Language Learning Online in the age of Mobility (LLOM)

(Knowledge Transfer)

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Abstract

To promote multilingualism within the EU and facilitate language learning in the age of mobility, the LLOM project will develop a mobile assisted language learning app (open resource) that meets the requirements of accessibility to high quality language learning as well as of flexibility and convenience to mobile language learners. The main target groups of this study and, at the same time, the future users of the free mobile language learning app are (exchange) students motivated to learn another language as well as current and future language teachers interested in diversifying their teaching methods by including mobile assisted language learning into their course design. The data collected in this study is based on semi-structured interviews with (international) students, (current and future) language teachers, as well as experts in the field. From January to the end of March 2019, we already had conducted 6 interviews in Austria, 6 in Poland and 2 in France at three universities with good access to language learners and language teachers. That is to say that data collection took place at three partner universities in the project (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, University of Lodz and University of Vienna).

Keywords

mobile assisted language learning; crowd-sourced approach; task-based learning

Aims of the Third Mission activity

- Developing a mobile assisted language learning app (open resource)
- Meeting the requirements of accessibility to high quality language learning as well as of flexibility and convenience to mobile language learners
- Establishing an innovative mobile language learning app built by teachers/students for teachers/students
- Offering to (exchange) students a motivating and appealing app
- Helping current and future language teachers to diversify their teaching methods by including mobile assisted language learning into their course design (blended learning)

Cooperation partners outside the university sector	European University Foundation - Campus Europae (EUF-CE)
Cooperation partners from the scientific/research field	Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (PSU) - coordinator Universidad de Alcalá (UAH) University of Eastern Finland (UEF) University of Lodz (UL) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) Universidade de Aveiro (UAVR)
Faculty	Zentrum für Lehrer*innenbildung
Timeframe	01.09.2018 - 31.08.2021
Funding	Erasmus+
Research basis	The team at the University of Vienna was responsible for carrying out the empirical study.
Social/economic relevance	Creating open education material and fostering innovative practices in a digital era by establishing and promoting innovative methods and pedagogies. Developing digital learning materials and tools, in particular OERs and supporting the effective use of digital technologies and open pedagogies in education. Promoting new technologies as drivers of improvement in education policies and practices by offering new teaching methods and tools.
Integration into academic teaching/the curriculum	No
Impact	Among the specific impacts of the project is increased digitalisation and modernisation of HEIs in the context of quality teaching. Academic staff will have wider possibilities to expand their skills in using new technologies (applied to education), share their own expertise with colleagues of other European universities thus increasing the awareness and efficiency in the implementation of such digital tools. The project will reach out especially to education students. Considering that a considerable proportion of education students will become teachers after graduating, the impact of the project will continue in their actual teaching practices enabling them to use/apply a wider range of methods in the classroom when teaching, therefore having impact both on the professional qualifications of prospective teachers and positive impact on learning outcomes of their students/pupils.

Transfer aspect of the activity	The policy makers will be targeted by sharing evidence-based policy recommendations and outlining suggestions for strengthening and mainstreaming innovative approaches for language learning and fostering access to both: • Quality material for educators thus addressing the quality of teaching; • Increased opportunities, flexibility for language learning using digital technologies.
Future orientation & sustainability	The project is envisaged as a sustainable solution that enables further cooperation with and within HEIs, therefore continuing to reach the target groups. Streamlined and targeted usage of the created material and mobile App will form a solid basis for reaching out to the identified target groups beyond the EU-funded lifecycle, since the ambitious objective is to not only maintain the results but also develop them further after the end of the project.
Achievement of objectives	The impact will be measured during the period of EC funding and after funding is completed. During the EU project's lifetime, the impact will be measured both taking into account qualitative (e.g. user satisfaction with the App; students and academics satisfaction rate with the OER Webinars and training materials) and quantitative (e.g. number of languages offered; number of users) indicators.
Measures to sustain this activity over the long term/expand it	The consortium will largely rely on its partners for disseminating the results to relevant stakeholders in order to showcase the developed tools/methodologies as a good practice and explain how the proposed approach can facilitate further cooperation. The external stakeholders that will be targeted are mainly the European University Association and other EU-wide university networks (UNICA, Group of universities, Compostela Group, Utrecht network, etc.). Furthermore, the LLOM results will be disseminated to relevant organisations either related to languages or teacher education, for instance: Association for Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE), European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe (EMLC), European Language Council (ELC), European Association of Computer Assisted Language Learning (EUROCALL). As these are all EU-wide organisations with a considerable number of members, a large number of language experts, in-service teachers will be reached.
Links/Publications	https://uni-foundation.eu/project/llom/