D.1.1.1 Progress report

Grant Agreement No. 215231

TrebleCLEF

Treble-CLEF: Evaluation, Best Practice and Collaboration for Multilingual Information Access

Coordination Action

First periodic report: 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008

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Document Information

Deliverable number: D1.1.1

Deliverable title: First Periodic Report

Due date of deliverable: End December 2008

Actual date of deliverable:

Author(s):   Carol Peters

Participant(s):   ISTI-CNR

Workpackage: 1

Workpackage title: Management

Workpackage leader: ISTI-CNR

Dissemination Level: RE (Restricted)

Version: Preliminary – prepared for 1st Review (Financial and Effort data to be added)

Keywords: project activity, management, dissemination

List of Beneficiaries

Beneficiary Number	Beneficiary name	Beneficiary short name	Country	Date enter project	Date exit project
1(coordinator)	Istituto di Scienza e Tecnologie dell'Informazione, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	ISTI-CNR	Italy	Month 1	Month 24
2	University of Padua	UNIPD	Italy	Month 1	Month 24
3	University of Sheffield	USFD	United Kingdom	Month 1	Month 24
4	Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia	F-UNED	Spain	Month 1	Month 24
5	Zurich University of Applied Sciences	ZHAW	Switzerland	Month 1	Month 24
6	Centre for the Evaluation of Language Communication Technologies	CELCT	Italy	Month 1	Month 24
7	Evaluations and Language resources Distribution Agency Sarl	ELDA	France	Month 1	Month 24

Declaration by the project coordinator

I, as co-ordinator of this project and in line with my obligations as stated in Article II.2.3 of the Grant Agreement declare that:

- The attached periodic report represents an accurate description of the work carried out in this project for this reporting period;

- The project (tick as appropriate):

    X has fully achieved its objectives and technical goals for the period;

    ☐ has achieved most of its objectives and technical goals for the period with relatively minor deviations[1];

    ☐ has failed to achieve critical objectives and/or is not at all on schedule.

- The public Website is up to date,

- To my best knowledge, the financial statements which *will be submitted* as part of this report *will be* in line with the actual work carried out and are consistent with the report on the resources used for the project (section 3.6) and if applicable with the certificate on financial statement.

- All beneficiaries, in particular non-profit public bodies, secondary and higher education establishments, research organisations and SMEs, have declared to have verified their legal status. Any changes have been reported under section 5 (Project Management) in accordance with Article II.3.f of the Grant Agreement.

Name of Coordinator: Carol Ann Peters

Date: ...31./ .12./ .2008

Signature of Coordinator: ....

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[1]   If either of these boxes is ticked, the report should reflect these and any remedial actions taken.

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Executive Summary

The **Treble-CLEF** Coordination Action aims at building on and extending the results already achieved by CLEF – the Cross-language Evaluation Forum, which organizes annual multilingual information retrieval system evaluation campaigns since 2000. The objective is to support the development and consolidation of expertise in the multidisciplinary research area of multilingual information access and to promote a dissemination action in the relevant application communities.

Treble-CLEF thus has three main goals:

1. **Organisation of Annual Evaluation Campaigns and Analysis of Results:** Promote the academic excellence represented by the existing activities of the Cross Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF) by continuing to coordinate research aimed at providing solutions for key problems in the cross-language/multilingual information access area and providing an infrastructure to evaluate and provide further in-depth analyses of results

2. **Technology Transfer and Best Practices:** Launch a concerted action of technology transfer and dissemination of knowhow, tools, resources and best practice guidelines aimed at system developers and application communities (and in particular digital libraries)

3. **Dissemination, Community-Building and Training:** Continue to encourage community-building and collaboration around this topic by providing a discussion forum, by making the scientific data, experiments and results produced during the course of an evaluation campaign publicly available, and by organizing workshops, tutorials and training activities.

- **Evaluation**
  - test collections and laboratory evaluation
  - user evaluation and modelling
  - log analysis
- **Best Practices & Guidelines**
  - system-oriented aspects of MLIA applications
  - collaborative user studies
  - user-oriented aspects of MLIA interfaces
- **Dissemination and Training**
  - tutorials
  - workshops
  - summer school

The present document provides a pre-final version of the progress report describing the first twelve months of project activity. In this first twelve months, the Consortium has focussed on the following issues:

Evaluation: the CLEF 2008 evaluation campaign was a great success with a very large number of participants. Bearing in mind the objectives of TrebleCLEF, in addition to research-oriented tasks, such as the new VideoCLEF track, tasks were organised (i) to meet the needs of a specific application

community, e.g. digital libraries with the TEL task using the data of The European Library, the medical image processing sector with ImageCLEFmed activities, and (ii) to examine user behaviour, e.g. the interactive iCLEF track which used a multilingual search game, based on the Flikr database of images, to study user interaction in this context via questionnaires and log analyses. The focus on the user, on log analysis, and on the needs of application communities will be increased in 2009. In addition to the continuation of the tasks cited above, CLEF 2009 will include a track for query log analyses using log data from TEL, and a track for multilingual patent retrieval (see www.clef-campaign.org – under CLEF 2009 – Agenda). In 2008, the evaluation infrastructure has been considerably strengthened with the further design and development of the DIRECT system, providing participants with new means of access to the test collections and the campaign results.

Best Practices and Guidelines: Three best practices white papers are planned.

Work is well underway with the organisation of two workshops on the needs of MLIA system developers and MLIA users and together with ongoing literature surveys aimed at collecting data for the System-oriented and User-oriented MLIA Best-Practice Recommendations which will be released in June 2009..

The Workshop on Novel Methodologies for Evaluation in Information Retrieval held at ECIR (European Conference on Information Retrieval) on March 30, 2008 in Glasgow, United Kingdom; a first draft survey of test collection evaluation practises in information retrieval submitted for review in F, and an ongoing literature survey are all producing input for the Best Practices for Test Collection Creation, Evaluation Methodologies and Language Processing Technologies deliverable due for release in October 2009..

A first version of the Best Practices for Language Resources for MLIA is now ready. It is expected that the final version will be publicly available in February 2009.

Dissemination and Training: dissemination activities in this first year have mainly concentrated on the scientific community with the organisation of workshops, a good number of presentations at conferences and invited talks, and a large number of publications. Just one tutorial has been sponsored. In 2009 the dissemination training activities will be directed more consistently towards the application communities with the presentation of the Best Practice Guidelines and with the MLIA Technology Day, planned for autumn 2009. Training activities will be intensified, in particular with the organisation of the TrebleCLEF Summer School in June 2009.

This document has been prepared to provide information for the 1st project review, to be held 16 January 2009, Paris, France. It includes information on the results and achievements of TrebleCLEF during 2008, and on the project management and dissemination activities but it has not been possible to include detailed information on the use of the resources and financial statements from the partners yet as we are still waiting for instructions from the Consortium with respect to how this information should be reported under the Seventh Framework Programme.

As soon as we have this information, the final version of the progress report will be prepared and submitted.

1 Project Objectives and Main Achievements

1.1 Objectives

The high-level objectives of Treble-CLEF as stated in Annex I of the Grant Agreement are:

- To promote high standards of evaluation in MLIA systems using three approaches: test collections; user evaluation; and log file analysis

- To sustain an evaluation community by providing high quality access to past evaluation results

- To disseminate knowhow, tools, resources and best practice guidelines, enabling DL creators to make content and knowledge accessible, usable and exploitable over time, over media and over language boundaries.

The aim of **Treble-CLEF** is thus to promote research, development, implementation and industrial take-up of multilingual, multimodal information access functionality. This is achieved in the following ways.

- by continuing to support the annual CLEF system evaluation campaigns with tracks and tasks designed to stimulate R&D to meet the requirements of the user and application communities. In particular, focus is on the following key areas:

  - user modeling, e.g. what are the requirements of different classes of users when querying multilingual information sources;

  - language-specific experimentation, e.g. looking at differences across languages in order to derive best practices for each language, best practices for the development of system components and best practices for MLIA systems as a whole;

  - results presentation, e.g. how can results be presented in the most useful and comprehensible way to the user.

- by constituting a scientific forum for the MLIA community of researchers enabling them to meet and discuss results, emerging trends, new directions:

  - by providing a scientific digital library to manage and make accessible the scientific data and the experiments produced during the course of an evaluation campaign. This library would also provide tools for analyzing, comparing, and citing the scientific data of an evaluation campaign, as well as curating, preserving, annotating, enriching, and promoting the re-use of them;

- by acting as a virtual centre of competence providing a central reference point for anyone interested in studying or implementing MLIA functionality and encouraging the dissemination of information:

  - by making publicly available sets of guidelines on best practices in MLIA (e.g. what stemmer to use, what stop list, what translation resources, how best to evaluate, etc., depending on the application requirements);

  - by making tools and resources used in the evaluation campaigns freely available to a wider public whenever possible; otherwise providing links to where they can be acquired;

  - by organising workshops, and/or tutorials and training sessions.

1.2 The Consortium

Treble-CLEF aims at coordinating a set of closely related actions: (i) the promotion of advanced R&D activities in multilingual information access system development via the continuation of the

CLEF evaluation campaigns, (ii) the understanding of the multilingual requirements of the Digital Library user needs and the support of technology transfer of MLIA expertise, methodologies, tools and resources, (iii) the nurturing of a multidisciplinary research and application community around this domain.

The achievement of these objectives has required a Consortium with expertise in the fields of digital libraries, of MLIA system implementation and evaluation, of the requirements of multilingual users and multilingual industries, of test collection and resource building, and of IPR issues. The list of partners is given on Page 2 of this deliverable. Each member has consolidated experience in most, if not all, of the above areas. In addition, all partners have already worked closely together collaborating in the coordination of the Cross Language Evaluation Forum

1.3   Summary of Activity in this Reporting Period

The objective of this deliverable is to report on the twelve months of project activity. This has focused on the following areas and has given the following main results:

- organization of the CLEF 2008 evaluation campaign and annual workshop; this was a great success this year with the participation of 100 groups from 33 nations, and approx 140 attendees at the workshop;

- design and development of DIRECT (Distributed Information Retrieval Evaluation Campaign Tool) the digital library system that maintains the core technical infrastructure of CLEF **(Project Milestone 1)**

- in-depth analysis of the results of the 2008 evaluation campaign.

- Workshop on Bringing Multilingual Information Access to Operational Systems held 2-3 October 2008, Winterthur, SwitzerlandT

- Workshop on best practices for the development of Multilingual Information Access systems: the user perspective held 24-25 June 2008, Segovia, Spain.

- Detailed survey of CLEF evaluation resources

- Project website up and active

- Considerable dissemination activity including many invited talks, presentations & publications

The rest of this report will provide a detailed description of the activities during this period and results achieved so far.

2 Work Progress and Achievements During the Period

The activities of the **Treble-CLEF** Coordinating Action are organized into six work-packages as shown in Table 1.. The first of these is the Management Workpackage which is described in Section 3 below. In the rest of this section we describe the activities of each of the other WPs.

Table 1 WPs and Tasks active in First Reporting Period

Work Package	Start Date	Task	Status	Title
WP1	**Mth1**			**Management**
	Mth 1	1.1	Ongoing	Scientific Coordination
	Mth 1	1.2	Ongoing	Project administration
WP2	**Mth1**			**Evaluation Infrastructure**
	Mth1	2.1	Ongoing D2.1.1 consigned Sept.08	Coordination of Evaluation campaigns
	Mth1	2.2	Ongoing D2.2 consigned June 08	Scientific Digital Library
	Mth1	2.3	Ongoing D2.3.1 consigned Dec.08	Data processing
WP3	**Mth1**			**Best Practices in System Development & User Studies**
	Mth1	3.1	Ongoing D3.1 consigned Dec.08	Best practices in system-oriented aspects of MLIA applications
	Mth1	3.2	Ongoing D3.2 consigned Dec.08	Collaborative User Studies
	Mth1	3.3	Ongoing	Best practices in user-oriented aspects of MLIA interfaces.
WP4	**Mth1**			**Evaluation Methodologies**
	Mth1	4.1	Ongoing	Query log Analysis
	Mth1	4.2	Ongoing	Best Practices in Test Collection Creation
	Mth1	4.3	Ongoing	New Evaluation Methodologies
	Mth6	4.4	Ongoing	Grid Experiments
WP5	**Mth1**			**Evaluation Packages & Language resources**
	Mth1	5.1	Ongoing 5.1.1 consigned Aug 08	Data Acquisition and Production
	Mth1	5.2	(nr final version of 5.2 consigned)	Language Resources for MLIA
	Mth13	5.3	Begins Jan 09	Evaluation Resources and IPR
WP6	**Mth1**			**Dissemination**
	Mth1		Ongoing D6.1 consigned Apr.08	Project Dissemination
	Mth6		Ongoing	Training
	Mth10		Ongoing	Workshop Proceedings
	Mth18		Begins June 09	MLIA Technology Daya
	Mth18		Begins June 09	Exploitation

2.1 WP2: Evaluation Infrastructure

Work package number	2	Start date or starting event:		1			
Work package title	Evaluation Infrastructure						
Activity Type	COORD						
Participant id	UNIPD	ISTI-CNR	USFD	F-UNED	ZHW	CELCT	ELDA
Person-months per beneficiary	9	9	3	2	2	2	2

The work package concerns the scientific coordination and technical management of the evaluation infrastructure and of the scientific digital library. In addition, the work package will process and analyse the results of the evaluation campaigns. Work in this workpackage has been conducted according to Annex 1. There have been no significant deviations from plans.

Deliverables consigned:

D2.1.1 Annual CLEF Evaluation Campaign, O & R, PU, month 9, input T2.1, responsible ISTI-CNR
D2.2: Operational Scientific Digital Library, P, PU, month 6, input T2.2, responsible UNIPD
D2.3.1: Analysis of Campaign Results, R, PU, month 12, input T2.3, responsible UNIPD

Estimated achievement: 50%.

Task 2.1 Coordination of the Evaluation Campaigns and Infrastructure

Task leader: ISTI-CNR

Estimated Achievement of task: 50%

This task is responsible for the design of the annual evaluation campaigns and managing the evaluation infrastructure. It includes the following activities: planning of the campaigns in agreement with the CLEF Steering Committee, issuing of Calls for Participation, contacts with participants, coordination of the various tracks, organisation of workshops. The CLEF 2008 campaign was organized in this reporting period (see Del 2.1.1)

- ISTI-CNR coordinated the overall CLEF 2008 campaign and the AdHoc track. This involved dissemination activities, management of contacts with participants, organisation of the annual CLEF workshop and publication of the Working Notes;
- UNIPD participated in the organization of the overall CLEF 2008 campaign, coordinated the Ad hoc track, and participated in the organization of the Domain-specific and GeoCLEF tracks;
- USFD coordinated the ImageCLEFPhoto task of the ImageCLEF track;
- F-UNED coordinated the QA@CLEF and iCLEF tracks;
- CELCT coordinated the QA@CLEF track;
- ELDA coordinated the QAST task in the QA@CLEF track and participated in the organization of the TEL task of the Ad hoc track by contributing to the creation of the topics and to the relevance assessments;

Task 2.2 Scientific Digital Library

Task leader: UNIPD

Estimated Achievement of task: 75%

- UNIPD designed and developed the DIRECT (Distributed Information Retrieval Evaluation Campaign Tool) digital library system that has been used to manage the Ad hoc, Domain-specific, and GeoCLEF tracks of CLEF 2008 (see Del 2.2). DIRECT will be maintained and further developed by UNIPD throughout the TrebleCLEF lifetime.

Task 2.3 Data Processing

Task leader: UNIPD

Estimated achievement: 50%

- UNIPD processed the Ad hoc, Domain-specific, and GeoCLEF tracks and developed graphical and statistical tools for comparing monolingual to bilingual retrieval;
- USFD processed the ImageCLEFPhoto task of the ImageCLEF track;
- F-UNED processed the results of the i-CLEF and the QA tracks

(See Del 2.3.1).

2.2 WP3: Best Practices in System Development and User Studies

Work package number	3		Start date or starting event:		1	
Work package title	Best Practices in System Development and User Studies					
Activity Type	COORD					
Participant id	F-UNED	USFD	ZHW				
Person-months per beneficiary	**7**	3	2				

The goal of this work package is to (i) review the major findings from previous CLEF and other MLIA events, in order to provide best-practice recommendations for building MLIA search systems; and (ii) promote the involvement of European MLIA user communities in the CLEF MLIA user studies.

Work within WP3 has been conducted according to Annex I. There are no significant deviations in the WP goals, achievements, schedule and planned resources. A detailed progress report on each of the tasks follows. All the work in the 3 tasks is ongoing and will lead to Deliverable 3.3 System-oriented and User-oriented MLIA best-practice recommendations due at month 18.

Deliverables consigned:

D3.1   System developers workshop. O, PU, Mth 12 Input T3.1, Resp.ZHAW
D3.2   MLIA user communities workshop. O, PU, Mth 12 Input T3.2, Resp. F-UNED

Estimated Achievement: 65%

Task 3.1 Best practices in system-oriented aspects of MLIA applications

Task leader: ZHAW

Estimated Achievement: 50%

D3.1, the system developers workshop, finally called *Bringing Multilingual Information Access to Operational Systems* was successfully held October 2/3 in Winterthur, Switzerland. Del 3.1 was prepared under the lead of ZHAW and consigned on-time..

The workshop brought together professionals from academia, business and EU-sponsored research efforts that have a background in work on operational MLIA. Attendees of the workshop validated the stated goals of Deliverable 3.3, namely the identification of successful approaches derived from academic MLIA literature and the formulation of best practice guidelines for operational MLIA. As an additional output, lists of open questions in various areas pertaining to operational MLIA were compiled, together with indications of possible solutions that are either available or should be pursued.

ZHAW has started work on the analysis of the corpus of academic research papers and experiment descriptions which has been created in the past 8 years of CLEF campaigns. We have tried to support this analysis by semi-automatic methods, which allow the extraction of characteristic technical terms from papers, and attempt to facilitate the aggretation of key statistics about experiments.

Task 3 2 Collaborative User Studies

Task leader: UNED

Estimated Achievement: 80%

D3.2, the user communities workshop, finally called *Workshop on best practices for the development of Multilingual Information Access systems: the user perspective* was successfully held June 24-25 in Segovia, Spain. Del 3.2 has been prepared under the lead of UNED and consigned on-time.

The workshop has brought together representatives from relevant user communities (Cultural Heritage, European government agencies, news agencies, patent and trademark professionals, enterprise and web search companies, and EU projects) and MLIA researchers. Besides technical presentations, the workshop was tightly focused on a debate from which consensus emerged regarding (i) the features that an MLIA system should have from the users' perspective; and (ii) strategies to provide MLIA technology with these features and transfer these technologies to society. The outcome of the workshop is a direct input for Deliverable 3.3.

Task 3.3 Best practices in user-oriented aspects of MLIA interfaces.

Task leader: UNED

Estimated Achievement: 30%

Work has been conducted in this task within schedule. Besides the outcome produced by Tasks 3.1 and 3.2 (which is directly usable), UNED has also started work on the analysis of MLIA-related papers that focus on interactive aspects of operational systems.

2.3 WP4: Evaluation Methodologies

Work package number	4		Start date or starting event:		1		
Work package title	Evaluation Methodologies						
Activity Type	COORD						
Participant id	USFD	UNIPD	F-UNED	ZHW	CELCT		
Person-months per beneficiary	7	5	1	2	1		

The aim of this work package is to coordinate and disseminate best practice in both the design and evaluation of MLIA digital library applications. USFD is the leader of this WP

Estimated Achievement: 40%

No Deliverables due this reporting period

Task 4.1 Query Log Analysis

Task leader: USFD

Estimated Achievement: 30%

USFD have been considering the kind of event which we would want to run (similar or different from the existing workshops). Paul Clough (USFD) attended (and helped out on) the developers workshop to view the format and how things worked. This led USFD to conclude that a different style of approach could be used in T4.1 – that is we have a larger event where we predominantly try and interest organizations to participate so we can elucidate their experiences of log file analysis, as well as provide knowledge transfer from the academic to commercial communities.

Therefore, USFD have approached Any MacFarlane (from City University London) about whether this workshop could be run in conjunction with a BCS (British Computer Society) event. This would have the advantages of enabling us to book the London premises to hold the event, and also provide a

wider route for advertising. Also, collaboration with the BCS would look excellent from the point of view of TrebleCLEF and trying to link with as many different organizations as possible to disseminate our project and findings. Current work is trying to come up with the main aims of objectives of the event, how to gather participant feedback, thinking through practical issues and liaising with the BCS to establish whether this could be run as a collaborative event (if so it is likely to take place end Spring/early Summer). This would mean a slight deviation from the workplan – and will be discussed with the PO.

Lynn Connaway from OCLC (USA) visited us to discuss query log analysis.

Paul Thomas from ANU (Australia) gave a talk and discussed his work on query log analysis

Task 4.2 Best Practices for Test Collection Creation

Task leader: USFD

Estimated Achievement: 70%

The work for this task has focussed on writing a survey document encompassing this task and Task 4.3 (see below). To this end Mark Sanderson (USFD) has completed a first draft survey of test collection evaluation practises in Information Retrieval. This paper - 53 pages, 32,000 words, 165 references - has been submitted for review to FNTIR (Foundations and Trends in Information Retrieval). We await to hear from the reviewers their comments in 2009.

Task 4.3 New Evaluation Methodologies and Metrics

Task leader: ZHAW

Estimated Achievement: 50%

ZHAW has helped in organizing the Workshop on Novel Methodologies for Evaluation in Information Retrieval held at ECIR (European Conference on Information Retrieval) on March 30, 2008 in Glasgow, United Kingdom. Martin Braschler gave a talk on evaluation of search functionality in enterprise web portals that was featured as a keynote. The output of the workshop will be one of the sources of input for deliverable D4.2, Best practices for test collection creation, evaluation methodologies and language processing technologies, responsible partner USFD, due at Month 22 (see above, Task 4.2)..

Task 4.4 Grid Experiments

Task leader: UNIPD

Estimated Achievement: 40%

The conducted activities concerned the definition, design, and planning of the Grid Experiments (Grid@CLEF 2009) Pilot Task for the CLEF 2009 Evaluation Campaign.

Donna Harman visited University of Padua in February 2008 to discuss and decide an initial design of the task. The task has been presented and discussed at the CLEF 2008 break-out session; The main evaluation campaigns has been contacted in order to share and discuss the experimental setup and framework and proceed in a coordinated way. In particular: Chris Buckley (Sabir Research, USA) and Charles Clarke (University of Waterloo, Canada) for TREC; Noriko Kando (National Institute for Informatics, Japan), Teruko Mitamura and Hideki Shima (Carnegie Mellon University, USA) for NTCIR; Prasenjit Majumder (Indian Statistical Institute, India) for FIRE.

The Web site for the Grid Experiments (Grid@CLEF 2009) Pilot Task (http://ims.dei.unipd.it/gridclef/) has been prepared and delivered.

2.4   WP 5: Evaluation Packages and Language Resources

Work package number	5		Start date or starting event:		1	
Work package title	Evaluation Packages and Language Resources					
Activity Type	COORD					
Participant ID	ELDA	ISTI-CNR	USFD	CELCT		
Person-months per beneficiary	5.5	2	1	2		

This Workpackage has three objectives: to secure language and evaluation resources for the CLEF campaigns, to ensure that resources (data, metrics, reports, methodologies, new best practices) are widely made available and licensed with a clean IPR and copyright agreements, and to conduct a survey on language resources (LRs) currently available to build MLIA systems and specify the sets of LRs that are needed for MLIA system building, according to type, language and media involved.

The aim of the first two activities is to ensure that the acquisition of evaluation resources is coordinated to avoid duplication of efforts but also to avoid legal problems when the consortium comes to the distribution of such resources. This coordination will handle the specifications, the acquisition of raw data, the production of the required annotations and taggings, for multilingual and multimedia collections. It will also focus on quality validation and packaging.

In order to make sure the evaluation packages are distributed outside the consortium all legal rights, licensing schemas, commercial and pricing issues will be addressed in due time.

The aim of the third task is to conduct a survey of the language resources available to help build MLIA systems, and on how best to use them. This will be a survey of existing research, collation of data from current MLIA projects and researchers on what resources they use along with an examination of web and other sources.

Deliverables consigned:
D5.1.1 Evaluation Resources for CLEF. O & R, PU, Mth 8 Input T5.1, Resp.ELDA
D5.2   Best Practices in Language Resources for MLIA. R, PU, Mth 12 (Pre-Final) Input T5.2, Resp. ELDA

Estimated Achievement: 45%

Task 5.1 Data Acquisition and Production

Task leader: ELDA

Estimated Achievement 50%

Deliverable D5.1.1 (*Evaluation Resources for CLEF*) was due on month 8 and was delivered on time. This deliverable provides an inventory of the evaluation resources (test collections and tools) created for CLEF2008, in order to have a complete record of what was done (how and by whom) and what resources are available publicly for future use or not.

The main goal is to clearly identify all the evaluation resources produced within each task of the CLEF 2008 evaluation campaign. The evaluation resources are detailed for each of the 9 tracks (comprising 19 evaluation tasks in total) of CLEF 2008: Ad Hoc, Domain-Specific, iCLEF, QA@CLEF, ImageCLEF, WebCLEF, GeoCLEF, VideoCLEF, INFILE@CLEF. For each track sub-task, D5.1.1 details the multilingual development and test collections, the collection and validation procedures as well as the evaluation procedures and tools. In each case, information is given regarding the ownership of these evaluation resources. The document finally gives some outlines of what the packaging and

distribution policy of these resources will/might be. D5.1.1 is a necessary step towards the final packaging and distribution of CLEF resources (Deliverable D5.3).

The continuation of deliverable D5.1.1 is D5.1.2 (*CLEF Evaluation Resources*). This document, currently in preparation is due on month 20. This will be a step further in the preparation of deliverable D5.3 (*CLEF Evaluation Packages*).

Task 5.2 Language resources for MLIA

Task leader: ELDA

Estimated Achievement 90%

Deliverable D5.2 (*Best Practices in Language Resources for MLIA*) is due at month 12. It is currently on progress and is expected to be ready on time. This deliverable provides information on the language resources[2] available to help build MLIA systems, and on how best to use them. This is a survey of existing research, collation of data from current MLIA projects and researchers on what resources they use along with an examination of web and other sources.

An online questionnaire has been sent to major players of the MLIA R&D community asking them what resources they are using, and what their most important needs are in terms of tools, language resources and languages or pairs of languages. The collected information is compiled and summarized in the final document.

This task focuses on identifying the state of the art of LRs for the area, assessing priority requirements through consultations with language industry and communication players, and establishing a protocol and a roadmap for developing a set of Language resources for all technologies related to MLIA and modules concerned by those technologies.

Task 5.3 Evaluation resources and IPR

Task leader: ELDA

Estimated Achievement: This activity begins in January 09

For the D5.1.1 resources to be really valuable for any external user, one has to gather and structure them within a so-called *evaluation package*. The evaluation package of a given CLEF task encloses all resources and information necessary to reproduce the CLEF evaluation and compare the results with those obtained by the participants of the original campaign.

The availability and completeness of resources identified in deliverable D5.1.1 will be further examined, by consulting the partners responsible for their production. The IPR issue will be discussed and clarified task by task. In each case, it will finally be decided if enough resources are available for creating a valuable evaluation suite.

We are currently collecting, task by task, and for each individual evaluation resource (collection, annotations, queries, scoring tools, assessment interface, etc.) who is the author to be contacted in order to discuss the distribution and packaging possibilities.

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[2] Language resources have to be interpreted in a wider context: text data, speech data but also modalities and media beyond the language such as video, acoustics, images, etc.

2.5 WP 6: Dissemination

Work package number	6		Start date or starting event:		1		
Work package title	Dissemination						
Activity Type	COORD						
Participant id	CELCT	ISTI-CNR	UNIPD	USFD	F-UNED	ZHW	ELDA
Person-months per beneficiary	7.5	5	2.5	2.5	2.5	1	2.5

The aim of this work package is to disseminate the results of the project. Tools and data collected and produced during the activities carried out in the project, and all the information about MLIA best practices, will be made available to the scientific community and industry through the Treble-CLEF portal and via targeted workshops and tutorials, in order to give the results achieved and data collected the widest circulation possible.

Deliverables consigned: 6.1 Dissemination Plan, R, PU, Mth 3, Input 6.1, Resp. CELCT

Estimated Achievement: 40%

Task 6.1 Project Dissemination

Task leader: CELCT

Estimated Achievement 50%

The dissemination activities aims in particular in making available to the scientific and applications community the tools and data collected and produced, and all the information about MLIA best practices through a precise programme of dissemination. The project activities and results have been disseminated using the following actions:

- Treble-CLEF Web Site and dissemination material (see www.trbeleclef.eu)
- Treble-CLEF Portal (see the section on Dissemination for a description)
- Leaflets publicizing TrebleCLEF & CLEF activities (these can be downloaded from the website

In addition project partners have given a number of presentations and the project has given rise to a large number of publications. These are listed in the dissemination section.

Task 6.2 Training

Task leader: ISTI-CNR

Estimated Achievement 25%

This task is responsible for training activities. A number of tutorials will be prepared and proposed at international Conferences. In 2008 just one TrebleCLEF sponsored tutorial was given by Henning Mueller and Thomas Deselaers on Image Retrieval at the International Conference on Pattern Recognition (ICPR2008), Tampa, Florida, USA, 8-11 December. (see http://www.icpr2008.org/tutorials.html#six and http://thomas.deselaers.de/imageretrieval-icpr08)

 A summer school is being organised and will be held 14 – 20 June, Pisa, Italy. Leaflets have been distributed and the preliminary programme is given in the Dissemination section.

Task 6.3 Workshop Proceedings

Task leader: CELCT

Estimated Achievement 30%

The work has consisted of 3 main activities:

1. Publication of the CLEF 2007 Post-workshop Proceedings
   Advances in Multilingual and Multimodal Information Retrieval
   8th Workshop of the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum, CLEF 2007, Budapest, Hungary,
   September 19-21, 2007, Revised Selected Papers; Series: Lecture Notes in Computer Science
   Subseries: Information Systems and Applications, incl. Internet/Web, and HCI , Vol. 5152
   Peters, C.; Jijkoun, V.; Mandl, Th.; Müller, H.; Oard, D.W.; Peñas, A.; Petras, V.; Santos, D. (Eds.)
   2008, XXI, 922 p., Softcover
   ISBN: 978-3-540-85759-4
   Online version available
   Danilo Giampiccolo, CELCT was managing editor and responsible for the receipt of all papers,
   the reviewing process, and the final preparation of th printed volume in camera ready format.

2. Preparation of the on-line Working Notes and the printed book of Abstracts describing the experiments of the CLEF 2008 evaluation campaign and distributed at the workshop. The Working Notes (163 papers plus Appendixes) are publicly available on the CLEF website at: http://clef-campaign.org/2008/working_notes/ CLEF2008WN-Contents.html.

3. Preparation of the revised and reviewed versions of the preliminary reports are now being prepared by publication in the Springer LNCS series. Authors are requested to submit scientific papers containing in-depth analyses of results and not just reports of the experiments conducted. The book title and editors are: Evaluating Systems for Multilingual and Multimodal Information Access 9th Workshop of the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum, CLEF 2008, Aarhus, Denmark, September 17-19, 2008, Revised Selected Papers. Editors: Carol Peters, Thomas Deselaers, Nicola Ferro, Julio Gonzalo, Gareth J.F.Jones, Mikko Kurimo, Thomas Mandl, Anselmo Peñas, Vivien Petras.
   The managing editor is again Danilo Giampiccolo, CELCT.

Task 6.4 MLIA Technology Day

Task leader: CELCT

Estimated Achievement: This activity is officially due to begin in month 17

TrebleCLEF will organize a "MLIA Technology Day" aimed at putting researchers, software developers and users together in order to facilitate two-way communication of research advances and results by researchers, as well as the reverse flow of requirements and ideas from users and developers. The Technology day will take as input results of the Best Practices brainstorming workshops of Tasks 3.1, 3.2 and 4.1

So far, only a very preliminary outline of the event has been sketched

Task 6.5 Project exploitation

Task leader: CELCT

Estimated Achievement: This activity is officially due to begin in month 17

This task will assess the results of the Treble-CLEF activities and will propose solutions for sustainable follow-up activities.

2.6 Milestones and Deliverables Tables

Three project milestones have been decided on the basis of the three main objectives of the project. Creation and maintenance of an evaluation infrastructure to test multilingual information access systems; community building and training; technology transfer and best practices. Each milestone represents the completion of an essential building block in the process of achieving these objectives. The first milestone has been achieved successfully

List and schedule of milestones

Milestone no.	Milestone name	WPs no's.	Lead beneficiary	Delivery date from Annex I	*Comments*
1	Evaluation Infrastructure	2,5	UNIPD	9	Operational Scientific Digital Library tested in CLEF 2008 campaign
2	Community Building & Training	2,3,4,6	ISTI-CNR	18	Successful organisation of workshops, tutorials & Summer School
3	Technology Transfer & Best practices	3,4,5	CELCT	22	MLIA Technology Day and Dissemination of Best Practice Guidelines

List of Deliverables for this reporting Period

Del. no.	Deliverable name	WP no.	Lead beneficiary	Estimated indicative person-months	Nature	Dissemination level	Delivery date (proj. month)
6.1	Dissemination Plan	6	CELCT	6.5	R	PU	3 (consigned)
2.2	Operational Scientific Digital Library	2	UNIPD	3	P	PU	6 (consigned)
5.1.1	Evaluation Resources for CLEF	5	ELDA	1.5	O & R	PU	8 (consigned)
2.1.1	CLEF 2008 Evaluation Campaign Workshop	2	ISTI-CNR	10	O & R	PU	9(consigned)
3.1	System Developers Workshop	3	ZHW	4	O	PU	12(consigned)
3.2	MLIA user communities Workshop	3	F-UNED	4	O	PU	12 (consigned)
5.2	Best Practices in Language Resources for MLIA	5	ELDA	4	R	PU	12 (consigned in nr final version)
2.3.1	Analysis of Evaluation Campaign Results	2	UNIPD	3	R	PU	12 (consigned)
1.1.1	Progress reports	1	ISTI-CNR	2.5	R	CO	12 (consigned in preliminary version)
1.2.1	Financial reports	1	ISTI-CNR	1	R	CO	12 – not ready

3   Consortium Management

3.1   Management Organizations and Meetings

ISTI-CNR is responsible for project management. Carol Peters, ISTI-CNR acts as Project Coordinator and Francesca Borri, ISTI-CNR, is responsible for Project Administration. She is responsible for all administrative matters and manages the project website.

In addition, two boards have been appointed to supervise the activities in the project:

- the **Treble-CLEF** *Management Board* (**MB**), for legal/administrative matters,
- the **Treble-CLEF** *Advisory Board* **(AB),** to advise the **MB** and provide feedback/suggestions with respect to project progress,

The Management Board is composed by the Project Coordinator and a Project Manager for each of the other partners..

Project Management Board

- CNR - Carol Peters
- UNIPD – Nicola ferro
- USFD – Mark Sanderson
- UNED – Julio Gonzalo
- ZHAW – Martin Braschler
- CELCT – Amedeo Cappelli
- ELDA – Khalid Choukri

The Advisory Board is composed of key representatives from the MLIA R&D, information system evaluation and information management/digital library communities

Advisory Board

- Christian Fluhr, Research Director, Laboratoire d'ingénerie de la connaissance multimédia multilingue, French Atomic Energy Agency;
- Stefan Gradmann, Deputy Director, Hamburg University Computing Centre (RRZ);
- Donna Harman, Scientist Emeritus of the National Institute of Science and Technology;
- Noriko Kando, Professor, National Institute of Informatics (NII); Tokyo, and Director of NTCIR Evaluation of Information Access Technologies
- Claire Warwick, School of Library Archive and Information Studies, University College London and Head of the LAIRAH project.

According to Annex I, the project management board should meet at least once every six months in order to take strategic decisions and to monitor project activity. In addition, communication is via a mailing list and phone conferences.

The Advisory Board should meet twice during the project to offer advice and suggestions to the MB

Meetings held

The following project managerial meetings have been held (The minutes of these meetings are included in Appendix B):

- Kickoff and Advisory Board Meeting, 10-11 January 2008, Pisa, Italy
- Project Management Meeting, 26-27 June 2008, Segovia, Spain
- Project Management Meeting, 17 September 2008, Aarhus, Denmark (Advisory Board was present with exception of Clare Warwick)

In addition: a meeting of the Ad Hoc Coordination Group was held 25 February 2008, Padova, Italy

The next Advisory Board and Project Management meetings will be held 13 & 14 January, Paris, France.

Problems

No problems of relevance have occurred during this reporting period.

3.2   Dissemination and Ground Truth Budget Allocation

Of the project funding, 130,000 euros has been budgeted to cover the costs of dissemination activities (assigned to CELCT) and 50,000 euros for ground truth creation (assigned to ELDA). In the following table we show the breakdown of costs for the first reporting period.

It can be seen that in addition to the events planned in Annex 1, we also organised a workshop onAlthough at a first glnce it would appear that we are underspending, this is mainly due to the fact that several of the main dissemination activities are programmed to be held in 2009, e.g. the Summer School and the MLIA Technology Day.

Plans are now being formulated for full use of the budget for ground truth creation and for the sponsoring of a number of tutorials.

Breakdown of costs for subcontracting and events

	Notes	Partner managing the budget	IN	OUT	
			tot budget	actually spent	leftover from actual
			€170.000,00	**€42.442,96**	**€124.557,04**
Subcontracting		**ELDA**	€ 50.000,00	€ 6.000,00	€ 44.000,00
Advisory Board 1		**CELCT**	€ 7.500,00	€ 7.500,00	€ 0,00
Advisory Board 2		**CELCT**	€ 7.500,00	**€5.628,00**	**€1.872,00**
Summer School		**CELCT**	€ 30.000,00	€ 1.250,00	€ 28.750,00
CLEF Evaluation workshop 2008		**CELCT**	€ 10.000,00	€ 6.025,00	**€3.975,00**
CLEF Evaluation workshop 2009		**CELCT**	€ 10.000,00		€ 10.000,00
Brainstorming Workshop 1 - User Communities WS 2008 Segovia		**CELCT**	€ 10.000,00	€ 7.909,24	**€2.090,76**
Brainstorming Workshop 2 - System Developers, Winterthur		**CELCT**	€ 10.000,00	€ 3.727,30	**€6.272,70**
Brainstorming Workshop 3		**CELCT**	€ 10.000,00		€ 10.000,00
Tutorial 1	**Tutorial Image Retrieval @ ICPR 2008**	**CELCT**	€ 2.500,00	€ 2.203,42	€ 296,58
Tutorial 2		**CELCT**	€ 2.500,00		€ 2.500,00
Tutorial 3		**CELCT**	€ 2.500,00		€ 2.500,00
Tutorial 4		**CELCT**	€ 2.500,00		€ 2.500,00
1 technology day		**CELCT**	€ 15.000,00		€ 15.000,00
Partial total			**€170.000,00**	**€40.242,96**	**€129.757,04**
Funding for additional activities		**WS in Glasgow March 2008 @ ECIR 08**	€ 0,00	€ 2.200,00 (spent)	-€ 2.200,00
		ESSIR Panel	€ 0,00	€ 3.000,00 (expected)	-€ 3.000,00

4   Dissemination Activities

Dissemination is a key activity in this project. The aim is to accumulate and assimilate the results achieved by the project activities in order to disseminate them to the interested research and application domains. This is the most important objective of the project and its main raison-d'être. Tools and data collected and produced during the activities carried out in the project, and all the information about MLIA best practices, will be made available to the scientific community and industry through the Treble-CLEF portal and via targeted workshops and training initiatives, in order to give the results achieved and data collected the widest circulation possible.

In this section we provide information on the main dissemination activities in this first twelve months: TrebleCLEF website and Portal; workshops; Sumer School; Presentations and Publications.

4.1 TrebleCLEF Website and Portal

The TrebleCLEF website (**www.trebleclef.eu**) has been up and running since the project began. It is a main dissemination tool of the project and consists of two main parts: TrebleCLEF project site, and the CLEF evaluation campaign site which is linked from TrebleCLEF but also has its own separate URL: **www.clef-campaign.org**. Both sites also contain password protected areas: for internal Consortium matters for TrebleCLEF; for (i) registered participants and (ii) steering committee members for CLEF.. The average no. of visitors per day are: 18 for TrebleCLEF and 55 for CLEF (wih approx. 60% of new visitors for TrebleCLEF and 50% for CLEF).

Another major dissemination tool that has been under development in this first part of the project is the TrebleCLEF portal, which is not only an additional means to disseminate the results and information collected during the CLEF evaluation campaigns, but will also enable the search and browse of all kind of MLIA-related resources (documents, reports, systems, language data, etc.) and CLEF benchmarking data organized in a complex taxonomy of relations.
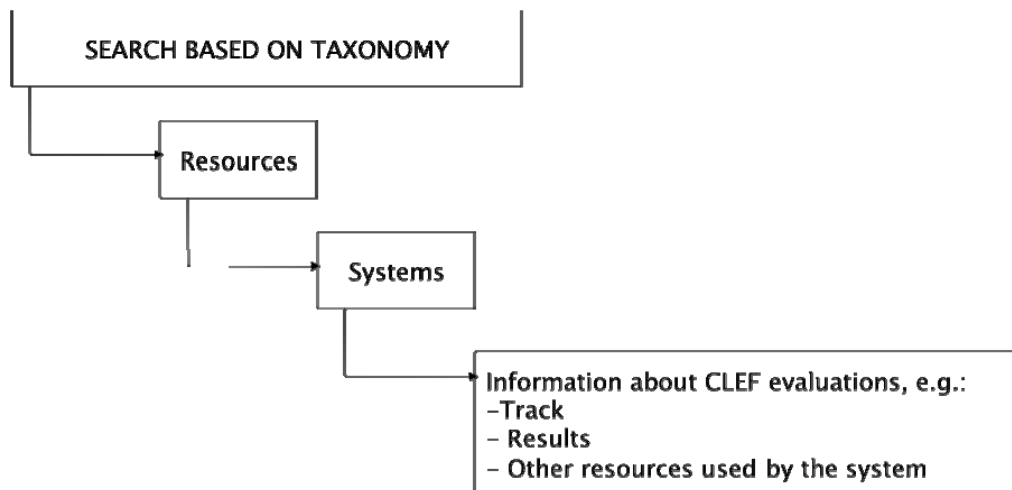
The portal will be publicly available via the TrebleCLEF website. A more detailed description is given in Appendix A.

4.2 Workshops

Four workshops were organized in 2008:

- The Workshop on "Novel Methodologies for Evaluation in Information Retrieval" was held at ECIR (European Conference on Information Retrieval) on March 30, 2008 in Glasgow, United Kingdom
- The CLEF 2008 Annual Workshop, 17-19 September 2008, was held in Aarhus, Denmark, in conjunction with the European Conference on Digital Libraries (ECDL 2008).
- Workshop on "Best Practices for the Development of Multilingual Information Access systems: the user perspective" was successfully held June 24-25 in Segovia, Spain.
- The workshop on "Bringing Multilingual Information Access to Operational Systems" was held 2-3 October, Winterthur, Switzerland.

4.3 Summer School

Objectives

The aim of the Summer School is to give participants a grounding in the core topics that constitute the multidisciplinary area of Multilingual Information Access (MLIA). Both theoretical and practical issues will be addressed. The School is intended for advanced undergraduate and post-graduate students, post-doctorial researchers plus academic and industrial researchers and system developers with backgrounds in Computer Science, Information Science, Language Technologies and related areas. The focus of the school will be on "How to build effective multilingual information retrieval systems and how to evaluate them".

Location and Dates

The Summer School will be held 15 - 19 June 2009 in the beautiful ex-convent Santa Croce in Fossabanda, Pisa. Santa Croce provides the perfect setting for study and discussions in a peaceful, relaxed atmosphere and is just a short walk from the town centre and the famous Piazza dei Miracoli with its Leaning Tower.

Financial Support for Students

A number of grants will be made available by TrebleCLEF and by the DELOS Association covering the registration fees and/or partial costs of the accommodation.

Current status of Programme

The school will be structured in a series of lectures and hands on training sessions. The programme will cover the following areas:
- Multilingual Text Processing (including problems of language specific tokenization, indexing, stemming): Martin Braschler, ZHAW (half day)
- Cross-Language Information Retrieval (approaches and technologies used for CLIR) – Jacques Savoy, University of Neuchatel, Switzerland (half day)
  Braschler and Savoy intend to prepare their lectures and do their talks together to ensure harmonization
- Information Retrieval in a Multilingual Context (problems involved in querying, retrieving and presenting results from a multilingual/multimedia collection) Henning Muller, University of Geneva, Switzerland, and Thomas Deselaers, University of Aachen, Germany (half-day)
- System Architectures and Multilinguality: theory and practice – Nicola Ferro and Giorgio Di Nunzio (half day)
- Best Practices in User-oriented MLIA (what the user wants and how to provide it) – Julio Gonzalo (UNED) and Paul Clough (USFD) (half day) (half day)
- Evaluation for CLIR/MLIA systems and components – Mark Sanderson, USFD (half day)
- Commercial Cross-Language search – Paraic Sheridan, DCU, Ireland (2 hours)
- Information Extraction in a Multiple Language Context, Maarten de Rijke (2 hours) (to be confirmed)
- Cross-Language Question Answering, Anselmo Penas (2 hours) tbc

Plus someone to talk about MT for CLIR (to be decided) and someone from the patent search community (to be decided)

Programme Committee
Carol Peters (Chair), National Research Council, Italy
Maristella Agosti, University of Padua, Italy
Martin Braschler, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland

Amedeo Cappelli, CELCT, Italy
Khalid Choukri, ELRA/ELDA, France
Christian Fluhr, NewPhenix, France
Stefan Gradmann, University of Humboldt, Germany
Donna Harman, National Institute of Standards and Technology, USA
Noriko Kando, National Institute of Informatics, Japan
Mark Sanderson, University of Sheffield, UK
Costantino Thanos, National Research Council, Italy
Felisa Verdejo, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, Spain
Claire Warwick, University College, London, UK

Breakdown of costs of Summer School 2009

	cost	IN	OUT
Allocated budget		€ 30.000,00	
DELOS Association		€ 10.000,00	
20 paying participants (10 reg. Free)	€ 200,00	€ 4.000,00	
3 Conf. Rooms X 5 days			€ 1.000,00
2 coffee breaks X 5 days X 40 people	€ 20,00		€ 4.000,00
5 lunches X 40 people	€ 25,00		€ 5.000,00
Social dinner X 40 people	€ 40,00		€ 1.600,00
Welcome cocktail X 30 people	€ 25,00		€ 750,00
Lucca Tour			€ 750,00
Handouts, badges, bags, other			€ 1.000,00
Costs of invited speakers - Action: CELCT	15 invited speakers		€18.000,00
10 full bursaries 600 Euro each			€ 6.000,00
Costs managed by the conf. Agency = registration fees			€ 1.000,00
		€ 44.000,00	€ 39.100,00

4.4 Presentations and Publications

Talks

The following talks have been given:

- Agosti, M. (2008). Invited Talk. CLEF Evaluation – A Long Term IR Evaluation Initiative in Continuous Evolution. *IRF Symposium 2008,* Vienna, Austria, 5-8 November 2008.

- Ferro, N. and Harman, D. (2008).Grid Experiments at CLEF 2009. Ad-hoc Breakout Session. Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Ferro, N. and Harman, D. (2008). Dealing with MultiLingual Information Access: Grid Experiments at TrebleCLEF. 4th Italian Research Conference on Digital Library Systems (IRCDL 2008), Padua, Italy, 24-25 January 2008.

- Peters, C. and Ferro, N. (2008). Invited Talk. Cross-Language Evaluation Forum: Objectives and Achievements. Forum for Information Retrieval Evaluation (FIRE 2008), Kolkata, India, 12-14 December 2008.

- Peters, C. and Ferro, N. (2008). Invited Talk. From CLEF to TrebleCLEF: the Evolution of the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum. The 7th NTCIR Workshop (2007/2008) - Evaluation of Information Access Technologies: Information Retrieval, Question Answering, and Cross-Lingual Information Access, Tokyo, Japan, 16-19 December 2008.

- Peters, C., Braschler, M., Di Nunzio, G., Ferro, N., Gonzalo, J., Sanderson, M. From Research to Application in Multilingual Information Access: the Contribution of Evaluation, LREC 2008, Marrakech, Morocco, 28-30 May 2008.

- Sanderson, M. Invited Talk Test collections for all".USI Lugano, Switzerland, February 12, 2008

- Sanderson, M. Invited Talk "Test collections for all".at the Institute for Infocomm Research (I2R), Singapore 25 July 2008.

- Sanderson, M. Invited Keynote: Measuring interactivity on search engines is hard, unless you're Yahoo, Microsoft, or Google 5th Joint Workshop on Machine Learning and Multimodal Interaction, 8-10 September 2008, Utrecht, The Netherlands

- Sanderson, M. Invited Talk. Forum for Information Retrieval Evaluation (FIRE 2008), Kolkata, India, 12-14 December 2008.

- Rodrigo, A., Peñas, A., Verdejo, F. Evaluating Answer Validation in Multi-stream Question Answering. The 7th NTCIR Workshop (2007/2008) - Evaluation of Information Access Technologies: Information Retrieval, Question Answering, and Cross-Lingual Information Access, Tokyo, Japan, 16-19 December 2008.

   This list is not complete

In addition many presentations were given by members of the TrebleCLEF consortium at the CLEF 2008 workshop, 15-17 September, Aarhus, Denmark:

- Agosti, M., Di Nunzio, G.M., and Ferro, N. (2008). DIRECT: Towards an Evaluation Infrastructure for IR Evaluation. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Braschler, M. (2008). Evaluating the Search Functionality of Enterprise Websites. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Deselaers, T., Müller, H., Arni, T., Tsikrika, T., Kalpathy-Cramer, J., Sanderson, M., Clough, P., Kludas, J., Hanbury, A., Grubinger, M., Deserno, T.M., and Hersh, B. (2008). The Cross Language Image

Retrieval Track:ImageCLEF 2008. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Di Nunzio, G.M. (2008). "Interactive" Undergraduate Students. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Di Nunzio, G.M., Ferro, N., and Peters, C. (2008). Ad Hoc Track Overview: The TEL and Persian Tasks. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Dussin, M. and Ferro, N. (2008). The Design of the User Interface of a Scientific DLS in the context of the Data, Information, Knowledge and Wisdom Hierarchy. *4th Italian Research Conference on Digital Library Systems (IRCDL 2008)*, Padua, Italy, 24-25 January 2008.

- Mandl, T., Carvalho, P., Gey, F., Larson, R., Santos, D., Womser-Hacker, K., Di Nunzio, G. M., and Ferro, N. (2008). GeoCLEF 2008: the CLEF 2008 Cross-Language Geographic Information Retrieval Track Overview. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Peinado, V., Artiles, J., Gonzalo J., and López-Ostenero, F. (2008). Lessons from the 2008 iCLEF participants: Analysis of a Large Log of Multilingual Image Searches in Flickr. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Peñas, A., Rodrigo, A., and Verdejo, F. (2008). 3rd Answer Validation Exercise (AVE 2008). *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Peñas, A., Sama, V., Rodrigo, A., Giampiccolo, D., and Forner, P. (2008). Multilingual Question Answering Track. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

- Peters, C. and Ferro, N. (2008). Cr*oss-Language Evaluation Forum: Objectives and Achievements. Forum for Information Retrieval Evaluation (FIRE 2008),* Kolkata, India, 12-14 December 2008.

- Peters, C. and Ferro, N. (2008). *From CLEF to TrebleCLEF: the Evolution of the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum*. The 7th NTCIR Workshop (2007/2008) - Evaluation of Information Access Technologies: Information Retrieval, Question Answering, and Cross-Lingual Information Access, Tokyo, Japan, 16-19 December 2008.

- Sanderson, M. (2008). Search results need to be diverse. *Forum for Information Retrieval Evaluation (FIRE 2008),* Kolkata, India, 12-14 December 2008.

- Turmo, J., Comas, P., Lamel, L., Rosset, S., Moreau, N., and Mostefa, D. (2008). Overview of QAST 2008 - Question Answering on Speech Transcriptions. *Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2008) Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 17-19 September 2008.

Posters

The following posters have been presented:

- Dussin, M. and Ferro, N. (2008). The Role of the DIKW Hierarchy in the Design of a Digital Library System for the Scientific Data of Large-Scale Evaluation Campaigns. *8th ACM/IEEE-CS Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL 2008)*, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 16-20 June 2008.

- Dussin, M. and Ferro, N. (2008). Design of a Digital Library System for Large-Scale Evaluation Campaigns. *12th European Conference on Research and Advanced Technology for Digital Libraries (ECDL 2008)*, Aarhus, Denmark, 14-16 September 2008.

Demos

The following demo has been given:

- Dussin, M. and Ferro, N. (2008). DIRECT: Applying the DIKW Hierarchy to Large-Scale Evaluation Campaigns. *8th ACM/IEEE-CS Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL 2008)*, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 16-20 June 2008.

Publications

[1] Amigó E., Gonzalo J., Artiles J., Verdejo F., 2008. Comparison of extrinsic clustering evaluation metrics based on formal constraints. *Information Retrieval Journal*.

[2] Arni, T., Tang, J., Sanderson, M., and Clough, P. (2008). Creating a Test Collection to Evaluate Diversity in Image Retrieval. In Bennett, P.N., Carterette, B., Chapelle, O., and Joachims, T., editors, *Proc. SIGIR 2008 Workshop on Beyond Binary Relevance: Preferences, Diversity, and Set-Level Judgments*, pages 15-21.

[3] Braschler M., Di Nunzio G., Ferro N., Gonzalo J., Peters C., Sanderson M., 2007. From CLEF to TrebleCLEF: Promoting Technology Transfer for Multilingual Information Retrieval. In: Thanos C., Borri F., Launaro A. editors, *Working Notes of the Second DELOS Conference on Digital Libraries,* Pisa, Italy

[4] Braschler M., Ferro N., Gonzalo J., Sanderson M., 2008. Workshop on Novel Methodologies for Evaluation in Information Retrieval. In: *Advances in Information Retrieval. 30th European Conference on IR Research, ECIR 2008, Glasgow, UK, March 30-April 3, 2008. Proceedings*. Lecture Notes in Computer Science (LNCS) 4956, Springer Berlin/Heidelberg, p. 713.

[5] Clough P., Gonzalo J., Karlgren J., Barker E., Artile J., Peinado V., 2008. Large-Scale Interactive Evaluation of Multilingual Information Access Systems - the iCLEF Flickr Challenge. In *Workshop on Novel Methodologies for Evaluation (ECIR 2008).* google scholar

[6] Crivellari, F., Di Nunzio, G. M., and Ferro, N. (2008). A Statistical and Graphical Methodology for Comparing Bilingual to Monolingual Cross-Language Information Retrieval. In Agosti, M., editor, *Information Access through Search Engines and Digital Libraries*, pages 171-188. Springer-Verlag, Heidelberg, Germany.

[7] Dussin, M. and Ferro, N. (2008). The Design of the User Interface of a Scientific DLS in the context of the Data, Information, Knowledge and Wisdom Hierarchy. In Agosti, M., Esposito, F., and Thanos, C., editors, *Post-proceedings of the Fourth Italian Research Conference on Digital Library Systems (IRCDL 2008)*, pages 105-113. ISTI-CNR at Gruppo ALI, Pisa, Italy.

[8] Dussin, M. and Ferro, N. (2008). DIRECT: Applying the DIKW Hierarchy to Large-Scale Evaluation Campaigns. In Larsen, R., Paepcke, A., Borbinha, J. L., and Naaman, M., editors, *Proc. 8th ACM/IEEE-CS Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL 2008)*, page 424. ACM Press, New York, USA.

[9] Dussin, M. and Ferro, N. (2008). The Role of the DIKW Hierarchy in the Design of a Digital Library System for the Scientific Data of Large-Scale Evaluation Campaigns. In Larsen, R., Paepcke, A., Borbinha, J. L., and Naaman, M., editors, *Proc. 8th ACM/IEEE-CS Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL 2008)*, page 450. ACM Press, New York, USA.

[10] Dussin, M. and Ferro, N. (2008). Design of a Digital Library System for Large-Scale Evaluation Campaigns. In Christensen-Dalsgaard, B., Castelli, D., Lippincott, J. K., and Ammitzbøll Jurik, B., editors, *Proc. 12th European Conference on Research and Advanced Technology for Digital Libraries (ECDL 2008)*, pages 400-401. Lecture Notes in Computer Science (LNCS) 5173, Springer, Heidelberg, Germany.

[11] Ferro, N. and Harman, D. (2008). Dealing with MultiLingual Information Access: Grid Experiments at TrebleCLEF. In Agosti, M., Esposito, F., and Thanos, C., editors, Post-proceedings of the Fourth Italian Research Conference on Digital Library Systems (IRCDL 2008), pages 29-32. ISTI-CNR at Gruppo ALI, Pisa, Italy.

[12] Ferro, N. and Peters, C. (2008). From CLEF to TrebleCLEF: the Evolution of the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum. In Kando, N. and Sugimoto, M., editors, *Proc. 7th NTCIR Workshop Meeting on Evaluation of Information Access Technologies: Information Retrieval, Question Answering and Cross-Lingual Information Access*, pages 577-593. National Institute of Informatics, Tokyo, Japan.

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Appendix A: TrebleCLEF Portal

The portal has been developed on the basis of the requirements specified in the following:

What is it and what is it useful for:

The resources repository will make available to the R&D community tools for the search and browsing of all resources (documents, reports, tools, etc.) together with relative CLEF benchmarks.

Development proposal:

- Creation of a web site section to browse and search the resources developed and used within the TrebleClef project collected in a centralized repository
- The resource repository allows to search the resources in accordance with a set of concepts organized in form of a taxonomy.
- The taxonomy contains terms in which all the resources used in Clef are classified.
- Development of a dynamic search interface based on the taxonomy which allows the user to formulate a more detailed query.
- Several criteria for searching: e.g. by year, by type (text, speech, etc.), by source (broadcast news, telephone speech, etc.), by track (Q/A, CL-SR, etc.).
- Provide a detailed description and samples for each resource.

Technical Description:

- *Information organization*: the resources will be organized according to a taxonomic principle which will make both the search task and the data entry easier.
- *Multi-layer structure for the application development*: this approach allows to develop independently the different application levels and makes it updating and changing easier.
- *Static or dynamic tassonomic tree ....?*
- *Resources acquisition:* possibility, for those who own the resources, to add them directly to the systems.
- *Results Access*: data can be directly retrived from the database where they are stored and can be directly viewed on the portal pages or the pages showing the results can be linked to it.
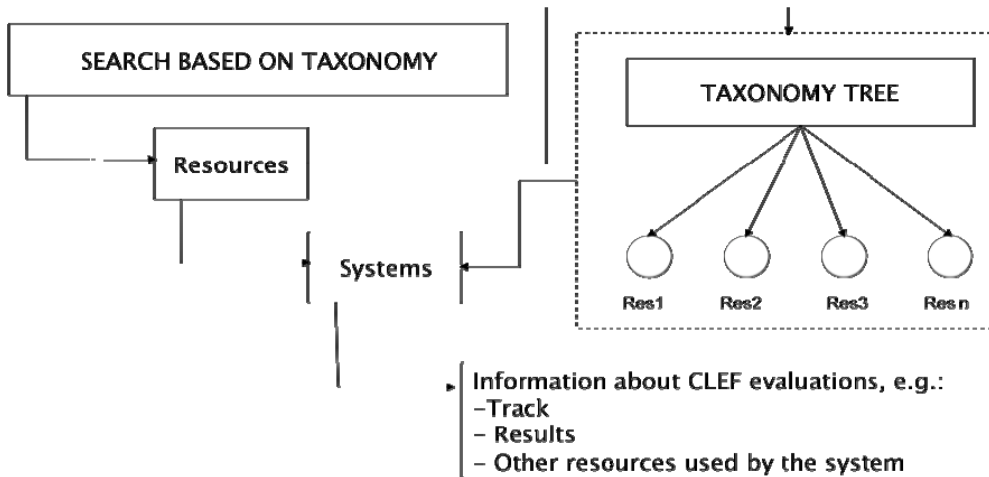
Conceptual Schema:

Each resource is linked to the systems developed within the evaluation campaigns promoted by TrebleClef.
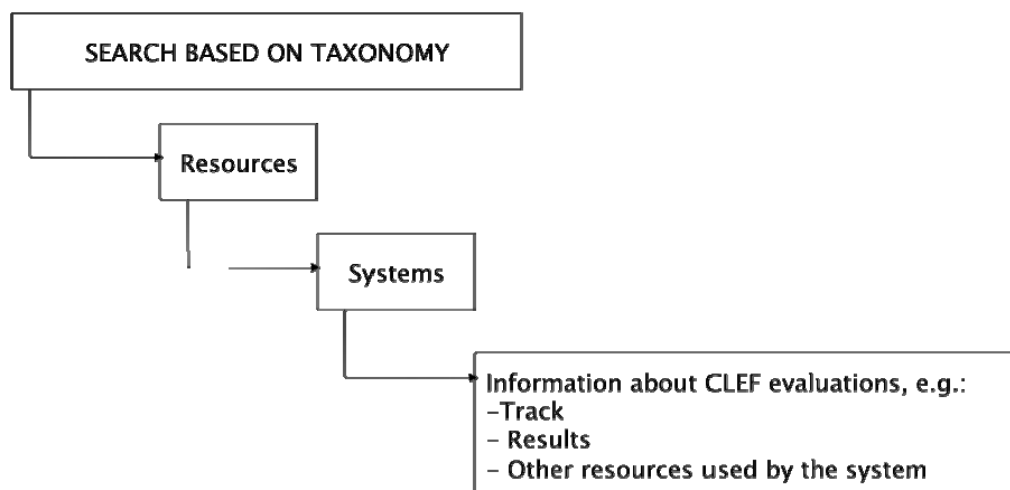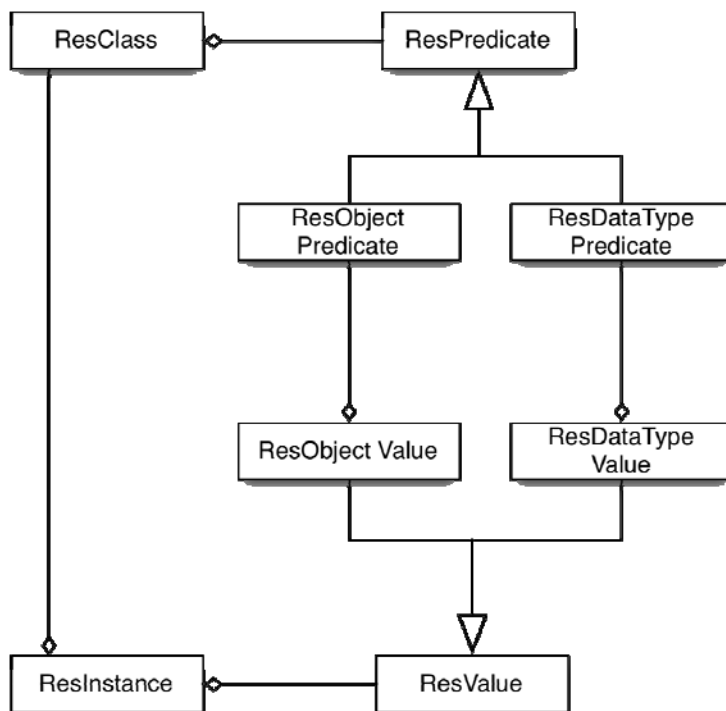
Extended:

Besides producing the search results, the taxonomic tree will link every stored system to the other resources (documents, dataset, tools, etc.).

Taxonomic Model (ontological):

ResClass: represents the generic class, i. e. a concept of the taxonomic model, such as: 'Document', 'Tool' etc.

**ResPredicate**: it represents the single predicate which belongs to a ResClass. Every predicate assumes one value (**ResValue**) and it can be of two types:

1. **ResObject Predicate** whose value itself (**ResObject Value**) is an individual of another class of the taxonomic model.

2. **ResDataType Predicate**, which can only assume primitive values (**ResDataType Value**).

ResInstance: it represents the generic instance of one class of the model, for example "QA_Campaign_Results" 'Tools xyz' etc. One ResInstance owns the ResPredicate of the class it belongs to. As already mentioned, one ResInstance can represent its subject or its object, in the case of ResObject Predicate.

Resource description generated by the taxonomy model:
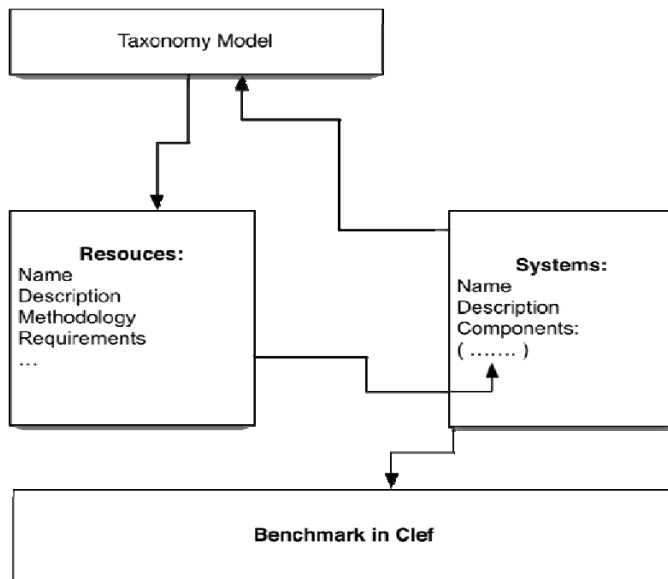
(In the case a dynamic taxonomic tree is used, see description below)

The taxonomic model will describe both the resources used by the various systems and the systems themselves, through a general abstract model. At the beginning the taxonomic tree will describe only primitive data, e.g.: the general description of a generic tool or document. Then, with the population of the data structure, also the description of specific resources used in the system or in similar systems will be provided. For example, if you want to store a system which uses morfological analyzers already present in the data structure, you can include them together with their description directly into the presentation of the system you are storing

Possible application structure (multi-layer approach)**:**
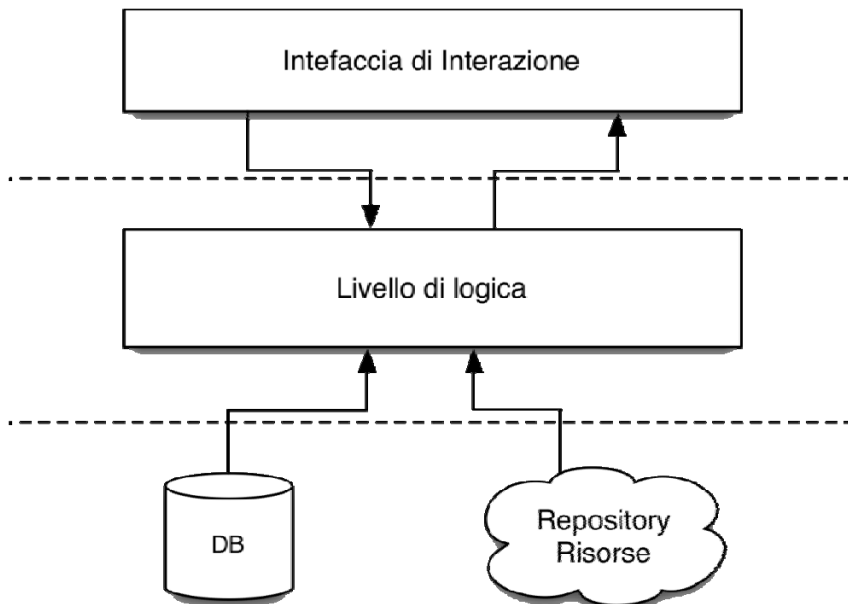
DB: Database where the information regarding the various resources will be stored in accordance with the taxonomic structure previously described.

Resource Repository: physical space where the resources or the pointers to them will be stored.

Logic Level: it will make all the information present in the DB cooperate with the resources of the repository. Through this level all basic operations will be performed, such as modifying, creating, deleting and searching the resources. This level will also manage the instructions to the users and show the results output.

interface: this level will make the tools for the cataloguing, the search and the browsing of the resources available to the user through a graphical interface accessible via a normal web browser.

Static or dynamic taxonomic tree ?

Among the various issues we find in this kind of design - that is the information organization based on a hierarchical data structure – there is the issue of deciding whether the taxonomic tree which will be used for the classification will be static or dynamic. Both choice have some pros and cons which will be discussed here below.

Description of a dynamic tree: by *dynamic tree* it is intended a data structure of resource description which can be extended or reduced by the user who manages the data.

The pros of this solution are:

1. higher flexibility in the information storage

2. easiness in the introduction of new object categories.

The cons are:

1. the user who deals with the entry has to be an expert or at least has to know what type of object he is storing

2. possible information redundancy or ambiguity in the case in which more users dealing with

the information management and storage have a different view of the same object.

Description of a static tree: by *static tree* it is intended a data structure of resource description fixed a priori. It can be used by the user who manages the data for the cataloguing.

The pros of this solution are:

1. the users who store the data will simply have to arrange the resource inside one hierarchical description tree already fixed and so they need to be less expert than in the case above.

2. the possibility of having redundant or ambiguous information is reduced as the user is not allowed to introduce inside the hierarchical description tree elements which are similar.

The cons are:

1. the taxonomic tree must be prepared a priori.

2. less flexibility in the case in which new type of resources have to be introduced and consequently greater workload for possible updates.

Resources acquisition

In order to facilitate the retrieval of information (resources) which are stored and described in the various websites, the system could give the possibility to those who own the resources to enter the data and/or upload them directly into the system. In case a dynamic taxonomic tree is used, entering the data could be easier, as the person who makes the storage knows perfectly what kind of resources he is dealing with having produced also the document. On the one hand, this solution implies that few people are in charge of the storage, but on the other, it requires a greater collaboration among those who own and those who manage the resources.
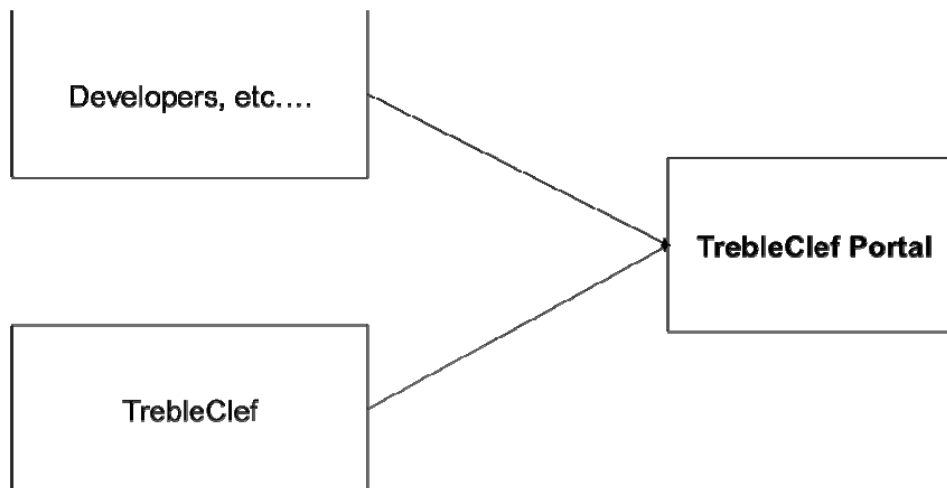
Access to the benchmark (to be discussed):

The development of this aspect implies two possible scenarios:

1. the resources acquisition happens directly accessing the DB where results are stored. Results will be showed on the pages of TrebleClef portal.

2. the pages where the system benchmark results are already present are linked.
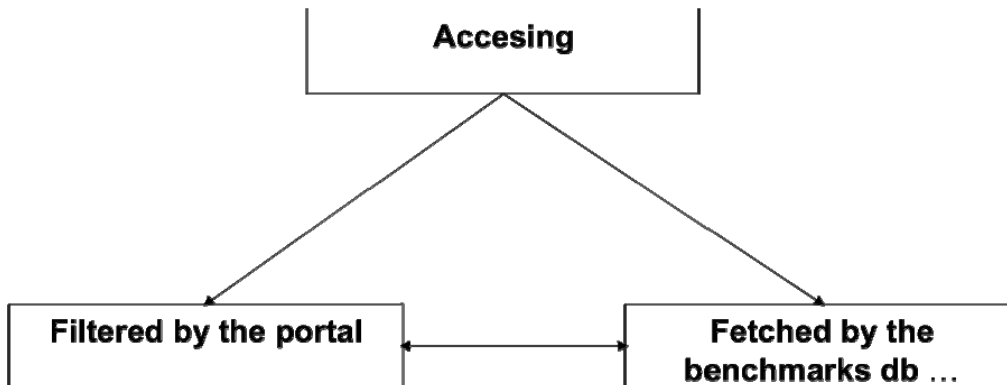
The portal thus allows to insert and retrieve data by using certain tools specified in "TrebleCLEF Best Practices and Portal: Administrator's manual"

Appendix B: Minutes of Managerial Meetings

TrebleCLEF Kickoff Meeting : Minutes

CONSORTIUM MEMBERS

ISTI-CNR (CNR)
Carol Peters (Project Coordinator)
Francesca Borri (Project Administrator)

U.Padua UNIPD)
Maristella Agosti
Giorgio Di Nunzio
Nicola Ferro

U. Sheffield (USFD)
Mark Sanderson

Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED)
Anselmo Peňas

Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW)
Martin Braschler
Hans-Peter Hutter

Evaluations and Language resources Distribution Agency (ELDA)
Khalid Choukri

Centre for the Evaluation of Language Communication Technologies (CELCT)

Amedeo Cappelli
Veronica Giordani

ADVISORY BOARD

NIST, USA
Donna Harman

National Institute of Informatics, Japan
Noriko Kando

U. Hamburg, Germany
Stefan Gradmann

French Atomic Energy Agency
Christian Fluhr

University College London, UK
Clare Warwick

The meeting was held at the CNR research Campus in Pisa and was hosted by CNR. The presentations listed in these Minutes can be found on the password protected area of the TrebleCLEF website, under Meetings: Kickoff

Day 1, Thursday 10 January 2008, 9.30 – 19.00

Session 1

The first session was mainly dedicated to financial and administrative matters.

1.Welcome

Carol Peters welcomed the participants and presented the apologies from Claude Poliart, the Project Officer who was unable to attend because of ill health. The agenda was approved.

2.   Project Management

Francesca Borri presented the main issues relating to project administration. She explained that some points of FP7 are not yet well-defined, in particular, the "certificate of methodology" and the issue of audits. She

will get further clarification from the Commission wrt these points and will inform the Consortium (the management slides are available on the website).

3. Consortium Agreement (CA)

Peters presented the CA; there was a request for one change:

5.5.1.3 which stipulate rules for the communication of the submission of publications

and one addition

8.4 to stipulate that budget advances would go into common fund; the MB would decide on their use of additional dissemination activities.

Subsequently, two further changes have been made to the CA by UNIPD. The modified version has been circulated to all partners and we are now awaiting final approval. (the CA can be found on the protected part of the TrebleCLEF website – under Documents). **Action All**

4. Procedure for Internal Budget Decisions

It was decided that for each specific expenditure (e.g. workshops, tutorials, summer schools, technology day), the leader of the activity would prepare a proposal with budget estimate and agree this with CELCT. The proposal and estimate would then be approved by the MB (paragraph now included in CA – see above).

5. Deliverable Reviewing

In order to ensure a high quality in the written deliverables, it was decided that the following deliverables would be subjected to an internal review by 2 project members not directly involved in preparing the deliverable:

6.1 Dissemination Plan: Resp. CELCT: Mth 3

5.2 Best Practices for Language Resources: Resp. ELDA: Mth 12

2.3.1 & 2.3.2 Analysis of the Evaluation Campaign Results: Resp. UNIPD Mth 12 & Mth 24

3.3 System oriented and user-oriented MLIA best practices: Resp. ZHAW & UNED Mth 18

4.2 Best Practices for Test Collection Creation, Evaluation Methodologies and Language Processing Technologies: Resp. USFD Mth 22

5.3 CLEF Evaluation Package: Resp. ELDA Mth 246.5 Exploitation Plan: Resp. CELCT Mth 24

Peters would propose the set of internal deliverable reviewers to be approved at the 1st Management Board phone conference (planned for 22 February) (see presentation by Peters on website. Agenda.ppt) **Action Peters**

6. Website

Presentation by Alessandro Cosci, CELCT. Design of website was approved. Importance of relationship CLEF/TrebleCLEF was remarked. The CLEF website should be updated to give relevance to TrebleCLEF activities. The password to access the members only part of the website is: Yamtssfa (Yesterday all my troubles seemed so far away)

Session 2

7. Overall Project Presentation

Carol Peters gave an overall presentation of the project objectives and activities. (the presentation can be found on the website)

8. Partner Presentations

UNIPD; USFD; UNED; ZHAW gave brief presentations of the activities of their groups wrt TrebleCLEF (presentations to be found on project website)

Session 3

9. Partner Presentations

CELCT, ELDA gave brief presentations of the activities of their groups wrt TrebleCLEF (presentations to be found on project website)

10. Presentation of the Activities of WP2 Evaluation (all presentations are on project website)

Overview: Nicola Ferro, UNIPDOrganisation of CLEF 2008 & 2009 Carol Peters, ISTI-CNRScientific Digital Library Nicola Ferro, UNIPD

Campaign Results Analysis　　　　　　　Giorgio Di Nunzio

Discussion

The main questions raised by Peters were whether CLEF was doing the right things, what changes should be made, and how can we move CLEF tasks closer to real world needs. She also presented two requests for new activities. One concerning a voice activated QA speech retrieval task from Paolo Rosso, U. Valencia. Rosso has since discussed with the organisers of the QA; this task should be included in CLEF 2009. The other was a request from U. Tehran wanting to introduce an adhoc task using Persian data; they could provide data and language processing expertise. It was decided that UNIPD should reflect and eventually contact Tehran about this.

Donna Harman suggested adding a form in DIRECT that participants have to compile saying what resources etc and methodology they used. **Actions UNIPD**

Session 4

11.　Presentation of Activities of WP3: Best Practices in System Development and User Studies (presentations on website)

Overview – Anselmo Peñas

System-oriented MLIA　　　　　　　Martin Braschler, ZHAWUser-oriented MLIA
　　Anselmo Peñas, UNEDDiscussion

There was much discussion aimed at identifying the user community and at deciding the best locations for the 2 workshops to be organised. It was suggested that the user studies activity should be carried out in collaboration with EDLNet. Peters would contact Catherine Lupovici in this respect. **Action Peters**

A draft proposal wrt the organisation of the system developers and the user communities workshops must be presented by the leaders of these activities by end of March for approval by the Management Board. These workshops should provide input for the best practices reports **Action Peñas and Braschler.**

There was also discussion on the best forum for the publication of the Best Practices Reports. One suggestion was the new journal co-edited by Fabrizio Sebastiani: Foundations and Trends in Information Retrieval which publishes high quality surveys and tutorials. Contacts will be made with Sebastiani. **Action Peters**

There was some discussion on the iCLEF task which all participants would be requested to perform. Julio Gonzalo is preparing this. It will be ready by end of January. **Action Gonzalo**

12.　Presentation of Activities of WP5: Evaluation and Language Resources (presentation on website)

Khalid Choukri, ELDA, gave a brief overview of the objectives of WP5. He stated that Nicolas Moreau has replaced Christelle Ayache at ELDA and will be collaborating in CLEF and TrebleCLEF. Carol Peters stated how much the efforts and assistance provided by Christelle for the coordination of CLEF has been appreciated.**Day 2, Friday, 11 January 2008, 9.30 – 16.00**

Session 5

13.　Presentation of Activities of WP4: Evaluation Methodologies (presentations on website)

Overview　　　Mark Sanderson, USFD

Query Log Analysis　　　　　　　Mark Sanderson, USFD

Test Collection Creation　　　　　　　Mark Sanderson, USFD New Evaluation Methodologies
　　Martin Braschler, ZHAW

Grid Experiments　　　　　　　Nicola Ferro, UNIPD

Discussion

Log Analysis: There was considerable discussion on the most appropriate place and date for the workshop that will bring together people working on query log analysis. The idea is to have people from industry, in particular from commercial search engines, and from database, and IR and CHI communities. The general consensus was to try to organise a workshop at ECIR 2009 (if accepted); and a tutorial at ECDL (if accepted)

Evaluation methodologies: In CLEF search effectiveness has been ignored so far – Braschler reported a study of German enterprise search portals – using many different evaluation criteria (only 3 of 70 criteria measured performance in terms of CLEF ad hoc). In CLEF we are currently evaluating in a very limited context – far from operational context – we look only at the core software –other components are important

We must do more in CLEF – find the right application scenarios; as a theoretical goal have one track that does something very different. This activity should review experiences in TREC, NTCIR CLEF and others

Contacts should be made with Stefano Mizzaro, Univ.Udine, who has recently made a survey on evaluation methodologies.

Grid Experiments: A meeting has been arranged between UNIPD and Donna Harman in February in Padova to discuss details of this task. Braschler recommended that this effort should look not just at the scientific goal –(plots etc.) but also provide guidelines – help people to understand the results. Again the recommendation was that the final report should be prepared at 2 levels: for expert and inexpert users.

Session 6

14.   Presentation of Activities of WP6: Dissemination

Overview and Dissemination Activities Amedeo Cappelli, CELCT

Training Activities   Carol Peters, ISTI-CNRExploitation
      Amedeo Cappelli, CELCT

Discussion

CELCT will circulate outline of Dissemination Plan within 15 days – all WP leaders must provide input for their WP within 1 month. This will be discussed at the MB phone conference on 22 February. **Action CELCT; All**

There was discussion wrt the Newsletter. The advice was not to attempt to produce it too frequently. Kando reported that NTCIR has just begun to produce a newsletter – she will circulate copies. ELDA produces a Newsletter. Choukri will provide some input. CELCT will prepare a proposal for the structure of the Newsletter within 1 month for discussion (by end February) **Action CELCT.**

CELCT and ELDA will be exhibitors at the LangTech conference in Rome at end February. TrebleCLEF brochures should be distributed. **Action CELCT and ELDA**

Mark Sanderson reported on the TrebleCLEF sponsored workshop on Novel Methodologies for IR Evaluation, which has been accepted for ECIR 2008, Glasgow, 30 March. The Call for Papers has already been distributed and is available on the website. There was discussion on other possible dissemination activities and on events where TrebleCLEF should be present. This will be an item for discussion at MB phone conference, 22 February. **Action All**

There was also discussion on participation in standardisation activities – TrebleCLEF should try to liase with ISO activities – in particular those on Terminology and Language resources.

The 2009 Summer School Programme Committee was decided: Carol Peters (Coordinator), Maristella Agosti, Martin Braschler, Amedeo Cappelli, Khalid Choukri, Christian Fluhr, Stefan Gradmann, Donna Harman, Noriko Kando, Mark Sanderson, Felisa Verdejo, Clare Warwick. A first preliminary plan should be ready by end April (**Action Peters & PC**)

A User Advisory Board will be formed to assist in the organisation of the Technology Day. Gradmann suggested that people from the Commission should be included in the User Advisory Board.

Session 7: Final Session

This session focussed on discussing other projects with which TrebleCLEF should establish collaborations. TEL and The European Digital library were considered of crucial importance in this respect. Peters reported that collaboration is already underway with TEL within CLEF and with EDLNet and a first meeting was held in November in Pisa between Peters, Braschler and Ferro for TrebleCLEF and Makx Dekkers and Sjoerd Siebinga for EDL. The objective was to discuss strategies for implementing multilingual information access

functionality in TEL. Other projects mentioned were CLARIN: building interoperable research structure of European resources & lang technology (humanities & social sci). Could TrebleCLEF become an unfunded member of consortium / observer? and FLARNET: similar to CLARIN but for Language Technologies Community. Peters should initiate contacts with these groups.

TrebleCLEF – Management Meeting
Segovia, Spain, 26-27 June 2008
Minutes

Participants

ISTI-CNR (CNR)
Carol Peters (Project Coordinator)
Francesca Borri (Project Administrator)

Mark Sanderson
U.Padua UNIPD)
Giorgio Di Nunzio
Nicola Ferro

Evaluations and Language resources
Distribution Agency (ELDA)
Khalid Choukri
Nicolas Moreau

Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW)
Martin Braschler

Centre for the Evaluation of Language
Communication Technologies (CELCT)
Amedeo Cappelli
Danilo Giampiccolo

Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia
(UNED)
Julio Gonzalo
Felisa Verdejo
Valentin Sama Rojo

U. Sheffield (USFD)

Anselmo   Peňas   (Day   2   only)

The meeting was held in Segovia, Spain, and was hosted by UNED.

Thursday, 26 June

1. Agenda
The previously distributed agenda was approved.

2.   Project Management
Francesca Borri stated that there was little to report at the moment wrt project administration. The first management deliverables were due at 12 months (Progress report and Financial Statement D1.1.1 and D1.2.1). She will get further clarification from the Commission wrt the "certificate of methodology" (who needs to produce it and when) and will inform the Consortium.

Peters illustrated the budget available for the organisation of events and reminded everyone that "extra" money was not available – unless there was an advance from one of the scheduled events.

Budget for Dissemination and technology transfer events

Summer School	Euro 30,000
2 CLEF Evaluation Workshops	Euro 20,000
3 Brainstorming Workshops	Euro 30,000
1 Technology Day	Euro 15,000
4 Tutorials	Euro 10,000
2 Meetings of the Advisory Board	Euro 15,000
Additional events	Euro: 0,000

Expenditure so far

Meeting of the Advisory Board	Euro ?
ECIR Workshop (additional event)	Euro ??

User Needs Workshop   Euro ??
CLEF 2008 Workshop (ongoing organization) Euro ??

CELCT is requested to circulate information on the state of the budget after each event. **(Action CELCT)**

3. Project Status: WP5 Evaluation Packages and Language Resources

3.1 Ground Truth Budget

There was some discussion on the allocation of the "ground truth" budget: 50,000 euro. For CLEF 2008 so far we have assigned approx. 10,000 euro: 5,000 for GeoCLEF (Thomas Mandl) and 5000 for AdHoc – TEL assessments in French (ELDA resp.). We need to decide on how this budget can be used to best advantage and, if necessary, request a movement of budget to other activities.

Nicola Ferro requested that some of this budget could be used in order to make the past CLEF results available to participants via DIRECT; this would be very important as it would provide great added value to the CLEF test collections from past years. He thinks that 2-3 months work is necessary. Ferro will investigate further the how this could be done and will contact ELDA about this; the idea is for ELDA to stipulate a contract with someone nominated by UNIPD to do this work under the supervision of Ferro and DiNunzio **(Action UNIPD & ELDA by end July)**

3.2 Deliverables

Nicolas Moreau presented the plans for D5.1.1 Evaluation resources for CLEF and 5.2 Language resources for MLIA due at 12 mths.

D5.1 is a deliverable produced in 2 parts (5.1.1 at 8 months and 5.1.2 at 20 months). The documentation associated with these deliverables will describe the acquisition and production of language resources needed for the 2008 and 2009 evaluation campaigns. The proposal for the preparation of this deliverable by Moreau was approved.

Moreau also presented plans for the production of D5.2. This is a key deliverable of T-CLEF and will describe the state-of-the-art for languages resources needed for MLIA, assessing priority requirements through consultations with language industry and communication players, and establishing a protocol and a roadmap for developing a set of Language Resources for all technologies related to MLIA and modules concerned by those technologies. This deliverable should provide an overview of type of LRs needed for MLIA systems with indication of what is successful and pointers to what is available. It should cover the whole story and present best practices. It is important that CLEF remains neutral wrt open source vs commercial applications.

CNR, CELCT and USFD also participate in the production of this deliverable. The input acquired for D5.2 is important data for the T-CLEF portal.
It was decided to produce a questionnaire to be distributed to all CLEF 2008 participants before the workshop. Peters and Moreau will prepare this deliverable – to be approved by CELCT and USFD. Peters will circulate it **(Action ELDA & CNR by 15 July).**

4. Project Status: WP6 Dissemination

4.1 Summer School 2009

The proposal by Peters and Borri to hold the Summer School 15-19 June 2009,in Pisa at the site: Santa Croce in Fossabanda was discussed and approved. The following decisions were taken:

-   Target Audience: mainly post-grad students in Computer Science, Information Science or related areas
-   No. of students: Min. 30; Max 45
-   Programme: articulated over 4.5 days
-   The SS should be mainly theoretical but with some hands-on sessions.

- The total costs for the school (lodging plus tuition) should be kept as low as possible; only partial grants should be offered in order to avoid people not turning up.

Accommodation:

The hotel can give us

- 20 double rooms for single occupancy at the cost of 90,00 Euro per night B&B
- 10 single rooms at 75,00 Euro B&B
- 10 double rooms at 97,00 Euro B&B

These above are the prices for 2008. They should remain more or less the same in 2009.

- Big meeting room with flip chart, connection and microphones
- Small room for registration
- Second small room for meetings with round table. It can host up to 10-15 people
- Room for catering

Total cost: 1000 Euro for the whole week

Budget:

30,000 (T-CLEF budget); 10,000 DELOS sponsorship

Programme:

Care should be taken to distinguish the SS programme from that of the ESSIR Summer School to be held end-August. The focus would be on "How to build your multilingual system and how to evaluate it.

A first idea of the programme was drawn up as follows; it is expected that most but not all speakers will be from T-CLEF –ideas for speakers are given between brackets:

1. Introduction & Scenarios for MLIA (Paraic Sheridan ??)
2. Indexing and Retrieval in Multiple Languages (Martin Braschler)
3. Crossing the Language Boundary: CLIR approaches and technologies (Douglas Oard ??)
4. MLIA and Multimodality (Henning Müller & Thomas Deselaers ??)
5. System architectures and Multilinguality: theory and practice (Nicola Ferro & Giorgio Di Nunzio)
6. Best Practices in User-oriented MLIA plus Hands-on (Julio Gonzalo)
7. NLP for Multilingual Information Access / IE in Multiple Language Context / CL-QA (Anselmo Peñas ??)
8. Evaluation measures for (CL)IR plus hands on (Mark Sanderson)

Other suggestions:

> MT & Statistics (F. Yvon-Limsi)

This programme should be further discussed and a first version should be decided soon so that a first flyer can be prepared for distribution at the CLEF 2008 workshop. (**Action: coordinated by CNR**)

4.2 ESSIR Panel proposal

T-CLEF was invited to submit a proposal for a panel at ESSIR 2009; this has been accepted.

Title: Evaluation in Information Retrieval: Learning, Applying, Improving

The following people were proposed as panelists: Steve Robertson, Peter Ingwersen/Kalervo Järvelin, Keith van Rijsbergen (depending on who is available – to be contacted), plus 3 T-CLEF people (Mark, Martin, Nicola)

Mark Sanderson and Nicola Ferro are responsible for this activity. At the moment no budget is specifically available for the organization of this panel but if some money is left over from the Segovia or CLEF2008 workshops, this could be used as partial support of the panel (max. 2500 euros)

4.3 Dissemination Activities: Website/T-CLEF portal

Amedeo Cappelli presented an initial proposal to transform the actual T-CLEF website to a true portal. The portal should be a showcase of the technologies. It should provide at least two views: one for managers and one for technical people. It should illustrate the current state of the art in MLIA and what we (the CLEF community) is doing. For this the input provided by the questionnaire mentioned above for 5.2 should provide valuable input. It is clear that there is a strong connection between (i) what is needed on the CLEF portal and information about resources already provided by ELDA on their portal, (ii) the work done by and information that will be provided by DIRECT (the CLEF infrastructure developed by UNIPD). It is necessary that all reducndany is avoided and that these 3 groups work together to ensure that there is compatibility between their activities. A first proposal must be prepared by CELCT on exactly what will be the structure and the content of the portal by end September. CELCT will contact and will receive input for this proposal from UNIPD and ELDA (**Action CELCT, UNIPD, ELDA by end September**)

5. WP 3 Best practices in System development and User Studies

5.1 User Studies

Julio Gonzalo gave a brief summary of the first impressions/results of the User-oriented MLIA workshop results. The workshop was very successful and much interesting input was obtained. Gonzalo will prepare a summary report for the website and for submission to the Commission by mid-July. The workshop website will also be updated with copies of the presentations and the summary report by this date. (**Action Gonzalo 15 July**)

5.2 System developers

Braschler presented his first ideas for the organisation of the System developers workshop, which should be held in October 2008 in the Zurich area. Braschler proposed to invite a number of commercial system developers – however after much discussion it was felt very difficult to obtain much participation/input from such people. It was decided to invite a mixed group of academic and industrial people – mainly from groups working in CLEF. There was also discussion on the target group for the results of this workshop. The target group is intended as people who want to build their own MLIA system or (more likely) include MLIA functionality into their IR or DL system; the results of the workshop should provide input for MLIA system developers. Braschler will present a detailed program by 15 September.

The input from both these workshops will be used in the preparation of D3.3 system-oriented and User-oriented MLIA Best-practice Recommendations – due at 18 months

6. Project Status: WP4 Evaluation Methodologies
The report for WP4 activities was quite brief. A very successful workshop on innovative methodologies for evaluation was held at ECIR in April. The Query Log Analysis workshop (D4.1) is not due until 15 months and was thus not discussed. Mark is producing a paper on Best Practices for Test Collection Creation which will be published in the Foundations of IR and will provide important input for Del 4.2.

Friday, 27 June

7. The Future of CLEF
The possible future of CLEF after the end of the T-CLEF project (December 2009) was discussed. A task force was formed to discuss prospects: Khalid Choukri, Mark Sanderson, Martin Braschler, Nicola Ferro. This group will meet in Paris on 12 September (the week before the CLEF workshop) and will report back at the workshop. (**Action Choukri, Sanderson, Braschler, Ferro**)

NB We did not fix the date of our next meeting. I propose the morning of 17 September in Aarhus. 9.30 – 12.00. Please confirm that this is OK for everyone. I will also invite all members of our Advisory Board that are already in Aarhus.

8. CLEF 2009

Peters reported on the Call for Track proposals for 2009 and reminded everyone that this was for new and also existing tracks. She stated that it was necessary to cut the number of tracks. This year's 9 tracks (7 main plus 2 pilots) were too many to handle. She expects proposals of new tracks from John Tait (IRF) for patent evaluation in a multilingual context, and possibly from Quaero. The deadline for submission of track proposals is 15 July. Peters coordinates this activity **(Action Peters)**

It was agreed that for the CLEF 2009 workshop we should continue the collocation with ECDL. Thuis the workshop in 2009 will be held in Corfu, 30 September – 2 October. Peters and Borri are already in contact with the local organisers in Corfu about this. **(Action Peters & Borri)**

9. WP2 Status of CLEF 2008

9.1 Campaign

Peters reported that the 2008 campaign was running well. There were a large number (137) of registered groups. However, some tracks (in particular WebCLEF and INFILE) did not have a large participation):

	Europe	N. America	S. America	Asia	Australia	Africa		
Part.	89	19	4	23	1	1	=	137
Country	21	2	4	9	1	1	=	38

The state of the QA track was discussed; the problem of this track is that for many languages there is only one participant. The QA track is now discussing this question and will be proposing a new task for 2009 aimed at eliminating this problem.

Ferro reported that the near final version of Del 2.2 was now available at
http://www.dei.unipd.it/~ferro/treble-clef/D2-2_Operational-Scientific-Digital-Library%20.pdf

All comments should be received by 10 July. It will be consigned to the Commission by 15 July. **(Action All)**

9.2 Workshop

The preliminary programme for CLEF 2008 was discussed and approved. it is now posted on the CLEF website. The workshop budget is as follows:

Workshop Fee   275 euros (before 31 July)

Aarhus Costs   246 euro per person (?)

TCLEF budget	10000 euro (IN)	
Expenditure expected	Printing Costs: Book of Abstracts	2000 euro (OUT)
	2 Persian invited guests board and lodging	1000 euro (OUT)
	Mailing costs for Springer to mail 50 copies	
	of 2007 Proc. to Workshop for distribution	?? (OUT)

Peters announced that she had 10 free registrations. These will be used as follows:

- 2 for iCLEF prize
- 2 for Persian invited guests
- 2 for students of Thomas Mandl (will help with local organisation)
- 2 for Quaero (Quero has provided sponsorship of CLEF 2008 – 2000 euro given to ImageCLEF)
- 2 for people from the Commission (suggested by Choukri)

CNR is responsible for organisation of the workshop **(Action Peters and Borri)**

Summary of Action Items and Deadlines

1. Information on Certificate of methodology. Action CNR - Borri – asap
2. State of Budget: CELCT to provide updates after each event. Action CELCT – ongoing
3. Ground Truth budget assignment for release of results of past CLEF campaigns. Action UNIPD & ELDA – end July
4. Questionnaire for input for 5.2. Action CNR & ELDA – mid July
5. Preliminary definition of SS programme and preparation of flyer for CLEF 2008 workshop. Action CNR – before end August
6. Detailed proposal for T-CLEF portal. Action coordinated by CELCT; input from ELDA and UNIPD – end September
7. Summary of results of Users Workshop plus updated website: Action UNED – Gonzalo – mid July
8. Detailed plan for System Developers workshop: Action ZHAW Braschler – mid September
9. Future of CLEF Meeting: Action Choukri, Braschler, Sanderson, Ferro – 12 September, Paris
10. Organisation of CLEF 2008 and 2009 workshops. Action CNR (according to schedules)
11. Finalisation of D2.2. Action All – input by 10 July

Next meeting of T-CLEF management agreed for 17 September, 9.30 – 12.00, Aarhus, Denmark (tbc)

TrebleCLEF – Management Meeting
Aarhus, Denmark, 9.30 – 12.45, 17 September 2009
Minutes

Participants

ISTI-CNR (CNR)
Carol Peters (Project Coordinator)
Francesca Borri (Project Administrator)

**Evaluations and Language resources
Distribution Agency (ELDA)**
Khalid Choukri
Nicolas Moreau

**Centre for the Evaluation of Language
Communication Technologies (CELCT)**
Amedeo Cappelli
Danilo Giampiccolo
Veronica Giordani
Giovanni Moretti
Pamela Forner

U. Sheffield (USFD)
Mark Sanderson
Paul Clough
U.Padua UNIPD)
Giorgio Di Nunzio
Nicola Ferro

Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW)
Martin Braschler

**Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia
(UNED)**
Julio Gonzalo
Felisa Verdejo
Anselmo Peňas

Advisory Board members present

Christian Fluhr, Research Director, Laboratoire d'ingénerie de la connaissance multimédia multilingue, French Atomic Energy Agency;

Stefan Gradmann, Deputy Director, Hamburg University Computing Centre (RRZ);

Donna Harman, Scientist Emeritus of the National Institute of Science and Technology;

Noriko Kando, Professor, National Institute of Informatics (NII); Tokyo, and Director of NTCIR Evaluation of Information Access Technologies

The meeting was held in Aarhus, Denmark, and was hosted by the Statsbiblioteket and the University of Aarhus. Although this was a project management meeting, all members of the Advisory Board who were in Aarhus were also invited to attend. Unfortunately, Claire Warwick, not present in Aarhus, was unable to participate.

1.   Agenda

The previously distributed agenda was approved. However, it was decided to focus on 4 main points:

- next meetings and review
- report of the Paris meeting to discuss future prospects for CLEF after 2009
- CLEF 2009 tracks
- TrebleCLEF Summer School

2.   Project Management Meeting, Advisory Board Meeting and 1st Review

The dates and location for the next project management meeting to be held in combination with the Advisory Board and for the first review were discussed. As a result of the discussion, Carol subsequently contacted Claude Poliart, our Project Officer and the following decisions were made:

- 13 & 14 January – preparatory meeting together with Advisory Board
- 15 January – review
- 16 January (morning) – communication of preliminary results

3.   Report of Paris Meeting

It was decided during the Segovia management meeting, to form a small task group to discuss strategy wrt future prospects / objectives of CLEF after the end of the TrebleCLEF funding (from January 2010). The group consisted of Martin Braschler, Khalid Choukri, Nicola Ferro, Mark Sanderson. This group met at the ELDA head office in Paris on 12 September (Mark via teleconference due to the closure of the Channel tunnel). Khalid Choukri gave an overview of the main focus of the discussions. This group is now preparing a vision document which will be circulated for further discussion.

4.   TrebleCLEF Summer School: Decisions on Programme and Lecturers

The Summer School will be held in Pisa 15-19 June 2009. The programme was discussed. The following proposals for lectures were made:

Multilingual Text Processing (language specific tokenization, indexing, stemming)
> Lecturer: Martin Braschler
> Time: 2 x 90 mins

Cross-Language Information Retrieval (approaches and technologies used for CLIR)
> Lecturer: Jacques Savoy (has since been contacted – am waiting for a reply)
> Time: 2 x 90 mins

Multilingual Information Retrieval and MultiModality (problems involved in querying, retrieving and presenting results from a multilingual/multimedia collection)
> Lecturer: Henning Mueller & Thomas Deselaers (?) This could include a Hands-on session.
> To be discussed
> Time: ?

System Architectures and Multilinguality: theory and practice
> Lecturers: Nicola & Giorgio perhaps with hands on
> Time: ?

Evaluation for Multilingual Systems and Components
> Lecturer: Mark Sanderson
> Time: 2 x 90 mins (90 mins lecture / 90 mins exercise)

Best Practices in User-oriented MLIA (what the user wants and how to provide it)
> Lecturer: Julio Gonzalo and Paul Clough

Time: 2 x 90 mins

Information Extraction in a Multiple Language Context
        Lecturer: Maarten de Rijke
        Time: 1 x 90 mins

Scenarios for (ML)IA
        Lecturers: Paraic Sheridan, Dominique Laurent (?)
        Time: 2 x 90 mins

Others ???
    MT & Statistics (F. Yvon-Limsi)
    Students Session

Peters must now contact the Summer School Programme Committee with a near definite proposal to get their final approval and any further input. A discussion list will then be set up among lecturers in order to determine how best to achieve a satisfactory level of interactivity with the students. Lecturers will be encouraged to stay for as long as possible during the week. The dates of the School coincide with the festivities for Pisa's patron saint which will include fireworks on the evening of 16 June and a procession and regatta on the afternoon of 17 June. More information can be found at: http://www.trebleclef.eu/summerschool.php.

5.   Log Analysis Workshop: Plans

This workshop is not due until Spring 2009. This point on the agenda was thus postponed for later discussion due to lack of time.

6.   Preliminary Proposal for TrebleCLEF Portal

This point on the agenda was postponed for later discussion due to lack of time. A conference Call has been scheduled by CELCT to be held on 25 September between interested partners (CELCT, ELDA, UNIPD, CNR)

7.   System Developers Workshop

Martin Braschler gave a brief summary of the staus of preparations for this workshop to be held on 2-3 October in Winterhur, Switzerland.

There will be approximately 15 participants representing academia, industry and EC projects with particular interest in the implementation of MLIA in their systems. Further information can be found at http://init.zhaw.ch/trebleclef/workshop/venue.html

8.   New Tracks

Carol sent a proposal to the CLEF steering committee. This point was discussed in depth but final decisions were taken at the CLEF Steering Committee meeting on 18 September. They are copied here below.

Excerpt for the SC Meeting Minutes

"Decisions were made on the basis of the results of the Call for Proposals and successive discussions. Although everyone was in agreement that the number of tracks should be somewhat reduced and the internal track activity more focussed, in the end it was not easy to achieve this goal. The problem is that it is very difficult to say No to enthusiastic people willing to dedicate a lot of time and effort to a particular proposal. There are 2 main risks: dispersion/confusion – loosing sight of an overall strategy. It was considered important to include tracks that focus on activities that are close to real world needs: we need to find the right balance between the needs of research and of applications. Ideally, I feel in the future it will be necessary to appoint a small Committee with a mandate to make the final decision wrt the campaign programme and the tracks to be offered.

The following tracks were approved for next year:

1. Ad Hoc: including TEL, Non-European languages (Persian plus perhaps Turkish), Robust-WSD and GRID experiments
2. iCLEF: based on log analysis – details to be provided by Julio, Jussi and Paul
3. Question Answering: Core track on JRC-Aquis corpus; subtasks for GikiP and QAST (decided after intense discussion at the breakout session)
4. ImageCLEF: ImageCLEFphoto, ImageCLEFmed, ImageCLEFanno, ImageCLEFmedanno, ImageCLEFwiki
5. VideoCLEF: as proposed by Gareth Jones & Martha Larson
6. Intellectual Property (CLEF-IP): to be focused in 2009 on legal patents, on the basis of the breakout session organised by John Tait
7. Log File Analysis (LogCLEF): coordinated by Thomas Mandl
8. INFILE: It was agreed to give another chance to this pilot task; last year's problems should now be overcome; the coordinators will make a strong effort to guarantee participation

Khalid Choukri (seconded by many participants) made the point that a necessary prerequisite for any track should be the possibility to make the test collection(s) created publicly available."

9 CLEF 2007 post-workshop proceedings
The proceedings have been printed by Springer – see www.clef-campaign.org for bibliographic details. Copies of the Proceedings were distributed to all participants at the TrebleCLEF meeting, and to all members of the CLEF Steering Committee. The Editors were given 2 copies each. . A copy will be sent to Claire Warwick. It is a major effort producing these Proceedings each year. Danilo Giampiccolo, CELCT, was thanked for all his work as managing editor.

10. TrebleCLEF deliverables
D5.1.1 is now ready. Nicolas Moreau has circulated it and is waiting for comments before submission to the Commission