



# IOANNA

Integration Of All stores Network & Navigation Assistant

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## RECENT EVENTS

### **Materia Group hold a dissemination event to show the IOANNA project and application to occupational therapists from the European University of Cyprus**

Materia Group, end-user partner in the IOANNA project and responsible for the evaluation phases organized an event at its premises to demonstrate the IOANNA application to healthcare professionals and collect their feedback.

Four occupational therapists from the European University of Cyprus participated in the presentation and discussion of the project.



Members of project team presented the goals and objectives of the project and its progress so far. Thereafter, a live demonstration of the IOANNA application and its features took place. Occupational therapists had the opportunity to explore the application and provide Materia team with insightful feedback.

The professionals stated that IOANNA application would be very useful for people who live in remote areas and find it is harder to reach services, such as supermarkets and shops. According to their opinion, IOANNA application would be easier to be used by people aged 55 years or more who are familiar with technology and especially, smartphones. However, they agreed that the application would be also valuable for people over 60 years old, provided that they receive a short training session in the beginning or get some assistance by their caregivers. In addition, they mentioned that the use of a bigger interface, i.e., a tablet, would be more appropriate for people who

have visual difficulties Finally, they all highlighted the importance of IOANNA project for older people as it could enhance their confidence and make them feel safer to reach their destinations or increase their current area of mobility.



### **Materia Group presented IOANNA project to students of the Medical School, UNIC**

On the 15th and 16th of January, Materia Group, an end-user partner in the IOANNA project and responsible for the evaluation phases, organized a two-day event with the purpose of demonstrating the features of the IOANNA application to healthcare students from the Medical School of the University of Nicosia (UNIC).

The events were focused on informing the public about Materia Group's participation in EU research projects targeting rehabilitation, third age and technology. Both presentations aimed to increase the general public's awareness on the activities and benefits of the IOANNA project.



After presenting the objectives and the progress of the project so far, IOANNA's project team made a live demonstration of the application's latest features, such as finding nearby businesses and commercial products online. This feature aims to facilitate older adults' mobility and everyday routines and increase their self-independency.

In total, 40 students from the Medical School attended the presentations. Students had the opportunity to see and discuss about the application and get their questions resolved. Their feedback on the application, its objectives and purpose was positive and a lot of them showed interest to be recruited in the next trial phase of the project as secondary users to assist us in improving the application.

## **IDEABLE and ESKILARA organized an Open Workshop in Bilbao to present IOANNA solution to potential stakeholders**

**IDEABLE and ESKILARA, partners of the IOANNA project**, organized in **Bilbao on February 20** the conference **“Innovative Technologies to transform the future of aging in Bizkaia”** with the aim of bringing to the municipalities, companies and citizens cases of good practices around Silver Silver economy or economy in Bizkaia, and more specifically, the success case of the IOANNA Project.



The event had the participation of the Bizkaia Provincial Council, as well as other entities such as the SSI Group, the leading end user organization in Bizkaia and with experience in AAL programs. Likewise, a large group of potential stakeholders within the territory attended it, such as other end user entities, local businesses, municipalities, SMEs, and potential primary users.

### **Iurdana Izurza, advisor at the social action department of the Diputación**

**Foral de Bizkaia**, presented **Etgetic Project**, a project aimed to develop a pilot to test new formulas to take care of people who remain at their homes and promote their independence.

The **IOANNA solution was afterwards presented by Iñaki Bartolomé** ( CEO Ideable Kwido, expert in solutions e-Health Care, Silver Economy, digital transformation) to local municipalities and public entities, with the aim that they function as promoters of the tool, so that it is free for both professionals and older people and their families. “We offer a double benefit to the municipalities that we think are very interesting, improving the provision of services to the elderly and, therefore, their quality of life, and at the same time promoting the work of local businesses within the silver economy sector”, explained Iñaki Bartolomé.

Next, **Susana Romero, Psychogerontologist, Head of the Knowledge Management Area and Researcher at SSI Group**, presented some of the projects in which SSI participates at both local and international level. The objective of this group is to provide a comprehensive response to the social needs of older people as well as the most vulnerable people residing in the Basque Country. For this, it focuses on 4 areas: social intervention, innovation, employment and entrepreneurship and finally knowledge management.

Finally, an open debate was held among all participants during which real needs of older people in relation to promoting their autonomy and advanced proximity services following the example of IOANNA were discussed, as well as the added value of technological solutions around those needs.

## **AAL’s approval of a 6-month extension of IOANNA project**

Given the problems that arose after the departure of one of the IOANNA project partners during the first key months in the development of the tool and consequent

delay in the first pilot tests, the coordinator of the project Dr. Vasilis Giannoglou requested AAL Program for an extension of 6 months on behalf of the consortium.

Finally, last February, a 6 months cost neutral extension of the IOANNA project was approved at central and national level.

Thanks to AAL support, IOANNA partners will have the possibility to achieve the expected objectives and results of this challenging AAL project.

**Learn more about IOANNA**

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