

ICDP Annual Report

2014

By psychologist Anne Linder

This report focuses on what I and the “Danish Centre for ICDP” have been up to over the past year and the challenges we have faced. It concludes with our thoughts on what we plan to focus on in the coming year.

News

Last year, psychologists Jesper Gregersen, Anne Therkildsen and I founded “ICDP East”. Our aim was to build an effective working relationship which would allow us to focus on the implementation and dissemination of the ICDP programme. Our collaboration proved itself to be both professionally and financially sustainable from early on, and we have therefore chosen to rename “ICDP East”, “Danish Centre for ICDP – Centre for relational professionalism”. We have certified a total of 274 people at levels 1 and 2 respectively – an increase of around 65% compared to 2013 – and the figure looks likely to stabilise in the coming year.

ICDP publications

Throughout the year, we have worked on the book – Linder, Anne (ed.) 2015: “*Livsduelighedens pædagogik*” (The pedagogy of Resilience). Ten points for the relational professional, Dafolo. I have invited a number of professionals to write down their experiences of using the ICDP programme in their professional lives.

The book has gone to print, and in March 2015, we will be holding an ICDP conference at which we will also be celebrating its publication. Nine out of the 11 articles in the book have been written by psychologists and other professionals working with ICDP on a day-to-day basis.

The ability to resist in life is not static, but something that can change and be affected throughout life. In order to develop “resilience”, children above all need the relational support of significant

Kommenterede [lh1]: Modstandsdygtighed = another tricky one. The ability to deal with knock-backs?

adults. There is no clear definition of what it means to be able to resist and able to handle life's challenges, but the reader gains a deeper understanding of how we can use good relationships as a platform for children's learning, well-being and development.

Kommenterede [lh2]: Brug ordet resilience



Extract from the anthology. All of the articles mentioned are based on ICDP.

- Relational professionalism. What is it? The answer lies in ICDP.
- Self-confidence, self-esteem and self-understanding, explained through ICDP.
- What describes a life marked by resistance?
- ICDP as a model for interdisciplinary cooperation in the municipal sector.
- What is relationship-based management? The answer lies in ICDP.
- Relationship-based classroom management and flow.
- Space for relationships. Architecture and relationship work.
- Friendship and feelings. Relational support for a group of girls at the school.

Kommenterede [lh3]: resilience

The target audience of the book is professionals and students working in the education system, who require a broad introduction to a pedagogy that focuses on relational issues.

ICDP board game

Over the course of the year, we also developed and tested a board game that we use for reflection exercises on our ICDP training days. The idea is to combine the principles of sensitisation with a traditional board game, and thereby create a community where people share their experiences and thoughts. We tested the game on all ICDP teams in the autumn, and after a few adjustments, it is ready to be released and sold. For every game sold, we will be donating DKK 100 to ICDP International.

ICDP and special education

In Denmark, a number of children and young people are placed in care institutions. In 2014, we embarked on a collaboration with one of these special institutions, and trained all of the staff in ICDP to level 1. A preliminary internal study has shown the ICDP programme to be sustainable in respect of working with children and young people with massive socio-emotional problems.

ICDP and management

ICDP has also been shown to be suitable for use as a management training programme. We have developed the “Relationship-based management” course, which is based on the eight guidelines for good interaction and the principles of sensitisation. Over the course of 2014, we have trained some 60 institution managers in their own relationship skills. ICDP for managers helps generate a high pedagogical quality and healthy working environments, ultimately contributing to the well-being and healthy development of children.

New partners

In 2014, we were contacted by PhD student and manager of Center of MLE, Micki Kaa Sunesen with a view to increased collaboration in the future. Though the collaboration is still in its infancy, it may prove to offer the potential for even more people to benefit from ICDP in the future. In 2014, ICDP trainer Anne Therkildsen and Mickie Kaa Sunesen published an academic article on the professional convergence between the methods in a psychology journal.

Study tours

All our tours are open to all, with invitations posted via ICDP Danmark’s Facebook group.

Nordic ICDP meeting in Finland

In May, we participated at Nordic ICDP’s meeting in Turku, Finland, and have since worked closely with the Finnish ICDP board

Study tour to Sweden

In a Swedish municipality, ICDP is used in the social sector as both an assessment tool and a pedagogical treatment option. Unfortunately, due to illness, the tour was cancelled at the last moment. However, we hope that it can go ahead in 2015.

Study tour to Norway

We arranged and carried out a study tour to Stavanger in December 2014 to introduce Danish professionals to ICDP as a parental education programme. 12 people from all over Denmark participated.

Conferences

Danish Centre for ICDP organised a major conference in September, but for various reasons, the conference was moved to 5 March 2015.

We have, however, been invited to give a presentation at various conferences, including :

- At the **Danish School of Education**.
- At the national congress of special educators
- At a Nordic conference focusing on inclusion
- At four educational institutions where teachers are trained.

Kommenterede [lh4]: det danske pædagogiske universitet.
Has the name changed? Not obvious whether this is in Cph or Aarhus – perhaps one and the same?

No DPU – Dansk Pædagogisk Universitet

Facebook

We recommend that all our course participants join the ICDP Denmark Facebook group, where we post updates on what's happening in the Danish ICDP world. We aim to round off all groups with a photo of the team – preferably with a small clip or a song from the team's activities. We also provide details on new relevant courses, conferences etc.

ICDP and digitalisation

We have recently taken the first steps towards developing ICDP as a digital training programme. Our vision is to give ICDP's ideas a digital expression in order to adapt the programme to the requirements of the Danish education system.

The year's challenges

ICDP and parental education

In 2014, we have used a great deal of resources holding meetings with ministers, educational institutions and local government managers with a view to launching a Danish study with ICDP as a parental training programme. Denmark has high standards when it comes to the approval of parental

training programmes. ICDP has been provisionally approved by the the Danish Ministry of Children, Gender Equality, Integration and Social Affairs, but the ministry wishes to see Danish research relating to the ICDP programme and we are therefore doing our utmost to find the resources needed to establish a Danish research trial.

We are working with various municipalities and, in December 2014, arranged a study tour to Stavanger in Norway as a source of inspiration for further work.

We expected to have made greater advances over the year, but we were faced with various obstacles. One of the biggest obstacles was, without doubt, the municipal turbulence generated by the numerous new reforms, which have subsequently created turmoil in the municipal administration departments. Many good and faithful ICDP partners have, for example, been moved to new duties in the municipal sector.

But despite the difficulties, we have not given up on getting ICDP finally approved as a parental education programme in Denmark – it will just take more time and more resources than we originally envisaged.

In January, we will be starting a trial in collaboration with an institution in Copenhagen Municipality: Parents who have had a child put into care will be offered an ICDP course.

In one municipality, we have given all social educators, health visitors, psychologists, family therapists and a number of teachers training in ICDP. This municipality joined us on the study tour to Stavanger, and we hope that in the coming year we can get started with ICDP as a parental training programme in their municipality.

It has taken a lot of resources to establish a new partnership with two of Denmark's major educational institutions in order to get the institutions to offer the ICDP programme as part of their educational programme. Whether the partnership will bear fruit remains to be seen.

New school reform

As mentioned earlier, 2014 was characterised by a great deal of turbulence in the public sector due to the many reforms. Among other things, the school system has been reformed, with many resources going into creating a new school structure. So there have been relatively few ICDP (and other) projects in schools. However, one Danish municipality has chosen to swim against the tide and ordered five ICDP foundation courses for all staff at three of the special schools in the

municipality, on the assumption that relational issues are central to the new legislation. We hope that other schools will follow suit in 2015.

New initiatives 2015

- The development of digitalisation continues – with an App for parents
- Arrange theme days for ICDP Norden. January 2015
- Release the board game
- Speaker at a 3-day international conference. April 2015. Denmark
- Speaker at international conference. June 2015. Florida. USA
- Participation at the Nordic ICDP meeting in Oslo. May 2015
- Presentation on ICDP for the students at the [Danish School of Education](#), March and May 2015.
- ICDP as a parental education programme

We hope that this report has helped to paint a picture of an ICDP which is full of vitality and pivotal to creating a better world for all – children and adults alike.

A Happy New Year to all!

Best regards Anne Linder

Kommenterede [lh5]: DPU