

ENIL Personal Assistance Survey

Country/region: Norway

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PART 1: KEY INFORMATION ABOUT PERSONAL ASSISTANCE

LEGISLATION/POLICY	
Is there legislation covering personal assistance (PA)?	YES/ National level. Cross-disability. Legislation is at national level.
Is PA currently provided on a pilot basis?	NO
What is the total number of registered PA users in the country?	About 3600
Has this number increased, decreased or stagnated (eg due to waiting lists) in the last 5 years?	Increased
Does everyone, regardless of type of impairment, have access to PA?	YES
Does everyone, regardless of age, have access to PA?	YES But it is not an individual right after the age of 67. Effect is that new user above the age of 67 don't get PA.
Are there restrictions on what PA can be used for?	YES, it is not for health-related tasks.
CHANGES IN LEGISLATION/POLICY	
Have there been any changes in legislation/policy	YES. New law in effect from 1 st January 2015. Gives some an individual right to PA. Need for

restricting the use of PA in the last 5 years?	practical assistance more than 25 h a week.
Have any other limitations been introduced that prevent/restrict PA use in the last 5 years?	NO
If negative changes/restrictions have taken place in the last 5 years, what were the reasons (eg structural, financial etc.)?	
ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENTS	
Who carries out eligibility assessments for PA?	Municipality, local level. Health professionals.
How often are assessments repeated?	Varies, but mostly once a year.
Is there a specific assessment tool that is used?	NO
FUNDING	
How are PA services funded?	By the state: NO By the regional or local authority: YES Both: YES for some PA For PA schemes which cost above a certain level the state is refunding the cost to the local level.
Is PA a means tested service?	You have to pay for the hours used for practical tasks, as washing your floors. It is a fee, and it is means tested.
What is the hourly rate that is funded?	Varies between the municipalities. You are not given money, but an amount of hours that you can use separately.
Are direct payments/personal budgets available for funding PA?	YES, but only in rare cases.

What is the total number of direct payments/personal budget holders in the country?	About 30
Are family members allowed to be paid as PAs?	YES/NO you can hire them as temporary PA. But recommended as a part of the ordinary staff. Municipality make the decision if family members can work as PA, most do not open for it.
PROVIDERS AND SUPPORT	
Is there a choice of providers of PA services?	It is a decision made by the municipality. In some municipalities there is no choice, in others you can choose between alternative providers. The municipality can choose if they want to provide it themselves or if they want others to provide PA.
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?	YES, but it varies. The training is provided from by the PA provider. It is not implemented in the law and it varies.
Are people with intellectual disabilities allowed to manage their own assistance?	YES, but they have to have someone who take the responsibilities together with them. It has to be someone close to the individual. Next of kind or someone who knows the person very well.
Are support services such as peer support/peer counselling/IL training provided by user organisations funded by the state or the local authority?	Yes, but not systematically and is mostly provided by the cooperatives, which are not funded by state or local authority. Mostly done by the providers of PA and varies a lot.

PART 2: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide background information about the introduction of PA into legislation/policy (which actors were involved in	Advocating for PA involved disabled persons. The founders of Uloba were the pioneers in Norway. Inspiration came from USA and Sweden. Stakeholders needed MP, government and bureaucracy.
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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)?	Challenges where the shift from the medical model to social model. The traditional approach in a medical perspective is still a challenge.
Are there any current challenges in implementing the PA legislation/policy?	Yes, the legislation gives the local level too much power in choosing if people can get PA.
Has the legislation/policy on PA led to empowerment of disabled people, setting up of CILs or cooperatives etc.?	Yes, cooperatives.
Is PA used in the process of de-institutionalisation (to help people leave institutional care)?	Yes.
Was any research carried out in the country on the costs of PA? If yes, please provide links or attachments.	There are some.
If family members are allowed to work as PAs, is this considered problematic or beneficial?	It is not prohibited, but is not recommended. It is considered beneficial that it is not optional.