Abstract

This paper focuses on the use of mobile technologies by people with visual impairment for accessing a Learning Management System, with regard to the aims of the Vocational Education of Visually Impaired People via Distance Education (VODIE) project. Mobile technologies offer new opportunities for distance learning. New application scenarios are opening up, particularly in the educational context, while wireless technologies provide support for new learning experiences that would be impossible using a desktop and/or wired environment. Firstly, we introduce the background to the field of mobile vocational learning. Then, we present an application to support blind students in accessing a Moodle platform. In particular, we describe the methods and technology adopted to give students with visual impairment opportunities to participate in a vocational educational process, regardless of time or location.

Main findings

In this paper, we describe an application developed to support blind students in accessing a Moodle platform through their iPad, iPhone or iPod touch. This gives users a valuable tool to study anytime and anywhere and, above all, it offers users with visual impairment the same opportunity. The system described and all the VODIE project activities, in the framework of which it has been developed, want to contribute to removing traditional barriers to the accessibility of learning opportunities for people with special needs.

Web link for additional information

http://vodie.pa.itd.cnr.it