



PROJECT PERIODIC REPORT PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY PERIOD 1

Grant Agreement number: 610951

Project acronym: MLI

Project title: Towards a MultiLingual Data & Services Infrastructure

Funding Scheme: Support Action

Date of latest version of Annex I against which the assessment will be made: 2013-07-26

Periodic report: 1st 2nd

Period covered: from 1/11/2013 to 31/10/2014

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1. Publishable summary

MLi Support Action aims to deliver the strategic vision and operational specifications needed for building the European MultiLingual data & services Infrastructure (MLi), formulate an actionable multiannual plan for its development and deployment, and foster the multi-stakeholder alliances ensuring its long term sustainability.

For this purpose, MLi project takes into account three dimensions simultaneously: the **technical aspects** of the infrastructure, the **managerial considerations** of the MLi in terms of future operation, governance, and sustainability; and the **strategic aspects** linked to the extension of the infrastructure in the coming years.

From the **technical perspective**, MLi provides a layered view of the proposed infrastructure articulated in three layers:

- *The technical and service platform (the HUB) layer* delivered high level reference architecture of the MLi Hub, detailing the various layers and related components and facilities, and provided the foundations to later specify a robust and scalable technical infrastructure for MLi.
- *The Language-Data Resources layer* drafted preliminary requirements from some specific language pairs in MT. In this context, general needs for MT from the application point of view are also provided including the achievements, needs and results from a series of initiatives, such as MT projects, cataloguing and language technology approaches. In addition, findings on initial requirements for the services to be provided by the Language Enabler have been identified and existing technologies and resources which are already providing similar services have been evaluated and tested.
- *The Services layer in support of R&D* described the current state of play at the transition point between research laboratory and commercial marketplace by examining research in the language sciences and in language engineering as well as associated technology transfer and market uptake efforts. On the other hand, the *Services layer in support of Innovation* identified and outlined descriptions for high-demand, high-potential, cross-border innovation-driven pilot services. Several sectors of such services have been identified, characterised and studied in terms of their demand and impact. In addition, available commercial offerings that match significant cross-border user demand have been analysed and some key areas that are important for crossing the language barriers in the European digital single market have been identified.

From the **managerial perspective**, a comparative study of different modes and forms governance and sustainability models has been performed along with an overview of Intellectual Property regimes and plausible business models that may be applicable for MLi future offerings.

Finally, from the **strategic perspective**, acting as a bridge between recent and ongoing efforts in the LT field and the Data-Value Chain, MLi project has started fostering synergies with other initiatives related to the Europe 2020 strategy, namely the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) programme along with its Digital Service Infrastructures (DSIs) as well as the efforts taken towards machine translation by the Directorate-General for Translation (DGT).