



Experience from the project work: comparisons and  
some questions

**Presented by Inger Hagen**



---

## **Disabling role of contemporary technology**

- New designs make well-known products unfamiliar
- Modern products require new learning
- User requirements not implemented by designers



---

## **ENABLE finding:**

Technology can empower people with dementia and support their independence, but not always



## **Product: Function, Design, Reliability**

- User requirements
- Focus groups: Views differed somewhat
- "Not all feedback is good feedback"
- One device cannot fit all
- Skills required for use differ between products
- Trials of test series: Phase I and Phase II



---

## **Automatic night lamp**

Familiar, automatic

- Good idea, falling at night big problem
- How to organise? Recommend to keep small light on during night



---

# Preprogrammable telephone

Familiar, requires action

- Enhance communication, promote social contact and reduce anxiety
- Useful at certain stages. Some prefer mobile phone



## Night and Day calendar

Somewhat familiar, automatic,

- Great idea. Huge need for it. Early implementation
- Difficulties with aim of product. Would not prevent someone from wandering



---

## Locator

Unfamiliar, requires action

- Great idea, would like to have one themselves
- Potentially more useful for carers





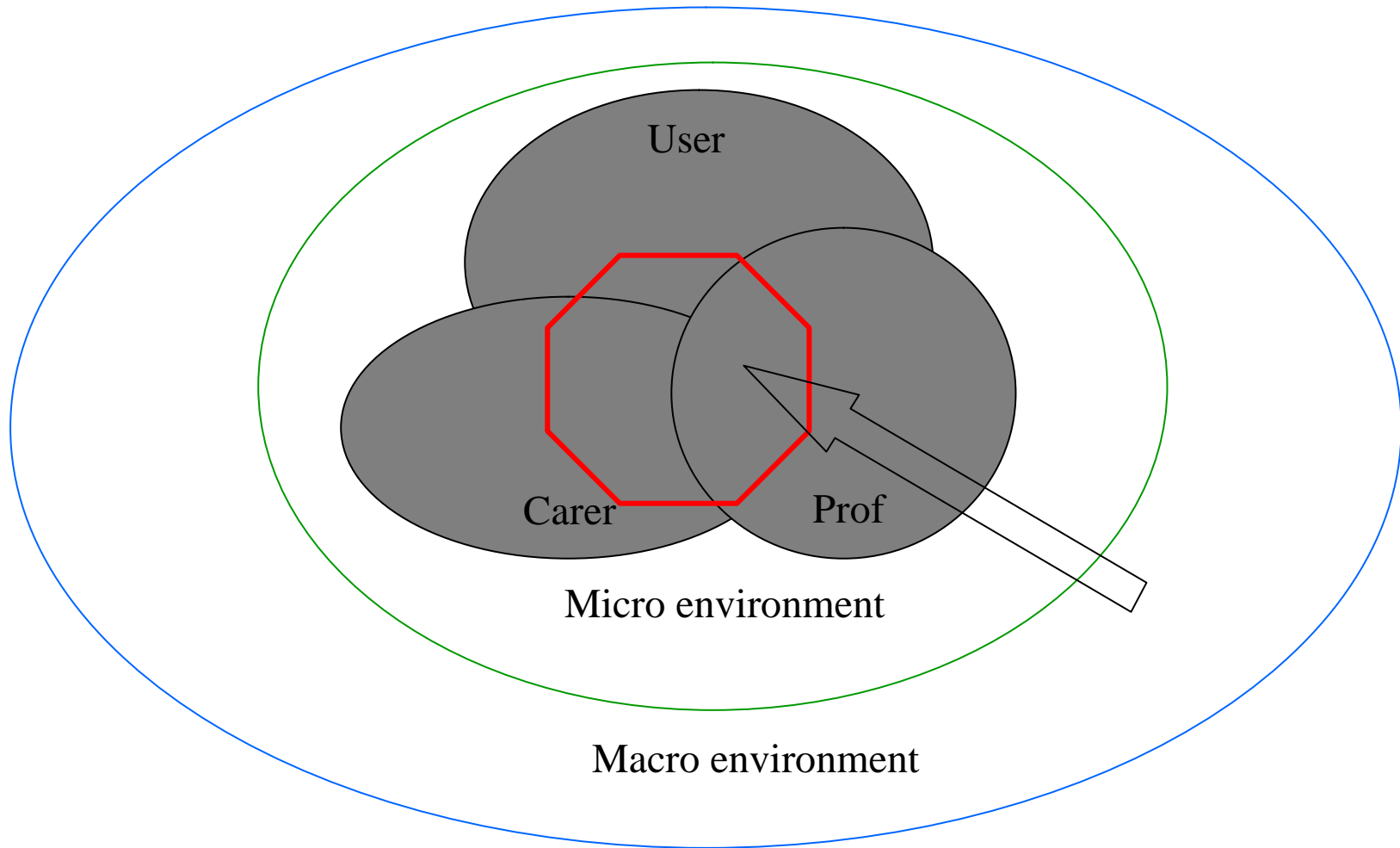
---

## Picture gramophone

Unfamiliar, action & assistance

- Very positive way of communicating, facilitating reminiscing, dancing, improved interactions
- Is this a substitute for just singing together?

# Interactive model





# Who analyse the needs, and how?



## **Factors affecting uptake of assistive aids**

Schemes clustered into two:

- Legislation exist, defined delivery process funding procedure - loan/free of charge
- No legislation directly to assistive aids, defined delivery process, but fragmented, person's income and local budget decides who pays



---

## Challenges:

- Gatekeepers' s awareness of needs
- Knowledge of products, how they function, how to get them
- Implementation and follow-up
- Start early with assistive devices



---

## **ENABLE publications**

- **Dementia: The International Journal of Research and Practice; October, 2004 (5 papers)**
- **Assistive Technology- Shaping the Future, IOS Press, 2003 (6 papers)**
- **[www.enableproject.org](http://www.enableproject.org)**



---

**Many thanks!**

**To the European Commission for funding  
ENABLE**

**To the partners for an extraordinary  
collaboration**