

## Partnership



Centro Machiavelli Tandem Florence (IT)



UICI, Italian Union of Blind Florence (IT)



Tandem Hamburg (DE)



DAA Berlin (DE)



Institut Montclair Angers (FR)



CCGBV Brásov (RO)



Asociația Nevazatorilor Brásov (RO)



**ELLVIS**

English Language Learning programme  
for Visually Impaired Students

Cod. 502249-LLP-1-2009-1-IT-COMENIUS-CMP



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**ELLVIS**

English Language Learning programme  
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## English Language Learning programme for Visually Impaired Students

**New ways of language learning for blind  
or visually impaired children and teenagers**

The COMENIUS project ELLVIS intends to improve the access of visually impaired persons to language learning. As good learning material for visually impaired children is rare it is essential to create innovative material which opens up new possibilities for this target group and makes it possible for VI children to take part in lifelong learning.

**Duration 18 months**  
**October 2009 - March 2011**



## Innovation

The learners, blind and visually impaired children, and their trainers as well, face the situation that they have to adapt existing materials (produced for sighted people) or make use of technical aids such as Braille readers, screen readers or purely audio-based materials. Learning tools based on iconic material (images, pictures, animations) are practically unavailable for VI persons. At present there is no alternative solution to the “book and tape” methodology. This language course is aimed at those who are unable to use these technical aids, who need further assistance and prompting through a system that supplies feedback in other than audio-file form, namely by the ‘force-feedback’ reaction that the joystick offers.

## Aims

The ELLVIS project wants to amplify the innovative results of the former project AllVip, which has developed an alternative user interface for language learning without a screen reader, using force-feedback devices (joysticks). The playful attitude this technical device suggests adds to the motivational value of the program.

The ELLVIS project aim to adapt and to amplify the English course for young blind learners of other mother languages to the needs and interests of children and teenagers. Four language institutions and three schools for the blind working together to achieve these targets: one English course each for blind Italian-speaking, French-speaking and Romanian-speaking students.

## Activities

The language schools are looking after the language related aspects of the course. The schools for blind and visually impaired people are looking after testing the contents.

- Introduction and training for the ALLVIP course and results
- Translation, creation and recording of the English course materials for the target languages French, Italian, Romanian
- Compilation of the Language Learning Software
- Testing of the Language Learning Software by the involved blind and VIP schools
- Fine-Tuning of the Language Learning Software and language materials
- Final Version of the English course (software and materials package) for French, Italian and Romanian blind and visually impaired pupils
- Final Edition on DVD with the Teacher’s Manual as Guidelines for the course
- Dissemination, Valorization and Exploitation of the project’s products and results