

ADLAB

AUDIO DESCRIPTION: LIFELONG ACCESS FOR THE BLIND

MEMBERS OF ADLAB

- University of Trieste
- o Autonomous University of Barcelona
- University of Leiria
- University of Antwerp (Artesis)
- University of Poznan
- BayerischeRundfunk
- VRT (Belgian state television)
- o Senza Barriere

ROAD MAP

Immediate and careful planning is necessary.

Even though projects 'have their own life', Brussels monitors the proposed road map.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND VISION

Audio description and audio subtitling

Create authoratitive guidelines and/or proposals for the AD profession/industry in all Europe;

Develop curricula for universities in Europe: both for entertainment and for instruction;

Training of audio describers and audio describer trainers;

Sensitise and influence decision-makers at a local, national and European level;

Create useful connections with the industry and with the service providers;

Social Inclusion; improve the lives of the blind and visually impaired population; (but also that of immigrants, those with learning difficulties, language learners, etc.)

CREATE AUTHORATITIVE GUIDELINES AND/OR PROPOSALS FOR THE AD PROFESSION/INDUSTRY IN ALL EUROPE;

In all areas:

film

digital television

theatre DVD

mobile phones, ipads, etc. galleries, museums

tourist sites exhibitions



DIFFERING APPROACHES

- o Guidelines have been produced.
- For example there are semi-official guidelines in the UK and in Spain.
- There are guidelines created by professionals in the USA (Joel Snyder – "the visual
- made verbal") and in Germany Bernd Benecke at BayerischeRundfunk
- o Or by academics Belgium and Greece
- o Also Canada, France, Ireland

DEVELOP CURRICULA FOR UNIVERSITIES IN EUROPE: BOTH FOR ENTERTAINMENT AND FOR INSTRUCTION;

- MA Monolingual Subtitling and Audio Description University of Surrey
- This is the only UK MAsters programme dedicated to monoligual subtitling and audio description. You will learn from professionals and academics in a supportive environment. We will prepare you for a growing professional market and new research opportunity which are emerging in audiovisual disciplines. Professional subtitlers and audio describers who are active in the market bring their real-world experience and standards into the classroom as tutors. Modules are practice-based and embedded in the context of a sound linguistic, cultural and semiotic framework. The programme offers 24/7 access to computer labs and the latest professional audio description and subtitling software.



Create courses in universities: prepare teaching modules:

Work placement in the industry;

The use of AD in didactics;

Online courses Cf. Parma/Barcelona

SENSITISE AND INFLUENCE DECISION-MAKERS AT A LOCAL, NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LEVEL;

Dissemination and exploitation

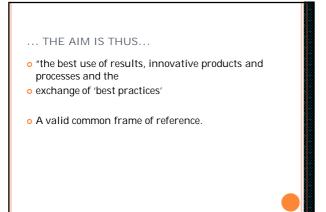
Reach the blind communities who are not aware of AD and show the benefits both to the blind themselves and to others.

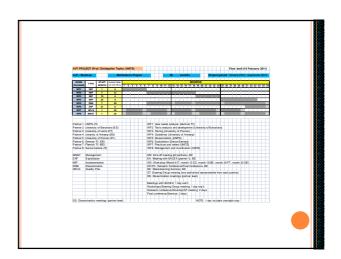
CREATE USEFUL CONNECTIONS WITH THE INDUSTRY AND WITH THE SERVICE PROVIDERS;

"Specific relevance to enterprise-industry cooperation will need to be borne out by the project's practical activities."

University - Senza Barriere University – Bayerische Rundfunk University- VRT SOCIAL INCLUSION: IMPROVE THE LIVES OF THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED POPULATION

"the contribution of life-long learning to social cohesion, active citizenship, intercultural dialogue, gender equality and personal fulfilment"





DISSEMINATION

Dissemination should begin in the first month of the project.

MORE DISSEMINATION Sensitising, lobbying, links with the industry: Build an argument: Plan activities: For what purpose? Who are the target group? What content? Methodoology? What content? Methodoology? When? Expected results? G.g... Talk at national and international conferences keep a databank of material updated: Write articles for hjournals, newsletters, newspapers, etc. Interviews on TV, radio: Training course (summer school?).

BUILD AN ARGUMENT

A brief and specific message;

Present statistics, case studies;

Identify the right people, even locally, e.g., Friuli-Venezia-Giulia and National Agencies;

- make appointments
- give invitations to events
- offer consultancy

Contact the media: II Piccolo, Telequattro, RAI, etc.

INTERESTED PARTIES

Universities (training/research, e.g.,. Macerata, Elena di Giovanni)

Blind Associations

Media producers

Film distributors

AD service providers

Politicians, undersecretaries, administrators, civil servants

International organisations e.g.. ONU, UNESCO Disseminate the manuale e.g., to the more than 70 universities in Italy.

"Dissemination conference"

DYNAMIC WEB SITE

- o Open to all and adapted for all users;
- Constantly updated;
- Trace the number of 'hits'.
- o www.adlabproject.eu

EXPLOITATION (SENZA BARRIERE)

Final seminar organised by Senza Barriere;

After having promoted and publicised the contents of the project e.g., Valsugana TV, define how they will be used;

Invite decision-makers—intensive interaction with all stakeholders;

Convince end-users

MAIN PRODUCTS

Manual

• Curricula, teaching, modules, etc. in all languages.

WORK PACKAGE 1 USER NEEDS

- o The issue addressed in the ADLAB WP1 report on user needs is the current situation in Europe regarding the accessibility to audiovisual products on the part of the blind and visually impaired population. The aim is to achieve a 'photograph' of the situation in Europe particularly regarding the project member states in order to better focus efforts in the succeeding stages of the project.
- How many blind and visually impaired people?
- What laws are there?
- How much audio description? On television, at the theatre, etc.
- Role of the national blind associations

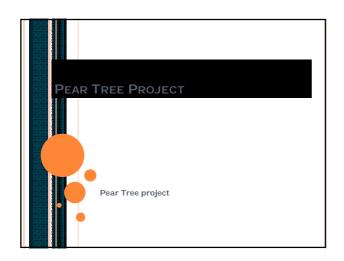
REPORT CONCLUSIONS

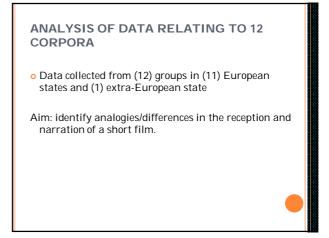
The general conclusion is that AD is still a media access practice lacking critical mass in terminology, practice, and training. Until there is a solid research background to turn to for data, and results, all activities related to AD should be considered as anecdotal. Raising awareness at all levels is the first recommendation made by the ITU Audiovisual Media Focus Group, and ADLAB will be looking to take forward this recommendation leading to its work on creating guidelines and curricula, and on promoting the practice of audio description whenever and wherever possible.

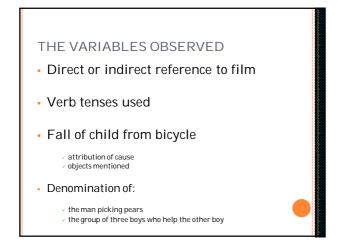
OTHER PROJECTS

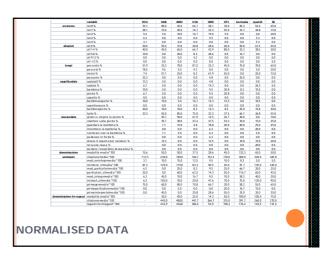
DTV4ALL;

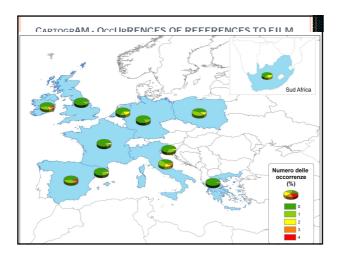
The Pear Tree Project (interesting results relating to standardisation)

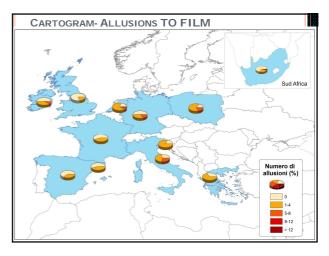


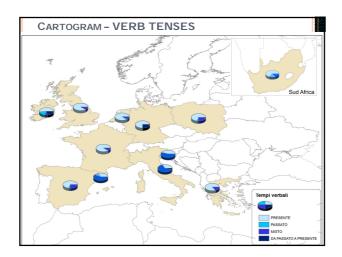


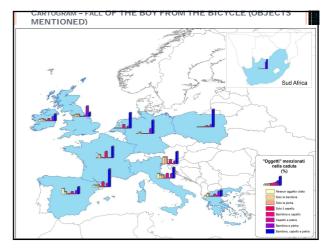


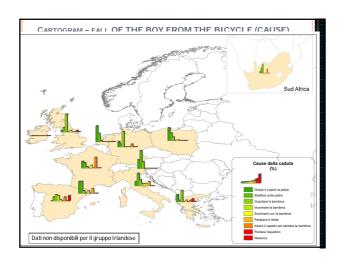


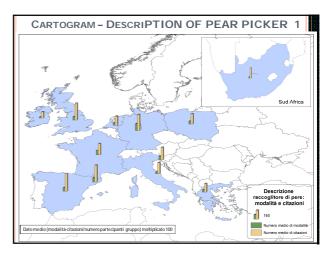


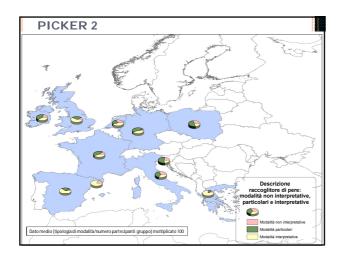


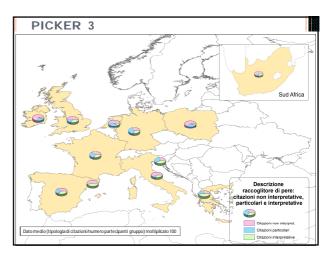


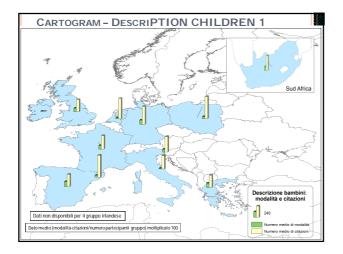


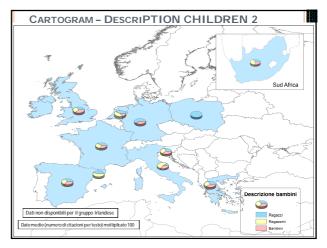












ABOUT AD

- o All guidelines concur that it is necessary to know
- What to describe: images, text, subtitles
- When to describe: in the gaps between the dialogue and if possible between the sound effects
- How to describe: in the present tense, parataxis, vivid language
- How much to describe: get the meaning, do not overload

FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES

- Basically between the American and European schools.
- o Snyder insists on no interpretation, no appraisal
- Orero says that interpretation is desirable and necessary.

SAD (ORERO 2010)

"the eyelids droop as the inner corners of the brows rise, the corners of the lips pull down, and the lower lip pushes up in a pout"



LITTLE DORRIT BY CHARLES DICKENS

- o SERIAL 1855-57
- o NOVEL 1857
- o BBC SERIES 2008
- o DVD with audio description 2009

ADAPTATION (ANDREW DAVIES, BBC)

Whilst adapting the story, one image was dominant in my mind: Little Dorrit going out in the early morning, emerging from the gates of the Marshalsea ... hurrying through the mean street, with the dark, gloomy buildings looming over her.

FROM THE NOVEL

- An oblong pile of barrack building, partitioned into squallid houses standing back to back ... hemmed in by the high walls duly spiked at top.
- She had begun to work beyond the walls ... to come and go as secretly as she could between the free city and the iron gates. Her original timidity had grown... and her light step and her little figure shunned the thronged streets while they passed along them.
- This was the life of Little Dorrit, turning at the end of London Bridge ...

VIDEO LITTLE DORRIT

LITTLE DORRIT

- o 1808 Marshalsea Debtors Prison (+ subtitle)
- The doctor shows the baby to a boy and girl
- Old discs spinning on lengths of thread in the darkness – (list of names) BBC Little Dorrit by Charles Dickens
- o 21 years later

LITTLE DORRIT (CONT.)

- A neatly dressed man in his 20s with short brown hair unlocks a small wooden door.
- Wearing a smart grey dress and white pinafore, a straw bonnet and light blue cape, Amy climbs through the door carrying a wicker basket and walks into the busy streets outside.
- She passes a horse-drawn carriage and two men in top hats on their way across a bridge.
- A tiny figure dwarfed by its enormity.