

# AQUA-TNET3

Promoting innovation and a European dimension through Lifelong learning in the field of Aquaculture, Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management – Thematic Network

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## Deliverable Number: D 5C.2.2 & 3

**Title:** *WORKSHOP ON DIGITAL TEACHING SKILLS*

*Creating content for learning environments:*

*Learning objects, elearning tools, other digital resources*

**Workpackage(s) concerned:** WP 5 and WP 1

**Nature of deliverable (Report, Service, Product, Demonstrator, Event, Other:** Questionnaires, Workshop

Due date	Initial Submission date (M 24)by	2 <sup>nd</sup> reviewer <b>XXX</b> date	Date accepted by Management
M 36	B .Ueberschär	XXX	XXX

**Dissemination level:** PU, in parts RE (questionnaire results).

<b>PU</b> Public	<b>X</b>
<b>RE</b> Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
<b>CO</b> Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

**Indicate any document related to this deliverable (report, website, ppt etc and give file name)\*** Most related documents are accessible from the [Aqua-tnet website](#). [Workshop flyer](#)

*\* Please attach deliverable documents and any additional material if needed.*

## SUMMARY

“Today’s learners have potentially access to increasingly powerful and affordable handheld computing devices, including smartphones, games consoles and tablet computers. They can share, interact and immerse themselves online with others through the use of social networks and virtual worlds. They can also create identities and user-generated resources that potentially have a virtual worldwide audience enabled by the Internet. Learners’ activities can be captured in real time and feedback processes automated with increasing precision through learning analytics. Technologies that allow users to post material and messages online have the potential to support learner inquiry, to offer new modes of representation and expression requiring new forms of literacy, to support innovative thinking and problem-solving through collaboration, and to allow publication of work to an authentic external audience”<sup>1</sup>.

However, even in the most advanced OECD countries, very few teachers typically have a comprehensive knowledge of the wide range of ICT tools and resources and are confident users of ICTs. Thus the above quotation about the fascinating technical options available has not yet found its way into the majority of learning environments and this is probably true for all educational levels. There is apparently an urgent need to "train the trainers" in using ICT in their teaching environment. It is predicted that there will be many benefits for both the learner and the teacher, including the promotion of shared working space and resources, better access to information, the promotion of collaborative learning and a general move towards greater learner autonomy.

It is obvious that ICT will also require a modification of the role of the teacher, who in addition to classroom teaching will have other skills and responsibilities. Many will become specialists in the use of distributed learning techniques, the design and development of shared working spaces and resources, and virtual guides for students who use electronic media. Therefore, a kind of "ICT-driver’s license" is apparently needed to serve as an instrument for the professional development of teachers. The Aqua-tnet network supported this process and contributed to the area with a dedicated ICT workshop at the final Annual Event of the network in June 2014 in Malta.

The organizing team was aware, that is not just technical ICT skills that are needed to provide a sound teaching/learning environment, but also successful pedagogic strategies which utilize ICT for teaching and learning. Nevertheless, the technical knowledge about ICT tools and their application was considered as a good start to implement the new technologies into learning environments.

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<sup>1</sup> Cited from: BEYOND PROTOTYPES. Enabling innovation in technology-enhanced learning. TEL Technology Enhanced Learning Research Programme tel.ac.uk

## Objectives:

The 2-day workshop was dedicated

- i. to introduce to Information and Communication Technology in Education (ICT)
- ii. to help increase knowledge and understanding of various roles and integration of ICT in teaching
- iii. to teach the concepts
- iv. to teach the participants how to handle basic ICT tools such as:
  - **Audio Production:** e.g. creation and editing of sound files for videos, audio podcasts;
  - **Social Media:** e.g. how to use social media for teaching (including the creation of a Facebook group, photo community (Flickr), social bookmarking tools, blogs etc.);
  - **Sharing/producing Presentations using the Internet:** e.g. how to use Slideshare, Prezi ([www.prezi.com](http://www.prezi.com));
  - **E-Portfolio:** making learning resources available online (e.g. Mahara)
  - **Online Polls:** how to create and broadcast an online questionnaire and evaluate the results (e.g. Lime survey);

The major aim of the workshop was to help teachers to develop state-of-the-art content for e-learning in general and for blended learning environments in particular. The approach to achieve this goal was by training teachers to create their own e-learning materials and to raise their awareness of innovative e-learning tools.

## Rationale:

### a) Preparatory Questionnaire

The ICT workshop was planned according to the needs of the participants in order to maximize the benefits to them. Thus, an online- questionnaire was developed well in advance of the workshop event and submitted to potential participants in order to acquire information about participants' background in relation to their teaching obligations, their present knowledge related to the use of up-to-date ICT and preferences concerning those topics which should be communicated in the workshop, in order to acquire such information from potential participants for the planned ICT workshop. During the final selection of participants for the workshop, preference was given to those who had completed the questionnaire. A short evaluation and interpretation of the responses to the preparatory questionnaire is attached as ANNEX 1.

### b) Workshop event

A two-day workshop was organized from the 24-25th June 2014 at the

Intercontinental Hotel, St. Julian's Bay, Malta:  
*"AQUA-TNET Workshop on Digital Teaching Skills. Creating content for learning environments"*

The following list and items summarizes the organisation of the workshop:

- Application & Registration: The workshop was limited to 25 participants. Participants were selected on a first come, first served basis. The completion of the survey was a requirement for inclusion in the selection process. Deadline for registration was 31st March 2014
- Date & Time: The workshop was carried out over two full days on 24-25 June 2014, and followed by the Aqua-tnet Annual Event (26-27 June)
- Location: The venue for the workshop was the same as for the annual event, the InterContinental City Hotel in Malta
- Fees: Participation was free for members of the Aqua-tnet network who were eligible for participating in the annual event. All other participants were asked to fund their own travel to the venue and subsistence during the workshop
- Course Outline: The workshop started with a plenary session and an introductory lecture about pedagogics using ICT in teaching and continued with short introductions to the topics which were selected according to the results of the questionnaire. The hands-on sessions were organised in small groups (5-7 participants per group), with two experienced teachers per topic supervising the sessions. In the closing session, the participants presented their results followed by a general discussion
- Hardware: Participants were requested to bring their own Laptops (technically, a standard configuration is appropriate)
- Feedback: A short post-participatory questionnaire was disseminated about 4 weeks after the end of the workshop through which participants were asked to provide feedback about their impressions of the workshop.
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Further information about the workshop organisation ([detailed agenda](#)) can be accessed from the [Aqua-Tnet site](#)

### **Results:**

From the participants' comments in the workshop, it can be concluded that the workshop was a great success. In order to evaluate the success of the workshop, in a more structured manner beyond the personal comments at the workshop, a post-participatory online survey was sent out to the participants of the workshop. In summary, the results of the questionnaire demonstrated that the goals of the workshop were achieved. A more detailed analysis of the results of this questionnaire is attached as ANNEX 2.

### **Teams involved:**

- Video Production: Bernd Ueberschär (Bioserve GbR and Association for Marine Aquaculture, GMA, Germany) & Stephen Bean (University college of Cork, UK)
- Audio Podcast: Clive Dove (Fundación INNOVAMAR, Spain) & Mike Moulton (Norwegian University of Life Sciences)
- Slidesharing: Jean Dhont (Ghent University, Belgium)
- Social Networks: John Bostock (University of Stirling, UK) & Ioan Lettice (University college of Cork, UK)
- ePortfolio: Saro Saravanan (NAFC Marine Centre, UK) & Sonia Seixes (Universidade Aberta, Department of Sciences and Technology (DCeT), Portugal)

Supported by the technical team of Aqua-tnet III.

**Geographical areas covered:** Aqua-tnet participants from all over Europe

## ANNEX 1:

### AquaTNet-3 ICT-Workshop II



#### Conclusions Questionnaire ICT-Workshop "Innovative tools and methods"

This document provides a short conclusion from the questionnaire results which was dedicated to acquire detailed information from potential participants about their background, skills in ICT and their preferences. For those of you, who are interested in the details, the full report produced in LimeSurvey is attached.

The questionnaire has 13 questions. We got 23 full responses, 21 participants expressed their interest to participate in the workshop.

#### Questionnaire results, summary:

- 1. How long teaching and where:** Almost all respondents are involved in teaching, many of them for a long time; thus, we can expect experienced teachers; almost all respondents (21) are engaged in teaching in Higher Education (e.g. University)
- 2. Knowledge about ICT-Tools:** PowerPoint is the best-known tool, all teachers use it frequently. Many respondents would like to use Slideshare or Prezi, but do not know how. The knowledge as how to use audio podcasts is weak, but many participants want to learn how to use it. The same is true for video presentations. Only a few respondents use tools for cooperative learning, Wikis or Blogs, but many want to know how to use it. Many respondents are familiar with learning management systems. Social bookmarking-sites are almost unknown. Video/ audio sharing sites are used from about 50% of the respondents, but mostly apparently ready-made files and not customized. Most respondents are familiar with social networking-sites, but most do not use them for teaching. Tools for Online polls/questionnaires are mostly unknown, but many respondents would like to know how to use it. Game-based learning is almost not used at all and for most respondents is an unknown teaching approach; however, about 50% are interested to learn how to use it.
- 3. Experience with creating and editing photos, videos and audio files:** most respondents consider themselves as experienced in taking a photo or a video. How to edit photos is practised by about 50% of the participants; the knowledge how to edit a video file or to create/edit an audio file is, however, weak.

4. **Computer platform used from the respondents:** most use MS-Windows (21). An important result, considering the tools/software which should be presented in the workshop!

5. **What kind of ICT topics would you be most interested to learn more about in the Workshop?**

- a) Video Production
- b) Audio Production
- c) Social Media
- d) Sharing presentations
- e) E-Portfolio
- f) Online Polls

This was one of the most important questions, since it allows us to customize the workshop topics to the participants' most desired needs. Since the results in the questionnaire are somewhat difficult to read, I provide some customized graphs below, which depict the frequency, with which the tools were ranked (Rank 1-6).



The y-axis shows the number or votes, the x-axis the related ranking of the tool (1 – 6)

Concluding from this ranking, the most desired tool is video editing, then sharing presentations; social media, audio production and e-portfolio rank almost equally. Tools to create online polls are less desired (although higher-ranked in question 2, probably a misunderstanding among polls/questionnaires).

**6. Do you have material available which can be improved and enhanced using the tools under consideration at the ICT workshop?** About 50% of the participants can provide their own files; the other 50% apparently would need to get material in the workshop from the organizer.

In the majority, participants will bring PowerPoint presentations, videos, audio files und photos.

**Conclusions from questionnaire results:** We should aim to teach five topics, see table below. If it turns out, however, from the organizational point of view, that we have to reduce the number of tools to four, we could consider e-portfolio to withdraw. We can expect, in most areas, beginners in the workshop, with only basic experience beyond the compilation of PowerPoint presentations.

## ANNEX 2:

### Workshop on digital skills in June 2014 in Malta: "Workshop was brilliant and very encouraging" participants said.

In June 2014, a two-day workshop on digital skills was organized as part of Work package 5 C. activities. This workshop was organized prior to the final annual meeting of Aqua-tnet III. Participation was free of charge, but a registration was required. In total, 19 participants registered for the workshop, the workshop offered detailed instructions on 5 different topics Video Production, Audio Production, Social Media, Sharing Presentations and E-Portfolio. The participants were asked in advance to choose 3 out of the 5 topics to learn in the workshop.

In order to evaluate the success of the workshop, a post-participatory survey was submitted among the participants (Fig.1). In this post-participatory survey, the participants were asked to deal with 12 questions which allow the organizing team and the teacher to make a judgement concerning the "pros and cons" of the workshop, from the participants' point of view.



*Fig.1: Post-participatory survey which was submitted to the participants about 4 weeks beyond the workshop event in Malta.*

The majority of the participants were interested to learn about video and audio production. Fig. 2 depicts the results on the question, which topic was chosen by the individuals.



Fig. 2: Which three out of the five topics was your choice in the workshop? The y-axis depicts the number of votes.

The overall rating of the workshop was good to excellent. The duration of the workshop was considered in the majority as sufficient. Instructors were rated in the majority as knowledgeable about the subject and the preparation of the teacher was rated as good to excellent. The technical preparation of the workshop including the hand-outs was in the majority considered from good to excellent.

An important measure for the success is the feeling of the participants about their overall learning success. Most of the participants rated their success as good or excellent (Fig. 3).

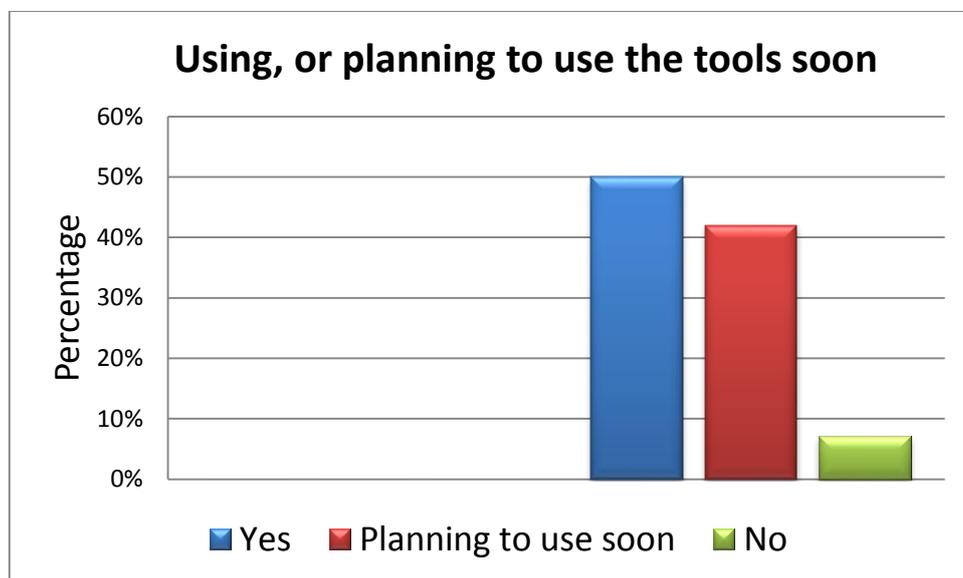


Fig. 3: What is your feeling about your overall learning success?

The majority of the participants (85%) feel confident with their new digital skills. One individual comment pointed out, however, that " I need more time to practice myself before inserting these in my lectures".

About 79% of the participants consider themselves now experienced enough to continue to use the three tools they have learned in the workshop. Some comments from those who do not yet feel confident pointed out that some more practice is needed before introducing the new skills into their teaching.

An important indicator on the success of such a workshop on ICT tools is the response on the question after the workshop, if the participants already make use or are you planning to make use of their new skills in their teaching environment. Fig. 4 indicates that about 50% of the participants are already using the new skills; many others are planning to apply their new expertise soon.



*Fig. 4: Did you already make use, or are you planning to make use of your new expertise in your teaching environment?*

85% of the participants were sure that their new digital skills will help to improve their teaching. About 86% of the participants will try to encourage colleagues and other teacher to improve their digital skills, which indicates a convincing vote about the workshop success.

In summary, and considering the results and comments of the participants in response to the post-participatory survey, the workshop can be considered as a great success. It became also clear, that there is a great need for this kind of supporting workshops, in order to facilitate the use of ICT in teaching in the field of aquatic sciences and aquaculture.

**Some final, personal comments of the participants (not edited):**

- It was a very useful event.
- Thanks for all and hope to work together again in the future to develop our skills on teaching and learning.

- I thought that the workshop itself was brilliant but venue could have been chosen to be more central in Europe. The journey time was too long.
- There wasn't enough time to work to maximum effect. If we had been able to have a 3-day workshop, that would have been better. I was very impressed with the sheer hard work put in by the workshop organizers and in particular Bernd Ueberschär.
- It was very nice to have this workshop experience. Most of the time I am negligent to participate, but this small workshop opened some black boxes about video and sound for me. I also thank all people made this workshop possible for any way. Actually I burned a plane ticket to participate this workshop, but I do feel sorry yet. Thank you.
- Thank you everybody and especially Bernd for their kind helps and efforts.
- Workshops and Projects like these are very important and I really hope that new ones will develop in the future.
- I found myself following all speakers and tutors with great interest. For sure the way that Mr. Stephen Bean enlightened method of showing some of his important things about video making, was by far the one that I will keep in my heart.
- A big thank you to all that made this workshop possible.
- The ICT-workshop was very useful for me.