



## Digital competence screenreader network

Program  
eLearning

Duration of the project  
01.01.2007 – 30.06.2008

### Aims

The DICOMP-S.NET project mainly aims at supporting the digital competence of blind and visually impaired people in Europe, a group that is still facing considerable discrimination regarding their participation in modern training and education processes.

Therefore, the DICOMP-S.NET project will, for the first time, make available a free screen reader for blind and visually impaired people in Europe and, in an extensive dissemination campaign, distribute it directly to the target group.

In addition, blind and visually impaired tutors will be trained in the project; they will then be able to support blind people with both implementation as well as use of the screen reader and to solve problems. Tutor training will, partially, be done via an e-learning application.

It will be essential for the free screen reader to be compatible with the new Microsoft operating system Vista to thus make it accessible for the target group.

### Content

In a first step, the screen reader, which is already available and basically functioning, will be made available to the individual project partners from the various partner countries for intensive target group pre-testing. Necessary adaptations and country-specific remarks will be made in a unified assessment protocol; they will be integrated into the screen reader programme code by one partner organisation. At the same time, a tutor training will be developed to allow blind and visually impaired people to work as tutors for the new screen reader in the individual countries and to support the target group with the use of the screen reader. In order to generate high relevance for the individual partner countries, the screen reader and all texts and tools concerned will be translated into the respective partner languages.

While the future tutors will be trained via an e-learning-based application and in a joint face to face tutor meeting, a big and broad information campaign regarding the screen reader will be launched with the help of all networks and target group associations. At the end of the project, it is the aim to broadly use the screen reader and its instruments and tools throughout Europe and to give blind and visually impaired people, for the first time, a free possibility to participate in e-Europe.

### Expected results

- Free screen reader in all partner languages, including all accompanying documents (menu navigation, help texts, manuals)
- Tutor training for blind and visually impaired people for the screen reader, partially via an e-learning application
- Information campaigns national
- Roadshows national for the screen reader
- International conference and symposium

### Partners



### Coordinating organisation

bfi Steiermark | Eggenberger Allee 15 | 8020 Graz | Austria | <mailto:claudia.hack@bfi-stmk.at>