META-FORUM
Session on
Plans for LT research and innovation in Member States and Regions

National plans and international connections and synergies

Edouard Geoffrois

Scientific Research and Innovation Office (MRIS), DGA
Technical Director of the Quaero program
Information and Communication Science and Technology (STIC), ANR

Brussels, June 21st, 2012

Overview of LT R&D projects in France

- Funding mainly comes from 3 agencies
    - DGA (part of the Ministry of Defense)
    - OSEO (agency under the Ministry of Industry)
    - ANR (agency under the Ministry of Research)
- Team of experts dedicated to LT at DGA (~5 persons)
- Cooperation between agencies, for example
    - DGA-ANR challenge on multimedia person recognition
    - DGA participates to the coordination of the major program funded by OSEO (Quaero)
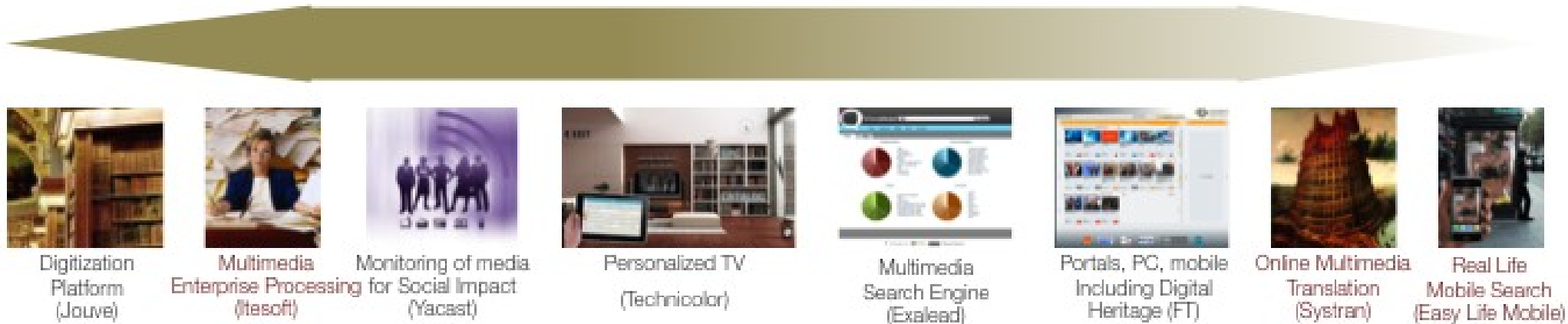
DGA projects

- Cover speech, translation, natural language, scanned documents

- Include all necessary components in addition to the R&D work

  – Data production

  – Tools for data production (e.g., Transcriber)

  – Evaluation (first organized internally, now by LNE)

- Main instrument is procurement

  – Also some subvention (managed jointly with the Ministry of Industry for Innovation and by ANR for Research)
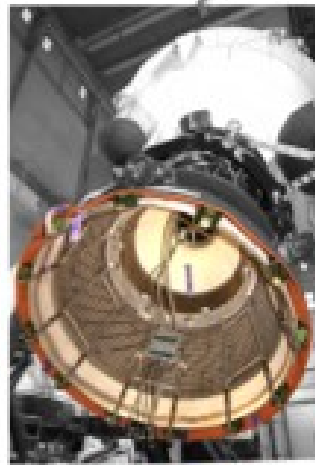
Quaero

- An integrated large program (~100 M€ funding from OSEO)
- Covering the whole spectrum of multimedia and multilingual processing (LT accounts for ~1/3 of the program)
- Connecting multiple application demonstrators with multiple core technologies (cf. next slide)
- Including significant evaluation and corpus efforts for each core technology
- Over a long period (2008-2013) with yearly evaluations
- Involving ~30 public and private French and German partners (~400 persons involved)

Content Providers   Consumers

Digitization Platform (Jouve) | Multimedia Enterprise Processing (Itesoft) | Monitoring of media for Social Impact (Yacast) | Personalized TV (Technicolor) | Multimedia Search Engine (Exalead) | Portals, PC, mobile including Digital Heritage (FT) | Online Multimedia Translation (Systran) | Real Life Mobile Search (Easy Life Mobile)

Generic Technologies

Real data

Benchmarking

Annotated data

Core Technologies Cluster (CTC) (LIMSI-CNRS)

Corpus (RWTH)

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CHIST-ERA

European Coordinated Research on Long-term Challenges in Information and Communication Sciences & Technologies ERA-Net

- An ERA-NET in the domain of ICT

- Supported by the EU FET program

- Launching a call for projects on two topics every year

  - 2010: Beyond autonomic systems, the Challenge of Conciousness & Quantum Information

  - 2011: **From Data to New Knowledge** & Green ICT, Toward zero power ICT

  - 2012: **Intelligent User Interfaces** & User-driven Context- and Content-aware Communication Networks

- Currently involving 13 countries (9-10 for each given topic)

  - Open to new members

- Submission, selection and follow-up

- 10 projets selected in each of the first 2 calls

  - Average funding per project is ~1 M€

REPERE

REconnaissance de PERsonnes dans des Emissions audio-visuelles

- A challenge on Multimodal person recognition in TV broadcast

- With evaluation campaigns in 2013 and 2014

  – Protocols validated through a dry-run in 2012

- Jointly organized by DGA and ANR

  – DGA funds the corpus and evaluation (procurement)

  – ANR funds the research and development (grants)

Some lessons learned

- Technology evaluation is critical for
  - Steering research in the labs
  - Evaluating proposals, managing projects
  - Building on previous results, sharing work in cooperation
- Technology evaluation require strong support
  - Dedicated public structure
  - Procurement helps
- Integrating efforts into large programs helps
  - To bring together efforts for a given technology
  - To connect them with applications
  - To deal with transversal aspects