



Deliverable D.1.2, WP1, BalkaNet, IST-2000-29388

Databases Laboratory (DBLAB)

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BalkaNet

Dissemination and Use Plan

The main objective of this Workpackage (WP1) is to disseminate the project's results to a wider audience beyond the consortium members. Dissemination of project-generated information and findings is a key working instrument for achieving project goals. In order to accomplish this to members outside the project group, during the first semester of the project the following actions have already been taken whereas a dissemination plan has been established for the forthcoming period. The main objectives regarding dissemination actions concern the following:

- The BalkaNet project's web site has been set up and has been made publicly accessible. All interested research groups, individuals and industrial partners have been informed on the web site's existence and have been encouraged to visit it periodically in order to be updated of the project's results, findings and outcomes. The main objectives accomplished within the framework of the project are demonstrated on the site along with the major highlights of the work that still needs to be done. The web site is being continuously updated and will be maintained until the Contract's expiry date. The web site includes publication of key actions activities and results, which can be useful information to the users and other interested parties. The project's web site can be accessible through the following URL: www.dblab.upatras.gr/balkanet.htm
- The Hyperwave Information Server has been launched, where all documentation relevant to the project is available to the consortium along with the project's web site. In particular, the Information Server gives participants and the Commission direct access to commonly used information in the intranet/extranet via a standard browser. Access to all information concerning the project and to the publishing documents can be accomplished by standard Web browsers. When users submit content to the server, full-text indexing, metadata extraction and hyperlink management all take place automatically. The server ensures clear structure of the information and easy use of the documentation. It also supports navigation to the accomplishments of each partner as specified in the Technical Annex, versioning control of the documents, creation of cross-references or usage of the full range of search functionality. The functionality is ideally suited for portal deployment as well. Intelligent mechanisms dynamically regulate access to specific documents and content, allowing confidential information to be stored in the Intranet. This systematic access concept means that users only see information, folders or cross-references of relevance to them - and for which they or the appropriate user groups have access.
- Within the dissemination activities it is foreseen the organization of a workshop in order to spread the project's results to the scientific and industrial community. Following to this provision the proposed workshop is entitled **1st Workshop on WordNet Structures, Standardization and Applications (WSA) for Lesser-studied Languages**, and will take place in conjunction with the 3rd International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation, LREC 2002. This workshop gives emphasis on WordNet structural issues and Wordnet Standardization rather than implementation issues and focuses on

lesser-studied languages for which not many such computational resources have been developed. Moreover, the workshop will be an excellent forum to bring together researchers that have recently started developing their own WordNets (e.g. Balkans, Scandinavians etc.) in order to exchange ideas on approaches for linguistic structures and architectures of semantic networks and demonstrate their preliminary results to a wider audience.

Main topics of the workshop are:

- To what extent the architecture of semantic networks rely on language types?
 - How structures of semantic networks affect performance of IR applications?
 - Semantic relations of the less studied languages and how these are represented?
 - Structure as language independent module.
 - Are the assumptions of WordNet applicable to other language types?
 - Standardization of WordNet representations with respect to metalanguages (XML etc.)
 - Consistency checking, comparison and evaluation of WordNet modules
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- The main objectives of the project along with the foreseen implementation architecture have been presented during the 1st International WordNet Conference (GWA) organized in Mysore India, on January 2002.
 - The presentation of the project's outcomes to the scientific community includes also the organization of the 5th EUROLAN Summer School by the Romania partners, the topic of which will be "Creation and Exploitation of Annotated Language Resources". The organizers will include in the programme a special section on BalkaNet since by summer 2003 there will be sufficient interesting results worth talking about to an audience of up to 100 participants. Members of the Commission and the BalkaNet Project Officer can attend this special section.
 - Actions have been already taken for the demonstration of the project's preliminary results with the participation of all BalkaNet partners in international and national conferences. Particularly so far, several participations have been made in TELRI Seminar, WGA WordNet Conference, presenting the project's outcomes. Future participations are foreseen for the presentation of the direct and intermediate project's results to other relevant conferences and workshops.
 - It is planned the presentation of the project's results on the Global WordNet Association Web site, which was currently set up with the initiative of Dr. Piek Vossen (the EWN coordinator) and Mrs. Fellbaum (WN 1.5 coordinator).
 - With the progress of the project and the accomplishment of sufficient results further actions will be taken to incorporate them into various NLP systems such as web search engines. Moreover, the BalkaNet partners will give incentives to industrial companies to incorporate the BalkaNet semantic network and the WordNet Management System into various NLP applications.

- A special issue on BalkaNet will be organized by Romania partners for the Romania Academy Journal on Science and Technology of Information. All members of the Consortium will also consider other relevant journals to publish the project's results such as International Journal on Corpus Linguistics (Benjamin's), Computers & Humanities (Kluwer). In the aforementioned journal some of the Consortium participants are members of the editorial boards and they are considering the idea of having a Guest Editor (the project coordinator or other members of the Consortium or even external scholars) as members in order to present the project's results.
- The BalkaNet Consortium has decided to propose for organizing the 2nd Global WordNet Association International Conference which will take place in 2004. A member of the consortium will act as local organizer and the rest members will contribute to the organization and performance of the Conference. A special session on BalkaNet will be organized in order to present the project's outcomes to a wider audience and receive valuable comments and suggestions for external parties. Members of the Commission and the Project Officer are welcomed to attend this session.
- The project's clustering and concertation objectives can be also met with including links to the BalkaNet web site into each partner's home page, collecting papers and reports written by the Consortium members and publishing them on the Information Server.

More specifically, the main dissemination actions accomplished so far or envisaged for the forthcoming period are illustrated in the figure below:

Task	
D1.1 Project PPT Presentation	published on the web site
D.1.1 Project Web Site	http://www.dblab.upatras.gr/balkanet.htm
Project Information Server	http://is.dblab.upatras.gr
D1.2 Dissemination and Use	
Presentation at the GWA Conference	January 2002
Elsnet Newsletter	November 2001
WSA Workshop (LREC Conference)	May 2002
Balkan WordNet Association	
International Journal on Science & Technology of Information	
EuroLan Summer School	Summer 2003
2nd GWA International Conference on WordNets 2004	
EACL 2003 Conference	
Contribution to NLP Conferences	by 2004
Adhering the Global WordNet Association	
D1.3 Technology Implementation	
Incorporation of the WMS in NLP Applications	2003
Contacting Internet Service Providers	2004