

European Training in Accessibility to Live Events

EST Congress

Translation Studies: Moving Boundaries

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**Dept. of Business Communication,
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Outline

- ACT: Context and Aims
- Team
- IO1: information-gathering

Context

Full participation of all citizens in cultural events
as end users or participants – must be the norm

Equal opportunity & access to culture are HUMAN RIGHTS

Overall aim

The ACT project will define a new professional profile

Media Accessibility Expert/Manager for the Scenic Arts

and will establish the

training activities required to produce the professional.

Specific objectives (1)

- ACT will strengthen **cooperation between organisations in different but complementary sectors** with a view to establishing exchanges of practices.
- ACT will expect **cooperation with regional authorities** and the integration in actions of local and regional development, with an emphasis on scenic arts.
- ACT will **develop curricula** to current and emerging labour market needs, by promoting active cooperation between HEI and partners from outside academia.

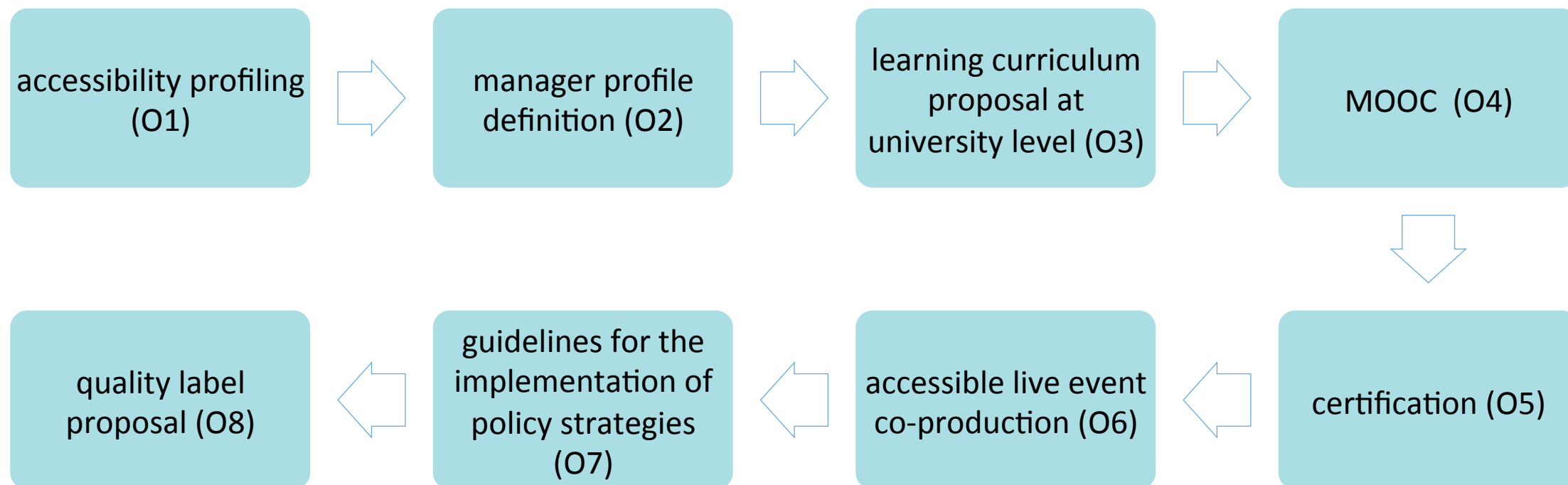
Specific objectives (2)

- ACT will trigger development, testing and implementation of **innovative practices in the field of education**, while better preparing the education and training professionals for equity, diversity and inclusion challenges.
- ACT will foster recognition and **validation of knowledge**, skills and competences acquired through various types of learning, by developing innovative certification methods.

Partners



Intellectual Outputs



Accessibility profiling (IO1): end users

The project has identified three groups of informers or end users:

- Artistic teams
- Venue managers
- Persons with disabilities

Accessibility profiling: methodology

- **Bottom-up** (individuals) and **top-down** (user associations, theatre list from governments)
- **Questionnaires** to different users (theatres, cultural centres, user associations) and **focus groups** (scenic art managers, end users)

Accessibility profiling: data gathering

- **Questionnaires** in English, translated into 4 languages: **VENUES**

(1) to what extent are the various access facilities (e.g. audio description, easy-to-read materials, sign language interpreting, audio subtitling) offered in the different arts venues in each partner country and how does this vary?

(2) how are access facilities promoted?

(3) who is responsible for accessibility?

(4) what access quality control measures are in place?

(5) what type of accessibility training is offered if any?

(6) what challenges are faced by venues regarding accessibility?

- **Focus groups:** similar questions but in discussion situation

Accessibility profiling: data gathering

- Questionnaires in English, translated into 4 languages: **USERS**

Sample questions:

1) Have you ever used the following facilities when attending a live performance?

Please tick the relevant boxes in the table and provide any further comments below

2) Would you choose to attend a live performance without each of the following facilities?

Please tick the relevant boxes in the table and provide any further comments below.

3) This next set of questions will help us to classify your answers to other questions.

Please tick the relevant boxes in the table below and provide any further comments below.

Accessibility profiling: data

Venues

- University of Antwerp, INTER & NTGent: 365 venues contacted, 22 responses.
- UAB & Catalan Government: 46 venues contacted, 44 responses.
- University of Vienna: 54 venues contacted, 3 responses.
- QUB contacted 65 venues and received 20 responses

Users

- University of Antwerp, INTER & NTGent: 633 users contacted, 92 responses + 7 representatives of user associations in focus group.
- UAB & Catalan Government: 12 user associations contacted, 20 responses. Focus group with young blind people association (9 participants).
- University of Vienna: Austrian association for disabilities contacted, 21 responses.
- QUB: 35 user associations contacted, 102 responses from users. Social and focus group event: 100 participants.

Artistic team: smaller scale enquiries by NTG and Trànsit

Accessibility profiling: results

- **Venue managers**

When asked if they had accessibility, mostly the reply was yes.

They thought of physical accessibility: ramps, access to wheelchairs.

Result—> The questionnaires served as an eye-opener on what media accessibility is and services available

- **End users**

Wealth of information: seating facilities and locations, planning trip to venue, advertisement on web, no need to print Braille programmes if the info is included in an audio introduction, etc.

Work in progress...

A quantitative and qualitative analysis of O1 is still being finalized.
Preliminary work is being done on O2: skills and competence cards.

= identifying categories of skills and competences an accessibility manager requires

- to ensure unlimited access BEFORE/AFTER/DURING the event,
- to liaise with all users,
- to liaise with technicians, authorities, to ensure continuity,
- ...

Disclaimer

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Thank you for your attention
QUESTIONS?

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