

Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences – Disability Studies Research Group
INCENA Inclusion & Enablement
Belgium

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Role in the project Project coordinator+ collaborate in all work packages: needs assessment; research of good practices, competence definition, module development, pilot trainings, international training, publication and dissemination.

Who we are? The Centre who effectively participates in this project is called INCENA (Inclusion & Enablement). This belongs administratively to the Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, Department of Primary & Interdisciplinary Care/ Disability Studies Research Group of the University of Antwerp. It also has a home at the Department of Sociological Work of the ArtesisPlantijn (AP) University of Applied Sciences, which belongs to the AUHA, the Association of University and Higher Education Colleges of Antwerp. INCENA provides bachelor training of “special needs educators” at the AP University of Applied Sciences; we contribute to undergraduate training (bachelor and masters of medicine and nursing) at the Medical Faculty in disability matters, and we provide various courses in continuing education in the domain of disability with rehabilitation professions, special and regular teacher training, educators & other support staff, project development in the domain of social inclusion and inclusive education.

Activities Training in post-graduate and undergraduate levels, development of didactic materials, coaching projects, research and networking.

Since 1993 we have been organizing professional post-graduate training in Feuerstein's Structural Cognitive Modifiability, Mediated Learning Experience, Instrumental Enrichment, Trainings have been given in BE,NL, F, RO, NO, IT, CH & Réunion. We have done in-service training of teachers, educators & rehabilitation staff of children, adolescents and adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in the area of : modifiability of learning, plasticity of development & ecology, inclusive education. Workshops have been given in BE, NL, F, D, UK, ES, PT, IT, RO, HU, CZ, LV, NO, S, CH, TR, Hong-Kong, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay & Argentina. Courses in Mediated Learning Experience for parents of children with learning or developmental difficulties, and awareness raising activities about "learning enhancement and inclusion" have been done. We also have organized post-graduate training in the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF), in Behaviour Management for Caregivers of adolescents & adults with intellectual disability and/or autism; and a course about enhancing quality of life & inclusion in Down syndrome.

We developed [didactic materials](#) for teaching learning prerequisites; of trajectories for training educators of children, adolescents and adults with learning difficulties & training manuals. We set up and coach pilot projects in inclusive education and learning enhancement for children with developmental difficulties in mainstream schools; and we coach schools in transforming towards an inclusive, living and learning organization. We do research in the ecology of development of children & adults with neurological impairments; dynamic assessment of learning processes; implementation of ICF, epidemiology of autistic spectrum, follow up of down syndrome, ethical issues in disability.

International networking

Internationally we participate in several international networks: [Inclues Network for Inclusive & Cognitive Education](#), [International Feuerstein Institute](#) (Jerusalem); [International Association for Cognitive Education & Psychology IACEP](#); European Academy of Childhood Disability EACD www.eacd.org. We have collaborated in different European projects since 1992, all in the area of learning enhancement and inclusion: first a series of conferences within the HELIOS programme 1992-2000), project [INSIDE](#) (1998-2001); [In-clues](#) (Clues for inclusive & cognitive education) (2003-2006); Daffodil on dynamic and functional assessment (2008-2011) www.daffodilproject.org; [Distinc](#) (2010-2013). We were co-founder of the European Disability Forum and we function as a Disseminator of the inclusive assessment project of the European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education.

National networking

For the Enablin+ project, INCENA closely cooperates with professional and parents' organisations working in the field of profound and multiple disability in Belgium (among others: [Multiplus](#), [AP3](#), Belgian [Rett Syndrome Foundation](#), [Inclusie Vlaanderen](#), ApHRAM, GRIP, Lus vzw, Gezin & Handicap, etc.); with the Kinsbergen Centre , with schools and institutions giving support to children with PIMD; with the Cerebral Palsy Reference Centres of the various University Hospitals in Belgium; the BACD (Belgian Academy of Childhood Disability); with the Ministry of Education Policy Development Department, with the VAPH (Flemish Agency for People with a Disability), etc.