



# Disability Inclusion and Baby Box: EU-SPS support to social protection related capacity development in Kyrgyzstan 2017-2018

## Project Overview

The EU Social Protection Systems global programme supports capacity development for social protection in 4 Asian and 7 African countries.

In Kyrgyzstan, social worker curriculum development is the main focus of efforts to systematize capacity development for social protection. Based on an appraisal study that included a systematic background and problem analysis, stakeholder analysis, and SWOT analysis, and upon the request of the Kyrgyz Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs, the following activities were planned:

- 1) Training of trainers for university lecturers in disability inclusion and disability studies
- 2) Collaboration with international agencies for disability inclusion and mainstreaming, and
- 3) Pilot delivery of a disability-specific baby box.

## Context

Persons with disabilities are one of the most vulnerable groups in Kyrgyzstan. The care system inherited from the Soviet era considered disabled children and adults as 'medically abnormal' and secluded them into closed institutions.

Despite the progress made towards a rights based approach and community and home based care persons with disabilities still have very little access to infrastructure, education, health and other social services. Even when receiving constitutionally guaranteed public services they often face violations of their rights and freedoms. They do not have personal assistants yet.



The most important factors restraining their access include poverty, lack of funding, lack of social workers, limited implementation of law even in public institutions and local government bodies, - largely as a result of weaknesses related to attitudes and professional knowledge.

Many persons with disabilities are not aware of their rights and responsibilities, and how to deal with legal problems. All these factors tend to lead to the isolation of persons with disabilities and their weak integration into society.

## Objectives

The EU-SPS capacity development support in Kyrgyzstan aims at systematically integrating disability inclusion as a priority topic into social workers' and other social protection professionals' university education and in-service training. . The second objective is to test the feasibility and acceptability of a disability specific baby box in In the Kyrgyzstan context.

