

Intellectual Disabilities II  
Inclusion of Intellectual Disability into  
Community Development  
(JFY 2006)

*Inception Report*  
*Lyudmil Dimitrov, MLSP - Bulgaria,*  
*Tokyo, 22-nd May 2006*



# Republic of Bulgaria

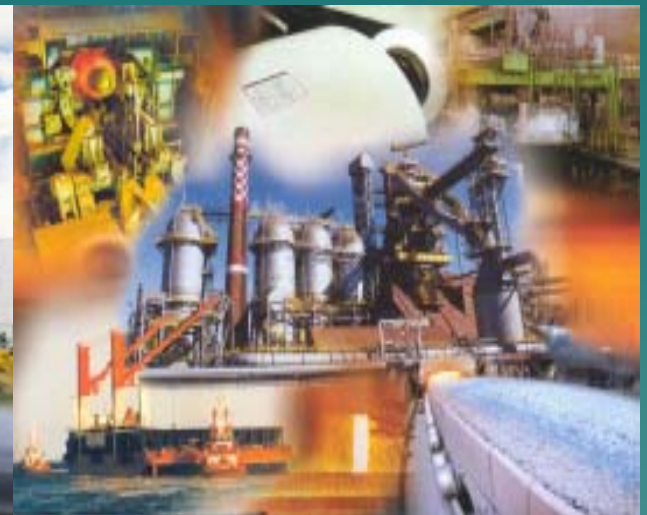
With great gratitude to JICA and  
all project team!

*Lyudmil Dimitrov*

A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of teal, located at the bottom right of the slide.



# Republic of Bulgaria



Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

# Republic of Bulgaria

- ◆ *Area (sq. km) – 111 000;*
- ◆ *Population (at the end of 2004) – 7 761 049 persons (males – 3 767 610; females – 3 993 439);*
- ◆ *Population of cities - 5 431,8 thousand (70,0% of the Bulgarian population);*
- ◆ *Population of villages – 2 329,2 thousand;*

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- ◆ *Life expectancy* - **The average life expectancy at birth** for the 2002-2004 period is **72,37 years**;
- ◆ *The average age of the population* - in 2004 stood at **41 years**;
  - **in villages** - **45,0 years**;
  - **in cities** - **39,3 years**.

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- ◆ *Mortality rate* – **14,2‰**. in 2004 (there were 110 110 deaths, decreased by 1 817 persons compared to the preceding year) Mortality remains higher among **males (15,7‰)** than **females (12,7‰)**, and higher in **villages (19,4‰)** than in **cities (11,9‰)**.
- ◆ *Infant mortality* - characterized by its considerable inherent fluctuations. The infant mortality rate is an indicator influenced by various factors and susceptible to change in time and the relatively minor numbers from which it is derived:

**1991 - 16,9‰;**

**1995 - 14,8‰;**

**1997 - 17,5‰;**

**2003 - 12,3‰;**

**2004 - 11,6‰.**

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- ◆ *Literacy rate* (among the population aged 25-64 in ethnic groups) – The last census data (2001) show:
  - **Bulgarians** received the best education
    - 23,5% - tertiary education;
    - 53,0% - secondary education;
    - 20,7% - basic education;
    - 0,4% are illiterate;
  - **Turkish ethnic group**
    - 53% - basic education;
    - 23,7% - secondary education;
    - 2,7% - tertiary education;
    - 3,5%. are illiterate.
  - **Roma ethnic groups**
    - only 7,2% attained tertiary or secondary education;
    - 44,9% - basic education;
    - 27,4% - primary education;
    - 7,8% - without any completed educational degree;
    - 12,7% - illiterate.

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- ◆ *Education (Compulsory)* – According to the 2001 census, **50,8% of the population have secondary education and 15,2% of the population have certificated tertiary education.** At the same time the relative share of people with basic or lower education decreased by 10 points – from 38,1 to 28,1%. That means that almost **72% of the population of active working age have secondary or tertiary education.**



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- ◆ *Unemployment rate* (for the fourth quarter of 2005) - **9,9%** (1,9 points lower than the rate for the same period of 2004);
  - **male - 10,1%** (12,5% in 4-th quarter of 2004);
  - **female – 9,7%** (11,1% in 4-th quarter of 2004);
  - **youth unemployment rate - 22,8%** (4,2 points lower than the rate for the same period of 2004).

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- ◆ *Laws concerned with persons with Intellectual Disabilities*

**Law on Social Assistance;**

**Law on Integration of People with Disabilities;**

**Law on Family Allowances for Children;**

**Antidiscrimination Law;**

**Law on Health.**

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## ◆ *Financial assistance for persons with Intellectual Disabilities*

**social assistance benefits** (monthly social benefits, targeted benefits, one-off benefits, family benefits);

**monthly allowance for social integration;**

**monthly allowance** (70% from the minimum salary) **for parents and families of children with disabilities;**

**tax preferences** a.a.

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Parliament (NA – 240 MP) ↔ President

↓  
Government

incl. ↓

Ministries and State Agencies:

- ◆ MLSP incl. Agency for Social Assistance;  
←→ Agency for Integration of PD;  
←→ Agency for Employment;  
←→ State Agency for Child Protection

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*Major programs cons. PWD incl. PWID*

- ◆ **National Program “Assistants for people with disabilities” (NP);**
- ◆ **“Improvement of quality of life of people with mental disabilities”;**
- ◆ **“ Deinstitutionalisation through provision of community based services”**

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## ◆ *Target groups*

**NP's - people with all kinds of disabilities and seriously ill lonely people.**

The other two programs are related to **persons with mental disabilities.**

## ◆ **Outputs**

**Increased number** of PWID, who are benefited from the delivered alternative services;

**20% decrease** of people, residents in the specialized institutions by the end of project activities;

**10% growth** of the children with mental disabilities who live in family environment;

**at least 50 integrated children** in kindergartens and integrated classes in schools.

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- ◆ **Social services** are a **part of the social assistance system** and are designed to overcome the social exclusion of these vulnerable groups.
- ◆ However, social services still have a **relatively limited coverage**.
- ◆ The social services are **provided**:
  - in the community** (care patronage, personal or social assistant, day centers, centers for social rehabilitation and integration, protective homes);
  - in specialized institutions** (homes for mentally retarded children or youth and homes for mentally retarded adults).
- ◆ **NGOs are sustainable providers of social services mainly in the field of community-based social services.**
- ◆ **Very good co-ordination and co-operation between government/MLSP and NGOs concerning development and implementation of policies for people with disabilities incl. intellectual disabilities** - National Council for Integration of People with Disabilities at the Council of Ministers.

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## *Finding&Diagnosis of I.D. - Procedure*

- ◆ **diagnosis and medical treatment– only by doctors;**
- ◆ **medical expertise;**
- ◆ **social evaluation;**
- ◆ **social protection scheme.**



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## *Education of children with I.D.*

- ◆ **Special education, or Integrated education – both.**
- ◆ There are **73 special schools for special education** of I.D. children not appropriate for integrated education.

## *Placement procedure*

**medical expertise** by specialized medical commission;  
**pedagogical evaluation** by specialized commission of experts at the regional inspectorate for education;

**working out of program for education;**

**advice to the child's parents** for the most appropriate type of education;

**enrolment** in appropriate school.

- ◆ Since 1-st Jan. 2004 began the implementation of the **National Plan for Integration of Children with Special Educational Needs**, which co-ordinates the activities of all responsible institutions in this process.

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## *Vocational training*

- ◆ It is included in the **National Program for Vocational Training and Employment of People with Disabilities for 2006 and 2007**.
- ◆ Very important for the further development of vocational education in Bulgaria is the **project "Vocational Qualification"**.

### *main objective*

- strengthening the institutional capacity for management;
- further developing the quality of vocational education and training in Bulgaria;

### *output*

- positive influence on the vocational training of disabled people.

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*Important issues for effective support to I.D. people:*

- 1 Development of social services and infrastructure mainly in the field of community-based services;**
- 2 Deinstitutionalisation;**
- 3 Better education and vocational qualification – more chances for employment resp. more effective social inclusion;**
- 4 More active work of NGOs on a local level;**
- 5 Development of social entrepreneurship.**

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Thank you for your attention!

For further information please do not hesitate to contact me:

Lyudmil DIMITROV, Ph. D.

Head of Department

Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

1051 Sofia, Bulgaria

2, Triaditza Str.

Tel.: +359 2/8119659

+359 2/9802552

Fax: +359 2/9870134

E-mail: [ldimitrov@mlsp.government.bg](mailto:ldimitrov@mlsp.government.bg)