



Fostering Language Resources Network

<http://www.flarenet.eu>

COCOSDA – WRITE - FLaReNet

International Cooperation

@ LREC 2010

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FLaReNet

International Vocation

- Calls for **international cooperation also outside Europe**

To act as a global

- **Worldwide Forum for Language Resources and Language Technologies**
- **An international cooperation round-table in Vienna and in Barcelona, with many non-EU participants**





Some results from Vienna Forum: International Cooperation



Networking & International Forum

- Find a way to **bring everyone on board**, making sure all the players around the world are involved
- Use the collaborative website to create a **pool of ideas** on which to have a joint reflection
- **International Forum** (a meta-body) to share information, discuss strategies and declare that there are common objectives
- Produce a **White paper** summarising ideas for directors of programs of funding agencies, and organise a Forum of directors of funding agencies (→ in Malta)
- Prepare a **MoU** with the main issues discussed and ask members of FLaReNet to sign it when joining the Network





Some results from Barcelona Forum: International Cooperation

- **Solutions proposed and way forward**
- Consider Multilingualism as a major issue which necessitates political support and
 - can greatly benefit from LT
 - will only be possible if LT exist (cost)
- Use multilingual data as a knowledge source
 - Multilingual co-training
 - Joint knowledge discovery





Some results from Barcelona Forum: International Cooperation

- Better identify what exists
- Keep on meeting regularly at dedicated Forums / Conferences
- Establish a permanent international network
 - Identified centers?
 - Social network?
- Set (10) priorities
- Agree on common strategy (White paper, MoU)
- Offer to (national) agencies to open their programs





Some ideas for Cooperation

e.g. with AFNLP at ACL Panel in Singapore



Great **variety & richness of activities**. everyone starts from LRs.

■ **Networking is important**

- ❑ For awareness of what happens, share experiences. Interest to join FLaReNet.
- ❑ **Exchange of info**: Link various portals & websites, catalogues
- ❑ Localised Blarks

■ **Repositories of schemas, formats, standards**

- ❑ All tagsets, encoding formats, annotation guidelines, e.g. for treebanks. Info on inter-annotator agreements
- ❑ Links to standards where possible


■ **Open Resource Infrastructure**

- ❑ To overcome the current situation of all LRT separate & not usable by everyone. Also for tools: start specifications/guidelines for this
- ❑ Metadata for searching
- ❑ APIs for accessing

■ **Multilingual data, linking**

- ❑ E.g. Large NE repository linked to many languages

■ **Wiki-based creation of LRs**



With all the data available, how to exploit them?





International Cooperation - Aim: *Let's start to put in practice!*



Start from the **priorities**

- We'll analyse & synthesise them

The **plan**:

- The **“Top 10”** could be at **the basis of a document – a “White Paper”** – that we'd like you here, and then all our “Institutional Members”, to **endorse & subscribe/sign**
- To have a document that **reflects the active involvement & participation of a large & “qualified” portion of the community**
- The fact that so many non-EU institutions are involved may mean that the document **may be used not only for the EC, but also for other funding agencies**

This would already be a **concrete result** of the International Cooperation session





Priorities for Cooperation

wrt strategies for International cooperation



I see this as a **common effort towards priorities** for the field, wrt infrastructural, strategic, research, organisational, policy, ... aspects

- This is even **more critical now, when many new initiatives, also of infrastructural (meta-research) nature, are starting around Language Resources and Technologies**
 - ❑ Can we conceive some **common strategy, based on shared principles**, guiding and leading us in convergent directions?
 - ❑ Are we able to state **common recommendations to our respective funding agencies**, to create more synergies among the various programmes?
 - ❑ Could it be envisaged to share the effort and have **joint programs** with joint funding?
 - ❑ **What can we do concretely in the near future (with a small effort) vs what could be the "big vision" for the future?**
 - ❑ How could the **experience gained by the more advanced benefit to all?**
 - ❑ How could **Less-Resourced Languages** be taken on-board?





Let's now collect ideas!

... towards a common document

