VOIce-based Community-cEntric mobile Services for social development

Fact Sheet

Project Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VOICES</th>
<th>Funded under</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant agreement ID: 269954</td>
<td>FP7-ICT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed project</td>
<td>Coordinated by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start date: 1 January 2011</td>
<td>GEIE ERCIM</td>
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<tr>
<td>End date: 30 June 2013</td>
<td>France</td>
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Overall budget € 2,955,895
EU contribution € 2,046,000

Project description

International Cooperation

There is widespread agreement that ICT services have the potential to play a major role in furthering social development in developing economies such as those in Africa. However, while there is a great deal of potential and opportunity, the amount and scope of actual mobile ICT services currently in existence in African countries is very limited.

The Mobile Web for Social Development Roadmap, recently published as a result of the FP7 Digital World Forum project, makes it clear that realizing the potential of mobile ICT services requires addressing two major types of challenges: 1. The
leveraging of content that is locally relevant; and 2. The removal of a range of access barriers, notably limitations related to access channels, literacy, and languages.

VOICES intends to take a major step forward in realizing the potential of mobile ICT services particularly in the African context and resolve key challenges outlined in the Mobile Web for Social Development Roadmap. To this end, the objectives of VOICES are to deliver:

• Open and wider access: VOICES will improve voice-based access to content and mobile ICT services by building a toolbox for the development of voice services.
• Integration of Local Community Radios and ICT.
• Better support of languages: It will deliver tool support and methodology for under researched and under resourced African languages.
• Long-term sustainability: To ensure the local adoption and exploitation of the VOICES tools and methods beyond the project, it will provide a sustainable architecture.
• Faster uptake: VOICES will furthermore enhance uptake by delivering a mobile training lab that offers capacity building for local partners.

VOICES will demonstrate the fitness of its results for adaptation to the African context by extensive local pilots and associated community building, namely through the focus on health services in Senegal, and agricultural and regreening knowledge sharing in the Sahel countries.

**Fields of science**

- - -
- - -

**Programme(s)**

**Topic(s)**

**Call for proposal**

FP7-ICT-2009-6

**Funding Scheme**

**Coordinator**

GEIE ERCIM

Address

Activity type

Other

EU contribution

€ 159 969

2 of 7
Participants (12)

**WORLD WIDE WEB FOUNDATION**
- Switzerland
- EU contribution: € 273 884
- Address: Route De Chene 30, 1208 Geneve
- Activity type: Other

**FONDATION MERIEUX**
- France
- EU contribution: € 66 000
- Address: Rue Bourgelat 17, 69227 Lyon
- Activity type: Research Organisations

**ORANGE SA**
- France
- EU contribution: € 291 940
- Address: 111 Quai Du President
- Activity type: Private for-profit entities
**CENTRO DI RICERCA, SVILUPPO E STUDI SUPERIORI IN SARDEGNA SOCIETÀ A RESPONSABILITÀ LIMITATA**

- **Italy**
- **EU contribution**: € 193,903
- **Address**: Località Piscina Manna Edificio 1 09050 Pula Cagliari
- **Activity type**: Research Organisations

**Administrative Contact**

Alessandro Milletti (Dr.)

**SAHEL ECO**

- **Mali**
- **EU contribution**: € 69,600
- **Address**: Rue 96 Porte 737 Point D Appui not applicable Bamako
- **Activity type**: Other

**Administrative Contact**

Mary Philippa Allen (Ms.)

**NEDERLANDSE ORGANISATIE VOOR TOEGEPAST NATUURWETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK TNO**

- **Netherlands**
- **EU contribution**: € 294,975
- **Address**: Anna Van Buerenplein 1
- **Activity type**: Research Organisations
<table>
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<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<th>Address</th>
<th>Activity type</th>
<th>Administrative Contact</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>STICHTING VU</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>€ 279 738</td>
<td>De Boelelaan 1105 1081 HV Amsterdam</td>
<td>Higher or Secondary Education Establishments</td>
<td>Elly van den Akker-Blaazer (Ms.)</td>
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<td>VERE NIGING VOOR CHRISTELIJK HOGER ONDERWIJS WETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK EN PATIENTENZORG</td>
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<td>Yvonne Kops (Dr.)</td>
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<td>ALTICE LABS SA</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>€ 108 341</td>
<td>Rua Jose Ferreira Pinto Basto 3810 106 Aveiro</td>
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<td>Dirkje Schinkelshoek (Ms.)</td>
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ECOLE SUPERIEURE MULTINATIONALE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Senegal

€ 72 000

Address
Zone Du Cerf Volant Rocade
Fann Bel Air
01 Dakar

Activity type
Higher or Secondary
Education Establishments

Contact the organisation

Administrative Contact
José Picado (Dr.)

COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

South Africa

€ 129 615

Address
Meiring Naude Road,
Brummeria 46
0001 Pretoria

Activity type
Research Organisations

Website

Administrative Contact
Tahirou OUATTARA (Mr.)

NOORDWES-UNIVERSITEIT

South Africa

€ 106 035

Address
Hoffman Street 11
2531 Potchefstroom

Activity type
Higher or Secondary
Education Establishments

Website

Administrative Contact
Ria van Schalkwyk (Ms.)