

BlindShell Classic — EU-Backed Tactile-Button Phone Alternative for Blind and Low-Vision Users

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · Czechia

Quality score: 92/100

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

Summary

BlindShell Classic is a tactile-button feature phone developed by Prague-based Matapo with EU Horizon 2020 funding, offering voice menus, OCR and digital-library access for blind and low-vision users; it now sells in 40 countries in 13 languages.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	3/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	1/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[BlindShell \(Matapo s.r.o.\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[CORDIS / European Commission — BlindShell project \(H2020, ID 685215\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[American Foundation for the Blind AccessWorld — BlindShell Classic review](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[National Federation of the Blind — The BlindShell: An Accessible Cell Phone with Real Buttons](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

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