

Workshop III
Lund May 18-21, 2005
Work-package 10 & 11

Partner 6



LUNDS TEKNISKA HÖGSKOLA
Lunds universitet

life quality
of senior citizens



in relation to
mobility conditions



Day 1; Conference / Dissemination Day

60 delegates from 11 European Countries

-Presentations; Consortium Members

Results from focus group / in-depth interviews and the quantitative surveys with senior citizens and experts

-Comments on the project; senior citizens organisations

-Comments on project and achieved results; invited professionals

-Presentations; related research

ENABLE AGE, MOBILATE, "Alt Macht Neu", "Let`s go for a Walk"

-A Policy Perspective on Mobility in Old Age; CEMT

A Ståhl, M Berntman, O Grönvall
Brussels, March 23d, 2006

2

Day 2; Consortium Day

- 25 delegates from 8 countries
- Administration issues
- Input and Conclusions from Conference Day
- Presentations and Discussions on forthcoming Work-package 12, Working out solutions

Day 3; Dissemination Day and Closing of Workshop

-Consortium Study Trip

To the City of Kristianstad – Swedish legislation on accessible outdoor environment and measures taken within the “Let’s go for a walk” project

To the City of Lund – Swedish policy in providing accessible public transport and the concept Service Routes

-Public Session – Senior Citizens Day

150 seniors from the south Region of Sweden

Presentation of the SIZE – project and findings so far

Panel discussion with politicians, experts, seniors and SIZE Consortium members

Day 1; Conference / Dissemination Day; Comments

From invited professionals, *Prof emeritus O Gunnarsson*

The concepts used in the SIZE project

- **Mobility.** *Why is accessibility not used? Accessibility is a prerequisite for mobility. Mobility is the outcome of good accessibility.*

- **Problem.** *Problems are expressed on different levels and with different degree of precision. The word problem is subjective in its nature and therefore difficult to define. Awareness of this!*

Recommendations:

- *Use the pedestrians needs as the basic reference in all town planning.*

- *Create "Inspection groups" of senior citizens to find and map out barriers and obstacles in the local environments.*

Conference / Dissemination Day; Comments

From invited professionals; *Prof S Rosenbloom*

SIZE project impressed:

- *Comparative analysis between countries*

- *Mix between qualitative (input) and quantitative studies*

- *Involvement of seniors in the whole process*

Recommendations:

- *Focus on children of the senior citizens – they are better fit to see the problems.*

- *The senior citizens are not to suggest measures – the experts are.*

Conference / Dissemination Day; Discussion

Comments from Senior Citizens

- *"Seniors are generally far too isolated and need friends."*
This must be taken into consideration in the planning process.

- *"It is important with a more holistic view in the discussion of mobility".*
Include both in-door (local housing, architectural and design activities) and out-door environmental design issues.

- *"Focus the fear of getting out-doors."*
Especially in urban areas and when dark.

Conference / Dissemination Day; Discussion

Policy issues: Mrs A Frye

- *"How to change our Society for an Aging Population?"*
A management and resource issue more than an economic one.

- *"The importance of the car for a mobile life in old age mainly in rural areas".*
Solution – restricted car licences?

- *"Alternative transportation".*
Ordinary public transport is not necessarily the one and only alternative to keep up the mobility

Conference / Dissemination Day; Comments

From Audit

-“Older people are not all alike”.

-“Older people live longer and must have the possibility to live independent lives”.

-“The important question is whether a city, a village can adapt to an aging population”.

Suburban areas are very often not designed for an aging population and rural areas are often forgotten in the discussions

-“Accessible public transport is a vital issue”.

-“The distances to the transport systems are the major problem

Therefore, it is not enough to only introduce low floor buses into existing services, but also provide better adapted services of different kind

Conference / Dissemination Day

Conclusions

The Conference Day gave the SIZE-project good input and helped the Consortium in pointing out three main conclusions:

-“learnt to address the senior citizens as older people and not the elderly”

-“showed the importance of researchers to communicate with policy makers”

-“although many specialists in the Consortium are present we lacked specialists in economy and communication within the Consortium”

This might have been a disadvantage and should for sure be included in followers of the SIZE-project.

Conference / Dissemination Day

Recommendations; EU representative Mr I Ambrose

-“The SIZE-project has presented a wide range of facts”

There is no framework for gathering all these facts at hand.

-“An observatory in this area need to be formed for exchanging knowledge and good practises, a bench-marking movement to move the agenda forward”.

Deliverable 15

Internal paper from WP 11

“Proceedings of Workshop III

public and internal sessions

detailed work-plans for WP 12, 13 and 14”

Department of Technology and Society, Lund University, July 2005

Grönvall, O., Ståhl, A., & Berntman, M