



Technology Leaving  
No One Behind



## Assessing the Environment Without Vision or Hearing

### The Challenge

Find innovative ways of enabling people with sensory impairments to live more independent lives and thereby experience quality of life. Apply the Principles of Universal Design to help the broadest possible audience.

### The Problem

People who have both a vision and a hearing impairment experience difficulties in accessing the environment – i.e. knowing what and who is around them, and where things are. This presents challenges in situations like:

- Realizing that a person is approaching (so as not to get startled when someone suddenly is standing next you or tapping your shoulder)
- Recognizing other people (and for instance thereby having the opportunity to initiate a conversation and not having to wait for others to take the initiative)
- Recognizing familiar objects – for instance your family's car or cat
- Finding the "queue numbers" at the pharmacist – and knowing when it is your turn
- Finding your way in large buildings, train stations etc. to the right room or platform.
- Knowing what is in the fridge – and how old it is.

### Target group

This target group consists of more than 10,000 people in Denmark. The majority are over the age of 80. Some communicate through sign language. Solutions to this challenge may for example also be useful for other target groups, such as people who only have an impairment of either hearing or vision, or situational hearing or vision loss.

### Case Owner

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CFD is Denmark's leading expert on and supplier of support and counseling for adults with vision and hearing impairment. Read more at [www.cfid.dk](http://www.cfid.dk).

### Interested?

If you want to work with this challenge in a project, or know more, please contact:

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