
HERMES - Cognitive Care and Guidance for Active Aging
FP7-ICT 216709
Specific Targeted Research or Innovation Project

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Duration: 36 months



D.9.1 Web Portal Creation and Launch

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Abstract

This document describes the HERMES portal which is accessible through the website <http://www.fp7-hermes.eu>. It includes an analysis of stakeholders of interest and their needs for the website and a strategy to address them.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

This is the first deliverable that is part of work package 9 on dissemination of information and knowledge gained through the HERMES project for the wider public. The main result of the work done is the portal itself, available under <http://www.fp7-hermes.eu>. The website is the ‘living’ result, which does not end with the finalization of this document.

The deliverable will be complemented by further dissemination and exploitation activities which take place online and are referred to through the respective elements.

1.2 Scope of this Deliverable

This document describes the background to the first dissemination activities in the project, being the website. In further steps within the work package, regular dissemination reports will be created that provide an update on the general steps of both scientific and public dissemination activities.

2. Stakeholders Analysis

This section describes the stakeholders that have an interest in the HERMES portal and describes how they benefit from the information available, which has and had implications for the information available on the website and the design of the site.

2.1 Potential users

The potential users of the HERMES system are the people who are affected by age-related cognitive decline and are interested in ways to deal with this. This target group also includes family of potential users who might discover the technology that is being developed as well as professionals working in the field.

At the moment, these people might arrive to the website through either flyers that have been distributed at care centers and training courses or through search engines to discover the website. In later stages of the project we assume that through the dissemination of research materials like publications, research papers, video material and other project-related documents and by word of mouth many more potential users, relatives and professionals will find their way to the website. When this is happening we will provide visitors of the site with an in-depth description of the system itself as well as the benefits potential users can get from the outcomes of the Hermes project.

As described above we identify three groups of potential users at this stage in the project. They are direct users themselves, i.e. persons who are suffering from age related cognitive decline, relatives of these people and professionals doing their work in this field.

- **Users:** These are the people the Hermes system is targeting first and foremost. As many are getting older today than they did earlier it is of great importance to think about how those people can live independently for as long as possible – mainly addressing issues that are age related and can be addressed. Many functions, like for example the ability to assess stored knowledge are more likely to remain stable over time than the ability to acquire new knowledge. Tests with emphasizing the need for speed are particularly prone to deterioration with age. Fluid aspects of intelligence like the working memory also tend to change with aging. The most important information for this group is a description of the project in terms of its outcomes in a sense that they understand how it would support them in their daily lives.
- **Relatives of direct users:** For relatives it is always hard to deal with the fact that their loved ones are getting in to the age where certain age related declines are inevitable. So if a system or anything is available that helps they will want to know it. This group is especially important in the sense that they are trusted by the direct users and therefore can help in building a good reputation of the system. This is so important because the potential Hermes users are a group of people that often tend to ignore new things, not just new technology.
- **Professionals working in the field:** Professionals, like medical doctors, care-givers and cognitive trainers in many situations will be the first to actually diagnose some form of cognitive decline. So it is of great importance for this group to be informed about the existence of the project itself – they could for example want to deliver input – and the out-comings of the Hermes project.
They often are in a position to be able to talk to users and relatives of users to inform them about the Hermes system first. They also often are confidants and may act as consultants for the persons concerned.

2.2 Potential business partners

Concerning HERMES potential business partners, the Consortium has highlighted a list of categories that could give their precious contribution to improve the platform during and after the project period as well as receive the benefits coming from the adoption of HERMES in conjunction with the research results achieved.

The following is a preliminary list of partners categories, built considering the main modules/tasks and the related actors composing the HERMES platform, and thus prone to evolve during the various revisions that will naturally occur along a research project and, more in general, during the implementation of every software/hardware platform.

Hardware-Related Profiles

- **Infrastructure Providers and Infrastructure Installers:** Infrastructure providers and installers are responsible for providing, installing and configuring the hardware elements supporting the HERMES ageing services. These elements include the full range of sensors, devices, actuators, computing and network equipment required to support sensing, networking and basic services in the smart room. This figures will be very important due to the fact that, to implement the platform at the user side, and then to make it useful, a crucial phase is represented by the proper setup of all the devices involved, meaning to correct

positioning of sensors, actuators and the successful testing of all the hardware devices, including servers and mobile personal assistants.

- **Perceptual Technology Providers:** Perceptual technology providers are ICT companies and ISVs that develop, install and configure perceptual components. The latter process sensorial input based on the range of sensors available in the HERMES environments. HERMES already has plans to harness a set of sensors to demonstrate its main capabilities; however, the architecture of the system will be designed in order to allow future extensions both in terms of software and hardware. Because of this, a perceptual technology provider could increase the set of sensors with new ones, if useful to improve the overall platform for the already planned capabilities as well as for new features that may be added.

Software-Related Profiles

- **HERMES Context Modellers and Context Model Developers:** Context model developers build higher level contextual models that rely on recognition of situations (e.g., a peer-to-group human interaction). Situation recognition is likely to be based on a combination of a variety of perceptual interfaces. Situation models define the context triggers (i.e. contextual states) that drive the service logic of the application. Perceptive interfaces, actuating services and other service-related actions are accordingly combined to compose the service logic that is executed on each context state.
- **HERMES Service Providers / Service Developers:** Service providers and service developers deploy and develop (respectively) ageing computing services leveraging situation models, perceptual components, hardware elements, as well as other actuating services. Service developers and/or providers are likely to deploy their services over HERMES infrastructures (e.g., devices, smart homes). This can be done within individual devices, as well as with home/service gateways via the OSGI (Open Services Gateway Interface) standard.

Socio-Sanitary and Psycho-Social Profiles with Technical Skills

- **Data/Knowledge Collectors.** To correctly achieve a good degree of reliability in terms of audio, video and semantic algorithms achievements, it's requested to continuously increase the data base of knowledge that represents the ground-basis for the "smart modules" aimed at speech recognition, object/face recognition, automatic metadata collection, etc. Of course, all this structured knowledge, heavily influence the provided results. Data collectors responsibility is to properly collect information (i.e.: audio and vide streams, through interviews) that are going to feed the engines running behind HERMES.
- **Cognitive Games Designers/Developers.** One of the more challenging features of HERMES is to provide the end-users with games that will help cognitive impairments, reduce or to delay the normal cognitive decline that takes place in the elderly through actively stimulating of memory. After the selection of the most appropriate training exercises for the enhancement of memory and other main cognitive functions, the general rehabilitation objectives will be translated into concrete exercises, with different levels of difficulty, different ways to be played, etc. This means to design and develop such games exploiting the structured data coming from the HERMES platform in order to achieve the goal. This figure should be an expert in the cognitive impairment field, with experience in elderly care and possibly with technical skills, too.

Information on the website will be tailored to the needs of these identified target groups as more knowledge becomes available about the technical details of the project.

2.3 Researchers

Research for “Aging in place” is very important because of the above described issues. The aim of this research is to allow older adults as long as possible to live independently addressing changes that often are age related. Because the field is complex and difficult it is of high importance to share findings and progresses with fellow researchers in the field.

The website of the Hermes project will have a category called Publications that will be used as a platform to communicate with researchers and others interested in this topic.

We will list publications, research papers and findings on the page. We also will use this platform to provide material like videos and pictures to ensure an attractive and informative website.

To this end, as much information regarding publications and deliverables is made available as is possible through the website.

2.4 Project Partners

The consortium members are frequent visitors of the HERMES portal. Their goal is mainly to exchange information among each other, which is made possible through the private web space that is available for exactly this goal.

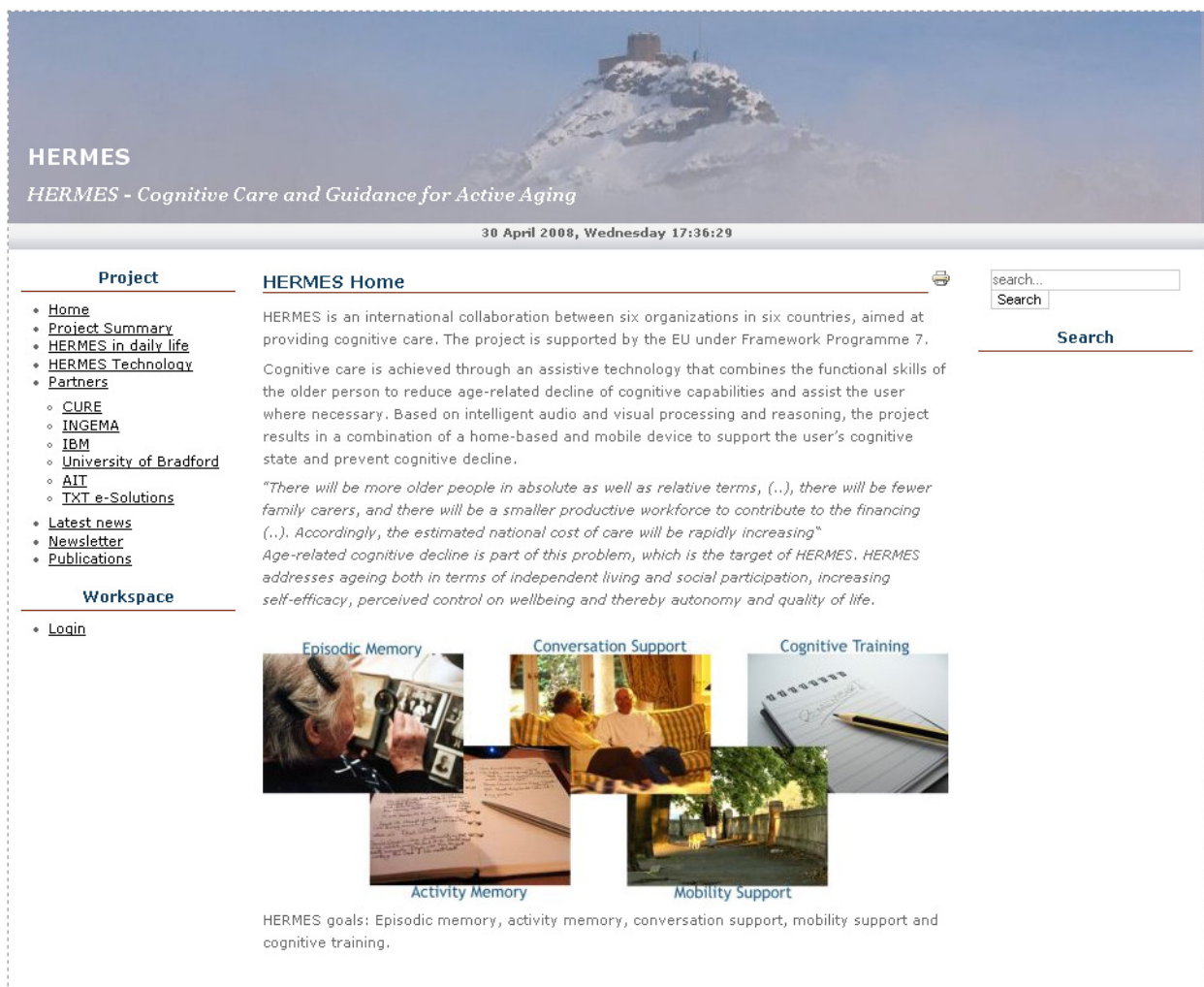
2.5 Other interested parties

The final target group of the project’s web portal is other parties that are interested in the work being done within HERMES for lateral purposes.

3. Design of the Website

3.1 Overview

The home page of the project provides an overview of the website with information for all target users.



HERMES
HERMES - Cognitive Care and Guidance for Active Aging

30 April 2008, Wednesday 17:36:29

Project

- [Home](#)
- [Project Summary](#)
- [HERMES in daily life](#)
- [HERMES Technology](#)
- [Partners](#)
 - [CURE](#)
 - [INGEMA](#)
 - [IBM](#)
 - [University of Bradford](#)
 - [AIT](#)
 - [TXT e-Solutions](#)
- [Latest news](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [Publications](#)

Workspace

- [Login](#)

HERMES Home

HERMES is an international collaboration between six organizations in six countries, aimed at providing cognitive care. The project is supported by the EU under Framework Programme 7.

Cognitive care is achieved through an assistive technology that combines the functional skills of the older person to reduce age-related decline of cognitive capabilities and assist the user where necessary. Based on intelligent audio and visual processing and reasoning, the project results in a combination of a home-based and mobile device to support the user's cognitive state and prevent cognitive decline.

"There will be more older people in absolute as well as relative terms, (..), there will be fewer family carers, and there will be a smaller productive workforce to contribute to the financing (..). Accordingly, the estimated national cost of care will be rapidly increasing"

Age-related cognitive decline is part of this problem, which is the target of HERMES. HERMES addresses ageing both in terms of independent living and social participation, increasing self-efficacy, perceived control on wellbeing and thereby autonomy and quality of life.

Episodic Memory

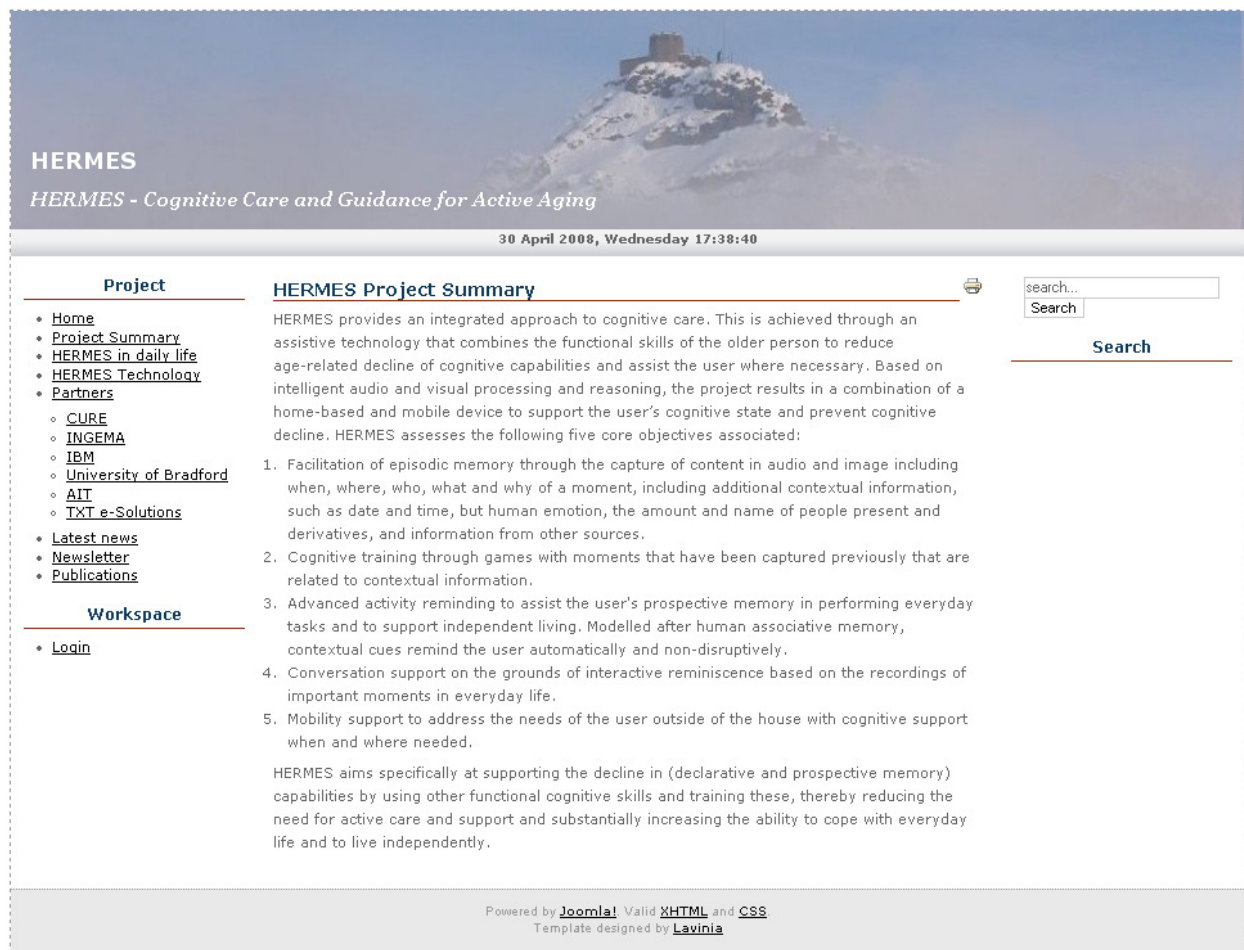
Conversation Support

Cognitive Training

Activity Memory

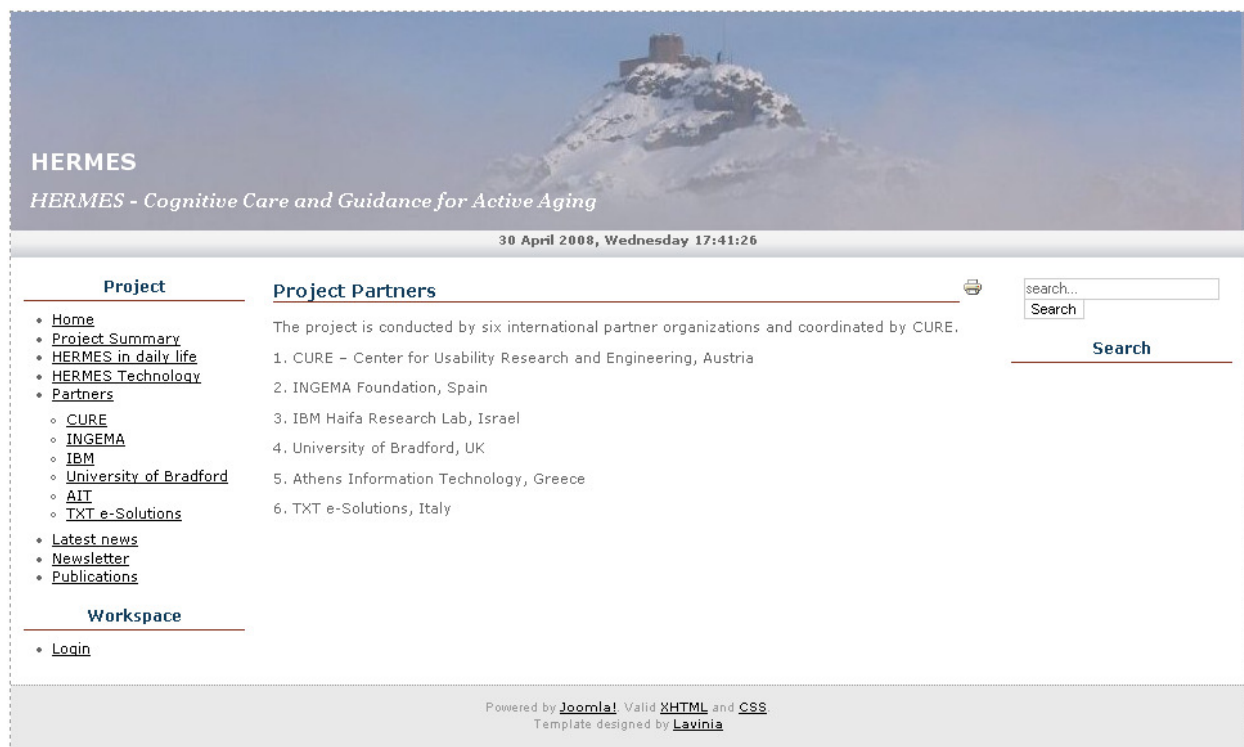
Mobility Support

HERMES goals: Episodic memory, activity memory, conversation support, mobility support and cognitive training.



The screenshot shows the HERMES website interface. At the top, there is a banner image of a snow-capped mountain with a small structure on top. Below the image, the text reads "HERMES" and "HERMES - Cognitive Care and Guidance for Active Aging". A date and time stamp "30 April 2008, Wednesday 17:38:40" is displayed. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column has a "Project" menu with links: Home, Project Summary, HERMES in daily life, HERMES Technology, Partners (with sub-links: CURE, INGEMA, IBM, University of Bradford, AIT, TXT e-Solutions), Latest news, Newsletter, and Publications. Below this is a "Workspace" section with a "Login" link. The middle column is titled "HERMES Project Summary" and contains a detailed description of the project's goals and a numbered list of five objectives. The right column features a search bar with the text "search..." and a "Search" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text: "Powered by Joomla! Valid XHTML and CSS Template designed by Lavinia".

The project summary provides an easy way for people to understand what the project is about.



The screenshot shows the HERMES website interface. At the top, there is a banner image of a snow-capped mountain with a small structure on top. Below the banner, the text reads "HERMES" and "HERMES - Cognitive Care and Guidance for Active Aging". A date and time stamp "30 April 2008, Wednesday 17:41:26" is displayed. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column has a "Project" section with a list of links: Home, Project Summary, HERMES in daily life, HERMES Technology, Partners (with sub-links for CURE, INGEMA, IBM, University of Bradford, AIT, and TXT e-Solutions), Latest news, Newsletter, and Publications. Below this is a "Workspace" section with a "Login" link. The middle column has a "Project Partners" section with a list of six partner organizations: CURE, INGEMA Foundation, IBM Haifa Research Lab, University of Bradford, Athens Information Technology, and TXT e-Solutions. The right column contains a search box with the text "search..." and a "Search" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text "Powered by Joomla!, Valid XHTML and CSS" and "Template designed by Lavinia".

HERMES
HERMES - Cognitive Care and Guidance for Active Aging

30 April 2008, Wednesday 17:41:26

Project

- [Home](#)
- [Project Summary](#)
- [HERMES in daily life](#)
- [HERMES Technology](#)
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 - [IBM](#)
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 - [AIT](#)
 - [TXT e-Solutions](#)
- [Latest news](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [Publications](#)

Workspace

- [Login](#)

Project Partners

The project is conducted by six international partner organizations and coordinated by CURE.

1. CURE – Center for Usability Research and Engineering, Austria
2. INGEMA Foundation, Spain
3. IBM Haifa Research Lab, Israel
4. University of Bradford, UK
5. Athens Information Technology, Greece
6. TXT e-Solutions, Italy

search...
Search

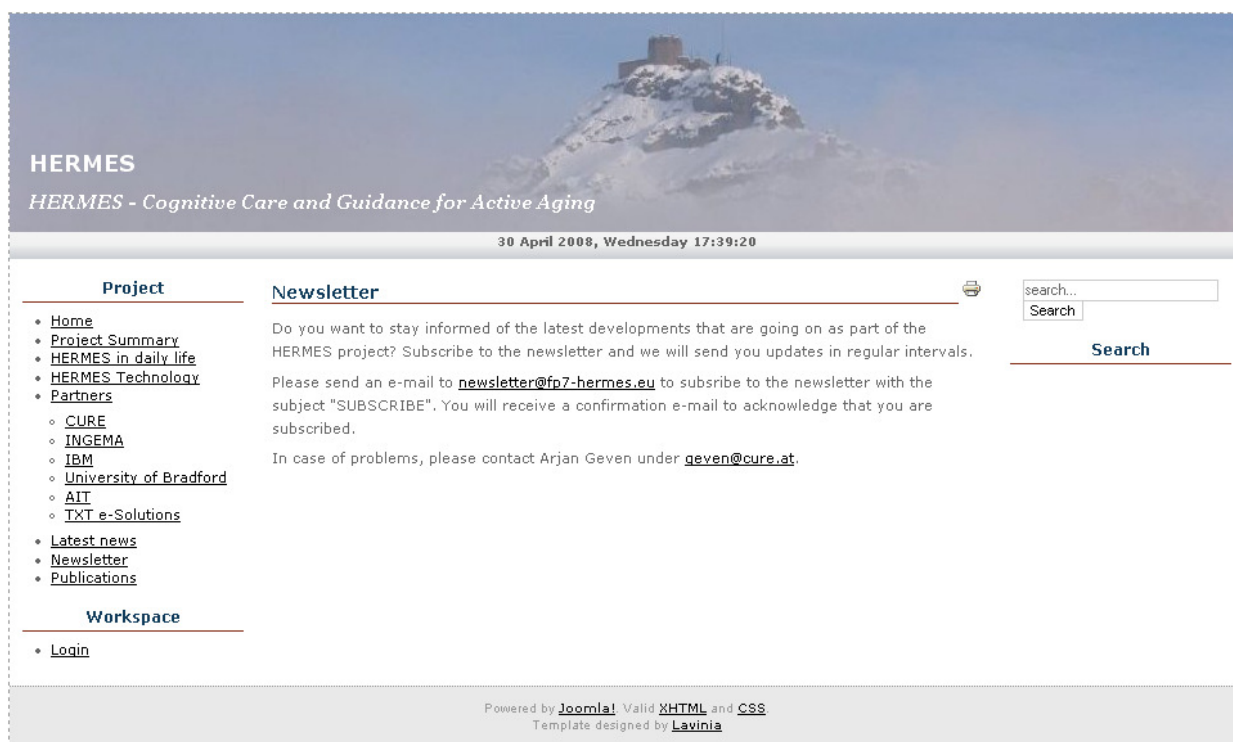
Search

Powered by [Joomla!](#) Valid [XHTML](#) and [CSS](#)
Template designed by [Lavinia](#)

Partners are directly listed on the left to make it easy to contact the relevant people for the project.

3.2 Newsletter

As part of the website, people can subscribe to a newsletter that is sent out two times a year. The newsletter contains general news that is relevant for all stakeholders and focuses on general dissemination. The aim of the newsletter is to generate an interest to visit and re-visit the website as it indicates changed and updated content there. Subscribers of the newsletter can then visit the specific sections that are most interesting to them, depending on the type of stakeholder they are (users, potential business partners, other researchers, or others).



The screenshot shows the HERMES website interface. At the top, there is a banner with a mountain peak and the text "HERMES" and "HERMES - Cognitive Care and Guidance for Active Aging". Below the banner, the date and time "30 April 2008, Wednesday 17:39:20" are displayed. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column, titled "Project", contains a list of links: Home, Project Summary, HERMES in daily life, HERMES Technology, Partners (with sub-links for CURE, INGEMA, IBM, University of Bradford, AIT, and TXT e-Solutions), Latest news, Newsletter, and Publications. The middle column, titled "Newsletter", contains the following text: "Do you want to stay informed of the latest developments that are going on as part of the HERMES project? Subscribe to the newsletter and we will send you updates in regular intervals. Please send an e-mail to newsletter@fp7-hermes.eu to subscribe to the newsletter with the subject 'SUBSCRIBE'. You will receive a confirmation e-mail to acknowledge that you are subscribed. In case of problems, please contact Arjan Geven under geven@cure.at." The right column contains a search bar with the text "search..." and a "Search" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text "Powered by Joomla! Valid XHTML and CSS Template designed by Lavinia".

The newsletter can be subscribed and is sent out two times per year

3.3 Accessibility

The website is created using the portal software Joomla, which confirms to standard W3C Accessibility guidelines and compliant with the standards for level AA.