2nd term report of the Project Coordinator Jan. - April 2014

iTongue: Our Multilingual Future

Jan / Feb

Local and international activities:

- Further correspondence with the ZNL Center for Neurology and Learning at the University of Ulm and finally successful research for the original sources and studies of relevant quotations found.

- Dissemination of the entire originals of these studies to all the partners as well as on the website, both accompanies by an illustrated summary of the relevant aspects in an easily readable way. This was to ensure for all participants without any prerequisites access to crucial information that are indispensable for the development of the project outcomes. According to these studies multimedia language learning facilities proved to be highly successful from a certain aged, but to be even detrimental at an early age. In order to respond to the projects goals and scope, most conscientious examination of these details was therefore to be considered. In addition, these findings uncover educational aspects highly relevant for anyone involved in educational responsibilities also beyond the project and beyond language learning.

- Development and production of further language audio-decoding samples.

- Development and production of videos demonstrating the essence of language decoding in terms of classical conditioning and based on biological aspects of memory conditioning and learning.

Preparation of the second meeting:

- Information about the project timeline, the corresponding requirements for the second meeting and a reminder of the commitments made at the first meeting was sent to the partners during the months of February.

- Partners received invitations to
  - communicate the topics they wish to be discussed during the meeting
  - send their contributions to the partners’ agreement

- On request of some partners, further samples where produced and shared with all the partners.

- More silent partners where contacted by telephone to understand their needs, questions and requirements and to develop individual solutions and support.

- Development of an extensive partner agreement in particular concerning forms of communication, as they appeared to vary significantly among the partner institutions and their representatives.

However, not all of the partners appreciated the fact oriented approach the coordinator used to apply in previous projects where international partners used to engage with exemplary enthusiasm.
The coordinator drew attention to the delay that had occurred after further recruitment of the required competences in the partner institutions and pointed out that the outcomes should be produced by the end of the first project year in order to report their dissemination and implementation in November.

March / April
Second meeting:

Activities and Results:
- Most partners provided tangible contributions to the meeting (samples)
- Partners increased common understanding for decoding requirements and classical conditioning.
- Questions raised on decoding declinations showed that common activities should focus on studying these in detail as they appear to be crucial especially for Eastern languages.

Communication:
- On partners request substantial meeting time was dedicated to personal issues about communication
- Lack of time for laying down the agreement, examining the website draft and product development

Activities between the meetings:

Partner Cooperation:
- On request the coordinator created a Dropbox equipped with the commonly used files / materials
- Some partners had no Dropbox allowing the required access.
- No partners’ response to adapting the Project-Dropbox to free access for any partner.
- No Dropbox use by the partners.

Local activities:
- Extended communication with the local employment exchange.
- Workshops about language decoding and production of audio decoded language learning tools
- Decoder training courses
- Creation of jobs for decoder trainees
- Recruitment of artists for product enhancement
- Creation of jobs for artistic contributions to the project outcomes

Preparation of the 3rd meeting:
- Effective communication and preparation with the Lithuanian host of the meeting.
- Substantiated invitation to all the partners to communicate topics for the meeting agenda.
- Weak response.
- Great audio-decoded product from the Lithuanian partner: basic Lithuanian for English speakers.