES)*
- Creation of Long-term Care Units for Mental Health
- Revision of the system of Special Education in public schools
- Programme for Portuguese as a 2nd Language for Deaf Students
- Adapted textbooks for visually disabled individuals
- Production of Braille and Audio Books
- Training in special education
- *Teachers and other staff*
- *Education action assistants*
- Resource Centres for Inclusion
- Inclusive New Opportunities Centres
- Training for people with disabilities – Co-operation Actions
- Programme to support the placement of people with disabilities in the labour market and post-placement follow-up
- Redefining the Information, Assessment and Professional Guidance programme
- Incentives for employing people with disabilities
- Protected Employment
- Support for placements and post-placement follow-up
- Legal assistance for people with disabilities

Autonomous Regions

- Network of Resource Centres for Focused Intervention (Autonomous Region of the Azores).
- Promotion of Adapted Motor Activities (AMA) and Sports Facilities for people with disabilities (Autonomous Region of Madeira).
- Integrated system to identify and guide gifted children and young people (Autonomous Region of Madeira).

Most measures for people with disabilities constitute a set coherent (in education, training, health, labour market integration, accessibility and legal advice) and are in line with the previous national action plan.

Regarding the challenge of ensuring that the groups most distant from the labour market benefit from measures to increase education levels of the population, particularly the large number of poor unskilled workers and young people who leave early education, it reaffirmed the political priority to upgrade the skills of youth and adults through the global initiative "New Opportunities". Measures are being taken to facilitate the integration of groups away from the labour market through programs for specific intervention, especially for people with disabilities.

The strategic approach of the integration of people with disabilities and the fight against discrimination on the grounds of disability is mainstreamed in all political areas as well as in specific actions plans, namely in the Action Plan for the Integration of People with Disabilities (PAIPDI), National Employment Plan (PNE), National Action Plan for Inclusion (PNAI), National Plan for the Promotion of Accessibility (PNPA), National Action Program for Growth and Employment (PNACE), National Public Budget, National Strategy for Tourism, National Strategy for Sustainable Development, National Plan against Domestic Violence.

The Budget allocated by the Human Potential Thematic Operational Programme under the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007/2013 (POPH/QREN) will focus on the improvement of the quality of life of people with disabilities, namely the Qualification, Support to socio-professional integration, Quality of Services and Organizations, Accessibility at central and local level and Research, Raising awareness and Good practices.

Various measures have been adopted in the recent decades, predominantly of a medical, social and fiscal nature, intended to ensure rehabilitation, education, social protection and participation of disabled people in the labour market and in society.

The social security system grants various types of support in the form of cash benefits (subsidies, social pensions or bonuses) and through the access to facilities, goods and services (physical and professional rehabilitation, social services).

Although several measures had been created over recent years, the discrimination against people with disabilities has persisted and it was considered essential to define a global strategy which could establish a coherent system of measures based on the mainstream of disability issues in the various policy areas.

The respect for fundamental rights, the mainstreaming of the disability issues in public policies, the promotion of the accessibility and the removal of physical obstacles in the environment were the key-priorities of the new policy of rehabilitation and integration of people with disabilities which was defined in accordance with the new conceptual framework of human functionality and incapacity developed by the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health.

1.2 In reality, what major actions has your country taken and what are the positive or negative effects on disabled people? (policy or practical examples)

It was adopted the law nº 46/2006 from 28th of August that prohibits and punishes the discrimination based on the disability or health. This Law applies to the economic, social and cultural individual rights and defines the concept of direct and indirect discrimination. It also reinforces the application of the laws that protect people with disability from being discriminated and establishes the inversion of the burden of proof.

The NGO's representing people with disability interest and rights are entitled to represent and defend them in the court. By the article 8, the National Institute for the Rehabilitation is responsible to submit to the Government an annual report on all the information concerning the discriminatory acts and the sanctions eventually applied. The first report was already presented.

The Portuguese Government also approved the first Action Plan for the Integration of the People with Disabilities or impairments (2006-2009), by the Resolution of Ministers nº 120/2006, of 21st of September.

This was the first Action Plan approved and it defined the legislative and administrative measures, the responsibilities of the relevant actors and targets adopted and implemented by the government in the different areas of general policy. This Plan is also intended to promote a wide partnership between public and private entities, central, regional or local administration, social partners, NGO's and civil society as well as people with disabilities.

The main goals of the PAIPDI are: to promote the improvement of the quality of life of the people with disabilities, to promote accessibility to goods, services, information and communication, to promote the integration of people with disabilities in all domains of society, allowing their full participation, through comprehensive policies and quality services. The Plan defines the actions that should be adopted, as well as the Ministry in charged and the targets to be accomplished during the reference period of 2006/2009. It was also created a working group that will monitor the implementation of the Plan.

The Plan conveys an innovative and multidisciplinary approach to the issues of inclusion and participation of people with disabilities focused on various actions associated to, accommodation, accessibilities, modern information and communication technologies, on the offer of cultural, sports and art practices, on the adjustment to education and lifelong learning, adaptability and employability of the workers in a view to social and tax protection.

The monitoring mechanism created by the Plan will allow the evaluation and application of the programmatic measures by all stakeholders.

It should be underlined the adoption of the Council of Minister regulation through the publication of the RCM nº 186/2005 in order to settle that the submission of new draft laws that may interfere on issues related to the inclusion or participation of people with disabilities has to be completed with an assessment of its impact on the policies related to the prevention, qualification, rehabilitation and participation of people with disabilities.

The National Institute for the Rehabilitation (INR,I.P.) is the national body competent to promote the disability policy in partnership with other public entities and NGO's. The National Institute for the Rehabilitation, P.I. (INR,I.P.) also monitors the application of the PAIPDI, PNPA, the Accessibility law and the Law that prohibits discrimination based on disability.

Support to and involvement of NGO's

Law 38/2004 ensures participation by people with disability or respective representative organisations, particularly in the drafting of legislation on disability, execution and evaluation of all policies mentioned in this law, so as to ensure their involvement in all situations of everyday life and society in general.

The involvement of the NGO's is also guaranteed through the National Council for the Rehabilitation and Integration of the People with Disabilities ("Conselho Nacional de Reabilitação e Integração das Pessoas com Deficiência" – CNRIPD), which is a consultative body of the Minister of Labour and Social Solidarity, and provides the Government with information used in deciding on matters related to the definition of the National Rehabilitation Policies.

This body supports and includes representatives of all kinds of disabilities as well as social partners and public authorities. It issues opinions and recommendations and presents proposals for measures related to rehabilitation and disability.

The State encourages and supports People with disabilities, their families and the Association Movement in all measures taken in regard to the prevention of disabilities and the rehabilitation and social integration of the people with disabilities.

Encouraging and supporting the Association Movement is the duty of the National Institute for the Rehabilitation (INR,IP), that works closely with Civil Society and the Non Governmental Organisations of the people with disabilities in the definition of the policies. The INR,IP also finances projects, gives technical consulting, promotes working groups on specific policies (Education, Health, new Technologies, etc), ensures the production of technical and educational publications dealing with disability and rehabilitation through three collections: Books, Manuals and Leaflets, intensifies and promotes information about good practices, etc.

The support given by the State through the INR,I.P. to the NGO's has contributed to the development of their activities and the increase in the number of relevant projects that come under the objectives of the National Rehabilitation Policy.

There are about 400 NGO's working in the areas of disability and (re)habilitation that carry out services, activities and develop initiatives with a view to improving the quality of life of People with disability.

The State provides financial support to the NGO's through cooperation protocols to finance the functioning.

In addition, in partnership with organisations linked to Education, Social Security and Employment, the State, through specific agreements, supports NGO activities in the areas of teaching, employment, vocational training, rehabilitation and occupational activities.

In recent years the Association Movement has grown significantly and consolidated its form of acting. In some cases it has taken on an active role of claiming rights for the people with disabilities.

1.3 What is the most recent research about disabled people's equality and social inclusion in your country?

Relevant publications published lately are:

"Future Elderly. Living Conditions In Europe. Who Will Care"

Coordinator for the Portuguese Team: Ana Alexandre Fernandes

2003-2006 - Funding: European Commission

Abstract: The goal of this project was to forecast the living arrangements of people aged 75+ in the next thirty years. It resulted in an interactive database and a book. The data base and the key results can be consulted on the website. It was carried out by an international and interdisciplinary research team.

"Social protection models concerning incapacity- A structural challenge in integration of people with disabilities and incapacity"

Pedroso, Paulo; Alves, Tatiana

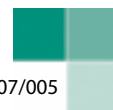
Study in course until 31/12/2008

The study aims to characterize the different social protection models of incapacity based on disability and to use ICF in the recognition and granting of social rights, social services, allowances and taxes benefits.

Study about the evaluation of Quality and Safety of Social Services in the field of rehabilitation and integration of people with disabilities

2005, Capucha, Luís; Cabrita, Miguel; Álvares, Maria; Paulino, Ana Lúcia

Study about the satisfaction level on the quality of existing social answers from a point of view of users and/or their families and technical staff of the institutions. Evaluation of the quality of services based on indicators to be defined. Analyze of people with disabilities needs in specific local areas where there is a lack of resources.



PART TWO: INCOMES, PENSIONS AND BENEFITS

2.1 Research publications (key points)

There are not many publications or studies about the specific phenomena of disability. Normally disability is studied as cause and result of poverty and social exclusion, affecting in particularly disadvantage groups as children, women, older people and ethnic minorities.

Bearing in mind this lack of publications the INR, I. P is promoting several studies in some key areas such as: Evaluation of Social and financial impacts for people with disabilities and their families; Pathways for disabled students in the different levels of education (secondary/ tertiary/undergraduate), Application of IFC in Health, Education, Employment, Social security and Tax policies; Adoption of indicators for monitoring disability policy; Impact of discrimination of women with disabilities in education, vocational training, employment and civil participation.

These studies are financed by QREN/POPH and public authorities, in special INR, I.P., and will be finished by 2009. The information obtained will be use in the developing of political measures for the inclusion of people with disabilities.

There are two studies particularly interesting in this area, namely:

“Modelling Disability Policy-making”, CRPG e ISCTE (2008).

“Poverty and Social Exclusion” Capucha, Luís, (2007) “Pobreza e exclusão social” in Maria das Dores, Anália Cardoso Torres e Luís Capucha (Orgs.), Quotidiano e Qualidade de Vida (Portugal no Contexto Europeu, vol. III), Lisboa, Celta Editora

From the reports and studies carried during last years it is possible to conclude that:

1. People with disabilities still face high rates of discrimination in all areas of society and are particularly vulnerable to poverty and social exclusion;
2. Social benefits are a result of passive policies and do not promote the integration in society;
3. Political disability measures had been designed according to assistance and medical model and there is a need to move to a human rights approach ;There is a need to focusing on ability rather in financing inactivity;
4. The empowerment of people with disabilities must be a priority and public support should be granted since birth and, specially, during transition periods;
5. It should be assured the balance of social protection and employment activation measures.

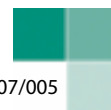
2.2 Type and level of benefits (key points and examples)

It is possible to find information about pensions and benefits available for people with disabilities in www.inr.pt ; www.seg-social.pt and www.gep.mtss.gov.pt

The new Law 4/2007 of January 16 approved the general basis of the social security system.

This is an advanced step in the whole process of reform undertaken. It foresees that the system of social security must assure social protection of people with disabilities through financial supports and diversified modalities of social support that favour the individual autonomy and contribute to the effective inclusion in the society.

The social action subsystem ensures special protection to the more vulnerable groups, in particular children, youths, persons with disabilities and the elderly, as well as other persons in a situation of economic or social need.



The citizenship social protection system aims to guarantee the basic rights of citizens, equal opportunities and social wellbeing and cohesion.

Social transfers are made to the institutions (indirect support) and to the individual and their families (direct support).

To meet these objectives the citizenship social protection systems ensures citizens are entitled to the essential minimums when facing a situation of lack of resources, poverty and exclusion.

Special disability protection takes the form of cash benefits, especially as regards compensation for family charges, protection of disability and dependency and maternity under the three new subsystems¹.

As example it is possible to detach several benefits in the various fields of social security system, as the following:

Family benefits for descendants with disabilities

The award of benefits depends on the contributions registered in the insured person`s name. People covered by non-contributory social security scheme are also eligible for these benefits, if they satisfy the required means conditions.

Maternity Benefits

The benefits provided under the maternity protection scheme are intended to offset the loss of income of working parents caring for descendants with disabilities.

Dependency benefits²

The benefits provided are as follows: attendance allowance and dependency supplement.

Social welfare benefits in Kind

Benefits in kind, especially those intended to support people with disabilities, come under social welfare. Support of this kind in practice enables people to use a network of equipment and services and provides the resources that they need to do so.

By means of co-operation protocols Social Security provides financial and technical support to non-profitable institutions, which provide services for the population with disabilities, such as residential homes, occupational activity centres, and early intervention centres aimed at children from 0 to 6 years old. The residential homes accommodate youngsters older than 16 and adults, who are either temporarily or definitively hindered from living with their families. The occupational activity centres are aimed at the disabled older than 16 to stimulate the development of their skills, mainly of those who cannot find a job.

Financing is paid directly by the state to the host establishment, following the conclusion of an individual agreement (co-operation protocols). Beneficiaries pay an amount towards cost calculated on the basis of their family income.

The Portuguese Government, taking account of the need to eliminate or reduce social, economic and cultural inequalities, the necessity to ensure legal-material equality, and the principle of equality, all in the context of strengthening equality for the People with Disabilities, has put the following measures in place:

¹In Portugal the Public Social Security System is divided into three subsystems: the insurance subsystem, the solidarity subsystem and the family protection subsystem. In the first two systems is foreseen a scheme of benefits in order to protect people with disability like the disability pension and the social benefits related to the accidents at work and occupational diseases. In the third subsystem is foreseen to cover family charges, dependency and disability.

²Dependency protection is part of the family protection subsystem introduced by the new framework law on social security.

The key policy of Social Security/Welfare Sector - based on human rights, equality of opportunities, autonomy and participation - is the promotion of quality of life and the development of more vulnerable citizens avoiding the social exclusion and poverty. It is devised in current legislation a family protection sub-system to disabled people establishing specific benefits and allowances for disabled children and adults aiming at compensating families for additional costs or loss of family income as a result of disability. Some fiscal benefits are available too.

In the field of social care (Social Action Sector) a range of specific social services and facilities funding by central government are available. The most part of services (institutional and community-based) are delivered by non-profit organizations through State agreements and financing by State. Assistive devices are also financed by State, the most part by Social Sector and some of them by Health and Education sectors (to in-school using mainly).

Children with Disabilities

According to the current labour legislation the worker-mothers/fathers of very severe disabled children have the permission to stay at home during 6 months with a grant paid by Social Security.

The great majority of disabled children live with their families although they are facing under-resourced community-based services delivery. This kind of provision had been incremented and improved in the last years through implementing more flexible measures and facilities by State and NGO's agreements.

The on-going implementation of Community Social Network

This is a legislative measure establishing a network organization of local public services, private non-profit organizations and other entities with the coordination of each local authority – has been an important tool for a better rationalisation and management of needs and community resources and by this means improving the quality of life of the more vulnerable population including disabled people.

Early childhood Intervention (ECI) system

The Early Childhood Intervention understood as a set of measures to an integrated support, focusing on children and their families, is recognized as a priority measure in the prevention and correction of the limitations of children with disabilities or who are at risk of serious delay in development .

With the National System of Early Intervention in Childhood, recently created by Decree-Law 281/2009, 6th October, is intended to implement a model of organization and operation of the Early Intervention to ensure and to mobilize all country, the resources available in education, health and social security are essential to develop the necessary skills for the development of those children.

Inclusive Education

The increment of inclusive education policies and practice had been an important contribution to decrease the number of institutionalized children with disabilities, as well as the number of boarding schools. Even very severe situations can be attained in specialized unities within ordinary schools near their homes.

The conversion of some special schools institutions as resources centres providing community-based and more comprehensive services had been a good alternative to meet family needs in the community and to reduce institutionalization.

Family benefits

There are special benefits and arrangements for workers parents with severe disabled children aiming the conciliation of professional life and family life:

- parental leave for one of the parents to stay at home till 6 months with a grant paid by Social Security Sector;
- Flexible arrangements of work timetables.

Protection of Women with Disabilities

It is also prohibit any kind of discrimination based on the sex and it is guarantee the equal opportunities and the fights against discrimination in all fields.

The Decree 1/2006, 25th January, regulates the conditions of organization, functioning and supervision of the shelter houses, in development of the Law nº107/99, (establishes the legal picture of the public net of houses of support to the women victims of violence), and the Decree-Law nº323/2000, that regulates it. In accessibility terms, it foresees that the existing private spaces in the installations of the shelter houses must be conceived of form to guarantee an effective privacy and the mobility of people/women with disabilities, also dealing with issues such as ageing, health care, and also situations of dependency

Policy developments

In 2006 it was created a new social allowance for elderly with lack of resources. This measure was intended to be implemented progressively through the entire country but in 2007 it was implemented in all national territories. This measure aims to combat the poverty of elderly who live alone and have very low income.

Access for all to health care is deemed to be one of the main priorities in the context of social policies in Portugal.

Recently, the Portuguese Government approved the National Plan of Mental Health 2007-2016 which consists in a instrument for the concretion of a national strategy to be implemented on a multisectorial form for some ministerial entities, having as main objectives:

- To assure the equitable access to quality care of mental health to all the people with problems of mental health, including those that belong to vulnerable groups
- To promote and to protect the human rights of the people with mental health problems
- To reduce the impact of the mental disturbances and to contribute to the promotion of the mental health of the population
- To promote the decentralization of the services of mental health, in order to allow the instalment of care services near the population and to facilitate a higher participation of the communities, the users and its families
- To promote the integration of the care services of mental health in the general system of health, not only at the primary care level, but also in general hospitals and the continued care, in order to facilitate the access and to diminish the institutionalization.

2.3 Policy and practice (summary)

Similarly to the Portuguese population, people with disabilities present as an average low school levels. Most of them only have the 1st level of 'basic education', compulsory schooling and 'do not know how to read or write', a category where women clearly stand out. In 2001, the illiteracy rate of the disabled population was more emphasized than in the total population (respectively 23% and 8.9%).

These people are mostly inactive economically (71%) and only 29% posses an economic activity. The main means of subsistence for people with disability or incapacity over 15 years old is their pension/ retirement (55.2%), reflecting an inverse situation to the total population whose principal means of subsistence is work (52.6%). It is important to stress the number of people with disabilities or incapacities "cared for by their families".



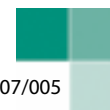
These factors are considered as being one of the greatest vulnerabilities of this group in relation to the overall population.

In 2001, the unemployment rate of people with disabilities or incapacities was 9.5% in relation to 6.8% for the total of the resident population. This means that specific measures of vocational training and processes of readjustment to work still do not generate an employability rate equal to the one selected for the population in general apart from a strong investment made in these last years in this area.

Between 2000 and 2004, there was a slowing down in the increase of the coverage in the service and equipment network for this population. The execution rate of response was the lowest (10.5%) in relation to the execution rates in the family and community sector (76.4%), elderly support (27.1%), childhood and youth (14.3%). In situations where disabilities are more severe or complex, the solutions and social services are still insufficient or not very adjusted to the real needs felt, particularly affecting the families. This situation is even more serious regarding single-parent families.

Amongst the groups vulnerable to poverty and the exclusion phenomena, the disabled population constitutes the group which taking into account the multiplicity of problems and the historic deficit of response, enhances a need for an urgent and reinforced investment.

Fulfilling the reform agreement signed with the social partners in October 2006, the new Social Security Base Law (Law n. 4/2007 of 16th January) was published in January 2007. The Decree-Law n. 187/2007 of 10th May, in effect since last June, develops the principles agreed in relation to pension calculation, namely taking the sustainability factor into consideration, the acceleration of the transition period into a new formula for pension calculation and the revision of the flexibility regime for the retirement age.



PART THREE: CARE AND SUPPORT

3.1 Recent research publications (key points)

There are not many publications in this field, however, some recent publications to consider are:

NEVES, António e CAPUCHA, Luís (Coord.) (2006), Estudo de Avaliação da Qualidade e Segurança das respostas Sociais na Área da reabilitação e integração das Pessoas com Deficiência, Coleção Cogitum, nº. 21, Lisboa: DGEEP – MTSS.

Neves, António Oliveira das (Coord.), Integração das Pessoas com Deficiência, DGEEP/MTSS

AMOR, Teresa (Coord.), MATIAS, Carla e COTRIM, Ana (2007), *Envelhecimento e Deficiência: Dupla Exclusão?* (Relatório Final), Centro de Estudos Territoriais, Lisboa.

Baltazar, Maria da Saudade (Coord.), Candeias, Maria de Jesus,(2008), A institucionalização de pessoas com deficiência em Lares Residenciais”, Universidade de Évora.

3.2 Types of care and support (key points and examples)

Social Support concerning elderly and adult people with disabilities³ is intended to support Elderly people on their own or with other family members, in residential care settings for elderly with or without autonomy. Social services and programmes for people aged 65 and over aim, as much as possible, at promoting their autonomy and well being, encouraging them to remain at home and in their family and usual living environment and at reinforcing their social and community integration.

The types of care and support available are:

Social services for older persons with disabilities

- *Emergency situations:*
National social emergency line 144, run by ISS - Institute of Social Security.
- *Foster Care:*
This service provides temporary or permanent care provided by a selected family for older persons who cannot stay at home due to the absence of family members and/or inadequacy of social services.
- *Home Help:*
This service provides individualized personal care at home for individuals and families who, due to illness, disability or other problems, cannot satisfy their basic needs and/or perform daily life activities on a temporary or permanent basis.
- *Get Together Centre:*
This is an establishment that provides support services for leisure and cultural activities organized by older persons in the community.
- *Day Care Centre:*
This is a centre where different kinds of services are provided for older persons, thus enabling them to stay in their homes for as long as possible. Services provided may include meals, socialization / occupational therapy, hygienic care, laundry and organized holidays. In certain circumstances, home delivery of meals, home help and temporary accommodation are also provided.
- *Holiday Camp:*
Services are provided to all age groups or for the entire family, including leisure activities.

³ Information provided by Social Security Institute

- *Home Help:*
This service provides temporary or permanent accommodation for older persons at major risk of losing their independence and/or autonomy.
- *Residential Care:*
This is a group of apartments with common use services, for elderly people with autonomy and who can take care of their own apartment.
- *Support Programmes for Elderly:*
This is an Integrated Support Programme (PAII) that provides telealarm services, home help and supervises Resource Centres for dependent people.

Social services for Adults with disabilities

- *Foster Care:*
This service provides temporary or permanent care provided by a selected family for adults with disabilities who cannot stay at home due to the absence of family members and/or inadequacy of social services.
- *Home Help:*
Through Home Help, adults with disabilities receive individualized personal care at home for individuals and families who, due to illness, disability or other problems, cannot satisfy their basic needs and/or perform daily life activities on a temporary or permanent basis.
- *Occupational Support Centre:*
These are centres to improve the personal competences and social integration of young people and adults with disabilities, aged over 16, through occupational activities.
- *Residential Care:*
This is a care centre for young people and adults with disabilities, of both sexes, over 16 years old, who cannot live in their home on a temporary or permanent basis.

Adult persons with disabilities are also entitled to financial support for acquiring technical aids, including new technological gadgets to compensate for disabilities or to reduce their consequences in order to be able to perform daily activities and to participate in academic, professional and social life.

In 2006 it was created two national programs PARES and PAIES intended to invite solidarity and private entities to invest in social equipment. This investment in social equipment represents a strategic dimension of the development of Portugal. It was created to give financial support to the equipment most necessary in the field of social support to children, people with disabilities and elderly at national and local level.

With the purpose of improving social, economic, political and cultural participation of older persons, Portugal has increased its investment in social infrastructures enabling their integration.

The Social Services and Equipments Network Programme (PARES) was created and regulated by Administrative Rule nr. 426/2006 of May 2nd. This Programme promotes public investment in social infrastructures through financial resources obtained exclusively from the net results of social games and private investment in social infrastructures. This investment aims at increasing, developing and consolidating the existing capacity in social solutions, specifically for people with disabilities, by creating the conditions which promote their autonomy and improve the solutions for this population.

The PARES Programme sets out 3 main objectives:

To pursue an effective planning of needs at a territorial level by selecting priority projects on the territory: With a lower coverage rate; More vulnerable to social exclusion.

To encourage investment by seeking to establish previous partnerships between the Social Sector, Local Authorities and Entrepreneurial/Private Sector.

To promote Private Sector initiative through an autonomous process supporting investment.

PARES Programme defines targets : 2.500 places for the people with disabilities will be created in the third sector. Until 2008, it was created about 1000 new places for people with disabilities.

The Support Programme for the Investment in Social Equipment – PAIES – was established and regulated by Administrative Rule nr. 869/2006 of August 29th. Similarly, to PARES, the PAIES programme stimulates private investment in social services. However, this Programme emphasizes the support to profit making initiative by granting incentives to investment, supporting the promoting entities and enabling more favourable conditions when applying for credit.

A National Network of Continued and Integrated Care (RNCCI) was established by Decree-Law nº 101/2006, of 6 June, within the scope of the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity. The Network's objective is based on the provision of continued and integrated care to persons, independently of their age find themselves in a dependent situation.

Continued and integrated care is based on a paradigm of full recovery and maintenance in order to permit the treatment of the acute phase of the disease or preventive intervention. For this effect, comprising:

Rehabilitation, readaptation and social reintegration; - Provision and maintenance of comfort and quality of life, even in situations when they can't recover.

Continued and integrated care is provided by hospital and outpatient Units as well as by Hospital and domiciliary care teams.

The National Network of Continued and Integrated Care will be implemented progressively and during its first year through Pilot Experiences. Following this guideline, Joint order no. 17 516/2006 of 29 August enacted by the Ministries of Health, Labour and Social Solidarity, approved the realization of pilot experiences in 14 districts of the country, making available 1145 beds in these units and forming 178 teams.

Therefore, it is observed that in Portugal, long term care or integrated care has gained importance on the political agenda implying a transversal (cross-cutting) approach from the health sector and social services.

According to the RNCCI report 2008, more than 2,870 beds in the national network for integrated care were available. In 2008 there were 72 community-based integrated care teams (ECCI) and there were 18.323 users of the RNCCI.

Results from the 1st semester of 2009 show that 26.9% (3377) of users were referred to Convalescence care; 24.65% (3,095 users) to rehabilitation care; 24.93% (3130 users) for Long Term and Maintenance; 15.14% (1,901 users) for ECCI (0.2% were referred for palliative care counseling) and 8.38% (1,052 users) to Palliative Care Units.

The RNCCI has been evaluated on a regular basis and some information about the implementation of this project is available, namely:

User's characteristics in 2008:

- 79 % were over 65 years old;
- 79% lived with their natural family; 13% lived alone; 4% lived in an institution;

- Family members were the main source of informal support of users (67% of all cases), followed by formal home care support (24%);

After the evaluation of the **first semester of 2009** it was possible to conclude that:

- Of the population referred to RNCCI, 52% were women;
- Persons under 60 years were mainly men (64%), while 55% of those over 61 years were women;
- Regarding marital situation of users, the highest percentage, 45%, was married;
- 81% of RNCCI users lived with their natural families, 10% lived alone and 4% in an institution;
- Family support is the backbone of users' assistance (83% of cases), followed by home social support (17%).

Housing

The Portuguese Government approved the Decree-Law 163/2006, 8th August that establishes the technical norms of accessibility to all the public and collective equipments, public buildings and housing, this new law aims to be more effective than the previous one and reinforces the rules applicable to promote accessibility as well as the sanctions that apply to every one: public or private entity. It was also adopted the National Plan of Promotion of the Accessibility (NPPA) (Council of Ministers Resolution nº 9/2007, 17th de January) that constitutes an instrument of measures which aim is the improvement of the quality of life of all the citizens and, in special, the realization of the rights of citizenship of the persons with special needs.

With regard to the situations related to renting, of the Urban Rental Scheme, in cases of the transmission of rental contracts to descendants who have a handicap with a degree of greater than 66%, the conditioned rent regime⁴ is not applied and these people continue to pay the same type and amount of rent.

People with a handicap degree of more than 60% receive a rent subsidy⁵. This subsidy is also payable to people whose spouse or the person who lives with them is disabled.

Homelessness

Cross-cutting measures have been implemented in order to reduce poverty amongst some vulnerable groups. These measures have entailed reinforcing and consolidating the component of Social Integration Income; intervention in the housing market to rehabilitate and re-qualify accommodation and rehousing citizens, and improving access to housing at prices compatible with the incomes of families PROHABITA Programme; Door 65 Initiative, Programme to Support the Construction of Low Cost Housing for Young People; Special Re-housing Programme). Other measures have included: territorial intervention to promote inclusion in problematic areas, combating desertification and isolation, and favouring social integration of specific populations (Social Development Local Contracts ; the Critical Neighbourhoods Initiative; the Choices Programme). Information is also available for families in financial difficulties, (Offices to Support Consumers with Debts; Offices for Consumer Debt Advice).

⁴ the original rent/the first rent is fixed in accordance with the parts interested and can not exceed, by the month, 1/12 of the result of tax (actually, 8%) x actual valour of the place (price depends on the condition of the building and the date of the last adjustment).

⁵ Law 46/85, 20.10, admitted the annual increase of rents according to coefficients approved by the Government. Also, it allowed an extraordinary adjustment of rents established before 1980, according to variable coefficients (depending on the condition of the building and the date of the last adjustment). A rent subsidy for tenants with a low income was created to compensate for the increase of rents. (12 DL 321-A/90, 61 RAU; Law 46/85, 20.10; Decree Law 68/86, 27.03 (modified by Law 21/86, 31/07 and Decree Law 329-B/2000, 22.12)

According to the National Strategy for Social Protection and Social Inclusion 2008/2010 there is no detailed information about the number of homeless people living in Portugal. However, some studies show that homeless population is composed above all, of men of active economic age (30-49 years), single and/or divorced. The majority have Portuguese nationality and have basic schooling. They are distributed mainly throughout large metropolitan areas (Lisboa and Porto), followed by the medium-sized cities of Setúbal, Faro and Braga. A new generation of homeless people has clearly emerged, with a growing number of people with mental health conditions, drug addicts, alcoholics, ex-convicts and other individuals who face adverse circumstances – breakdown of social and family ties, professional instability, difficulties in accessing housing and employment, low incomes, the absence of rules and routines, self-marginalisation, loss of work habits, regression in terms of cognitive capabilities – and they do not have any kind of social, psychological and economic support.

The main factors that contribute towards the situation of the homeless who sleep in night shelters are essentially unemployment, loss of homes owing to an absence of income, illnesses (drug addiction, chronic and mental illnesses) and marriage and family breakdown.

The absence of legal rules that fit the implementation of policies and benefits to homeless people and the diversity of issues related to this phenomenon, have determined a need to define a coordinated strategy aimed at developing an integrated intervention to prevent and resolve the situation of homeless people in Portugal. In 2009 the National Strategy for the Integration of Homeless People (2009-2015) was adopted. Among other measures, the strategy will:

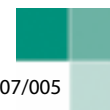
- Housing - Create housing conditions by providing public or private housing allocated directly or through mediation;
- Employment - Providing solutions for appropriate vocational training and employment;
- Social Protection - Ensuring access to protective measures;
- Promotion of self-esteem and autonomy.

There is no relevant data about persons with disabilities who are homeless, because most live in institutions when they have no family or they lack resources. Nevertheless they are eligible for the same support that is granted to citizens.

Social Services for Children and young persons with disabilities

- *Interdisciplinary technical support:*
Specialized support programmes for children and young persons with disabilities and their families in order to promote their development and social integration.
- *Early Technical Support:*
Joint services, in the fields of education, health, solidarity and social security, to support children up to 6 years, with disabilities or in situations of high risk, and their families.
- *Socio-Educational Center:*
Provides support for children and young persons with serious disabilities, until they are 16 years old. This centre operates as a semi boarding school, with several aims, namely pluridisciplinary assessment, early technical support, socio-educational and supplementary support.
- *Home Support:*
For children and young persons with disabilities, from 6 to 16 years old, with special educational needs, attending socio-educational centres far away from their own homes or who need this type of support due to temporary family dysfunctions.
- *Residential Care:*
For young persons and adults with disabilities, aged over 16, of both sexes, who are unable to continue to live in their usual environment and therefore need temporary or permanent accommodation.

- *Holiday Camp:*
For children and young persons with disabilities during school holidays, work holidays or other holidays. Holiday camps can cover several activities, namely daily work camps, camping, etc.
- Children and young persons with disabilities are also entitled to financial support for acquiring technical aids, including new technological gadgets to compensate for disabilities or to reduce their consequences in order to be able to perform daily activities and to participate in academic, professional and social life.



PART FOUR: SUMMARY INFORMATION

4.1 Conclusions and recommendations (summary)

There has been a significant improvement of the rehabilitation policy instruments: mainstream Plans about the Integration of people with disabilities and on accessibility, new Law on accessibility and the law that prohibits discrimination based on disability nevertheless there is still much to do mainly in the application of the legal framework.

There are some improvements that should be put in practice such as :

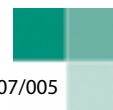
- Simplifying the existing protection scheme by combining the number of benefits in order to improve the individual autonomy is a main challenge.
- Recognising the transversal nature of protecting persons with disabilities, which presupposes intervention by other political and social areas. Moreover, recognising that the problem of disabilities and incapacities must be viewed, not only from a passive perspective, by subsidising the situation, but particularly through an active perspective that socially (re)habilitates, integrates and dignifies.
- Reform of the Social Protection System according to the new concept of the ICF that values the capacities of each person with disabilities and promotes their empowerment and autonomy.
- Adoption of a new system based on the ICF to evaluate the capacities and specific limitations of people with disabilities.
- Need of a social approach based on the individual needs and in the elaboration of individual plans adjusted to them impairments.
- Improvement of the community and local support services as well as personal assistance of people with disabilities and their families.
- Balancing social protection pensions with work wages.

4.2 One example of best practice (brief details)

Attending to the importance that community services play in the inclusion of people with disabilities the PAIPDI created Local Network of Information and Mediation Services for people with disabilities (SIM-PD) which provide at local level information and qualified support to people with disabilities or impairments. This network is located within local authorities with a view to responding to people with disabilities needs of information, orientation and follow-up services.

The target groups are people with disabilities and their families, professionals rehabilitation, education, health, etc), NGO's and services and/or any other citizen that may need information.

At this moment, there are already 17 SIM-PD's all over the country.



4.3 References

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National Action Programme for Growth and Jobs (PNACE 2005/2008) - Report on 2nd year of implementation. October 2007. Presidency of the Council of Ministers. Cabinet of the National Coordinator of the Lisbon Strategy and Technological Plan.

Apoios à Família e à Natalidade -

http://www.portugal.gov.pt/Portal/PT/Governos/Governos_Constitucionais/GC17/Ministerios/MTSS/Comunicacao/Programas_e_Dossiers/20070723_MTSS_Prog_Natalidade.htm

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Primeira fase de candidaturas ao PARES

http://www.portugal.gov.pt/Portal/PT/Governos/Governos_Constitucionais/GC17/Ministerios/MTSS/Comunicacao/Outros_Documentos/20061109_MTSS_Doc_Candidaturas_PARES.htm

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http://www.portugal.gov.pt/Portal/PT/Governos/Governos_Constitucionais/GC17/Ministerios/MTSS/Comunicacao/Outros_Documentos/20070410_MTSS_Doc_CLDS.htm

Estratégia Nacional para a Inclusão dos Beneficiários do Rendimento Social de Inserção

http://www.portugal.gov.pt/Portal/PT/Governos/Governos_Constitucionais/GC17/Ministerios/MTSS/Comunicacao/Outros_Documentos/20070327_MTSS_Doc_Insercao_RSI.htm

Plano Nacional de Acção para a Inclusão (PNAI)

<http://www.pnai.pt>

Rede de Centros Educativos de reinserção social

http://www.portugal.gov.pt/Portal/PT/Governos/Governos_Constitucionais/GC17/Ministerios/MJ/Comunicacao/Outros_Documentos/20070413_MJ_Doc_Centros_Educativos_Reinsercao.htm

Centro Novas Oportunidades dirigido a deficientes mentais

http://www.portugal.gov.pt/Portal/PT/Governos/Governos_Constitucionais/GC17/Ministerios/MTSS/Comunicacao/Notas_de_Imprensa/20060927_MTSS_Com_Novas_Oportunidades.htm

Matrix of the implementation of the PNACE Measures

<http://www.estrategiadelisboa.pt/docs/relatoriopnace2007anexo.pdf>

Portuguese National Follow-up to the UNECE Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS) of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA), Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity (MTSS), July 2008.

TABLE 1
TABLE OF DISABILITY PROTECTION FOR FAMILY EXPENSES

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM	BENEFITS	OBJECTIVES	AWARD CONDITIONS	AMOUNTS	ACCUMULATION
CITIZENSHIP SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM - FAMILY PROTECTION SUBSYSTEM	Disability bonus Decree-Law 133-B/97, of May 30, with the draft given to it by Decree-Law 341/99, of August 25 Subsidy for attending a special establishment Decree-Law 133-B/97, of May 30, with the	To compensate for additional family expenses arising from situations in which the descendents of the beneficiaries, under 24 years of age and with a physical, organic, sensorial, motor or mental disability, require educational or therapeutic support, to which is added the Family Bonus for Children and Youths (covered by the contributory schemes). To compensate for expenses resulting from the direct application of specific measures of special education for children and youths, under 24 years of age, with disabilities, implying the need to attend private profit-oriented or co-operative establishments or specific education support by a specialised profit oriented entity outside the establishment.	<u>General Conditions:</u> Existence of recorded wages in the name of the beneficiary, within the 12 months prior to the 2 nd month before that of the application submittal date or of the confirmation of the fact determining the award. Be maintained at the expense of the beneficiary and not perform any professional activity covered by the mandatory social protection scheme. <u>Special conditions:</u> In cases of disabled descendents of beneficiaries and under 24 years of age who have a disability and who are in one of the following situations: -Attending or interned at a specialised rehabilitation establishment or are in the condition to attend or to be interned at the said establishment. - Need individual educational	Fixed amount updated periodically Up to 14 years of age - €59,48 From 14 to 18 - €86,62 From 18 to 24 - €115.96 Variable amount according to the monthly fee and the income of the family household and corresponds to the difference between the value of the said fee and the value of the family contribution.	Accumulated with the special education subsidy and the third-person care subsidy.

	<p>draft given to it by Decree-Law 341/99, of August 25 Regulatory Decree 14/81, of April 7</p> <p>Monthly lifetime subsidy and extraordinary solidarity complement</p> <p>Decree-Law 133-B/97, of May 30, with the draft given to it by Decree-Law 341/99, of August 25</p>	<p>To compensate for higher family expenses according to the beneficiary's descendants, over 24 years of age, with a physical, organic, sensorial, motor or mental disability, who cannot be expected to normally earn a living through a job.</p> <p>CES (extraordinary solidarity complement) – awarded officially through an addition to the monthly lifetime subsidy</p>	<p>support and/or specific therapy.</p> <p><u>Special conditions:</u> In cases of descendents of beneficiaries who have a disability, and are under 24 years of age, who are in one of the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend special private education establishments, profit or non-profit or co-operative, supervised by the Ministry of Education and that imply a monthly fee. - Have individual education support by a specialised entity; - Need to attend a private regular education establishment, after attending the special education; - attend a normal day nursery or kindergarten as a specific and necessary means of overcoming the handicap and to achieve social integration more quickly. 	<p>Fixed amount updated periodically € 174,72</p> <p>(CES – extraordinary solidarity complement) Beneficiaries under 70 years of age – € 17,32 Beneficiaries 70 years of age or older - € 34,63</p>	<p>Accumulates with the disability bonus.</p> <p>Accumulates only with the subsidy for third-person care</p>
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Source: MTSS

TABLE 1 (cont.)
DISABILITY PROTECTION FOR FAMILY EXPENSES

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM	BENEFITS	OBJECTIVES	AWARD CONDITIONS	AMOUNTS	ACCUMULATION
CITIZENSHIP SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM -SOLIDARITY SUBSYSTEM	<p>➤ Disability bonus</p> <p>Decree-Law 133-C/97, of May 30, with the draft given to it by Decree-Law 341/99, of August 25</p>	<p>To compensate for additional family expenses for minors under 24 years of age and with a physical, organic, sensorial, motor or mental disability requiring educational or therapeutic support, which is added to the Family Bonus for Children and Youths (through the non-contributory schemes).</p>	<p><u>General resources condition:</u> Monthly gross income equal to or less than 40% of the IAS (social support index rate), provided the income of the respective household is not greater than 1.5 of that index rate. (not applicable to the Subsidy for attending a special establishment)</p> <p><u>Special resources condition</u> (accumulative requirements): Household income equal to or less than 30% of the IAS Situation or risk or serious social dysfunction, determined by lost or decreased income or abnormal increase in expenses, in particular due to illness, accident, unemployment and invalidity or rehabilitation</p> <p><u>Special conditions:</u> Identical to those of the welfare system</p> <p><u>Special conditions:</u> Identical to those of the welfare system</p>	<p>Fixed amount updated periodically Up to 14 years of age - €59,48 From 14 to 18 - €86,62 From 18 to 24 - € 115,96</p> <p>Variable amount according to the monthly fee and the income of the family household and corresponds to the difference between the value of the said fee and the value of the family contribution.</p>	<p>Accumulated with the special education subsidy and the third-person care subsidy.</p> <p>Accumulates with the disability bonus.</p>
	<p>➤ Subsidy for attending a special establishment</p> <p>Decree-Law 133-C/97, of May 30, with the draft given to it by Decree-Law 341/99, of August 25</p>	<p>To compensate for expenses resulting from the direct application of specific measures of special education for children and youths, under 24 years of age, with disabilities, implying the need to attend private profit-oriented or co-operative establishments or specific education support by a specialised profit-oriented entity outside the establishment.</p>	<p><u>Special conditions:</u> Identical to those of the welfare system</p> <p><u>Special conditions:</u> Identical to those of the welfare system</p>	<p>Variable amount according to the monthly fee and the income of the family household and corresponds to the difference between the value of the said fee and the value of the family contribution.</p>	<p>Accumulates with the disability bonus.</p>

Source: MTSS/2009



TABLE 2
DISABILITY PROTECTION WITHIN THE SCOPE OF MATERNITY PROTECTION *

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM	BENEFITS	OBJECTIVES	AWARD CONDITIONS	AMOUNTS	ACCUMULATION
WELFARE SYSTEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Subsidy for care to ill or disabled descendants who are minors <p>Decree-Law 154/88, of April 29, with the current draft</p>	To compensate for lost work wages in situations of assistance to minor or disabled descendants.	Guarantee period of 6 calendar months, continuous or intercalated, with recorded wages, on the date of the fact that determined the protection. Incapacity or unavailability to work when assistance cannot be delayed and is crucial due to illness or accident of a descendant, adopted or not, or a step son/daughter under 10 years of age or without an age limit when disabled, who resides with the beneficiary and is part of the household.	The amount is variable and corresponds to 65% of the beneficiary's reference wage.	As a rule, these benefits cannot be accumulated with other benefits compensating for lost work wages.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Subsidy for care to severely disabled and chronically ill persons <p>Decree-Law 154/88, of April 29, with the current draft</p>	To compensate for lost work wages in situations of assistance to severely disabled and chronically ill descendants	Guarantee period of 6 calendar months, continuous or intercalated, with recorded wages, on the date of the fact that determined the protection. Incapacity or unavailability to work in order to attend to a descendant, adopted or not, or a disabled stepchild with a severe disability or chronic illness 12 years of age or under, who resides with the beneficiary and is part of the family household.	The amount is variable and corresponds to 65% of the reference wage of the beneficiary with a maximum limit one times the value of the IAS (social support index rate).	As a rule, these benefits cannot be accumulated with other benefits compensating for lost work wages.

Source: MTSS/2009

REMARKS: * The protection granted in this situation replaces work wages and the entitlement is awarded to beneficiaries covered by the general scheme of employees.

TABLE 3
PROTECTION FOR INCAPACITY TO WORK *

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM	BENEFITS	OBJECTIVES	AWARD CONDITIONS	AMOUNTS	ACCUMULATION
WELFARE SYSTEM	<p>Invalidity pension (relative and absolute)</p> <p>Decree-Law 187/2007, of May 10</p>	To compensate for lost work wages due to an incapacitating situation from a non-professional cause determining a permanent physical, sensorial or mental incapacity to work.	Permanent incapacity to work recognised by the Permanent Incapacity Confirmation Committee. Compliance with the 3-year guarantee period for relative invalidity pension and 5 years for absolute invalidity pension.	Calculated based on the beneficiary's contribution career.	<p>Accumulation of the relative invalidity pension with work wages is subject to certain limits, according to the profession on which that income is based.</p> <p>Absolute invalidity pension cannot be accumulated with work wages.</p> <p>Invalidity pension may be accumulated with pensions of other national and foreign mandatory schemes and with pensions from optional schemes.</p>

CITIZENSHIP SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM - FAMILY PROTECTION SUBSYSTEM	Dependence complement Decree-Law 265/99, of July 14 Decree-Law 309-A/2000, of November 30	Protect invalidity, old age and survivor pensioners and social widow and orphanhood pensioners in a situation of dependence and who require third-person care.	Pensioners of the social security schemes who are dependent (lack autonomy to perform indispensable acts for basic daily life activities).	Correspond to a percentage of the value of the Social Pension and vary by brackets according to the dependence level.	Accumulated with welfare system pensions and with solidarity subsystem pensions
CITIZENSHIP SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM -SOLIDARITY SUBSYSTEM	Social invalidity pension ** Decree-Law 160/80, of May 27 - Decree-Law 464/80, of October 13 (Social Pension)	Ensure protection to the economically needier persons who are eligible to protection guaranteed by the welfare system since they have never been covered by social protection schemes or, having been, did not fulfil the guarantee period to access invalidity protection under the welfare system.	When 18 years old or older. Permanent incapacity for all and any profession, confirmed by the Incapacity Confirmation System (SVI) Gross monthly income not greater than 30% of the IAS value (social support index rate), or 50% of this value for couples (resources condition).	General Scheme: 1 st level – 50% - 2 nd level – 90% Other regimes: - 1 st level – 45% - 2 nd level – 85% Periodically updated in reference to the IAS, 2009 - € 188,65 (44.5% of the IAS)	Cannot be accumulated with other benefits

Source: MTSS/2009

REMARKS: Although not specifically meant for disability protection, may cover this universe, particularly for the invalidity social pension.

This benefit also includes the extraordinary solidarity complement (Decree-Law 208/2001, of July 27).

TABLE 4
DEPENDENCE PROTECTION

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM	BENEFITS	OBJECTIVES	AWARD CONDITIONS	AMOUNTS	ACCUMULATION
CITIZENSHIP SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM - PROTECTION SUBSYSTEM FAMILY	<p>➤ Subsidy for third-person care</p> <p>Decree-Law 133-B/97, of May 30, with the draft given to it by Decree-Law 341/99, of August 25</p>	<p>Compensate for higher family expenses arising from descendants who are dependent on the beneficiary entitled to a family subsidy for children and youths, with a bonus for disability, or a monthly lifetime subsidy, who require permanent third-person care.</p>	<p>Descendants entitled to Family Bonus for Children and Youths, with a disability bonus or monthly lifetime subsidy who depend on and are in fact rendered third-person care of at least 6 hours per day to ensure their basic needs.</p>	<p>Fixed amount updated periodically. € 82.58</p>	<p>Accumulated with disability bonus and monthly lifetime subsidy.</p>
	<p>➤ Dependence complement</p> <p>Decree-Law 265/99, of July 14 Decree-Law 309-A/2000, of November 30</p>	<p>Protect invalidity, old age and survivor pensioners and social widow and orphanhood pensioners who are dependent and require third-person care.</p>	<p>Pensioners of the social security system who are dependent (lack autonomy to perform indispensable acts for basic daily life activities).</p>	<p>Corresponds to a percentage of the Social Pension amount and varies in brackets according to the dependence level. General Scheme: 1st level – 50% - 2nd level – 90% Other regimes: - 1st level – 45% - 2nd level – 85%</p>	<p>Accumulated with welfare system pensions and with solidarity subsystem pensions.</p>

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