Programmes in Sweden to stimulate innovation in technology and long-term care

Theresa Skehan
Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology



ILPN 2012 International Conference on

Evidence-based Policy in Long-term Care

5-8 September 2012 - London

Governmental Programmes

Technology for elderly (2007-2012)

 www.teknikforaldre.se/english
 http://www.teknikforaldre.se/100-projects

 Growing older - living well (2010-2012) www.bobrapaaldredar.se

 Digital social alarms - new technology in new infrastructure (2010-2013)

http://www.hi.se/digitalsocialalarms





Sweden

- 9 million inhabitants
- 20% of the population has a disability (1,8 million)
 - 50 % use assistive devices (900 000)
 - 70 % are 65 years old or more (630 000)
- Assistive technology is free of charge for the user when prescribed via decentralized system for distribution and prescription
- Works actively to implement Universal Design to facilitate good accessibility





Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology





- National resource centre
- Run by
 - The Ministry of Health and Social Affairs
 - The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR)
- Cooperates with DPOs at all levels
- Staff of 90 persons



Success Factors

- Legislation and governmental actions
- Attitudes in society
- Good assistive technology
- Efficient system for the provision of AT
- An accessible society
- Cost/benefit studies
- Strong user involvement



Survey on Status of Welfare Technology

- Extensive survey including questions about security alarms, infrastructure, broadband strategy, procurement, home health, attitudes, methods and competence
- basis for the government's future initiatives in this area
- 288 of the 290 municipalities responded
- Responding municipalities received SEK 200 000 for their participation



ICT Home Services in Västerås

- ICT home services offered in pilots
 - Contact, monitoring, reminding via video calls
 - Communication and information via TV
 - Night monitoring via camera
- Positive experiences
- Projected savings for entire municipality
- Prepareing municipality-wide introduction







"Smart Things"

"smart"consumer products: products that make life easier for older person

- Aims of project "Smart Things"
 - to increase knowledge about "smart" consumer products among older person and their relatives and how to avoid hazards and accidents
 - to stimulate the market for "smart" consumer products
- Carried out in cooperation with organizations of senior citizens

 Study material with package that includes a selection of "smart" consumer products as well as a DVD with pictures, video and discussion paper

 Seminars run by organizations of senior for older persons and their relatives



User-friendly Mobilephone

developed together with older persons

Ergonomic design and easy to use

big screen straightforward user interface with limited number of services big buttons alarm button to contact up to five persons for immediate assistance



Future Activities

Experiences and knowledge gained from the governmental programmes is being fed into the

European Innovation Partnership Active & Healthy Ageing

http:/ec.europa.eu/active-healthy-ageing

SIAT participating in 2 specific activities

- Development of interoperable independent living solutions, including guidelines for business models (C2)
- Innovation for age friendly buildings, cities and environments (D4)



Thank you for your attention

terry.skehan@hi.se



