ICT PSP Call4 - 2010

Theme 6: Multilingual Web

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2009 Call

Call 3 outcome:

- 8 pilot projects addressing:
 - Web-based machine translation services
 - Multilingual web content authoring & management
 - Multilingual information & communication systems (esp. health sector)
- 1 thematic network addressing best practices for the multilingual web
- Good involvement of SMEs and EU-12
- Projects due to **start** in Q1 2010



Multilingual Web

CIP call 4:

- Stimulate ICT-based multilingual
 - communication,
 - collaboration, and
 - participation
- Thus contributing to a pan-European digital single market, at the heart of the Digital Agenda 2009-2014
- Businesses, administrations & communities operate online across national borders & language communities
- Successful deployment of public & private transnational services depends on effective language support
 - projects must go beyond the mere integration of technology and encompass innovative solutions, processes & business models



Multilingual Web

Total funding: 16 Meuro

- 2 objectives:
 - 6.1: Open linguistic infrastructure
 - provide reusable building blocks
 - 6.2: Multilingual online services
 - demonstrate potential & impact
- A few ambitious projects (up to 4 M EU funding each)
- No predefined budget allocation
 - a priori: Obj 6.1 < 50%, Obj 6.2 > 50%



6.1: Open linguistic infrastructure

- Human-language based systems & applications depend on the availability of "language resources" (corpora, lexica, taggers ...)
 for their implementation & operation
 - For each language & language pair ...!
- To lower development costs, these resources must be "pooled", made reusable & widely available to researchers, developers & professionals
- Steps are being taken towards the creation of a network of open distributed repositories, through a FP7-NoE (T4ME)
- R&D projects are yielding novel methods for automating the building of such resources e.g. from the Web
- This objective is to provide additional impetus, in particular for less-well served languages
 - emphasis on the 23 official working languages of the EU, and the languages of the other countries contributing to the programme



6.1: Open linguistic infrastructure

~3 broadly based projects:

- Ease and speed up networking & organisational buildup at national & cross-national level:
 - Tasks: assemble, upgrade to widely recognised linguistic & interoperability standards, link across languages & document key language resources, making them available in open repositories
 - Close cooperation: need to agree on a number of technical & non-technical standards, organisational & legal issues, access & (re-)use conditions ...
 - Long-term viability: implies recognition & support from national authorities & funding agencies



6.2: Multilingual online services

- Demonstrate the potential of multilingual services by means of a few high impact projects
 - take a transnational problem, a significant community and a collaborative "platform" ... and enhance the linguistic coverage of existing or planned services
- Pilots can address the public sector:
 - pan-European platforms involving users & operators from a wide range of countries (e.g. eJustice, patents ...)
- Or the **private sector**:
 - multi-party industrial & commercial systems serving Europewide or global markets

6.2: Multilingual online services

~3 high impact projects:

- Featuring written and/or spoken language
- Handling multiple input/output languages
- Where relevant performing "translation" between languages
- "Multilingual" can apply to any of the following:
 - **Ontologies** & semantic interoperability
 - Terminology management
 - Information retrieval, document search
 - Raw machine translation for information gisting/mining
 - high-quality interactive translation
 - Content management e.g. for website globalisation

- ...



Participants

Objective 6.1, reusable resources

- mostly public sector:
 - producers: "competence centres", typically public research centres, language institutes & academies
 - aggregators: "data centres" (repositories), usually supported by national and/or regional authorities
 - sponsors: public authorities, research agencies, language councils etc.

Objective 6.2, demonstration projects

- partnership depends on target domain & user community:
 - **problem owners**, content providers
 - system providers, service operators
 - suppliers of multilingual services & technologies ...



Conclusion

2009 call geared towards

- Automatic and computer-aided translation
 - emphasis on text
 - 9 proposals retained for funding
 - small scale, 1-2 M EU funding per proposal

2010 call aimed at

- Multilingual systems
 - information access, content production & distribution,
 communication & interactive services ...
 - open to both written & spoken language
 - ~6 successful proposals expected
 - medium sized, 2-3 M EU funding per proposal



Further information

- Inquiries & outline proposals:
 - mail to: infso-e1@ec.europa.eu
- Unit's website incl. ongoing projects (in progress):

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/language-technologies/cip-psp_en.html

- Language Technology Days:
 - Projects arising from 2009 call
 - 2010 call & proposals clinic
 - Themed sessions cutting across CIP & FP7

Luxembourg, 22-23 March 2010

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/language-technologies/info-days_en.html

