

# Insights from the INTESYS Evaluation

February 2019



**INTESYS**

TOGETHER / Supporting  
vulnerable children  
through integrated early  
childhood services

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## What is INTESYS?

INTESYS project focuses on piloting new approaches to early childhood systems in Europe with a view to ensuring that children and families in vulnerable situations have access to high-quality ECEC provided by services that are better integrated across the different sectors (education, health, welfare, etc.), professions and across age groups and governance levels.

### **More on INTESYS**

[Read more about the INTESYS project](#)

[Read more about the INTESYS pilots](#)

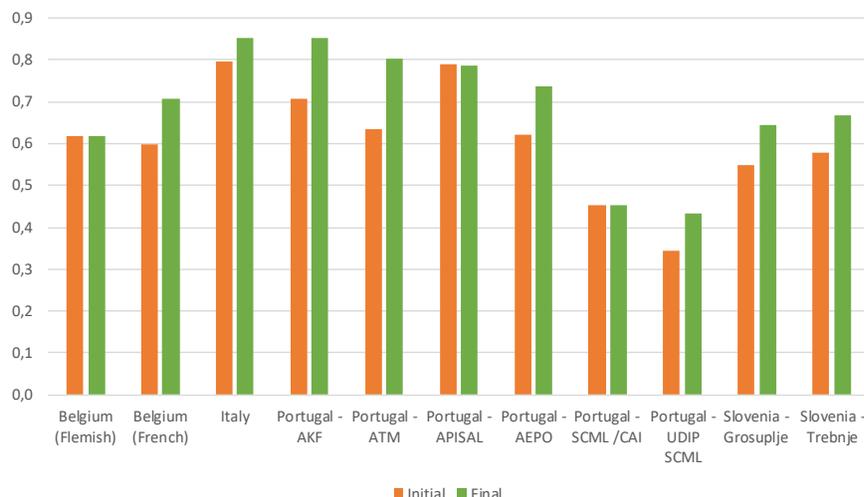
[Read the INTESYS interview series](#)

## Coming to a close...

As the project comes to a close, with our Conference in April, we are sharing insights into our evaluations. These evaluations consider that integration is not an end, rather a necessary condition on the path of tackling complex problems. The role of evaluation in this project was to understand what ways and to what extent the three-year project has been successful in promoting and engaging partners and stakeholders in integrated activities aimed at improving children's lives. Below you may find a brief overview.

## ***Encouraging results measured using the index of integration***

Based on the information collected on the state of play of integration in the pilots in Belgium, Italy, Portugal and Slovenia, an index of integration was built. It provides a concise and comprehensive picture of the overall level of integration within the network of partners throughout the journey to integration. For each site, a score was assigned in respect to each dimension at the beginning and end of the pilots. See the figure below.



*Index of Integration – initial and final, by pilot [the overall index of integration ranges from 0 (minimum possible value) to 1 (maximum possible value)]\**

\* The chart does not include a further Portuguese site (Colégio Cesário Verde), since its initial index value could not be computed. However, the Colégio Cesário Verde has increased the size of its partnership during the project.

The number of local partners in each network in the four piloting countries has also overall increased throughout the project. Partnerships have expanded in number in most of the pilot sites, while in few sites the number of partners has remained roughly constant. The Portuguese APISAL site has recorded the highest increase in the number of network partners (more than doubled) from the initial to the final situation.

		Initial	Final	Difference
Public	national/regional	20	36	+16
	local	30	36	+6
Private	non-profit	31	43	+12
	for profit	1	4	+3

## ***The perspective of the workforce***

Without the involvement of the workforce integration of processes are fruitless. Using questionnaires in Italy, Portugal and Slovenia the project determined that knowledge about how to work in an integrated environment, coordinating integration efforts and sharing information has improved in each of these pilot contexts.

[Read more about the report.](#)

Our closing Conference, ***Strengthening integration within early childhood systems – why and how?***, will present a unique opportunity to learn more about the project and project results. The occasion will bring together European and national policy makers and program implementers to discuss about the rationale for strengthening integration in the early childhood systems and about ways in which it can be achieved. Learn how to register [here](#).

To stay up-to-date on all things INTESYS, visit the website [www.intesys.be](http://www.intesys.be).



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