JADE project progress

The JADE project held its 5th workshop in Finland between 11-14 June 2012. The workshop was a combination of public seminars, project partner meetings and field visits.

The two-day public seminar was built around the theme of “Working together for healthy ageing innovative potentials”. The first day comprised expert presentations on this theme: project partner work sessions; and a matchmaking and networking event for the external seminar guests. On the second day, in addition to further expert presentations on the seminar theme, the JADE partners presented the JADE White Paper, the JADE Joint Action Plan (JAP), and the five JADE Regional Programmes of Healthy Ageing to the public. Both seminar days had an audience of around 100 delegates.

Read more about the JADE White Paper policy recommendations and the JADE Joint Action Plan contents in the related articles in this newsletter. The project activities will now proceed with implementing the four pillars introduced in the Joint Action Plan.

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The Smart Hospital pilot experiment

The cross analysis of the Ambient Assisted Living SWOT compiled by each JADE Regional Cluster revealed that we have a lot of technology and good experience in the use of technology, but poor integration in the public sector, including funding, and poor or fragmented training.

These findings were applied when Laurea University of Applied Sciences in Finland began to develop the Smart Hospital as a Living Lab. The Smart Hospital is a real user community in a hospital environment where assistive technology will be in use and developed further with users in a way that encourages new integrated and value-added solutions to be developed for renewing processes and structures, and new competences achieved.

The Smart Hospital connects healthcare professionals in the public sector, assistive technology products providers, clients and their significant others, and the higher education institute’s staff and students. The purpose is to improve clients’ quality of life and quality of care by applying assistive technology to the integration of care services and process improvement, and by enabling learning in the Smart Hospital Living Lab. Furthermore, the purpose is to enhance the growth of enterprises and unlock new business potential. The project began in November 2012.

JADE White Paper

The JADE White paper defines the essential core of the JADE project. The White Paper identifies some of the barriers to widespread adoption of ambient assistive technology and also recognises some of the regional strengths and opportunities in the clusters to overcome these barriers through the JADE SWOT and CROSS analyses.

According to the White paper, there is recognition that much of the impetus to overcome the barriers and deploy assistive technology at scale lies with the policy makers. There needs to be a paradigm shift in the way that health and social care is delivered. Programmes for Ambient Assistive technology need to be built into health and care pathways.

The White paper suggests that policies that actively encourage the uptake of technology should be made; infrastructure in support of technology should be invested in; and research projects funded. Governments need to work alongside industry to increase awareness of the benefits of technology and adopt common standards for equipment and services. Governments also need to work with education providers on training for assistive technology, and partner with industry to stimulate the investment community.

JADE Joint Action Plan

The JADE Joint Action Plan (JAP) implements the JADE Joint Action Strategy aimed at fostering regional economic development through more cost-effective research and policy co-ordination related to ambient assistive technology for improving the health and well-being of an ageing population.

The JAP gives particular emphasis to the measures to be further developed and implemented by the Regional Development Clusters (RDCs) through their Regional Programmes for Healthy Ageing (RepHAs). The JAP consists of four pillars:

I. The Scientists Mobility Programme
II. Accompanying measures to facilitate joint research
III. Healthy Ageing Innovation Laboratories (HAILs), which aim to link SMEs, technology/innovation centres and other innovation, health and ageing structure/institutions with existing thematic innovation and ageing networks/clusters in the EU partner countries
IV. Networking and dissemination activities to facilitate the participation of the RDCs in project consortia that are participating in EU programmes and other major initiatives

Read more in-depth articles of this newsletter’s stories from www.jadeproject.org.
Award for JADE researcher

A member of Zonta International, the Zonta Club of Helsinki II, has granted scholarships to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the club. A researcher from the JADE consortium, from the Helsinki Region Research Driven Cluster from Finland, architect Ira Verma from the Department of Architecture of the Aalto University, was granted a scholarship for her studies on housing for the elderly and people suffering from dementia.

The scholarship was related to the campaign “Don’t forget your sister” in which the Finnish Zonta Club wants to focus attention on the isolation of the elderly and promote the mental well-being of the elderly.

Scientists Mobility Exchange Success

A Scientists Mobility Exchange visit by JADE partners in the UK to Helsinki has resulted in a project to develop a new product and service to help with the management of people with Parkinsonism.

The project is a partnership between Finnish company, Medixine, and SEHTA partners, and will result in the development of two prototype systems. One will be trialled and evaluated with 50 patients in Finland, and the other will be trialled and evaluated in the UK.

The project is currently seeking other partners to provide specific expertise. Please click on the link below for further details on how to become involved.

Read more in-depth articles of this newsletter’s stories from www.jadeproject.org.
JADE Partners Promoting the Uptake of Technology

In September 2012, JADE Partner, Santo Stefano Rehabilitation Institute, Ancona, Italy, was invited to present at the UK’s premiere International Telecare and Telehealth event, organized by SEHTA, JADE’s UK partner at Stoke Mandeville. The event comprising a conference, exhibition and partnering, was a unique opportunity for anyone interested in the use of technology to promote the health, well-being and independence of the individual. As a result of participating in the event, Santo Stefano Rehabilitation Institute was able to foster a relationship with the UK’s major spinal injury centre and birth place of the Paralympics, Stoke Mandeville National Spinal Injuries Centre.

128 delegates from across the UK, Europe, New Zealand and Taiwan attended the event, including several companies from the JADE cluster that have gone on to build commercial relationships as a result of participating in the Partnering stream.

Read more in-depth articles of this newsletter’s stories from www.jadeproject.org.

Helsinki Workshop Matchmaking Success

In June 2012, South East Health Limited, part of the UK delegation, took part in the JADE Workshop in Helsinki which resulted in a new commercial partnership being established with a Finnish healthcare technology company. Janet Bradburn from South East Health Ltd reported that following the participation in the JADE project and the Helsinki workshop, Vivago Oy agreed that South East Health Ltd could act as their main distributor in the UK.

“Vivago Oy provides a next generation solution for improving safety and quality of living, tailor-made, whether the need is for large institutions requiring turn-key solution or a single individual just needing additional security (www.vivago.com). South East Health Ltd is a not for profit social enterprise, offering a range of high quality primary care services across several localities to over 4 million patients (www.southeasthealth.com).”

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Health projects establish long-term collaboration

Seven “Regions of Knowledge” projects related to health are building on the good relationships they established at the outset of the projects by working together to establish a basis for long-term collaboration that would increase impact, investment and commitment, and provide a long lasting framework to share ideas and launch new joint initiatives.

In addition, SVIM, the JADE coordinator has proposed that in order to maximise the final impact and success of all these projects, a joint final event in Brussels should be held to include final reporting from all 7 health projects.

For more information, please visit the web-site www.jadeproject.org.