

International event

## Measuring the Quality of Life of people with disabilities

Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018

ATTIC Room, Kulttuuritehdas Korjaamo, Töölönkatu 51 a-b, 00250 Helsinki,

### Draft Programme

#### Background

Quality of life (QOL) is a broad multidimensional concept that usually includes subjective evaluations of both positive and negative aspects of life<sup>1</sup>. The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines QOL as individuals' perception of their position in life in the context of the culture and value systems in which they live and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards and concerns. It is a broad ranging concept affected in a complex way by the person's physical health, psychological state, level of independence, social relationships, personal beliefs and their relationship to salient features of their environment<sup>2</sup>.

The term QoL has meaning for nearly everyone and every academic discipline, individuals and groups can define it differently. This makes it challenging to measure is that and although health is one of the important domains, there are other domains as well that add to the complexity of its measurement<sup>3</sup>. The European Quality of Life Survey provides a means to measure outcomes of progress, such as well-being and social inclusion. The data from the survey can serve to complement the social indicators used to monitor the impact of policy, particularly regarding the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights<sup>4</sup>. Many aspects of quality of life are determined at national and local levels, and the survey evidence regarding country differences can be an impetus for further analysis by Member States and, also, for mutual learning<sup>5</sup>.

Mutual learning and benchmarking have been at the core of the European Platform for Rehabilitation's work on QOL. **The EPR Service Impacts on Quality of Life (SIQOL)** formerly Outcome Measurement in Vocational Rehabilitation (OMVR), Group has developed a benchmarking procedure and set of tools to measure the perception of service users of the QOL impact of social and vocational rehabilitation programmes on their lives. The SIQOL group members, currently in five different countries, have worked together to generate a consensus list of potential QOL outcomes of social and vocational rehabilitation which can be applied to programmes delivered by their organisations.

The **EQUAL model** presents a systematic approach focusing on including the perspective of Quality of Life of service users, developing and following up individual person-centred plans when welfare or social services are provided.

The presentation on **EQUASS**, another initiative of the European Platform for Rehabilitation (EPR), provides an example of how engaging social service providers in continuous improvement, learning and development, can guarantee quality of services throughout Europe.

<sup>1</sup> The WHOQOL Group. *The World Health Organization Quality of Life Assessment (WHOQOL)*. Development and psychometric properties. Soc Sci Med 1998; 46:1569-1585.

<sup>2</sup> The WHOQOL Group. *Measuring Quality of Life. The World Health Organisation Quality of Life Instruments. (the WHOQOL-100 and the WHOQOL-BREF)*. Division of mental Health and Prevention of Substance Abuse, 1997; 1

<sup>3</sup> Center for Disease Control and Prevention. HRQOL Concepts

<sup>4</sup> Eurofound (2017), European Quality of Life Survey 2016: Quality of life, quality of public services, and quality of society, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

<sup>5</sup> Eurofound (2017), European Quality of Life Survey 2016: Quality of life, quality of public services, and quality of society, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.



## Programme/Agenda

08:30 - 08:50 **Registration**

---

08:50 - 09:00 **Welcome and presentation of the EPR network**

*Laura Jones, EPR Secretary General (Belgium)*

**Session 1:** Finnish national perspective to quality of life measurement

---

09:00 - 09:30 **National TOIMIA network and information structures to harmonize and digitalize functioning outcome measurement**

(see Annex I for more details)

*Heidi Anttila, Senior Researcher, National Institutes for Health and Welfare (Finland)*

**Session 2:** Improving the Quality of Life of people with disabilities through services

---

09:30 – 10:00 **The EPR Service Impacts on Quality of Life (SIQOL) group: Origins of benchmarking group and current development of the SIQOL in Portugal.**

(see Annex II for more details)

*Donal McAnaney, SIQOL Leading expert (Ireland)*

*António Rilho, Chief Operations Manager, Centro de Reabilitação Profissional de Gaia (Portugal)*

Q&A

---

10:00 - 10:30 **Coffee break**

**Session 3:** National experiences in using SIQOL tools and processes

---

10:30 – 10:50 **Assessing quality of life among Finnish VET students**

*Anne Tornberg, Development Director, Luovi Vocational College (Finland)*

10:50 – 11:10 **QOLIS to improve the delivery of services in Ireland**

*Linda Coone (Ireland), Head of Quality Assurance and Improvement. Quality & Governance Directorate, Rehab Group*

11:10 – 11:30 **Panel discussion with the speakers and interaction with the audience**

*Facilitated by EPR Secretary General (Belgium)*

**Session 4:** Co-production of QoL indicators and recognition of quality in social services

---

11:30 – 11:50 **The EQUAL model**

*Geir Moen, Scandinavian EQUASS License Holder (LLH), Promenaden Kongsvinger AS (Norway)*

11:50 – 12:10 **The European Quality in Social Services (EQUASS)**

*Geir Moen, Scandinavian EQUASS License Holder (LLH), Promenaden Kongsvinger AS (Norway)*

(see Annex III for more details)

**Session 5:** Take away of the event

---

12:10 – 12:30 **Reflections and final remarks**

*Laura Jones, EPR Secretary General (Belgium)*

Local expert (TBC)

**Networking Lunch**



This event has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation "EaSI" (2014-2020). For further information please consult: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>

## Target group

The event is open to both Finnish and international experts and professionals in rehabilitation, delivery of services to people with disabilities, academics and representatives of research institutes. Participants without professional experience in managing/ developing assessment tools to measure quality of life and/or outcomes of services are also welcome to attend the event.

## Registration

In order to register to this event, please fill out this [Online Registration Form](#).

The event is **free-of-charge** (including lunch/coffee) but registration is mandatory. Participation to this event is limited to **40 delegates**, on a first-come-first served basis. 5 spots are reserved for EPR members until the end of October 2018.

Cancellation until end of October is free-of-charge and a no-show fee of 20€ may apply from the 1<sup>st</sup> November to non-EPR members.

## Practicalities

### A) VENUE



### Vintti room (Finnish for Attic)

Kulttuuritehdas Korjaamo  
Töölönkatu 51 a-b  
00250 Helsinki  
(see on [Map](#))

### B) ACCOMMODATION (suggested)

- 1) **Scandic Park Helsinki** – [website](#), different prices
- 2) **Crowne Plaza Helsinki** – [website](#), different prices

### C) LANGUAGE: The official language of the entire event is ENGLISH

## Annexes

---

### Annex I National TOIMIA network ([link](#))

**Poster Booklet C507:** Anttila H, Mäkelä M, Vuokko R, Mäkelä-Bengs P. Generic information model creates a basis for structured documentation of a person's functioning in EHR and PHR. WHO-FIC Network Annual Meeting, Tokyo 8-12.10.2016. WHO ([link](#))

**Poster Booklet C519:** Stallinga HA, Anttila H, Weckström P, Steiner S, Maribo T, Kraus de Camargo O, Snyman S. FunctionMapper: Centralised content modelling tool for ICanFunction mHealth Solution (mICF). WHO-FIC Net-work Annual Meeting, Mexico 16-29.10.2017. WHO ([link](#))

**Video:** KANTA services ([link](#))

---

### Annex II SIQOL dedicated [webpage](#)

---

### Annex III EQUASS [website](#)

