

# CEOQA

LTC network

Quality and cost-effectiveness in long-term care and dependency prevention



## POLICY SUMMARY: BULGARIA

### Planning and provision of social services at the regional level

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Policy theme	Deinstitutionalization and provision of more community- and family-based services
Design and implementation level	National design, locally implemented. Directorate-General 'EU Funds, International Programs and Projects' – measures implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy.
Policy objective	Development of the system for planning and provision of social services at the regional level
Start date – End date	2012–2030

## Aims

Development of the system for planning and provision of social services at the regional level' is part of the measures envisaged to improve the skills of professionally employed carers, volunteers or family members in relation to operational objective 5

'Development and modernization of long-term care and ensuring equal opportunities for access to social services for adults of the 'National Concept for Promoting Active Aging in Bulgaria' (2012–2030);

An activity was launched in October 2014 entitled 'Analysis of the status of specialized

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

## Implementation

Regional coordinators perform on-site visits by monitoring and collecting information on social services as well as participate in the preparation of the annual monitoring reports in relation to the implementation of regional strategies for social services development. In 2014, various trainings were conducted: training of trainers for the management and provision of social services and supervision; training of representatives of the target groups for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of policies and strategies for development of social services, risk

assessment and implementation of supervision and crisis interventions as well as control of the quality of provision of social services; training of employees of municipal administrations aiming at management, quality control and procurement of the management of social services; training of social service providers for management and quality provision of services.

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

## Target group

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

## Eligibility criteria

No eligibility criteria have been specified.

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## Resources

Social services funding in Bulgaria is both centralized and decentralized. The financial resources for social services development and support are stipulated in chapter VII of the Social Assistance Act and include the following sources: state budget, municipal budgets, national and international

programs, donations from local and foreign individuals and legal entities, 'social support' fund, etc.

Please see [page 2](#) of the Bulgarian country report 'Emerging Policy Developments in Long-term Care.

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## Performance assessment and monitoring

At national level by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Council of Ministers.

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

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

Report on the National Concept on Promoting Active Aging of the Elderly in Bulgaria (2012–2030) in Sectoral Policies (2012–2014), adopted by Decision of the Council of Ministers in 2015 (in Bulgarian),

[www.mlsp.government.bg/ckfinder/userfiles/files/politiki/demografaska%20politika/otcheti%20i%20planove/Monitoring%20report%20on%20active%20ageing%202012-2014.pdf](http://www.mlsp.government.bg/ckfinder/userfiles/files/politiki/demografaska%20politika/otcheti%20i%20planove/Monitoring%20report%20on%20active%20ageing%202012-2014.pdf)  
[www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=764](http://www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=764)

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## Transferability/uniqueness

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

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## Is this an emergent practice?

Degree of innovation

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

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

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## Sustainability

Intended to be sustainable.

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## Academic literature on this action

[www.mlsp.government.bg/ckfinder/userfiles/files/politiki/demografaska%20politika/otcheti%20i%20planove/Monitoring%20report%20on%20active%20ageing%202012-2014.pdf](http://www.mlsp.government.bg/ckfinder/userfiles/files/politiki/demografaska%20politika/otcheti%20i%20planove/Monitoring%20report%20on%20active%20ageing%202012-2014.pdf)  
[www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=764](http://www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=764) [both in Bulgarian]

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## Documents

See section above

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