

ENIL Personal Assistance Survey

Country/region: Italy

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PART 1: KEY INFORMATION ABOUT PERSONAL ASSISTANCE

LEGISLATION/POLICY	
Is there legislation covering personal assistance (PA)?	<p>YES</p> <p>National: 104/1992, 162/1998, 328/2000 (but not financed) and several Decrees.</p> <p>Regional: each Region has autonomy in creating its own legislation.</p> <p>Local: Municipalities and ULSS (Social Sanitary Local Unit) or ASL (Local Sanitary Business) implement Regional legislation, usually having their own guidelines.</p> <p>Legislation is at multi-level and requires coordination of various actors, thus resulting in dispersion of resources and often confusion in users or/and too much bureaucracy.</p>
Is PA currently provided on a pilot basis?	<p>YES and NO</p> <p>There are pilot Independent Living projects which started in 2014 at regional-local level. However, they are not well defined yet.</p> <p>Other kind of personal assistance (with direct or indirect schemes of payment) is on annual or</p>

	semestral basis, renewable and not lifelong guaranteed.
What is the total number of registered PA users in the country?	No records available.
Has this number increased, decreased or stagnated (eg due to waiting lists) in the last 5 years?	Number of users has increased, but money for single user has decreased.
Does everyone, regardless of type of impairment, have access to PA?	NO Excluded are: - disabilities of light and moderate type - although not arranged for by law, in practice people with mental disabilities are entrusted to families or institutions.
Does everyone, regardless of age, have access to PA?	NO Usually personal assistance users are 18/64 years old.
Are there restrictions on what PA can be used for?	YES and NO It depends on Regional and local regulations. There are guidelines on what their tasks are.
CHANGES IN LEGISLATION/POLICY	
Have there been any changes in legislation/policy restricting the use of PA in the last 5 years?	YES Currently under discussion: a law that provides for people with "severe" disabilities without family support to live in "small group homes".
Have any other limitations been introduced that prevent/restrict PA use in the last 5 years?	YES - cuts on public spending and an increasing number of users on waiting lists - introduction of co-participation in the costs

<p>If negative changes/restrictions have taken place in the last 5 years, what were the reasons (eg structural, financial etc)?</p>	<p>Mainly financial and also corruption (politicians support institutions and foundations giving charity-type assistance in order to get economic support and/or percentages in earnings)</p>
<p>ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENTS</p>	
<p>Who carries out eligibility assessments for PA?</p>	<p>Regions or Municipalities (depends on local legislation)</p>
<p>How often are assessments repeated?</p>	<p>It depends – in most cases, it varies from 3 months to 1 year</p>
<p>Is there a specific assessment tool that is used?</p>	<p>Not always. In some Regions the tool used is “SVAMDI”: http://www.ulss12.ve.it/docs/file/modulistica/SVAMDI.pdf</p>
<p>FUNDING</p>	
<p>How are PA services funded?</p>	<p>BOTH (State and Region/Local authority) By the State partially and from several Funds; mainly by the Regions.</p>
<p>Is PA a means tested service?</p>	<p>YES In most cases, co-participation in costs is currently being introduced; In some cases, personal assistance is not offered by State for higher incomes (sometimes even €100.000 annually) Most local authorities do not have enough resources to cover all people who need personal assistance and only part of them receive such service.</p>
<p>What is the maximum number of PA hours per day/week that can be approved?</p>	<p>It depends on the Regions: there is no minimum or maximum amount fixed.</p>

What is the hourly rate that is funded?	<p>Hourly cost is not generally specified but rather monthly budget (an average of €600 - €1400 a month, but can be lower or higher).</p> <p>Usually a PA gets paid €7 - €10 per hour if with direct payment assistance.</p> <p>If PA is via user-cooperatives, a PA gets paid less than that.</p>
Are direct payments/personal budgets available for funding PA?	<p>YES, in some Municipalities only.</p> <p>It is not obligatory by law.</p>
What is the total number of direct payments/personal budget holders in the country?	No records available.
Are family members allowed to be paid as PAs?	usually NO
PROVIDERS AND SUPPORT	
Is there a choice of providers of PA services?	<p>Not always</p> <p>In the Municipalities where direct payment schemes do not exist, the choice of user-cooperative is either restricted or not existent.</p>
If PA can be provided by user-cooperatives, do they have to be accredited?	YES
Are PA users provided with training on how to manage their assistance?	<p>usually YES</p> <p>Training provided usually by Regions; rarely conducted by disabled people but by “experts” (psychologists, social assistants etc).</p>
Are people with intellectual disabilities allowed to manage their own assistance?	<p>NO</p> <p>There needs to be a service guarantor (“Amministratore di sostegno”) but even in this case Municipalities informally oblige them to only use assistance via user-cooperatives (no direct payment schemes)</p>
Are support services such as	Rarely

peer support/peer counselling/IL training provided by user organisations funded by the state or the local authority?	
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PART 2: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide background information about the introduction of PA into legislation/policy (which actors were involved in advocating for PA, was there inspiration drawn from a certain country, which public stakeholders were needed to set it up, which challenges arose in the process of developing the legislation/policy, what resources were needed)?	
Are there any current challenges in implementing the PA legislation/policy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A new law is being introduced (called “Dopo di Noi”) confirming the use of institutions and “small group homes” and increasing their use. - Evaluation of income is being introduced as criterion for PA entitlement (s-times even medium-scale income leads to exclusion or co-participation). - Family caregiver might be introduced to legislation. <p>There are ongoing appeals to national and European Courts of Justice on these subjects.</p>
Has the legislation/policy on PA led to empowerment of disabled people, setting up of CILs or cooperatives etc.?	No
Is PA used in the process of de-institutionalisation (to help people leave institutional care)?	Rarely
Was any research carried out	As far as we know, NO

<p>in the country on the costs of PA? If yes, please provide links or attachments.</p>	
<p>If family members are allowed to work as PAs, is this considered problematic or beneficial?</p>	<p>Sometimes they are allowed. It is problematic as it doesn't really allow an independent living. It can be beneficiary in the cases when PA coverage is poor and a family member often has to resign from their job.</p>