

# Building the ubiquitous applications environment

## MobiLife, Ambient Networks, and SPiCE

*This work has been performed in the framework of the IST project IST-2004-511607 MobiLife, which is partly funded by the European Union. The author would like to acknowledge the contributions of the colleagues from Nokia Corporation, Elisa Corporation, Motorola SAS, Motorola Ltd, DoCoMo Communications Laboratory Europe GmbH, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung, Siemens Mobile Communications, Ericsson AB, OY LM Ericsson AB, Hewlett Packard Italia, University of Surrey, Alcatel CIT, NEC Europe Ltd, University of Helsinki, University of Kassel, Stichting Telematica Instituut, NEOS Engineering SRL, UNIS, Suunto Oy, BellStream SP, Helsinki University of Technology and Telecom Italia.*

# Why am I here?

- Contextual services is an important future development
  - But not yet ripe for standardization
- Ericsson has participated in research - we want to contribute to standardization
  - Ambient Networks: Service Interface (mediating network connectivity)
  - SPICE: Middleware architecture, control, and management
  - MobiLife: User applications, especially user control (e.g. Privacy and Group management)
- Our partners in the projects agree – so I represent more than 60 companies and universities altogether, in that sense
- We have together, with the support of the European Union 6th Framework programme for research, invested several hundred man-years into this
- All the material mentioned is publicly available – for comments, use, and partnering

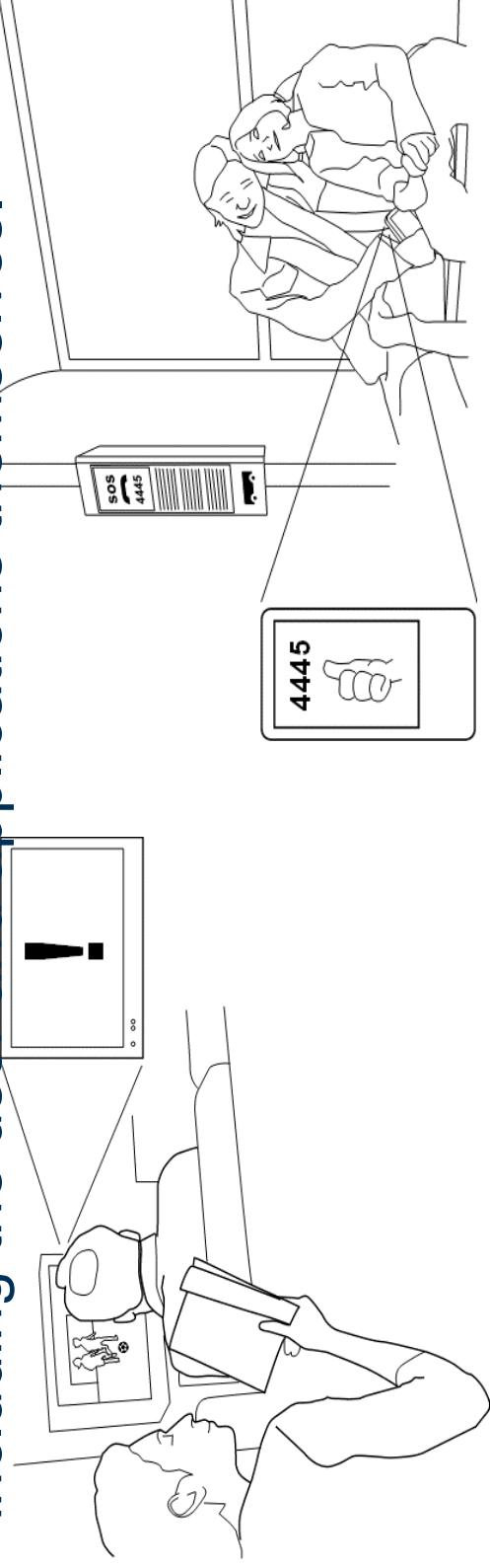
# What is the ubiquitous web?

- What is the web?
  - Access method to structured information
    - Not just by people
- What is ubiquitous?
  - Cf. Mark Wieser
    - ”Available everywhere”
      - Pervasive, Ambient are synonyms
- What is the ubiquitous web?
  - Structured information available everywhere, for everyone

# What is Context?

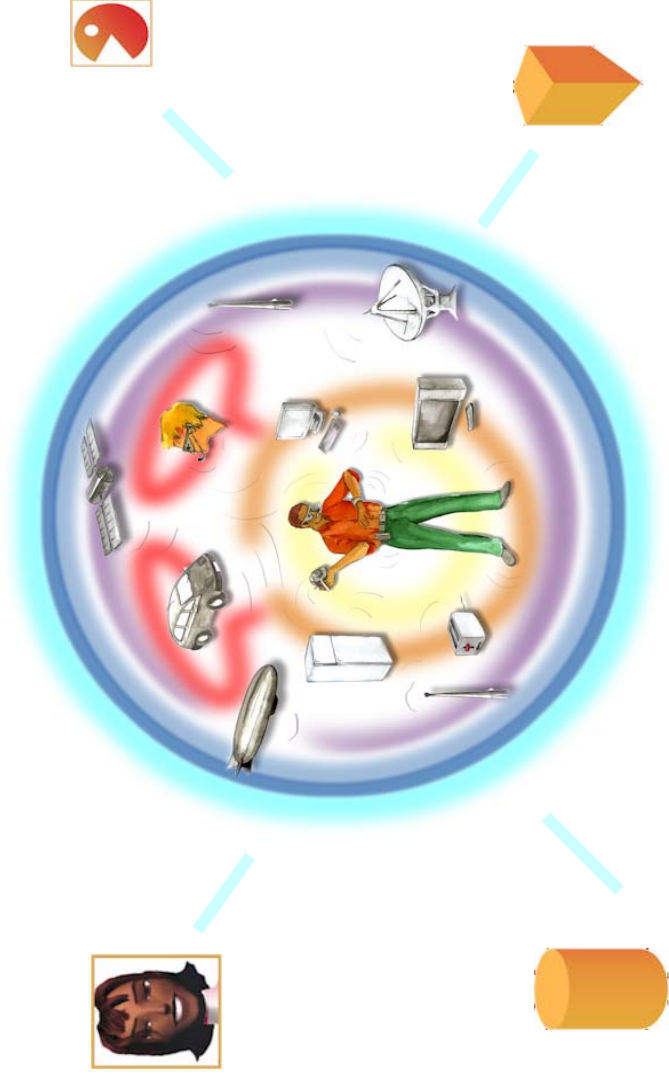
cf. *MobiLife Friday Scenario (D1.1)*

- Definition [Dey and Abowd]: “**Any information that can be used to characterize the situation of an entity.** An entity is a person, place, or object that is considered relevant to the interaction between a user and an application, including the user and applications themselves.”



# The key concepts

## MultiSphere Concept

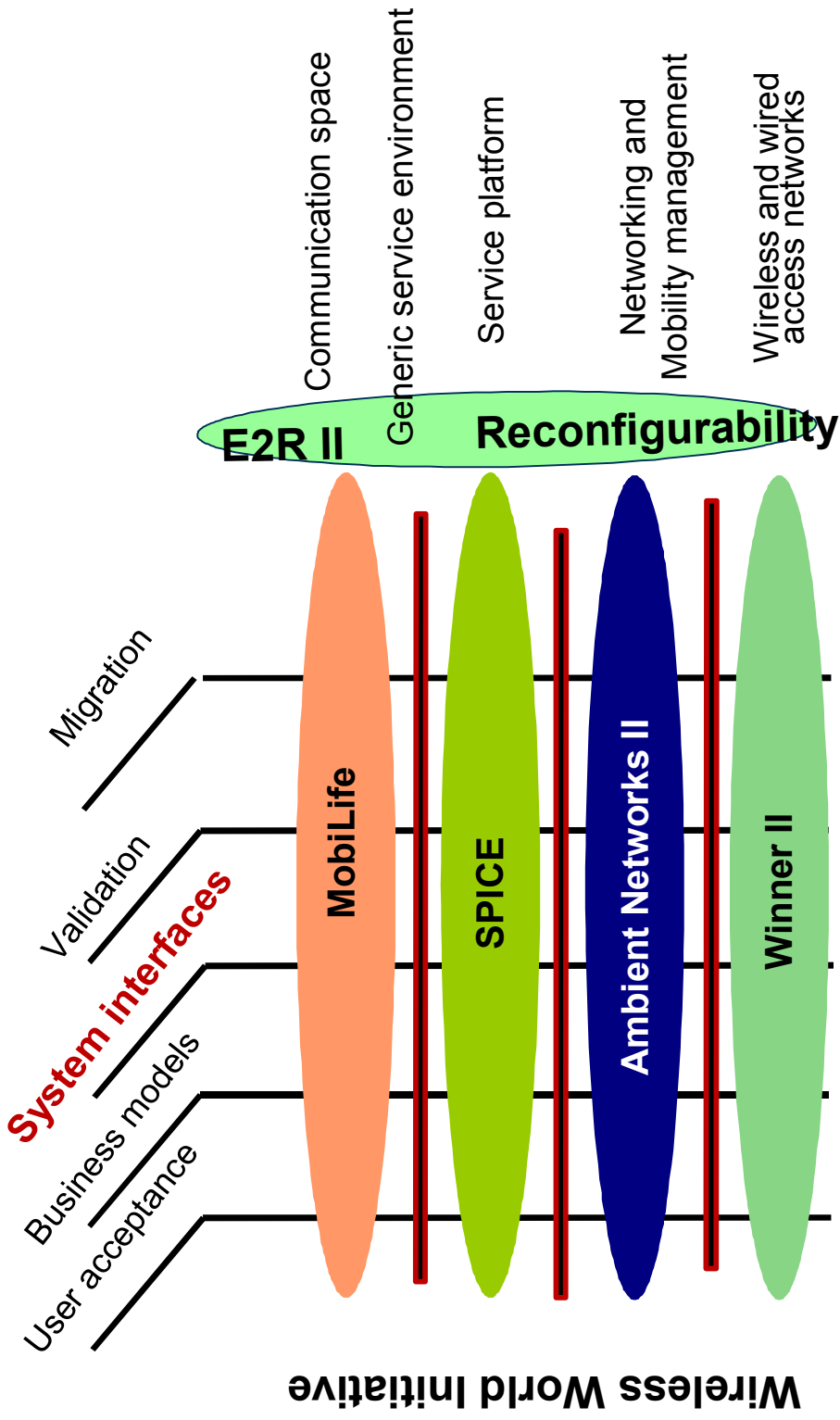


## User Centricity

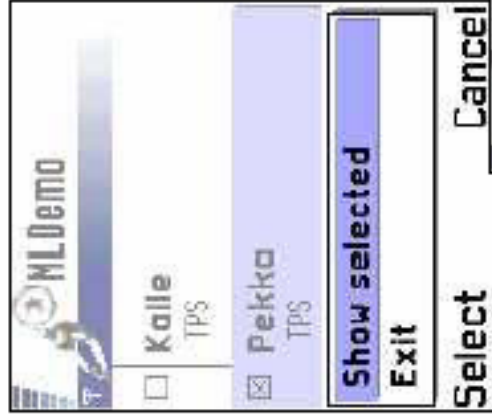
User-centricity means that the **users'** needs, expectations and requirements will be considered and supported by **all system levels**, from access and core networks to service platforms and applications

Diagram courtesy of WWRF

# Nicer architecture picture



# Services in small, ad-hoc groups



A screenshot of a mobile application interface showing a table of player statistics. The table has columns for "Player", "Bpm", and "m/s". The data is as follows:

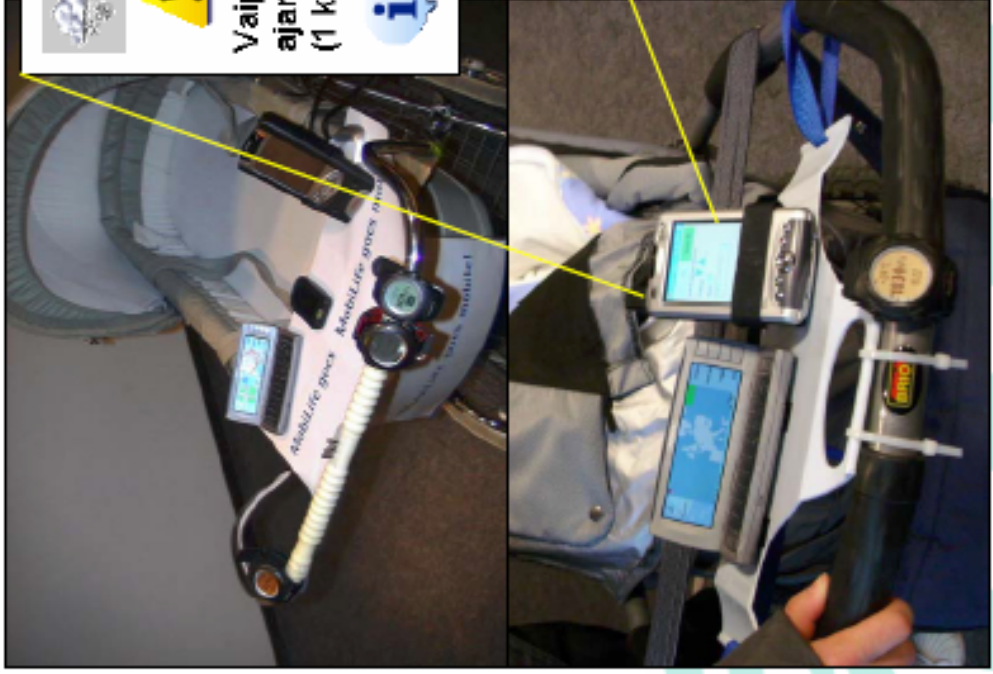
Player	Bpm	m/s
Laakko	65	4
Pekka	70	3
Ilpo	80	5
Erkki	99	2
Jorma	95	1
Kalevi	124	4
Urho	130	3
Arttu	129	2
Elmeri	159	4


At the bottom of the screen, there are two buttons: "Options" and "Back".




Sharing wellness information for sport  
and competition applications (here:  
heartbeat information)

# Family Services




 5°C

**Vaippa märkä**

 **Märkä vaippa**

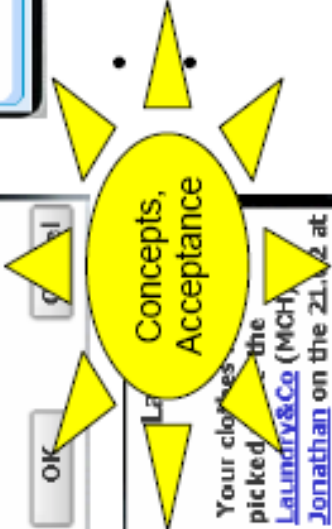
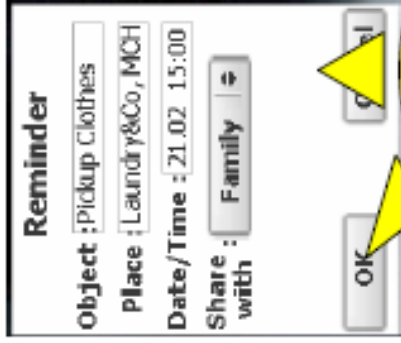
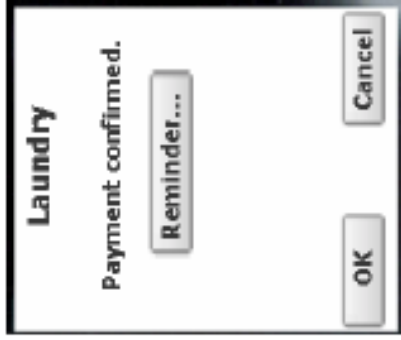
Vaippa on ollut märkä 35 sek ajan. [Palvelut +50 m säteellä](#) (1 kpl):

 Nuorisotalo ark 10-18, la-su 15-20

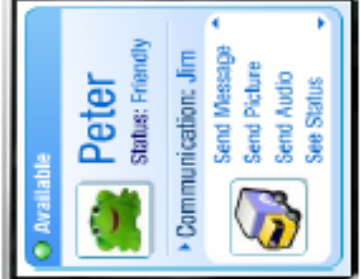
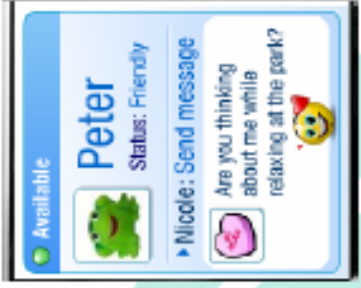
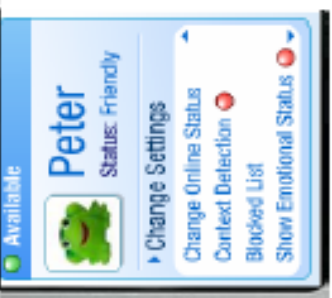
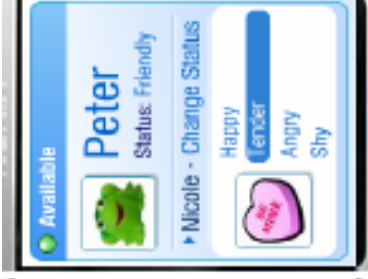
Helping families with babies in unknown environments



# Keep track of your activities



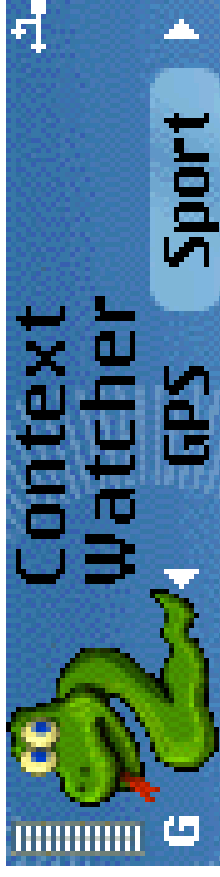
- Display Context
- Interaction with buddy and groups



- Family members share reminders

# Sport sensors

- Suunto sport sensors:
  - T6 watch
  - Foot pod (walking distance & speed)
  - Heart rate belt



**Success**  
Found all 1 readings.

**HR**  
77.0 bpm

**Sensor**  
3338 A (0, HR7C66,bpm)

**Options**  
**Exit**



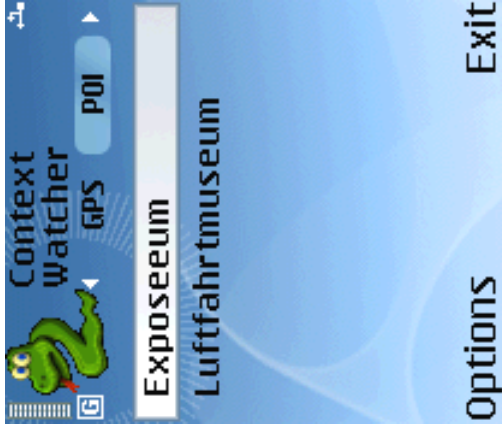
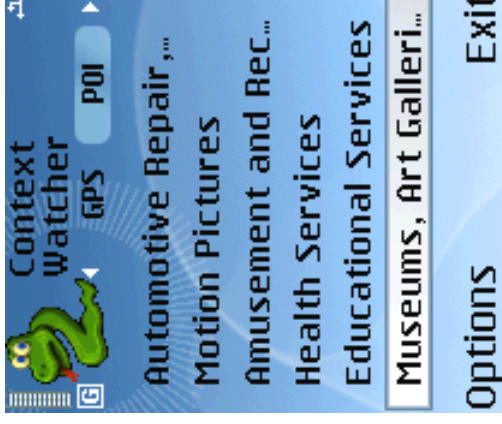
Success



Select Cancel

# Points of my interest

- Finds points of interest in the neighbourhood
- Currently a limited number of categories, only in The Netherlands
- Shows address, phone and distance information
- Selecting a category will start a search, selecting a POI will display detailed information



# Exchanging context information with buddies

- Making your buddies aware of your:
  - Speed
  - Location
  - Activity
  - Heart rate & condition

The image displays three screenshots of a mobile application interface, illustrating context information exchange between buddies. Each screenshot shows a 'Context Watcher' window with a green snake icon and a 'Buddy' label. The first screenshot shows 'luther approved' and 'michael.przybilski In: Schönfeld, E55 at 14:12'. The second screenshot shows 'caroline In: Glanerbrug, Avo... At: 15:01 Heart: 81.0 bpm Send SMS Approve'. The third screenshot shows 'fabiola.lopez In: Vantaa, 11547 at Jun 17' and 'In: Vantaa, 11547 At: Jun 17 Act: at work Send SMS Approve'. Red arrows point from the 'michael.przybilski' and 'caroline' entries in the first screenshot to the 'fabiola.lopez' entry in the third screenshot, indicating the flow of context information.

# MobiLife Evaluation and Trials



## 1<sup>st</sup> evaluation round (Oct-Nov 2004)

- qualitative user research
- 7 family interviews (10 in Italy, 7 in Finland)
- together **61 people involved**
- 3 scenarios discussed with each family

## 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation round (Apr-May 2005)

- emi-structured interviewing
- rganised in Italy and Finland
- 'sessions'
- rganised by research questions

## 3<sup>rd</sup> evaluation round (Sep-Nov 2005)

ME and stakeholder developer interviews in Italy; expert reviews for parents with probe 1s

# The three aspects of usefulness

## Applicability (relevance)

- Using the information for something meaningful and valuable to me
  - Information is available only when it is relevant
  - Implies filtering is applied before information is made available in the user plane

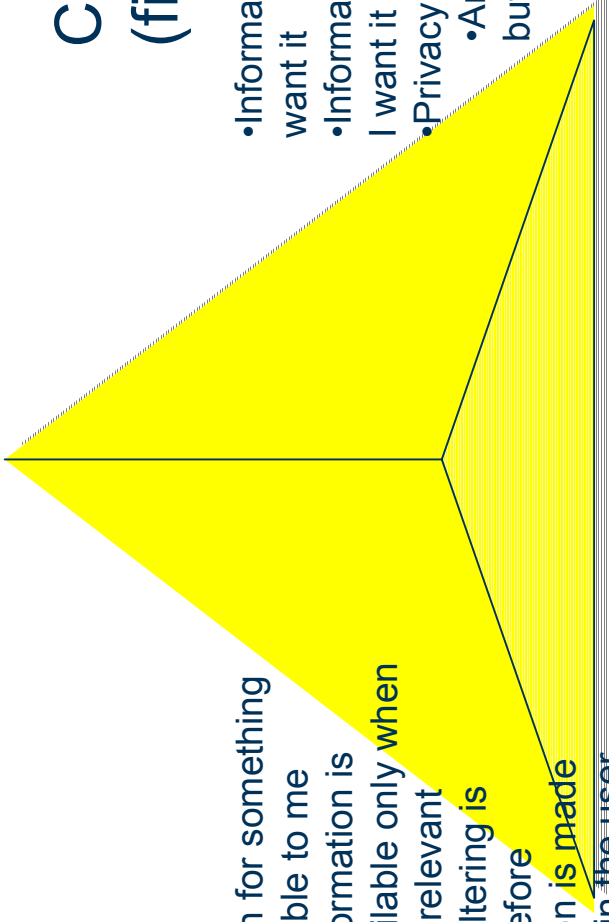
## Control (filtering)

- Information is only there when I want it
- Information is only given out when I want it
- Privacy is a special case of control
  - Anonymity is being there, but not telling who you are

- Annoyance is a negative value

## Availability

- Information is there when I need it
  - I am connected to the information
  - I am connected to the network
  - The information (source) is connected to the network



# Challenges of the service paradigm

## **Discovery:** How are services found?

- Finding the service that solves a given problem
- Finding the service that needs to be used
- Not finding services which are not available to me

## **Invocation:** How to interact with the service

- Who can invoke a service?
- What messages to send...in what order
- What is the message format
- What information the service expects
  - What information the service report

## **Use:** How to use the information received to solve the problem

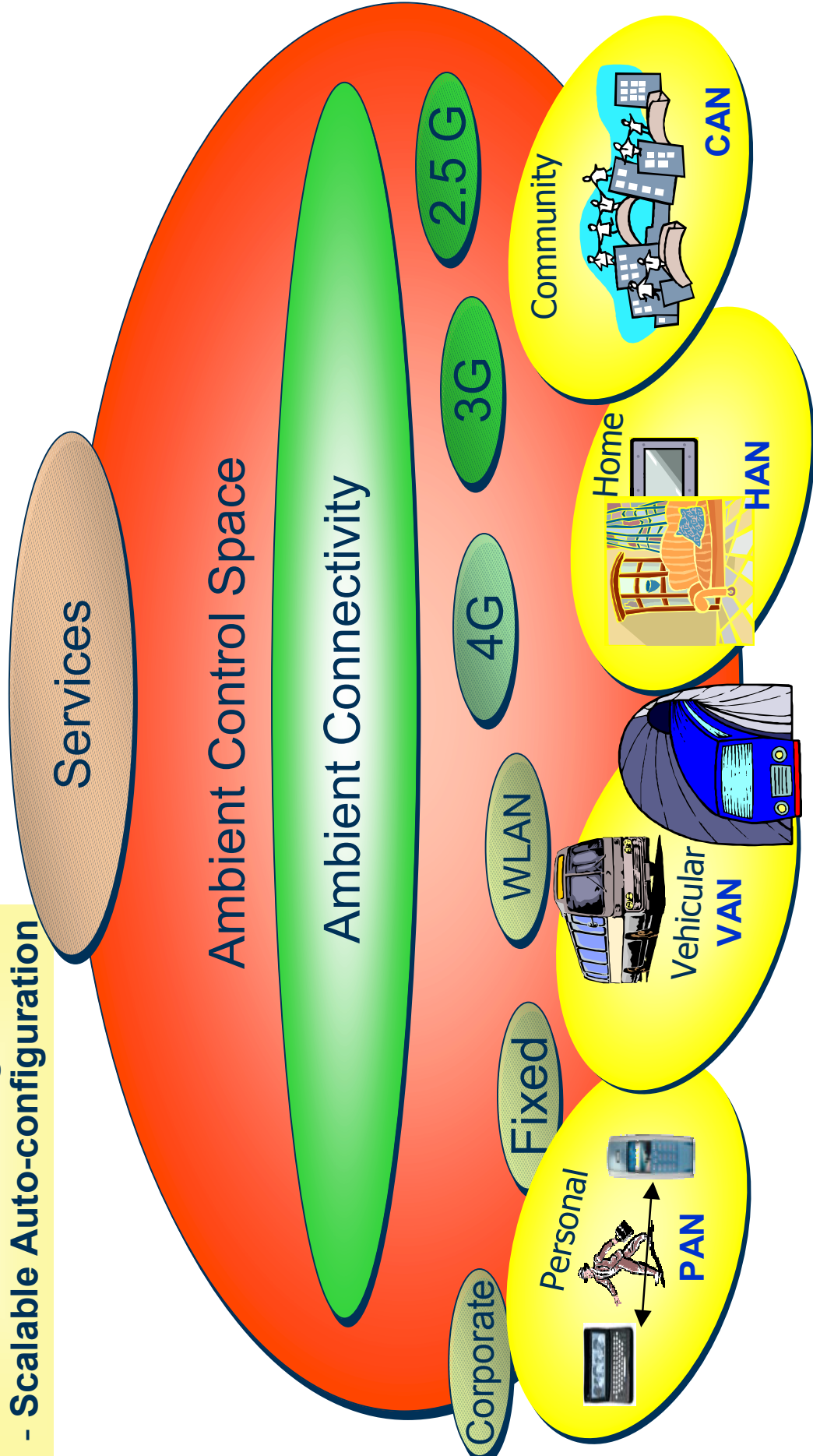
- How the client select the information to send

## **Availability:** Where and how to reach services

# Ambient Concept

## Ambient Networks:

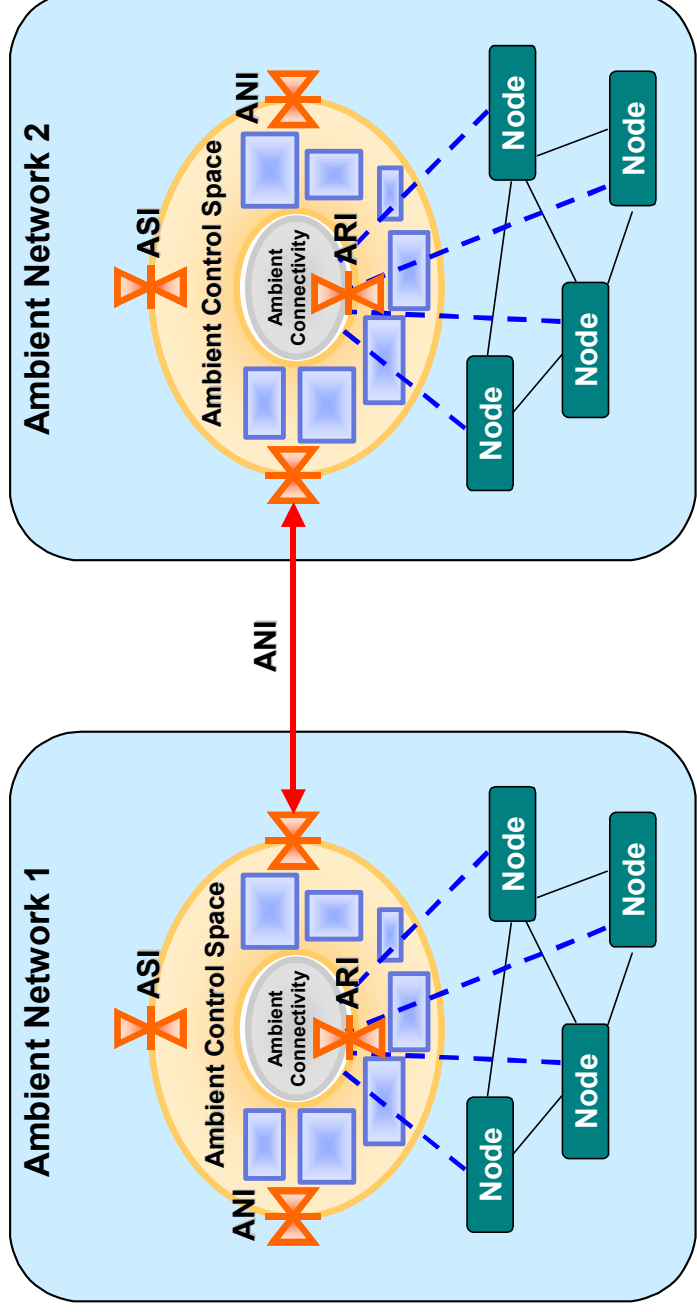
- Common Control Services
- Networks at the Edge
- Scalable Auto-configuration







# The Ambient Networks high-level architecture

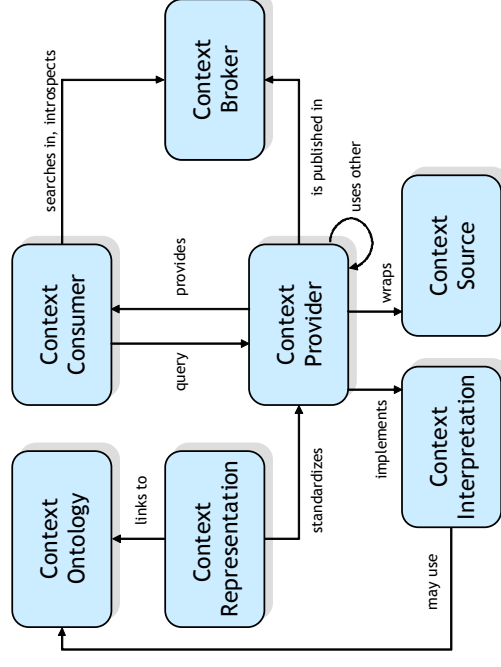


- Networks are endowed with a set of control plane functions, which together comprise the Ambient Control Spaces, (ACS)
- The underlying data transfer and other user plane capabilities of the existing or new networks are accessed and controlled through a reference point called Ambient Resource Interface (ARI).
- Together, these expose an Ambient Service Interface (ASI) to upper layer services and applications running within the network.
- Internetwork co-operation between different ACSs is mediated through an integrated set of protocols at the Ambient Network Interface (ANI).

Source: Ambient Networks

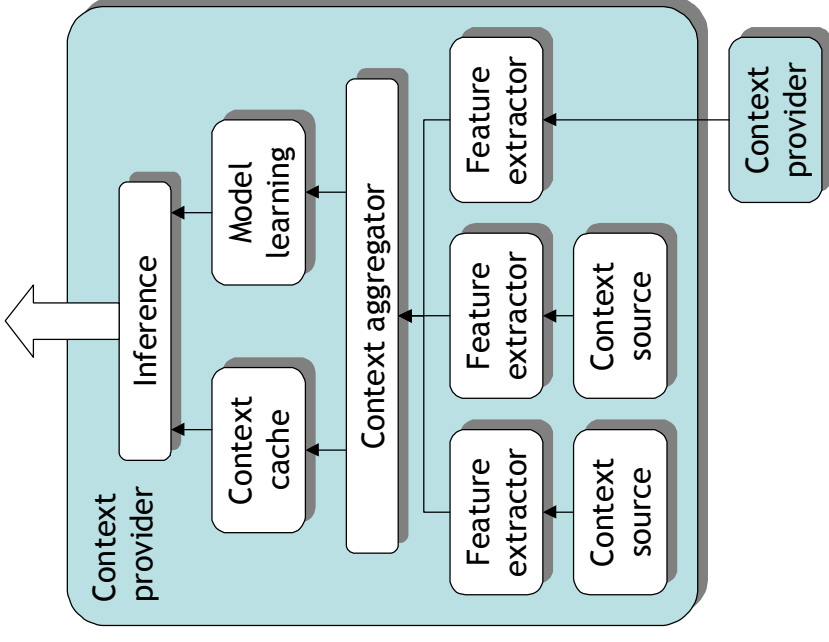
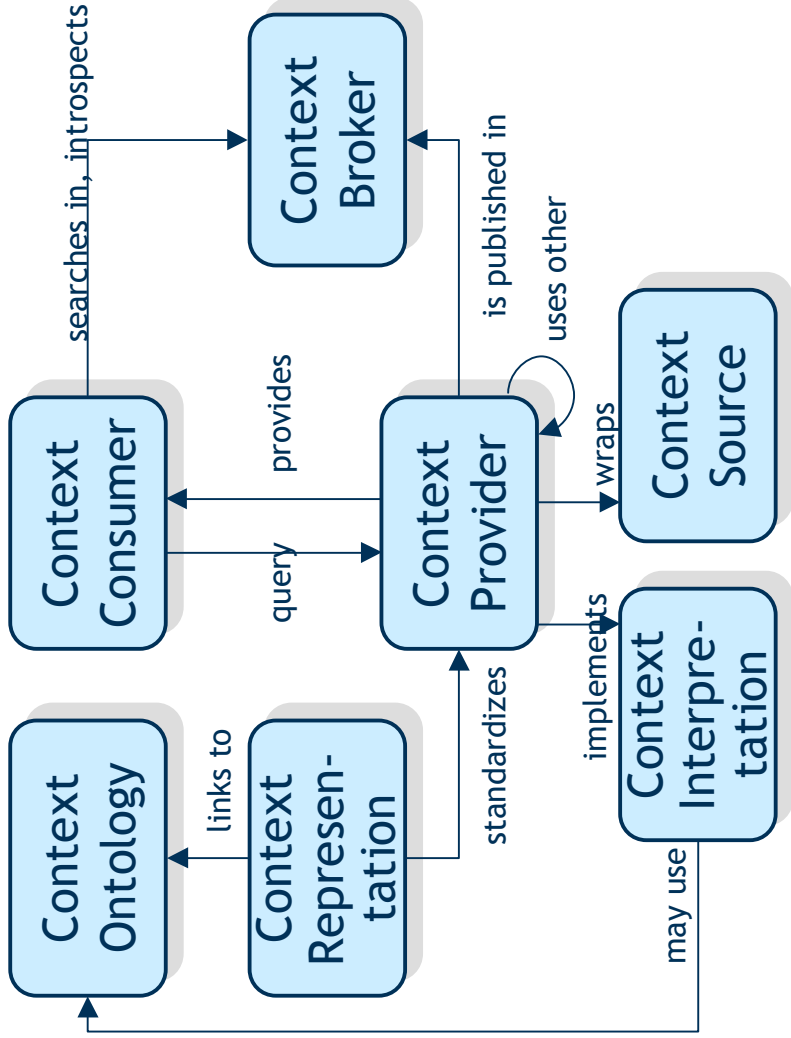
# Context Management Framework

- Generic model of Context Providers (CP)
  - Encapsulated data sources
  - Virtual context providers
- Context Representation Framework
  - Well-founded context meta model
  - Context vocabularies (schemata) and mappings
- Context reasoning
  - Low level (e.g. probabilistic reasoning)
  - High level (e.g. logic inference)



# Context Mgmt Framework

## Building Blocks



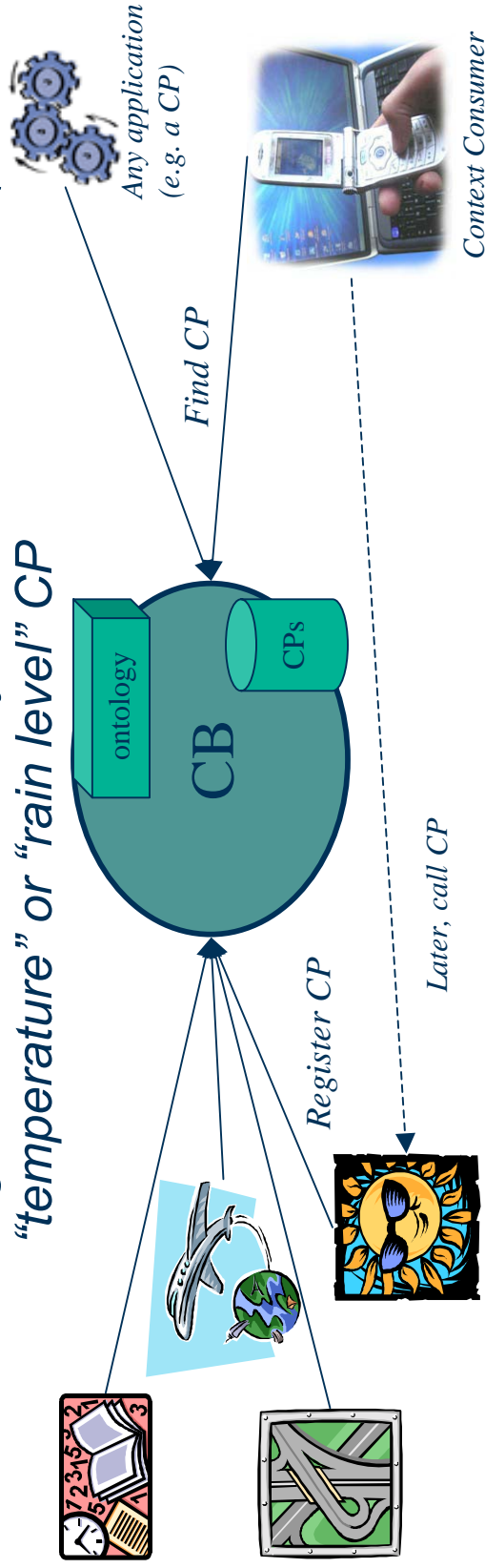
- Initial “Cookbook” for context-aware applications and services available

# Interfaces

- **Context Providers (CP)** are defined in the Context Awareness Function (CAF). CPs encapsulate context data (both simulated and real ones) as context information for consumption by CCs. Many different CPs can co-exist together providing both individual and group entity context information to a multiplicity of CCs.
- **Context Consumers (CC)** are also defined in the CAF. CCs consume context data as context information provided by CPs.
- **Context Source (CS)** are also defined in the CAF. CSs are devices that deliver raw data, e.g. sensors.
- **Platform Independent Functional Interfaces (PIF)** represent component interfaces that do not rely on a specific technology. They will be defined in the ongoing specification work.
- **Management Interfaces (MI)** represent platform independent interfaces with the role of providing interfaces that allow the management of the respective component.
- **Management Actions (MA)** represent management actions that the Operational Management Function (OMF) can execute.

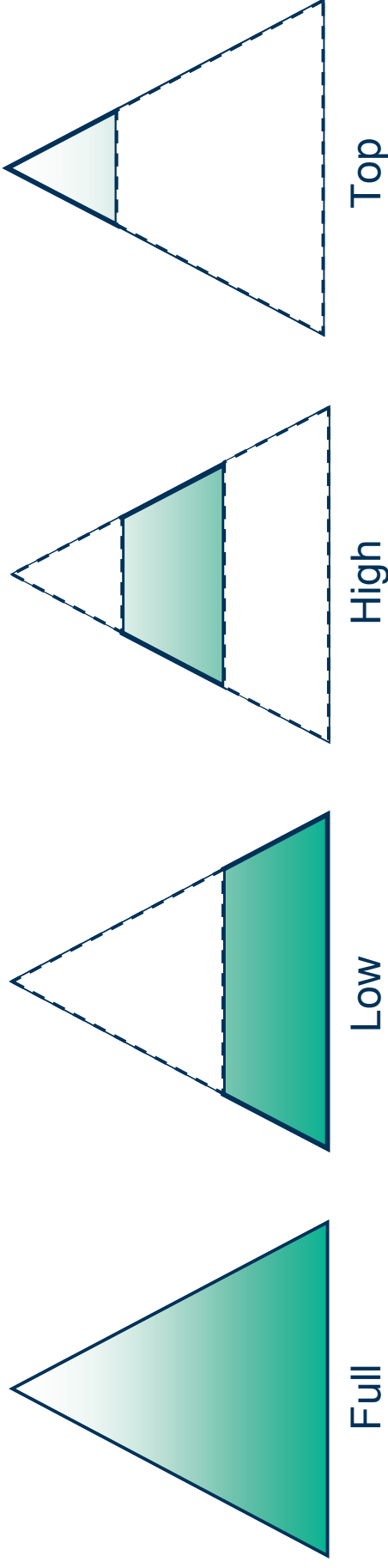
# Context Broker

- Directory for Context Providers
  - CP registers in Context Broker (*advertisement*)
  - CC (consumer) searches for CP in Context Broker
- CP combination
  - A CP looks for other CPs in order to fulfill its task
    - E.g.: a “weather” CP may ask the Broker for any “temperature” or “rain level” CP

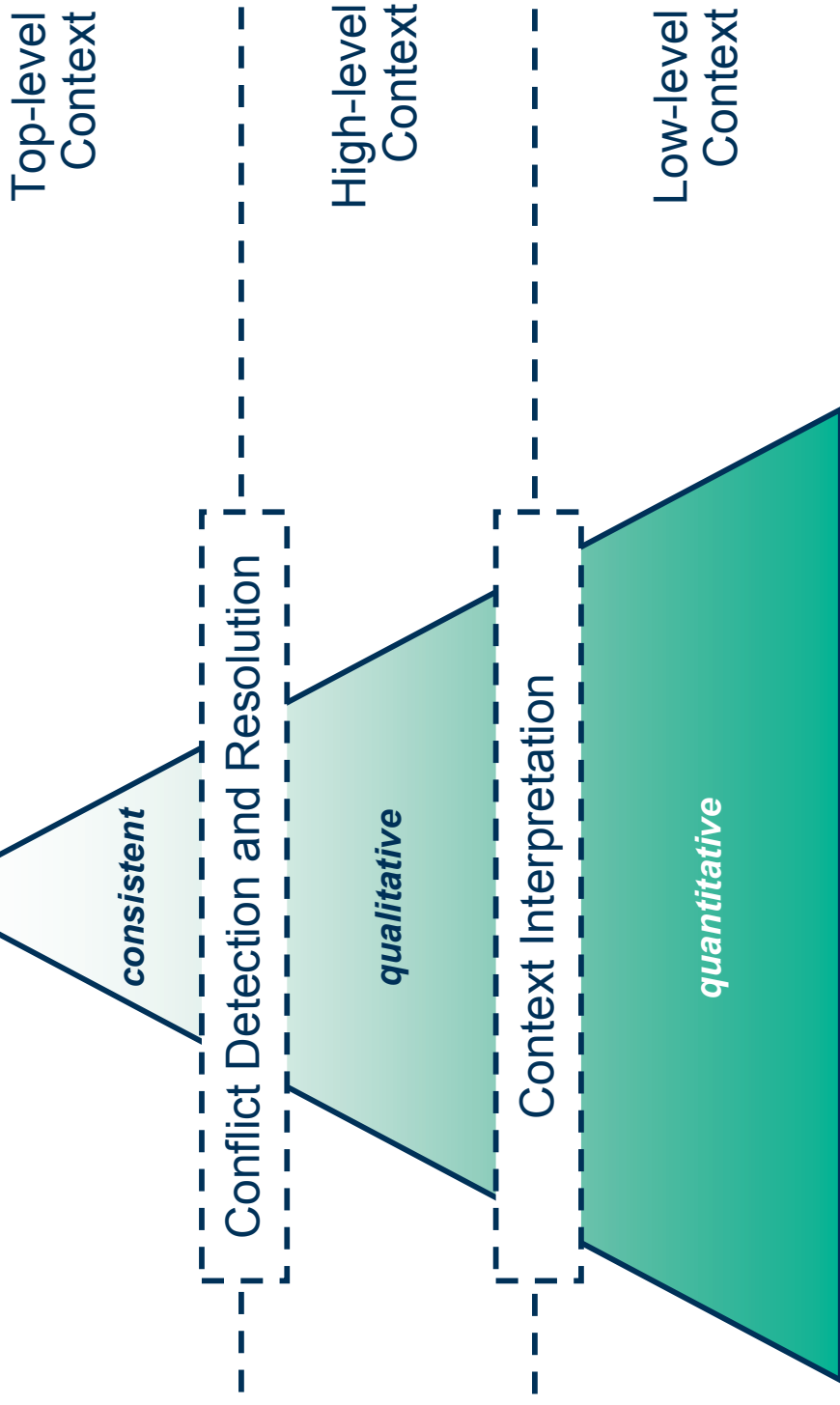


# Different Levels of Context Usage

- MobiLife CMF enables context providers from different domains and of different types
  - Access to and usage of provided context can be at different levels
- MobiLife applications to highlight/use different aspects

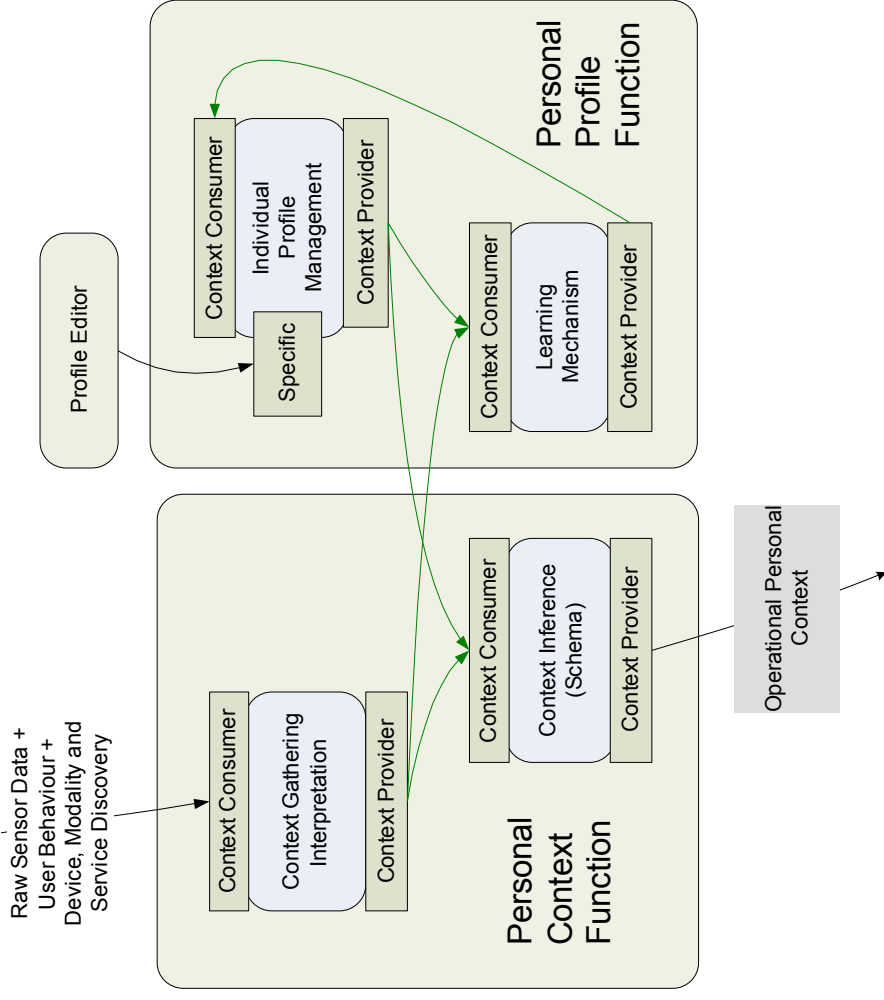


# Challenges of Context Abstraction



# Personal Context and Individual Profile Components

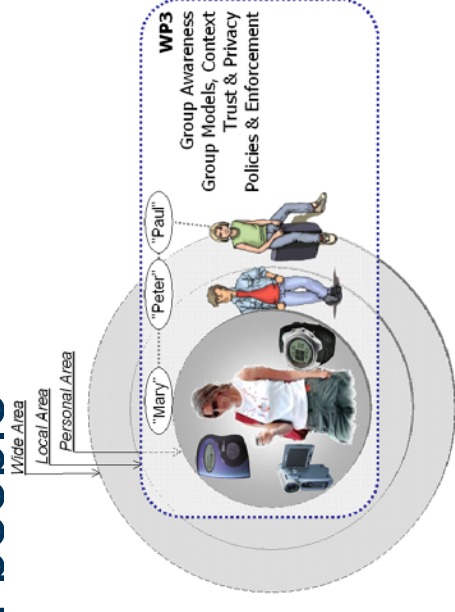
- **Context Gathering and Interpretation**
  - Collects **raw sensor data, user behaviour, device and modality discovery** and **modality discovery information**
- **Context Inference**
  - Generates an **operational personal context**
  - Includes **modality recommendation** for user interface adaptation
- **Individual Profile Management**
  - Stores any kind of **preferences** about users
- **Learning Mechanism**
  - Learns from the interpreted data and the profile information to generate updated profile information





# Group Management

- Groups are the key to user interaction
  - You structure your world in terms of groups
  - Groups share context, profiles, and policies
    - Group initiator can set these
    - Group context, profile, and policies can be learned automatically
- You can be in a group with more than people
  - Groups of machines
  - Groups of services



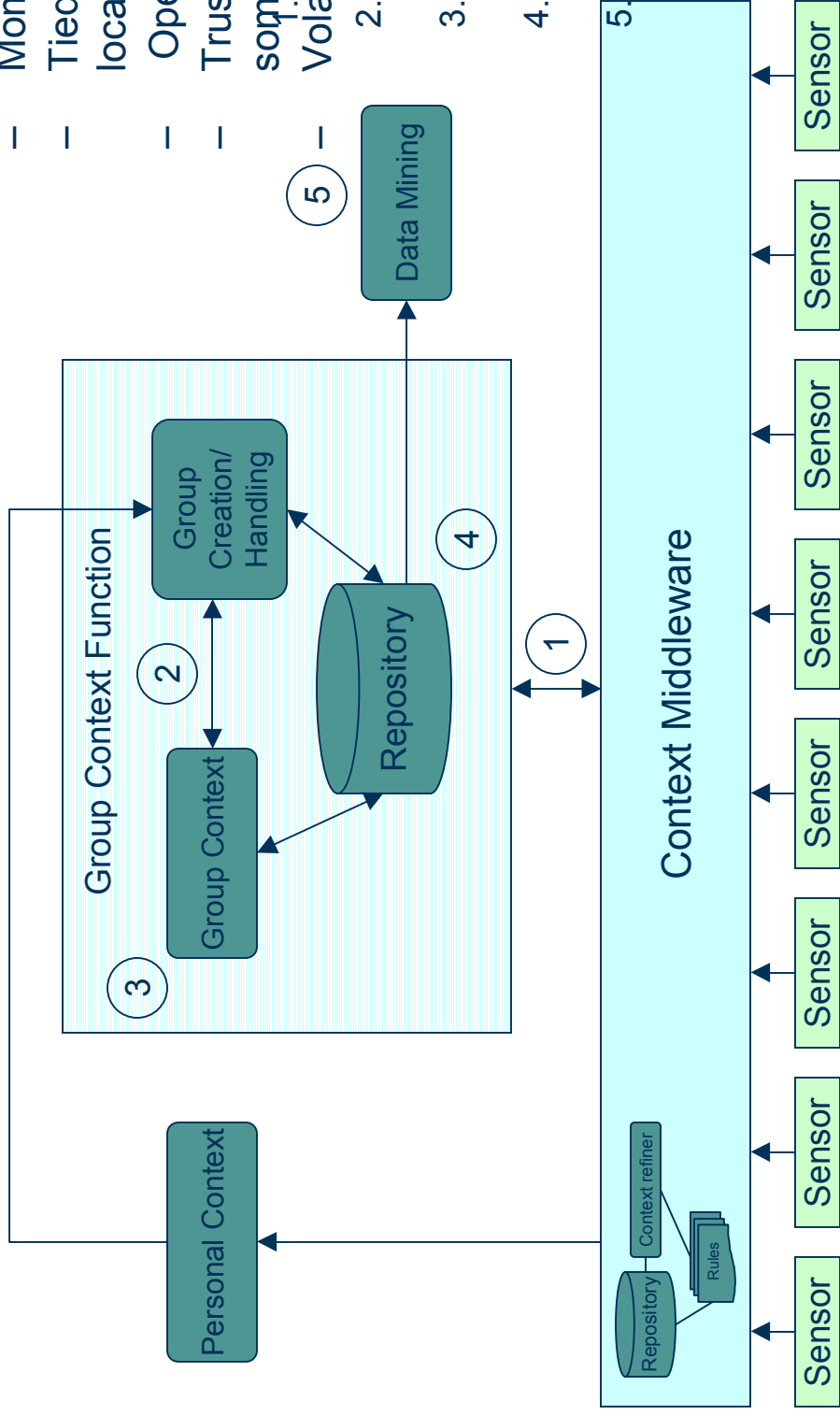
# Group Context

- Everything that defines the current state of the group

Example of context behaviour

- Momentary/Permanent
- Tied to location/Ubiquitous
- Open /Closed
- Trust in all/Trust in some

- Context Volatile/Generation
- Group/Context Creation
- Context Templates
- Context/Group Repository Data Mining



# Trust & Privacy - Requirements

- User must be in control of his personal data
  - User must be given the opportunity to give consent on giving out data
- Must be possible to merge user policies for data management
  - To create group profiles
    - What happens when users do not agree on the policies?
    - Several groups are created
- Trust and privacy must work without the user being present
  - Disconnected operation of trust engine (including the user policies)
    - One instance of the trust engine per user and data object

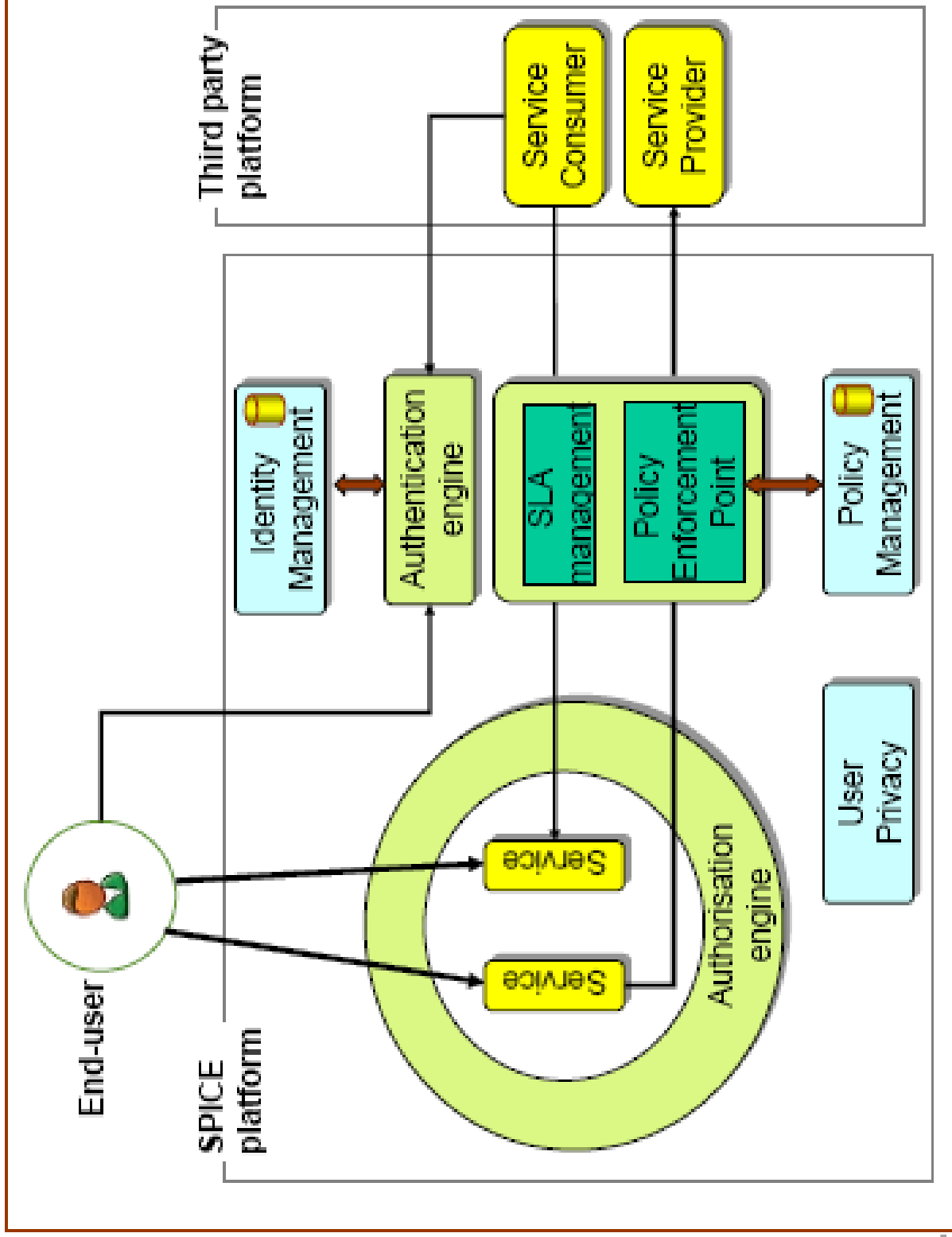
# Status of ML Trust & Privacy work

- Trust engine (conceptually) on all context provider interfaces
- User interacts with policies in trust engine at startup
- Data with low sensitivity can be made accessible in a more simplified way
- The GAF can be used to include trust in the group context
  - Through a query interface on the trust engine
- The policy language includes
  - References to the (unique) MobiLife entities
  - MobiLife methods
- Trust engines can interact using the trust engine API
  - Other components of the MobiLife system can also interact with trust engines through the API
  - Interaction does not imply changing data, only querying

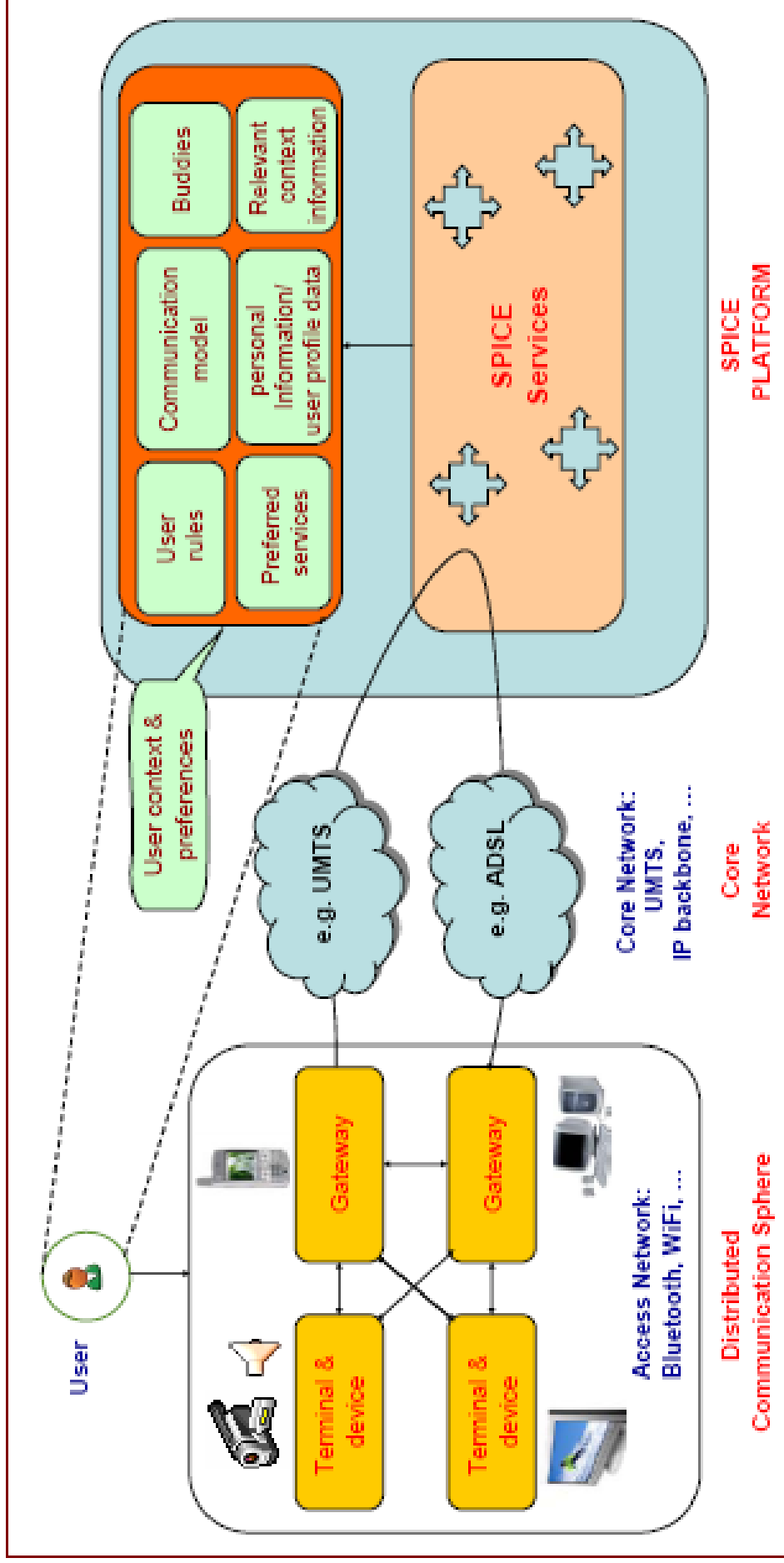
# Security is orthogonal?

- Since trust is created by user perception, security is orthogonal to trust
- System must be secure enough to be trusted
  - How much is “enough”?
    - Depends on user perceptions
- Standard technologies can be leveraged
  - Since we use XML, we can use
    - XML Encryption
    - XML Signature
    - HTTP-S and TLS
    - Public Key Infrastructure
    - Etc.
  - All these have their problems, but in this context they are “good enough”

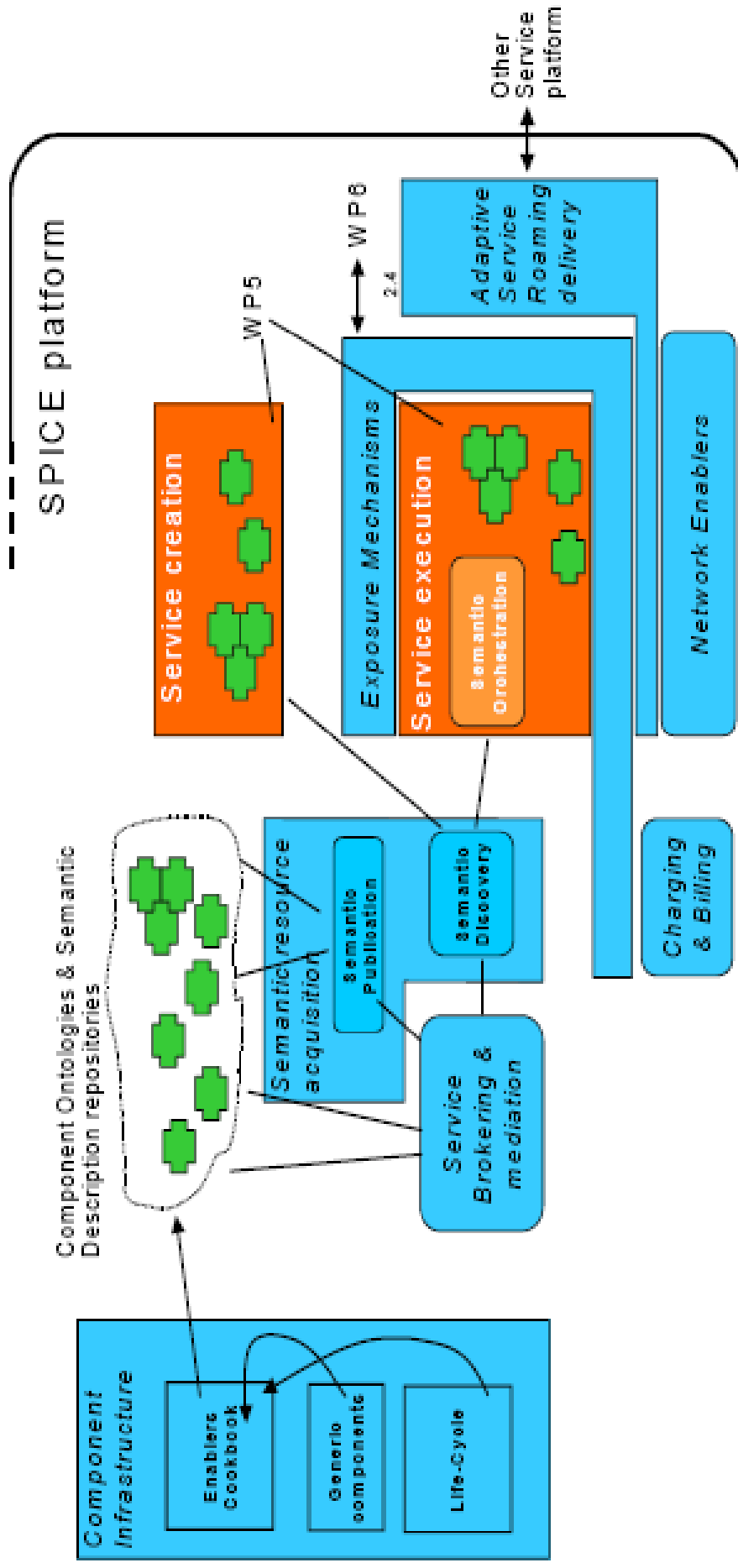
# Accessing the application



# SPICE service infrastructure

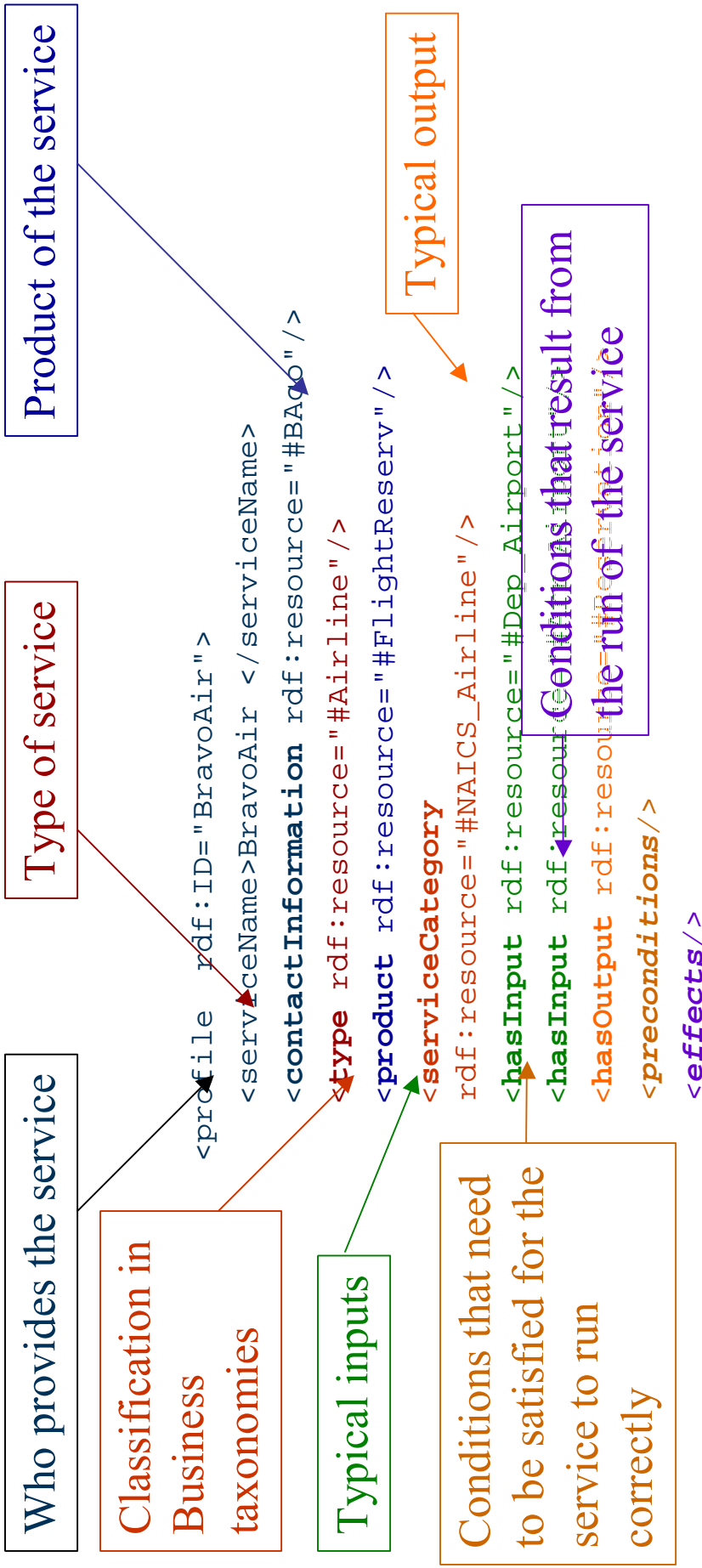


# Semantic Application Services





# Service Profile



**NOTE:** the OWL-S Profile is an OWL object, it should be specialized to include information that is needed by the specific applications/infrastructures

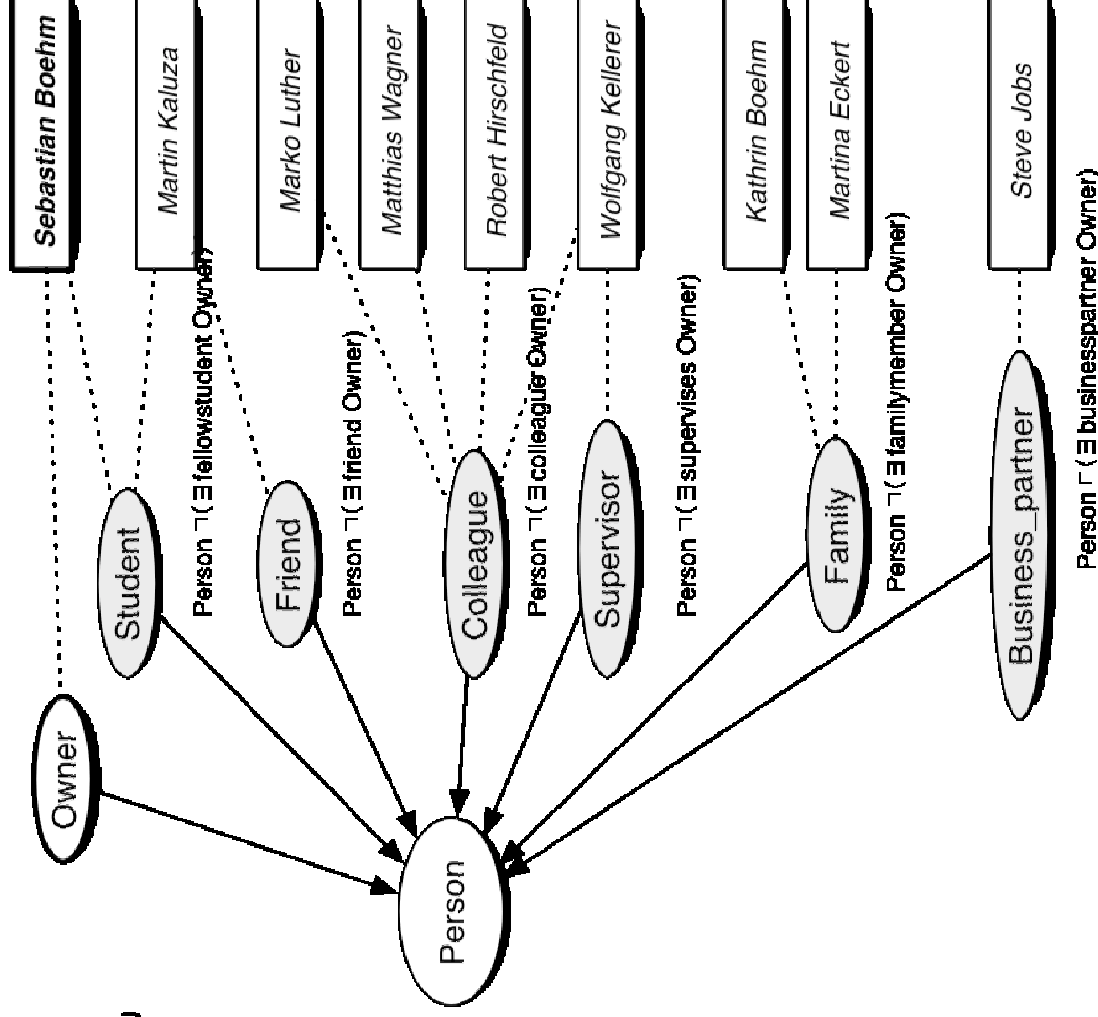
# Baseline Ontology (agent.owl)

## Object Properties:

- fellowstudent (transitive, symmetric)*
- colleague (transitive, symmetric)*
- friend (symmetric)*
- businesspartner*
- organisation*
- supervises*
- familymember (transitive)*
- *brother (inverse=sister)*
- *father*
- *mother*
- *sister (inverse=brother)*
- *spouse*

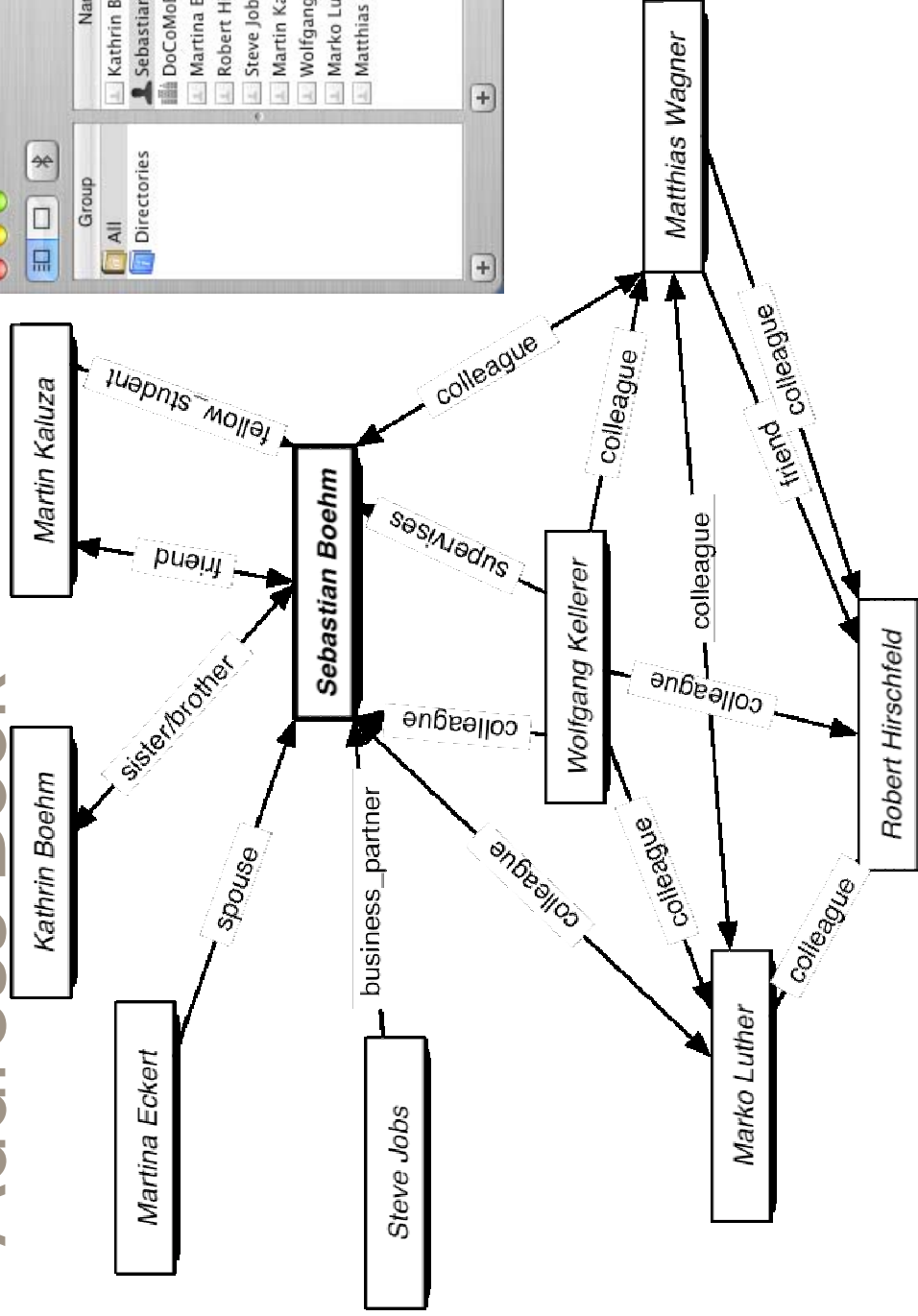
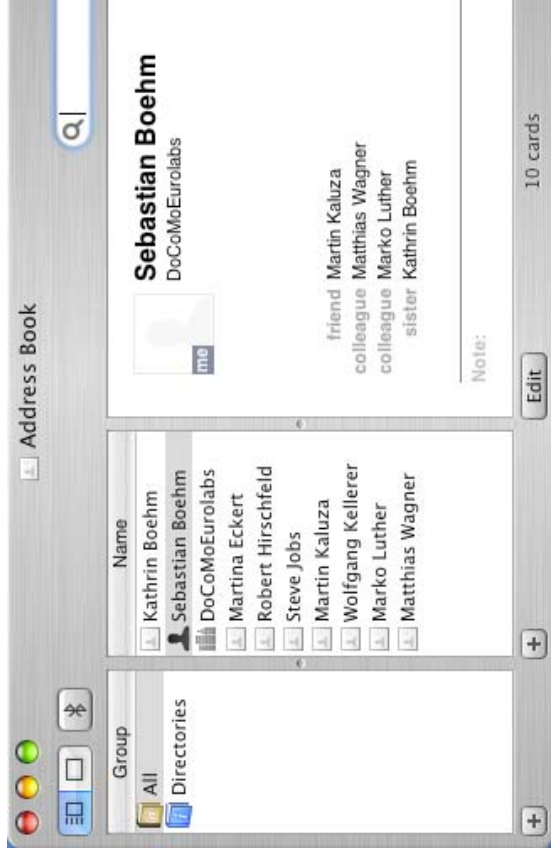
## Datatype Properties:

- firstname, homecity,*
- homecountry, homeemail,*
- homefax, homepage,*
- homephone,*
- homepostalcode,*
- homestreet, lastname,*
- mainphone,*
- mobilephone, pager,*
- title, workcity, work,*
- country, workemail,*
- workfax, workphone,*
- workpostalcode,*
- workstreet*



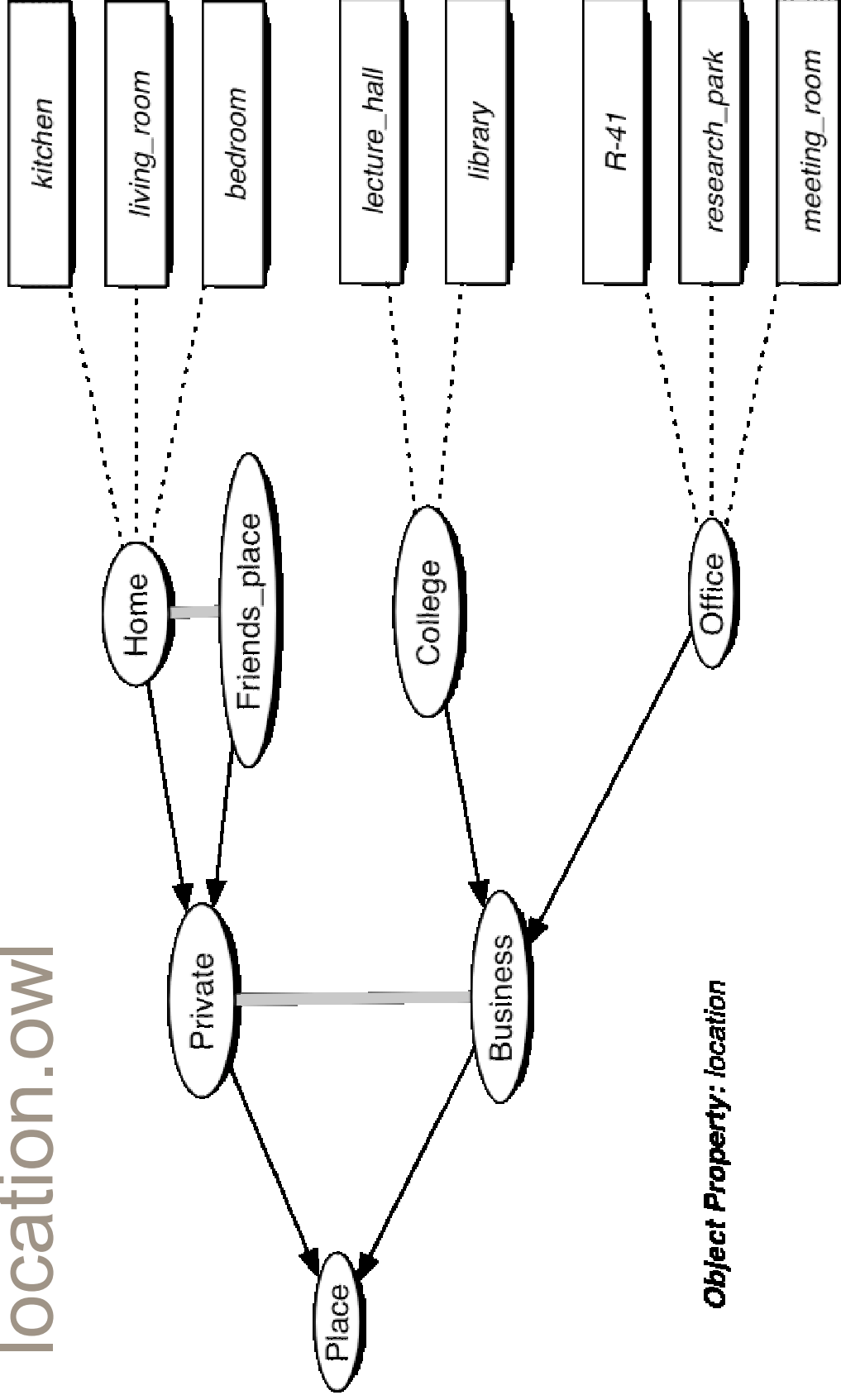
# Baseline Ontology

## Address Book



# Baseline Ontology

## location.owl



# The Projects

# The Ambient Networks Project

## Dynamic merging of heterogeneous networks & network resources

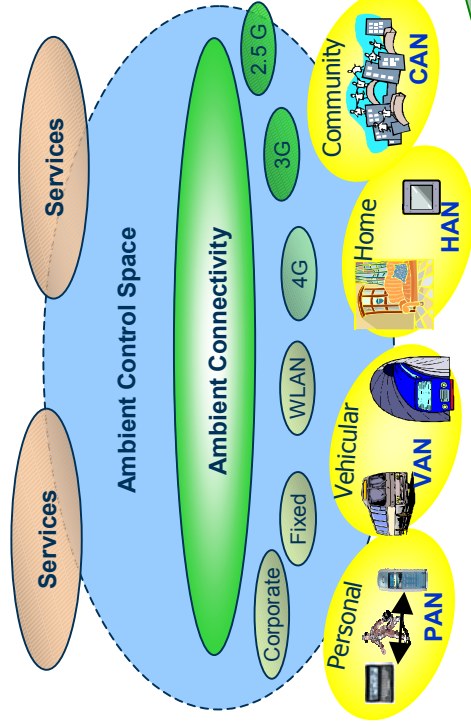
### Project data

- Part of EU 6<sup>th</sup> FP
- Start: 2004-01-01
- Duration: 2 years
- 2 more phases
- Size:
  - 190 person years
  - 21 M Euro
- 41 legal partners:
  - 10 Vendors
  - 10 Operators
  - 15 Academia
- Coordination: Ericsson AB

### Project Goals

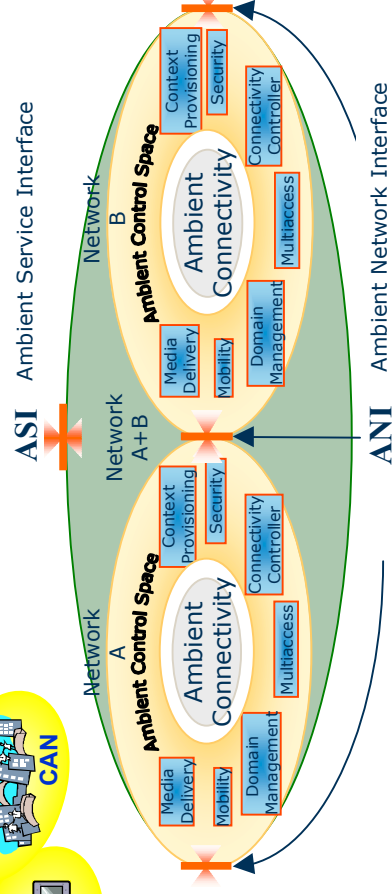
- Easy and dynamic composition of disparate networks
- Adaptive and self configuring mobile network components
- Comprehensive integrated security framework
- Validating the Ambient networks concept

- ### Progress Highlights
- Scenario result submitted to WWI and WWRF
  - Architectural framework ready D1-8
  - Detailed results in each WP published
  - Deliverables according to plan
  - WWI Symposia



### Addressed areas

- Architecture
- Multi-access
- Composition
- Mobility
- Media Delivery
- Context Management
- Security
- Network Management



# Ambient Networks phases

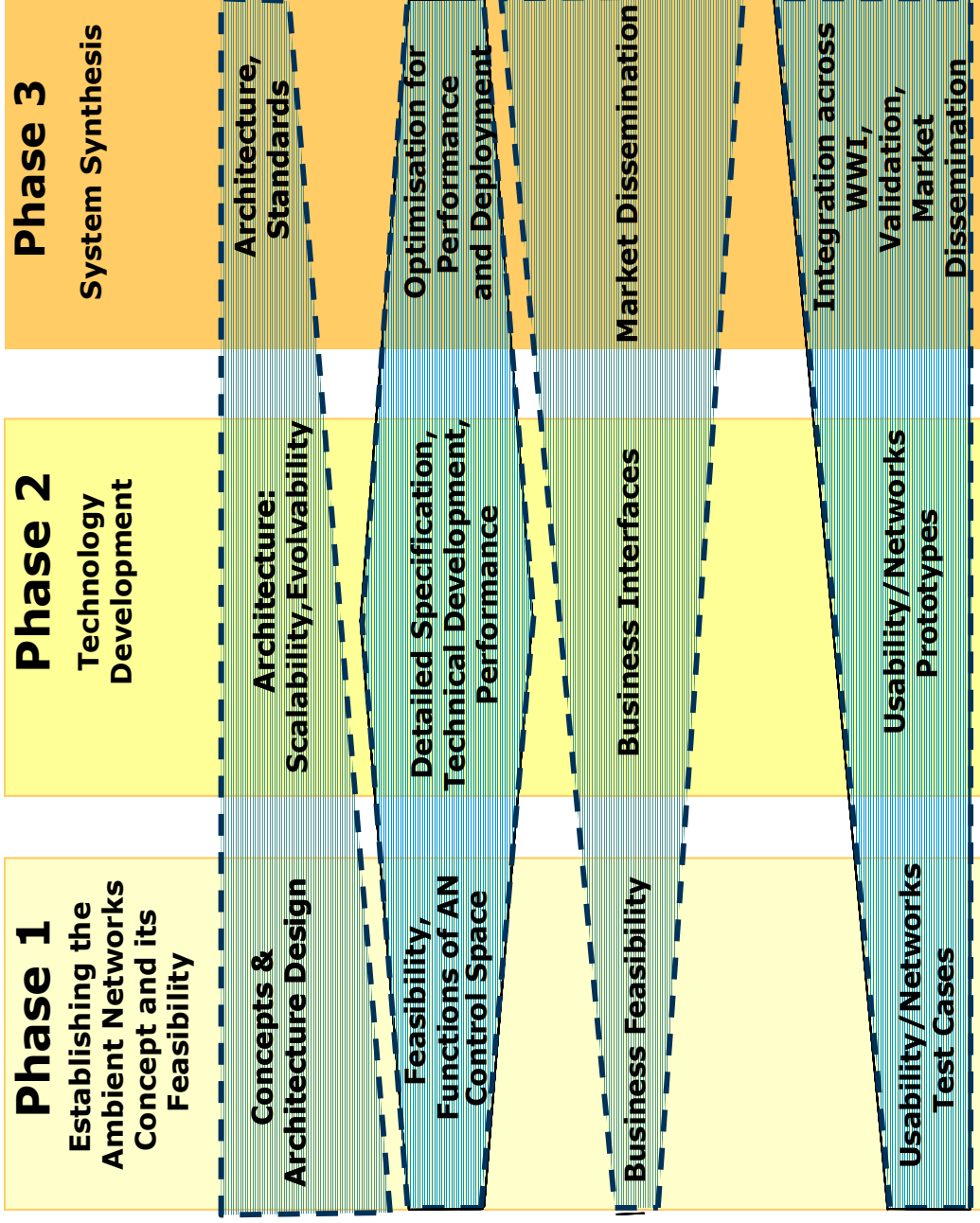
## Work-Areas

**I: Concepts and Architecture**

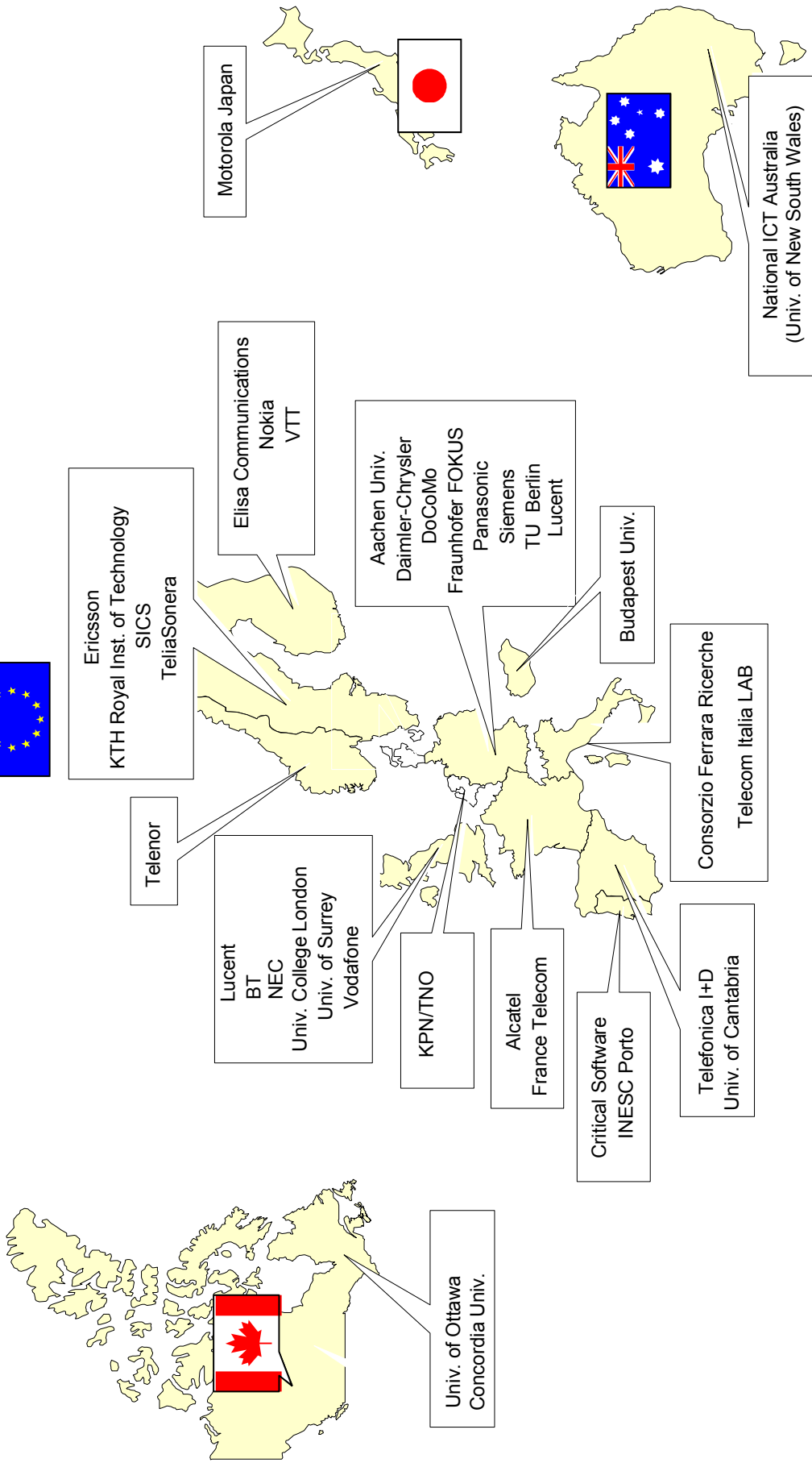
**II: Key Technical Problems**

**III: Business Interfaces and Commercial Viability**

**IV: Prototyping and Validation**



# AN Partners and Geography





# The Ambient Networks Consortium

- Ericsson
- Alcatel
- Lucent
- NEC
- Nokia
- Panasonic
- Siemens
- Daimler-Chrysler
- Motorola Japan

- BT
- DoCoMo
- Elisa Communications
- France Telecom
- KPN/TNO
- Telefonica I+D
- Telenor
- TeliaSonera
- Telecom Italia LAB
- Vodafone

- SICS
- Aachen University
- Budapest University of Technology and Economics
- Fraunhofer FOKUS
- INESC Porto
- KTH Royal Institute of Technology
- TU Berlin
- University College London,EE +CS
- University of Cantabria
- Consorzio Ferrara Ricercha
- University of Surrey
- VTT

- National ICT Australia  
(University of New South Wales)
- University of Ottawa
- Concordia University

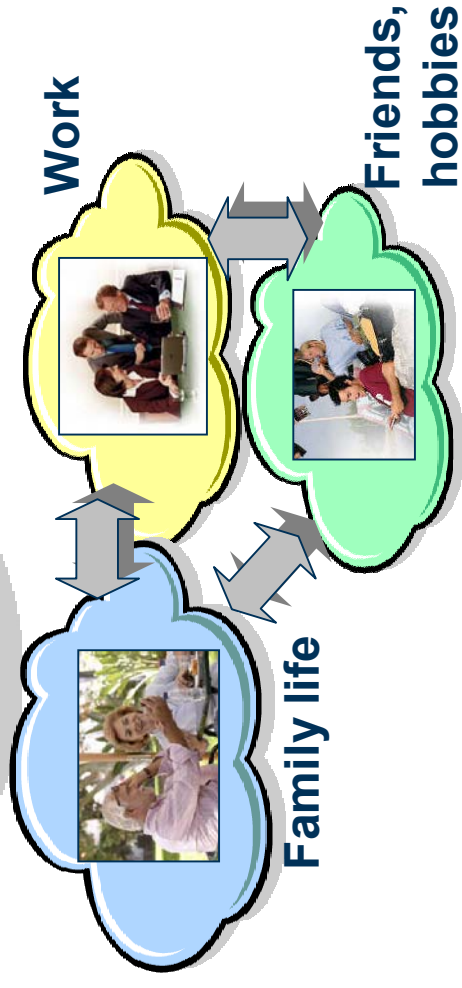
• Critical Software ,S.A.

# Life Goes Mobile with MobiLife

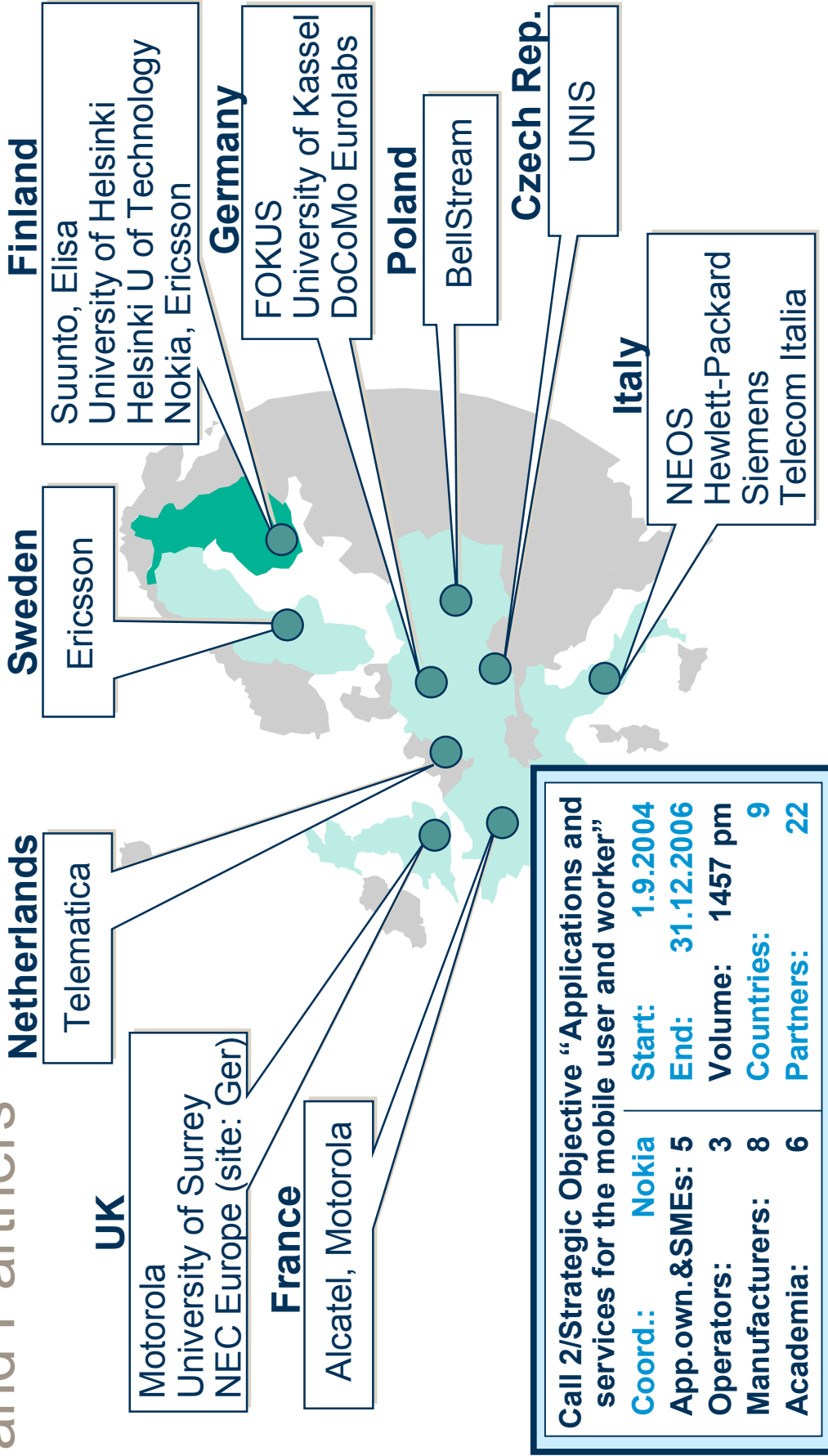
## Vision and Challenges

**Vision:** Mobile & wireless applications and services become everyday things

**Challenge:** How to help people, especially families, in making their everyday life easier



# Life Goes Mobile with MobiLife Facts and Partners



Call 2/Strategic Objective "Applications and services for the mobile user and worker"	
<b>Coord.:</b>	Nokia
<b>Start:</b>	1.9.2004
<b>End:</b>	31.12.2006
<b>App.own.&amp;SMEs:</b>	5
<b>Operators:</b>	3
<b>Volume:</b>	1457 pm
<b>Manufacturers:</b>	8
<b>Countries:</b>	9
<b>Academia:</b>	6
<b>Partners:</b>	22

# Spice

- **SPICE (Service Platform for Innovative Communication Environment)** proposal submitted to IST Call 4
  - Coordinator: France Telecom
  - Technical manager: Alcatel
- **Vision:** to design, develop, evaluate and prototype an extendable overlay architecture and framework that supports :
  - Easy and quick service creation of intelligent and ambient-aware services
  - Cooperation of multiple heterogeneous execution environments
  - Pan-European seamless delivery of services across operator domains, networks and terminals
- • **Consortium** composition: 25 partners
  - Operators: FT, Telecom Italia, T-Systems, Telenor, DoCoMo Eurolabs, TP
  - Vendors: Alcatel, Ericsson, Nokia, Siemens, NEC, Bull
  - SMEs: Neos, Iris, Volantis
  - Research Centres / Academics: Telematica Instituut, Fraunhofer Fokus, Univ of Kassel, Univ of Surrey, Univ of Turin, NTNU Trondheim, Univ of Brussels
  - Operational PM support: Alma

# Now What?

# Standardization Proposals

- We want to bring the following to standardization:
  - Privacy Management using policies
  - Group Management
  - User Profiles
  - Ontology work
  - Ambient Network interfaces
- We have already started - but you can help
  - Group management is in the process of being proposed to OMA PAG
  - User profiles are investigated as an extension to GUP in 3GPP
  - Ontologies will be submitted to the Semantic Web WG in W3C
- Public deliverables on the project websites are there for your use
- Ericsson will drive standardization where possible – but we are only one company, and others are needed to help

# You can participate

- Installation is easy
- Install Python for Series 60 on your phone (version 1.1)  
<http://www.forum.nokia.com/main/0,,034-821,00.html>
- Download the Context Watcher from  
<https://bscw.ist-mobilife.org/bscw/bscw.cgi/0/37370>  
or send a mail to  
[koolwaaij@telin.nl](mailto:koolwaaij@telin.nl)
- Send the Context Watcher app to your phone via  
“Send to > Bluetooth > Your phone”
- Start Python
- Start script via “Run script”

# Context watcher

- Reality is our laboratory
  - Real life experiments
  - Do not put individuals in a monitored environment, but give them the monitors in their daily environment
  - Record context information, reason with it and provide new applications and services
- Context watcher
  - Records location automatically, best effort
  - Uses location for additional services
    - As input parameter to map, POI and weather services
    - For reasoning to deduce personal locations
    - For sharing with buddies, friends and colleagues
    - For storage of historic data
  - Note: Not implementing trust engine (yet)



# Find out more

- Welcome to the WWI workshop with more presentations
  - Yokosuka Research Park, March 30
  - Please see [http://www.wireless-world-initiative.org/Mocca\\_WWI\\_Symposium\\_Japan\\_2006/index.html](http://www.wireless-world-initiative.org/Mocca_WWI_Symposium_Japan_2006/index.html)
- See the project websites
  - <http://www.ist-mobilife.org> (with public deliverables)
  - <http://www.ambient-networks.org>
- Work is ongoing on finalizing the concepts, and create platforms for user testing

**ERICSSON**



**TAKING YOU FORWARD**