



Invitation for the KNOWLEDGE4ALL kick-off event October 6th 2016.

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

Looking at things from multiple perspectives is one of the key learning outcomes of Ghent University study programmes. KNOWLEDGE4ALL is one of the educational innovation projects that is supported by UGent in this context. In the K4A project, students from different disciplines work together on a common case, each contributing in their own field. The assignment is based on the principles of co-creation, whereby all stakeholders actively take part in all phases of the design process. Just like last year, this year's theme is products and services for people with disabilities. Just an example from last year: a smart suit for monitoring movements. Following students have contributed to this case:

- Ergo-therapy: input on conditions of use
- Remedial education (ortho-pedagogy): observation of patient (called 'client')
- Computer science: system design
- Textile engineering: integration in textiles
- Economy: business model
- Law: liability, crowd funding

The students had to explain each other about their specific tasks and communicate on the different aspects of the application. Apart from learning from each other's fields, the outcome of this particular case has been a prototype smart textile suit with supporting documents on aspects to be taken into account in view of future commercialization. Overall it has been very successful, the students have learnt about the case from multiple perspectives, studied their discipline more in depth and learnt how to work and communicate in a multidisciplinary team, including their client. The activities have been perceived as pleasant, inclusive, motivating and inspiring.



Picture: the Vice-Rector expresses his appreciation to the participants



Picture: the Rector (left) is listening attentively to the final student presentations

The next edition we want to broaden the activities by strengthening the link with all stakeholders. The activities will start with a kick-off event, whereby all stakeholders are invited in order to exchange ideas on needs and potential answers. This kick-off event will bring together students and professors, end users and their representatives, industry, care sector and so on. In order to inspire the participants, a small exhibition will be held showing students prototypes from previous years as well as industry products and other relevant products.

The exhibition will be held on October 6th at the Foundry, the UGent design factory which also hosts the UGent Center for Student-Entrepreneurs. During the rest of the academic year, students will gather there on Thursday afternoon for co-creating proper solutions for their client. It is considered as the first step towards building an open and permanent inspiration, demonstration and meeting place for adapted products as well as towards joint research and development activities, leading to growth of the regions involved.

In cooperation with the network Smart-Fit-In e.V., Thuringia, (<http://en.smart-fit-in.de/showroom/>) of researchers, designers, micro enterprises of adapted products, social-medical centers parasport associations and the inclusive initiative AdaptierBar, Thuringia, this meeting place will serve to built up an international and intergenerational communication and knowledge platform about adaptable products with people with and without disabilities. This place will also become a place for counselling, learning in online ordering of adapted products from micro enterprises from all over the world exhibited there. Events such as product presentations, trainings, sports and theatre performances etc taking place in this place can be watched live in the Internet on the communication platform AdaptierBar. Events by the students of UGent, members of Smart-Fit-In and other structures of other regions shall be presented there as well, together with video clips and radio broadcasts to built up a lobby for adaptable products.

The Wishlist-Surveys of AdaptierBar Games for Para-Sports (<http://www.adaptierbar.com/adaptierbar-games-for-paras>) will support the cooperation between people with disabilities, researchers, producers of adapted products from all over the world and the students of UGent, where everybody may express his wish of adaptations or present his solutions.

Survey for adaptable products: <http://www.surveio.com/survey/d/T9F902B7G4P1H4X6W>

Survey for a lobby for adaptable products: <https://www.surveio.com/survey/d/I0M7L2E3T9A2L2Y6Z>

So if you want to tell us about a need of a person with a specific disability, or you want to show us your solution, or you just want to get inspiration, you are most welcome to attend our kick-off event.

Practical information:

- When: October 6th, 15h
- Where: the Foundry, Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 41, Gent 9000

- Rooms: the Foundry, left entrance (block B), floor -1



Please confirm your attendance and any items you might need to izabela.CiesielskaWrobel@UGent.be
Looking forward to meeting you.



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