

Social Inclusion Initiatives

by the Comenius Foundation for Child Development

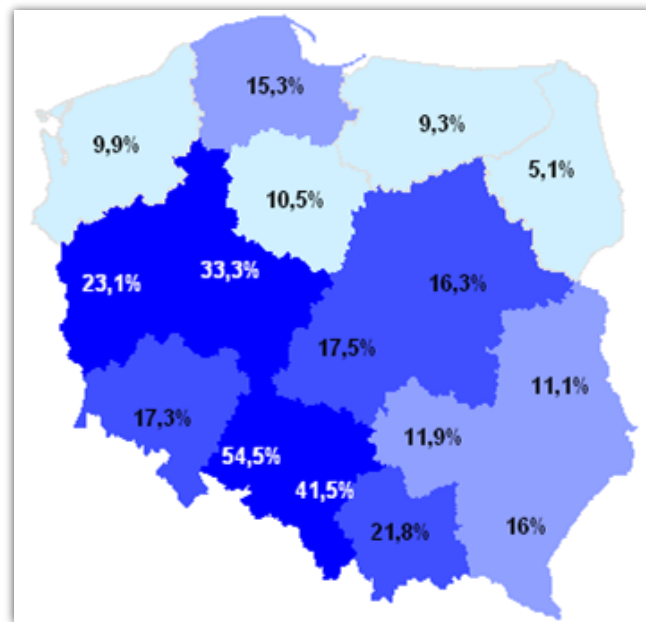
Once upon a time... in the year 2000

Poland had preschools for:

62% children from city areas

and...

17% children from rural areas



The Foundations' role and accomplishments

- Over two decades of commitment to social inclusion in early childhood education.
- Establishing preschools in rural areas, helping to include children, parents and unemployed women.
- Umbrella organization, supporting NGOs, municipalities, and parent groups.
- Disseminating our solutions abroad: in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

we work with **340** municipalities.

Our programs were implemented in **2500** libraries, schools, kindergartens, nurseries.

14000 people participated in our training courses (teachers, librarians, childcare workers, entertainers, parents, local government officials).

100 innovative educational programs.

70 publications, reports, and statistical analyses.

350 kindergarten points of care in villages.

500 Play Groups.

70 participatory strategies to level the playing field.

nearly **100,000** children benefited from our programs.



The invisible
children

3 Programs



najmłodszy.pl

WSPARCIE JAKOŚCI INSTYTUCJI
OPIEKI I EDUKACJI DZIECI DO LAT 3

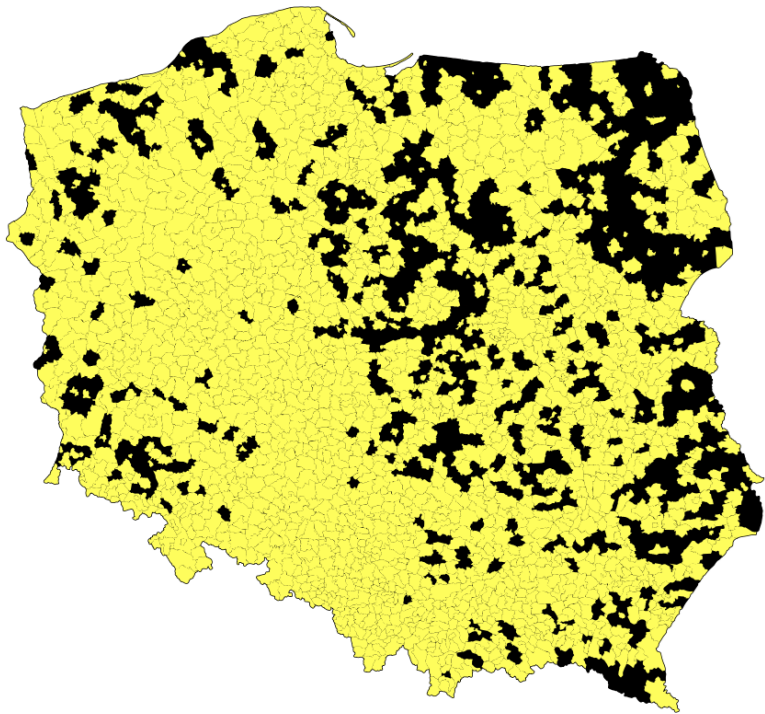


The Invisible Children Program

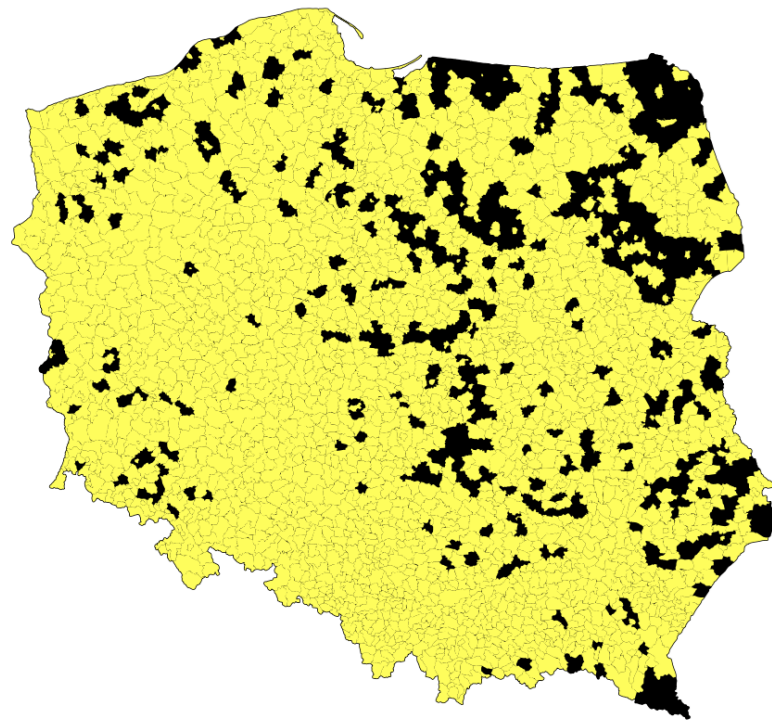


Children invisible to the public eye

I Municipalities without pre-schools



2002



2015

2015 - 2024 preschool inclusion

Category	2015/2016	2023/2024
Total preschool institutions	21,100	22,500
Children enrolled	1,141,000	1,512,000
Total available places	1,270,000	1,704,000

Collaboration with Families and local organisations



- Parents as co-creators
- Transfer of know-how to local governments and NGOs
- Focus on Quality



Inclusion as a response to a crisis



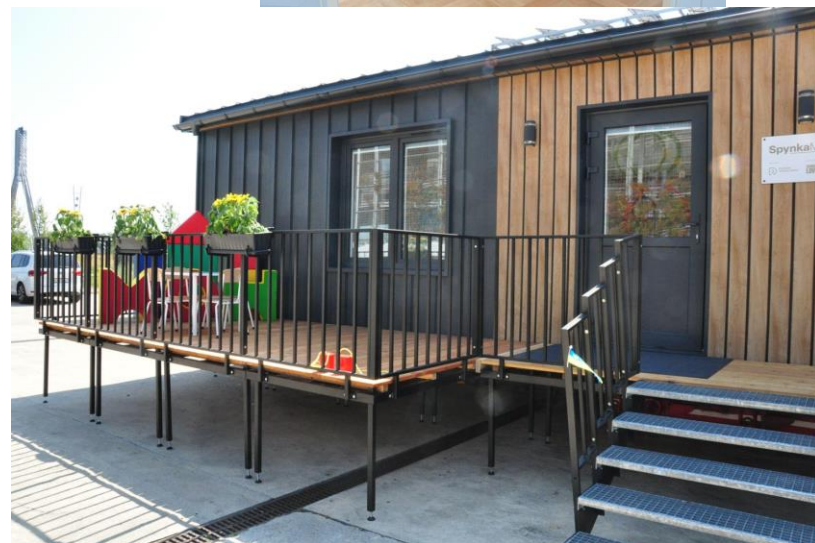
II Responding to emergent needs

- Initiated the “**Spynka**” program to support Ukrainian refugee children and parents.
- Established childcare centers across Poland to aid family integration into the local community.
- Emphasized flexibility, cultural sensitivity, and quality care.



SpynkaMobile - rapid deployment of ECEC

- Created on the basis of qualitative research on spaces supporting child development.
- High-quality solution as a space designed with the needs of children with trauma in mind (**Trauma-Informed Design**).
- Value based on flexibility, providing multi-tasking and versatile application.



Spynka by the numbers

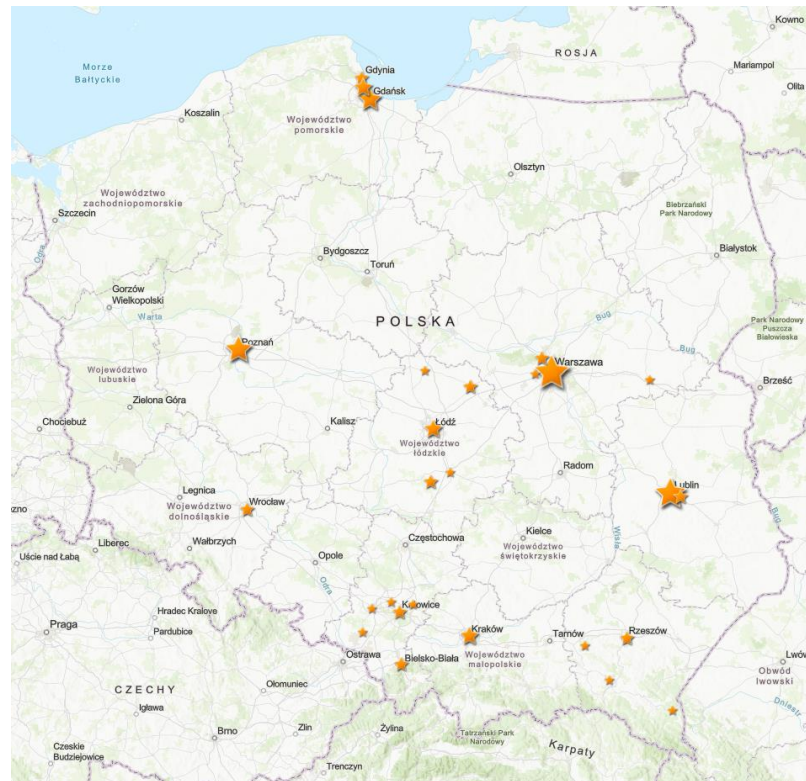
13 877 children received educational and developmental support

234 trained and certified Ukrainian women caregivers

76 Spynkas opened

37 specialists on Staff

1000 mothers received specialist support



Multicultural Social Inclusion

- Children
- Parents
- Caregivers/educators

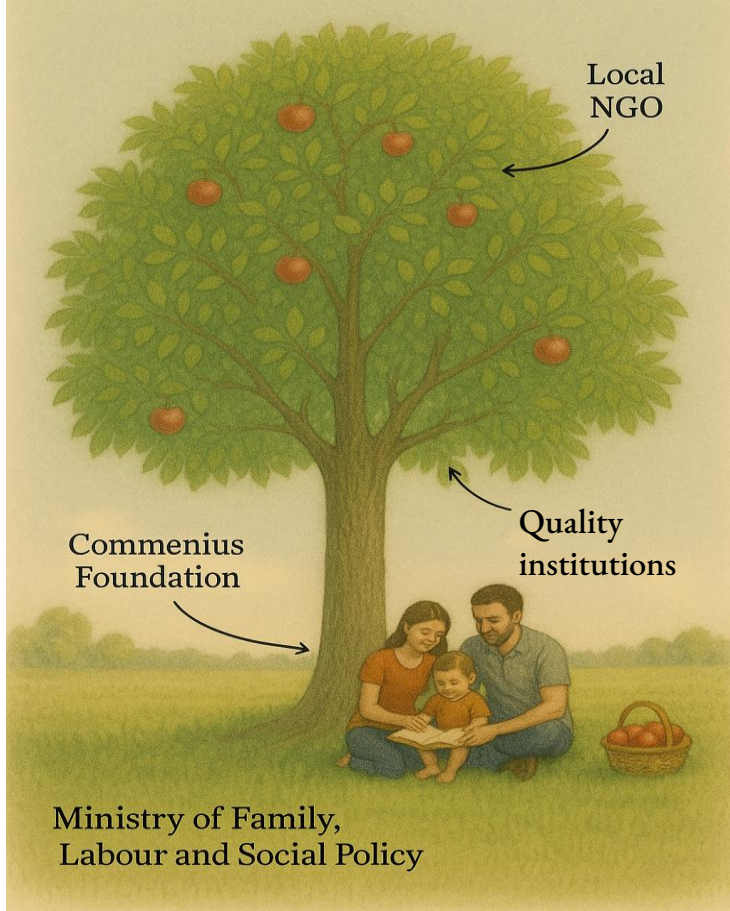


Inclusion requires raising quality of care - The Academy of Support project





III Nursery education and care - Raising the standards nationwide!



- The “**Academy of Support**” promotes quality standards in care for children fostering a shared understanding of early education’s role.
- Consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, latest child development studies and Council of Europe recommendations.
- Training of caregivers, nursery management, NGOs, municipalities.
- Methodological, communication, and social development components.

Collaboration



Narodowy Instytut Wolności
Centrum Rozwoju Społeczeństwa Obywatelskiego



FUNDACJA
BATOREGO



FUNDACJA
DAJEMY
DZIECIOM
SIŁĘ



Polska



Fundacja
Wspomagania Wsi



Core values

- equal opportunity,
- inclusion,
- child-centeredness,
- cross-sector collaboration.



As NGOs we have:

- Speed of reaction
- In depth knowledge (academic, and field studies)
- Flexibility
- Focus on building collaboration on clear goals, that transcend short term political agendas.

What we need to have impact

- trust
- clear goals
- organisational framework
- empathy
- resources
- courage



Thank you!

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