



CHALLENGES Workshop - July 6, 2012 - Pisa

Within the program CHALLENGES, Andrea Bocelli Foundation has organized a workshop focused on the issue of the technology supporting humans in finding innovative solutions to help people overcoming the limits imposed by disability.

This discussion has the purpose to compare the project of multidisciplinary scientists MIT Fifth Sense, which is a project by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, founded in 2012 by ABF, with Italian and international scientists who deal with these issues. It will be an opportunity for scientific exchange and stimulation for the determination of technological solutions that can be helpful to visually impaired people in their daily lives, in order to facilitate the independence and integration into the world of work and social autonomy. The Fifth Sense MIT project involves a number of MIT scientists, led by Professor Seth Teller of Laboratory CSAIL (Computer Science Artificial Intelligence Laboratory), and an ambitious goal of being able to provide the functions of the vision to the blind. This visionary project has as its ultimate and not immediate purpose the intention to realize an independent blind-man. This means that he can go alone to work, find offices and shops, and can through indoor applications, read the names, recognize people, or, entering a meeting or in a club, can find the right person, walking down the street avoiding obstacles, to live an independent life and social relationship without having to depend on others.

The workshop issues are focused on various aspects, encompassing technology and autonomous navigation, the use of sheet music accessible to the blind, the accessibility of social networks, non-standard interfaces, the new technologies of computer vision to serve the visually impaired and the artificial eye. In the afternoon there will be a panel discussion, with the participation of Italian and international scientists, who will discuss the importance of technology for greater integration of people with disabilities. There will be real examples of how technology has actually contributed to the amelioration of life and integration society.

The opening will be entrusted to master Andrea Bocelli who is the creator and the inspired soul of the Foundation and who has proposed several possible directions to which technology, research, and finally the production should be conveyed to help resolve open issues.

As special guests, there will be Research Organizations and Non-Profit Institutions that will be available with small exhibitions.

For any further information and detailed materials, please kindly contacts: segreteria@andreabocellifoundation.org - office@andreabocellifoundation.org

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