



ERRIN European Regions
Research and Innovation Network



EU REGIONS BENEFIT FROM TWO WEB AUTHOR ACCESSIBILITY PROJECTS

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📅 17 August 2021

All regions in the EU must comply with the Web Accessibility Directive. Most regions have hundreds if not thousands of websites, apps, documents, extranets and intranets that need to be accessible for people with disabilities. To this end, ERRIN members have been contributing to two groundbreaking EU-funded research projects that support web authors with accessibility practices.

According to research, around 50% of the accessibility fails detected during audits are errors made by web authors, dispelling the myth that accessibility is solely a technological problem - the human factor has a big impact. At the same time, most web authors in regions are not accessibility experts and they should not need to be. The authoring tools used for creating content should support them better, so that accessibility becomes easy.

That was the basic idea behind the two parallel EU-funded research projects FEAT and We4Authors Cluster, where ERRIN members have contributed to workshops on user needs, responded to interviews and surveys as well as participated in extensive user testing of accessibility features.

Both projects finish on the 31st of August and the results of the projects include the below tools that members may find useful:

- FEAT (Features for accessibility through Templates): a set of accessible CMS templates with built-in accessibility support, using Episerver as the model although they can be used in any tool.
www.funke.com/feat
- We4Authors Cluster: a set of accessibility features that have been test implemented in Drupal, Joomla, Umbraco, Plone, SiteVision and the editor Tiny MCE, to ensure feasibility in any technical environment. The results are free for anyone to use and further evolve.
www.accessibilitycluster.com

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