



# EMPOWERMENT OF DISABLED PEOPLE

2 Seas Cluster

# Conference Programme



Ghent - 8th October 2014

# Wednesday 8th October 2014

## Facilitator for the day

**Annabelle Van Nieuwenhuysse**

9.30

## Registration and refreshments

10.00

## Opening of conference

### Jan Briers

*Governor of East Flanders*

10.05

## Presentation of Interreg IVa 2Seas

### Elodie Villeneuve

*Interreg IVa 2Seas*

10.10

## The user's view

Peter will share his views and expertise on the role of assistive technology in the life of a person with a disability. He will testify from lived experience, and his insights as a disability rights activist, on how assistive technology can make that huge difference. After all, everyone wants to develop their talents, to be independent, and to live with dignity.

### Peter Lambreghts

*Coordinator ENIL (European Network on Independent Living) Region West Europe*

10.20

## Introducing EDECT

Building the EDECT partnership to capitalise on the success of the Dignity in Care and SYSIASS projects, and progress to date, including a summary of the highlights of the Cluster.

### Ladan Najafi

*East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, UK*

10.30

## Technology and empowerment

EDECT is interested in how assistive technology can contribute to increasing quality of life and empowerment, whilst recognising that dependency and vulnerability are an intrinsic part of human life. Technology's contribution depends not only on how it is used, but how it is designed; and such design requires ethical reflection to understand relevant values, and how to 'operationalise' them. This presentation will introduce the capability approach.

### Ilse Oosterlaken

*Delft University of Technology, NL*

11.10

## Education of care-givers

What does integrating dignified care with assistive technology mean for healthcare professionals and their training? In modern society, rapidly-changing technology requires healthcare professionals to stay up to date. How can this best happen? Is sharing information about health technology necessary? What about dignified care?

### Vincent de Rooij

*HZ University of Applied Science, NL*



11.50

## The Challenge of the Ethical Provision of Assistive Technology

Assistive technology can significantly improve the quality of life of users and their families/carers, but its use can also be a source of stress. What long-term support is required and how can we best provide it? If we do not provide sufficient support, is this ethical? Examples of assistive technology and the challenges associated with its use will be presented.

**Matthew Pepper**

*East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, UK*

12.30

## Lunch and exhibition

A selection of the assistive technologies developed and used by EDECT partners, with visual presentation of ethical training for its use, demonstrating the added value of fusing these concepts. Participants can experience what it is like to be dependent on technology.

14.00

## Future opportunities for EDECT

EDECT is thinking to the future. Partners would like to introduce the project's thinking, before seeking input from users, then from all participants.

**Annemarie Kokosy**, *ISEN-Lille*

**Pierre Boitte**, *Lille Catholic University, France*

14.20

## A critical reflection on assistive technology by users and user groups

Representatives from around the Interreg region give us their perspectives.

- **Michel Mercier and Vincent Collin**, *CRETH, Belgium*
- **Thierry Danigo**, *APF, France*
- **Joël Beurkens**, *HZ University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands*
- **Tanesh Bhugobaun**, *Chair of Kent Brain Injury Forum, UK*

15.20

## Refreshments

15.40

## Interactive workshop

EDECT's work thus far has identified a range of opportunities and issues. Participants will have been able to contribute on the themes of empowerment of disabled people, through responsive care, assistive technology and ethical reflection, during the day. In this session, the contributions will be discussed, to inspire EDECT's future direction.

16.50

## Closing remarks

**Anneliese Dodds**, *MEP*

17.00

## Close

For further information on the 2 Seas Programme,  
please visit our website :

[www.interreg4a-2mers.eu](http://www.interreg4a-2mers.eu)

### INTERREG IV A 2 Mers Seas Zeeën

Secrétariat Technique Conjoint / Joint Technical Secretariat /

Gemeenschappelijk Technisch Secretariaat

Les Arcuriales - 45/D, rue de Tournai - 5<sup>e</sup> étage - F-59000 Lille

T : +33 (0) 3 20 21 84 80 - F : +33 (0) 3 20 21 84 98

[contact@interreg4a-2mers.eu](mailto:contact@interreg4a-2mers.eu)



### "Investing in your future"

Crossborder cooperation programme  
2007-2013 Financed by the European Union  
(European Regional Development Fund)



The Interreg 2 Seas Programme is an EU funding programme which promotes crossborder cooperation between partners from France, England, Belgium (Flanders) and The Netherlands. It aims to develop the competitiveness and the sustainable growth potential of maritime and non-maritime issues through the establishment and development of cross border partnerships.