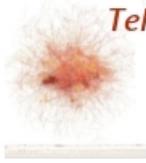




Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



Tellnet - Teachers' Lifelong Learning Network

How can social learning networks support teachers' digital competences?

www.tellnet.eun.org

D.6.1 Project exploitation plan

Project information	
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Executive Summary

This deliverable for project partners and the Commission outlines an overall project Exploitation and Valorisation strategy and explains how various activities will be used to widely exploit and valorise the results with a number of identified stakeholders.

Table 1. Target groups for valorisation and exploitation.

Target groups	Channels
eTwinning National Support Services, eTwinning Central Support Service and eTwinning core stakeholders	Bi-lateral meetings Workshops and events Presentations News feeds and newsletters Publications Multiplier communication by the partners
eTwinners and other teachers	Workshops and events Information and tools made available through the Web (e.g. eTwinning platform, teachers' newsletter) News feeds and newsletters Social media Multiplier communication by the partners
Educational authorities, policy and decision makers on European and national levels	Workshops and events Presentations Publications Multiplier communication by the partners
Researchers and research organisations and PhD students	Peer-reviewed publications Summer and winter schools Workshops and events Website News feeds and newsletters Presentations Social media Multiplier communication by the partners

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1. Introduction and objectives

The purpose of this document is to present the Project Exploitation Plan (D6.1) for the Teachers' Lifelong Learning Network (Tellnet) project. This document presents an updated Project Exploitation Plan, the first version of which was discussed in the project partnership in January 2011. The document is updated at yearly intervals to ensure its relevancy.

The WP6 aims at mainstreaming and multiplying the results of Tellnet, which have a further goal to find ways to facilitate the flow of good practices and innovation, and thus capitalising on existing efforts that already have taken place in eTwinning programme (Comenius), as well as other goals set by European education policy-makers.

The Tellnet valorisation plan is two-fold: on the one hand, it remains 1) part of a larger European Schoolnet and eTwinning dissemination and exploitation strategy that involves leveraging existing communication channels by European Schoolnet and its network of Ministries of Education. This aims at embedding project results into current education policy discussions. On the other hand, 2) there is a strong engagement with the research community in order to create a critical mass of research evidence on teachers' informal collaboration networks.

1.1 Target groups

The target groups of the Tellnet project's valorisation plan and the identification of the main communication channels (**bold**) are enumerated in Table 1:

Table 2. Target groups for valorisation and exploitation.

Target groups	Channels
eTwinning National Support Services, eTwinning Central Support Service and eTwinning core stakeholders	Bi-lateral meetings Workshops and events Presentations News feeds and newsletters Publications Multiplier communication by the partners
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	Website News feeds and newsletters Presentations Social media Multiplier communication by the partners
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2. Exploitation and valorisation channels

2.1 Part of a larger European Schoolnet and eTwinning exploitation and valorisation strategy

The Tellnet project is working actively with eTwinning Central Support Service, National Support Services and the Commission and the Executive Agency to help and support them in defining the eTwinning strategy and to build expectations for the exploitation of the different future scenarios of Teachers collaboration Networks in 2025. Moreover, the project keeps exploring new dissemination channels which may open up as a result of the success of the first half of the project.

The valorisation activities that take place through European Schoolnet's existing networks make sure that outcomes from Tellnet reach the European, national and local level education policy-makers as well as teachers working in primary and secondary education through eTwinning.

2.2 Engagement with the research community

Through the engagement of young researchers such as PhD students (e.g. JTEL Summer/winter schools) and through valorisation with researchers and practitioners (e.g. submitting research papers and running thematic workshops in well-known conferences) the aim is to create a loosely connected "think-tank" with a strong focus on the identification of current and future user needs and trends. It is important to emphasize the role of young researchers in the project, and how they have engaged in PhD summer and winter schools. On the one hand, this had allowed a unique opportunity for them to discuss this new emerging field with high-level experts in the academic environment, on the other hand, it also has served well to gain more awareness about the Tellnet project among these groups. It is notable that through publishing papers in conferences and workshops, many of the results that stem from confidential data can be shared with the wider public.

Moreover, the long-term engagement of the research partners to study emerging Teachers collaboration Networks (e.g. eTwinning) more closely, and especially by using novel techniques such as network theory, social network analysis (SNA) and information visualisation, will be an important goal even after the project's lifetime.

There is an exploitation workshop for European researchers that is planned to the end of the project (September 2012), but the project partnership with the lead of the WP3 will already go-organise a research workshop in September 2011 in conjunction with EC-TEL'11. This has a great potential to engage researchers in the field around this given theme, as well as to disseminate the project's results.

Whereas the use of eTwinning data for the project remains regulated by the eTwinning Privacy Policy, the project partners are interested in continuing using the data in the future.

Tellnet will also reach out to other existing networks who work in supporting teachers Lifelong professional in-service training, as the intent is to go beyond the eTwinning network of teachers. Additionally, liaising with the research networks is paramount for the validation of the Tellnet methods and for wider discussion on the results.

3. Exploitation and valorisation activities

The project will regularly organise European-wide workshops. It will

- a) create its own events/workshops to disseminate the project;
- b) be available for other events to offer a relevant workshop to its audience, and
- c) attend relevant events for dissemination purposes.

Additionally, publications are planned such as a short, easy-to-read version of "Future scenarios" will be distributed via the site as well as through the channel's by other participating members. On the other hand, research publications also cover an ambitious plan to publish research results in conferences, workshops and journals.

In the second half of the project, the exploitation workpackage will be fully activated, as the first results of the project have become more tangible and exploitable.

Table 3. Planned exploitation activities for the second part of the project. Note, an updated version of the Plan is available on the Tellnet website at:

<http://tellnet.eun.org/web/tellnet/project-document/-/wiki/Main/FrontPage>

Description	Nature
<p>Report: Insight Thematic Dossier on Teacher Networks and Social Network Analysis (D.6.2), out in summer 2011.</p> <p>The main audience will be policy-makers through the Insight Knowledge base (http://insight.eun.org). The aim will be to make current literature available regarding teachers' collaboration networks, and on the other hand, to explain why Social Network Analysis (SNA) can yield new insights into the field.</p>	Digital report for policy-makers
<p>Research papers: accepted as full paper in the EC-TEL'11 conference "The self-monitoring tool for 160,000 European teachers" by RWTH; a 6-page poster "ICT-based school collaboration and its opportunities for teachers' professional development - a case study on eTwinning" by EUN</p>	Research paper, acceptance rate 30%, not in the description of work
<p>Research workshop: 1st European Workshop on Awareness and Reflection in Learning Networks (ARNets11) http://www.teleurope.eu/pg/pages/view/93654/ Co-organised by the Tellnet WP3</p>	Workshop, not in the description of work
<p>Teachers' toolkit: Social & Learning Networks: (D.6.3). The aim is to create an eTwinning module (http://www.etwinning.net/en/pub/inspiration/modules.htm), planned for the end of the year 2011. Targeted to teachers to better understand the potential of social networks for learning purposes, both for themselves and for their pupils. Easily accessible information on Social Network Analysis of eTwinning is given to eTwinners to better make them understand different positions within the network.</p>	Online learning material for teachers
<p>Easy-to-read and access report: Future of Teacher Networking (D.6.4). The aim of this report is to extract the key findings from the IPTS report (4.3.2) and make them available in a user-friendly, easily accessible and exploitable format. A digital version will exist in three (3) languages, as well as a brochure-like printed copy in English.</p>	Digital and paper based
<p>Teacher workshop Exploitation workshop with European Teachers (D.6.5) will be offered in the annual eTwinning conference in Berlin in March 2012. This workshop will be available both to teachers and National Support Service.</p>	Workshop for teachers
<p>Research workshop: Exploitation workshop with European Researchers (D.6.6). The project partnership will offer to host a half-day workshop to the European research networks in one of the major European education and technology conference (e.g. EC-TEL) in autumn 2012. This will include a call for papers in the area of teachers' collaboration networks and use of SNA and at the same time, maximise the exploitation of the Tellnet results.</p>	Workshop for researchers

4. Partner involvement

WP6 will work through the communication and dissemination channels that the European Schoolnet and project partners have in place including (they are outlined in D5.1). Especially the research organisations have their established channels through the research and student networks (e.g. PhD students).

Moreover, European Schoolnet, as the coordinator of the project, provides wider dissemination opportunities to European schools and policy-makers. These opportunities include special events, EUN corporate website and targeted dissemination activities addressed to more than 130,000 active members of the Commission's eTwinning initiative where European Schoolnet provides Central Support Services in all participating countries.

4.1 Take-Up of Tellnet results by Ministries of Education

It is essential that Tellnet results are disseminated to, and discussed and adopted by, senior policy makers in Ministries of Education, particularly those responsible for national ICT strategies and content repositories. A key channel for this dissemination is EUN.

5. A long-term view

Even after the end of the project, project results will continue to be made available to a larger audience through European Schoolnet channels, MoE working groups (e.g. Digital Competences WG) and the eTwinning National Support Services. Moreover, a long-term engagement of the research community, towards which the project has worked through participating in different research events (e.g. JTEL doctoral schools, publishing papers in conferences) to engage actively in a dialogue on the topic, and to form a body-of-evidence on Teachers' collaboration networks, will be one of the goals of the project.

The Tellnet valorisation plan remains part of a larger European Schoolnet and eTwinning dissemination and exploitation strategy that involves leveraging existing European Schoolnet and Ministries of Education (MoE) communication channels, as well as those of eTwinning such as National Support Services.

Through the work in Tellnet, the partnership has made some of the first steps to start to study eTwinning, one of the most successful Commission actions under the Lifelong Learning Programme. The eTwinning action is defined as the community for schools in Europe. It promotes teacher and school collaboration through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). Since 2005, thirty-two European countries participate in eTwinning and more than 130'000 teachers have signed up on the eTwinning platform that is hosted by European Schoolnet through a Service contract.

An innovative approach to data has been devised, namely through using authentic data that is captured directly from the eTwinning platform (also known as data mining). This could be regarded as an innovation approach, because previous studies have focused mostly on more qualitative approaches such as case studies and surveys, where the users are interviewed, observed and/or asked to fill in questionnaires regarding their actions. Moreover, one of the

aims is to make some of this data accessible using innovative tools such as data visualisation and future scenario approaches to other stakeholders (e.g. teachers themselves, National Support Services, policy-makers). In collaboration with the eTwinning core-group (the Commission, the EACEA, the Central Support Service), the Tellnet partnership is interested in continuing support the main actions of eTwinning and its strategic planning in the future. Moreover, they are interested in the use of data for research and dissemination purposes within the boundaries of the data protection and privacy regulations in the future, too.