Fostering Language Resources Network

http://www.flarenet.eu

A thematic network co-funded by the European Union, through the eContentplus programme - Grant Agreement No. ECP-2007-LANG-617001
FLaReNet is:

an international Forum, composed by an enlargeing community, to facilitate interaction among Language Resources and Language Technology stakeholders, for the purpose of

- recreating a community and sustaining international cooperation
- developing a common vision of the area of LRs and LT for the next years
- fostering a European strategy for consolidating the sector and enhancing competitiveness at EU level and worldwide

by giving priorities and providing recommendations for future actions to EC, national organisations and industry
The FLaReNet mission is

- to create a shared policy for the next years in the field of LRs and LT
- to foster sustenance of international cooperation and (re)creation of a wide LRs community, aiming at a massive industrial involvement

This can only be achieved through a coordinated, community-wide effort to ensure contribution from the main actors of the various areas.

To this end, FLaReNet is pooling together major players in the field of LRs and LT and related sectors, who will:

- identify priorities and long-term strategic objectives
- provide consensual recommendations in the form of a plan of action for EC, national organisations and industry
Goal

To structure the area of LR & LT of the future by discussing new strategies to:

- Enable progress toward **community consensus**
- **Recast the definition of LRs** in the light of recent scientific, methodological, technological, social developments
- **Consolidate** methods and approaches, common practices, frameworks and architectures
- **Integrate** so far partial solutions into broader infrastructures
- Convert existing LTs related to LRs into useful economic & societal benefits
- **Anticipate the needs of new types of LRs / LTs**
FLaReNet outcomes will be of a directive nature

- to help the EC, and national funding agencies, identifying priority areas of LRs and LT of major interest for the public that need public funding to develop or improve

A blueprint of actions will constitute input to policy development both at EU and national level

- for identifying new language policies that support linguistic diversity in Europe
- in combination with strengthening the language product market, e.g. for new products & innovative services, especially for languages not yet covered by existing LRs and LT

A European model for the LRs/LTs of the next years
Expected impact

A “roadmap”

- Identifying areas where consensus is achieved/emerging vs. areas where more discussion & testing is required, together with an indication of **priorities**

**Recommendations in the form of a plan of coherent actions for the EU, national organisations & industry**
Administrative details

- Thematic Network
- EC eContentPlus Programme, call 2007
- September 1, 2008 - August 31, 2011
- Overall budget 900,000 euro
- 38 partners
Work Packages

- WP01 - Management & Dissemination
- WP02 - The Chart for the Area of LRs
- WP03 - Methods and Models for LRs
- WP04 - Harmonisation of Formats and Standards
- WP05 - Evaluation Protocols and Procedures
- WP06 - Automatic Construction of LRs
- WP07 - Evolving RoadMap
- WP08 - Blueprint of Actions and Infrastructures
The Network and its structure
The FLaReNet Steering Committee

- Nicoletta Calzolari, ILC-CNR, Italy (coordinator)
- Khalid Choukri, ELDA, France
- Stelios Piperidis, ILSP, Greece
- Joseph Mariani, LIMSI-CNRS & IMMI, France
- Núria Bel, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain
- Gerhard Budin, Universität Wien, Austria
- Jan Odijk, Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands
FLaReNet *First* Members

- ILC-CNR, Italy
- ELDA, France
- ILSP, Greece
- LIMSI-CNRS & IMMI, France
- Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain
- Universität Wien, Austria
- Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Max Planck, Germany
- Bielefeld University, Germany
- Morphologic, Hungary
- Prague University, Czech Republic
- Sheffield University, United Kingdom
- DFKI, Germany
- CEA LIST, France
- Copenhagen University, Denmark
- The Open University, United Kingdom
- Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria
- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Romanian Academy, Romania
- Manchester University, United Kingdom
- Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia
- Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland
- Linguatec, Germany
- Langenscheidt, Germany
- Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy
- University of Antwerp, Belgium
- Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain
- University of Helsinki, Finland
- Universität Tübingen, Germany
- European Parliament, Luxembourg
- DGT – EC DG Translation, Luxembourg
- Vassar College, USA
- Kyoto University, Japan
- Brandeis University, USA
- Linguistic Data Consortium, USA
- National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Japan
- Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Korea
- Tsinghua University, China
FLaReNet *First* Supporters

- Telefónica Investigación y Desarrollo, Spain
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- The Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Department of Speech, Music and Hearing, Sweden
- ALPHABET Translation & Interpreting Services EPE, Greece
- ESTeam AB, Sweden
- Mikro Vaerkstedet, Denmark
- QUALIA Technologies of understanding, Greece
- European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI), United Kingdom
- Agence France Press (AFP) Medialab R&D Unit, France
- Bertin Technologies, France
- University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
- Translendium SL, Spain
- ELSNET Foundation, The Netherlands
- DAEDALUS-Data, Decisions and Language, S.A., Spain
- SYNTHEMA S.R.L. – Soluzioni Informatiche, Consulenza e Ricerca, Italy
- France Telecom R&D, France
- European Media Laboratory GmbH, Germany
- Real Academia Española, Spain
- Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores Investigação e Desenvolvimento em Lisboa, Portugal
- Norwegian Language Council, Norway
- Siemens AG, Germany
| The Chart for the area of LRs and LT in its different dimensions |
| Methods and models for LR building, reuse, interlinking, maintenance, sharing, distribution... |
| Harmonisation of formats and standards |
| Definition of evaluation and validation protocols and procedures |
| Methods for the automatic construction and processing of LRs |
Work methodology

- survey and analysis phase (preparatory phase)
- discussion phase in WG meetings finalized to reaching consensus
- drafting of preliminary recommendations
- external evaluation and feedback, through the Support Group, other projects, external experts
- integration of feedback
- final recommendations
- dissemination of recommendations: ensure the consensus-based nature of the recommendations

The FLaReNet Network will achieve its objectives through workshops, meetings, mailing and use of a collaborative Wiki platform.
Join FLaReNet!

Why to join?

- 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.
- FLaReNet invites all interested players in the field to express their interest in becoming part of the Network.

How to join?

- Experts wishing to be part of the FLaReNet Network are invited to express their interest by filling in the form available on the project website.
FLaReNet first meetings and events

3-5/9/2008, Pisa: Steering Committee Kickoff meeting
20-21/9/2008, Pisa: 2nd Steering Committee meeting
22/9/2008, Pisa: Joint FLaReNet-SILT meeting
14/2/2009, Vienna: 3rd Steering Committee meeting

12-13/2/2009, Vienna: FLaReNet launching event

The European Language Resources and Technologies Forum
Shaping the Future of the Multilingual Digital Europe

Meetings are the FLaReNet engine
More meetings will be organised in the future
Contact FLaReNet

*FLaReNet Coordination*

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