

**Work Package 6 : D6.1**  
**Project website / remote collaboration tools**



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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Website</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Public site . . . . .	3
2.2	Internal site . . . . .	3
2.3	Collaborators site . . . . .	3
<b>3</b>	<b>Collaboration tools</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Network area storage . . . . .	5
3.2	Subversion code repository . . . . .	5
3.3	Coltex document repository . . . . .	5
3.4	Video conferencing solutions . . . . .	6
3.5	Project mailing list . . . . .	6
<b>4</b>	<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>6</b>

## 1 Introduction

This report describes the project deliverable D6.1, which comprises the website and those tools that have been identified and put in place to aid efficient collaboration between consortium members.

## 2 Project Website

SIMPLE<sup>4</sup>ALL has registered the domain names *simple4all-project.eu* and *simple4all.org* and the SIMPLE<sup>4</sup>ALL website is now available at both of these addresses. We are unable to acquire *simple4all.eu* as this domain name has already been registered by others, although it is not in actual use.

The project website is split into three sub-sites: a public site, an internal site and a collaborators site. The sites are implemented using Wordpress in multisite mode using a professional theme and a number of additional plugins to provide greater flexibility in providing or restricting access for viewing and editing pages, plus a specific plugin to provide better integration with google analytics. We can therefore obtain detailed statistics on use of the sites. This combination of tools has allowed us to rapidly develop an interesting and attractive web presence, and will allow all consortium members to contribute content for the duration of the project.

### 2.1 Public site

The public web site front page (figure 1(a)) provides an overview of the project, and uses scrollable banners to present news items relating to the project. From the front page a series of portfolio items can be accessed which describe the individual consortium institutions (figures 1(b) & 1(c)) , the individual researchers figure 1(d), and collaborators (in preparation).

The public site will also host online demonstrations of project work and provide a comprehensive list of publications for the project as these become available. We will continue to develop this site as the project progresses. Public deliverables, including this one, will be published on this site.

Google analytics figures show that the public website received 111 unique visitors during January 2012, suggesting that already the site is being accessed by those outside of the consortium.

### 2.2 Internal site

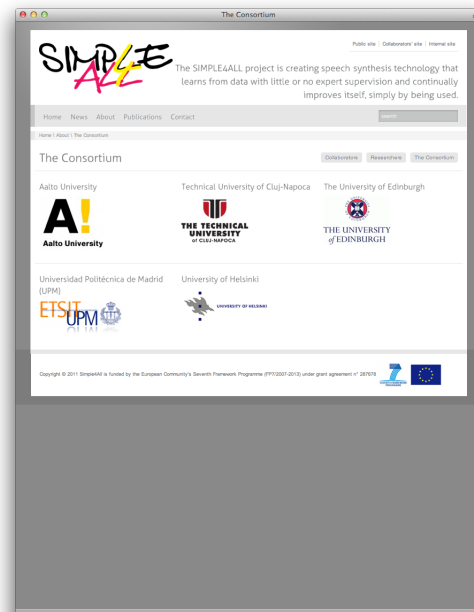
The internal website (figure 2(a)) provides a restricted-access information portal for consortium members. Content currently includes dates and minutes of meetings, links to internal documents, including project documents and deliverables, and guides describing how to access the various project tools. This site will continue to be developed to meet the needs of the consortium.

### 2.3 Collaborators site

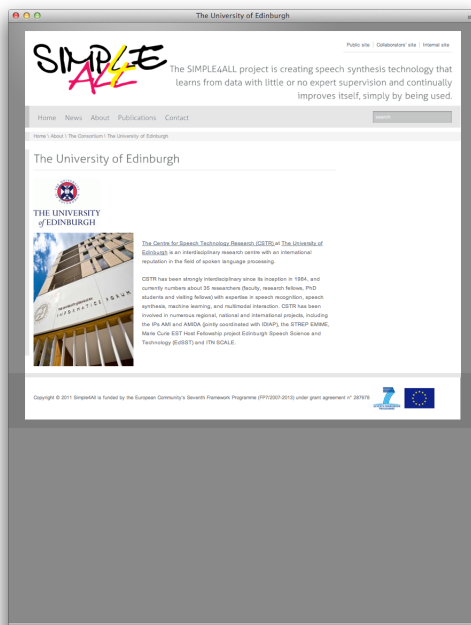
A further sub-site intended for external collaborators (figure 2(b)) is under development. This site currently provides more detailed project information than is available on the public site. This enables external collaborators who have been invited to join the project to determine how they can best collaborate. As the project progresses, this site will be used to share information between the consortium and collaborators and provide a forum for discussion between the consortium and collaborators.



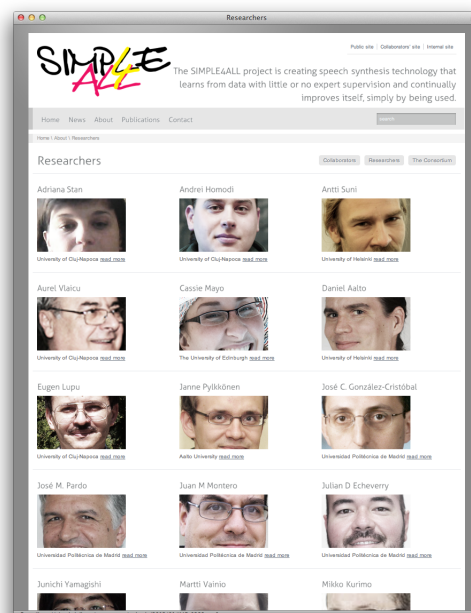
(a) Frontpage.



(b) Consortium information page.



(c) Example information on a consortium member.



(d) Information on researchers.

Figure 1: SIMPLE<sup>4</sup>ALL public website

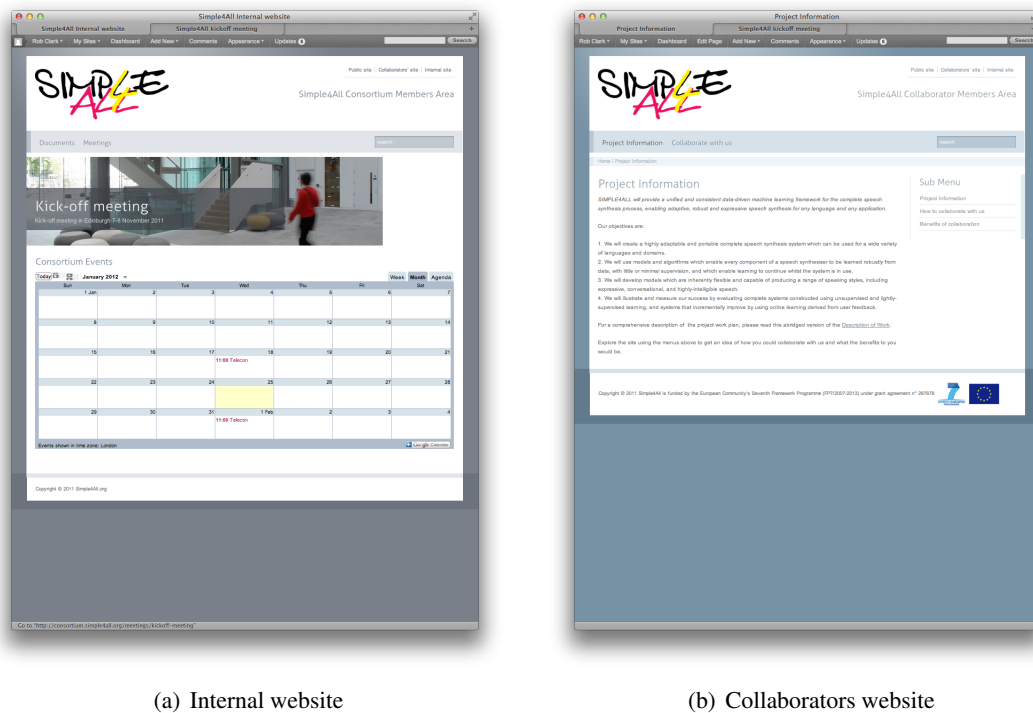


Figure 2: SIMPLE<sup>4</sup>ALL restricted access websites

### 3 Collaboration tools

In addition to the project website a number of other collaboration tools have been identified and put in place for project use.

#### 3.1 Network area storage

A suitable amount of shared disk storage has been allocated for use by the project; this was described in Deliverable 1.1. alongside the description of the data that is to be stored on it. This is accessible by all partners in the consortium.

#### 3.2 Subversion code repository

A subversion code repository has been set up to allow consortium partners to share code and maintain version control over code related to the project. This is being hosted by UEDIN 's compute and data facility to provide maximum robustness and flexibility. This service also provides an enhanced wiki and issue tracking system for software development, which the project may use.

#### 3.3 Coltex document repository

To facilitate the joint authoring of documents, we have chosen to use Coltex. Coltex (Collaborative L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X) is a system allowing multiple people to share and edit a common L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document (such as this deliverable report). It has a backend repository to control and manage the document files and an automated build mechanism to keep a PDF snapshot version of the document up to date. A separate Coltex repository hosted by UEDIN is now in use by the project.

### **3.4 Video conferencing solutions**

We have identified Citrix GoToMeeting as a suitable remote collaboration tool for video conferencing which includes the facility to share desktops. This software allows us to hold video conference calls with six channels of video from a range of different client platforms. Bi-weekly meetings using this tool have worked successfully to date.

In addition to the above tool, we have identified Skype as a suitable alternate video conferencing solution for smaller ad hoc meetings between pairs of partners; this has the advantage that a call can easily be initiated by any user.

### **3.5 Project mailing list**

A project-wide mailing list has been established using UEDIN 's mailing list management systems. We envisage other mailing lists will be created as the project progresses; for example, an external collaborators' mailing list

## **4 Conclusions**

A framework for efficient collaboration within the project has now been put in place and is being actively used by all consortium members. These resources will continue to be developed and adapted to the project needs as required. The project also now has web presence to facilitate collaboration, dissemination and expansion of the external collaborators group.