

V | T A L A S



Website Implementation D8.1

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Authors: Organisation: Email Address:	RONCHAUD Remi ERCIM remi.ronchaud@ercim.org

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ABSTRACT:

The VITALAS web site has been designed and implemented. This document presents the public and private aspects of the VITALAS.

This is the first version of the websites of the VITALAS project. We are now expecting feedback over the next few months in order to improve the external and internal websites which will be used throughout the duration of the project.

The main goal of the external website is to raise awareness among the wider public of the project and to encourage participation from relevant sources. Other goals of this website include providing a service to the media (information, contacts, press releases and cuttings, background material...) as well as information resources for those working within the project. The public website runs alongside and is complemented by the "internal website" designed, maintained and operated by ERCIM.

KEYWORD LIST: dissemination; visibility, outreach; website; information

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List of Contributors

- Remi Ronchaud, ERCIM
- Nozha Boujemaa, INRIA

Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	5
1. INTRODUCTION.....	6
1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT.....	6
1.2 TARGET AUDIENCES.....	6
2. DESCRIPTION OF WEB PAGES.....	7
VITALAS WEB SITE HOME PAGE	7
2.1 VITALAS PARTNERS LOGIN SECTION.....	8
2.2 HOME PAGE: ABOUT VITALAS	9
2.3 CONSORTIUM.....	10
2.4 MANAGEMENT AND ID CARD.....	11
2.5 OBJECTIVES, WORKPLAN AND DELIVERABLES	12
2.6 NEWS AND EVENTS.....	13
2.6 DISSEMINATION.....	14
2.8 LINKS	16
2.9 INTRANET	17
2.10 BSCW SERVER.....	18
CONCLUSION	19

Executive Summary

This document sets out the public and private sections of the VITALAS Website and gives a short description of the different functionalities.

Sections and content other than those developed may be found necessary at a later stage. Similarly, it may be felt at a later stage that revision/completion of some of the existing ones are necessary to improve the impact and the outcome of VITALAS. The web site is a living organism that will evolve in time or as the project moves towards completion across its inherent phases.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

This document presents the external (public) and internal (private) website for the VITALAS project. This is the first version of the external and internal websites in the VITALAS project. We are now waiting for feedback over the next few months in order to improve the external website which will be used throughout the duration of the project. More specifically, the news items will be regularly updated as well as the events section and, of course, details concerning any technical developments in the project. This document aims to guide readers through the website and needs to be read in conjunction with viewing the website.

The website has been designed and written to appeal to a wide-range of audiences, both technical and non-technical. The website aims to describe in simple terms what the VITALAS project is, what it is trying to achieve, who is involved, the different areas in which the project will focus, the main contacts and how to get involved in the project. The site also has a section for media interested in VITALAS and allows visitors to download Public Relations material. It also provides a comprehensive list of VITALAS conferences, VITALAS Training events and other events related to the project.

The main goal of the external website is to raise awareness among the wider public of the project and encourage participation from relevant sources. Other goals include providing a service to the media (information, contacts, press release and cutting, material...) and being an information resource for those working within the project. It should be also appealing to the scientific community in the field and allocate specific sections to the showcasing of the VITALAS results and achievements, in order to demonstrate the added value of VITALAS technology to professionals in field.

The public website runs alongside and is complemented by the “internal website”, designed, maintained and operated by ERCIM.

1.2 Target Audiences

The target audiences for the website are the public at large, the multimedia professionals, image archives, national archives, the scientific community, the VITALAS community itself, as well as all related projects or initiatives.

The **Preliminary Dissemination Plan (D8.2)** will outline more precisely the VITALAS dissemination strategy and identify the dissemination targets across a wide array of stakeholders in the domain.

Ultimately, the web site will evolve to become a showcase of VITALAS performance, with a view to stimulate broader user adoption, as a first step towards industrial uptake and potential commercial exploitation.

2. Description of Web pages

Home Wednesday, 21 February 2007

VITALAS 

search...

Login Form

Hi, remi

About VITALAS

[Home](#)

[Consortium Management](#)

[Id Card](#)

Project overview

[Objectives](#)

[Workplan](#)

[Deliverables](#)

Related Information

[News](#)

[Events](#)

[Dissemination](#)

[Contact](#)

[Links](#)

Private Menu

[Your Details](#)

[Reporting](#)



Welcome

VITALAS is an innovative project designed to provide advanced solution for indexing, searching and accessing large scale digital audio-visual content.

The strength of this initiative relies on the capacity of the project to confront its technology to real use-cases, reflecting the joint concerns of two major European content providers.

As a user-centric system, VITALAS will benefit from a strong involvement of content providers and from external user trials, besides the internal evaluation of individual technological components. The project will therefore develop new technological functionalities and services to facilitate access to multimedia content in large databases.

VITALAS Plenary Meeting 

The next VITALAS Plenary meeting is scheduled for the 24 and 25 of May 2007.

The meeting will be hosted by [INA](#) and will take place in [Paris, France](#).

ALL project partners are expected to be present or to send a representative if they can not attend.

Technical Meeting in IRT 

The next VITALAS technical meeting is scheduled to be hosted in IRT, in [Munich](#), Germany on the 16 of March 2007.

The purpose of this meeting will be to focus on [WP1 and WP2 activities](#), with a view on content description and possible scenario description.

VITALAS Kick-off Meeting 

The VITALAS Kick-off meeting was organised on the 18 and 19 January 2007.

All the VITALAS partners were present in [Sophia Antipolis](#) to celebrate and launch the projects activities.

VITALAS Web Site home Page

2.1 VITALAS Partners login section

The top banner present the VITALAS logo on all the pages of the web site.



On each page of the VITALAS external website, there is a common login space allowing VITALAS partners to access the private sections of the web site, and to activate the JOOMLA Content Management system to modify and update the content at will.

A screenshot of a web page's login form. At the top left, there is a "Home" link. Below it is a dark blue header with the text "Login Form" in white. The form contains two input fields: "Username" and "Password". Below the "Password" field is a checkbox labeled "Remember me" and a "Login" button with orange text. At the bottom left of the form, there is a link "Lost Password?" in orange text.

The login form allows you to log in and to update website information (add a news item, change existing content...) according to the access rights granted by each work package leader in the project.

The footer also displays the EU and Information Society and Media logo as well as the following disclaimer text:



“This project is partially funded by the European commission information Society and media under the six framework programme. The content of this web site is the sole responsibility of the project partners and in no way represents the view of the European commission or its services. Project Identifier: FP6-046389 “.

2.2 Home Page: About VITALAS

On the home page, we have a short description of the project, with a link to a more detailed description.

When surfing on this page we can choose to visit the following sections: **Home, Consortium, Management, ID Card, Objectives, Workplan, Deliverables, News, Events, Dissemination, Contact and Links.**



The project description should be revised to comply with and be more attractive to the widest possible audience.

Below description it is located the news plug-in, which displays news about the VITALAS project. The News section will be regularly updated throughout the entire project duration to present the main highlights of the project.

To allow fast access to information, the web site also features its specific search engines, browsing the VITALAS web site for key words:



2.3 Consortium

On the Partners' page, we can find information for all the partners involved in the project, with a link pointing to the description of their involvement in the project. Each partner representative has been allowed to administrate his/her section freely, but in respect of the lay-out standards in this web site.

The screenshot shows the VITALAS website's Consortium page. At the top, there is a blue header with the VITALAS logo and a search bar. Below the header, the page is divided into a left sidebar and a main content area. The sidebar contains several navigation menus: 'Login Form' (with a 'Logout' button), 'About VITALAS' (with links for Home, Consortium, Management, and Id Card), 'Project overview' (with links for Objectives, Workplan, and Deliverables), 'Related Information' (with links for News, Events, Dissemination, Contact, and Links), and 'Private Menu' (with links for Your Details and Reporting). The main content area is titled 'Consortium' and displays a grid of partner logos and names. The partners listed are: GEIE ERCIM - ERCIM - FR; EADS Defence and Security Systems - EADS - FR; Stichting Centrum voor Wiskunde en Informatica - CWI - NL; Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e. V - FhG - GE; Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique - INRIA - FR; Fundación Robotiker - ES; INSTITUT NATIONAL DE L'AUDIOVISUEL - INA - FR; University of Sunderland - UoS - UK; CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY HELLAS - CERTH-ITI - GR; The Centre of Excellence in Digital Technology and Media Limited - Codeworks - UK; and Agence télégraphique de Presse Belga SA - Belga - BE.

2.4 Management and ID Card

These sections present internal yet public information on the project.

Wednesday, 21 February 2007

Id Card

- **Name:** Video & image Indexing and Retrieval in the Large Scale
- **Short name:** VITALAS
- **Instrument:** Integrated Project
- **Project Identifier:** FP6 - 045389
- **Start Date:** 1 January 2007
- **End Date:** 31 December 2009
- **Total Budget:** 8 178 178 euro
- **European Commission funding:** 4 690 000 euro

Management

The governance of VITALAS will be exercised taking into account that both scientific and administrative management are required to ensure the success of the project.

A Scientific Co-ordinator and Workpackage Leaders will carry out the day-to-day scientific management of the network. The Administrative and Financial Co-ordination will be ensured by the ERCIM Office team.

These individuals are the managerial cornerstones of the project. They will collaboratively address the global scientific supervision of VITALAS, the follow-up of its underlying activities, the transfer of the results to the user community, and will provide the administrative logistics to ensure an overall cohesion of the project.

The Steering Committee, representing all partners and all areas of work, will support the scientific and administrative management of the project. The User Community, gathering potential users of the VITALAS technology, will provide feedback on the mid-term and final prototype tryouts.

```

graph TD
    EC[European Commission] --> AFC[Administrative & Financial Coordinator]
    GA((General Assembly)) --> SC((Steering Committee))
    SAB((Scientific Advisory Board)) --> SC
    STF((Strategic Task Forces)) --> SC
    SC --> SCOR[Scientific Coordinator]
    SCOR --> WL[Workpackage Leaders]
    WL -.-> SC
    
```

2.5 Objectives, Workplan and Deliverables

These pages recall the general objective of the VITALAS project, along with the internal WP organisation laid out to carry out the projects workplan.

Wednesday, 21 February 2007

Project Objectives

VITALAS plans to deliver a reliable and efficient pre-industrial prototype, allowing intelligent access to multimedia professional archives. The original VITALAS technology will not only be applied in B2B applications, but will also reach out for larger public adoption, by addressing consumers' need for efficient and reliable multimedia content search engines.

In this perspective, VITALAS will address three major challenges:

1. Cross-media indexing (automatic annotation) and retrieval,
2. Large scale search techniques,
3. Visualisation and Context adapting (personalized services considering both on- and off-line).

The VITALAS achievement relies on the development of efficient and advanced informative content description methods, robust machine learning approaches towards automatic annotation and interactive content search.

Ultimately, the project will deliver a pre-industrial search engine designed and validated by audiovisual Professionals exhibiting functionalities that allow interactive indexing and semi-automatic annotation, with interactive and personalized access to large-scale multimedia content resources

Scientific and Technological Objectives

Strength and objectives of VITALAS system are relying on three core activities

1. **Cross-media indexing and retrieval methods.** Efficient cross indexing methods will be developed through semi-automatic multimedia content annotation using several media inputs. VITALAS will put forward appropriate probabilistic retrieval techniques. Advanced hybrid relevance feedback model will be investigated to provide better user target retrieval. Unlike many approaches developed in other ongoing projects, VITALAS will not consider ontology-based methods but machine learning methods together with the development of more informative new content description methods. VITALAS is among rare projects that consider all media inputs (visual, textual and audio)
2. **Interactivity and Context adapting:** considering the preliminary use-cases expressed by our content provider partners, adapting the search space to the user profile and providing interactive functionalities to control the results is highly expected. Interactive cartographies and video synthetic views should allow users to give feedback, analyse and manipulate the results according to the task being achieved. Off-line user profiles and on-line personalisation will be used also to provide more user satisfaction by expressing his subjective preference.
3. **Search scalability issue:** Technologies enabling search in very large and heterogeneous databases will be one of the main target challenges of VITALAS. The system validation will be performed on real and alive databases, up to 10,000 hours of television archives and several tens of millions of political/societal news content images.

A dedicated section will display all the public deliverables.

All the deliverables, whether public or not will ALL be posted on the BSCW server, acting as the official document repository of the VITALAS project.

Please consult the specific BSCW section of the present deliverable for more details.

2.6 News and Events

The news section will be regularly updated using the JOOMLA CMS.

Acting as a public news board, this section will allow visitors to have an open window peering in to the live activities of VITALAS. The news items will be updated and classified regularly.

The VITALAS WP Leaders will be capable to post news on their progress and achievements.

Wednesday, 21 February 2007

News

VITALAS Kick-off Meeting 

The VITALAS Kick-off meeting was organised on the **18 and 19 January 2007**.

All the VITALAS partners were present in **Sophia Antipolis** to celebrate and launch the projects activities.

The agenda and the presentations of this meeting are available on the BSCW server at:
<https://bscw.ercim.org/bscw/bscw.cgi/200212>

Moreover, another section focusing on Events will allow the team to announce and broadcast about related events in the field, or notify about the next project meetings.

Events

VITALAS Plenary Meeting 

The next VITALAS Plenary meeting is scheduled for the **24 and 25 of May 2007**.

The meeting will be hosted by [INA](#) and will take place in [Paris, France](#).

ALL project partners are expected to be present or to send a representative if they can not attend.

Technical Meeting in IRT 

The next VITALAS technical meeting is scheduled to be hosted in **IRT, in Munich**, Germany on the **16 of March 2007**.

The purpose of this meeting will be to focus on [WP1 and WP2 activities](#), with a view on content description and possible scenario description.

2.6 Dissemination

This section is designed to allow visitors to download dissemination material, ranking from the project logo, to flyer or posters.

Additional information will be posted on this section as the project progresses along the different phases of its dissemination plan.

VITALAS Logo



VITALAS Flyer

Content & Knowledge – VITALAS Integrated Project – FP6

VITALAS VITALAS
Video & Image Indexing and Retrieval in the Large Scale

VITALAS is an innovative project designed to provide advanced solutions for indexing, searching and accessing large scale digital audiovisual content. The strength of this initiative is the application of advanced technology to real use-cases, which reflect the expectations and concerns of major European multimedia activities.

Context:
Objectives of the VITALAS project
 VITALAS plans to deliver a reliable and efficient professional prototype allowing intelligent access to multimedia professional archives.
 The original VITALAS technology will not only be applied in EEC applications, but will also search out for large public adoption by addressing consumers' need for efficient and reliable multimedia content search engines.
 VITALAS addresses three major challenges:
 - Cross media indexing (automatic annotation and retrieval)
 - Large scale search techniques
 - Visualization and Context adaptation (personalized services consisting both on- and off-line)
 VITALAS relies on the development of efficient and advanced information content description methods, robust machine learning approaches, powerful automatic annotation and interactive content search.
 The project will deliver a professional search engine providing the capability of advanced professional searching functionalities that allow interactive indexing and semi-automatic annotation, with interactive and personalized access to large-scale multimedia content.

Project Description:
 The VITALAS work plan relies on 3 core activities:
 - Cross media indexing and retrieval methods: Efficient, robust, indexing methods will be developed through semi-automatic multimedia content annotation using content analysis.
 VITALAS will use learned algorithms (probabilistic, neural, histograms, ...). Advanced hybrid relevance feedback models will be developed to provide better user target retrieval. VITALAS will combine machine learning methods together with the development of more information-relevant description methods.
 - Interactivity and Context adapting: considering the preliminary approaches proposed by our current partner, approaches which provide interactive functionalities to control the search are proposed. Interactive approaches will enable systems to learn about user preferences, analyze and manipulate the results according to the task being achieved. Off-line user profiles and on-line personalization will also be used to provide more user satisfaction by expressing users' subjective preferences.
 - Search scalability: relies on scalable search in very large and heterogeneous databases. The system solution will be ported on real and live databases, up to 10,000 hours of television content, and several tens of millions of public/social news content images.

Specification and Validation based on professional use-cases
 The VITALAS system will be defined and validated by major European multimedia content and archive professionals, in cooperation with the academic and the industrial partners of the project. VITALAS expects to deliver relevant and usable technology. The evaluation phases will be carefully addressed through the selection and selection of test cases, success criteria statement, and external user trials.

2.7 Contacts

On the “Contact” page, visitors can choose to contact the Project Management or the Dissemination work package leaders in order to get more information. There is also a press contact, related to the Dissemination work package. A web form will be added soon to offer the possibilities to contact directly the responsible individual.

Wednesday, 21 February 2007

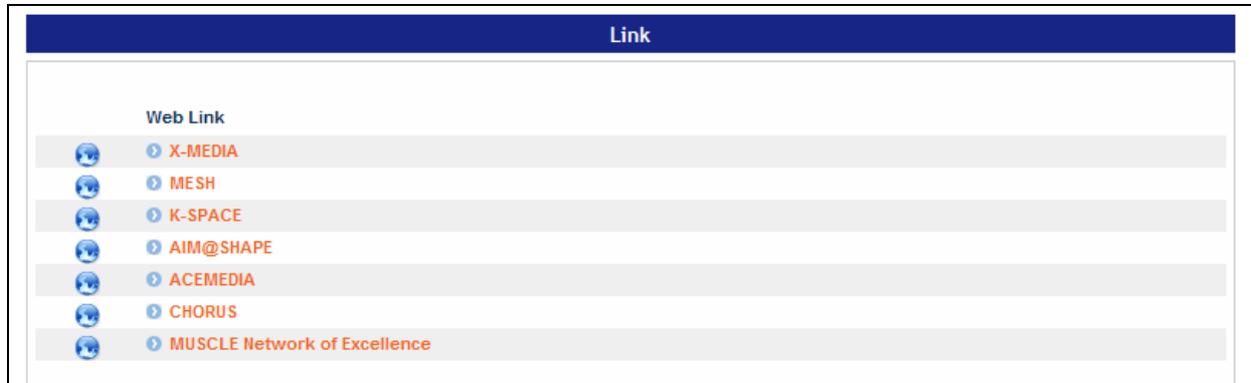
Contact - Management			
Name	Position	Phone	Fax
Nozha Boujemaa	Scientific Coordinator	+33 1 39 63 51 54	+33 1 39 63 56 74
Rémi Ronchaud	Administrative and Financial Coordinator	+33 4 92 38 50 12	+33 4 92 38 50 11
Karen Marache	Assistant	+33 4 9238 5073	+33 4 92 38 50 11
Webmaster	Webmaster		

When selected, a specific page of the chosen contact person opens:

Contact	
Rémi Ronchaud	
Administrative and Financial Coordinator	
 +33 4 92 38 50 12	
 +33 4 92 38 50 11	
Send an e-mail to this Contact:	
Enter your name:	<input type="text"/>
E-mail address:	<input type="text"/>
Message subject:	<input type="text"/>
Enter your message:	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Send"/>	

2.8 Links

The “Links” page is a starting point for collaboration with other European projects dealing with multimedia search engines. Up to now this section has not been filled.

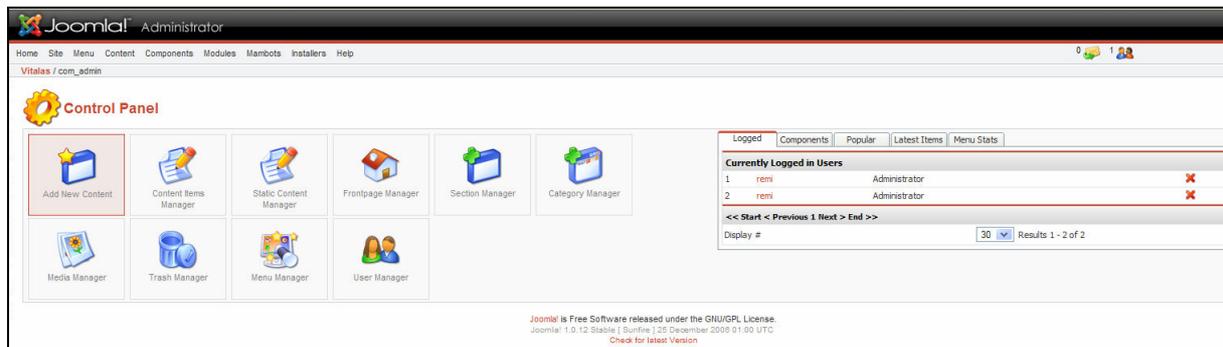


The list of links will be updated as new initiatives emerge, or as new interactions with related groups are foreseen.

2.9 Intranet

The Intranet page appears in the menu only for successfully authenticated and authorised users. For other users it simply doesn't exist.

The Intranet aims to be the collaborative space for all members and authorised persons involved in VITALAS. From its menu VITALAS partners can access the JOOMLA CMS to update or modify the content of the web pages.



To get VITALAS partners to interact efficiently with the CMS, a particular presentation has been prepared to present the JOOMLA functionalities. In addition, the ERCIM webmaster remains permanently reachable to address any particular concern.



ERCIM

European Research Consortium
for Informatics and Mathematics



Joomla! : <http://www.joomla.org/>

- > Is an Open source CMS (Content Management System),
- > easy to install and manage,
- > secure and reliable,
- > with a huge and active community over the world.
- > Contents are separated from the view, graphical template is easy to change or customize.
- > There are 2 interfaces, user (frontend) and administration (backend), content can be added or edited from both.
- > WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) html editor, user doesn't need to know html language.



ERCIM

European Research Consortium
for Informatics and Mathematics

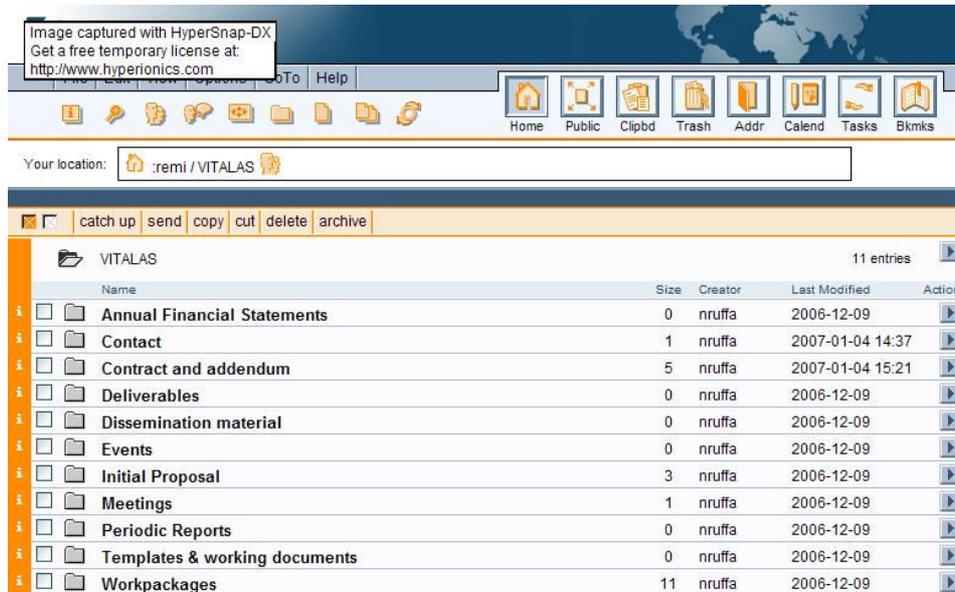


Functionalities:

- ❖ **Content organization:** contents are stored by category and by section, they are easy to manage
- ❖ **News:** the latest news can be added automatically on the front page
- ❖ **RSS and site syndication:** RSS feeds can be generated automatically with the latest news, the web site can also read and display the RSS feeds from other web site
- ❖ **User management:** user with a login/password. Each user has a role with several rights (registered, editor, author, manager, administrator and super administrator)
- ❖ **Access control list:** the web site can have a public and a private part
- ❖ **Polls:** administrator can set and manage polls
- ❖ **More:** Gallery, Events manager, Forum, Forms, Glossary, Blogs... More than 850 extensions are available : <http://extensions.joomla.org/>

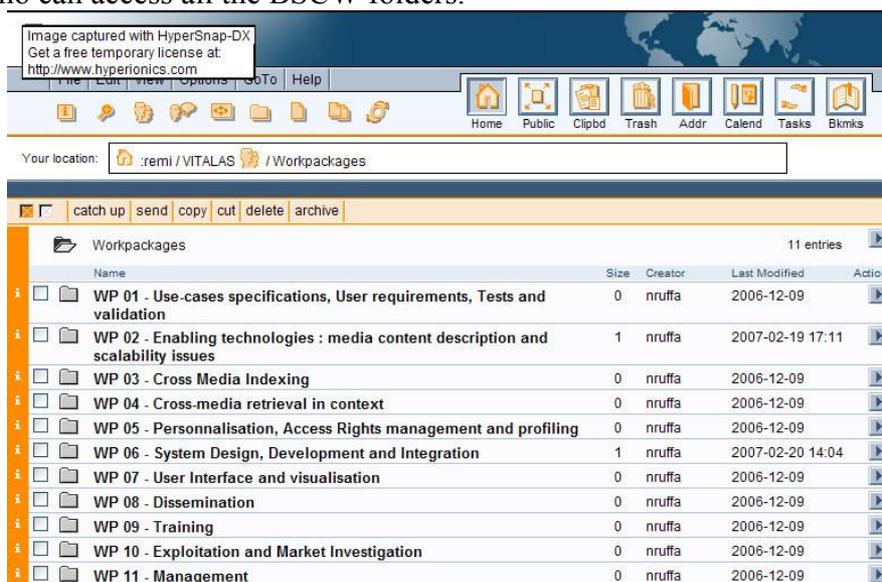
2.10 BSCW Server

In addition, the VITALAS web site has a direct link to the BSCW (Basic Support for Co-operative Work) workspace. This is not only a document repository for current documents and deliverables. The BSCW also enables collaboration over the Web and is a 'shared workspace' system which supports document upload, event notification, group management.



The BSCW server has been successfully implemented within several projects managed by ERCIM. In practical terms, it allows the management to monitor activity and progress across Workpackages, and provides a free interface for the exchanges of documents among Partners.

The following picture presents the Workpackages BSCW organisation, allowing each WP Leader to organise and manage her/his web site independently, yet with close links to the other WP who can access all the BSCW folders.

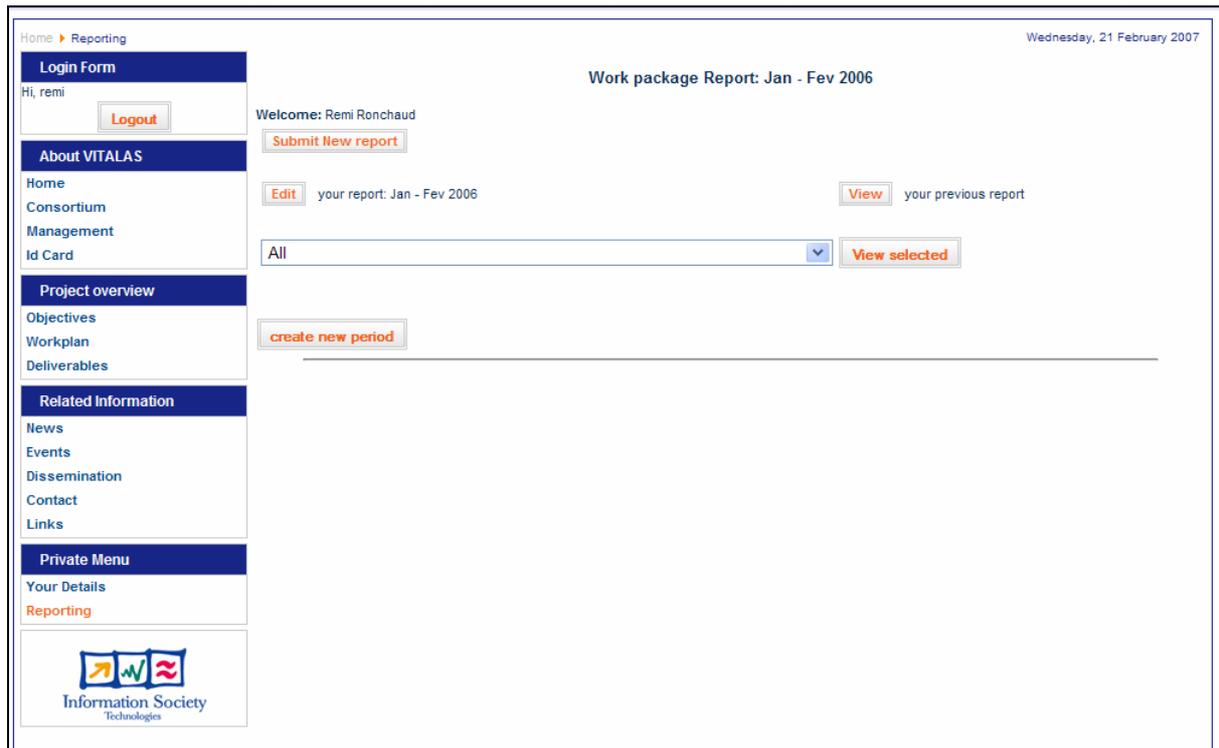


Conclusion

The VITALAS web site has been design and implemented following the best practice and recommendations met during previous European Projects management.

Several improvements will be made to the web site. Among the new functionalities that will be developed is a direct link to the automatic system to collect the bi-monthly contributions of the Workpackage Leaders to compose the bi-monthly report.

At this stage, the project is just starting to implement this feature, which looks as follows:



Additional services or functionalities will be developed among which the implementation of a dedicated VITALAS "wiki" to allow further exchanges among the project partners.