



A research network on play for children with disabilities

Working group 4



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Action Td1309



Strategies of Working group 4



- **To enhance play for children with disabilities**
- **Depart from the users' needs in order to develop policies, practices and professional training on play for children with disabilities**
- **Collect experiences from different contexts**
- **Collects views of representatives from associations of disabled persons**
- **Collect views and experiences of parents and children**

+ Methods of Working group 4



- Literature reviews in 3 countries on users' needs
- Survey to associations of disabled persons from 24 countries
- Survey to parents of children with disabilities from 26 countries

+ Association survey



- 75 answers from 24 countries
- Associations representing more than 87 thousands members across those countries
- Various types of associations: national, regional or community level

Parent survey



- LUDI members from 31 countries were asked to participate
- 129 parents' answers from 26 countries were collected
- 90 % informants were mothers
- Child: largest group 33 % age 6-9, evenly distributed in other age range
- Gender: 64 % males

What is needed in order to play more?



- **Company of friends and peers**
- **Toys**
- **Improved skills**
- **Outdoor environments**
- **Time**
- **Competent adults**
- **Changes in societal attitudes and behaviours**
- **Policy measures and resources**



+ Future directions

- Contribute to an understanding of the great value of play
- Targets: everyone, but especially parents, teachers, other professions, policymakers
- Supporting play in the life of children with disability
- Address the needs that have emerged, developing knowledge, with greater efforts in research and professional development



+ Future directions

- Support social play
- Promote children's participation and engagement
- Supporting parents and teachers
- Finding new ways to listen to children
- Make use of the children's evaluations in the development of play

