

## OVERVIEW

There is an urgent need for the development of sustainable strategies to ensure disabled students' equal access to learning environments. Learning disabilities affect about 5 to 7% of the population worldwide. 48% of those with learning disabilities cannot complete their university education and are excluded from work and likely to be unemployed. Around 45 million EU citizens of working age have a disability and 15 million children have special educational needs. People with disabilities in the Arab regions also suffer from discrimination and marginalization. Currently, services to aid people with disabilities in education are generally not systematic and poorly funded, and there is a lack of training and guidance that could make such interventions more effective. The proposed programme aims to cover this need by forwarding best practices and technology concerning better accessibility of education in Egypt and Morocco. In this framework, a wide range of assistive technology (AT) makes it possible for an individual with special needs to operate a computer and telecommunication equipment. Alternative keyboards, text-to-speech software, screen magnification, word-prediction software, grammar and spelling checkers, and other AT have significant role in giving people with disabilities access to IT that will enhance their academic and career opportunities.

## OBJECTIVES of SWING

The SWING project will address the major need to have available assistive technology and use of accessible IT for disabled higher education students in all participating countries and mainly in Egypt and Morocco. Particularly, the project's specific objectives are: to enhance the EU countries' e-accessibility policies in order to contribute to the achievement of greater levels of Web accessibility across the Partner Countries' Universities.

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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## UNIVERSITY ABDELMALEK ESSAADI ORGANIZE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON



## TECH-BASED ACCESSIBILITY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION DISABLED STUDENTS

**At The Presidency  
of Abdelmalek Essaâdi University  
October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

<http://www.uae.ma/swingproject>

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