

# The VESPA project

## General Overview

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## Outline

- Swing:It and other project partners.
- VESPA and its system.
- Goals.
- Added Value to DECIDE.



# Software Engineering Italia

- Swing: It born in 2010, from successful experiences in R&D, Grid, Space.
- HQ: Catania - OAs: Catania, Rome.

## Activities

- Space Missions, Geo-spatial, Transportation and Mobility.
- Telecommunication, Bio-Med Data.
- 3D Virtual Reality.
- IT solutions to support scientific communities. HPC, Grid e Cloud





## What is VESPA?

### Virtual Environment for a Superior neuro-PsichiAtry

- Fully Immersive Virtual Reality service  
to support Neuro-psychiatry and evaluation of motor-cognitive functions on subjects affected by cognitive deficit
  - innovative IT technologies for diagnosis and rehabilitation
  - Grid platform.
- Funding:  
AVVISO PUBBLICO PER LA CONCESSIONE DELLE AGEVOLAZIONI IN FAVORE DELLA RICERCA, SVILUPPO ED INNOVAZIONE, art. 5 l. reg.le 16.12.2008, N. 23  
Linea di intervento 4.1.1.1bis POR FESR Sicilia 2007-2013.
- Duration: 30 months



# The Consortium

## SMEs



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## Research Institutes





# Budget

## Full Cost

Total Budget	€ 2.463.292,50
POR FESR Funds	€ 1.756.338,11
Unfunded	€ 706.954,39

## Detailed Costs

In-company employees cost	€ 579.752,00
Contract staff	€ 539.805,50
Equipments, Instumentations, etc	€ 215.000,00
Research and IPRs costs	€ 60.000,00
Consulting and Professionals	€ 400.500,00
Direct costs	€ 246.235,00
Other costs	€ 422.000,00



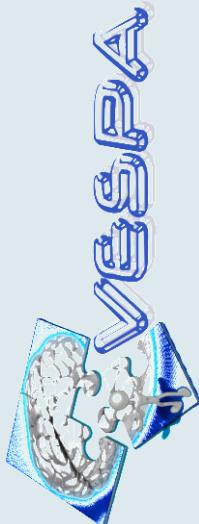
## Social scenario and beneficiaries

- In Italy:
  - 1,3% of minors have cases of **mental retard** ( $QI < 70$ )
  - included in the larger group of minors having **cognitive deseases**
  - 600.000 of aged have cases of AD, 70.000 new cases every year.
- To limit effects, individuals having mental retard are
  - inserted in classes in normal schools, promoting social integration.
  - subjected to “cognitive rehabilitation”.
    - performing cognitive tasks to stimulate attention, memory and thinking processes on space and verbal information.
- Similar rehabilitation for language disorder, generating delay in learning processes.
- In AD, cognitive rehabilitation couples with drug therapy (still poorly effective), especially in initial phase of disease.



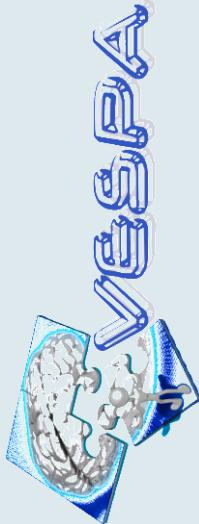
# General Goals

- **VESPA system**
  - equipment linked to a Grid Computing e-Infrastructure (DECIDE, Diagnostic Enhancement of Confidence by an International Distributed Environment, 2010-13, <https://www.eu-decide.eu>) to evaluate and provide rehabilitation of motor-cognitive fuctions
  - usage of a fully immersive VR environment, tele-supervised (supervision of procedures via videoconf) by specialized personnel.
- **Development of special diagnosis, evaluation, and rehabilitation functions available to patients in**
  - **hospitals**
  - **schools** (mental retar or language disorder)
  - **rest and nursing homes** (AD).
- **Set-up of a motor-cognitive rehabilitation process external to hospitals provided via videoconf.**
- Early AD (and Parkinson) diagnosis through evalutation of structural and functional markers based on neuro-imaging.



# DECIDE - Integration

- Neuro-imaging procedures require huge computing and storage resources and a huge amount of healthy individuals reference data
- Diagnostics services technologies by DECIDE
- Extending to other health actors (clinical units) like IRCCS OASI (tech partnership by University of Catania)
- Access to distributed data banks for EEG, MRI and PET computation for diagnosis (in lack of disease progression and follow-up).
  - real network infrastructure (high speed and throughput – by GARR) and Grid Computing and storage infrastructure (provided by UNICT)
  - AAI based on Identity Federation.
  - additional services to represent, compute, analyse, integrate, interpret biomedical data to monitor disease progression and response to treatment and cognitive rehabilitation.
  - VESPA like DECIDE: IDEM ISP allowing to adopting institution to become IP.
  - Homogeneous user identification
    - compliant to international standards
  - Easy roles and permissions definition (medico, specialista, paziente, pubblica amministrazione)
    - easy access and use.
- VESPA will extend DECIDE infrastructure for Sicily.



## The VESPA system

- Development of a computerized system based on fully immersive virtual reality (**VR**)
    - (remotely) telesupervised
      - personnel located in health structures
    - deployable on hospitals, schools, rest homes
    - providing evaluation and rehabilitation of motor-cognitive functions
- for
- mental retard,
  - language disorder,
  - AD.



# Dynamic Capabilities

- Specialized Health Technicians/Personnel
  - Support service to patients and to local technicians through videoconf.
- Evaluation and Rehabilitation results are safely, automatically and fastly transferred through the Internet to the reference Health Center.
- Daily automatic update of rehabilitation programs.
- **The VESPA system will allow children and elderly to perform daily motor-cognitive rehabilitation at school or (rest) homes.**
  - Granting continuity in education and assistance processes.
  - No trasfer (cost/time) to rehabilitation locations.
- **VESPA innovation:** dynamic evolution of software models for monitoring in telemedicine and cognitive rehabilitation in VR.

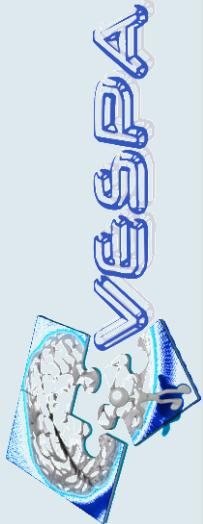


## Added Value to DECIDE

DECIDE is the only e-Infrastructure for Grid Computing providing a diagnostics service for early diagnosis of AD.

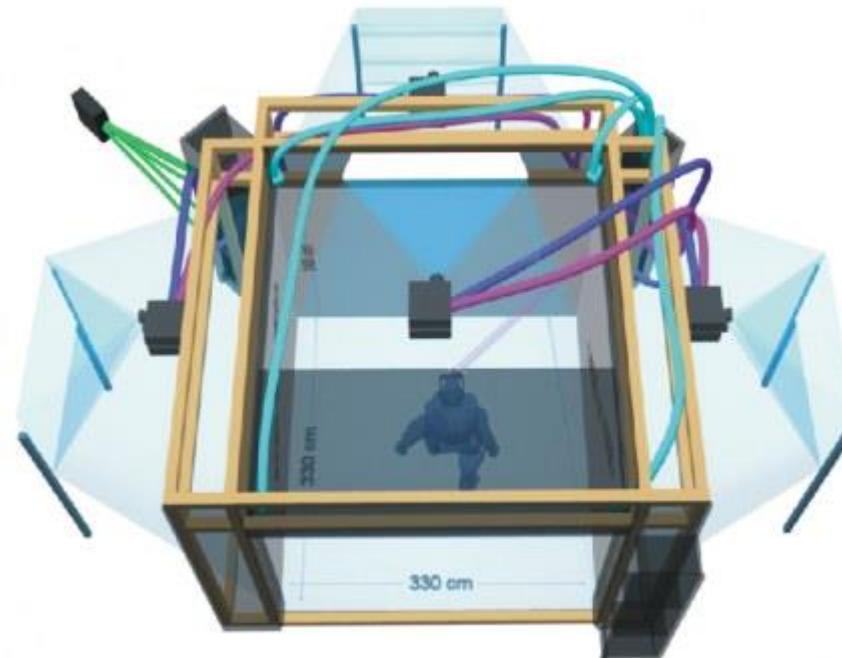
VESPA to extend DECIDE to evaluation of rehabilitation programs effects on subjects suffering for cognitive deficit.

- VESPA to develop services extending DECIDE e-Infra for Sicily:
  - patient's biological profile archiving,
  - computational models for health status,
  - decision support engine to monitor and manage responses.
- New services will enable therapy and rehabilitation effects monitoring, through a computational grid providing
  - secure access to data banks mainly distributed for reference images;
  - intensive computational processes;
  - local generation of patients' images, in compliance with strict policies on personal data handling and sharing.



## The CAVE

VESPA integrates a CAVE Automatic Virtual Environment (now DAVE, Definitely Affordable Virtual Environment), a +4 walls walkable fully immersive virtual reality environment.





# Exploitation of VR

- **In immersive VR, the individual manipulates virtual objects**
  - feeling tactile/optical/auditive sensations through specialized gloves, helmet, glasses.
- **Enabling evaluation of motor-cognitive functions in 3D space.**
- **Tasks in 3D: evaluation of visual-spatial deficit on perception, attention and learning-memory**
  - associated or not to fine control of manipulation in 3D and to vocal instructions for language comprehension evaluation.

VESPA will:

- develop a complex equipment binding reality and virtuality together in a simulation game
- enhance territory/map link understanding in subjects affected by cognitive deficit
- understanding the meaning and the operation of digital interaction.

The game will:

- stimulate usage of VESPA on young and old individuals,
- foster learning process,
- be a focal experience on process leading to outside world comprehension.

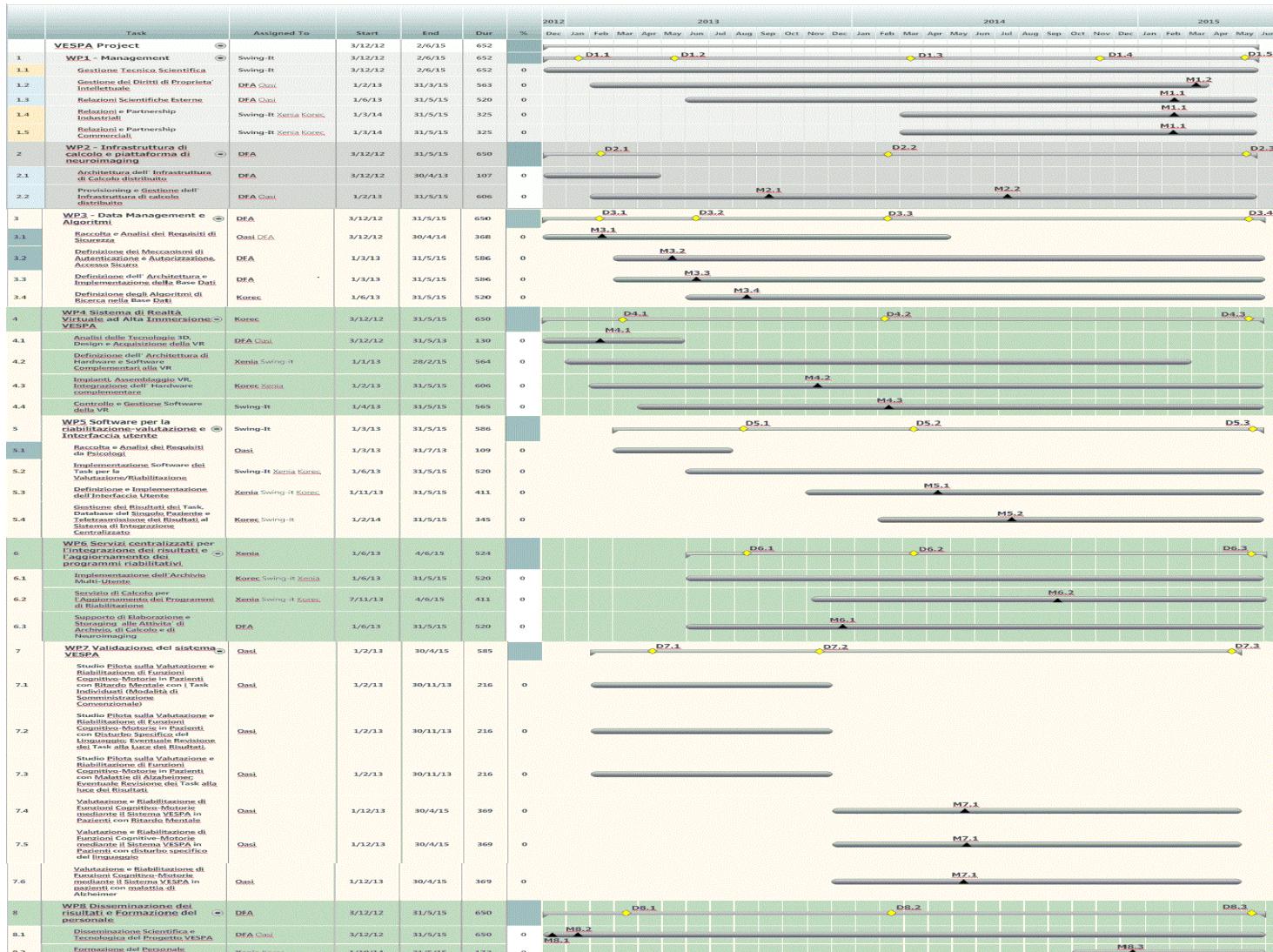
# Virtual Environment for a Superior Neuro-PsichiATry



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## Gantt chart



# Virtual Environment for a Superior Neuro-PsichiAtry



PO FESR  
2007-2013  
Line 4.1.1.1  
Project #1468

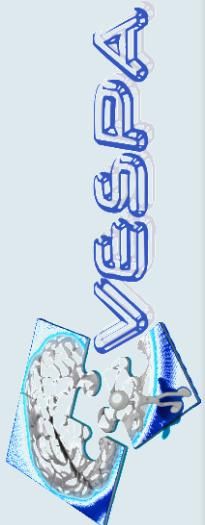
Rome:: Feb 22, 2013

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WPs

Fasi	Nom e WP / Attività	Tipo di attività
<b>WP1 - Management</b>		
Tutte	WP1.1 - Gestione tecnico-scientifica	SS
Tutte	WP1.2 - Gestione dei Diritti di Proprietà Intellettuale	RI
Tutte	WP1.3 - Relazioni scientifiche esterne	RI
3	WP1.4 - Relazioni e partnership industriali	SS
3	WP1.5 - Relazioni e partnership commerciali	SS
<b>WP2 - Infrastruttura di calcolo e piattaforma di neuroimaging</b>		
1	WP2.1 - Architettura dell'Infrastruttura di Calcolo distribuito	RI
1	WP2.2 - Provisioning e gestione dell'Infrastruttura di calcolo distribuito	RI
<b>WP3 - Data Management e Algoritmi</b>		
1	WP3.1 - Raccolta e analisi dei requisiti di sicurezza	RF
1	WP3.2 - Definizione dei meccanismi di autenticazione e autorizzazione, accesso sicuro	RF
1	WP3.3 - Definizione dell'architettura e implementazione della base dati	RI
1	WP3.4 - Definizione degli algoritmi di ricerca nella base dati	SS
<b>WP4 Sistema di Realtà Virtuale ad Alta Immersione VESPA</b>		
1	WP4.1 - Analisi delle tecnologie 3D, design e acquisizione della VR	RI
1	WP4.2 - Definizione dell'architettura di hardware e software complementari alla VR	SS
1	WP4.3 - Impianti, Assemblaggio VR, Integrazione dell'hardware complementare	SS
1	WP4.4 - Controllo e gestione software della VR	SS
<b>WP5 Software per la riabilitazione - valutazione e Interfaccia utente</b>		
1	WP5.1 - Raccolta e analisi dei requisiti da psicologi	RF
1	WP5.2 - Implementazione software dei task per la valutazione/riabilitazione	SS
1	WP5.3 - Definizione e implementazione dell'interfaccia utente	SS
1	WP5.4 - Gestione dei risultati dei task, database del singolo paziente e telemetria dei risultati al sistema di integrazione centralizzato	SS
<b>WP6 Servizi centralizzati per l'integrazione dei risultati e l'aggiornamento dei programmi riabilitativi</b>		
1	WP6.1 - Implementazione dell'Archivio multi-utente	SS
1	WP6.2 - Servizio di calcolo per l'aggiornamento dei programmi di riabilitazione	SS
1	WP6.3 - Supporto di elaborazione e storing alle attività di archivio, di calcolo e di neuroimaging	RI
<b>WP7 Validazione del sistema VESPA</b>		
2	WP7.1 - Studio Pilotato sulla valutazione e riabilitazione di funzioni cognitivo-motorie in pazienti con ritardo mentale con i task individuati (modalità di somministrazione e materiali convenzionale); eventuale revisione dei task alla luce dei risultati.	RI
2	WP7.2 - Studio Pilotato sulla valutazione e riabilitazione di funzioni cognitivo-motorie in pazienti con disturbo specifico del linguaggio (modalità di somministrazione e materiali convenzionale); eventuale revisione dei task alla luce dei risultati.	RI
2	WP7.3 - Studio Pilotato sulla valutazione e riabilitazione di funzioni cognitivo-motorie pazienti con malattia di Alzheimer (modalità di somministrazione e materiali convenzionale); eventuale revisione dei task alla luce dei risultati.	RI
2	WP7.4 - Valutazione e riabilitazione di funzioni cognitivo-motorie mediante il sistema VESPA in pazienti con ritardo mentale	RI
2	WP7.5 - Valutazione e riabilitazione di funzioni cognitivo-motorie mediante il sistema VESPA in pazienti con disturbo specifico del linguaggio	RI
2	WP7.6 - Valutazione e riabilitazione di funzioni cognitivo-motorie mediante il sistema VESPA in pazienti con malattia di Alzheimer	RI
<b>WP8 Disseminazione dei risultati e Formazione del personale</b>		
1	WP8.1 - Disseminazione scientifica e tecnologica del progetto VESPA	RI
3	WP8.2 - Formazione del personale tecnico e sanitario	SS



Thank you

- Q&A?