

Policy lessons from SPRINT

Value added from a social investment viewpoint

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Long Term Care as a governance challenge:

How to overcome a
central paradox;

- **PARADOX:** Ageing poses complex challenges in long term care.
 - I.* Certain Rapid rise in **needs** (Trebling of population 80+)
 - II.* Probable fall in **means** {carer supply, contradictory expectations for womn combining more paid work and more unpaid care, the 'Baumol effect' increases costs}.
- **Nevertheless,** LTC is eclipsed by discussions on pensions and health care.
- LTC lies on two **fault lines**, which complicate planning:
 1. On the *formal* side: Between **Health** and **Care** (**medicalization**)
 2. On the *informal* side: Between **formal provision** and the **family**. (unpaid family provision)
- Possible to dodge difficult questions by solving dilemmas on paper – through partial vision – danger of **hidden costs / complacency**
- **A CHALLENGE FOR GOVERNANCE – HOW TO SECURE UNIFIED PLANNING?**

The SPRINT scoreboard:

Despite heterogeneity *six* surprisingly firm policy guides

- **Long Term Care** is characterized by heterogeneity of *structures* (extent of public involvement), *range of stakeholders, preferences* (what is desirable – e.g. on involvement of formal), **governance modes** (extent of local leeway) and *policy maturity*.
- At *first* glance, this predisposes that *few* policy guidelines will apply for all.
- Social Investment provides a **unifying narrative** – dilemmas in different systems **seen as aspects of the pursuit of the same basic goals**.
- *A parallel?* LTC is at a similar stage that **social inclusion** was in the mid-1990s. - **The Open Method of Coordination**.
 - A period of conceptual maturation enabled progress when the political will was there.
 - Progress was most visible in those countries that had started latest.

1.

Promote and develop the application of a social investment approach

- The SI approach adopts a joined-up, holistic perspective. The **social investment approach can enable decision-makers to strengthen long-term care systems and help address longevity.**
- **Now** is good time to promote a SI approach. **The European Pillar of Social Rights –**
 - *(principle 2) Equality between women and men*
 - *(principle 18) **Everyone has the right to affordable long-term care services of good quality, in particular home-care and community-based services***
 - SI analytical framework could strengthen the case to support employment for carers, e.g. care leave.
- Steps should be taken to develop **conditions for effective implementation of the social investment approach,**

2. Build a strong evidence base

- Strengthen evidence base, especially with regard to the relationship between **LTC services and their outcomes**.
- Performance assessment should go beyond process-focused measurement and extend to the **final outcomes of LTC services**. Such are **the wellbeing of users and carers** as well as **wider consequences** on.
- Routine collection of **COMPARABLE** data on final outcomes to support LTC performance assessment.
 - Standardised data collection and a common evaluation framework (including quality standards) provide leverage for social investment.
- **An expert consensus on measurement of outcomes of LTC on robust instruments for comparative research must be sought.**
 - EU-level initiation of a scorecard linked to Principle 18 of the EPSR will produce country and comparative data.

3.

Adapt legal and regulatory frameworks

- The SI approach is enhanced by **flexibility** in deciding for the the use of LTC resources. **Future reforms should aim to reduce rigidities** which could inhibit innovative social investment.
 - Flexibility exists in both formal and informal systems
- The competence of the EU in social protection is limited. However, **the European Pillar of Social Rights** now provides strong direction to member states. (Principle 18 is a clear recommendation to member states). This can be taken forward
 - A Directive on quality and accessibility standards for LTC.
 - Objectives relating to EPSR (and Principle 18) in the 2012-27 Multiannual Financial Framework and European Social Fund.
- **EU cohesion policy** and regulations can be used to promote social investment initiatives in LTC.

4.

Engage with stakeholders

- Objectives and resources of LTC are shaped by cultural and socio-economic factors **which can vary significantly between (and even within) EU member states, and across LTC stakeholders.**
- Systematic access to the perspectives of key stakeholders is essential. **Stakeholder input should therefore play a central role in determining the value of social investment** –
 - E.g. in the methodology of Social Return on Investment (SROI).
 - Tapping into the expertise of stakeholders can help address current limitations in the evidence.

5.

Build a dedicated social investment infrastructure

- Evidence from SPRINT suggests that **few stakeholders understand the concept of social investment.**
 - The EU could support member states to raise awareness of the issues.
- A **shared resource** about assessment methodologies and evidence about opportunities for e investment in LTC could **promote mutual learning.**
- **Innovative mechanisms to mobilise resources to complement public spending.** Examples:
 - **Social Impact Bonds** (as in the UK),
 - **Community-based groups** (Social enterprises, as in Italy).
- Overcome **analytical challenges** – e.g. on how to prioritise conflicting needs, monetising outcomes to understand the value for money of investments and estimating the contribution of LTC programmes to observed outcomes.
 - to embed the social investment approach, it will be necessary to **provide training in necessary analytical skills where the skills base is less developed.**
 - **Expert consensus on monetisation of intangible outcomes - such as quality of life and well-being** - will overcome a significant barrier.
- The **use of social investment principles by government analysts when carrying out policy impact assessments in LTC** should be encouraged.

6.

Apply and develop existing operational tools

- SPRINT has shown that the **principles of SROI** *can* be applied to implement a social investment approach.
 - SROI incorporates stakeholder engagement and cost-benefit methods.
 - Further exploration of this approach is needed
- SPRINT demonstrated that social investment is not only a conceptual tool, but **can be fully operationalised as a planning aid**.
 - The spreadsheet-based **Feasibility Framework Tool** has been tested in a number of national settings and is undergoing further development.
http://sprint-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/SPRINT_D5.1_Feasibility_Framework_Tool.pdf

Long Term
Care,
quality of life
and
the rights of
citizens

- For the last half-century, improvements in quality of life were synonymous with prosperity. **'The realm of production'**.
 - Production and productivity were directly rewarded.
- Long Term Care *brings to the fore* domains where non-financial concerns are important; **'The realm of solidarity'**.
- **BUT,** The rise of LTC is taking place in an increasingly monetized and fiscally-aware environment.
- ***Could Social Investment be the key??***
 - **SPRINT answers in the affirmative.**