

How to automatically expand ICF-EF in order to better describe care and living environment factors at country level: steps toward a multicenter project on the biopsychosocial determinants of outcomes

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Abstract To launch a cooperation to carry out a WHO-FIC based multicenter naturalistic outcomes study using an international version of VilmaFABER (Friendly Alimentering Biopsychosocial Electronic Record), a web application developed by the Italian WHO-FIC collaborating center. Three countries took part in this preliminary study: Finland, South Africa, and Italy. The WFABER (Worldwide Friendly Alimentering Biopsychosocial Electronic Record) project is open to all other interested WHO-FIC network countries.

Introduction

There are currently no collaborative studies inside the WHO-FIC network on biopsychosocial determinants of outcomes at community level to facilitate decision-making, continuity of care, and welfare planning. The aims of this three-country collaboration are to develop, test and launch a first release of an international version of the web assessment system named VilmaFABER (1) in a multicenter "naturalistic outcome" study inside the WHO-FIC network.

Figure 1 - WFABER cooperation project: step 1

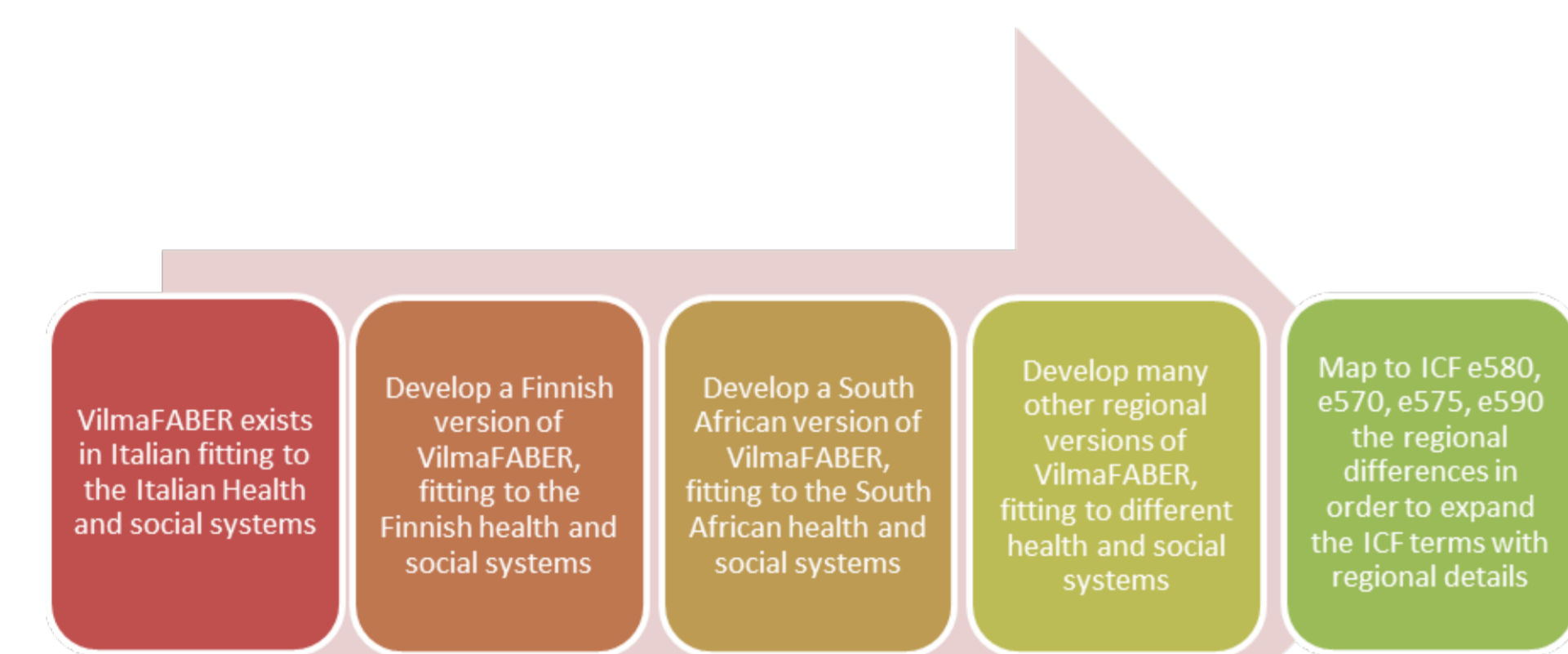


Figure 2- WFABER cooperation project: step 2



Methods & Materials

Three countries took part in this preliminary study: Finland, South Africa and Italy. The FABER application was used. FABER integrates WHO classifications with national terminologies and standards into an individual electronic record. FABER uses the ICF environmental factors (EFs) as "superstandard" terminology. It automatically creates new terms made by an ICF code in the first position and other standard terms (where existing) in second position. This expanded ICF-EF list of terms is used to explore the role (as facilitator or barrier) of the EFs when assessing individual functioning/disability. As there is currently no common international classification of health and social services, great progress was made by the three participating countries to list the country-specific terminologies relating to services in order to provide country-specific expansion of ICF-EF categories e575 (General social support services, systems and policies) and e580 (Health Services, systems and policies).

Results

The FABER information model was enriched with two new country-specific terminologies regarding health and social services and systems, in order to create new expanded ICF-EF terms that can be used in Finland and South Africa. The first part of the collection information form was completed. A prototype of the international FABER was developed. A preliminary draft of the worldwide FABER (WFABER) project was made.

Table 1 - WFABER cooperation project: some examples about the e580 ICF expansion (a new Big Bang?)

Italy *		Finland **		South Africa ***	
Italian Health System	Italian expanded ICF-EF	Finnish Health System	Finnish expanded ICF-EF	South African Health System	South African expanded ICF-EF
2.A Assistenza sanitaria di base	e580 LEA: 2.A - Assistenza sanitaria di base	E Perusterveydenhuollon palvelut	e580 E Perusterveydenhuollon palvelut	2.1.1.1 Primary Healthcare services: Community-based services (CBS)	e580 2.1.1.1 Primary Healthcare services: Community-based services (CBS)
2.B Attività di emergenza sanitaria territoriale	e580 LEA: 2.B - Attività di emergenza sanitaria territoriale	A Häätä-, ensiapu- ja päivystyspalvelut	e580 A Häätä-, ensiapu- ja päivystyspalvelut	2.3.5.1 Specialised services: Emergency medical services	e580 2.3.5.1 Specialised services: Emergency medical services
2.C Assistenza farmaceutica erogata attraverso le farmacie territoriali	e580 LEA: 2.C - Assistenza farmaceutica erogata attraverso le farmacie territoriali	SI Apteekkipalvelu	e580 SI Apteekkipalvelu	1.8 Essential Drugs Programme (EDP)	e580 1.8 Essential Drugs Programme (EDP)
2.F Assistenza protesica	e580 LEA: 2.F - Assistenza protesica	HGA Apuvälinepalvelu	e580 HGA Apuvälinepalvelu	2.3.2.3 Provision of assistive devices	e580 2.3.2.3 Provision of assistive devices
2.G Assistenza territoriale ambulatoriale e domiciliare	e580 LEA: 2.G - Assistenza territoriale ambulatoriale e domiciliare	O Kotihoito, kotipalvelut ja omaishoidon tukipalvelut	e580 O Kotihoito, kotipalvelut ja omaishoidon tukipalvelut	2.1.1.1 Home and community-based care	e580 2.1.1.1 Home and community-based care
2.G.3 Attività sanitaria e sociosanitaria rivolta alle persone con problemi psichiatrici e alle loro famiglie	e580 LEA: 2.G.3 - Attività sanitaria e sociosanitaria rivolta alle persone con problemi psichiatrici e alle loro famiglie	J Päihde- ja mielenterveyspalvelut	e580 J Päihde- ja mielenterveyspalvelut	2.3.1.1 Mental health & psychiatric service: Community-based service	e580 2.3.1.1 Mental health & psychiatric service: Community-based service
3.A Pronto soccorso	e580 LEA: 3.A - Pronto soccorso	AA Häätäkeskuspalvelu	e580 AA Häätäkeskuspalvelu	2.3.5.1 Emergency medical services	e580 2.3.5.1 Emergency medical services
3.B Degenza ordinaria	e580 LEA: 3.B - Degenza ordinaria	F Erikoissairaanhoidon palvelut	e580 F Erikoissairaanhoidon palvelut	2.2.1 District hospitals services	e580 2.2.1 District hospitals services

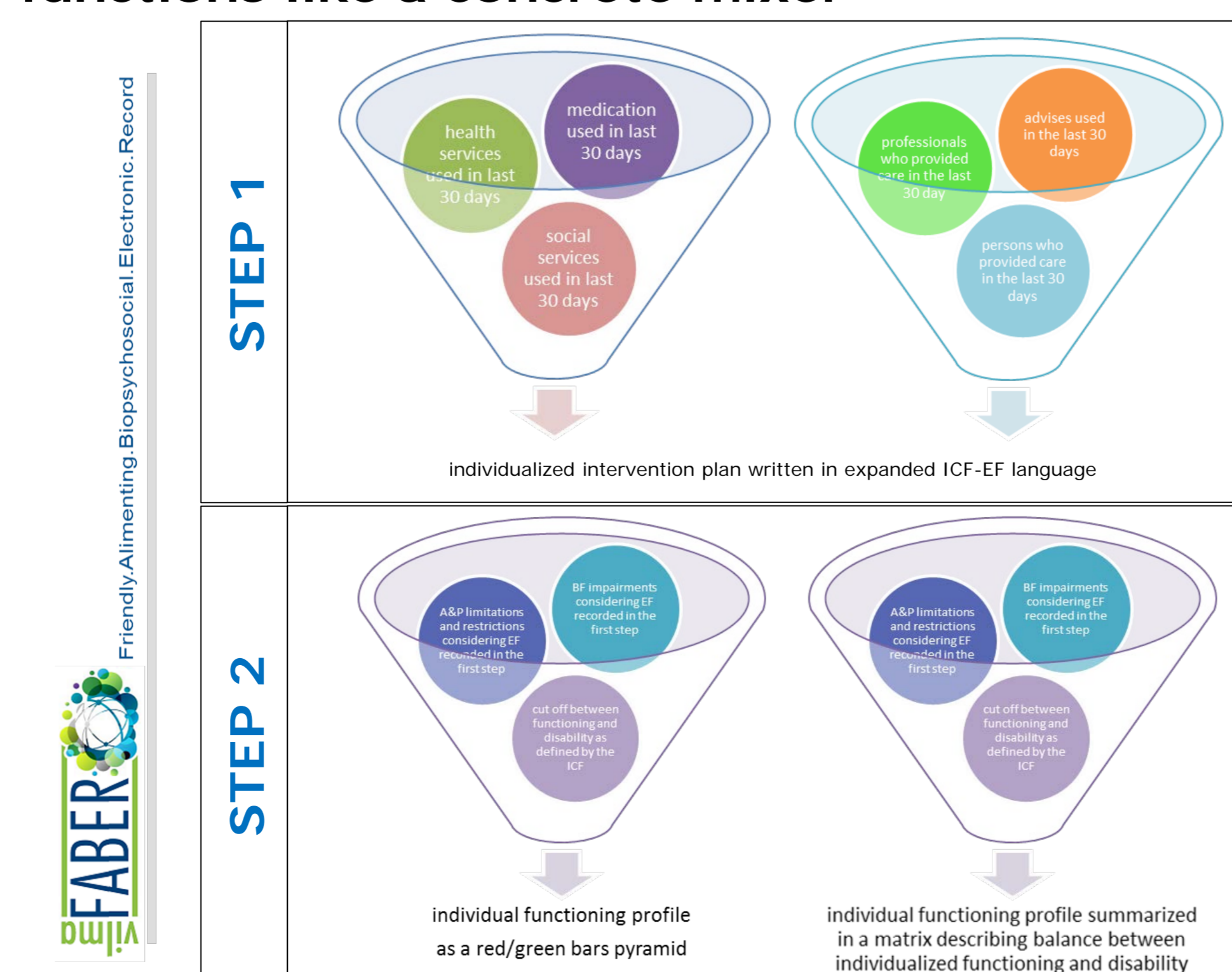
*Source: D.P.C.M. del 29 novembre 2001, "Definizione dei livelli essenziali di assistenza", in GU 8 febbraio 2002, n. 3.
**Source: Finnish Social and Health Service Classification (in development). Available: <http://www.terminaattori.fi/THL/index.php?TESTI1&ID=XU4HOIVKCCmfhm>
***Source: Western Cape Government. 2013. Healthcare 2030 [Online]. Available: <http://www.capegateway.gov.za/health>; Republic of South Africa. 2014. Annual Performance Plan 2014/15 - 2016/17. Pretoria: Department of Health; Brand South Africa. 2014. Healthcare in South Africa [Online]. Available: <http://www.southafrica.info/about/health/health.htm#U-IPY0OSz4Z.4K>

Table 2 - WFABER cooperation project: some examples about the e575 ICF expansion (a new Big Bang?)

Italy *		Finland **		South Africa ***	
Italian Social Care System	Italian expanded ICF-EF	Finnish Social Care System	Finnish expanded ICF-EF	South African Social Care System	South African expanded ICF-EF
Attività di Servizio sociale professionale	e575 Attività di Servizio sociale professionale	B Neuvonta - ja ohjauspalvelut	e575 B Neuvonta - ja ohjauspalvelut	Social work with children and families	e575 Social work with children and families
Interventi volti a favorire la domiciliarità	e575 Interventi volti a favorire la domiciliarità	M Asumiseen liittyvät palvelut	e575 M Asumiseen liittyvät palvelut	Home-based care for: Aged; Disabled; Terminally ill people	e575 Home-based care for: Aged; Disabled; Terminally ill people
Trasferimenti in denaro per il pagamento di interventi e servizi	e575 Trasferimenti in denaro per il pagamento di interventi e servizi	I Työllistymisen ja taloudellisen tuen palvelut	e575 I Työllistymisen ja taloudellisen tuen palvelut	Social security	e575 Social security

*Source: Conferenza delle Regioni e delle Province autonome, "Nomenclatore interregionale degli interventi e dei servizi sociali", Documento n. 09/093/CR/C8, 29 ottobre 2009, Roma. **Source: see Table 1 ***Source: see Table 1

Figure 3- VilmaFABER assessment system functions like a concrete mixer



Conclusions

The expanded ICF-EF terms may be considered in the development of ICHI, for ICF-EF ontology and update purposes, and for the mICF development. The WFABER (Worldwide Friendly Alimentering Biopsychosocial Electronic Record) project is open to all other interested WHO-FIC network countries.

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