



WG2 Case study profile (updated April 2014)

WG2 Thematic Group	WG2.1a. Older people and people with disabilities: the restructuring of governance
Name(s) of proposer	Ágota Scharle and Balázs Váradi
Institution	Budapest Institute
Title of case study (and priority ranking)	Identifying barriers to institutional change in disability services
Country/region/place investigated	Finland, Norway and Sweden
Social service sector(s) investigated <i>(Erase non relevant ones)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people • People with disabilities • Restructuring of ss in general 	In a comparative framework, we examine the recently observed shift away from cash transfers and towards the provision of employment rehabilitation services to identify barriers to welfare policy reform. The analysis relies on the assumption that some European welfare regimes have a similar initial structure but may differ in their speed of adaptation to the challenges posed by external shocks. A detailed comparison of fast moving and slow moving countries allows us to identify some of the barriers to change.
Category of case study ('what' is investigated) <i>(Erase non relevant ones)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsector/policy/programme (meso-level) • 	<i>Short description</i> Throughout the analysis, we focus on provisions for people with disabilities.
Time frame considered <i>(from when to when)</i>	<i>Short description</i> 1990-2012
Five 'perspectives' <i>(Erase non relevant ones)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost efficiency/quality/user satisfaction • Governance 	<i>Short description</i> We looked at quality in terms of employment outcomes of rehabilitation services and governance of disability benefits and services.
Three processes in restructuring + crisis <i>(Erase non relevant ones)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cuts/rationalization/management reforms (NPM, others) • Vertical subsidiarity (administrative re-arrangements between <i>government</i> levels) 	<i>Short description</i> Cuts and management reforms have occurred in all three countries. The comparison of Norway and Sweden pointed to the importance of vertical subsidiarity, i.e. the risks in devolving some roles to the local level. We identify fiscal constraints, historical commitment to equal rights, policy making capacity, and centralisation as important drivers of change.
Specific questions/focus	<i>Short description</i>
Local Stakeholder Network (LSN)	<i>Do you intend to set up a LSN:</i> YES <u>NO</u>