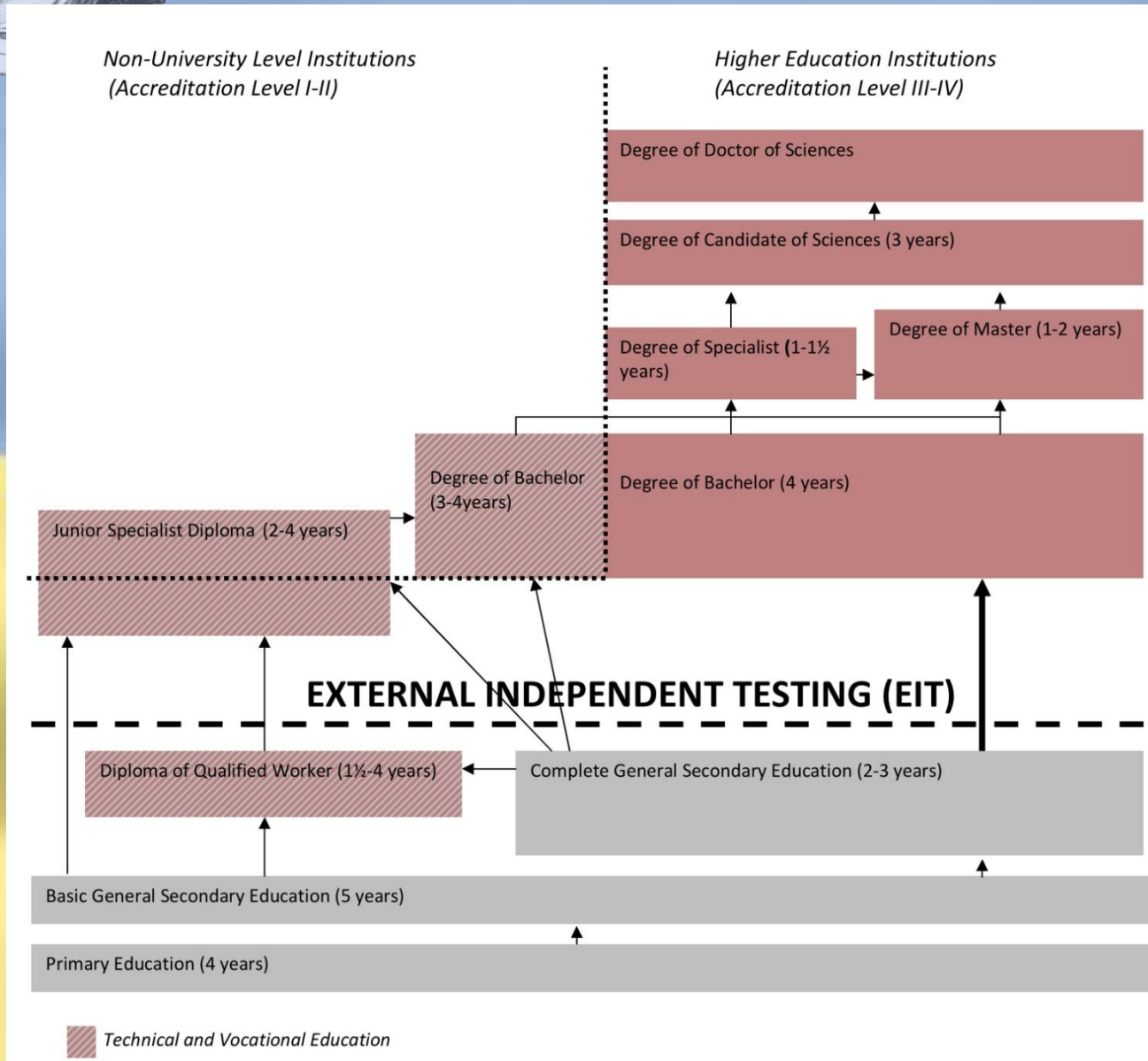




Overview of the Ukrainian Educational System





Preschool, Primary and Secondary Education

Amendments to legislation on secondary and primary education to the educational process from 6.10.2010 envisaged significant changes in structure, duration and content of Preschool Education (mandatory preschool education for children of preschool age from age 5 to 6);

Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved “The Concept of State Target Program Development of Preschool Education for the period to 2017” (Order № 1721-r from 27.08 2010).



The main objectives of preschool education

The main objectives of preschool education is to preserve and strengthen the physical, mental and spiritual health of the child, develop respect for national traditions and customs, promote the conscious attitude to the environment and the natural environment of a child, develop their talents, acquiring social experience, etc.

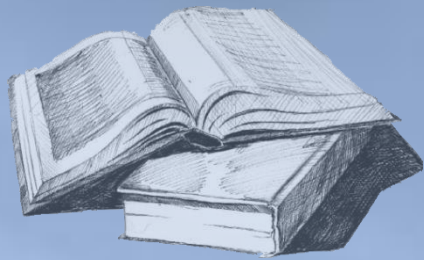
Only 56 per cent of the total number of children of appropriate age attend preschool institutions.

Preschool education covers 93.5 per cent of five-year-old children.



Ways of achieving these goals

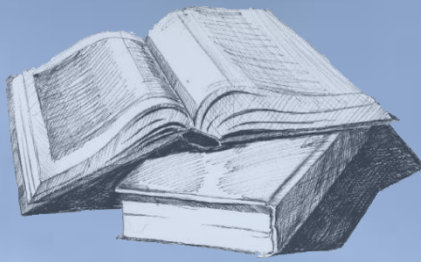
- preservation, expansion and support of the network of preschool educational institutions of various types and forms of ownership;
- expansion of the network of preschool educational institutions that carry out activities under one or more priority areas (arts, sport and recreation, music, humanitarian, etc.);
- introduction of modern educational technologies, including computerization of pre-schools and internet access;
- improvement of scientific methods of preschool education, creation of information and learning kits (electronic books, virtual labs, electronic database, educational portals, etc.);
- setting up separate divisions for pre-school education in regional and city (district) offices (departments) of education;
- introduction and development of media education, creation of preschool media programs, including "E-mailing to parents.



Inclusive education

Inclusive education is another important link in lifelong learning strategy of Ukraine. Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine issued an Order dated 03.12.2009 № 1482-r "On the approval of the plan of establishing an inclusive and integrated education in secondary schools until 2012".

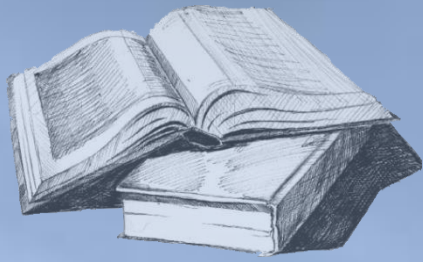
The Ministry of Education and science of Ukraine issued an Order № 912 from 1.10. 2010 which approves “The Concept of inclusive education and ways of achieving it”.



Inclusive education

The aim of the Concept is:

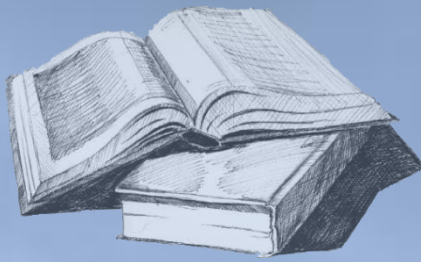
- to define policy priorities in education in terms of ensuring the constitutional rights and state guarantees to children with special educational needs;
- the implementation of the comprehensive rehabilitation of such children, their acquisition of domestic and social skills;
- implementation of international best practice to increase the number of secondary schools with inclusive education, ready to provide educational services to children with special educational needs.



Inclusive education

The Ways of implementation of inclusive education in Ukraine are the following:

- improvement of the regulatory framework;
- creation of the conditions for unhindered access to education from preschool level;
- match the educational work with the needs of the child, family;
- appropriate preparation of teachers to work with children with special educational needs;
- determination of best possible ways and means of implementing inclusive education based on appropriate legal, teaching, personnel, logistical and informational support.



Out-of-school education

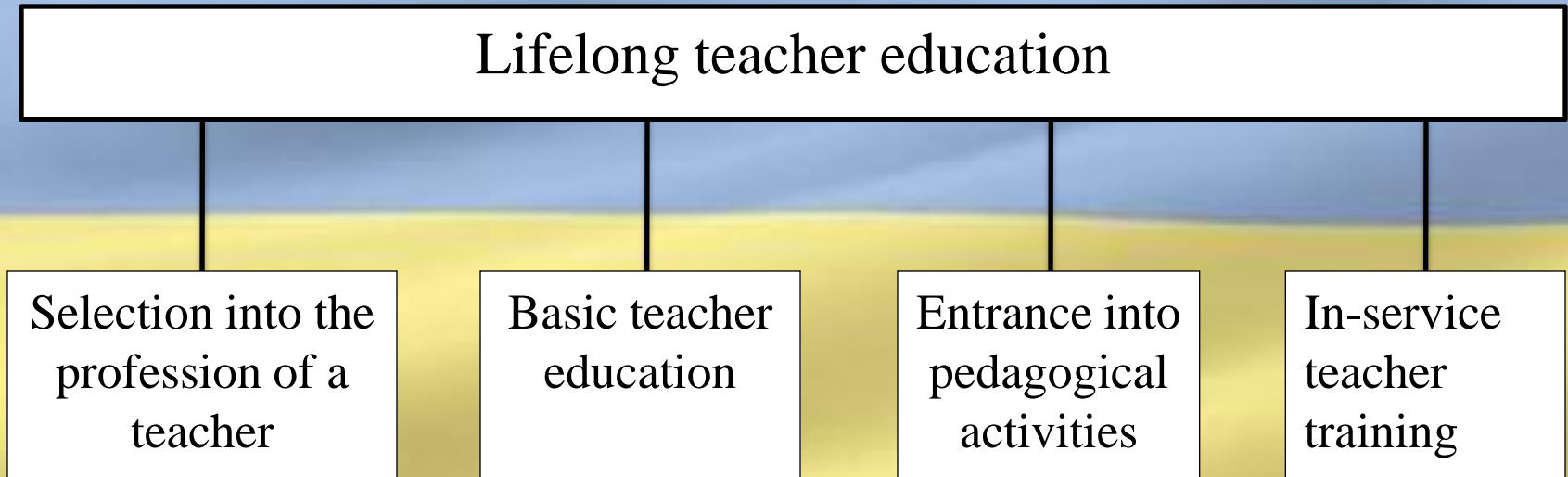
Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine № 785 of 27.08.1910, about approving “The State targeted social program of out-of- school education until 2014” creates new opportunities for our children and is another important chain in lifelong learning education of Ukraine.

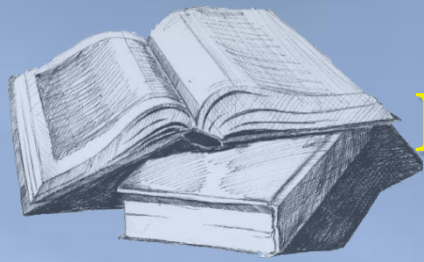
The purpose of this program is:

- to improve school education through support and software development;
- creating additional opportunities for intellectual and physical development of people wishing to obtain non-school education;
- to be the basis for developing regional programs of out-of-school education.



Structure of lifelong teacher education





Lifelong teacher education

Pedagogical practice in Ukrainian universities starts from the third year and comprises several levels:

observation of the lessons of secondary school teachers and writing their reports and analysis of pedagogical activities.

conducting their own lessons and participating in school activities.

In-service teacher training programs in Ukraine are highly centralized. Decentralization can be demonstrated by sharing power with pedagogical associations, unions, counsels in decision-taking as for financing and choosing the appropriate content, forms and methods of the in-service training of teachers.