ICT for Professional Education in Developing Countries

Stefano Riboni
Yverdon Insurance Consortium

Stefano Riboni is active since more than 15 years in professional and academic education. Professor at EPFL and HEIG-VD, and invited lecturer at other Universities and professional training institutions, Stefano founded eBizGames in 2014, to develop and promote the use of innovative online educational solutions, to promote knowledge sharing and capacity building at large scale, with a particular interest for developing countries. Stefano holds a Business Administration degree from University of Geneva, and an Executive Master in Logistics from IML/EPFL.

Abstract

Thanks to ICT evolution, new education modalities are appearing (distant or blended learning, online courses, ...), and a variety of tools are developed (eLearning, Moocs, ...). Making rid of time and place constraints, internet-based solutions give an uncompped opportunity for large scale, flexible and cheap knowledge-sharing and capacity building initiatives, which are particularly adapted to developing countries. The purpose of this session is to identify the main professional education challenges developing countries are facing, and to go through the panorama of innovative ICT solutions that could answer those needs.

Description

The idea would be to have a couple of presentations illustrating the professional education needs in developing countries (demand - side), and a couple of other presenting innovative tools (eLearning, Moocs, Simulations, Serious Games, e-Mentoring, ...) that could effectively provide solutions (offer-side).

Discussions should focus on designing a double-entry matrix of Educational Needs on one side, and ICT Educational Solutions on the other, to evaluate the match, and point out the gaps. Interactions should bring to establish contacts and collaborations to build and deliver effective ICT-based educational solution for social impact in developing countries.

Objectives

The need for professional education in developing countries is constantly growing, as economies grow, and societies evolve. Professional education modes, tools and techniques are fastly evolving, with number of innovations linked to the development of Internet and Mobile technologies. The objective of the event is to make a State of the Art panorama, to:

- present to education providers in developing countries what are the latest developments in ICT-supported educational tools and solutions
- illustrate to e-Education tools and services providers the critical educational needs and constraints in developing countries
- initiate and favor dialog and cooperation between the two communities, to orientate research and development toward delivering adapted and effective solutions

Target Audience

The target audience would be composed of:

- knowledge and education providers in developing countries (governments, international organizations, NGOs, academics, ...)
- e-Education tools editors (eLearning, Serious Games, Simulations, Wikis, ...)

Proposed Program

To be finalized in January 2016