Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe

Biannual report 2022 - 2023

Board meeting at Athens, 10 February 2022.

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1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of the activities of the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) during the years 2022-2023. AAATE members come from over 100 European Organisations. The AAATE is an association driven by its members who contribute voluntarily to the realisation of its mission: to stimulate the advancement of assistive technology (AT) for the benefit of people with disabilities, including elderly people. Advancement should be understood to mean activity that improves availability, access to and quality of both assistive products and associated services, and hence, benefits AT users. AAATE is fully committed to the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

To reach its objectives, AAATE works with a wide variety of stakeholders to include their valuable perspectives and approaches. This multi-perspective approach also extends beyond Europe through significant involvement in organisations such as the [Global Alliance of Assistive Technology Organizations](#) (GAATO), the World Health Organisation, and particularly its [Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology](#) (GATE) initiative, as well as [United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund](#) (UNICEF).

2. Main activities

2.1 Strategic Development Plan

The AAATE Board discussed and approved the strategic development plan for the period 2022-23, based on the plan of the past board period and the proposal of the new president. The general objectives of the strategic plan for the period 2022-23 are:
- to intrinsically strengthen the association;
- to improve the organisation's external and internal communication;
- to increase the impact of the Association;
- to activate resources.

As a result, The AAATE Board redefined and revised the vision and mission of the association as follows:

VISION: We envision an **inclusive society** where **assistive and accessible mainstream technologies** and **universally designed products and services** have levelled differences between people in terms of access to opportunities to live the lives they desire. AAATE wants to be an active player and **interdisciplinary collaborative platform** uniting organisations and individuals that want to collaborate in making that vision come true.

MISSION: to foster the role of **AT and inclusive design** to create a world where all people can equally enjoy their human rights.

We aim to realise this mission by:
· **Connecting a variety of stakeholders** (people with disabilities of all ages, policymakers, care and technical professionals, industry researchers, educators) in Europe and beyond to collaborate adopting a human rights approach to assistive technology.
· **Participating actively in the scientific, political, and cultural debate** about the role of technology in creating more inclusive societies in Europe and worldwide.
· **Promoting the collaboration of stakeholders** to acknowledge responsibility for the development of quality AT service delivery frameworks and educational programmes.

· **Fostering the integration of quality AT products, services and methodologies** in European policy, practice, research, and education by producing context-specific information, coaching and training.

· Initiating projects to **promote socially responsive and responsible research** in the field of Assistive Technology, aiming at removing barriers and enabling participation.

· Collecting and **disseminating outcomes of European and international research and best practices** in Assistive Technology developments.

· Providing opportunities for **access to quality information** on Assistive Technology and its provision processes.

· Providing **opportunities for participation in knowledge development and lifelong learning** regarding the multifaceted aspects of technology and disability.

The AAATE Board approved the following main areas of the strategic development plan:

- **Membership:**
  - Increase the number of members:
    - reach out professional sectors & other stakeholders (e.g. students),
    - new membership schemes (e.g. affiliations with national AT organisations),
  - Reinforce the professional and life-long learning development of our members:
    - provide more content and guidelines,
    - re-activate the Special Interest Groups.

- **Communications:**
  - Augment and give prominence of the value of AAATE to our members and potential members:
    - improve the structure & content of our website,
    - add new electronic newsletter,
    - strengthen the blog section on our website,

- **AAATE events:**
  - Emphasise the role of AAATE in AT research and knowledge transfer - strengthen our conferences:
    - ICCHP - AAATE 2022 Conference
    - AAATE2023.

- **National Contact Persons (NCP) & Institutional Members (IM):**
  - Improve the role of NCP & IM.

- **International representation:**
  - Continue and expand our collaboration with international and worldwide organisations and fora:
    - GAATO
    - UNICEF
    - WHO

- **Resources/ Research:**
  - Advance AAATE's participation in research and development projects.

2.2 Summary overview of major events

Table 1. Summary overview of major events organisation and participation 2022-2023

Date	Type	Title	Note
21/4/2022	Meeting	Rehabilitation in Ukraine Emergency Response Meeting	Organised by UNICEF with the participation of AAATE
19/5/2022	Meeting	The 6th WHO Rehabilitation in Ukraine Emergency Response - Stakeholder Group	Organised by WHO with the participation of AAATE
11-12/7/2022	Workshop	ICCHP-AAATE2022 Young Researcher´s Consortium	Politecnico di Milano, Lecco, Italy
11-15/7/2022	Conference	ICCHP-AAATE 2022: Joint International Conference on Digital Inclusion, Assistive Technology & Accessibility	Politecnico di Milano, Lecco, Italy
12/7/2022	High level policy meeting and Declaration	Accessible and Inclusive Public Transport and Lecco Declaration	AAATE, ENIL (*the European Network on Independent Living*) and UITP (*the International Association of Public Transport*)
13/7/2022	General Assembly	AAATE General Assembly AAATE	In presence at Lecco, Italy and online
13/7/2022	Policy meeting	Digital empowerment in European inclusive education	Organised by AAATE, EASPD and the ENTELIS network
14/7/2022	Policy meeting	The WHO-UNICEF Global Report on Assistive Technology: Moving forward together	Organised by AAATE and GAATO, in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF
14/7/2022	Policy meeting	Grand Challenges in AT outcomes and Impact	Organised by GAATO and AAATE
15/7/2022	Policy meeting	Measuring access to AT worldwide.	Organised by WHO, GAATO and AAATE
15/7/2022	Policy meeting	Building AT capacity in Low-& Middle-Income countries	Organised by AAATE and UNICEF
20/9/2022	Policy meeting	Ukraine rehabilitation response: P&O stakeholders meeting	Organised by WHO with the participation of

			AAATE
29/9/2022	Conference presentation	Social Inclusion in Employment Setting for Individuals with Disabilities in Europe The role of Assistive Technology EUROPE	Using Assistive Technology to Promote Social Inclusion for People with Disability through Collaboration and Partnership between Africa, America, Asia and Europe Organised by: Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations, New York
5/10/2022	Conference presentation	Unlocking Human Potential	Indigo: Inclusive digital governance festival, Rome
13/1/2023	Online member meeting	Aperitivo	Disseminate information about the TRIPS project
24/03/2023	Conference presentation	Assistive technology opportunities and challenges: an international overview	International conference: National dialogue on promoting accessible and inclusive education, Warsaw
2/5/2023	Online member meeting	Aperitivo	Updates from AAATE members and share information on the association's activities as well as the upcoming AAATE conference
12/6/2023	NCPs meeting	AAATE NCPs General Meeting of the AAATE National Contact persons	
29/8/2023	Workshop	Your role in making Higher Education more accessible and inclusive	Organised by AccessibleEU in Paris with the collaboration of AAATE
30/8 to 1/9/2023	Conference	17th AAATE Conference: Shaping a sustainable and inclusive world	Centre de Conférences, Condorcet Campus, University Paris 8, Vincennes-Saint- Denis, Paris, France
30/8/2023	NCPs meeting	General Meeting of the AAATE National Contact Persons	

30/8/2023	Policy meeting	Using AI to help people with disabilities on the labour market: opportunities and challenges	Organised by GAATO, OECD and AAATE
31/8/2023	Policy meeting	Towards WHO Global guidelines on the provision of assistive technology – journeying together	Organised by AAATE, SHAPES and SEURO consortia
31/8/2023	General Assembly	General Assembly AAATE 2023	Face-to-face in Paris and online
1/9/2023	Policy meeting	Scaling innovations in AT	Organised by GAATO/AAATE and the Zero Project
1/9/2023	Policy meeting	The role of women in fostering equitable access to AT: key considerations in the context of service development, creative problem-solving, research and innovation	Organised by AAATE
7/11/2023	Networking event contribution	Accessibility Networks	Organised by AccessibleEU in Madrid with AAATE participation
22/11/2023	Keynote speech	Digital Assistive Technology in Europe, and beyond … Present and Future	Agenzia Sapport/ACTU conference, Malta
1/12/2023	Project final conference event	Digital inclusion in Vocational Education and Training (VET) – handbook and good practices	Part of the DIG-i-READY project
14/12/2023	Report presentation in Conference	Strengthening the national ecosystem for the provision and use of AT/AAC for children with disabilities in Ukraine	Organised by UNICEF Ukraine in Lviv with AAATE participation
14/12/2023	Online member meeting	Aperitivo	Share news, exchange information on AAATE members' activities and plan some joint actions for the next year.

2.3 ICCHP-AAATE2022 - Joint International Conference on Digital Inclusion, Assistive Technology & Accessibility

Due to the response measures and other constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic, the AAATE 2021 Conference planned to take place 1-3 September 2021 in Paris, was cancelled, and re-scheduled for 2022 as a joint event with the ICCHP Conference, on 11-15 July 2022, in Lecco, Italy.

Conference Title: ICCHP-AAATE2022 - Joint International Conference on Digital Inclusion, Assistive Technology & Accessibility

Dates: July 11-15, 2022

Venue: Politecnico di Milano, Polo Territoriale di Lecco, Via Gaetano Previati, 1/c, 23900 Lecco LC, Italy

Website: https://develop.icchp.org/program

Organisers:
- AAATE - Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe, Linz, AT
- Austrian Computer Society, Vienna, AT
- ICCHP – Intern. Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs, Linz, AT
- Politecnico di Milano, Polo Territoriale di Lecco, IT
- Teiresias Support Centre, Masaryk University, Brno, CZ
- Johannes Kepler University of Linz, Institute Integriert Studieren, Linz, AT

Call for Contributions: https://aaate.net/2021/10/06/icchp-aaate-2022-call-for-contributions/

Accepted papers/contributions:
- for the science track: 202
- for the Inclusion Forum: 8 sessions

Special Thematic Sessions (STS): 22

Participants: 425

Proceedings:
- Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Springer Cham, Volumes 13341 & 13342
- Open Access Compendium, Part I & II

For the details of the proceedings see section: **2.8.2 Conference Proceedings**

Key-note Speakers:

- Giampiero Griffo
- Alessandra Pedrocchi (Politecnico di Milano)
- Nicholas Giudice (School of Computing and Information Sciences at the University of Maine)

Awards

The selection procedure includes the distribution of an invitation letter to all the members of AAATE to nominate one (or more) person(s) they believe deserve the AAATE award.

- **AAATE Diamond Award**

The board of AAATE decided to award the AAATE Diamond to Prof Dr **Luc de Witte** for his long-term commitment in the field of AT, as a professor, as a researcher, as an innovator and, last but not least, as a past president of AAATE.

- **AAATE Honourable member Award**

  The board of AAATE has decided to award Dr. Chapal Khasnabis as Honorary member of AAATE for his tireless work towards including AT in a Global perspective, and his dedication to develop the WHO-UNICEF Global Report on Assistive Technology.

The Lecco Declaration on Accessible and Inclusive Public Transport

Representatives of the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE), the European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) and the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) met on 12 July 2022 in Lecco, Italy during the pre conference of ICCHP-AAATE2022 to discuss ways to more rapidly make progress in fostering accessible and safe public transport for all, building on the advancements in universal design and accessible technologies and signed The Lecco Declaration on Accessible and Inclusive Public Transport.

2.4 AAATE2023 Conference

Conference Title: AAATE2023 - 17th International Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) - Assistive Technology: Shaping a sustainable and inclusive world

Dates: 30 August – 1 Sept. 2023

Venue: University Paris 8-Vincennes-Saint-Denis at the "Centre de Colloques" of Campus Condorcet, Paris, france

Website: https://aaate2023.eu/

Organisers:
- AAATE - Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe, Linz, AT
- University Paris 8-Vincennes-Saint-Denis
- IFRATH: Institut Fédératif de Recherche sur les Aides Techniques pour personnes Handicapées (Federative Institute for Research about Assistive Technologies for people with disabilities)
- CHArt: Laboratoire Cognitions Humaine et Artificielle,

Call for Contributions: https://aaate2023.eu/call/

Accepted papers:
- Submissions: 240
- Accepted for the science track: 78 (IOS proceedings)
- Accepted for the Inclusion Forum: 101 (Book of extended abstracts)

Sessions
- 18 Special Thematic Sessions (STS)
- 8 Policy sessions,
- 17 Educational sessions
- 21 Innovation area presentations.

Participants: 357

Proceedings:

- Studies in Health Technology and Informatics, IOS Press, Volume 306
- Book of Abstracts, AAATE

For the details of the proceedings see section: **2.8.2 Conference Proceedings**

Key-note Speakers:

- **Tiago Guerreiro** (LASIGE – Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal): "Designing Inclusive Technologies that Promote Collaboration, Playfulness, and Self-Efficacy"

- **Salvatore Anzalone** (CHArt Laboratory–University Paris 8-Vincennes-Saint-Denis, France): "Social Artificial Agents for Neurodevelopmental Deficits"

Awards

The selection procedure includes the distribution of an invitation letter to all the members of AAATE to nominate one (or more) person(s) they believe deserve the AAATE award. Five candidates were proposed, and the Board decided to give two Diamond awards.

- **AAATE Diamond Award**

  The board of AAATE decided to award the AAATE Diamond to Prof Dr **Christian Bühler,** *(Technische Universität Dortmund)* for his long-term commitment in the field of AT, as a professor, as a researcher, as an innovator and, last but not least, as a past president of AAATE.

- **AAATE Honourable member Award**

  The board of AAATE decided to award the AAATE Diamond to Prof Dr **Julio Abascal,** *(University of the Basque Country)* for his long-term commitment in the field of AT, as a professor, as a researcher and as an innovator.

- **Best Paper Award**

  to the paper" "MS@Work in Flanders: the Development of a MS Toolkit for a Stable Employment" by Sharona Vonck, Goele Theuwissen, Roel Bosmans, Kim Daniels, and Annemie Spooren.

2.5 AAATE2025 Conference

The Board discussed in detail the last six months of 2023 the proposal of Past President Katerina Mavrou for the AAATE2025 Conference to be hosted by the European University of Cyprus (EUC) and present the conference requirements and the "model of collaboration" that AAATE envisage, which is based on the principle of intense collaboration, shared responsibility and shared risk taking. Like in previous conferences this would include the drafting of an agreement and a working budget. In December 2023 we received the confirmation that the EUC is willing to go ahead for hosting AAATE2025.

2.6 National Contact Persons

The strategy regarding the National Contact Persons (NCP's) of AAATE was reviewed and updated during 2022.

The ideal profile of an NCP: need to be a member or willing to become a member. They should be active in the field in their country. Diversity is an aim. We are in favour of having people with disabilities, but no fixed quota. Also, in countries where we currently don't have some.

NCPs 2023 reactivation process' results:
- NCPs in 33 countries (8 new countries; 6 countries changed their NCP)
- We continue to work toward enlarging our representativeness.

Activities with NCPs
- NCPs presentations in ICCHP-AAATE2022
- 1st NCPs meeting on June 12, 2023
  - Collecting ideas and finding ways of collaboratively working with the AAATE board to advance AT in each country and enhance the association's impact.
- 2nd NCPs meeting on August 30, 2023.
- NCPs presentations in AAATE2023 conference

2.7 Communication and Dissemination activities

In the beginning of 2022, AAATE's communications associate Sabine Lobnig and Secretary General Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf developed a strategy and plan for AAATE communications in line with and based on the AAATE's board objectives and the association's strategic development plan.

Main objectives of AAATE's communications and dissemination activities include:
- to strengthen the AAATE community,
- to sustain a coherent image of AAATE as an active and professional sector organisation,
- to promote the circulation of quality information towards the members,
- to promote the activities that see AAATE involved (conference, workshop, ENTELIS network),
- to broadly disseminate the outcome of the projects that see AAATE involved.

AAATE main channels of communication include:
- the AAATE website: www.aaate.net
- the Twitter/X account for @AAATE_net: https://twitter.com/AAATE_net (1,105 followers)
- the AAATE LinkedIn Group: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2094327/ (747 members)
- the AAATE LinkedIn page https://www.linkedin.com/company/association-for-the-advancement-of-assistive-technology-in-europe-aaate/ (372 followers)

The AAATE website was reorganised to become more functional based on a report with an analysis of the existing problems and suggestions for improvement.

In addition, AAATE uses participation in several EU projects to disseminate the association's work and key messages through consortium partners and project stakeholder networks.

At the core of AAATE's communications remains our website, where we publish regularly:
- articles on topics of interest,
- reports from workshops and events,
- announcements with relevance for our members,
- calls for collaboration.

2.8 Publications

2.8.1 The Journal Technology and Disability

The scientific journal of AAATE "Technology and Disability" (TAD) has published in 2022 four issues with 23 papers (Volume 34), and in 2023 also four issues with 20 papers (Volume 35).

TAD journal is published by IOS Press, an independent international publisher founded in Amsterdam in 1987, which has been acquired in November 2023 by SAGE Publishing, an independent global academic publisher founded in 1965.

The TAD journal has received in 2023 its first **Impact Factor** ever: **0.5**.
Moreover, its **CiteScore** 2022 is **1.2**.

TAD journal is available free for the AAATE members.

2.8.2 Conference Proceedings

The following six (6) Conference Proceedings were published in the period 2022-2023:

- K. Miesenberger, G. Kouroupetroglou, K. Mavrou, R. Manduchi, M. Covarrubias Rodriguez, P. Penaz (2022) "Computers Helping People with Special Needs-18th International Conference, ICCHP-AAATE 2022, Lecco, Italy, July 11-15, 2022, Proceedings, Part I", *Lecture Notes in Computer Science vol. 13341* (557 pages), Springer Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-08648-9

- K. Miesenberger, G. Kouroupetroglou, K. Mavrou, R. Manduchi, M. Covarrubias Rodriguez, P. Penaz (2022) "Computers Helping People with Special Needs-18th International Conference, ICCHP-AAATE 2022, Lecco, Italy, July 11-15, 2022, Proceedings, Part II", *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* vol. 13342 (547 pages), Springer Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-08645-8

- A. Petz, E.-J. Hoogerwerf and K. Mavrou (2022) "Assistive Technology, Accessibility and (e)Inclusion", ICCHP-AAATE 2022 Open Access Compendium, Part I, (346 pages).

- A. Petz, E.-J. Hoogerwerf and K. Mavrou (2022) "Assistive Technology, Accessibility and (e)Inclusion", ICCHP-AAATE 2022 Open Access Compendium, Part II, (292 pages).

- D. Archambault and G. Kouroupetroglou (2023) "Assistive Technology: Shaping a Sustainable and Inclusive World" Vol. 306 of *Studies in Health Technology and Informatics* (616 pages), IOS Press, ISBN 978-1-64368-422-2

- G. Kouroupetroglou and D. Archambault (2023) "17th International Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe, AAATE 2023, Book of Abstracts", Paris, (290 pages).

2.9 International collaboration

2.9.1 World Health Organisation (GATE programme)

AAATE and AAATE members are actively collaborating with the WHO in supporting the development of the GATE programme and creating access to assistive products for those who might benefit from it.
WHO staff participated actively in the 2022 and 2023 conference hosting sessions, or taking part in sessions organised by AAATE or GAATO.

2.9.2 GAATO: The Global Alliance of Assistive Technology Organisations

AAATE has played an important role in the development of GAATO. The Board has welcomed the work of the Secretary-General and supported his leadership in the process that has led to the formal establishment of GAATO in July 2020. Luc de Witte, representative of AAATE to GAATO was elected President of the Executive Board of Directors.

Recent GAATO activities with AAATE support

- **GAATO Grand Challenge on AT Outcomes and Impacts** Report available on the GAATO website: https://www.gaato.org/grand-challenges
- **Joint publication with the ZeroProject on Assistive Technology** Report on the ZeroProject website Zero Project Sector Report
- **Biannual activity report** 2020-22

On June 20223 the board re-appointed Luc de Witte as AAATE representative to the board of GAATO for another 3-year mandate. Alternate board members: Katerina Mavrou (until July 2023) and then Pedro Encarnação .

2.9.3 EASPD: The European Association of Service Providers to Persons with Disabilities

AAATE and EASPD have a collaboration agreement which foresees the participation of an AAATE representative in the Person-Centred Technology Member Forum of EASPD. EASOS actively participated in the 2022 conference.

2.9.4 ENTELIS network

The collaboration between EASPD and AAATE is enhanced in the ENTELIS network, an informal network of members of both organisations. The ENTELIS network is a platform for project collaborations that very often see both EASPD and AAATE participate in the same projects, such as ENTELIS+, Right to Connect Now and Dig-i-Ready. Both organisations are also members of the SEURO consortium. The website of the ENTELIS network is currently hosted by AIAS Bologna. Other members are the Johannes Kepler University,

2.9.5 UNICEF

AAATE has responded, after consultation of the members and a discussion with a selected group of members, with the UNICEF/AAATE proposed collaboration agreement entitled "Improving access to assistive technology for Ukrainian children with disabilities in Ukraine and refugee hosting countries". On Thursday Sept 29, 2022 this document was presented to UNICEF and it was appreciated. The preparation of an AT capacity building programme for UNICEF is temporarily suspended, but will hopefully start soon again.

2.10 Involvement in projects

2.10.1 Strategic importance of involvement in projects

For AAATE the collaboration in projects is an important way of realising its mission. Guidelines for project participation have been defined and are published on the website. The aim of AAATE is to avoid direct competition with its members, but, on the contrary, to be of added value for them. Over the last two years AAATE has been active in the following. AAATE's participation has been factual, effective and of high quality.

2.10.2 Entelis+: Accessibility skills for a technology enhanced learning in an inclusive society

Erasmus+ KA3

Duration: 2020 – 2022
Leader: EASPD
URL: https://entelisplus.entelis.net/

The ENTELIS+ project targets at empowering persons with disabilities to participate in the digital society by providing them with digital literacy and making assistive technologies more easily accessible. The ultimate goal of the consortium was to enable persons with disabilities to be more competitive on the job market and to receive high-quality education. The ENTELIS+ project was an outcome of the follow up work of the Entelis project (2014-2016) which resulted in the establishment of the Entelis Network, by members of the consortium and additional members.

Building on this priorly established scope, the ENTELIS+ project aimed at developing and implementing innovative methods and practices to foster inclusive education and promote common values, as well as enhance the digital skills and competences of digitally excluded groups, particularly persons with disabilities of all ages, through strategic public and private partnerships.

The main deliverables of the project include:
- **Three Fact Sheets** on (a) digital skills for people with disabilities and older adults, (b) the role of ICT Accessibility in Inclusive Education and (c) the impact of accessibility in service provision, with a focus on education & training. Fact sheets are a product of a resources and literature analysis as well as consultation that took place through a detailed online consultation tool open to all interested stakeholders.
- **Development of Success Factors:** (a) to adapt to new policy and regulatory frameworks, (b) on uptake of technology and (c) on building strong partnerships to bridge the digital divide
- **ENTELIS+ Glossary of Terms:** the deliverable updated the first Entelis Glossary, and included new terms on (e)accessibility
- **Training Modules and Content on capacity building for (e)accessibility**: The training package was developed based on the outcomes of the consultation processes (fact sheets), the identified success factors as well as the mapping of identified good practices. The training package was piloted by four of the partner-members of the consortium of ENTELIS+.
- **A competence framework for digital accessibility:** This deliverable was added as an amendment of the project and due to budget transfers because of the changes in travelling and other activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The deliverable was added in WP3, and it was coordinated by AAATE. Based on the outcomes of the pilots the project developed an additional output, which is a competency framework for those supporting digital inclusion of persons with disabilities and older citizens. While the existing Digital Competence Framework for Citizens (DigComp 2.1.) provides some guidance for the development of digital competences of individual learners at different levels, the competences of those supporting persons with disabilities in accessing digital environments are not sufficiently described in the literature. The output is based on a review of existing competency frameworks to further define the ambition and synergies with existing work and to identify the most appropriate format, the outcomes of a training needs survey among the staff involved in the piloting and the outcomes of the pilots. The result is a competency framework that can guide the training of professionals and volunteers supporting citizens with disabilities to develop digital competences, independently whether these work in formal or non-formal education, including adult education.

In addition, AAATE has led WP5 on Evaluation & Quality Assurance for the whole ENTELIS+ project. This included the conception of the project's Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) which built on four pillars: Quality assurance, Formative evaluation, Summative evaluation and Impact assessment.The QAP's purpose was to provide an overview of the quality assurance processes that will govern the course of the ENTELIS+ project and to define the procedures, tools and templates for the systematic monitoring, evaluation and assessment of the project's activities and performances. A relevant

strategy was planned and implemented throughout the project, and a final evaluation report was provided for the end of the project in January 2022.

In addition, AAATE actively supported the communication and dissemination activities in and around the project, using the interlinkage with the project consortium on social media to reach more stakeholders, increase our reach and confirm AAATE's position as key player in the European AT and accessibility space.

2.10.3 TRIPS: TRansport Innovation for disabled People needs Satisfaction

Horizon 2020
Duration: 2020 - 2023
Leader: TU Eindhoven
URL: https://trips-project.eu/

The ambition of the TRIPS project was to make public transport more accessible for persons with disabilities, elderly voyagers and really everyone. The project addressed barriers commonly faced by users with and without disabilities in public transport and implemented steps to avoid barriers of any sort in urban transport.

The TRIPS project:
- Proposed a co-design approach that allows people, disabled by inaccessible environments, to take the leading role in designing accessible and usable transport systems. By focusing on the experience and needs of disabled people, the project aims to directly address a wide variety of barriers in current urban transport systems. This includes also barriers due to for example age, health, or language.
- Provided case studies that show how such co-designed mobility solutions can indeed provide inclusive urban transport-for-all in seven European example cities: Bologna, Brussels, Cagliari, Lisbon, Sofia, Stockholm and Zagreb.

The following deliverables were written by AAATE consultants:
- Christian Galinski: Report on Accessibility Standards and Legislation
- David Banes, Riccardo Magni and Alexey Andrushevich. Report on Assistive Technologies Trends Impacts and Related Policies
- Alexey Andrushevich, Riccardo Magni, David Banes, Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf. User evaluations and Design Concepts
- Alexey Andrushevich, Riccardo Magni, David Banes, Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf. A Prioritised List of Potential Inclusive Mobility Solutions and barriers to adoption
- Alexey Andrushevich, Riccardo Magni, David Banes, Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf. Towards a model for the transfer of technology driven innovation in accessible public transport.

This latter piece of work was presented at the 2023 conference:
- Hoogerwerf, E., Magni, R., Andrushevich, A., Banes, D. Towards a Model for the Transfer of Technology-Driven Innovation in Accessible and Inclusive Public Transport In: Studies in Health Technology and Informatics Volume 306: Assistive Technology: Shaping a Sustainable and Inclusive World. Proceedings of the 17th AAATE conference, 2023. IOS Press. DOI: 10.3233/SHTI230653

In addition, AAATE was leading WP8 on Engagement, Dissemination and Exploitation, which included the conception of the project's Communication & Dissemination strategy. In this vein, AAATE provided the project's Communication Handbook as well as a Communications Toolbox, including, in particular, tips and guidelines for digital accessibility, accessible documents and

accessible online meetings. AAATE also provided regular contributions to the TRIPS blog on topics of interest: https://trips-project.eu/blog/

2.10.4 SEURO: Scaling EUROpean citizen driven transferable and transformative digital health

Horizon 2020
Duration: 3/2021 – 5/2024
Leader: Trinity College Dublin
URL: https://seuro2020.eu/

SEURO targets Europe's 50 million multimorbid patients to proactively self-manage and offset the EU's annual €700 billion cost of chronic disease management. SEURO aims to evaluate key factors to prepare organisations, localities and regions across the EU to scale, sustain and transfer the people-centred, digital integrated care platform ProACT (developed and successfully tested at proof-of-concept level under Horizon 2020, PHC-25-2015, Grant No. 689996). Research will aim to advance three novel implementation support tools. These consist of a transferability self-assessment tool (ProTransfer) to assess preparedness for solution transfer; a behavioural change framework (ProBCF) to optimise a solution to people's needs; and an artificial intelligence (AI) prediction model (ProInsight) to assess the impact of a solution on health system performance. Effective Implementation Hybrid Trials (720 older adults in total, with associated care/support actors) will be carried out with ProACT within health services (Ireland, Belgium, Sweden to measure platform effectiveness), with embedded process evaluations to understand the process for successful 'real world' implementation. Participants will have at least two of the following: cardiovascular disease (excluding Stroke), a respiratory condition and diabetes.

Commercial potential will be validated during the project supported by an exploratory trial (Italy) to evaluate the impact of SEURO in facilitating a procurement process for healthcare service providers aiming to implement ProACT. SEURO engages a multidisciplinary EU consortium of 4 public and 8 private organisations (including one of the world's leading ICT companies, the largest home care provider and 2 EU service provider and technology networks). Partners have a successful collaborative track record. Together the consortium is in a strong position to consolidate EU research assets into a new comprehensive approach for the scale-up and transfer of digital integrated care solutions.

The role of AAATE:
- To support the further development of ProTransfer and ProBCF.
- Provide a network for dissemination activities.

2.10.5 Dig-i-Ready: Digital Readiness of Vocational Educational Institutions in an Inclusive Environment

Erasmus+ KA2 – VET
Duration: 1/2022 – 12/2023
Leader: Internationaler Bund (IB) Mitte gGmbH
URL: https://digi-ready.eu/

The DIG-i-READY project aimed to develop short-, medium- and long-term solutions, innovative approaches and instruments for VET educators and decision makers with a focus on the (digital) educational environment and accessibility for learners with special educational needs (SEN).
The project attempted to:
- establish a new mindset with educators to use digital structures in their daily work
- introduce a new form of teaching which resulted due to the changing school and VET system during and after the COVID19 pandemic

- provide knowledge how to transfer digital changes into the educational sector and to address all targeted groups of these institutions

The project has produced:
- A DIG-i-READY catalogue of good practices, including a special focus on solutions.
- A DIG-i-READY manual featuring carefully developed digital literacy indicators and guidelines to support "digital transformation", a collection of inclusive digital resources, and recommendations to systematically shift towards a "new and inclusive normal".

The role of AAATE:
- To prepare all the necessary documentation and tools for the quality assurance and controlling/ checks of performance indicators and established milestones.
- Quality Assurance and Risk Management plan.
- Mitigation actions at the beginning of the project.
- Annual revisions and evaluation tools.
- The coordination of the localisation of the manual.

2.10.6 RTC Right to Connect: Digital inclusion for persons with intellectual disabilities

Erasmus+ KA2 - VET
Duration: 2/2022 - 3/2024
Leader: EASPD
URL: https://righttoconnect.entelis.net/

Right to Connect is an innovative co-designed e-learning project involving persons with intellectual disabilities (PwID). The project builds on the experience of the ENTELIS and ENTELIS+ projects. It involves 10 partners in 7 countries forming a multidisciplinary consortium of service providers, universities, a company and European umbrella organisations. The project aims at fostering the digital skills development of PwID to enhance their participation in society and to express active citizenship.

The role of AAATE:
- To design and validate a competence framework, building on the ENTELIS+ Competence Framework.
- Provide a network for dissemination activities.
- Coordinate the quality monitoring and evaluation of the project activities.
- Support WP2 activities for needs assessment and literature review.

2.10.7 Other projects

AAATE has an official role in the B-Wise project (EASPD)advisory board, where it is represented by Georgios Kouroupetroglou and in the VisuAAL project (University of Alicante), where it is represented by Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf and Dominique Archambault.

3. Governance and administration of AAATE

3.1 Board composition

During the period 2022-2023 the board of AAATE was composed as follows:

Georgios Kouroupetroglou (President),
Pedro Encarnação (President elect/First Vice-President),
Katerina Mavrou (Past president/Second Vice-President),

Tone Øderud (Secretary),
Silvio Marcello Pagliara (Treasurer),
Dominique Archambault (Projects Officer),
Siobhán Long (External Communication and Information Communication officer).

3.2 Board Meetings

In 2022 the first AAATE Board Meeting was held face-to-face in Athens on 10-11 February 2022. The next face to face Board Meeting was organised on 11 July 2022 at Lecco during the ICCHP-AAATE Conference and prior to the 2022 AAATE General Assembly. Two face-to-face Board Meetings were organised in 2023: the first at Paris on 26-27 January in connection to the preparation of the AAATE2023 Conference and the second at Paris on 28 August, during the AAATE2023 conference and prior to the 2023 AAATE General Assembly.

In total the following 18 Board Meetings were held:
- 2022: 10-11/2 (Athens), 28/3, 9/05, 16/6, 4/7, 11/7 (Lecco), 9/9, 3/10, 6/12 and 19/12.
- 2023: 26-27/1 (Paris), 16/3, 23/5, 30/6, 10/8, 28/8 (Paris), 10/10, and 12/12.

In addition to the main Board Meetings, other smaller group meetings regarding different matters of board actions were also organised remotely during the period of 2022-2023.

The Board Meetings have been supported by networking and frequent communication via email.

The main topics in the Board Meetings have been the organisation of the two conferences ICCHP-AAATE2022 and AAATE2023, the changing scope of the field of assistive technology and changes in service offerings (especially in Europe), the journal of AAATE, the involvement of AAATE in GAATO, financial issues, new ways to operate our future conferences and some specific issues for AAATE 2025 and different projects and project proposals.

3.3 General Assemblies and Board & committees' elections

General Assemblies were held on 13/7/2022 at Lecco, Italy (hybrid) and on 31/8/2023 at Paris (hybrid). During the latter general assembly:
A) a new Board for the period 2024-2025 was elected with the following composition:
    President: **Pedro Encarnação** (PT),
    President Elect: **Dominique Archambault** (FR),
    Past President: **Georgios Kouroupetroglou** (GR),
    Board members: **Tone Øderud** (NO), **Silvio Pagliara** (IT), **Maurice Grinberg** (BG) and **Emma Smith** (IE),
B) the Nomination Committee for the period 2024-2025 was elected with the following composition: **Renzo Andrich** (IT), **Luc de Witte** (NL) and **Klaus Miesenberger** (AT), and
C) the Auditors on the AAATE financial statements for the period 2024-2025 were elected with the following composition: **Susanne Dirks** (DE) and **Jan Engelen** (BE).

4. Editorial Board of the Journal Technology and Disability

The Editorial board of the AAATE scientific journal **Technology and Disability** consisted of the following persons:

- *Editor in chief*:

Prof **Luc de Witte**, The Hague University of Applied Sciences (NL)

- *Editorial Committee:*
  Prof **Dominique Archambault**, Université Paris 8 (FR)
  Dr **Steven Ariss**, University of Sheffield (GB)
  Assoc Prof **Sara Comai**, Politecnico di Milano (IT)
  Assoc Prof **Katerina Mavrou**, European University Cyprus (CY)

- *Editorial Board members:*
  Renzo Andrich, The Global Assistive Technology Information Network (IT)
  Prof **Luis Azevedo**, University of Lisboa (PT)
  Dr **Shanmugam Balamurugan**, Intelligent Research Consultancy Services (IN)
  Prof Emer **Hans van Balkom**, Radboud University Nijmegen (NL)
  Prof **Serenella Besio**, Università degli Studi di Bergamo (IT)
  Ignacio Bermejo Bosch, Instituto de Biomecánica de Valencia (SP)
  Prof Emer **Christian Bühler**, TU Dortmund University (DE)
  Prof Emer **Alert M. Cook**, University of Alberta (CA)
  Prof Emer **Jan J. Engelen**, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (BE)
  Prof **Luca Fanucci**, University of Pisa (IT)
  Prof Emer **Klaus Fellbaum**, Brandenburg University of Technology (DE)
  Prof **Juan C. Garcia**, University of Alcala (SP)
  Dr **Takenobu Inoue**, National Rehabilitation Center for Persons with Disabilities (JP)
  Prof Emer **Georgios Kouroupetroglou**, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (GR)
  Assoc Prof **Choubeila Maaoui**, Lorraine University (FR)
  Lawrence R. Normie, Lawrence Normie Consulting (IL)
  Assoc Prof **Manik Sharma**, DAV University Jalandhar (IN)
  Assoc Prof **Cecilia Sik-Lanyi**, University of Pannonia (HU)
  Prof **Dušan Šimšík**, Technical University of Košice (SK)
  Prof **Constantine Stephanidis**, University of Crete (GR)
  Prof **Nirmalya Thakur**, University of Cincinnati (USA)
  Prof **Joost van Hoof**, The Hague University of Applied Sciences (NL)
  Nadine Vigouroux, Université Paul Sabatier (FR)
  Prof E**mer Wolfgang L. Zagler**, Vienna University of Technology (AU)

5. Organisation and administration

5.1 Members

Members and Institutional Members: Today AAATE has 210 members from 42 countries (38 institutional members from 22 countries). Contact details of individual and institutional members are listed on the website: Members list at http://aaate.net/about-aaate/members-list/ and Institutional

Members List at http://aaate.net/institutional-members-list/ (also presented in Appendix 1). Members have access to several benefits, including the Members area on the website http://aaate.net/wp-login.php and access to the Technology and Disability journal. Institutional Members are highly appreciated by AAATE as established collaborations that offer further opportunities for promoting the vision of AAATE through research, dissemination activities, position papers and other shared activities in order to influence policy and practice on the impact of technology to the rights of people with disabilities in Europe and beyond.

Table 2 memberships 2021-2023

Membership	09/2021	06/2022	12/2023
Individual	70 (26)*	58 (26)*	82 (36)*
Institutions/Institutional Members	42/129 (20/63)*	38/119 (21/67)*	38/116 (24/72)*
Students, Seniors (+65), ...	9 (4)*	10 (4)*	15 (8)*
Total Institutions/Members * biannual membership	**42/208 (20/93)***	**38/187 (21/97)***	**38/213 (24/116)***

The fees for the members are presented in Table 3.

Table 3 membership fees 2022-23

Option for 1 or 2 year membership. Discount in case of biannual renewal.

Individual Membership	1 year	2 years
Professionals	80 EUR	130 EUR
Students, Seniors (+65), members with disabilities, who are not employed and members living in Non High-Income Countries	40 EUR	65 EUR

Institutional Membership	1 year	2 years
Institution (3 individuals included)	250 EUR	425 EUR
Additional individual member	40 EUR	65 EUR

National Contact Persons: For facilitating Members' and other interested parties contact AAATE, the association has National Contact Persons in 33 European countries (Appendix 2). National Contact Persons (NCPs) are ambassadors of AAATE that share the mission and objectives of the association and promote these in their countries. Their role is to create awareness on assistive technology and AAATE in events and other activities, communicate with members and recruit new members in their countries, and actively collaborate with the association's board in promoting and supporting various activities. The contact details of NCPs are available on the website http://aaate.net/about-aaate/national-contact-persons/.

Secretariat
The secretariat of the AAATE is in John Kepler University, Linz, Austria.
Contact information to the office:

> AAATE office Johannes Kepler University
> c/o Institute Integriert Studieren
> Altenberger Str. 69
> 4040 Linz,
> Austria
> office@aaate.net
> www.aaate.net

5.2 Staff & Responsibilities 2022 -2023

Office:

- **Klaus Miesenberger** - scientific counsellor
- **Priska Feichtenschlager**:
    - Supporting the Board in planning, announcing, preparing and running board meetings, events and the General Assembly
    - Monitoring and guaranteeing compliance with legal requirements set by Austrian Authorities related to associations
    - Management of membership payment and renewal
    - Keeping the accountability, including the monitoring, advising on and applying any tax regulations, which might be applicable to AAATE, managing the contact with the tax office
    - Managing Mailings
    - Keeping the Association's Archive up to date
    - Managing the associations general email account and communication tools
    - Administering projects (finances, timesheets, reporting)

o All other tasks related to the association's ordinary administration

Secretary – General:

- **Evert Jan Hoogerwerf** (2016 - to date)

The AAATE board is committed to strengthening the organisation. This involves **making the organisation grow, increasing its financial stability** and creating a **higher visibility and impact in the sector**. The board is aware that this process needs to be accompanied by professional intervention, reason why a Secretary General (SG) (alternative naming Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director as appropriate) has been appointed. The SG will collaborate closely with the president and the other board members.

The SECRETARY GENERAL undertakes the following **tasks**:
- to advise the board on strategic choices regarding the management of the organisation,
- to involve the existing members and potential new members in meaningful activities that raise the profile of AAATE membership,
- to identify opportunities to get AAATE involved in projects and tenders in line with its mission and for the benefit of the organisation and its members,
- to seek strategic alliances and collaborations in the field of Technology and Disability,
- to support the development of GAATO,
- to support the board in policy development and the writing of policy statements,
- to support the definition and implementation of the communication strategy of AAATE,
- to support the implementation of project related tasks (TRIPS, SEURO, Right to Connect, DigiReady, others as appropriate),
- to coordinate other staff working for AAATE,
- to report progress twice a year to the board.

The SECRETARY GENERAL has the following **responsibilities**:
- to supervise the proper management of the Association's resources,
- to safeguard the corporate identity of AAATE,
- to supervise the communication activities of the Association.

Other Staff Members

- **Sabine Lobnig,** Communication and dissemination officer (2018 - to date)

The AAATE board is committed to strengthening the organisation. This involves **growing the visibility and impact of the organisation and increasing the sense of belonging among the members**. The board is aware that this process needs to be accompanied by professional intervention, the reason why a Communication and dissemination officer (CDO) has been appointed. The CDO collaborates closely with the Secretary General (SG).

The CDO undertakes the following **tasks**:
- to advise the SG and the board on strategic choices regarding the communication policy of the organisation,
- to inform the existing members and potential new members about the activities that see the organisation directly or indirectly involved,
- to work in projects in which AAATE is a consortium member, performing tasks related to communication, dissemination, accessibility, and quality assurance,
- to support the definition and implementation of the communication strategy of AAATE,
- to report twice a year progress to the board,

The CDO has the following **responsibilities**:
- to manage the AAATE social media channels,
- to publish a newsletter every 3 months,

- to organise a digital aperitivo every 2 months,
- to periodically review the website and to keep it updated,
- to promote the conference and manage the media contacts and social media before, during and after the conference.

Specific assignments on Projects:

- **TRIPS:**
    - **Alexey Andrushevich** (01/02/2020 - 31/01/2023)
    - **David Banes** (01/02/2020 - 31/01/2023)
    - **Christian Galinski** (01/02/2020 - 31/01/2023)
    - **Riccardo Magni** (01/02/2020 - 31/01/2023)
    - **Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf** (01/02/2020 - 31/01/2023)
    - **Sabine Lobnig** (01/02/2020 - 31/01/2023)
    - **Priska Feichtenschlager** (01/02/2020 - 31/01/2023)

- **SEURO:**
    - **Maite Ferrando** (03/03/2021 - 02/05/2024)
    - **Sabine Lobnig** (01/2022 - to date)
    - **Priska Feichtenschlager** (05/21 – to date)

- **DIG-i-READY:**
    - **Ivan Traina** (01/03/2022 - 31/12/2023)
    - **Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf** (01/2022 - 12/2023)
    - **Sabine Lobnig** 01/2022 - 12/2023)
    - **Priska Feichtenschlager** (01/2022 - 12/2023)

- **RTCN (Right to Connect)**
    - **Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf** (04/2022 – to date)
    - **Sabine Lobnig** (04/2022 – to date)
    - **Priska Feichtenschlager** (04/2022 – to date)

6. Financial report

The account balance on 31/12/2023 was 169,161.18 €. Tables 4a present the financial balance overview of the five terms 2019 – 2023 as well the analysis of income and outgoings (Tables 4b & 4c). Table 5 presents the financial balance of the projects of the five terms 2019-2023. Tables 6 and 7 present the Balance Sheet for 2022 and 2023 respectively, and Table 8 the budget for 2022 & 2023. The auditors' reports on the financial statements of AAATE are given in Appendix 3.

Table 4a Financial balance, overview of five terms

SUMMARY	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
INCOME					
AAATE Net turnover	**21,457**	6,494	16,977	12,917	15,040

Projec ts/Conf. Net turnover	**41,236**	97,815	43,823	245,669	22,552
TOTAL INCOME	**62,693**	104,310	60,800	258,586	37,592
EXPENSES					
Total Production Expenses	**20,723**	11,015	7,314	16,618	17,236
Projects/Conf. Expenses	**73,474**	100,922	94,578	80,083	36,996
Total Administration Expenses	**4,058**	3,562	9,099	5,770	11,595
TOTAL EXPENSES	**98,255**	115,500	110,991	102,471	65,827
RESULT OF THE YEAR	**-35,562**	-11,190	-50,191	156,115	-28,235

Table 4b

NET TURNOVER	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Membership Fees	21,960	[1]7,055	21,405	17,300	18,090
Allowance for Bad Debts	-520	-1,630	-4,450	-4,410	-3,050
Interest & Discounts on Accounts	17	19	22	27	0
Project Income incl. Conferences/WS	[3]41,236	[2]97,815	43,823	245,629	22,552
TOTAL NET TURNOVER	62,693	104,310	60,800	258,586	37,592

1 Less income from membership fees because of two-years payments in 2021

2 income ICCHP-AAATE 2022: € 25,212

3 income AAATE 2023: € 24,750

Table 4c

EXPENSES	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
PRODUCTION EXPENSES					
Web-Sites	38	34	43	34	55
Project Costs incl. Staff	58,830	95,321	94,578	80,082	34,751
Conference & Workshop	14,644	5,601		1	2,245
Board Meeting Costs	10,147	7,395	1,590	4,662	2,338
Association External Liaison	62	1,115	694	3,549	1,823
Communication & Dissemination Team	0	0	4,100	2,400	
Secretary General	10,477	2,472	887	5,974	13,020
TOTAL PRODUCTION EXPENSES	94,197	111,938	101,892	96,701	54,232
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES					
Secretariat	3,429	2,788	4,470	5,340	6,780
Other Expenses	140	214	0	140	0
Charges for Journal	0	0	4,000		4,000
Financial Transaction Charges	489	560	629	290	815
Advertising & Promotional Costs	0	0			
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	4,058	3,562	9,099	5,770	11,595
TOTAL EXPENSES	98,255	115,500	110,991	102,471	65,827

Table 5 Financial balance of the projects

Summary	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Income	41,236	€ 97,815	€ 43,438	€ 245,668	€ 22,552
TRIPS	-1,261	30,802	-	231,011	
DIG-i-READY	6,579	15,351			
ENTELIS+		15,283	9,438	9,438	
ProAct				5,179	-

Summary	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Income	**41,236**	**€ 97,815**	**€ 43,438**	**€ 245,668**	**€ 22,552**
TRIPS	-1,261	30,802	-	231,011	
DIG-i-READY	6,579	15,351			
ENTELIS+		15,283	9,438	9,438	
RTCN	11,168	11,168			
SEURO			34,000		
Conference	24,750	25,212		40	22,552
Expenses	**73,474**	**100,922**	**94,578**	**€ 74,763**	**€ 36,996**
AAATE Conference	14,644	5,601		1	2,245
WS AAATE			-	-	-
TRIPS	26,482	52,354	70,925	64,772	
ENTELIS+		5,706	23,653	9,990	
SEURO	4,387	22,188		-	-
ProACT					32,478
RTCN	12,605	7,345			
DIG-i-READY	15,356	7,638			
General costs			-	-	2,273
Surplus	**-32,238**	**-3,107**	**- € 51,1405**	**€ 170,905**	**- € 14,444**

Table 6 Balance Sheet 2022

ASSETS	€		LIABILITIES	€

AMOUNTS DUE			CAPITAL	
Debtors membership	770		Result 2022	- 11,190
B-Wise (Advisory board)	1,050		Opening Balance 2022	215,202
TOTAL AMOUNTS DUE	1,820		TOTAL CAPITAL	204,011
LIQUID ASSETS			LIABILITIES	
Bank account	207,396		Liabilities AAATE	5,205
TOTAL LIQUID ASSETS	207,396		Total LIABILITIES	
TOTAL ASSETS	209,216		TOTAL LIABILITIES	209,216

Table 7 Balance Sheet 2023

ASSETS	€		LIABILITIES	€
AMOUNTS DUE			CAPITAL	
Debtors membership	1.700		Result 2023	- 35.562
			Opening Balance 2023	204.011
TOTAL AMOUNTS DUE	1.700		TOTAL CAPITAL	168.449,30
LIQUID ASSETS			Liabilities	
Bank account	169.161		Liabilities AAATE	2.412
TOTAL LIQUID ASSETS	169.161		Total Liabilities	2.412
TOTAL ASSETS	170.861		TOTAL LIABILITIES	170.861

Table 8

BUDGET 2022-23	2022	2023	Total
INCOME	120,954	121,053	242,007

Membership Fees	10,000	20,000	30,000
Conference	27,800	20,000	47,800
Projects	83,154	81,053	164,207
EXPENSES	**150,953**	**100,300**	**251,254**
Production Expenses	**144,033**	**89,380**	**233,414**
Websites & other costs	60	60	120
Conference	8,800	1,000	9,800
Projects	111,773	64,920	176,694
Secretary General	14,400	14,400	28,800
Communication Team	2,000	2,000	4,000
Board Meeting Costs	5,000	5,000	10,000
Association External Liaison	2,000	2,000	4,000
Administration Expenses	**6,920**	**10,920**	**17,840**
Secretariat	6,000	6,000	12,000
Other Expenses	140	140	280
Charges for Journal	-	4,000	4,000
Financial Transaction Charges	700	700	1,400
Advertising & Promotional Costs	80	80	160
Expected Results	**-29,999**	**20,753**	**-9,246**

● **Appendix 1: AAATE Institutional members**

31/12/2023

Institution	Country
Hilfsgemeinschaft der Blinden und Sehschwachen Österreichs (Managing Board)	Austria
Johannes Kepler Universität Linz (Institut Integriert Studieren)	Austria
KOC - Kenniscentrum Hulpmiddelen van het VAPH	Belgium
Thomas More Kempen vzw (Mobilab & care)	Belgium
Groep Gidts	Belgium
European University Cyprus	Cyprus
VŠB - Technical University of Ostrava	Czech republic
National Board of Social Services (Center for Handicap)	Danmark
Finnish Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disability	Finland
Satakunta University of Applied Sciences	Finland
IFRATH	France
THIM/CHArt EA 4004 - University Paris 8	France
TU Dortmund (Technische Universität Dortmund) (Rehabilitation Technology)	Germany
Kompetenzzentrum Barrierefreiheit Volmarstein - Evangelische Stiftung Volmarstein	Germany
DLF – Shaw Trust	Great Britain
Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas (Institute of Computer Science)	Greece
National Disability Authority	Ireland
National Assistive Technology Training Service Enabled Ireland	Ireland
ALYN Hospital	Israel
Instituto Leonarda Vaccari	Italy
Fondazione Don Carlo Gnocchi Onlus (Innovation and Development Department)	Italy
Emilia Romagna's Centre For Assistive Technology	Italy

Associazione GLIC - GLIC - Italian Network of Assistive Technology Resource Centers	Italy
University of Pisa (Dept. Information Engineering)	Italy
The Center of Technical aid for Disabled people - Ministry of Social security and Labour	Lithuania
Zuyd University of Applied Sciences (Research Centre Technology in Care)	Netherlands
The Norwegian Labour and Welfare Service (Department of Assistive Technology)	Norway
Centro de Reabilitacao Professional de Gaia	Portugal
Sociedade Portuguesa de Engenharia de Reabilitação, Tecnologias de Apoio e Acessibilidade	Portugal
Technical University of Kosice	Slovakia
University rehabilitation institute Republic of Slovenia Soca	Slovenia
Associacio per la Vida Independent	Spain
Certec - Lund university (Department of Design Sciences)	Sweden
Raising the Floor - International Association	Switzerland
iHomeLab - Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts	Switzerland
Active Communication AG	Switzerland
ETH Zürich (Rehabilitation Engineering Lab)	Switzerland
Zurich University of Applied Sciences (School of Engineering)	Switzerland
The Hague University of Applied Sciences (Research group Technology for Healthcare)	The Netherlands

● **Appendix 2: AAATE National Contact Persons**

31/12/2023

Country	Contact Person	Affiliation
Albania	Merita Hoxha	Aleksander Xhuvani University
Austria	Klaus Miesenberger	University of Linz
Belgium	Lieven De Maesschalck	Thomas More Kempen vzw
Bulgaria	Maurice Grinberg	ASSIST – Assistive Technologies
Croatia	Ines Delzotto	Dnevni centar za rehabilitaciju Veruda Pula
Cyprus	Katerina Mavrou	European University Cyprus
Czech Republic	Martin Cerny	VSB – Technical University of Ostrava
Denmark	Thomas Lyhne	Danish National Board of Social Services
Estonia	Hille Maas	
France	Dominique Archambault	University Paris8
Germany	Susan Dirks	TU Dortmund University
Greece	Iosif Klironomos	ICS-FORTH
Hungary	Cecília Sík Lányi	University of Pannonia
Iceland	Bergþóra Þorsteinsdóttir	Iceland Health
Ireland	Siobhán Long	Enable Ireland
Israel	Noa Nitzan	Geha Mental Health Center
Italy	Sara Comai	Politecnico di Milano – Assistive Technology Group
Lithuania	Vita Arbačiauskė	Techninės pagalbos neįgaliesiems centras prie Socialinės apsaugos ir darbo ministerijos
Malta	May Agius	ACTU – Agenzija Sapport
Netherlands	Loek van der Heide	Zuyd University of Applied Sciences
Norway	Berit Stølen	NAV

Poland	Krzysztof Dobosz	Silesian University of Technology
Portugal	Pedro Encarnação	CATÓLICA-LISBON
Republic of North Macedonia	Kristijan Lazarev	Open The Windows
Romania	Marian Pădure	Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Special Education Departament
Serbia	Veselin Medenica	The College of Social Work, Belgrade
Slovakia	Dusan Simsik	Technical University of Kosice
Slovenia	Mojca Debeljak	University Rehabilitation Institute
Spain	Rafael Raya	Universidad San Pablo CEU
Sweden	Per-Olof Hedvall	Certec – Rehabilitation Engineering and Design
Switzerland	Roger Gassert	ETH Zurich
Ukraine	Hanna Usatenko	DyvoGra Social Enterprise
United Kingdom	Annalu Waller	University of Dundee

- ● **Appendix 3: Audit reports on the financial statements of AAATE**

KU LEUVEN

FACULTEIT INGENIEURSWETENSCHAPPEN
DEPT. ELEKTROTECHNIEK-ESAT/STADIUS
KASTEELPARK ARENBERG 10 BUS 2442
3001 HEVERLEE, BELGIË

To the board of AAATE
JE/AAATE

April 24, 2023

AAATE audit of the financial report covering the year 2022

ONS KENMERK

UW KENMERK

HEVERLEE

I have checked the following financial reports covering the fiscal year 2022 which I received from the AAATE secretariat:

- The overview financial report providing details on incomes and expenses for the last five years
- The Opening Balance 2022
- The Balance List Customers 2022
- The Balance List Supplier 2022
- The Accounts 2022
- The Account Statement 31122
- The Balance List Accounts 2022 and
- The doc "Bank Journal 2022" with an overview of all bank transfers for all accounts

Because of strongly fluctuating financial results, a bit of historical background may be useful. Two years ago, the fiscal year **2020** ended with an unusually large positive result (income *minus* expenses) of € 156 115. This was due to the bookkeeping item "project costs" which depends on expenses to be advanced for running AAATE's European projects and the EU advance payments which are received on unpredictable dates.

In **2021** AAATE had an income of € 60 800, and the costs amounted to € 110 991, mainly project and management costs.

In **2022** AAATE had a total income of € 104 310 (membership fees, the 2022 Lecco Conference and the European project funding). Total expenses amounted to €115 500. Besides the European project costs, the main expenses of AAATE consisted of the wage of the secretary-general and the costs of secretarial support.

The total assets of the AAATE at the **end of 2022** amount to € **209 216** .The bank account showed a positive balance of € **207 396** (*cfr.* document "Account Statement 31122") The difference with the assets figure is due to a couple of membership debtors.

In my opinion, the figures of the financial report are correct and represent the true financial position of the Association at the end of the year 2022.

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Elected AAATE auditor
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To the AAATE Board

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Audit of the AAATE financial report 2022

Diktatzeichen	Aktenzeichen	Ort	Datum	Dienstgebäude/Raum
		Dortmund	28. August 2023	EF 50; Raum 4.452

To whom it may concern

Hereby I gladly respond to the request to review the financial report for 2022.
I have checked the following documents that I received from the secretary's office of AAATE:

- Accounts 2022 (pdf)
- Opening balance 2022 (pdf)
- Account Statement 31122022
- Balance List Accounts 2022 (pdf)
- Balance List Customers 2022 (pdf)
- Balance List Supplier 2022 (pdf)
- Bank Journal 2022 (pdf)
- AAATE Financial Report 2022 (xlsx)

The Financial Report shows a net turnover for 2022 of € 104.309,73. The total expenses amounted to € 115.499,98. This results in an annual result of € -11.190,25 for the fiscal year 2022.
The negative balance for 2022 is due to time-delayed payments in the projects. The ENTELIS+ project was finished in 2022, four further projects (two H2020, two Erasmus+) are still going on.

The total AAATE's assets amounted to € 209.216,10 at the end of 2022. As of December 31, 2022, the account 32100-229488 was balanced with € 207.396,10. The difference between assets and account balance (€ 1.820) is mainly due to unpaid membership fees.

After careful review, I conclude that the 2022 financial report is accurate and reflects the true financial position of the AAATE at the end of the year 2022.

Susanne Dirks