

Newsletter Vol. 3

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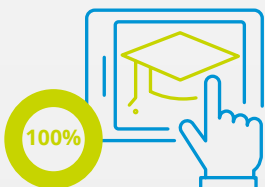
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Curricular modernization by implementing MOOCs model/MODE IT

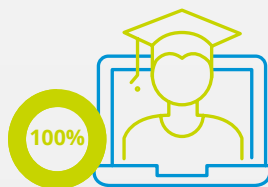
MODE IT stands for the Erasmus+ project „**Curricular modernization by implementing MOOCs model**“, which started on the 1st of October 2019 and has been carrying out by five higher education institutions from Germany, Lithuania, Turkey, Portugal, and Romania. The project seeks to introduce innovative MOOC-based pedagogical approaches to the design and delivery of higher education courses.

MODE IT Intellectual Outputs (IOs):



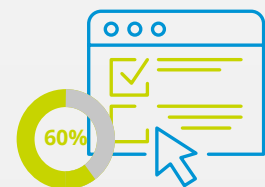
IO1:

Online self-assessment tool for academic staff (completed)



IO2:

Open online training program for teachers (completed)



IO3:

MOOC-based higher education curricula (in progress)

IO2: Open online training program for teachers is completed!

By the end of November 2021, the MODE IT team has successfully finished the piloting of the Open online training program for teachers. This training program aimed at enabling teachers from higher education institutions to develop and deliver MOOCs as well as to integrate MOOCs into formal curricula in a didactically sound manner. The training consisted of 5 stand-alone modules, which covered different aspects of MOOCs. The production of each module was led by a designated MODE IT partner institution with the appropriate expertise as follows:

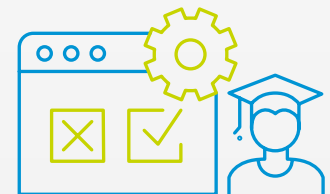
- Module 1: Foundation of online learning (lead KTU)
- Module 2: MOOC Course Design (lead AU)
- Module 3: MOOC Content Production (lead UPT)
- Module 4: MOOC delivery (lead IPP)
- Module 5: MOOC in formal learning (lead FHM).

Each module had a workload of approx. 12 hours and was expected to be completed in 2 weeks. Each module consisted of several short learning videos of approx. 8 – 10 minutes, supplementary learning materials (written texts enriched with links to further sources), quizzes for self-assessment, and assignment tasks, which were supposed to be evaluated by peers.

104 teachers from 5 MODE IT partner institutions have registered for the training program. 52 of these were active participants meaning that they viewed learning videos and materials and/or completed any assessment task. 31% of the active participants completed all 5 modules of the training. This is a quite good result, bearing in mind the usual average MOOC completion rate, which ranges between 5% - 15%!

Evaluation of the pilot testing

Upon completion of the training, 24 pilot attendees shared with us their views, opinions and level of satisfaction with the training using an online questionnaire. Below we summarized the most interesting evaluation highlights.



Satisfaction with the training

According to the evaluation results, the attendees liked best:

- clear and comprehensive structure of the training (88%)
- alignment of the training contents with the learning outcomes (84%)
- appropriate duration of the training (71%)
- Appropriateness of workload (67%)
- Supportive instructions of module facilitators (67%).



Knowledge and skills obtained

Regarding the level of improvement of skills and knowledge in the specific areas of the training, the following results were obtained:

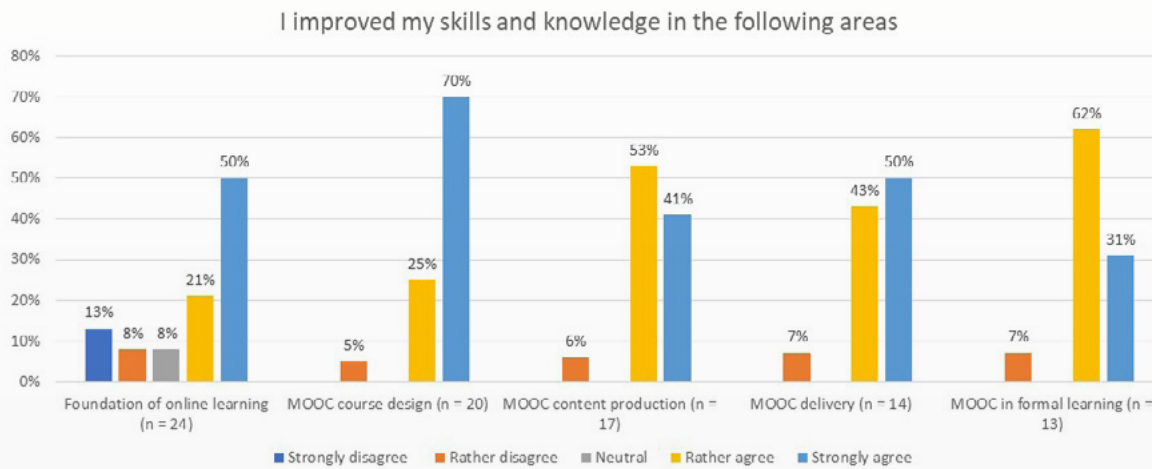


Fig. 1: Improvement of skills and knowledge in the training areas (in %)

As illustrated in the Figure 1, the respondents clearly stated the improvement of their skills and knowledge in all the 5 areas of the training through selecting the answer options “Rather agree” and/or “Strongly agree”. The module, in which the respondents indicated the highest increase of skills and knowledge, was “MOOC course design”: 95% of positive answers represented through the options „Agree” and „Strongly agree” were received.

Impact and outlook

The graph 2 below demonstrates participants’ feedback regarding the impact of the training on their professional development:

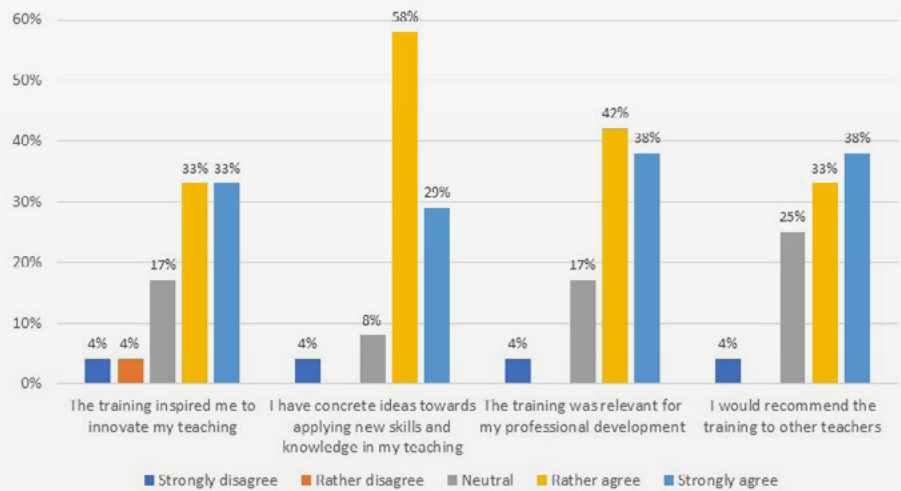


Fig. 2: Impact of the training on the participants (in %, n = 24)

- 87% of respondents stated that they obtained concrete ideas from the training to be applied in their teaching.
- 66% indicated that the training provided them with some inspirations towards innovating their teaching.
- 80% of respondents agreed that the training was relevant for their professional development.
- 71% of respondents would recommend the training further to their colleagues.

The MODE IT Open Online Training Program is now available for free to everyone who is interested in growing to a MOOC designer. You can access the training by completing a free registration on the LMS Moodle of the partner KTU by clicking on this link: <https://open.ktu.edu/enrol/index.php?id=74&lang=en>

After having registered, you will be able to benefit from all the 5 modules of the training. The learning is self-paced, you can attend any module of the training in any chronological order. Have fun!

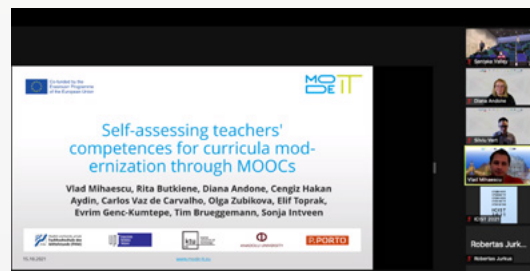
MODE IT dissemination highlights

To keep our audience engaged, we presented the MODE IT achievements at the following events:

MODE IT at the [ICIST2021 Hybrid Conference](#)

On October 15, 2021 Vlad Mihăescu (UPT) presented the MODE IT project under the joint paper “Self-assessing teachers’ competences for curricula modernization through MOOCs” at the ICIST 2021 conference organized by another MODE IT partner KTU in Kaunas, Lithuania. Vlad presented the evaluation results obtained from the piloting of the IO1 Online self-assessment tool and focused, in particular, on the following topics:

- Patterns for statements in accordance with Bloom’s taxonomy
- Self-assessment tool validation
- Data collection & online education form
- Evaluation of attributes related to the self-assessment tool.

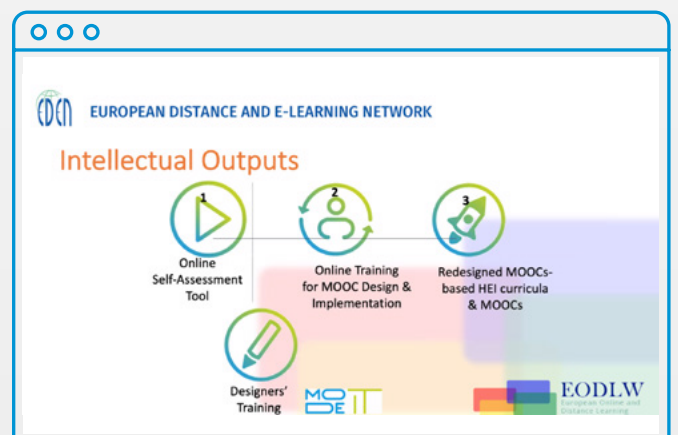
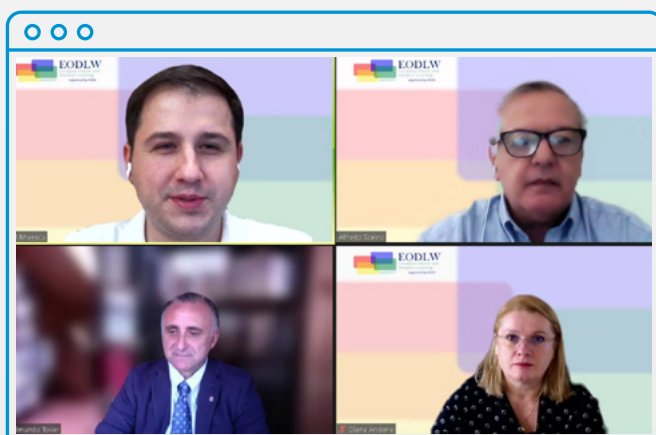


The joint MODE IT paper can be found in the [conference proceedings, pp. 312 – 323.](#)

EODLW 2021 – Webinar Practices in Digital Education for universities

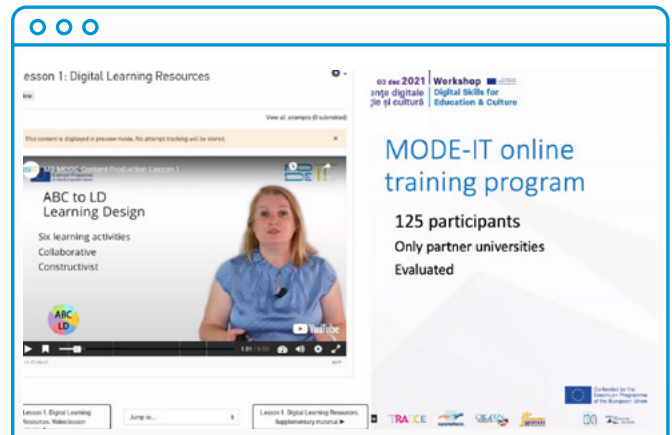
November 3, 2021: The MODE IT project’s innovative instructional approach for designing MOOC-based curricula was presented by our UPT colleagues Vlad Mihaescu and Diana Andone in the opening session of the European Online and Distance Learning Week 2021.

Together with Edmundo Tovar (Technical University of Madrid, IEEE Education Society President, Spain) and Alfredo Soeiro (University of Porto, Portugal), they discussed good practices of integrating digital education in higher education institutions, and showcased tools, applications, methodologies with the purpose to offer the best ideas to the worldwide participants present.



Digital skills for Education & Culture online workshop

On December 3, 2021, Dr. Diana Andone (UPT) presented the project achievements and skills for Open University Education developed within the project to **over 1.500 international participants**.



What is coming next?

Now it is time for pilot teachers' own experiments with the design and integration of MOOCs in their curricula! Within next months, enthusiastic teachers who completed the online training program, will develop their own small-scale MOOCs and deliver them to their formal students. We will present the results in our next newsletter. Follow our developments!



Program:

Erasmus+, Key action 2: Strategic Partnerships for higher education

Project lifetime:

October 1, 2019 – March 31, 2022

Project coordinator:

Fachhochschule des Mittelstands (FHM)



ANADOLU UNIVERSITY



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