

Child Care System in Latvia and Services of SOS CV LATVIA



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
LATVIA



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KEY FACTS ABOUT CHILDREN IN LATVIA

TOTAL population in country	1,9 million (according to population census in 2011)
<i>Total number of children, living in the country (in age of 0-18)</i>	374 336
<i>Number of children at a <u>high risk of losing parental care</u> (social risk families)</i>	25 107 or 7 % of all children
<i>Number of children, officially declared as <u>indigent and living under the poverty line</u></i>	74.118 or 20 % of all children
<i>Number of children <u>without</u> parental care in total as per January 2014</i>	7 867 4 945 in guardianship (63%); 1.215 in foster families (15 %) 1.707 in institutional care (22%);
<i>Number of children, whose parents have been deprived of their parental rights, yearly</i>	2011 – 2.300 2012 – 2.189 2013 – 2.032



Placement Care in January 1, 2013

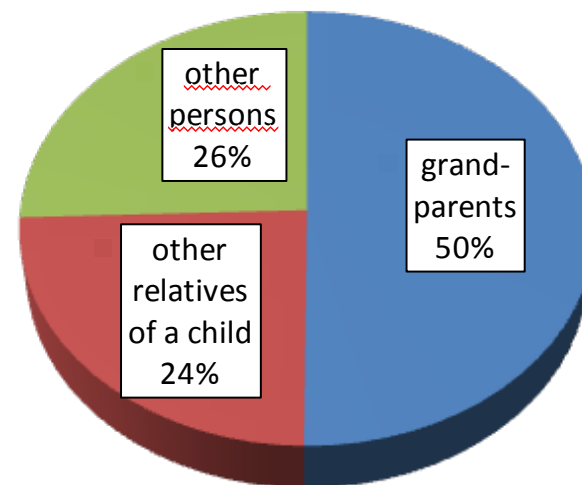
Total number of foster families -
582

There are 40 care institutions in
the country:

7 state institutions

33 municipality institutions and
NGO's children social care
centers

Aizbildņu skaits – 4083
personas



➤ **7 child care centers funded by state**

age 0 - 2 years or till 18 years if a child has severe disability.
Average number of children in each ~ 100

➤ **~ 25 large institutions funded by municipalities**

(age 2 - 18) average number of children in each 40 – 70

Liability is delegated among the state and 119 municipalities

Municipalities ensure care to 2-18 years old children: at the institutions, in foster families, in guardianship or adoption (these services shall be paid for)

➤ Non-governmental organizations offer alternative forms: care comparable to family care, youth facilities, support to foster families and guardians



Number of Adoptions in Latvia

At the end of 2011, there were **1214** children in the adoption register.

Adoptions	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011
national	105	99	128
international	141	136	131

- Due to different financing system municipalities often choose not the most appropriate placement for a child but the most cheapest option. Siblings are split only for the reason that state provides funding in institutions for infants
- Lack of resources in municipalities for work with children and families to prevent child abandonment and violence
- Limited financial and human resources from municipalities to offer services for families – thus acting mainly as distributor of material support
- Just formal support system for families
- Unsufficient interinstitutional cooperation



Shared funding- different funding and its source in different placement care options and even within its framework

Particular municipalities lack interest about creating, developing and supporting placement care services corresponding to child's interests

Insufficient social work with child's biological family, prior to the placement care, as well as while child is in the placement care

"Service basket" and its costs of a child being in the placement is not determined

Social security of placement care providers (guardians, foster families)

- De-I process in Latvia is in the initial stage: experts and ministry works on the plan and introduction of
- The purpose of De-I: determined movement away from care institutions i.e. decrease number of institutions
 - 85 % of children in placement care live in foster families or with guardian
 - After placement care a child has knowledge and social skills in order to be a wholesome member of society with stable and responsible attitude towards life.



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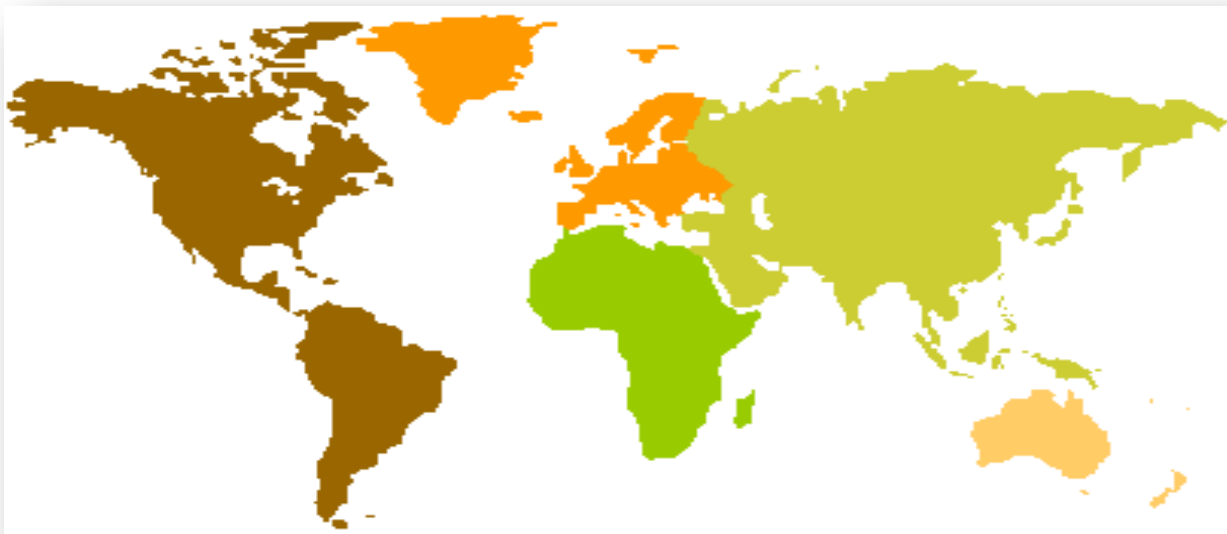
SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
INTERNATIONAL

A LOVING
HOME FOR
EVERY CHILD



SOS Children's Villages is an international non-governmental social development organisation that has been active in the field of children's rights and committed to children's needs and concerns **since 1949**
(65 years of experience)

SOS CVI is active in 134 countries.



**SOS in Latvia –
since 1997
(18 years of
experience)**

SOS Latvia main activities



> 150 children and youth

Family based care in
SOS Children's Villages



> 500
children

Support to biological families -
SOS Family Strengthening
centres



Support to
education – SOS
educational projects



Child right and advocacy
issues, cooperation with
municipalities, NGOs



Publicity,
fundraising



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
LATVIA

Family Based Care in SOS Children's Villages

VALMIERA

Opened 2007;
12 houses;
12 families (including 2 married
couples),
66 children



BAUSKA

Opened 1997;
12 houses + 1 integrated SOS
family outside of CV
13 families
60 children





SOS Family Support centres or Family Strengthening Projects (ESP)



- To support families in order to promote their abilities to care for and to protect their children;
- To provide services available for families and children;
- To strengthen social support systems in community.

In cooperation with local municipalities;
with co-financing of public grants.





Consultations of Specialists



- Social worker
 - Social rehabilitator
 - Psychologist
 - Psychotherapist
-
- Narcologist
 - Legal adviser
 - Family assistant
 - Supervisors
 - Support groups for parents and children





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Family Helps Family – Learning New Skills





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Strengthening family as a system





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Speech Therapy





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Montessori Teacher's Classes



ADVOCACY WORK on 3 LEVELS:

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

- Regular participation in different workshops of the Welfare Ministry, Parliament and the State Inspectorate For Protection of Children's Rights;
- Preparation of proposals for policy and legislation changes



LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

- Advocacy for FS and FBC services, provided by SOS CV Latvia to increase municipal co-financing and understanding of children and families needs;



SOCIETY/ NGO's

- Coordination of Alternative Child Care Alliance un Children Wellbeing Network
- Conferences;
- Publicity events, involving media and community





**To strengthen SOS Latvia leading positions in
childcare field,
becoming the most trustworthy and preferred
service provider for the local government and a
reliable partner for corporate and individual givers,
generating and securing sufficient local funding
by 2020.**



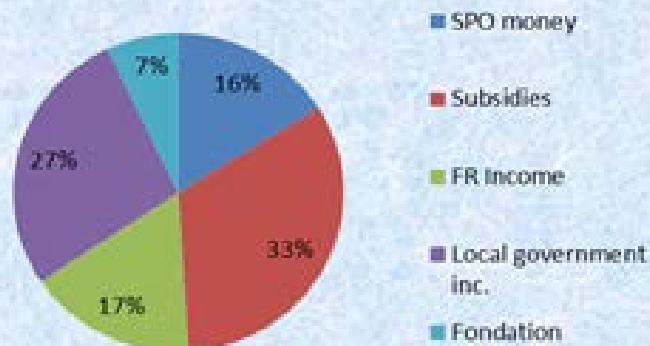
WHY:

- there is a high demand in the country
- SOS has been recognized as a high quality service provider by local municipalities, **especially Riga**
- both know-how and most of the infrastructure for service delivery is already in place





2014 year plan



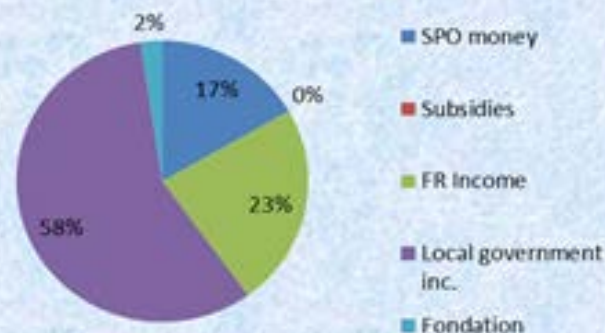
Total local income 51%:

- governmental subsidies 27%
- FR 17%
- PF 7%

Total International income 49%:

- subsidies 33 %
- SPO 16 %

2020 year long-term forecast



Total local income 83%:

- governmental subsidies 58% (growth in 31%)
- FR 23% (growth in 6%)
- PF 2%

Total International SPO income 17% (the same amount as in 2014)

“It is easy to do good things if
everybody helps.”

*Herman Gmainer,
Founder of SOS Children's Villages International*

