

The 2nd International Conference on Using New Technologies for Inclusive Learning 18th and 19th June 2014



ENABLE
<http://i-enable.eu>

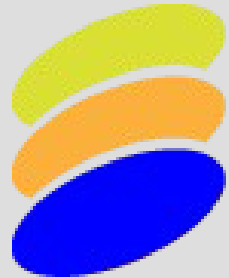
Barriers to inclusion: ICT use by Serbian
adults with disabilities.

Olja Jovanovic, University of Belgrade,
Serbia

14.10 – 14.30



Lifelong Learning Programme



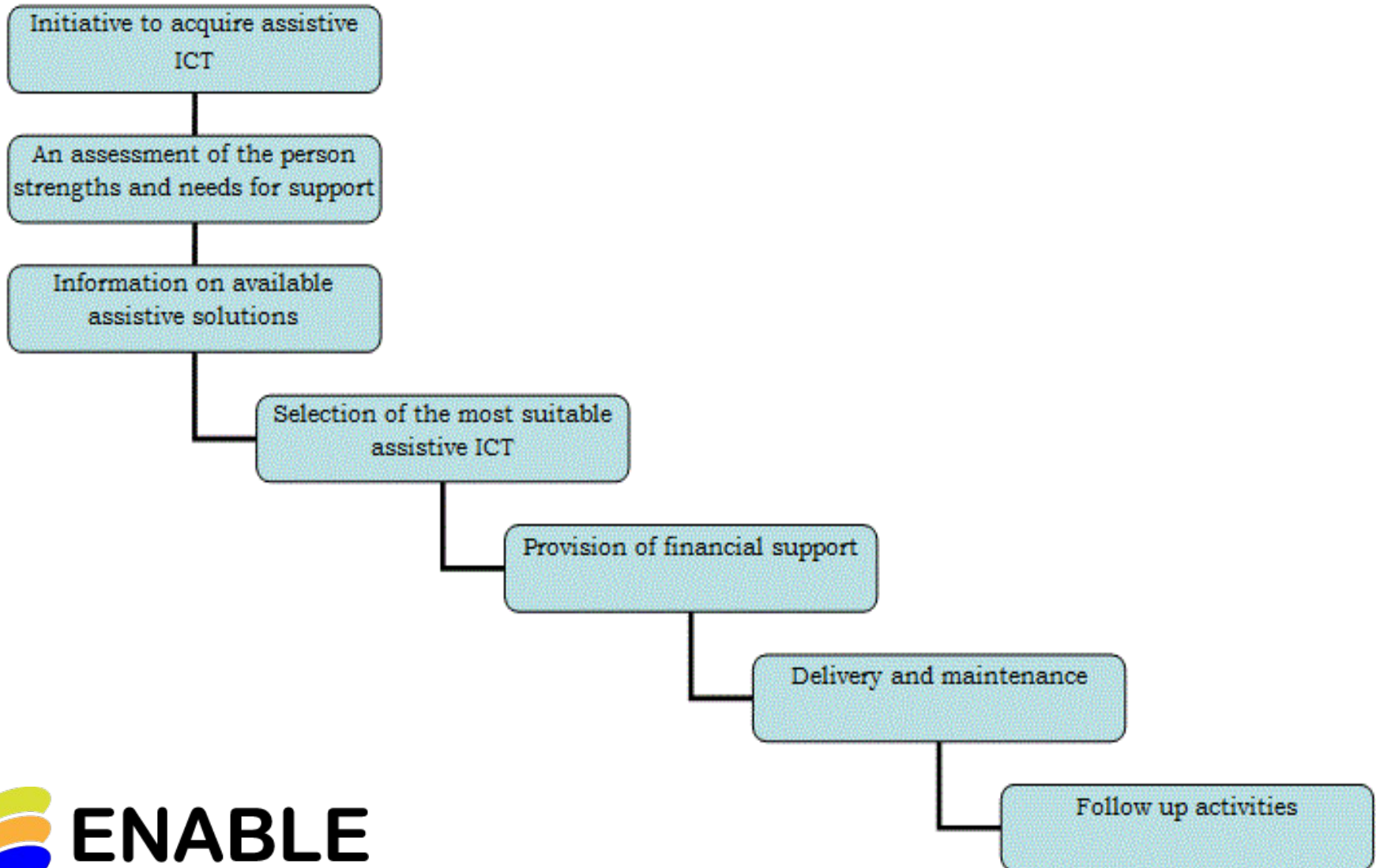
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Barriers to Inclusion: ICT use by Serbian adults with disabilities

- ▶ Olja Jovanović, Vera Rajović, Dragana Stanimirović
- ▶ University of Belgrade



Implementation of ICT



Serbian Context

- ▶ **Legal framework** regarding ICT is influenced by relevant EU documents (e.g. Digital Agenda for Europe, 2010; Granada Ministerial Declaration on the European Digital Agenda, 2010).
- ▶ **Economy in transition** - investments in IT sector in Serbia are insufficient, while the provision of assistive ICT with public support is limited, depending on available funds or limited coverage of products.

Domain	Barriers	Effects	What have we done?
Inequalities in access to ICT	<p>Language</p> <p>Provision of financial support is limited</p> <p>Small market economy</p>	<p>Although, in Serbia, 59.9% households own a computer and 55.8% have an internet connection, there is still low level of use of assistive ICT, digital resources and tools among adults with disability in Serbia</p> <p>ICT using Serbian language are not so common</p>	<p>Law on the electronic legal deposit (2011)</p>
Inequality in ICT skills	<p>Inadequate curricula for IT learning in schools</p> <p>The trainings offered cover basic ICT skills mainly</p>	<p>Great number of adults with disability in Serbia report that they have low or none computer skills</p> <p>97.8% companies in Serbia use computers in doing business, therefore, persons with disability represent the group at high risk of experiencing employment inequalities</p>	<p>Guidelines for Advancing the Integration of ICT in Education</p> <p>Implementation of ICT competencies in initial teacher education</p> <p>Reform of curricula for IT learning in schools</p> <p>Persons with disabilities started to self-organize and build networks in order to share their knowledge and experiences regarding ICT</p>
Inequality in ICT use	<p>Technical maintenance is carried out by a small number of technically skilled staff</p>	<p>Persons with disability report that they are not informed how to use ICT tools adequately</p> <p>Waiting time for service provision is too long</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities started to self-organize and build networks in order to provide online ongoing support</p>

Conclusion

- ▶ **Digital divide between countries deepens digital inequalities within poor countries**

Digital divide as a new form social inequality is not new at all. It only reflects already well established traditional forms of social inequality through a new perspective - risk groups of individuals and countries are staying the same.

- ▶ **How can we take steps toward bridging global digital division?**

Thank you for your attention!

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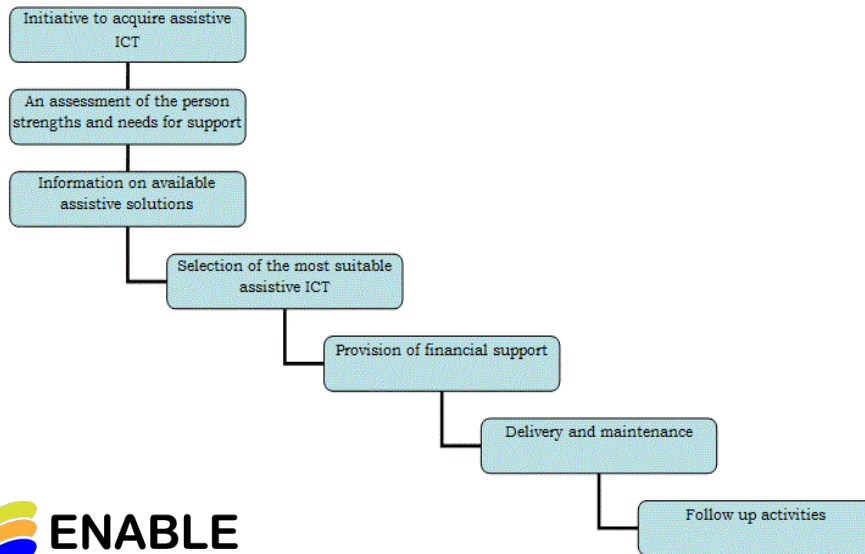
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