



SIGN2Inclusion - Focus Group Minutes

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Statement of originality

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Focus Group Minutes (1)

The SIGN2Inclusion project was introduced to seven Deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) participants, as well as five hearing people who work with DHH people, including interpreters, communication assistants and sign language users.

They all responded enthusiastically to the project's goals, highlighting the critical need for a new sign language lexicon, expressing great appreciation for IST and UNITO's leadership in championing this project.

Detailed project information was shared, including the countries involved, the motivations for this endeavor, and the fact that the lexicon will be available in three languages. A literature review will also be conducted to identify current vocabulary gaps.



Focus Group Minutes (2)

Italy's role involves the selection of 35 new terms for the specialized lexicon related to environment; and 50 new terms for the specialized lexicon related to technology.

Participants stressed that Deaf communities often face communication challenges when discussing these fields due to the lack of corresponding signs, leading to a heavy reliance on fingerspelling and a combination of several signs.

The need for this lexicon was underscored by the participants' comments on how Deaf individuals must frequently invent visual explanations for scientific or technical terms that don't exist in Italian sign language.



Focus Group Minutes (3)

The creation of specific and specialized signs in these areas will be pivotal in advancing educational and professional opportunities for DHH individuals, allowing them to more easily engage in complex discussions related to science, environmental issues, and technological advancements. Participants were also encouraged by the fact that the lexicon will be shared for broader access and dissemination.

