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FLaReNet Annual Report 2010

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¹ OJ L 79, 24.3.2005, p. 1.



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1 Project Objectives

Language Technologies (LT), together with their backbone, Language Resources (LR), provide an essential support to the challenge of Multilingualism and ICT of the future. The main task of language technologies is to bridge language barriers and to help creating a new environment where information flows smoothly across frontiers and languages, no matter the country, and the language, of origin.

To achieve this, we need to act as a community able to join forces on a set of shared priorities.

However, the field of LR&Ts suffers from an excess of individuality and fragmentation: there is no substantial sharing of what are the priorities for the field, where to move, not to mention a common timeframe.

This lack of coherent directions is partially also reflected by the difficulty with which fundamental information about LR&Ts can be reached: basically, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to get a clear picture of the current situation of the field in simple terms such as who are the main actors, what are the available development and deployment methods, what are the “best” language resources, what are the areas for which further development and investment would be most necessary, etc. Substantial information is not easily reachable not only for the producers but also for policy makers and funding agencies.

The field is active, but it needs coherence. Of course, coherence will better be assured by sharing common priorities and endeavours. Under this respect, since some time large groups have been advocating the need of a LR&T infrastructure, which is increasingly recognised as a necessary step for building on each other achievements, integrating resources and technologies and avoiding dispersed or conflicting efforts. A large range of LRs and LTs is there, but the infrastructure that puts LR&Ts together and sustains them is still largely missing; interoperability of resources, tools, and frameworks has recently come to be understood as perhaps the most pressing current need for language processing research. Infrastructure building is thus indicated by many as the most urgent issue and a way to make the field move forward, together with real sharing of resources, and an effort to make resources available for all languages.

FLaReNet – Fostering Language Resources Network – aims at developing the needed common vision and fostering a European strategy for consolidating the sector, thus enhancing competitiveness at EU level and worldwide. It establishes itself as **an international Forum**, composed by an enlarging community, whose goals are:

- **to facilitate interaction** among LR&T stakeholders and ultimately re-build a community around LR and LTs;
- **to promote and sustain international cooperation;**
- to coordinate a community-wide effort to **analyse the sector** of LR&Ts along all the relevant dimensions: technical and scientific, but also organisational, economic, political and legal;
- to **identify** short, medium, and long-term **strategic objectives** and **provide consensual recommendations** in the form of a plan of action targeted to a broad range of stakeholders, from the industrial and scientific community to funding agencies and policy makers;



- to **pave the way to the set up** and functioning of an **Open Resource Infrastructure** through a number of preparatory initiatives that must be continued and strengthened during the establishment and the life of the ORI.

Although the FLaReNet activities are addressed to the Language Resources community at large, they are particularly relevant in this timeframe for supporting and integrating the role of the new META-NET Network of Excellence².

2 The Consortium and the Network

FLaReNet is bringing together leading experts of research institutions, academies, companies, consortia, associations, funding agencies, public and private bodies both at European and international level. This way, we ensure that both LR producers and users are represented and actively involved, in addition to technology developers. And in turn, broad participation of different key-figures and experts in the various working groups will ensure that recommendations are formulated through a consensual bottom-up process in which the relevant scientific, technical, organisational, strategic aspects and positions are taken into account.

The FLaReNet Consortium was originally composed by 38 Institutions, representing the FLaReNet partners (27 beneficiaries and 11 non-funded members). They were complemented by a Support Group composed mainly by companies (25 members).

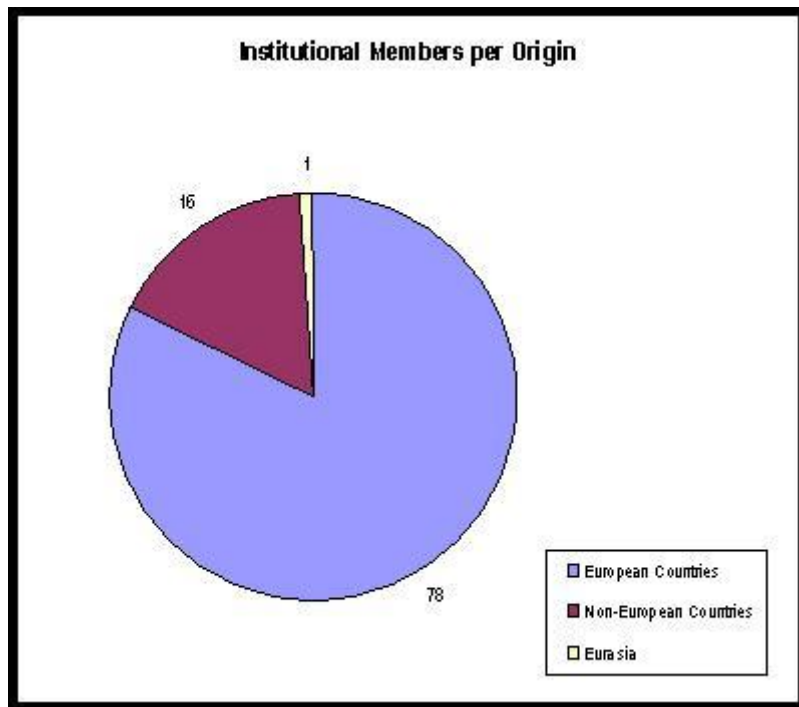
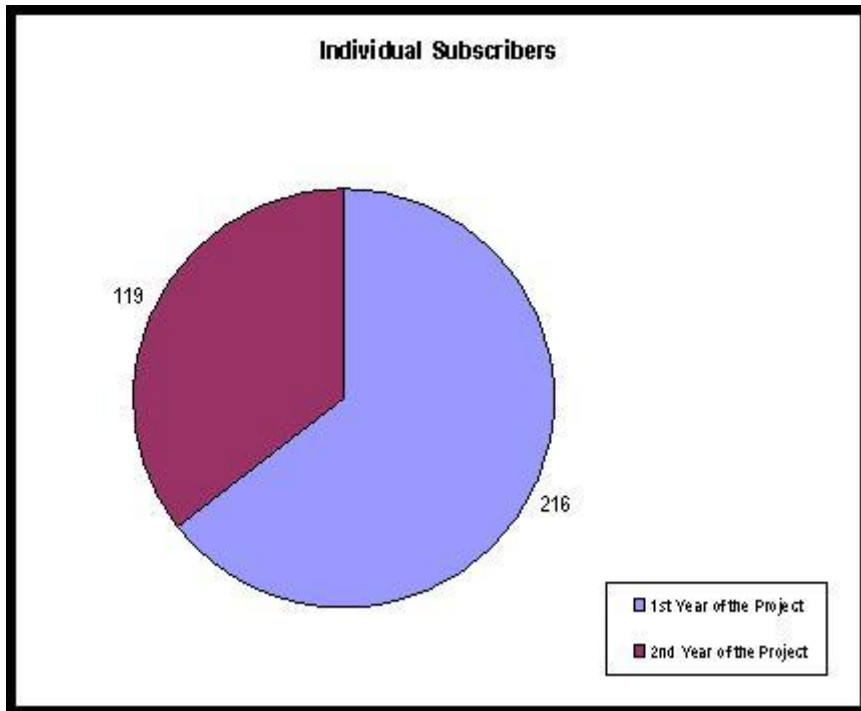
One of the FLaReNet mandates – and a measure for its success – is the progressive enlargement to new members. This enlargement was originally conceived as an iterative process gradually promoting members of the Supporters set into the Members group.

A more significant distinction in membership was then introduced by the Steering Committee between *Institutional Members (IM)* and *Individual Subscribers (IS)*. People who join the Network on the FLaReNet website become Individual Subscribers. The Steering Committee, then, reserves the right to ask for an official involvement of individuals' Institutions. Those institutions agreeing to it become Institutional Members of the Network. This distinction in membership represents two different degrees of involvement. Individual subscribers are expected to contribute to the discussion over major themes, get early access to emerging recommendations and provide feedback over FLaReNet reports. Institutional members are expected to provide significant input and advice about major themes of relevance, to make proposals about topics deserving special workshops to be discussed, and in particular to endorse FLaReNet recommendations and disseminate them in their respective communities.

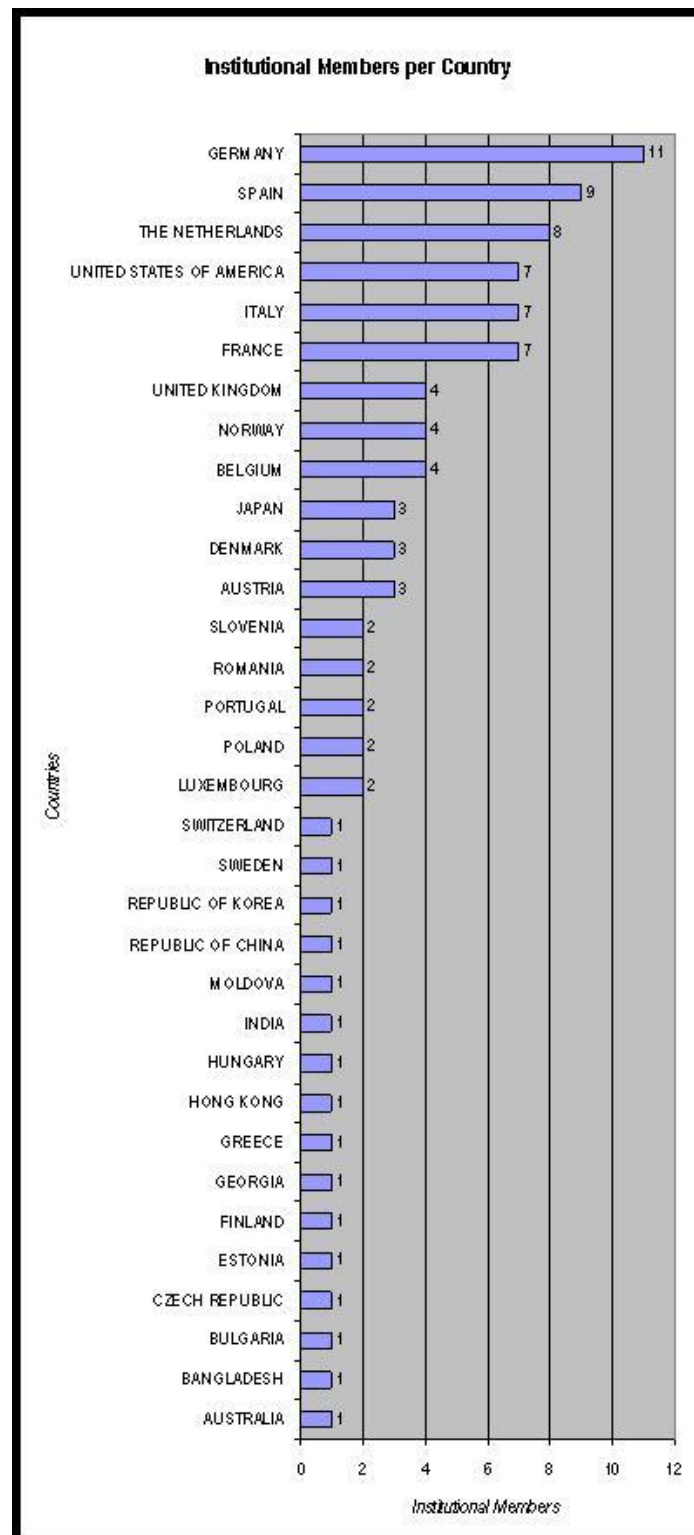
After the first year, the FLaReNet community counted 217 individual subscribers and 79 institutional members from 31 different countries.

In the second year, several new colleagues have joined as Individual Subscribers, and Institutional Membership has increased in parallel amounting to a total of 336 Individual Subscribers and 98 Institutional Members from 33 different countries.

² <http://www.meta-net.eu>



Provided that the more representative countries in the network are the ones belonging to the European Union (with Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, France and Italy in pole position), the international dimension of FLaReNet is testified by the presence of subscribers from United States of America, Japan, Australia, Bangladesh, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, the Republic of China and the Republic of Korea.



In addition to the activity of expanding the Network of FLaReNet affiliates, a Network of National Contact Points has been established, for the purpose of obtaining up-to-date and reliable information about current initiatives worldwide in the area of Language Resources (Data, Tools,



Evaluation and Meta-Resources). The Network consists at present of 102 experts from 76 countries or regions in the European Union (26 Member States and 6 regions), non-EU European countries (9 countries) and non-European countries (35 countries). Those Contact Points have been first asked to provide information on the initiatives on Language Resources in their country/region, but they will also be available for ensuring a permanent link between FLaReNet and their country/region, and for providing further reliable information about the HLT research activities and entities, industries and administrations in their country/regions.

A Map showing all the countries for which there is a FLaReNet contact point is available on the FLaReNet web site³.

3 Major Project Results and Achievements

FLaReNet outcomes are essentially **of directive nature**: to **help the EC**, and national funding agencies, **identify priority areas** of LRs and LT that need public funding to develop or improve.

In the development of recommendations FLaReNet asks for the contribution of the entire community, by means of a continuous direct consultation of key players and stakeholders. **Discussion and consensus building are thus at the very core** of the network activities, and FLaReNet is spending substantial effort toward creating occasions where key topics of the field of Language Resources and Technology can be discussed and debated.

This second year of activity has been mainly devoted to:

- a) strengthen and enlarge the FLaReNet community
- b) organise meetings and cooperation initiatives among different types of players involved with Language Resources for the purpose of deriving strategies and recommendations for the sector of LR&T
- c) organise the second FLaReNet Forum
- d) actively initiate a number of concrete initiatives supporting the availability of LRs (the LRE Map and the Repository)
- e) facilitate information sharing and discussion
- f) act as a facilitator among existing initiatives related to Language Resources, to ensure smooth communication and avoid fragmentation of efforts and goals
- g) broadly survey the sector of LR&Ts, in particular for the areas of standardisation needs and requirements, new methods for automatic acquisition and repurposing of LRs, evaluation and validation methodologies, campaigns and services, and existing language resources and current status of HLT field
- h) engage the FLaReNet community; define and implement communication and dissemination strategies to brand the FLaReNet product.

As a result of the above activities, FLaReNet is now well positioned in the field of Language Resources and Technologies, and its brand is well recognized. Collaboration with FLaReNet is continuously being sought by other projects and initiatives and requests for endorsement and support are being received.

³ http://www.flarenet.eu/?q=Map_of_FLaReNet_Contact_Points



Among the most prominent results we cite:

- A steadily enlarging **community**, composed by 336 Individual Subscribers and 98 Institutional Members from 33 different countries
- A considerable number of meetings either organised or co-organised by FLaReNet. Among them, the second FLaReNet Forum holds a special place, having already become a tradition in the field of Language Resources and Technologies.
- **A Blueprint of Actions and Infrastructures (D8.2b)** gathering the recommendations collected around the many meetings, panels and consultations of the community (see below, Dissemination Activities), as well as the results of the surveying and analysis activities carried out under FLaReNet work packages. The Blueprint encompasses a preliminary Plan for Actions and Infrastructures targeted at HLT players at large, policy-makers and funding agencies.
- **Four reports** offering an in-depth analysis of key topics in the sector of LR&Ts, such as: a) standardisation b) sustainability for Language Resources c) scientific, organisational and economic models for building and maintaining LRs and d) the language resources needed for research investigations and for technology development and evaluation in ICT and related applications. These reports are available under the form of FLaReNet deliverables (D4.2, D2.2, D3.1, and D7.2, respectively) in the project web site.
- **Two surveys** of broad areas of the sector of LR&Ts at large have been completed (feeding into D2.1b, and D7.1).

Finally, it must be recognised that FLaReNet has truly become a *community of experts* that – by acting as an aggregator and facilitator of information sharing and discussion – aims to become one of the *first scientific social networks* in the field of LR&Ts.

4 Summary of Activities

In this chapter we briefly summarize the main activities carried out in the second year, organized around major themes.

4.1 Creation and strengthening of the FLaReNet community

4.1.1 The Barcelona Forum

FLaReNet has already established a tradition with its series of Annual Meetings. This year, the Second FLaReNet Forum took place the 11th and 12nd of February in Barcelona (Spain), hosted by the Institut d'Estudis Catalans.

Following the success of the previous Forum, it was decided to replicate the same formula, i.e. a collaborative workshop composed of a series of thematic working sessions on specific topics. This year, they were: Metadata and documentation, Services and functionalities for an Open Resource Infrastructure, Sharing or not sharing, availability and legal issues, Social networking and Web 2.0 methods for language resources, Language resources of the future, and International Cooperation.

The purpose of the Forum was to approach each of them trying to identify controversial aspects, risks, what is missing, gaps to be filled, what can/cannot be achieved.



The meeting was conceived as a means for triggering discussions in an interactive and creative way, thus stimulating open questions, new ideas, and visions of the future.

Each session was structured so as to make it as interactive as possible: after introduction by the Session chair, there were a couple of invited long talks, followed by five to seven short talks, partly given by members of the FLaReNet community, and partly by external contributors and FLaReNet newcomer subscribers. Discussion was shaped with the help of discussants, i.e. pre-defined people whose role was to help liven up the general discussion at the end of each session by making a “controversial” comment or asking a question related to the session topic, possibly in a provocative way.

A call for discussants was launched among the FLaReNet subscribers before the Forum in order to involve the entire community as much as possible.

This year special highlight was the FLaReNet Polling: after the announcement of the event, the FLaReNet community was asked to take part in a couple of polls related to hot issues and priorities of intervention for Language Resources and Technology. The results of the polls were disclosed at the FLaReNet event. They also represent a valuable community input for the Blueprint of Actions and Infrastructures.

The forum saw a truly international audience, with the participation of 120 people coming from 22 different countries including India, Japan and USA. According to the opinion of the participants it was a very successful event.

A complete list of participants, speakers and discussants is available on the Forum web page, as well as presentation slides and the complete proceedings.

4.1.2 Recruiting campaign

In order to constantly increase the people involved in FLaReNet, as well as to ensure their commitment to the objectives of the Network, a permanent **recruiting campaign** is in place. People wishing to join the Network can do so by filling an appropriate web form available on the FLaReNet web site. The FLaReNet Network is open to participation by public and private, research and industrial organizations. Invitation to join, either personal or by means of mailing lists are used in order to enlarge the number of members as much as possible.

4.1.3 Meetings

Meetings, either thematic or general ones, are the primary means for attracting new members and to reinforce participation of existing ones, but participation is expected and encouraged also by means of online discussions, polls, and forum threads. A detailed list of meetings, either organised or co-organised by FLaReNet, is provided in Section 4.5. Under this respect, the LREC Conference 2010 provided a privileged environment for both structured and informal meetings.

4.1.4 Other means of community involvement

Apart from actions for enlarging the FLaReNet community, those aimed at **consolidating** it are especially important. Participants to the community need to feel they belong to a group of people that is actually shaping the field of Language Resources and Technologies by delineating its direction for the next future. The User Forum, the creation of Thematic Groups and “think-tanks” of experts and the launch of closed meetings are the privileged ways for creating close and connected groups of people.



Communication flows (mailing lists, policies about regular updates of the network about project events; planning of a periodic newsletter) are regular means to keep the FLaReNet community actively involved.

4.2 Initiatives to support knowledge and availability of Language Resources and Technologies

Having recognised the lack of information about existing language resources as one of the major factors hindering the development of the field, FLaReNet has undertaken a number of actions to survey existing resources, inform about them, and enhance their visibility. Community involvement is the underlying leitmotif that is common to all activities.

4.2.1 LRE Map of Language Resources and Tools

FLaReNet, together with ELRA, has launched the LRE Map of Language Resources and Tools. The Map is an entirely new instrument for discovering, searching and documenting language resources, here intended in a broad sense, as both data and tools. The purpose of the LRE Map is to complement ongoing cataloguing efforts in order to enhance visibility for all resources, for all languages and intended applications.

In a nutshell, the Map is an integrated database of information about language resources coming from various sources, most notably from major conferences but also from the community itself.

Authors submitting a paper to one of the conferences that joined the initiative were asked to provide basic informative data about the resource that represent the background of their research. With only the data related to the LREC 2010 Conference, the Map already contained almost 2000 descriptions of resources. This was a sensational success, and the Map got an enthusiastic acceptance during LREC 2010, when it was presented.

Already before its official launch, the COLING 2010 conference agreed to adopt the initiative, and since then also EMNLP, ACL, NAACL, IJCNLP Conferences and Springer Journal "Language Resource and Evaluation" (LRE) showed an interest in joining in.

This is a major achievement: this way, the Map will become an instrument used by all the major Conferences of the field. It will contribute not only to achieve massive documentation about resources, but also to seed a change of culture in the field, actively engaging each researcher in the documentation task about resources.

The LRE Map is publicly available⁴ through a browsing interface that allows to interactively searching for details on resources' uses, languages, availability etc. Editing and updating functionalities are planned for the second version.

The idea is to make the Map become a repository of information about language resources and, at the same time, a community for users of resources, a place to share and discover resources, discuss opinions, provide feedback, discover new trends, etc.

4.2.2 Repository of standards, best practices and documentation

FLaReNet has promoted the creation of a shared repository with standards, best practices, data formats, annotations schemes/tools and documentation of most well-known language resources. These materials, easily accessible by everyone, are seen as a first step to overcome

⁴ <http://www.resourcebook.eu/LreMap>



current problems in the production of language resources, thus enhancing efficiency, quality and interoperability and promoting standardization. This is an important concrete step in promoting standardisation and adoption of best-practices, in view of the needed interoperability among LR and LT. A preliminary version of the repository is accessible from the FLaReNet web site⁵.

4.3 Formulation of strategies and recommendations for the sector of Language Resources and Technologies

Activities belonging to this category broadly share a common workflow: meetings and events are the privileged places where important issues emerge from the community and become broadly discussed. The Steering and Coordination Committees then perform a distillation of the major topics, also on the basis of (but not limiting to) the FLaReNet plan of activities. Finally, the topics distilled are delivered to the community and to the EC under the form of recommendations.

To date, FLaReNet recommendations were issued in three phases: a) recommendations from the Vienna Event, b) the first Blueprint of Actions and Infrastructures (D8.2a), and c) the second Blueprint of Actions and Infrastructures (D8.2b).

4.3.1 FLaReNet Consultation activities

FLaReNet seeks the help of the entire community to develop recommendations and to identify their priority in the attempt to reflect the widest possible view. To this end, the recommendations gathered from meetings and events were organised and circulated among the FLaReNet subscribers under the form of a questionnaire that was launched online immediately before the FLaReNet Barcelona Forum in February. The questionnaire was also sent in digital format to all FLaReNet subscribers and members/supporters. Replies helped structure the second release of recommendations (D8.2b) and they are described in detail in a dedicated Report⁶.

4.3.2 Analysis activities

Within the various work packages, extensive effort was dedicated to build upon the survey activity carried out in the first year of the Network, with the purpose of deepening the knowledge of some key aspects related to Language Resources and Technology.

During this second year, the following activities were carried out:

- An analysis of the various technical and organisational methods, techniques and models used by academic and industrial players in the area of Language Resources for building and maintaining resources was performed
- An identification of the most widespread standards, with a recommendation of the necessary steps for their harmonization and promotion
- An analysis of the factors behind sustainability of Language Resources, and the development of a sustainability model

In addition to these, two major surveying activities were aimed at identifying the national and transnational initiatives in the area of Language Resources and at reporting about the Language

⁵ http://www.flarenet.eu/?q=FLaReNet_Repository_of_Standards_and_Guidelines

⁶ <http://www.flarenet.eu/sites/default/files/FLaReNet%20questionnaire%20results.pdf>



Resources needed for research investigations, and for technology development and evaluation in ICT and related applications.

The activities above gave rise to as many FLaReNet deliverables, which are available from the project website⁷.

4.4 Cooperation activities

FLaReNet maintains regular cooperation activities with relevant projects and initiatives, both non-European and European, in order to establish a kind of global coordination of the LR field.

From the point of view of European projects and initiatives, collaboration is pursued with many projects, and in particular T4ME/META-NET, PANACEA, CLARIN, and MultilingualWeb, while close relationships are maintained with the US sister project SILT.

Close relationships have been established with the LanguageGrid Project⁸ (Japan), Cyberling⁹ (USA), and LanguageCommons (USA).

Permanent connections have been established with major European and international organisations (such as AFNLP, ISO, Linguistic Data Consortium, AFNLP, COCOSDA, Oriental-COCOSDA, WRITE, TDIL¹⁰, MAAYA¹¹, NHN¹², and Tubitak Uekae) in order to both elicit feedback and disseminate results and recommendations.

The creation of a Network of national FLaReNet Contact Points obviously has also an impact on future cooperation activities. The Network consists at present of 102 people from 76 countries or regions in the European Union (26 Member States and 6 regions), non-EU European countries (9 countries) and non-European countries (35 countries).

4.5 Impact and Dissemination Activities

Impact in its second year of life is measured by the broad coverage of European and International players involved in the Network, by the width of National contact points network, by the success of initiatives organised by FLaReNet and also by the reputation that FLaReNet has already gained in the most important “circles”.

At the end of the second year, the number of FLaReNet members has more than doubled, raising from 38 to 98 institutions. 55 SMEs and industry players in general have joined the Network as Individual Subscribers. Representatives from 33 different countries have become FLaReNet Institutional Members. The project has either organised or co-organised 12 events in the field of Language Resources and it has received as many requests for endorsement from neighbouring events. The FLaReNet website has received more than one million visits and the FLaReNet reports and recommendations have been downloaded more than two thousand times.

⁷ The Deliverables are, respectively: D3.1, D4.2, D2.2, D7.1 and D7.2, see <http://www.flarenet.eu/?q=Deliverables>

⁸ <http://langrid.nict.go.jp/en/index.html>

⁹ <http://elanguage.net/cyberling09/>

¹⁰ Technology Development for the Indian Language, India

¹¹ World Network for Linguistic Diversity

¹² National Human Language Technology Network, South Africa



The LRE Map now contains more than 2000 resource descriptions, and the FLaReNet Contact Points Network amounts to 120 members worldwide.

Dissemination and Networking activities are at the core of FLaReNet.

FLaReNet targets a broad spectrum of users, as reflected by the addressees of recommendations in the first *Blueprint of Actions and Infrastructures*. They are:

- HLT stakeholders at large, including producers, users and developers of Language Resources and Technologies, both academic and industrial (for instance, academic or industrial researchers, service and media providers, providers of translation and localization services, etc.)
- Funding agencies and policy-makers, at national and EC level.

4.5.1 FLaReNet Annual Event

- [Second FLaReNet Forum](#) - "Language Resources of the Future – the Future of Language Resources, Barcelona, Spain, Institut d'Estudis Catalans, 11-12 February 2010

4.5.2 Panels

- [FLaReNet / SILT Workshop and Panel on Semantic Annotation](#), Pisa, Italy, 17 September 2009
- [CLARIN / FLaReNet LTC Panel Debate "How to make standards attractive = how to make attractive standards?"](#), Poznan, Poland, 7 September 2009
- [SILT, FLaReNet and Asian Collaboration for Interoperability of Language Resources](#), Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, 18 January 2010

4.5.3 Co-organised events

- [FLaReNet / SILT Workshop on Lexicon-Ontology Relationship](#), Pisa, Italy, 19 September 2009
- [FLaReNet / CLARIN Workshop on Standards](#) at [NEERI 2009](#), Helsinki, Finland, 30 September 2009
- [SILT / FLaReNet Workshop "Toward an Operational Definition of Interoperability for Language Technology"](#), Waltham, Massachusetts, USA, 1-2 November 2009
- [Joint LTC / FLaReNet Satellite Workshop "LRL 2009 - «Getting Less-Resourced Languages On-Board!»"](#), Poznan, Poland, 5 November 2009
- [FLaReNet / Language Grid Meeting](#), Pisa, Italy, 24-25 November 2009
- [CLARIN and FLaReNet workshop "Best practices for speech and multimodal databases"](#), Stockholm, Sweden, 25-26 November
- FLaReNet / Language Grid Meeting, Barcelona, Spain, 13 February 2010
- LREC 2010 Workshop on Methods for the automatic acquisition of Language Resources and their evaluation methods, La Valletta, Malta, 23 May 2010
- [LREC 2010 FLaReNet-COCOSDA-WRITE Workshop on Language Technology issues for International Cooperation](#), La Valletta, Malta, 25 May 2010
- LREC 2010 [Workshop on Legal Issues for Sharing Language Resources \(LISLR\): Constraints and Best Practices](#), La Valletta, Malta, 17 May 2010



- [LRT Standards Workshop](#), La Valletta, Malta, 18 May 2010.

4.5.4 Presentations

- Núria Bel, Presentation of FLaReNet at the *Annual Meeting of the Sociedad Española de Procesamiento del Lenguaje Natural*, 8-10 September 2009
- Nicoletta Calzolari. Presentation of FLaReNet as a Chair of the *FLaReNet/SILT Panel on Semantic Annotation*, GL2009 Conference, Pisa, Italy, 17 September 2009
- Nicoletta Calzolari, Introduction of the [FLaReNet / SILT Workshop "Toward an Operational Definition of Interoperability for Language Technology"](#), Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, USA, 1-2 November 2009
- Nicoletta Calzolari. Presentation of FLaReNet at the *NSF Workshop on Content of Linguistic Annotation Standards and Practices (CLASP)*, New York, USA, 7 November 2009
- Joseph Mariani, Introduction of the *"Getting Less-Resourced Languages on-Board" Workshop*, LTC'09 Conference, Poznan, 6 November 2009
- Khalid Choukri, Conclusion of the *"Getting Less-Resourced Languages on-Board" Workshop*, LTC'09 Conference, Poznan, 6 November 2009
- Nicoletta Calzolari, "SILT, FLaReNet and Asian Collaboration for Interoperability of Language Resources". Invited Talk at the *ICGL Panel SILT, FLaReNet and Asian Collaboration for Interoperability of Language Resources*, Hong Kong, 18 January 2010
- Núria Bel, Presentation of FLaReNet at the *1st International Sketch Grammar Workshop*, 3-4 February 2010
- Nicoletta Calzolari, Invited Presentation at the 2010 Meeting of the Open Linguistic Data Working Group, Harvard University 20-21 March 2010
- Claudia Soria, "Preparing the field for an Open and Distributed Resource Infrastructure: the role of the FLaReNet Network", presentation at LREC 2010, La Valletta, Malta, 20 May 2010
- Nicoletta Calzolari. Presentation of FLaReNet at the Workshop T11d - "Multi-lingualism and Cross-lingual Communication: How China and Europe can learn from each other", organized in the framework of the 3rd Biennial Meeting of the China-Europa Forum, Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, 8-9 July 2010
- Nicoletta Calzolari. Presentation of FLaReNet at ESU 2010 "Culture & Technology", Leipzig, Germany, 26-28 July 2010

4.5.5 Publications

- Bel, N., Calzolari, N. (2009). "Fostering Language Resources Network, FLaReNet". *Procesamiento del Lenguaje Natural* 43. Alicante: Sociedad Española para el Procesamiento del Lenguaje Natural, Univ. de Alicante, Dep. Lenguajes y Sistemas Informáticos. Pp. 383-384. ISSN 1135-5948.
- Calzolari N., Soria C. (2010) "Preparing the field for an Open Resource Infrastructure: the role of the FLaReNet Network ", in N. Calzolari, B. Maegaard, J. Mariani, J. Odiijk, S. Piperidis, M. Rosner, D. Tapias (Eds.), *Proceedings of LREC 2010 - 7th International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (Valletta, Malta, 17-23 May 2010)*, European Language Resources Association (ELRA), pp. 1295-1300.
- Calzolari N., Soria C., Del Gratta R., Goggi S., Quochi V., Russo I., Choukri K., Mariani J., Piperidis S. (2010) "The LREC Map of Language Resources and Technologies", in N. Calzolari, B. Maegaard, J. Mariani, J. Odiijk, S. Piperidis, M. Rosner, D. Tapias (Eds.), *Proceedings of LREC*



- 2010 - 7th International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (Valletta, Malta, 17-23 May 2010), European Language Resources Association (ELRA), pp. 949-956.
- Calzolari N., Baroni P., Monachini M., Soria C. (Eds.), *Proceedings of "The 2nd European Language Resources and Technologies Forum: Language Resources of the future - the future of Language Resources"* (Barcelona, 11-12 February 2010), 120 pp., ILC-CNR.
 - Calzolari N., Soria C. (2010) "Planning the future of Language Resources: the role of the FLaReNet Network". In A. Gelbukh (ed.), *Computational Linguistics and Intelligent Text Processing*, LNCS 6008. Springer, pp. 1-11.
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 - Odijk, J. (2010) "The CLARIN-NL Project", in Calzolari et al. *Proceedings of the Seventh conference on International Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC'10)*, pp. 48-53. <http://www.lrec-conf.org/proceedings/lrec2010/index.html> [pdf]
 - VV.AA. "Language Resources of the future – the future if Language Resources", Book of Abstracts of the 2nd European Language Resources and Technologies Forum, Barcelona, Institut d'Estudis Catalans, 11-12 February 2010.

4.5.6 Other dissemination activities

- Nicoletta Calzolari, "Standards: strength and limitations". Presentation given at the FLaReNet-CLARIN Standards Event at NEERI09, Helsinki, Finland, 30 September 2009.
- Stelios Piperidis, "Individual and collective intelligence in language resources development: Normative and social approaches" [in Greek]. Invited Talk at the 7th Conference «Hellenic Language and Terminology», 22-24 October 2009, Athens, Greece
- Jan Odijk, "Data Categories and ISOCAT: some remarks from a simple linguist". Presentation held at FLaReNet/CLARIN Standards Workshop, Helsinki, September 27, 2009 [pdf]
- Jan Odijk, "Data Categories and their Semantics". Presentation held at the SILT/FLaReNet Workshop, Brandeis University, Waltham, USA, November 1, 2009 [pdf]
- Jan Odijk et al., "Data Categories and their Semantics: Summary". Presentation held at the SILT/FLaReNet Workshop, Brandeis University, Waltham, USA, November 2, 2009 [pdf]
- Steven Krauwer, "CLARIN and FLaReNet workshop in Stockholm: Introduction". Presentation held at the CLARIN and FLaReNet workshop "Best practices for speech and multimodal databases", KTH Stockholm 25-26 Nov 2009.
- Joseph Mariani, "Language Technology Infrastructures in support to Multilingualism". Keynote Speech at the [3rd International Universal Communication Symposium](#) (IUCS 2009), Tokyo, Japan, 3-4 December 2009
- Joseph Mariani further mentioned FLaReNet at the [IWSLT'09](#) conference (Tokyo, Japan, 1-2 December 2009) and at the [Interspeech'09](#) conference (Brighton, UK, 7-11 September 2009)



- Jan Odijk, "Relations between Data Categories". Presentation held at the CLARIN Relation Registry Workshop, MPI, Nijmegen, January 8, 2010 [\[ppt\]](#)
- Nicoletta Calzolari, "From a "vision" to concrete actions: for an Open Resource Infrastructure". Invited Talk at the ICGL Panel "[When nice people don't share - 'shy' data, Web APIs, and beyond](#)", Hong Kong, 19 January 2010.
- Nicoletta Calzolari mentioned FLaReNet while presenting MetaShare at the LT days 22-23 March 2010, http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/language-technologies/home_en.html
- Jan Odijk mentioned FLaReNet at CLIN 2010 (Utrecht, 5 February 2010) and at various STEVIN and CLARIN-NL meetings. On these occasions, researchers from the Netherlands and Flanders were pointed out the existence of FLaReNet and its goals, meetings it organizes (e.g. FLaReNet Forum) and how researchers can contribute to them
- Nicoletta Calzolari mentioned FLaReNet while presenting MetaShare at the [LT days](#) 22-23 March 2010
- Jan Odijk mentioned FLaReNet at various STEVIN and CLARIN-NL meetings. On these occasions, researchers from the Netherlands and Flanders were pointed out the existence of FLaReNet and its goals, meetings it organizes (e.g. FLaReNet Forum) and how researchers can contribute to them
- Stelios Piperidis mentioned FLaReNet during the Special Session - Panel discussion on "Research data and their sharing" , Sixth Hellenic Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Athens, Greece, 7 May 2010 <http://www.setn2010.gr/resdata>
- Nicoletta Calzolari mentioned FLaReNet and its role in the development of the LREC Map during the Conference Opening Talk, La Valletta, Malta, 18 May 2010
- Jan Odijk, "The CLARIN-NL Project", Presentation held at LREC 2010, Valletta, Malta, May 19, 2010
- Jan Odijk, "CLARIN-NL: Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure for the Humanities in the Netherlands", presentation held at the NO-CLARIN Meeting, Oslo 18 June 2010
- J. Mariani, "Speech and Language Technology Frameworks in the European Research Area", MULTISAUND Seminar, Istanbul, 16-18 June 2010
- J. Mariani, "Language Resources and Evaluation in Europe: A Historical Perspective", DGA Speech, Language and Multimedia Document Processing Seminar, Paris, 6-7 July 2010
- Nicoletta Calzolari mentioned FLaReNet at the RELISH Workshop on Lexicon Tools and Lexicon Standards, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, 4-5 August 2010
- Nicoletta Calzolari mentioned FLaReNet while presenting the LRE Map at COLING2010, Beijing, China, 23 August 2010.

4.5.7 Collaboration relationships

With international associations, consortia, bodies

FLaReNet entertains relationships with the following organisations:

- Cocosda (Coordinating Committee on Speech Databases and speech input/output systems Assessment)¹³
- ISCA (International Speech Communication Association)¹⁴

¹³ <http://www.cocosda.org/>



- TDIL (Technology Development for the Indian Language) program (India)¹⁵
- MAAJA (World Network for Linguistic Diversity)¹⁶
- Alt-I (African Languages Technology Initiative, Nigeria)¹⁷
- MultiMedia University (Malaysia)¹⁸
- Tubitak Uekae, The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey¹⁹
- ISO, International Standardisation Organisation
- National Human Language Technology Network (NHN)
- COLING

With funding bodies and government institutions

Nicoletta Calzolari organised a meeting between EC (Roberto Cencioni) and NSF (Tanya Korelsky and Philip Bogden) representatives at LREC in Malta, to explore the possibility of future joint initiatives.

Joseph Mariani (WP7 leader) strengthened the relationships between FLaReNet and government institutions, and in particular:

- with the EC Delegate for Multilingualism in Paris (Alain Wallon),
- with the French Direction Générale à l'Armement of the Ministry of Defense (Edouard Geoffrois),
- with the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) head of the ICT sector (Bertrand Braunschweig),
- with the Pilot Committee for multilingualism in the Euro-mediterranean program (Chair: Bernard Samy) at the French Ministry of Economy, Industry and Finance (MinEFI),
- with the DGLF2 (General Delegation for the French Language and for Languages spoken in France) of the Ministry of Culture, now Interministerial Delegation (DILF2) (General Delegate: Xavier North, Chargée de mission: Florence Gendrier).

Endorsed events

- [Workshop on Adaptation of Language Resources and Technology to New Domains](#), Borovets, Bulgaria, 17 September 2009
- [4th Language & Technology Conference "Human Language Technologies as a Challenge for Computer Science and Linguistics"](#), Poznan, Poland, 6-8 November 2009
- [8th International Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories](#), Milan, Italy, 4-5 December 2009

¹⁴ <http://www.isca-speech.org/iscaweb/>

¹⁵ <http://tdil.mit.gov.in/>

¹⁶ <http://www.maayajo.org/>

¹⁷ <http://www.alt-i.org/>

¹⁸ <http://www.mmu.edu.my/>

¹⁹ <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/>



- [1st Europe-Asia Spoken Dialogue Systems Technology Workshop](#), Kloster Irsee, Germany, 9-11 December 2009
- [Final Workshop of the 2nd Evaluation Campaign of NLP and Speech Tools for Italian](#), Reggio Emilia, Italy, 12 December 2009
- [2nd International Conference on Global Interoperability for Language Resources](#), Hong Kong, 18-20 January 2010
- [1st Workshop on the Multilingual Semantic Web](#), organized in the framework of [WWW 2010 - 19th International World Wide Web Conference](#), Raleigh (North Carolina, USA), 27 April 2010
- The Harvesting Day, Round 1, 21 July 2010
- The Harvesting Day, Round 2, 21 September 2010
- [TKE 2010 Workshop "Establishing and using ontologies as a basis for terminological and knowledge engineering resources"](#), 14 August 2010
- The [IWSLT 2010 - 7th International Workshop on Spoken Language Translation](#), Paris (France), 2-3 December 2010
- The TRALOGY'11 conference "Translation and Technology" conference, Paris (France), 3-4 March 2010

5 Further Information

5.1 Deliverables

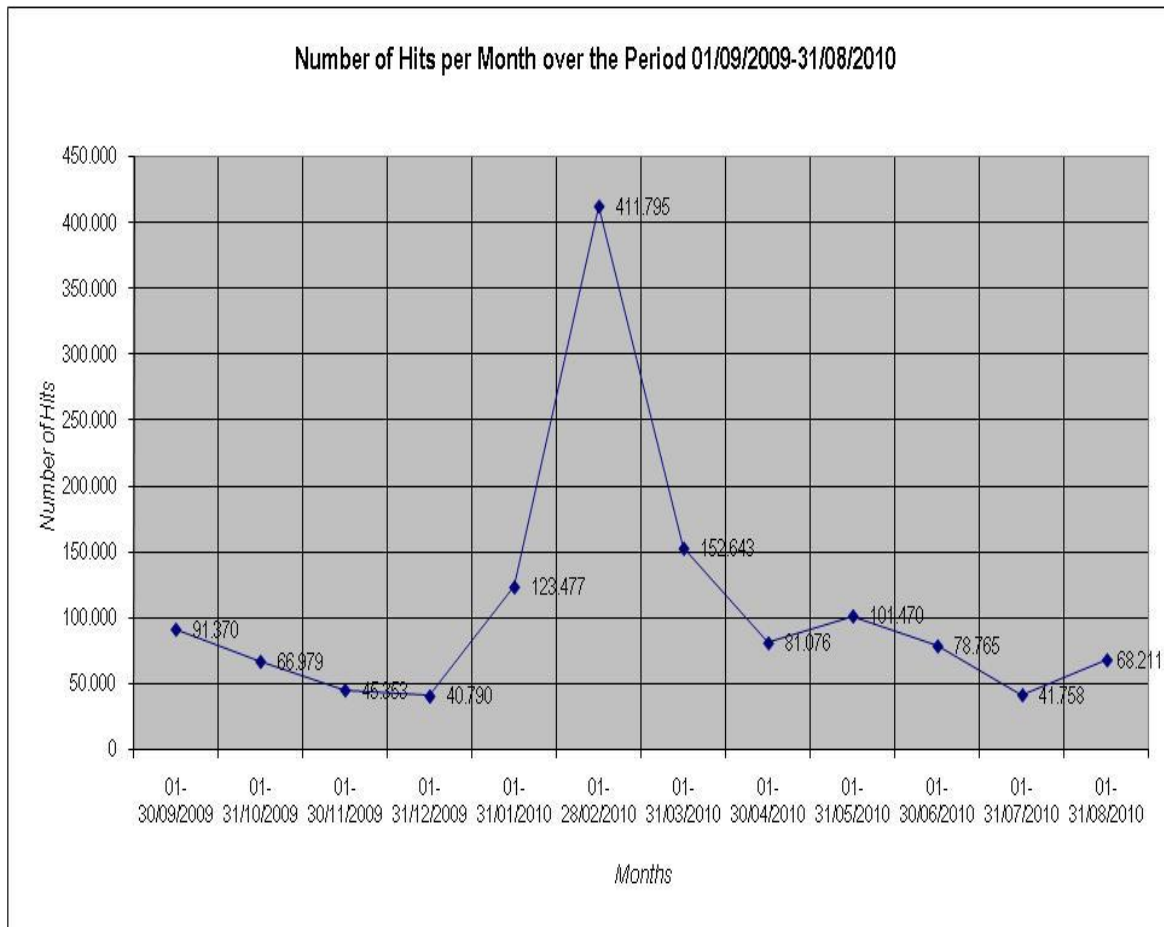
- D1.9 - *Progress Report*
- D1.10 - *Progress Report*
- D1.11 - *Annual Report*
- D2.1b - *Up-to-date chart of LR and players and classification along different lines*
- D2.2 - *Identification of mature self-sustainable LRs vs. areas to be sustained & sustainability factors*
- D3.1 - *Report on the scientific, organisational and economic methods and models for building and maintaining LRs*
- D4.2 - *Proposal of a European Language Resource Standards Framework*
- D7.1 - *Survey of the national and transnational initiatives in the area of Language Resources*
- D7.2 - *Report on the Language Resources needed for research investigations, and for technology development and evaluation in ICT and related applications*
- D8.2b - *Blueprint of actions and infrastructures*

5.2 Promotional and informative material

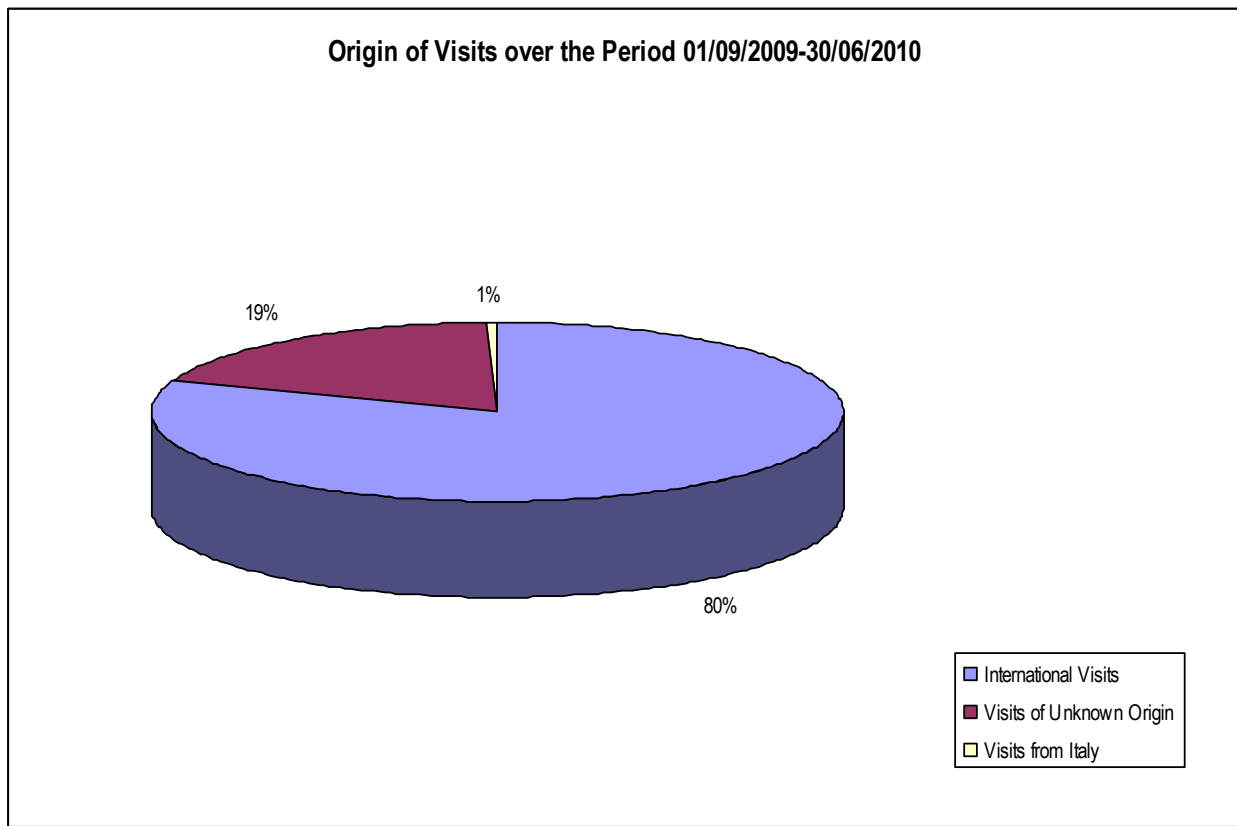
- [Poster dedicated to the FLaReNet Forum 2010](#)
- [Leaflet announcing the FLaReNet Forum 2010](#)
- [Poster at LREC EC Village](#)



5.3 Web Statistics



Number of hits that had a "success" status code



Percentage of visitors defined as "international" in the domain options; percentage of visitors from an origin that could not be determined; percentage of visits from the country of the Web host.