

## ICT PSP call for proposals 2008

### Theme1:

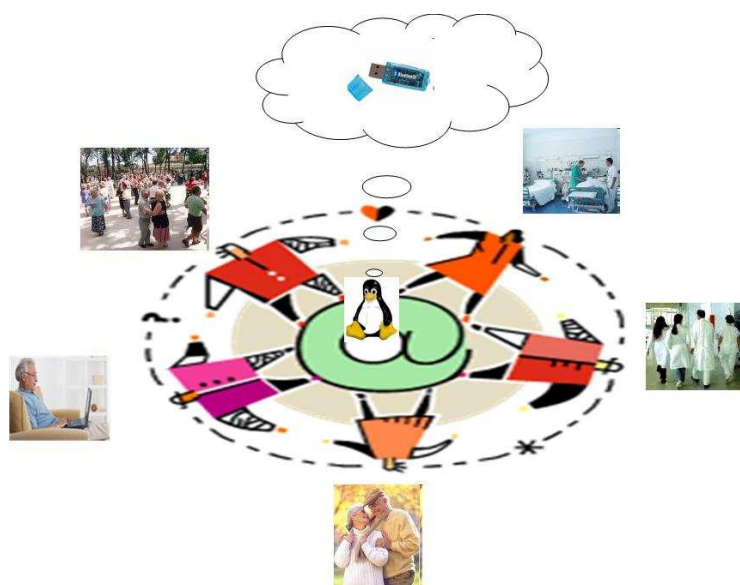
ICT for user friendly administrations, public services and inclusion.

### Objective 1.4:

ICT for **ageing well** with cognitive problems, combining assistive and **independent living** technologies

# A<sup>3</sup>BEL

## All-Age Accessible Built-in Environment over Linux



September 2008-Proposal Reference Number 238888

## Consortium Composition

### Industrial Partners

Engineering Ingegneria  
Informatica S.p.A. (IT)

Gestione & Organizzazione  
Servizi Tecnologici (IT)

Athens Technology Centre S.A.  
(GR)

ATOS ORIGIN (ES)

### Public Administrations

Centro Nazionale per l'Informatica  
nella Pubblica Amministrazione  
(IT)

Department De Salut De La  
Generalitat De Catalunya (ES)

Regione Sicilia (IT)

Anatoliki s.a. (GR)

### Dissemination Providers

Trust-IT Services Ltd (EN)

Fundación Sidar – Acceso  
Universal (ES)

### Service Provider

European Care & Lifestyles (UK)  
Ltd (EN)

### Main EU Reference Projects



## PROJECT RATIONALE

Independent Living is a fundamental Human Right for all elderly people regardless of the nature and extent of their impairments. Every human being should have the right to make choices about issues affecting their lives . Between now and 2025 the proportion of the population over 65 will increase from 20% to 28%, and by 2050 the old-age dependency ratio will have risen by over 160% in relation to the level reported in 1985. The fastest growing group of the elderly population is the very old (over 80 years old).The new age pyramid has enormous socio-economic implications and demands a paradigm shift in social and health care while creating new requirements for social inclusion and access to public services. At the same time, the complexity and lack of accessibility and usability of many ICT-based products and services is a major barrier for many people. Currently 30% of the European population is not actively participating to the information society . A<sup>3</sup>BEL aims to support people who cannot care for themselves in their everyday life (e.g. elderly who have recently undergone surgery or are suffering from an incurable, degenerative disease) giving them the possibility to regain their independence.

Through the use of specially designed technology and the support of assistive technologies A<sup>3</sup>BEL gives the targeted users access to Entertainment, eHealth and Internet Interaction services. In other words A<sup>3</sup>BEL offers remote assistance, socialization and training services to people who otherwise would not be able to use and to interact with ICT solutions reducing strain on the sufferers and indeed, also strain on friends and family enhancing everyone's quality of life.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Propose a new organizational framework, to redefine the role of elderly people, with or without cognitive impairment, in the EU community. This will give them the chance and the opportunity to actively contribute to the productivity growth of the society, in terms both of augmented productivity and improved social relationships, and in the meantime it will also reduce the cost of social, ethical and economic exclusion, in compliance with the Riga Ministerial conference “ICT for an Inclusive Society”.
- Provide a technological accessible solution based on low-cost or reusable hardware and on a license-free and accessible operating system, typically a Linux distribution. The proposed solution is able to overcome the digital divide limits of elderly people with cognitive impairments, and to help potential users to have a very simple approach to the use and exploitation of ICT services and applications within an integrated Open Source (Linux) solution and through the support of assistive technologies and methodologies as:
  - a. Screen Reader with Text to Speech support
  - b. On-screen keyboard
  - c. Screen Magnifier
  - d. Speech Recognition software
  - e. Language “simplification”
- Provide recommendations about the supplying of ICT services for elderly people through the ICT support combined with assistive and independent living technologies.