Ambient Assisted Living Joint Programme

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2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document describes the actions performed for the dissemination of the objectives/results of the ALICE Project during the project lifetime, from 01/06/2013 to 31/12/2014.

The objective was to raise awareness of and interest inthe developed technologies and solutions among the target groups *i.e.* the scientific community, the governmental institutions, the industry involved, the associations of the blind and visually impaired , and the general public.

The report includes an overview of the project's undertaken and planned activities, giving a complete view of activities undertaken (exhaustive list of all the papers, public demonstrations published or performed within the project lifetime).

Future route to real-life use and dissemination of the knowledge beyond the end of the ALICE project is also identified.

3 INTRODUCTION

This document describes the actions undertaken for the dissemination of the objectives and the outcomes of the ALICE Project.

A widespread dissemination of the project's objectives and deliverables is considered very important for the success of the project itself as it will also facilitate later commercial exploitation (market introduction) of itsresults.

The goal was to raise public awareness of the developed technologies/solutions among key user groups, scientific and industrial communities and general public.

4 ALICE - OVERVIEW AND EXPECTED IMPACT

The objective of ALICE project is to improve the quality of life of ageing people with impaired vision by providing a navigational assistant with cognitive abilities.

People that have an impaired visual cognitive system face problems with an overall contextual understanding of space semantics, interaction with surrounding objects and have serious difficulties with planning, orientation, communication and navigational skills. The World Health Organisation reports that there are 285 million registered visually impaired people and the degree of visual impairment is increasing with an ageing population.

The navigational assistant developed within the ALICE project aims to offer visually impaired users a cognitive description based on a fusion of perceptions gathered from a range of sensors. Alice project is combining research developments in cognitive sciences, psychology, computer vision, artificial intelligence and robot navigation.

All ALICE achievements have been demonstrated in a real-life application context with final participation of end users (blind and visually impaired).

5 TARGET GROUPS

The dissemination plan (Deliverable D5.2) of the ALICE Project, set up at the beginning of the project, follows a multi-dimensional approach in order to reach different target groups such as:

- **end-user groups and associations:** this target group refers mainly to end users who will find - in the solutions developed by the ALICE Project - opportunities for new approaches and for new, more effective ways of performing their tasks.
- **industry sector**, including large enterprises and SMEs, operating in various areas where the introduction of new solutions for human-computer interaction (HCI) dedicated to the blind and visually impaired community could represent an important differentiating element and a significant added value; The addressed players will include manufacturers and vendors of both hardware and software solutions, service providers, telecom operators, *etc*.
- **the scientific community** *i.e.* research and academic organisations, scientific journals, committees, Internet forum and other working groups operating in fields similar or related to the technologies developed by the ALICE Project. This target group will be effectively reached mainly by the Consortium's academic partner.
- **general public / opinion makers;** the dissemination activities addressed to them will have the objective of generating awareness of and interest in the new applications which will be made possible through the use of an innovative approach in interacting with the computing and telecommunication devices.
- **International standardization bodies;** this target group will be specifically covered by the standardization activities planned in the ALICE Project.
- **other relevant Projects funded** or planned to be funded by the EU as well as other EU sponsored activities,
- **the Consortium staff itself**.

6 DISSEMINATION EVENTS

6.1. GENERALITIES

The ALICE dissemination efforts focus on the following main tools:

1. Project web site,
2. Participation in exhibitions and in particular in symposia/events dedicated to end user associations for blind and visually impaired,
3. Participation in international scientific/technical meetings and conferences,
4. Contacts with industrial associations and industrial alliances,
5. Contacts with universities and research centres and co-operation with other European projects,
6. Training and education activities addressed to the blind and visually impaired communities,
7. Publication and wide distribution of a flyer with the final results of the ALICE Project.

6.2. CONSORTIUM ACTIVITIES

6.2.1 DISSEMINATION THROUGH SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL EVENTS

National/international conferences

Partners of the ALICE Project have participated in scientific meetings and technical conferences and exhibitions specifically devoted to technologies relevant to the project (computer vision, human-machine interaction, mobile technologies).

Here below is the list of accepted publications in international conferences.

1. IMT - Titus Zaharia, Andrei Bursuc, Matej Zorec, Polona Car, Monica Cunil, and Davorka Sel, "ALICE – Assistance for Better Mobility and Improved Cognition of Elderly Blind and Visually Impaired", 14th International Workshop on Image and Audio Analysis for Multimedia Interactive services **WIAMIS** 2013, July 2013, Paris, France.
2. IMT - Titus Zaharia, Andrei Bursuc, "Assistive technologies: experiences from AAL for the blind and visually impaired within the ALICE project", invited talk at **Innovation In Medicine and Healthcare InMed2013**, Athens, Greece, July 2013.
3. Alpineon presentation to the **Symposium on Blind and Partially Sighted Person in the Society** Ljubljana, April 2013.
4. IMT - Ruxandra Tapu, Bogdan Mocanu, Titus Zaharia, “A computer vision system that ensures the autonomous navigation of blind people”, **E-Health and Bioengineering Conference (EHB)**, 21-23 Nov. 2013, Iasi, Romania.
5. IMT - Ruxandra Tapu, Bogdan Mocanu, Andrei Bursuc, Titus Zaharia, "A Smartphone-Based Obstacle Detection and Classification System for Assisting Visually Impaired People”, **IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV)**, Workshop on Wearable Computer Vision Systems, 1-8 Dec, 2013, Sydney, Australia.

6. IMT - Ruxandra Tapu, Bogdan Mocanu, Titus Zaharia, "Real Time Static/Dynamic Obstacle Detection for Visually Impaired Persons", **IEEE International Conference on Consumer Electronics (ICCE),** January 2014, Las Vegas, United States.
7. IMT - Souheil Hadj Said, Ismail Boujelbane, Titus Zaharia, "Recognition of urban buildings with spatial consistency and a small-sized vocabulary tree", **IEEE International Conference on Consumer Electronics Berlin**, ICCE Berlin 2014, September 2014, Berlin, Germany.
8. IMT - Ismail Boujelbane, Souheil Hadj Said, Titus Zaharia, "Multi-object recognition and tracking with feature points matching and spatial layout consistency", **IEEE International Conference on Consumer Electronics Berlin**, ICCE Berlin 2014, September 2014, Berlin, Germany.
9. UBPS - Polona Car, Comland - Vid Vidic, "Presentation of technological development in the field of assistance to the blind and visually impaired", Meeting with parents of blind and visually impaired children, March 2013, Ljubljana, Slovenia

6.2.2 DISSEMINATION THROUGH LOCAL/NATIONAL/EUROPEAN EVENTS

AAL Forum: The AAL Forum is the place where all the community of AAL gathers (projects, practitioners, policy and decision makers, investors, scholars, and the constituency of the AAL JP). There is a conferential side and there is also a more market oriented side where the projects can exhibit their services and products and meet with the needs of the market.

The ALICE consortium has participated in two AAL Forum events:

- In 2013, Sweden, Norrkoping, September (Polona Car, UPBS)
- In 2014, Romania, Bucarest, September (Ruxandra Tapu, IMT)

At the initiative of UBPS, ALICE has been presented in EBU NEWSLETTER N° 90 January - February 2013: http://www.euroblind.org/press-and-publications/publications/nr/43

ALICE has also been presented at the Slovenian Tiflo section in July 2013. The presentation was given by Polona Car from UBPS: http://www.alice-project.eu/news/34-alice-project-presented-at-slovenian-tiflo-section

UBPS is currently preparing a presentation article about the project to be published in RIKOSS, which is the e-magazine published by UBPSS and which targets the specialized IT equipment for blind / visually impaired, opportunities for education, work, and entertainment.

6.2.3 COOPERATION WITH OTHER PROJECTS

In France, the ALICE activities and results have been presented to the MEDIA4D think tank (http://www.socialmedia4d.com), which deals with general issues related to the accessibility for disabled people.

6.2.4 GENERAL PUBLIC DISSEMINATION AND PRESS

Three interviews have been given to French journalists by IMT (T. Zaharia) regarding ALICE, with articles published by technologically specialized journals:

- Usine nouvelle (to be published and at the same time published as press release by Institut Mines-Télécom) (www.usinenouvelle.com*)*
- Entreprendre (to be published in January 2015) (http://www.agglo-evry.fr/Entreprendre).
- Préfigurations (http://prefigurations.com/), published in January 2014.

One interview/presentation have been given on national TV in Slovenia by UBPS (Polona Car)

- Polona Car (UBPS) presented ALICE prototype on National TV SLOVENIA in »Ugriznimo znanost« (http://4d.rtvslo.si/arhiv/ugriznimo-znanost/174295466) in September 2014

6.2.5 EXHIBITIONS

The ALICE project has been present at the following exhibitions:

- **Futur en Seine, Paris**, France, June 2014,
- **Sight Village, London,** UK, November 2014.

7 THE PROJECT WEB SITE, FLYERS

The project web site is available at URL http://www.alice-project.eu. It deals with all the aspects of the project and all its public activities.

The web site consists of public and private area. The public area is aimed at general public, while private area is designated for consortium partners only.

The main page of the public area presents general information about the project. Top news evolving from the project are also displayed there and the events related to the subject of the project are listed. All AAL events to come are displayed on the main page. Main web page also shows funding source of ALICE project including AAL logo and logos of all public authorities co-financing ALICE project.

On the main page also links to Twitter and Facebook accounts are given.

Subpages are accessible from the menu on the web page with a more detailed description of ALICE project such as:

- A list of partners contributing to ALICE project;
- Publications related to the ALICE project such as flyer (which will be prepared with basic info about the project) and articles related to the content of the project (not only published by consortium partners);
- Project description, including technologies and work plan;
- Contact form available for inquiries about the project by general public, followed with contacts of the project coordinator.

The size of fonts on the web page can be increased/decreased to ease the use of the web page by visually impaired readers. Public area will be also adapted to blind and partially sighted community since it will follow W3C WAI WCAG 2.0 guidelines level AA. W3C (WCAG) 2.0 is now also an ISO/IEC International Standard, ISO/IEC 40500:2012.

Private area of the web page can be accessed only with user name/password, owned by consortium partners only.

Private area serves as a collaborative environment for sharing documents between consortium partners. Upon login to the private area a new item in menu appears entitled “members only”, of which sub items are dedicated to each work package (WP) documents, i.e WP 1 to WP 6, to Project Management Committee and Technical Management Committee documents, as well as to plenary meetings documents.

Each user can upload and download documents in the respective area where he/she is a member.

The web site will be maintained by Comland after the end of the project.

A flyer illustrating the ALICE project and its achievements has also been provided and distributed to partners for dissemination purposes. The electronic versions are available on the ALICE web site.