

YES, I CAN! ICT AND ICT-AT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL FINAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE VIPI & ATLEC PROJECTS – 04/12/2013



Jean-Marie VANHOVE

Former Manager Non-profit

*Former Head of Flemish Knowledge Center
For Assistive Technology*

Owner Inclusief Consulting VOF

1

With the support of:



YES, I CAN! ICT AND ICT-AT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL FINAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE VIPI & ATLEC PROJECTS – 04/12/2013



CHAIR 1:

INCREASED INDEPENDENCE

FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

2

With the support of:



CHAIR 1: INCREASED INDEPENDENCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The ATLEC project

- Has developed a **unified and validated curriculum** to train persons with disabilities in the use of ICT AT ...
since not much training is organized for the users themselves.

CHAIR 1: INCREASED INDEPENDENCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The curriculum allows for:

- a **qualification or accreditation system**
- the development of:
 - **new study programs** (handicap specific);
 - **standardised packages of ICT AT skills** into **mainstream education.**

CHAIR 1: INCREASED INDEPENDENCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Why is assistive technology (AT) needed?

- AT does not eliminate the impairment but may **remove limitations** in activity in specific domains (definition of ICF).
- AT enables **independent participation in society**.

CHAIR 1: INCREASED INDEPENDENCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Why is training in the use of AT needed?

- professionals develop knowledge and skills during work experience but ...
 - ... how **to keep pace with developments** in technology?
- Insufficient user competence reduces the **benefits of new technologies** ... which may lead to aversion.
- If AT were not **too complex** there would be but little need for training.

CHAIR 1: INCREASED INDEPENDENCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Why training the person with disabilities?

- Only **27,20%** of visually impaired people count on **AT** (MeAc-inquiry, 2008).
Create a **positive attitude towards technology.**
- The lack of **specialised user support** is the single biggest barrier to the take-up of new technology
(Patrick R.W. Roe, Bridging the Gap, 2001).
- People with disabilities need **individualized support.**
Their social network (informal carer) mostly is not trained.

CHAIR 1: INCREASED INDEPENDENCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

A well-trained user of ICT AT

- Does not depend on others.
- May become:
 - a customer instead of a user;
 - an employee;
 - an expert.

CHAIR 1: INCREASED INDEPENDENCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

It is a matter of rights

- Training people with disabilities complies with actual paradigm of
self-determination and **empowerment**
e.g. being involved as a person with disabilities in the choice and provision of AT.
- **Digital Agenda Europe**
Digital competence is a **requirement** and a **right**.
- **UN Convention for the Rights of People with Disabilities.**

CHAIR 1: INCREASED INDEPENDENCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

First session program: Independence

EU Disability Policy

Mrs. Inmaculada PLACENCIA PORRERO

Deputy Head of Unit

Unit D3 Rights for Persons with Disabilities

More independence for pwd in Flanders

Mrs. Helga STEVENS

Member of Flemish Parliament (2004)

First Member of Parliament with hearing impairments

N-VA Member of Senate (2007)