

LADiE Reference Model Project

Project outline available at:

<http://www.elframework.org/refmodels/ladie>

What's needed for LARM (Learning Activity Reference Model)

Identification of what needs to be communicated by and between teachers, learning technologists and systems developers. Teachers are concerned with learning outcomes, and supporting the learners needs through explicit/implicit choice of pedagogy. The learning technologists in the 'process' layer need to be able to ensure that learning activities are both pedagogically valid, support both teacher and learner and communicate those needs to the systems developers. (Whether they are located in an IT department or are software vendors.) In addition, learning technologists need an understanding of the technology to enable them to communicate directly with systems developers who are only concerned with technical aspects of tools and services, and do not require an understanding of the pedagogy.

The LARM requires a shared, unambiguous language to create an effective reference model. The focus of the LARM is to create a reference model that can facilitate the creation and delivery of learning activities that are not tool dependent. Documentation will be tailored to each specific audience: i.e. teachers, learning technologists and systems developers. Further information about this located in the 3 draft reference model documents.

Top down (pedagogy)

The literature review is due for completion next week, it is on the final edit at the moment..

We have held 2 workshops, one with invited participants which was to gather use cases, and another to gather learning activities as ALT-C. The format of the workshops has been changed to directly address the issue of the shared language that is needed between teachers, learning technologists and systems developers in relation to learning activities. The ALT-C workshop run by Helen Beetham explored this issue, and it was evident that the concerns of a teacher are different to that of a learning technologist. For instance, a teacher is interested in the learning outcomes and the learner needs, whilst the more learning technologist is concerned with the tools used and how to support the teacher.

In addition, the project had a meeting with Helen Beetham about the work she has been doing with the e-pedagogy strand. This has been extremely informative as it potentially provides us with data collecting through previous work on the learning activities, the raw data collected from the case studies will be available via the website. The work of the e-pedagogy strand also offers templates for gathering learning activities, which are both pedagogically and technically orientated. We will be collaborating with Helen in the future, and attend the national workshops that are being run. HB has created a template that can map learning activities into IMS LD.

We will still be running workshops with both associate partners and other teachers to gather learning activities. However, we are exploring existing research work for requirements gathering as a large number of workshops is beyond the scope of this project.

Bottom up (technical)

Technical associates meeting

This was held in June, and Icodeon, OUNL, Bill Oliver, RELOAD attended. Each partner gave either a demonstration or detailed description of its functionality. There was a detailed discussion of the services offered by the systems. The potential for integration amongst LADiE associates is detailed in the existing technologies report.

Draft reference model v1

3 drafts have been produced. Existing technologies report, specification of the reference model and the draft reference model. These have been produced in conjunction with the technical associates, and partner institutions are still in the process of commenting on the reports. The project has been communicating with Bill Olivier, and he participates in the technical associates meetings.

The possible top down/bottom up issue is being addressed through the work with Helen Beetham, both in terms of workshop format and existing research undertaken.

The next technical associates meeting is due in November.

Summary of sources of information about your projects

Project blog www.moominjuice.co.uk/blog

Covers discussion of issues and sources of information for the project. We will encourage partners to participate in discussion of the reference model now we have completed v1 draft of the reference model, and the literature review is nearly complete.

Website www.elframework.org/refmodels/ladie

Contact details and project outline, 5 use cases gathered so far. Will be location for outputs such as literature review, use cases/learning activities gathered and reference model specifications.

UNFOLD: Details of the presentation given by Gráinne Conole.

http://www.unfold-project.net:8085/UNFOLD/about_folder/events/cops/portugal/

Conference workshop: Online Educa Berlin

Link to website: http://www.online-educa.com/en/pre_conference_detail.htm

A combined workshop with COVARM, XCRI, FREMA, LADIE, ELF toolkits and UNFOLD