**English**

**Questionnaire on** **the provision of support to persons with disabilities**

1. Please provide information on the following services that are available for persons with disabilities in your country, including data on their coverage, geographic distribution and delivery arrangements, funding and sustainability, challenges and shortcoming in their implementation:
2. Personal assistance;

In the law on social service it is possible to get personal assistance for people with disability. The type of assistance depend on the type of disability for instance do you need some kind of pedagogical assistance or do you just need assistance to go from A to B. The law covers all of Denmark and it is the municipalities which are responsible for implementing the law. This means that there can be - and often are - different levels of service in the 98 different municipalities. One group of persons with disability who does not have easy aces to personal assistance are people with mental health issues.

Due to change in the national statistical system there are only data for some of the different personal assistance possibilities and only data for 32 municipalities.

1. In-home, residential and community support;

I do not understand what this question refers to? Personal assistance can be given at home.

1. Support in decision-making, including peer support; and

There is no national program for supported decision-making in Denmark.

Some municipalities has peer support programmes, but it is not obligatory by law and there for there are no data on how many municipalities use this programme or for which groups.

1. Communication support, including support for augmentative and alternative communication.

It is possible to obtain different kind of technical devices for alternative communication. This is also regulated in the law on social service and is implemented by municipalities. There are also different courses to attend to learn to use the technical devices. The law focus only on the ability to communicate not argumentative support.

Most special schools etc. also have different methods for alternative communication, for instance use of Macron, boards etc.

If you have a hearing impairment you can get hearing system or if you are deaf you get sign language interpretation as a public service. If you need written interpretation this is also possible.

1. Please explain how persons with disabilities can access information about the existing services referred to in question one, including referral procedures, eligibility criteria and application requirements.

The Municipalities has a guidance obligation if a person with disability asks for personal assistance or any other services available in law on social service. Based on an individual assessment and the requirements stated in the law, the municipality in which you live decides whether a person is eligible for a specific service. There is however no minimum limits in law on how much personal support you are able to obtain, it all depends on the municipality’s individual assessment of your needs. If you disagree with the decision you can file a complaint to an independent complain system.

1. Please elaborate on how these services respond to the specific needs of persons with disabilities throughout their life cycle (infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood and older age) and how is service delivery ensured in the transition periods between life cycle stages.

There are different types of services for people with disability throughout their life cycle. As such the law provides a wide range of possibilities. Maybe except that a few services given to you from 0-65/67 years stops when reaching retirement age.

The main challenge in Denmark is the Municipalities interpretation of the law and their testing of the limits in the law. There has been constant decrease in services since the Municipalities took over the responsibility of the area in 2007. Especially after the economic crises. As such the law has not changed much in relation to the different support possibilities, but the implementation of the law has changed. This means that people with disability gets less support than earlier and it means that municipalities make new assessments on your support and often change for instance the amount of hours of personal assistance you can receive. In that sense there has been a general cut down of services in Denmark. Not promoted by new regulations, but by municipalities economy and priorities.

1. Please provide information on the number of certified sign language interpreters and deafblind interpreters available in your country.

This data is not available in Denmark.

1. Please provide information on the existence of any partnership between State institutions and private service providers (e.g., non-governmental organizations, for-profit service providers) for the provision of support to persons with disabilities.

There are many private firms that deliver different kind of support for instance sign language interpretation. In some cases the person with disability hires his/hers own personal assistance. It is however finance by State/Municipality. Only if you want more support than is given by law you have to pay yourself.

1. Please describe to what extent and how are persons with disabilities and their representative organizations involved in the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of support services.

DPOD’s is always a hearing part when new legislation is decided. Sometimes also involved in the political process leading up to a new proposal, depending on the area and situation.

1. Please provide any other relevant information and statistics (including surveys, censuses, administrative data, reports, and studies) related to the provision of support to persons with disabilities in your country.