New, Successful Study Session

In October 2001 the International Federation of Hard Of Hearing Young People (IFHOHYP) in cooperation with the Council of Europe held a study session aimed at educating and informing European organisations working for young hard of hearing.

The subject of the study session was “Knowledge Transfer - putting young hard of hearing on the map of Europe” and the idea was to teach the participants how to make a campaign for their organisations for their organisations - and in this process use the participants' own knowledge and experience to create new and unique knowledge. This should be of benefit for both IFHOHYP and the participants own organisation.

In this editorial I will give a resume of the study session and in the last section give my opinion on the possible effects coming from the study session.

The Participants

There were a total of 29 participants, including the team responsible for the study session, from over 11 different countries. Besides this two external trainers were helping in running the session. The study session lasted one week, filled with work, lectures and exercises from early morning to late evening.

The Process

In the beginning of the week the focus was on defining the reasons behind doing a campaign for a hard of hearing organisation. Here the participants discussed what it does mean to be hard of hearing - you can read more about this in another article in this newsletter - but common comments were about problems with subtitling, getting work and being accepted as an equal members of society.

The next item on the Agenda was to connect these experiences with ideas on how to change them. In other words: How to inform the surrounding society about the needs and existence of hard of hearing young people. The aim was to develop a general framework, which could connect the participants' personal experiences with the tools to be introduced in the last part of the study session. In order to achieve this goal several methods was deployed - one of these was "Open Space Technology"; a way of working and organising workgroups that differs from most conventional conceptions (see p.9).

Launching the third stage

To ignite the third and final stage of the study session two professors were invited. Dr. Dainora Grundey was professor in PR and Dr. Dmitri Gavra was expert in marketing. They gave a very deep and extensive lecture on the art of PR and marketing. The lecture was perhaps a bit too long, but gave anyway some good ideas of what to consider if you are thinking of launching a PR or marketing campaign. Especially the points about target groups were interesting. Very often people tend to see all society as one target group - this can be right, but making a campaign or some kind of a PR-event that is interesting for all is nearly impossible.

(more on page 2)
One solution is to be more specific about who you want to target - e.g. people riding on red bikes or something different. Being specific makes it more easy to design the Campaign.

In the last two days of the study session the participants were given the task of designing different types of campaigns and examples of PR-events. One group had e.g. to consider how a youth organisation can design an internet homepage (see p. 11), so that the target groups - in this case young hard of hearing people looking for information about the organisation and also people interested in learning more about the impact of a hearing disability - can find the required information they were looking for. Another group was designing an exhibition and a third was working on how to organise a press conference.

**Danish Organisation Regain Funding**

The Danish Organisation for young hard of hearing people (www.hu.dk) has regained funding from the Danish Youth Council (www.duf.dk). The funding was lost last year as where was trouble with the budget - as a result the whole board was replaced with new people. The new board have since worked very determined on getting back the funding, which is in the order of 30,000 euro each year, but throughout 2001 the organisation had to cut back all activities and scrap all unnecessary expenses.

Together with the money from the Youth Council the Danish organisation have been awarded with 1,500 euro from a royal foundation.

Part of the money will be used to celebrate the organisation 50 years aniversary in 2003.

(Written by Niels-Henrik M. Hansen)

**The History of Hearing Aids Before Electricity**

On the page www.entnet.org/hearing.html it is possible to read about the aids hard of hearing people could use in the times before the invention of the electric hearing aid.

**The Ear Trumpet**

The ear trumpet was one of the first tools used - actually by sailors - which did use them for communication between ships and over long distances. Trumpets were since adapted to help hard of people.

**Not very effective**

Selection the right trumpet could be difficult and the devices was not so effective. It is funny however that the popular image of hard of hearing people still is connected with old people using the ear trumpet.

Another old hearing aid are the Bone-conduction devices which used the teeth to transmit sounds!

Read more on the web page (link above).

(Written by Niels-Henrik M. Hansen)

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**Where to find information?**

**About the council of Europe:**

www.coe.int

About the Council of Europe activities:

http://www.eurodesk.org/euinfo/EUEnFset.htm

**What can Council of Europe help with:**

- European Youth Foundation - Grants for international Youth activities
- Council of Europe support for international youth activities undertaken by national or international youth organisations.
- European Youth Worker Training
- Mobility Fund for disadvantaged young people. The Council of Europe and the International Union of Railways have established a fund to encourage the mobility of disadvantaged young people in Europe.
- Traineeships at the Council of Europe
- Paid traineeships of between 3 and 6 months and unpaid secretarial traineeships of between 3 weeks and 3 months are given at the Secretariat.
- Youth Training Courses
- The YouthDirectorate organises training courses for young people involved in youth work and/or youth organisations.

Training courses for youth workers organised by the Youth Directorate in partnership with DG EAC.
The European Disability Forum (EDF) was founded in 1996 in order to represent disabled people in dialogue with the European Union and other European authorities. It was set up by organisations of disabled people and parents of disabled people unable to represent themselves who were conscious of the growing importance of decisions at European Union level and of its impact on the lives of disabled citizens. They recognised the need to establish a truly representative consultative body that would tackle European Union common policy issues of concern to the whole of EDF membership and the need for strategic campaign work and systematic monitoring of legislative proposals. EDF is today acknowledged by the EU Institutions, the Council of Europe, the European Social Partners and other Social policy NGOs as the major umbrella organization representing disabled people in Europe. EDF is a politically independent international non profit association constituted under Belgian Law.

EDF’s mission and objectives

The EDF’s aims relate to the promotion of human, civil, social and economic rights of disabled people and the equalisation of opportunities for all by all the relevant European Union institutions and policies. This is to be done in cooperation with the social and civil partners, international organisations and agencies of the European Union and European Economic Area, in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination. One of EDF’s major roles is to create a political environment in which disability is seen in the context of equality of opportunity shifting away from the notion of disabled people as passive recipients of care and charity towards a model of independent living, empowerment and equality.

EDF’s values and guiding principles

EDF is committed to the implementation of all existing legal instruments, such as the United Nations Standard Rules and the European Union Treaty and is committed to the establishment of new provisions on equalisation of opportunities and non discrimination of people with disabilities. EDF advocates for the promotion of equal opportunities for all regardless of gender, race, age, disability, belief and sexual orientation.

EDF’s Membership and representative structure

MEMBERSHIP

The EDF is currently composed of representative European Non Governmental Disability Organisations and National Councils of disabled people from each of the Member States of the European Union, and from the European Economic Area Member States. The delegates of full and ordinary EDF members take part in the general assembly and can be elected to the governing bodies.

With the recent adoption of a new constitution, EDF membership is now open to national councils from EU applicant countries that will receive observer status in the period proceeding their country accession to the EU. Also associations of or for disabled persons from all European countries operating at European, national or local level, and public and private organisations committed to respect and support the aims and objectives of EDF, and individuals interested in our activities can also become part of EDF as associate and sponsoring members.

REPRESENTATIVE STRUCTURE

The EDF decision making bodies are the following: an elected Board of Directors, the Executive Officers, the General Council and an Annual General Assembly. In external policy and political matters, the EDF is represented by the President, who is elected by the Assembly.

The procedure set down in the statutes and internal rules ensure parity between (read more on page 4)
the representation by full and ordinary members of EDF of national councils and European non governmental organizations.

Moreover there must be proper representation of all impairment groupings and both genders and a majority of the Assembly must be composed of disabled people or parents of disabled people unable to represent themselves.

The Annual General Assembly is the governing body of EDF and is fully empowered to realize the Association’s aims and objectives. Its work is prepared by the President and the Board of Directors.

The General Council (composed of Board members and of other representatives of national councils and NGO) is responsible for deciding and evaluating the policy orientation of the Association, in accordance with the work programme adopted by the AGA.

The EDF Board has supervisory powers over management and administration, subject to the direction of the assembly.

The Executive Officers are responsible for day to day policy matters and for the implementation of the work programme.

WORK PRACTICES

Much of the work of the EDF is carried out in commissions and committees that advise the EDF on certain distinct policy areas. Examples are working groups on Social Policy, Universal Access, Human rights, Women, Disabled people with Complex Dependency needs, Youth.

Written by: Vanessa Migliosi, IFHOHYP Secretary and Member of EDF Youth Committee

I participated to the fourth session of the World Youth Forum, organized by the United Nations, in Dakar, Senegal. I was selected as a delegate for IFHOHYP. I was there to express the needs of hearing impaired youth and make sure that accommodations to assist hearing impaired youth participating in this Forum were in place. Ervinas Klimavicius, treasurer of IFHOHYP, was also selected to be an IFHOHYP delegate, but he couldn’t find sponsors for his travel expenses. So, I had to travel alone to Dakar. A.Fa.M.U.T. the Trentin Association of Families of Hearing Impaired children, sponsored my travel. This association gave me the chance to participate to this Forum.

At the World Youth Forum, there was a boy from Lebanon who was there as delegate from the World Blind Union. There were only two disabled organizations in this Forum. There wasn’t any help or support for either hearing impaired or visual impaired young people, even though I asked for help for my disability before going to Dakar so that I could follow the program.

More than 300 delegates from Youth Organizations had been selected. I had the opportunity to make new friends with people from Korea, Morocco, Cuba and Mexico. I also had the chance to speak Spanish.

On the first day, the opening ceremony was held with several African and tribal dances. A variety of important people assisted with the ceremony. The President of the Senegalese Republic was also present. It was my first contact with African culture.

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More than 300 delegates from Youth Organizations had been selected. I had the opportunity to make new friends with people from Korea, Morocco, Cuba and Mexico. I also had the chance to speak Spanish.

The main topic of this Forum was: “Empowering Youth for Action.” We created strategies, concrete recommendations and tools to empower young people to participate in decision-making processes and in the evaluation of policies and programs on key youth issues to ensure action at the local, regional, national and international levels.

The World Youth Forum is a platform where delegates meet with representatives of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations to draw the world’s attention to youth empowerment issues and challenges of the 21st century.

In the first two days of the Forum, several speech were given many subjects, including: Armed Conflict and Children, Education, Youth and Employment, Reproductive Health and AIDS, Empowering Youth Against Racism, Environment and Sustainable Development, Youth and Volunteering.

The last two days of the Forum concentrated on workshops focused on 10 important themes: Education and Information and Communication Technology; Employment; Health and Population; Hunger, Poverty and

(see more on page 5)
Debt; Environment and Human Settlements; Social Integration; Culture and Peace; Youth Policy, Participation and Rights; Young Women and Girls; Youth, Sports and Leisure Activities.

I worked on the Social Integration workshop. The goal of the workshop was to assist marginalized and vulnerable youth to organize themselves in order to address their own needs and interests and to help them make a unique contribution to social progress. We made proposals with the objective of empowering the youth action of marginalized people in order to integrate disadvantaged people at all levels in the society. All decisions and proposals were collected in a final document that will be presented at the next Youth General Assembly at ONU and at the World Congress against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. This document will also be used for the follow up.

**The Final Document**

The last day of the Forum, the results and final documents of all 10 workshops were presented. Afterward, there was a closing ceremony which was attended by the Prime Minister of Senegal, who is the first woman in Africa to be appointed as Prime Minister.

My and the blind delegate were interviewed by an African journalist who asked me about my personal experience and about my organization.

**Meeting Shana**

I met Shana McErlroy, one of the WYF organizers. She also organized the third World Youth Forum, in 1998, in Braga, Portugal. She told me that she met Ervinas and Karina Chupina, who were there as IFHOHYP delegates. She was really disappointed that in three years there has not been progress in disability issues and that the numbers of delegates concerning disability issues decreased. She suggested that I write a letter of complaint to responsible organizers to address these issues. In 1998, delegates from Disability National Councils also attended the forum, so there were about 5 or 6 delegates in total representing disabled groups.

In response to Shana’s suggestion, I wrote a letter explaining the problems associated with hearing impairment and how to overcome this disability. I stressed that in order for hearing impaired people to follow the Forum, they need assistance, such as subtitles, note-takers, interpreters, and the induction loop system. I added that Shana and other organizers were very nice and tried to do as much as possible to help me get the information I needed.

**Participation was important**

I think that my participation in this Forum was really important to promote IFHOHYP and the hearing impairment problem at a broader level.

But I am afraid, that everything will remain only on paper and that no concrete actions will be taken. The national governments need to adopt the documents that we have written and to implement them in their countries. I think that this is an intrinsic weakness of the United Nations System - it lacks the necessary power to impose decisions to national governments.

**But I am afraid, that everything will remain only on paper and that no concrete actions will be taken...**

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### Social Integration

43. Technical, human and financial support must be focused on assisting marginalized and vulnerable youth to organize themselves in order to address their own needs and interests, and make their particular contribution to social progress. Training in and access to ICT for marginalized and vulnerable youth through means such as programmes of agencies and bodies of the United Nations system can then become, amongst other methods, an integral tool for networking, to develop awareness of programmes and legislation that is of benefit to marginalized youth, to facilitate exchanges, pressure groups and support.

44. Young people and youth NGOs are the best agents for delivering change for other young people, with volunteering being a key tool that should be promoted among youth organizations in order for them to take the lead in peer-to-peer training to stimulate, support and facilitate the role of marginalized and vulnerable youth in the wider society. The United Nations system becomes a truly partnership organization. Partnerships should develop skills within three spheres: Economical, Technical, and joint decision-making. Exchanges should be used to develop the capacity of young person NGOs by facilitating the exchange of information both between themselves and with the United Nations agencies and programmes. The free flow of people between nations should be facilitated.

45. Advocacy that is significantly beneficial to the participation and integration of marginalized and vulnerable young people must be fulfilled at local, national and international levels: Making connections with authorities at local level increases the ability of activities to have an effect on the lives of young people. This must be sensitive to the opportunities and strategies at the local level. At the regional and international level, to promote and ensure the interests of marginalized and vulnerable youth in the regional youth platforms and by youth representatives to decision-making bodies such as the general assembly. National and Regional bodies should be promoted to act for and represent the needs of young people within a setting that has common values, history and methods. Advocacy should also promote equal opportunities for marginalized and vulnerable youth through such means as education - formal, non-formal and informal - and employment (including training) in order for them to participate in all levels and aspects of society. The International level should be used as an opportunity for methods and skills to be shared within a setting that has no prejudice and is diverse enough to give value.

46. Share among the organizations of marginalized and vulnerable youth the various ways in which they can collaborate within the United Nations system. This should include opportunities to work with field offices and to learn about the processes and criteria required to obtain consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system. Youth organizations should organize themselves to ensure that governments are effectively adopting and implementing resolutions adopted during the Copenhagen social summit and its + 5, and hence strengthen their social integration policies and programmes, including rehabilitation, health, education, entertainment and vocational training programmes. Youth organizations should mobilize the channels of social integration family, media schools, youth NGOs, religious groups to promote awareness about the causes and cost of social exclusion and to promote programmes that foster social integration.
Hearing-disabled youngsters of Sweden have had the great honour and pleasure of arranging the summer camp of 2002. The camp will be two weeks long and filled with fun activities such as paddling, climbing, golfing, hiking and a lot more. We can tempt our future participants with trips to Östersund, Järvzoo and other interesting locations. Summer camp is the perfect camp for you, who wish to try exciting new things, visit the mountainous, northern part of Sweden, have good meals and first and foremost, meet other participants from the whole world.

Not only is this a chance to have an amazingly fun time, but also a chance to meet people with hearing disabilities from other countries with all it includes in terms of knowledge, experience and last but not least, friends for life. The camp will form after ourselves, hence we would be happy to see that you come along and bring your best mood along with you.

All that remains for us is to say “Welcome to the land of the midnight sun!”

The crew

We will be able to offer a great opportunity for everyone to influence the variety of activities. Some days we will engage all in joined trips, while on other days we will have a lot of offers to chose from. Thus, we will arrange special theme-nights with good food and entertainment.

Some of the activities:

- Trip to Östersund
- Trip to Järvzoo
- Fishing
- Sightseeing
- Barbecue-Night
- Rounnder/”KUBB”
- Climbing
- Canoeing
- Go-Kart
- Football
- Downhill-biking
- Go hiking
- Tennis
- Have good meals
- Have fun
- Sunbathe
- Have workshops
- Seminars
- Golfing
- Play indoors-
- Hockey
- Horse-riding

The official arrival to Stockholm is on July 8th

The price is 3900 SEK, including board, lodging and all activities during two weeks.

Last day of admittance is on the 25th of March, 2002.

The age boundaries are 18-35 years.

We will arrange the transportation from Stockholm to Klävsjö (Tour and Retour).

Each of you will have to arrange the trip from your home-country to Stockholm on your own.

Beverage and other food/snacks will be expensed by each participant.

Make sure to check your insurance in case of injuries or other miss-happenings.

We will stay in rooms with 4 beds. Maximum of participants: 85.

In case of cancelling, these are the regulations:

- More than 4 month remaining to the start of the camp: 100%
- 3-4 months remaining to the start of the camp: 75%
- 1-3 months remaining to the start of the camp: 50%
- Less than 1 month remaining: 25%

For further information, please contact:

Ulrika Persson (in charge of the activity)

Tel: (+46) 8 457 55 74
Txttel: (+46) 8 457 55 75
Fax: (+46) 8 457 55 03
ulrika.persson@ungahorselskadade.com.
IFHOHYP Budget 1999

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
01.01. – 31.12.1999

Incomes:
- Membership fees 3,800.04
- Interest 18.30

Total income: 3,818.34

Loss:
- Contribution (Nils Henrik) 2,658.80
- Conference + training costs 2,676.20
- Bank costs 348.33
- Differences of exchanges 75.06
- Office supplies 44.00
- Post costs 67.00
- Rounding of pennies 0.23

Total Loss: 6,708.64

Deficit: -3,370.30

BALANCE SHEET
01.01. – 31.12.1999

Assets
- Cash account 3,409
- Post bank 4,435.34
- Merita Bank 1,521.67
- Saving bank 2,209.43

Total Assets: 11,957.44

Liabilities
- Own capital 01.01.1999 15,327.74
- Deficit 1999 -3,720.30

Total Liabilities: 11,957.44

A note on the year 1999:
- At the last AGM in Lithuania the financial statement couldn’t find out due to missing papers which was asked from former IFHOHYP treasurer.
- The Auditor hasn’t given any written report but he has been contacted. The auditor informed that he send papers forwarded to present auditor. Unfortunately this isn’t happened. Former auditor has accepted financial statement of 1999.

IFHOHYP
JOURNAL OF DIARY 1999
FIN MK

Newsletter no. 2 · 2001 · Produced by the International Federation of Hard Of Hearing Young People (IFHOHYP) · Editor: Niels-Henrik M. Hansen
**IFHOHYP BUDGET 2000**

![Budget 2000](image)

**Comments by the IFHOHYP financial Report 2000**

This report has made in Finnish Marks and Euro's,

1 Euro = FIM 5.945

The amount of membership fees increased in 2000, FIM 7 805.97, when it was in 1999 FIM 3 500.04. IFHOHYP-Finnish account received extra money from the Dutch account. Original source of money came from European Commission in 1998. Money was supposed to pay back but Commission hasn't reported to pay back.

The most of loss was travel contributions of Board members. Last year AGM was held in Lithuania and it meant travel costs were increased. Web-site of IFHOHYP is important to keep strong as advertisement tool. Consult services was used for accounting expert because financial statement of 1999 was complicated to solve considering my skills.

Finland, Jyväskylä 9.4.2001

Sami Virtanen
Treasurer

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**Annual General Meeting 2002 will be in Holland**

The next IFHOHYP AGM will take place during Easter 2002 - from Thursday to Monday.
The accommodation is "Lipke Zijlstra huis" in Austerlitz (province Utrecht) and there is room for 60 people....and it will be a lot of activities including Disco, seminars, sightseeing...More information will come - keep an eye on www.ifohyp.dk.
Open Space Technology

What is Open Space Technology? Put very simple it is a way of working that does not look like e.g. ordinary group work, but the difference is greater than that. In this article Open Space Technology (OST) is explored and the possible benefits get explained.

Introduction
OST was “invented” by a consultant Harrison Owen in the mid-1980s. He saw that people coming to meetings, conferences and seminars were actually doing the best and most innovative work in the breaks - not in the actual formal meetings. From this insight he set out to formulate a way of working that would capture the freedom and energy apparent in the breaks and turn it into a useful way of organising meetings.

Contents in OST
OST is a way of arranging meetings, that gives the participants total freedom of what where is going to happen. This mean in other words that where are:
- No people/yourself to produce more than work and don’t try to force mon knowledge to work from.
- No experts - the participants are the experts
- No lectures
- No speeches

This means that regarding the persons present at any given time it is the right people - you should not wait for others to come or wait for some people to leave the group. The next principle is that whenever it starts is the right time. Again this underlines that work can be done at any time and you should not try to force people into working at times when they don’t want. The third principle is that whatever happens is the only thing that could have happened. Here, as before, the idea is that whatever people makes or do is that they need and find useful - so regardless of the outcome of the session it is the right thing and precisely what the participants needed. And finally the last principle - when it is over, it is over. The point here is, stop at the moment you don’t get anything good out of the work and don’t try to force people/yourself to produce more than you already have. The last principle is also linked with the central law of OST - this is called the law of two feet:  If you at any time during the session feel that you are in a situation where you are neither contributing nor learning, you should exercise ‘The Law of Two Feet’ and go to a more productive place.

How to arrange a OST session
When you want to arrange an OST session you can divide the process into 3 stages. In the first stage the problem or subject is presented and the participants are allowed to come forward with their input on the matter. This is in other words a kind of a brainstorm. The different suggestions are written down on paper or a blackboard. When people divide into groups and work with the subject that they find interesting. In this second stage people work accordingly to 4 principles and the law of two feet as described above. It means that people freely can move around and see that is happening in the different groups and stay the place they find most beneficially. In the final stage the participants present the outcome of the session.

The main thing to remember is that the OST session should be like a coffee break where people can wander around discuss with different people - and maybe even just sit in a corner and think. As an organiser it important to let the participants work by themselves. You should try not to control the process as it will destroy it - after all the greatest benefit with OST is that the organisation can end up with something new and complete unique - not only what the facilitator could envision - and in this process experience vast resources unlocked in each participant...

Final words
If you want to read more about Open Space Technology you can go to the web - here you can find plenty of sites dedicated to OST - good luck and remember that OST can come in many forms and shapes.
Special Event Toolbox

In this article we want to outline how to do a “Special Event” - in this case we use IFHOHYP’s 35th. anniversary as an example. The article is in other words a kind of tool box of how an organisation could do.

The main idea here is to make one specific day a “European Day of Hard of Hearing Youth” in all European Countries at the same time. The motto of the day is: “With Sounds?!“.

Aims and Objectives:

1. To pay society’s attention to hard of hearing.
2. To inform the society about hard of hearing.
3. To represent the hearing impaired.

Abstract

In the article the authors develop an outline for a Special Event such as a Hard of Hearing Day with different activities all relating to the problems hard of hearing people meet. The article shows the different steps in the whole process and discuss the aims. This article can be of interest for any organisation which want to make society aware of their needs.

How to advertise?

1. This box outlines the Aims and Objectives for the day.

2. An overview of the different possible channels which can be used to promote the day. Each one have advantages and disadvantages.

Programme for Activity

3. The programme with all the planned activities for the day. This can be bundled together with the press release.

Books and other useful material on how to run a campaign. The list is collected by the library at the European Youth Centre.

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The authors try to develop a framework for a Campaign on the internet. They outline the different steps in the whole process and discuss the aims, target groups and other important issues. This article can be of interest for organisations thinking of making a web site.

**Abstract**

In this article the authors try to develop a framework for an Campaign on the internet. They outline the different steps in the whole process and discuss the aims, targets groups and other important issues. This article can be of interest for organisations thinking of making a web site.

**Planning Sequence Guidelines**

The goals of building a web page should be to come in contact with two major target groups.

1. To make sure that web site is linked to other web sites also targeting the same group of people.
2. To ensure that people can find the site with search tools on the web.
3. Creating member forums, so members can discuss topics of interest.
4. Make an event/activity list.
5. Information about recent arrangements.
6. Make a FAQ
   - Having a membership form, so people can join the organisation.
7. Links to other HOH organisations.

**Campaign on Internet:**

Tasks For The First Target Group

1) To make sure that web site is linked to other web sites also targeting the same group of people.
2) To ensure that people can find the site with search tools on the web.
3) Creating member forums, so members can discuss topics of interest.
4) Make an event/activity list.
5) Information about recent arrangements.
6) Make a FAQ
   - Having a membership form, so people can join the organisation.
7) Links to other HOH organisations.

Tasks For The Second Target Group

1) Description about being HOH; the difference between being HOH and Deaf, the amount of people having a hearing loss in the country, telling that many HOH have an education that is equal or better than hearing people, information about the difficulties HOH faces in different situations.
2) Information about how to behave when meeting/talking with a HOH person.
3) Information about technical equipment.

**Outline of Web Site**

In the pictures below we have tried to outline how the web site could be designed in respect to the two task lists:
New Web Site About Hearing Issues

Www.hear-it.org is a new and very good site about hearing related issues. It covers virtually every area about hearing problems, and it has a youth section too.

Overview of the contents:
- advice and practical information for hard of hearing people
- trying to prevent hearing loss
- information for relatives and colleagues
- different factual information about hearing issues
- different statistics about hearing loss
- the consequences of hearing impairment for the individual as well as for society.

The web site has been established and is run by the organisation ‘Hear-it AISBL’, which consists of IFHOH (International Federation of the Hard Of Hearing), AEA (Association Européenne des Audioprothésistes), EHIMA (European Hearing Industry Manufacturers Association) - Knowles, Microtronic and Genum.

Written by: Anneli, Jennie and Anna