

RESEARCH
ASSET***Maintaining everyday-life activities in the bathroom with disabilities***

The project investigates how to develop a bathroom equipment series (toilets, sink, shower etc.) that makes elderly, impaired and people with disabilities able to maintain everyday-life activities in the bathroom. Mikka has followed a range of social service workers on their daily visits in disabled citizens private homes and in a care center to observe how specialized bath room equipment is being used in real life. The focus is on the interaction between the equipment, the user and the social service workers. The purpose of the project was to find out how everyday routines could be made easier and more comfortable for people with disabilities, and thereby developing a new series of products and equipment supporting the findings of the investigation.

The project showed, amongst others, that users preferred the bathroom as not only a space of functions and actions where they have to 'get things done' together with the social worker, but an aesthetic and pleasant place where they are allowed to take their time pampering themselves, brushing their hair etc. This highlights the notion of *values* as apposed to *functions*.



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Institution Name

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Country

Denmark



Research Area

Anthropology, health humanities



Thematic Focus

Living with disabilities



Stakeholders involved

Pressalit A/S, Social service workers, Care center, disabled citizens



Research Phase

Finished (researcher no longer has contract with UCPH)

POTENTIAL VALORISATION AREAS

- Collaboration with public sector
- Collaboration with industry

DESCRIPTION OF VALORISATION ACTIVITY

Mikka has created **a guide**, describing how different amenities / equipment are used in real life in different situations and in which ways they could be improved accordingly. This is particularly aimed at Pressalit who produce the equipment.



VALORISATION TARGETS/POTENTIAL FUTURE COLLABORATORS

Companies that produce equipment for the health sector, such as:

- Pressalit A/S
- Gloriamundi
- Tork

Health sector, such as:

- Hospitals
- Social service workers
- Care centres
- Disabled citizens