Initiative DiverCITY4
minutes from the second series of workshops date 3-4.03.2020
Language of workshops: English – without translation

I. Title of the thematic area
ACCESSIBILITY

II. Thematic Leader:

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DAY 1 of the workshops

III. Participants ......................... Day 1:
1. Expert 1: Małgorzata Gorący - President of Ostoja Association for Disabled Persons, Poland (PL)
2. Expert 2: Adrianna Niedoszewska - External expert in international projects on accessibility, State Fund for Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (PFRON), Poland (PL)
3. Expert 3: Onny Eikhaug - President, EIDD Design for All Europe, Founder Innovation for All AS, Norway (NO)
4. Expert 4: Buster Skjodt - Construction Manager, Sandnes Municipal Property Company, Norway (NO)
5. Paweł Wojdylak – Association of Polish Cities (APC)
At the beginning all experts, leaders and observers stayed together, welcomed by Mariola Apanel, the coordinator of DiverCITY4. Then all thematic group met in their rooms.

I. First presentation:

1. Presenter: Małgorzata Gorący (translated)
2. Presentation: Expert referred to all four topic, as she wasn’t present during the first workshop. Mrs Goracy decribed special needs of peoples with disabilities and their families.
3. Discussion:

   Pawel Wojdylak from APC - presented the situation of an aging society living in old houses, unfavorable forecasts due to the aging of the society. There is no problem in new buildings.

   Onny Eikhaug - in Norway there are also a lot of old buildings. One either become a prisoner or move - if there is a choice. In Poland there is a problem with the availability of better available houses.

   Adriana Niedoszewska- project in Stargard. Adapted. Watch out for the creation of the ghetto.

   OE - not a ghetto, it doesn't work. Different people should live together. In Norway, most people own a flat. Management boards and cooperatives decide together on possible adaptations.

   Stairclimbers - who is their owner in Norway?
   OE: Special funds for improvement and adaptation, local and from EU - can be applied by disabled person? No, it’s local government, who does it and then he works with NGOs. Sometimes in smaller towns, local governments do not apply for these funds - a problem.

   Małgorzata Gorący – underlined that mobility is the most important thing.
**II. Second presentation**

1. Presenter: Adriana Niedoszewska
2. Presentation: What the law says
3. Discussion (remarks)


   Lifts: the law requires the availability of the ground floor and first floor. Light - not in the rules, but in standards.

   Stargard, 22 buildings, close to nature, for seniors and families with disabilities. Lots of possibilities, computer workshops etc. Fully available.

**III. Third presentation**

1. Presenter: Onny Eikhaug
2. Presentation: ...................... (to be added)
3. Discussion (remarks)

   2005 first 5-year plan with Universal Design.

   Universal design is anti-discrimination design. Longer strategic plan, shorter material plan.

   All municipalities together, short and long term plans

   Stairclimbers for free if you need one.

   Exhibition-movie

   Changing the way of thinking, empathy, the designer must acquire knowledge from people

   The right direction is essential, and then step by step. Milestones. Communication
IV. Fourth presentation

1. Presenter: Buster Skjødt
2. Presentation: Discussion of topics that are examples of solutions related to accessibility. Universal Design as the very best solution

No discussion

V. Expedition to Cafe Równik

At the end of the day expedition to Cafe Równik, the place, where the staff consist of people with different kind of mental disabilities. Experts had the possibility to observe their involvement and joy of being able to participate in a normal life

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DAY 2 of the Workshops

VI. Participants ................................ Day 2:
1. Expert 1: Małgorzata Gorący - President of Ostoja Association for Disabled Persons, Poland (PL) -
2. Expert 2: Adrianna Niedoszewska - External expert in international projects on accessibility, State Fund for Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (PFRON), Poland (PL)
3. Expert 3: Onny Eikhaug - President, EIDD Design for All Europe, Founder Innovation for All AS, Norway (NO)
4. Expert 4: Buster Skjodt - Construction Manager, Sandnes Municipal Property Company, Norway (NO)
The Observer - position, institution, department, nationality (PL)
5. Observer: Paweł Wojdylak, Association of Polish Cities (APC)
6. Observer: Joanna Held, Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy Department for Assistance Programs for Municipalities Support

VII. Discussion about visit to Cafe Równik:
Accessibility does not only mean appropriate architectural or technical solutions. In lot of situations people with any kind of disability, even if are able to leave place of living or has no problems to get somewhere, have another problem – lack of goal. For this reason, it is very important to create places where such people can find a job or at least any activities. Cafe Równik is a place which offers job for people with mental disabilities, but there are many other solution which may fulfill this role.

VIII. Brain Storm

Next part of the day experts, observers and thematic leader spent on discussing what should be presented at the conference. Everyone wrote his proposal on the flip chart, then the group tried to find common solution.

Below the proposals of all participants.
PART 1  MACRO FRAMEWORK

→ ACT ON ACCESSIBILITY & OTHERS (?)

→ ACCESSIBILITY + PROGRAMME

PART 2  RAISING AWARENESS → WHAT IS MISSING WHEN IT COMES TO ACCESSIBILITY?

→ WHAT CAN/SHOULD BE DONE IN RELATION TO NATIONAL (MACRO LEVEL) ON LOCAL LEVEL

→ IT'S NOT ONLY ABOUT LAW

→ HOW TO APPROACH ACCESSIBILITY → HOW TO THINK ABOUT IT (SOLUTIONS PROVIDED) VS. RESOURCES NECESSARY
  - UNIVERSAL DESIGN
  - SOLUTIONS FOR EVERYONE (EXAMPLES)
  - COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

PART 3  FOLLOW UP (RECOMMENDATIONS)

→ WHAT TO BUILD ON (LAW, GOOD PRACTICES/STANDARDS)

→ WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR CHANGING THE MINDSET
  - BIG VS. SMALL MUNICIPALITIES
  - STRATEGIC THINKING
  - STEP BY STEP APPROACH - PROCESS THAT REQUIRES TIME

→ IN THE END, IT IS ALL FOR ANYONE NOT ONLY FOR PEOPLE FACING PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY CHALLENGES IN EVERYDAY LIFE
1) **CURRENT SITUATION**
   - Background

2) **EXAMPLE CASES**
   - To present issues
   - Starting point for discussing workshop

3) **DEFINE ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS**

4) **PRESENT SOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**
   - Short, medium, long term
   - Stakeholders 3 levels

**ACCESSIBILITY (Universal Design)**
- National legislation
- National and regional practice
- Progress/achievements (historic/status)
- Present the topics, e.g. prison, elderly, and children
- Demonstrate the underlying problems and the themes discussed
- Present experiences and strategies in normal life
  - Multi-level: government, regions, municipalities
  - Approach: cross-sector, top-down/bottom up, private/public
- Operational: action plans, regulations, initiatives, knowledge sharing and competence building

**Keywords:** Change mindset from accessibility to universal design
- Awareness, knowledge sharing, competence and building, policy and legislation, incentives and funding

Onny Eikhaug/Norway
IMPORTANT ISSUES FOR THE STRATEGY OF ACTION

- LOCAL PARTNERSHIP FOR A CHANGE
- NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US (SELF-ADVOCACY)
- ACCESS TO INFORMATION (DIVERSITY OF INFORMATION)
- COMPATIBILITY OF SUPPORT SYSTEMS
- THE CHANGE IN THINKING ABOUT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY (NOT ONLY A RECIPIENT OF ASSISTANCE)
- DIVERSITY AS A VALUE IN EACH SOCIETY

Małgorzata Gorący / Poland
0. WHAT'S ACCESSIBILITY, WHAT AREAS, WHERE, WHY THERE ARE PROBLEMS

1. PUSH PROBLEMS WITH ACCESSIBILITY
   - Exclusion vs. Inclusion
   - Big cities vs. Small cities

2. Push solutions, legislation etc.

3. Norwegian position - Way to changes
   - Does it cost too much?

4. Universal design - Covers all problems?

5. Changing the way of thinking - Design for all / everyone has or will have disabilities

6. Examples / 4 topics

7. Conclusions / Products →

8. Recommendation for cities

Barbara Borzymowska / Poland
1) CURRENT PL SITUATION

O) DIMENSIONS OF ACCESS

1a) Legislative approach in PL

1b) Examples of barriers & problems in PL

1c) Strategies & approach in Norway

2a) Issues & philosophy & overall strategy

2b) Practical examples in NO

2c) Success criteria & learning lessons from NO

3) Recommendations

Joanna Held / Poland
Pawel Wojdylak / Poland
(1) Introduction
(2) Information about Participants (Welcome)
(3) Overall information about Polish
Laws / Legislation / Regulation – Tax
(4) The Philosophy of OD
How we think about it – Every one needs it, the
5 examples we had
is starting first for discussions
(6) Discussion around these
Examples
(7) What we found / What we
have for it. Changing the way
we think about it – How we see this can be
implemented.
(8) It’s the solution, not a problem
(9) Information about the Program for
the City: "100,000 €"
(10) Examples from Norway and Poland. Good Examples

Buster Skjødt / Norway
IX. Conclusions

The "Accessibility" group discussed 4 cases regarding the needs of some people with various disabilities. Initially, it seemed that they should be treated separately and solutions to individual cases should be sought.

During both workshops, the group strongly stated that for the four cases, as well as for all other types of disabilities resulting from birth defects, diseases, but also age (which means that almost everyone is affected) there is one solution, which is “universal design”.

Experts from Norway presented a number of benefits resulting from the introduction of universal design and the path to its introduction.

Since it is not possible to introduce universal design only by guidelines, it becomes the main product of our workshops.

Local governments, developers and designers should be convinced of the necessity of introduction the universal design.

The transition to universal design requires a certain change of awareness and approach to “design as such”, which means that everyone who is involved in the design chain, from decision makers, through designers to developers, should become familiar with its requirements.

It is very important to listen carefully to those who know the special needs of people with disabilities, which was clearly demonstrated by the presentations of both Polish experts.

Naturally, workshop products can also be detailed solutions presented by experts from Norway, such as a lake bypass constructed of wood, on which a person in a wheelchair, a blind man or a person without any disability can move freely. Nevertheless, the presented construction is 100% the effect of universal design.