



# Networking among stakeholders

perspectives arising within the AAATE and the related networks

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**Our Aim** is to stimulate the advancement of assistive technology for the benefit of people with disabilities, including elderly people.

## Characteristics

- Pan-European
- Interdisciplinary
- Independent
- Non-Profit
- Permanent



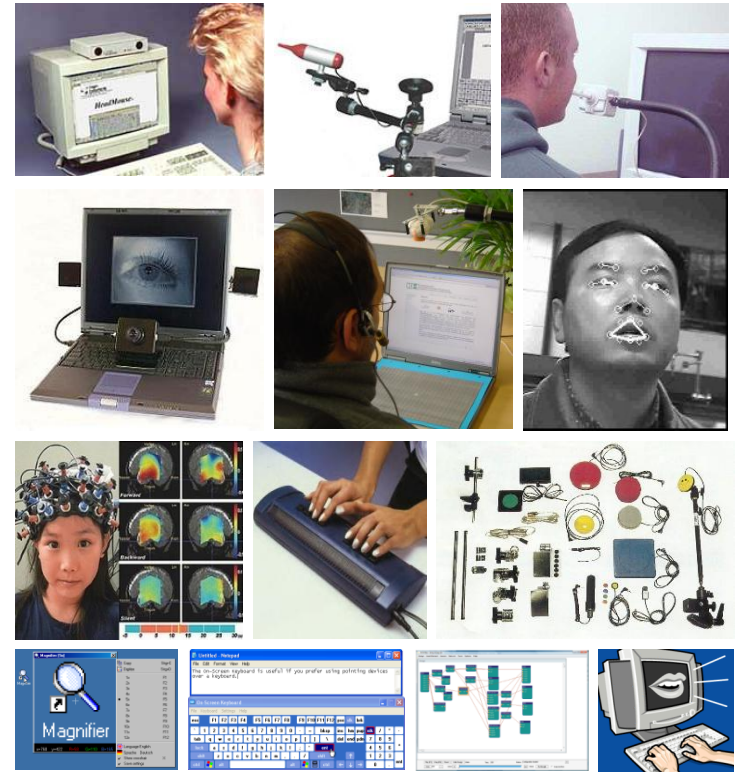
*"AAATE is a member driven organisation based on the active participation of its members".*



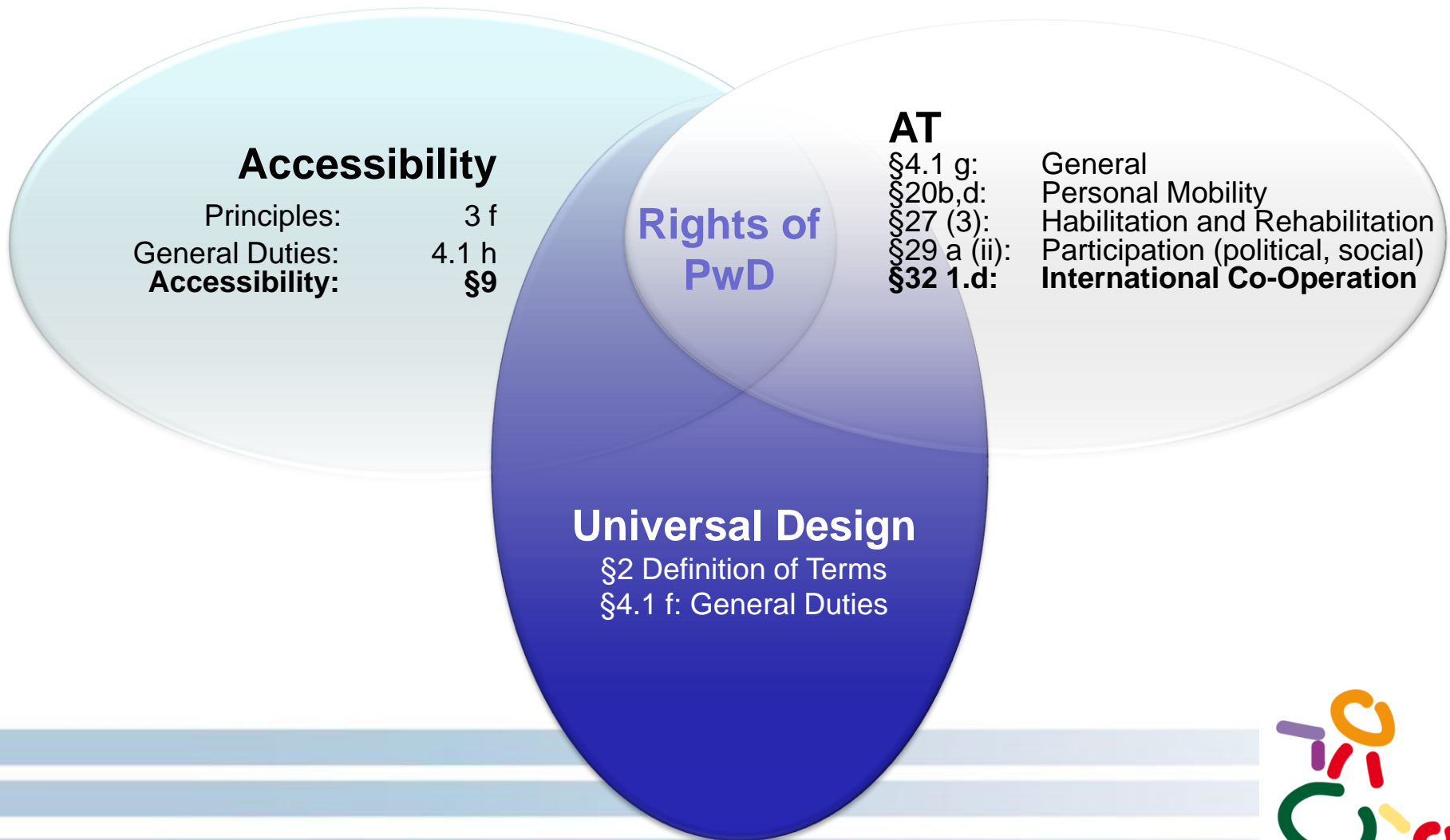
# Assistive Technology (AT)

Any product or technology-based service that enables people with activity limitations of all ages in their daily lives, education, work or leisure.

Non only special device related!



# AAATE is committed to the UN-Convention



# Variety of stakeholders

- Research & Academia
- Industry
- Distributors
- AT centres
- Service Providers
- Institutions in health, social care, education
- Policy makers
- End users

**Converging interests of different stakeholders**



# Advancement

=

increasing numbers of people with activity limitations that *effectively use AT* for activities and participation<sup>(ICF)</sup>.



**A huge challenge!**



# Assistive technology impact: an ecological perspective

<b>Policy level</b> Implementation of the UN Convention Use of resources Market stimulation Development of a strategic view that privileges long term systemic outcomes instead of short term financial savings	<b>Organisation level</b> Usercentredness Ethics Integration of technologies and services Education and professional development of the workforce Funding
<b>Community level</b> Equal opportunities and participation Accessibility Acceptance of technology/main-streaming	<b>Personal level</b> Access to technology Independent information and advice Quality of life Adaptation and Personalisation Education

**No one can address these issues alone**





# Innovation and collaboration

## Need for innovation at all levels

Research and development

Market development

Service Delivery Strategies and Systems

Education and professional development



## Need for collaboration between

**stakeholders**

*Steel & De Witte, 2011*

# IMPACT





# Networks

“the whole is greater than the sum of its parts”

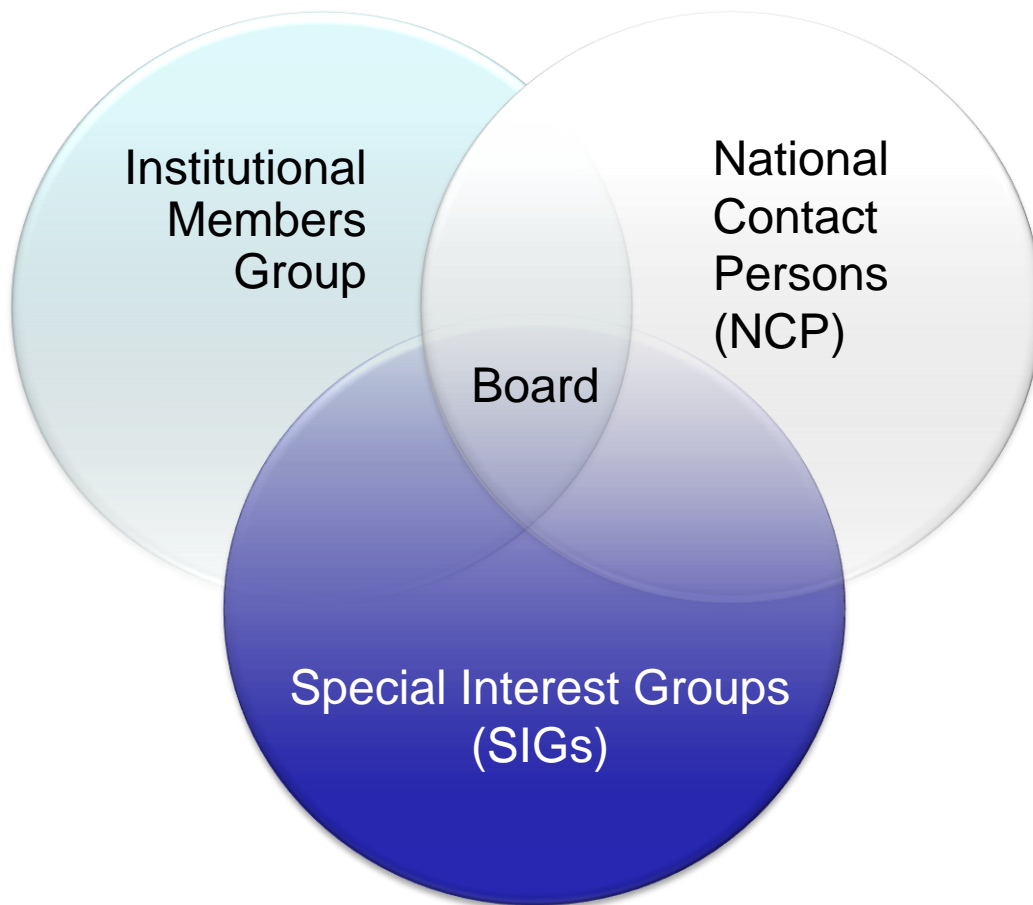
- Recognition
- Learning
- Collaboration
- Feeding strengths



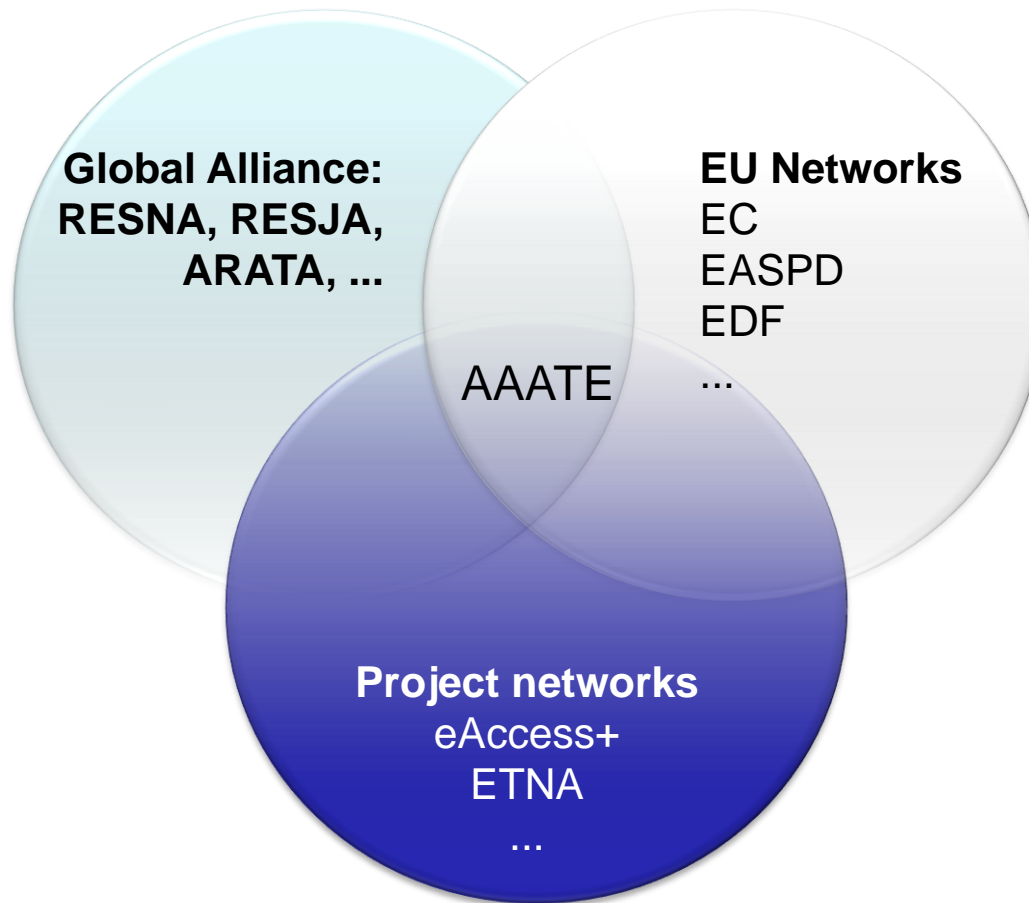
Infrastructure



# AAATE internal infrastructure



# AAATE External Cooperation Infrastructure



# Strategic Topics

- **R&D:** Strengthen and keep on agenda; interdisciplinary
- **Policy Support:** UN-Convention, M376, M473
- **Education:** users, professionals, mainstream
- Involving **Industry:** AT and mainstream
- Cooperation along the whole **service chain**
- **Outcome** and evidence: “From cost to investment”  
Change Management towards **Social Innovation**



# Contributions to the “ideal” service delivery system

## In an ideal service delivery system we will have:

- More people with functional limitations that effectively use AT
- More user involvement in the choice of technologies
- A wider cultural awareness of opportunities offered by technology at all levels and for all stakeholders
- A better understanding of impact and outcomes of AT
- Public resources spent where needed, based on long term commitment to support people
- Policy makers in health, education and social services working together
- Availability and accessibility of independent information
- An improved understanding and application of ethical issues
- AT professionals that are educated and accredited
- A fruitful collaboration between non for profit service providers and companies
- .....

AAATE is ready to facilitate the finding of solutions!



# One example



# eAccess+: Filling the Gaps

Implementation of **eAccess**-ibility is lacking:

- |                        |                                     |                          |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Awareness            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                          |
| • Legislation          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                          |
| • Technical solutions  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Standards            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Know-How / Education |                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Take up              |                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

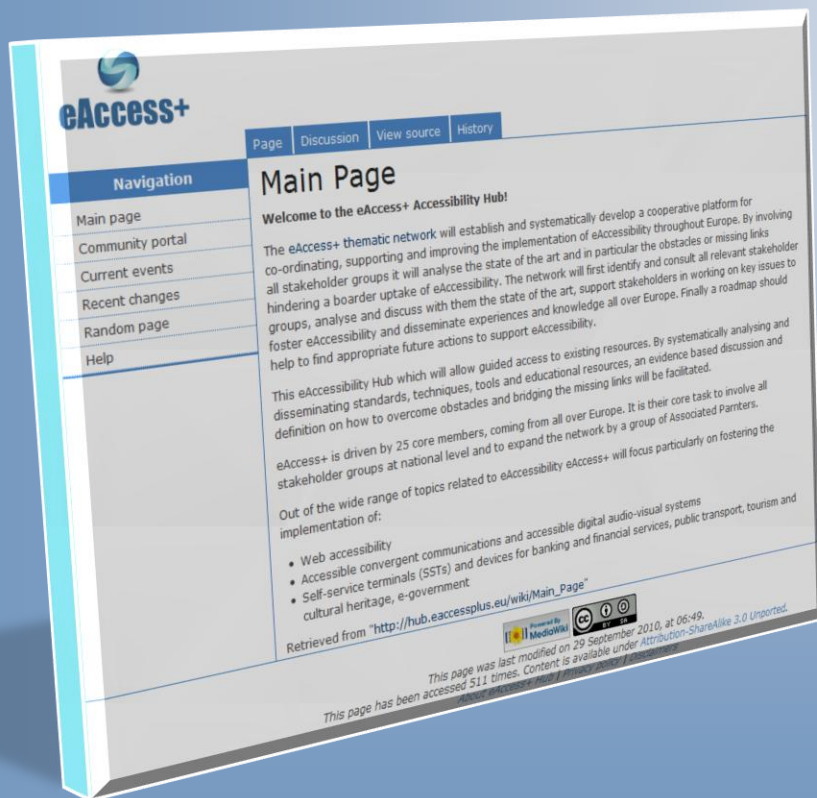


## eAccess+: Rationale

“ Better and guided access to existing resources (guidelines, tools, success stories) for a broader and better implementation of eAccessibility. ”

# eAccess+: Information HUB

“ A semantically enriched guide and link to **eAccess-**ibility resources ”



Come and get involved !

“HUB”:

<http://hub.eaccessplus.eu>

“  
**[www.eaccessplus.eu](http://www.eaccessplus.eu)**  
”



“

**AAATE**

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