

EDeAN European Design for All e-Accessibility Network

The European Design for All e-Accessibility Network (EDeAN) was established by the European Commission and the Member States in July 2002 as one of the specific goals of the **eEurope 2002 Action Plan**.

One of the objectives of the eEurope 2002 action plan is the integration of the elderly and people with disabilities into the information society. **eAccessibility** stands for the access which new Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) can provide to people - both access to the real world and to the growing Information Society world.

The goal of this network is to raise the profile of **Design for All (DfA)** and emphasize its importance in achieving greater accessibility to the Information Society for as many people as possible.

EDeAN provides:

- Support to the eInclusion goals of eEurope
- a European forum for Design for All issues (eEurope objective)
- awareness raising in the public and private sectors
- input for European curricula on Design for All
- links to appropriate educational channels to incorporate Design for All in new curricula
- on line resources on Design for All

EDeAN National Contacts and Networks

National Contact Centres (NCCs) have been appointed in 22 European countries. They are working with Design for All, e-Accessibility and Assistive Technology issues as contact points of the EDeAN network. Each NCC is responsible for liaising with the EDeAN secretariat and provides support and actively promotes Design for All among the members in its own country. The NCCs contribute to and share EDeAN information. There are already more than 150 organizations represented in EDeAN.

EDeAN has established 5 Special Interest Groups for knowledge exchange and discussion related to Design for All and eAccessibility:

- policy and legislation
- standardisation
- benchmarking
- curricula on Design for All
- proactive assessment

To participate in a SIG, you need to use and register in the EDeAN web portal and virtual networking tool called HERMES. Membership is by invitation and can be obtained by sending an email to the SIG moderators. More information and contact details of the moderators can be found at:

<http://www.edean.org/about.asp?selectedcategory=4>

The EDeAN SIGs operate through the EDEAN virtual networking tool.

EDeAN virtual networking tool



HERMES, the EDeAN virtual networking tool provides access to:

- established SIGs (e-fora)
- fully integrated applications, such as the SIGs Message Board, Documents Area, Links Area, etc
- One-to-one or one to-many chats on topics of interest (on-line Chat facility)
- Easy access through a customisable Web-based interface (Personalised accessible interface) compliant with W3C – WAI WCAG V1.0 level AAA
- Role-based access to information, offering additional facilities for the SIG moderators



ARIADNE is the EDeAN on-line Resource Centre infrastructure. It aims to compile a knowledge base on Design for All including:

- case studies
- information about national and international projects related to Design for All
- best practice reports
- design and benchmarking tools and results
- product assessment reports



HERMES: Home page



ARIADNE: Resources page

HERMES and ARIADNE are available at: <http://www.edean.org>

EDeAN and Contacts

Find more information about EDeAN at:
<http://www.edean.org>

EDeAN National Contact Centres

Find more information about the EDeAN NCCs at:

<http://www.edean.org/about.asp?selectedcategory=3>

Supporting projects

The European dimension of EDeAN is supported by two EU funded projects:

- **IDCnet** - *Inclusive Design Curriculum Network* (IST-2001-38786) focuses on curricula for Design for All. Coordinator: Dr. Carlos Velasco
Email: bika@fit.fraunhofer.de
URL: <http://www.idcnet.info>
- **D4ALLnet** - *Design for All Network of Excellence* (IST-2001-38833) supports the creation of an infrastructure and discussion fora for the work of EDeAN. Coordinator: Prof. Constantine Stephanidis
Email: cs@ics.forth.gr
URL: <http://www.d4allnet.gr/>

Membership - Participation

Participation in EDeAN is free, and new members are always welcome to join. Representatives of organisations interested to join EDeAN and participate in the activities of the network, should read and agree with the EDeAN Charter and forward a Membership Application Form to the EDeAN Secretariat. The EDeAN Charter and membership application form are available from the Downloads section of HERMES, at:

<http://www.edean.org/about.asp?selectedcategory=5>

European Commission – DG Information Society and Media

URL:
http://europa.eu.int/information_society/index_en.htm

Inmaculada Placencia Porrero
Email: Inmaculada.Placencia-Porrero@cec.eu.int

Michael Stuart Aistropo
Email: Michael-Stuart.Aistropo@cec.eu.int

eEurope Initiative

URL:
http://europa.eu.int/information_society/eeurope/2005/index_en.htm

EDeAN Secretariat

The EDeAN Secretariat rotates on a yearly basis. For the year 2005, the Secretariat is run by FORTH-ICS

Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH)
Institute of Computer Science (ICS)
Centre for Universal Access and Assistive Technologies
Heraklion, Crete
GR - 70013 Greece
Tel: +30 - 2810 - 391592
Fax: +30 - 2810 - 391740

EDeAN Secretariat Manager:
Sifis Klironomos
E-mail: secretariat@edean.org
<http://www.edean.org>



Information Society
Technologies

EDeAN

European Design for All
e-Accessibility Network

<http://www.edean.org>

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eEurope
2005
An Information Society for all