

## **Abstract EFAS/DGA 2007**

### **The EU-funded project HearCom; a mid-term review**

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HearCom is a European-funded project, with the full title "Hearing in the Communication Society". It is an Integrated Project within FP6, Information Society Technologies, including over 25 partners and a budget of about 8 million Euro's. The project is coordinated by the present authors.

The over-all aim of the project is to improve the participation of vulnerable groups (most importantly, but not exclusively, hearing impaired persons) in the present society, which is so highly communication-oriented. To that end, we have identified four research area's, dealing with (1) hearing deficiencies, i.e. the development of relevant hearing tests, (2) adverse conditions, the interaction of room acoustics and telecom systems with hearing impairment, (3) rehabilitation, primarily concerned with hearing aids, and (4) assistive devices, i.e., on the use of modern technologies to improve communication.

This 54-months program is now halfway, and we will present an overview of the results obtained so far. Also, the over-all result and impact as expected from this project will be discussed, not only in terms of research achievements, but also including aspects of commercialization and contributions on standards.

See also [www.HearCom.eu](http://www.HearCom.eu)

