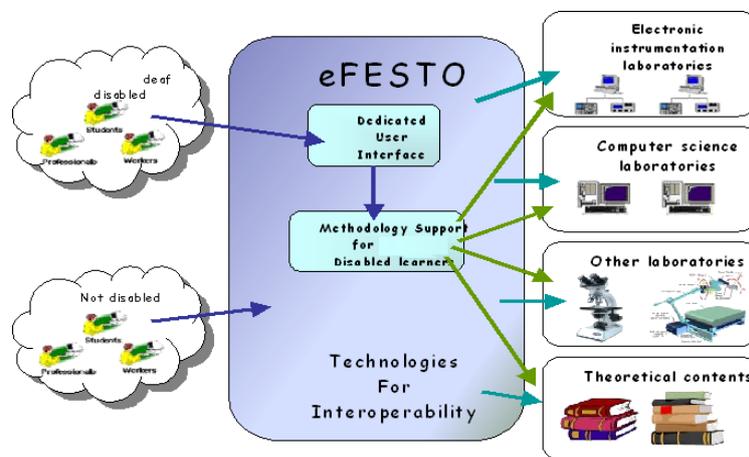

A TECHNOLOGICAL CHALLENGE TOWARDS E-INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY

*Maria Riccio, University of Sannio, Valentina Castello, Dida Network and University of L'Aquila,
Chiara Sancin Dida Network, Italy*

eFESTO background and rationale

The technology is considered a very important resource for educating and integrating citizens with deafness disability in modern working and professional society. In literature it was highlighted that citizens with deafness disability can get very advantages by using technologies both in educational and professionals fields. In recent years, in particular, it has been highlighted the important role of the Internet, as an instrument to create educational path that can be personalized and can go over the space-time constraints and to emphasize to role of the communication as central in the learning process. The online training can be considered “deaffriendly” because it allows each deaf learner to follow a learning path that is based on his/her modality and time, allows share information and allows to facilitate the discussion. During the design phase of the learning path for a deaf student it is not possible to consider and identify only one user category. Deaf learners are characterized in fact by a lot of different variables that derives both from their sensorial deficit but also from the relational and psychological sphere.



eFESTO goals

The eFESTO project is the merging and vaporization of results, tools, competencies and evidences of two projects: PSELDA and LADIRE, both are an Italian national experimental project created by the University of Sannio in 2003 - and funded by the Ministry of Education. The first had the specific mission of supporting and enhancing the university education of deaf students through the use of specific pedagogic models and methods tailored to the users' needs. The second is a national measurement laboratory that operatively provides to the students of electric and electronic measurement courses the access to real remote measurement laboratories and that delivers them different didactic activities related to measurement experiments to manage remote real instrumentations to learning to use them. The eFESTO consortium is composed by Techin (Poland), University of Sannio (Italy), Dida Network s.r.l (Italy), Time-Foundation (Bulgaria), Istituto Canossiano Scuola Audiofonetica (Italy), Polish Association of the Deaf (Poland), Corvinno Technology Transfer Center Nonprofit (Hungary), Hungarian Deaf Sport Association (Hungary).

Taking into account these considerations eFESTO project, found by Lifelong Learning Programme – Leonardo Da Vinci - Transfer of Innovation, aims to realize an innovative learning environment for deaf learners for acquiring more skills about managing and using of electrical and electronic apparatus in different application fields, such as in biomedical, telecommunication, industry and sustainable environment. This aspect will give to disabled learners the possibility to acquire new competencies and so to have different chances to be employed in the modern e-society. The system will also deliver specific courses of English language for deaf learners.

For more information about the project, please visit the project website : www.efestoproject.eu.