

PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY

ATIS4all thematic network is a three years research project funded by the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) of the European Commission (EC). It aims to establish an open and collaborative portal that offers reliable information on ICT-based ATs, inclusive solutions and R&D initiatives, and fosters online discussion, exchange of knowledge, expertise and sharing of information among its different portal user members.

The project is carried out by a Consortium composed by a group of selected partners led by Fundosa Technosite S.A. Partners were selected on the basis of excellence criteria, and proven track record in the assistive technology field in national and European research arenas; their recognition as leaders representing different kinds of key actors of the whole European market of AT ICT value chain; their national or international prestige in the provision of portals or information services for people with disabilities; their track record of open software research and development in the field of inclusive solutions; their frequent participation at expert meetings, workshops and relevant international scientific and professional events; and as organisations with the necessary influence to introduce significant improvements in the current status of these areas or to establish new trends and technological concepts.

ATIS4all is working in collaboration with ETNA Thematic Network to set up a reference online collaborative portal. It will provide registered members with functions to get information from an specific ICT-based AT product through a search engine in distributed databases, as well as the possibility of expressing and receiving opinion and experience on ICT-based ATs products and services through a 'community'.

Along the first year (2011), ATIS4all completed the activities of Work Package 1 (WP1) and Work Package 2 (WP2), including: the usual management tasks (like the development of the project website and knowledge management system, the creation of the project Handbook and the organisation of the project workshops and meetings), the dissemination tasks (like the design of common visual identity of ATIS4all and ETNA templates and leaflet, elaboration of a dissemination and exploitation plan and the execution of the dissemination activities) and set of tasks focused in the collaborative portal, including:

- ▶ Definition of the subject heading classification of the collaborative portal with the contents of the Market place section and the R&D community and the identification of potential key actors.
- ▶ Technical analysis of the EASTIN portal encompassing details of its functionality and the way the combined searches are performed.
- ▶ Selection of relevant types of content that should be addressed in the Market place section and the R&D community respectively.

- ▶ Identification of a first set of around two hundred of relevant sources of information based on web resources.
- ▶ Development of a prototype to provide a demonstrator of the users' ratings and comments application on ICT ATs, using the search engine provided by EASTIN in order to evaluate its usability and obtain expert feedback to improve the final version.

Along the second year (2012), the tasks of Work Package 3 (WP3) and Work Package 4 (WP4) addressed managerial aspects (like changes of partners in the consortium and organisation of the project workshops and meetings), dissemination and exploitation topics (like update of the dissemination and exploitation plan and execution of the dissemination activities) and areas focused in the launch of the collaborative portal, including:

- ▶ Identification and establishment of priorities in the set of tools useful for the market place and R&D communities of the collaborative portal.
- ▶ Definition of the portal map with both: "active" sources of information that must be created by the portal users and "passive" sources provided in form of database, links or RSS
- ▶ Determination of the criteria to select the sources of information to be included in the portal.
- ▶ Collection of content to be included in ATIS4all collaborative portal
- ▶ Elaboration of the information architecture plan of the ATIS4all collaborative portal including content structure, functionality, and the map of static and dynamic resources
- ▶ Development and testing of the ATIS4all collaborative portal:
<http://collaborativeportal.atis4all.eu/>

At the beginning of the third and last year (2013), the ATIS4all collaborative portal is publicly available and contains four main sections: the search engine of ICT ATs connected with ETNA, the market place, the R&D community and the Key actors section (see [Figure 1](#)).

Figure 1 Set of features of the future portal including the search engine, the community and the ATIS4all and ETNA websites
(Source: Self-produced).



► Assistive Technologies

This section connects with ETNA's search engine and enables end users to search for the most suitable AT, rate the products characteristics and provide comments on them.

► Market Place

It is the online meeting point for key actors interested in interacting, providing and accessing relevant information in the field of ICT ATs inclusive solutions and services. It contains several sub-sections covering topics such as: best practices, legislation in several Member States and at EU level, existing standards and eligible funding schemes. Moreover, the Market Place forum provides registered users with interaction functionalities.

► Research and Development

This section is the online meeting point for key actors interested in interacting, providing and accessing relevant information in the field of R&D and cutting edge technologies applied to the ICT ATs and inclusive solutions. Like the Market Place, it contains several sub-sections covering topics such as: a toolbox for ICT developers to access to the latest applications and programs (connected with ETNA system), case studies, standardisation committees, publications, training material and projects. The R&D section counts also with a forum for interaction among the registered users.

► Key Actors

This section aims to facilitate search of organisations and networking among the registered users of the portal. It contains a sub-section of Gurus with information and links to worldwide recognized experts in the field, as well as tools for searching organisations and individuals among the registered users and forums restricted to the most engaged users.

Along the third and last year, Work Package 5 (WP5) aims to increase the number of active members in the portal, as well as their activities, thus enhancing the interest and potential benefits of these outcomes for key actors in the field. Finally, in Work Package 6 (WP6) in addition to WP5 objectives, the Work Package also focuses on developing a plan that ensures the viability, sustainability and scalability of the portal and network after the end of the project.

When finished, the main expected results, namely the collaborative portal and a reference community will lead to:

- Making reliable information available on ICT-based ATs, inclusive solutions and related services more transparent, accessible and easily available to all the key actors in general.
- Overcoming fragmentation in AT and accessibility markets, thus helping users to benefit from huge market potential, facilitating the development and the release to the market of ATs based on open software and other cutting-edge trends.
- Augmenting the mutual knowledge of the key actors in the chain value of ATs and accessibility products (from research centres to the end-users), which will improve the outcomes of the R&D initiatives and the final products.
- Facilitating the establishment of professional relationships among organisations along the whole chain value of AT ICTs, inclusive solutions, and related services.

Join us! <http://collaborativeportal.atis4all.eu>

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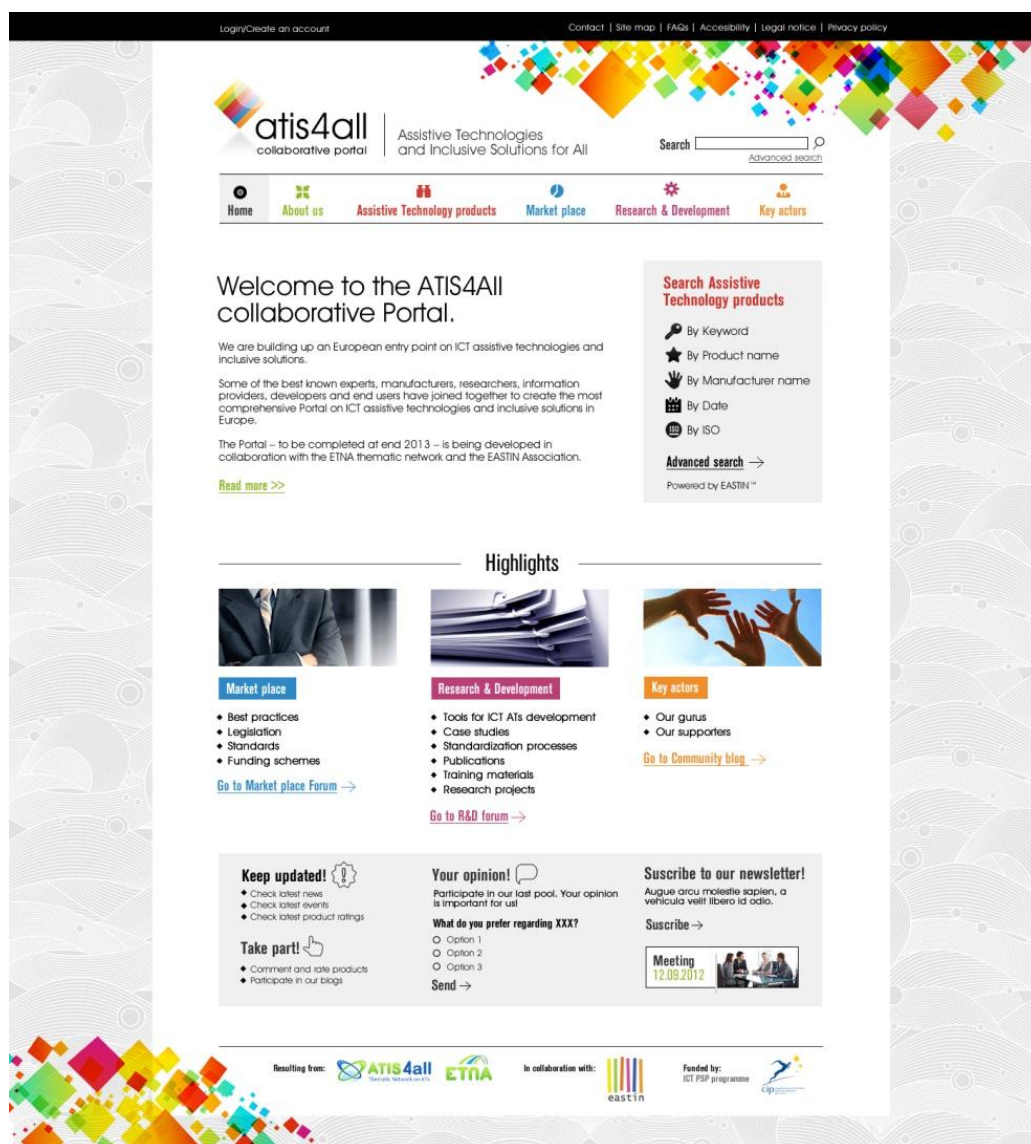
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Figure 2 ATIS4all collaborative portal
(Source: Self-produced).



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