

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE 2023

Personal budgets: a human rights-based way to fund and organise support

PARTICIPANTS' GUIDE

13th September 2023 Courtyard by Marriot Brussels Avenue des Olympiades 6, 1140 Brussels

























Programme

The UNIC Final conference will take place in person at the Courtyard by the Marriot Hotel in Brussels, Belgium on 13 September 2023.

The aim of the conference is:

- to present our 3 years work to support public authorities in developing, implementing, and evaluating a user-centred funding model, such as a personal budgets model;
- to bring forward people's experiences of user-centred funding models, such as personal budgets holders, their families, public authorities, and service providers;
- to capture the momentum of user-centred funding models across Europe and promising initiatives from Spain, Austria, Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Czech Republic, and the United Kingdom.





Agenda

10:00 - 10:15 Welcome

- James Crowe, EASPD President (Belgium)
- MEP Sirpa Pietikäinen (video message)

10:15 - 10:30 Keynote speech

Simon Duffy, Citizen Network (UK)

10:30 - 11:30 People's experiences with personal budgets

- Fionn and Jonathan Angus, Fionnathan Productions (Ireland)
- Maggi Woods, Áiseanna Tacaíochta, AT Network (Ireland
- Václav Krása, Czech National Disability Council (Czech Republic)
- John Dalrymple, Radical Visions (Scotland, UK)
 Moderation: Magdi Birtha, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (Austria)

11:30 – 12:00 People's experiences with the UNIC personal budget piloting in Flanders

• Moderation: Dries Bleys, VAPH (Flanders, Belgium)

12:00 - 13:15 Lunch





Agenda



13:15 - 14:15 Scaling up personal budgets across Europe: opportunities and challenges in different countries

- Brian Higgins, Disability and Mental Health Service (Ireland)
- Jiří Bína, Social Services Department, Region Vysočina (Czech Republic)
- Representative of Catalan Department of Social Rights (Catalonia, Spain)
- James McNulty, Unit for Improvement, Scottish
- Government (Scotland, UK)

Moderation: Petra Rantamaki, KVPS (Finland)

14:15 - 15:00

Policy panel: What are the next steps for Personal Budget advocates in the EU?

- Susanna Ulinski, European Commission
- Kurt Asselman, Flemish Ministry of Welfare (Belgium)
- Teodor Mladenov, European Network of Independent Living and University of Dundee
- Jiri Horecky, European Ageing Network and APSSCR Moderation: Karin Astegger, Lebenshilfe (Salzburg, Austria)

15:00 Concluding remarks

 Pep Solé, EASPD Board Member, SUPPORT GIRONA (Catalonia, Spain)



Rationale



For the past 3 years, UNIC has aimed to capture the Europewide momentum behind user-centred funding models. Since the inception of UNIC, project partners have worked to support public authorities in developing, implementing, and evaluating the Personal Budgets system as an example of such models.

With this final European conference, UNIC strives to bring together personal budgets holders and their families, public authorities, and service providers to discuss the following topics:



- the role and functioning of user-centred funding models
- how to strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of such funding models and to best support them
- ensuring the transition towards quality person-centred, inclusive, and communitybased services
- empowering persons with long-term care and support needs
- lessons learned and key achievements

To find out more about UNIC and discover the various outputs developed as part of the project, such as tools and studies to support stakeholders in developing personal budget systems, please visit our <u>website</u> and <u>online toolbox</u>.



Practical Information

- We will provide you with a badge. We ask that you to wear it at all time during the event, in order to facilitate identification.
- We ask you to be 30 minutes before the beginning of the event to avoid any technical issue.

13th September 9:30am

 Please, do not hesitate to contact us at any time if you have any problem or question at: renaud.scheuer@easpd.eu

Reimbursement Form

- During the conference, you will be provided with lunch and coffee.
- If it has been agreed with the organisers when registering for the event, the organisers will cover your expenses (such as subsistence, accommodation, or transportation) up to a fixed amount. Please see the previously shared EASPD reimbursement guidelines if needed.
- To ask for the reimbursement, you will need to attach all your receipts and fill the reimbursement form (which will be sent to you by email) with all the expenses detailed, no later than 1 week after the conference.

Please send a scanned and signed copy of this to renaud.scheuer@easpd.eu

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To Book a Hotel

- There are many accommodation options in Brussels and the EASPD team will be happy to support you if you need recommendations of accessible hotels.
- If you would like to stay at the venue of the conference, you can access their website here:

https://www.marriott.com/en-gb/hotels/travel/brucycourtyard-brussels/



Directions

Courtyard by Marriot Hotel Brussels
Avenue des Olympiades 6, 1140 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 2 337 08 08

Transports

- Inner-city Rail/Train Station: Evere
- Airport shuttle service from Brussels Airport (BRU), reservation required, Mon-Fri: 06:30 AM - 10:30 PM
- Nearby Bus stops: Permeke, Lekaerts, Evere Shopping, Loisirs, Hoedemaekers

