

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC







# **Fostering Social Inclusion**

Promoting Social Inclusion for Persons with Intellectual Disability and other Neurological or Developmental Disorders in Albania

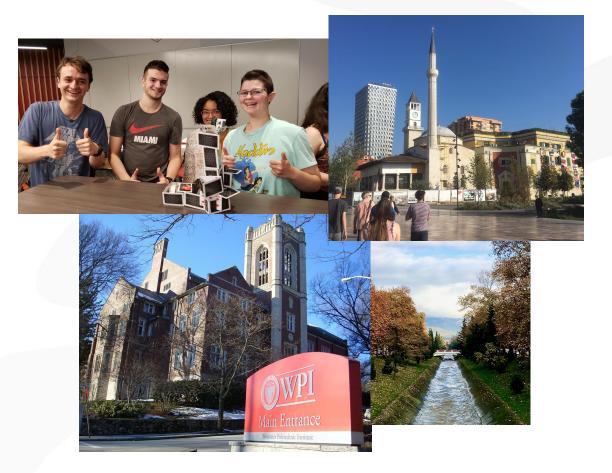
Jon Lazri, Natalie Milgram, Andrew Nolan, and Julisse Sabater







Empowered lives. Resilient nations.













Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

### To Encourage Persons with Disabilities to Share their Life Experiences





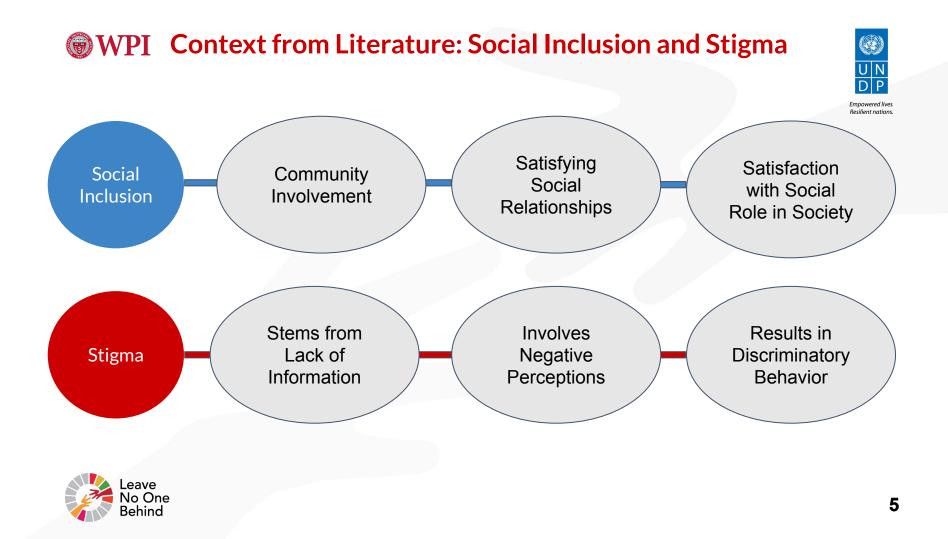


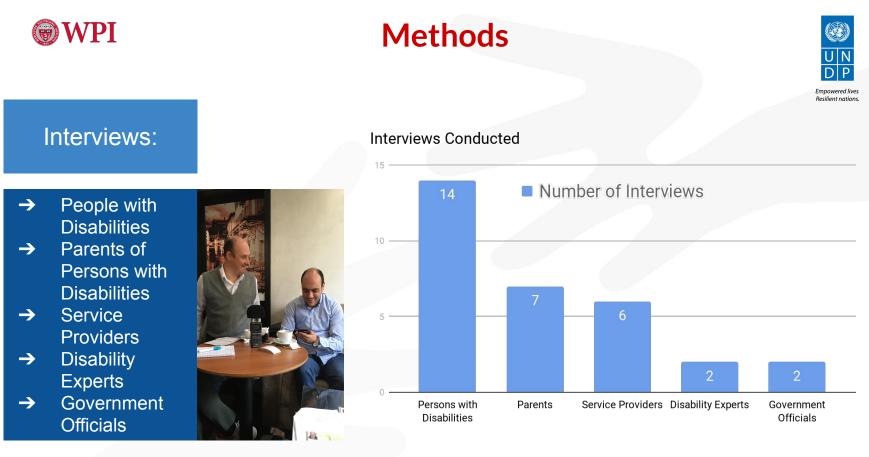


Resilient nations









# WPI Findings: Negative School Experiences



Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

"The teachers say they cannot work with him because they are not specialized for his disability"

"The school has not provided any help, she only went for the first year"

"School life was terrible for [my son]... they were not qualified to provide services for him"

### Contributes to Stigma and Isolation





# WPI Findings: Stigma and Discrimination

Teasing in the Neighborhood





Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

Lack of Friendships Outside Service Providers

Stigma and discrimination of persons with disabilities



Mistreatment in Schools



### Findings: Supports are Insufficient

Parents Provide Immense Support

External Supports are Insufficient



mpowered lives. Resilient nations.

"The public centers do not offer the correct process of therapy. When my son starts crying, they send him out"

"Law has indicated what should be done, but no one is implementing the law"



**WPI** 

"There is nothing. I have asked for services at the local service office and at the municipality, but none of them gave information"

### **WPI** Recommendation 1: Future Research



Empowered lives. Resilient nations.





#### Autism Spectrum Disorder

Up to Date Disability Demographics

Interviewing Persons with Disabilities



# **WPI** Recommendation 2: Information Sessions



Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

#### Service Providers

#### Parents

#### Educators



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË

MINISTRIA E ARSIMIT SPORTIT DHE RINISË





# **WPI** Recommendation 3: Community Interventions



Empowered lives Resilient nations

#### Organized Friendships

Internship Opportunities for University Students

Vocational and Social Skills Trainings for Persons with Disabilities at Universities







#### **Service Providers**



**Public Schools** 







