radicalaccess

measuring accessibility

CONTENTS

FACTS ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WORLDWIDE

• Over a billion people, about 15% of the world's population, have some form of disability. They are the world's largest minority.

• Rates of disability are increasing due to population ageing and the number of chronic health conditions are rising, among other causes, says the World Health Organization.

• Eighty per cent of persons with disabilities live in developing countries, according to the UN Development Programme.

The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) defines disability as an umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions.

source: www.un.org, www.who.int

IN GREECE, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES CONSIST

10%

OF THE POPULATION

THE PARTICIPATION RATES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
IN SOCIAL AND CULTURAL LIFE ARE VERY LOW

FACTS ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN GREECE

The findings for the population of people with disabilities in Greece are disappointing and thus confirm the strong correlation of disability with the indicators of cultural and social participation:

• 70% of people with severe disabilities aged 16-64 did not have any artistic hobby during the last 12 months. The corresponding percentage for non-disabled people is 40%

• Only 5.4% of the severely disabled population have visited an archaeological site or museum - at least once in the last twelve months, compared to 20.1% for people with no mobility restrictions

• 11.5% of severely disabled people have attended live performances (theatrical, musical, etc.), and 40% for non-disabled

• The percentage of severely disabled people who have attended a live sports event is approximately 7%

• Only 7.7% of the severely disabled population has attended the cinema, while for non-disabled people the participation rate is 40%

• 26.3% of people with severe disabilities meet with friends on a daily basis, while people without disabilities are on a daily basis with their friends at a rate of 44%

• 7 out of 10 citizens with severe disabilities aged 16-64 say they never participate in social media, while the corresponding percentage for people without disabilities is 34.3%

source: http://www.ert.gr/eidiseis/ellada/kinonia/monopsifia-ta-pososta-symmetochis-ton-amea-stin-koinoniki-kai-politistiki-zoi/

Universal design or Design for All is the design of buildings, products or environments to make them accessible to all people, regardless of age, disability or other factors.

WHAT IS UNIVERSAL DESIGN OR DESIGN FOR ALL (DFA)

The term "universal design" was coined by the architect Ronald Mace to describe the concept of designing all products and the built environment to be aesthetic and usable to the greatest extent possible by everyone, regardless of their age, ability, or status in life. However, it was the work of Selwyn Goldsmith, author of Designing for the Disabled (1963), who really pioneered the concept of free access for people with disabilities. His most significant achievement was the creation of the dropped curb – now a standard feature of the built environment.

Universal design emerged from slightly earlier barrier-free concepts, the broader accessibility movement, and adaptive and assistive technology and also seeks to blend aesthetics into these core considerations. As life expectancy rises and modern medicine increases the survival rate of those with significant injuries, illnesses, and birth defects, there is a growing interest in universal design. There are many industries in which universal design is having strong market penetration but there are many others in which it has not yet been adopted to any great extent. Universal design is also being applied to the design of technology, instruction, services, and other products and environments.

Curb cuts or sidewalk ramps, essential for people in wheelchairs but also used by all, are a common example. Color-contrast dishware with steep sides that assists those with visual or dexterity problems are another. There are also cabinets with pull-out shelves, kitchen counters at several heights to accommodate different tasks and postures, and, amidst many of the world's public transit systems, low-floor buses that "kneel" (bring their front end to ground level to eliminate gap) and/or are equipped with ramps rather than on-board lifts.

Principles

• Equitable use

• Flexibility in use

• Simple and intuitive

• Perceptible information

• Tolerance for error

• Low physical effort

• Size and space for approach and use

WHAT IS RADICAL ACCESS

There are eight guiding principles that underlie the UN Convention and each one of its specific articles. For accessibility in the built environment the principle of "Equality of opportunity" and "Accessibility" are the most important ones.

Accessibility is essential to enable persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in life – it is therefore an end in itself as well as a means to enjoy other rights. Accessibility is relevant to a wide range of issues for the built environment and infrastructure:

• Physical accessibility – buildings, transport, etc. – a ramp might make the world of difference – access to schools, access to courts, access to hospitals, access to the workplace are essential to the enjoyment of human rights

• Information and communication accessibility – e-accessibility is very important given the importance of the internet to access information, but also accessibility to documentation (Braille) or to aural information (sign language)

FOR WHO?

To identify the accessibility requirements for the design and planning of the built environment and construction products and services, the following human abilities and the consequences of the following impairments were taken into consideration:

People using a wheelchair;
People with walking difficulties;
People with vision impairments / blind;
People with hearing impairments / deaf;
People with reduced manual dexterity / arm function / strength;
People with diversities in age and stature / elderly people / children;
People with intellectual / cognitive / mental impairments;
People with allergies.

WHAT?

Radical Access aims in creating an accessibility evaluation platform which will help people with disabilities navigate in the city by locating their accessible points of interests, such as cafes, restaurants, super markets, sport centres, parks, playgrounds, etc.

In other words Radical Access is an effort to identify and catalogue accessibility information for private and public spaces, towards inclusive cities.
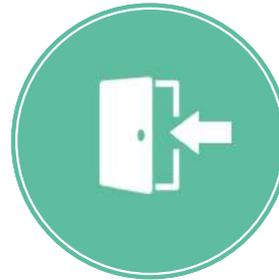
measuring accessibility
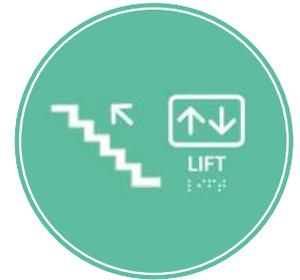
RADICAL ACCESS _ ACCESSIBILITY CRITERIAS

EXTERIOR APPROACH_ STREET & SIDEWALKS

VEHICULE ACCESS & PARKING

EXTERIOR APPROACH_ BUILDING ENTRANCE

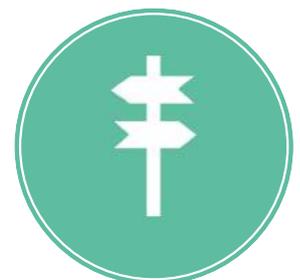**MULTI-STORY ACCESS_ ELEVATOR, RAMPS& STAIRCASE TECHNOLOGIES**

INTERIOR CIRCULATION_ PATHWAYS& DOORS

SANITARY FACILITIES

INTERIOR SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT

SIGNAGE, COMMUNICATION & WAYFINDING

accesslab

mapping solutions for disability

ABOUT ACCESSLAB

We focus on empowering civic participation and developing geoportals and applications for: mapping the accessibility, wheelchair navigation, facilitating mobility, supporting combined transport and upgrading the services provided by local governments to citizens and visitors.

THE CHALLENGE

Modern cities have to successfully face the issues of accessibility and urban mobility.

THE SOLUTION

Technological advances open up new horizons and leads to the adoption of social innovation methods.

THE VISION

We aim to be an integral part of the technology ecosystem by developing smart applications and offering innovative anthropocentric services

www.accesslab.gr

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