

## ICT-Meeting

Date: 14/03/2018 - 11:00 to 12:00 CET

### Participants:

Sandro Landucci (Unifi)  
Sergio D'Antonio Maceiras, Andoni Alonso (Ucm)  
Pablo Alvarez-Perez (Iscte)  
Migena Brahimaj, Rezart Husa (Uni Tirana)  
Visar Dizdari (Uni Scutari)  
Klevis Duka, Indrit Shkupi (Uni Elbasan)

### Acronyms:

ICT: Information and communication Technologies  
SC: Scientific committee  
LMS: *Learning Management System*  
HEI: Higher Education institutions

### MEETING TOPICS

This meeting was scheduled during the Tirana visit that took place the first week of March. The main goal was to organize and prioritize tasks, consider software platforms and share impressions about the ICT infrastructures that the ICT team assessed at the Albanian universities. During this online meeting the participants agree on this topics to provide further information to the rest of the ICT SC and the consortium.

- **Software platforms**

All participants agree in considering only free and/or open source platforms to avoid software licences costs. In that way that would improve the sustainability of the project targeting other questions such as data security, privacy and supporting local IT for further developments.

Specific actions will be as follows:

- a) A **institutional repository**: ePrints<sup>1</sup> is our first choice. This repository should be easy to implement and would give an immediate visibility to the project. This repository would help teaching staff as well as students to count on their own scientific production. For further information Andoni Alonso is going to create a document ("Proposal for an Electronic Repository")
- b) A **LMS**: Using Moodle<sup>2</sup> because is used widely in HEI and two Albanian partners are familiar already. Moodle can be used also as a tutorial for different technical issues such as how to manage the repository or the Lime Survey platform as is described in the **Implementation** section.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://wiki.eprints.org/w/Main\\_Page](http://wiki.eprints.org/w/Main_Page)

<sup>2</sup> <https://moodle.org/>

- c) **A online survey platform:** Lime survey<sup>3</sup> is a widely used online platform tool used by UCM among other HEI and companies to project and administer online questionnaires. Lime survey is then a required tool to use in Social Science research in general and also in Social Work inquiries.

- **Implementation**

As was agreed during the Tirana meeting, the best and faster way is to implement these different ICT systems would be using infrastructures outside Albanian universities for training purposes. This will give more time for gathering all the information with ICT teams in Albania and UCM to know and understand the best hardware, buy it and configure it. To accomplish this, it's possible that we need to use a virtual machine<sup>4</sup> or the project's hosting platform.

Regarding the software implementation, it will be a step by step to foster comprehension of the platforms. From a technical point of view first we are going to deploy the repository and the LMS. The teaching materials and instruction will be using the LMS, so the teaching staff can start to familiarize with it. After that, LMS teaching and finally survey platform implementation and teaching.

A very important issue is to explain, show and teach how all these platforms are useful not only for HEI. But also for NGOs and associated partners in the goal of improving the relationships between HEI, NGOs and social services in Albania. All these three platforms can be used by all this organizations to improve their relationships.

With this implementation all partners are going to be able to receive training on "how to use and manage a repository" using the LMS system. In that sense they are going to see the LMS in a similar way that students will do. After that UCM team will conduct teaching courses on "how to teach a course using Moodle" and features related to managing a course contents and workflows through a LMS system, Moodle in this case.

## **PENDING AND NEEDS**

We need to be in contact with the Albanian partners in order to gather more information about hardware possibilities, needs and buying options. This schema gives us more time to understand and know how to allocate resources and make a more fine-tuned proposal.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.limesurvey.org/>

<sup>4</sup> A virtual machine is a server in the "cloud" that, later on, can be replicated in final local servers.