

iSAR+

Newsletter

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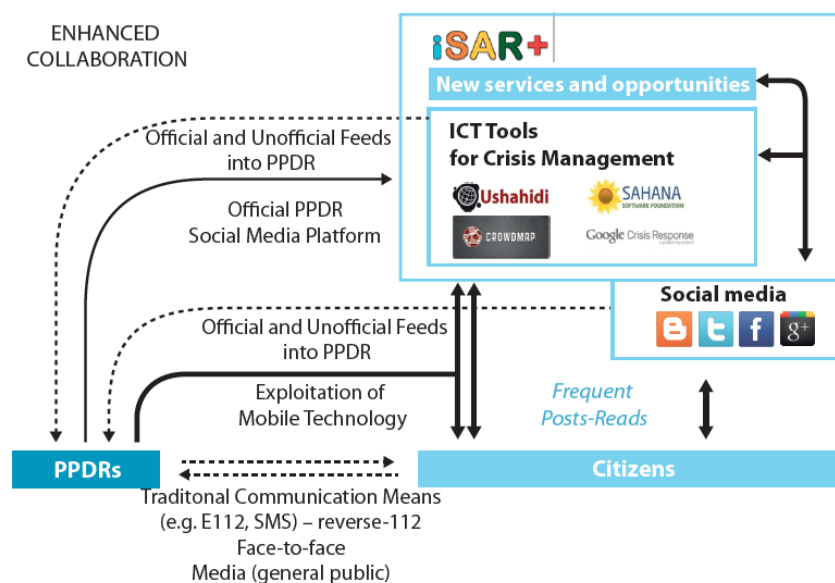
Introduction

iSAR+ is a research and development project aiming to define the Guidelines that, in crisis situations, enable citizens using new online and mobile technologies to actively participate in response efforts, through the provision, dissemination, sharing and retrieval of information for the critical intervention of Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR) organisations, in search and rescue, and medical assistance operations.

From 2013 to 2015, the FP7 iSAR+ project addresses Theme SEC-2012.6.1-3: Use of new communication/social media in crisis situations.

The iSAR+ Project main results are:

- **iSAR+ Guidelines** - recommendations for citizens and PPDRs for an effective and efficient use of social media and mobile technology in crisis situations.
- **iSAR+ Technological Platform** – platform integrating ICT tools, including mobile and social media applications, that provide added-value services for citizens and PPDRs in crisis situations. Based on the citizens’ and PPDRs’ recommendations, the platform is a validation tool for the iSAR+ Guidelines.



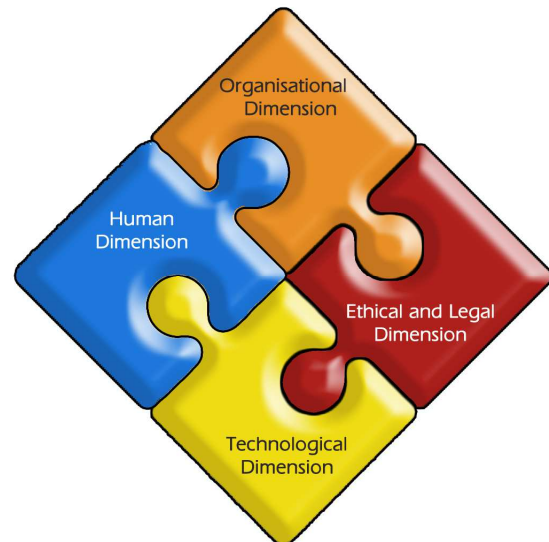
Results and achievements so far

- **Business and marketing plan** and communication plan for iSAR+ project have been defined and described in deliverables:
 - D7.711 “Business and marketing plan”
 - D7.721 “Communication plan”.
- **Intense cooperation with end-users**, namely Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR) organization and citizens has been established
 - During end users requirements collection process multiple partners have been meeting end-users and thus initiating R&D relation with community. In total around 130 PPDRs representatives and over 300 citizens from different European Counties were either met physically or asked for feedback on the "role/need of social media in crisis situations". In general the feedback was very positive - end-users have underlined the role of social media in crisis communication and provided overview of usage and perception of social media both by PPDRs organizations and citizens. They expressed interest in the products of iSAR+.
- **Preliminary set of end-user requirements** has been defined in the process of requirements collection and described in D2.221 “User Requirements Document”.
- **Milestone M1** “Completion of Case Studies, Reference Scenarios and User requirements” has been achieved. Meeting summarizing milestone MS1 had place in Lisbon, Portugal on 16-17.07.2013.
- **1st iSAR+ showcase and 1st workshop were held in Cascais, Portugal** on 9-10.10.2013
 - The purpose of this event was to showcase the iSAR+ concept in order to consolidate it with end users feedback, verify end-users requirements and expectations. The showcase included a Command Post Exercise (CPX) where PPDRs could actually use the iSAR+ tools (in the form of mock-up) for showcasing the iSAR+ concept. On the day after the showcase, a workshop allowed all participants (including end users) to share their view on the showcase results and how these affect the project's next steps.



Next steps

- WP3-6 are starting
After completion of milestone MS1 – works in work packages WP3-6 have started in October and will be continued in the following months. Work packages will be focused on the analysis of social media in crisis management considering the perspectives of combined four THEO dimensions:
 - Technological
 - Human
 - Ethical and Legal
 - Organizational.



- The work on architecture (WP6) for the iSAR+ platform has started in September. Currently the consortium is working on the preliminary vision of logical architecture, components definition and common data model. The preliminary results of integrating technical solutions should be available in June 2014 during the 2nd Showcase in France (Paris).
- The whole consortium is working now towards the next “check point” for the project which is the “French showcase” originally planned for June 2014. This is an important milestone for the project that provides valuable opportunity to present next iteration of the project platform to end-users and collect their comments and feedback for further consolidation and polishing of requirements.

Dissemination

- The consortium is very active in disseminating iSAR+ results (8 publications submitted; 11 conferences attended so far; 160+ PPDR representatives met, 300+ citizens surveyed).
- We are also looking forward for showing up at the EENA conference in May 2014 (Warsaw) and present iSAR+ to PSCE organization (few consortium partners are already members of these two organizations).
- Representative of partners was present in Vilnius ICT 2013 for some networking – we have met and the following projects that are in the research area close to iSAR+: FP7 Social Sensor, FP7 Ascent, FISpace.
- Currently iSAR+ partners are actively preparing paper for the ISCRAM 2014.

For more information, visit us at:



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iSAR+ Project

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