MOOQ: improve the Quality of MOOCs

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MOOQ Project Partners
Open University of the Netherlands (OUNL) (Coordinator)
Hellenic Open University (HOU)
Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon (ENS)
National Quality Infrastructure System (NQIS)
Universidade Aberta (UAb)

MOOQ’s Vision & Mission (2015-2018)
MOOQ: European Alliance for Quality of Massive Open Online Courses, called MOOCs.

MOOQ’s vision: to foster quality in MOOCs leading to a new era of learning experiences.

MOOQ’s mission: to develop a quality reference framework (QRF) for the adoption, the design, the delivery and the evaluation of MOOCs in order to empower MOOC providers for the benefit of the learners.

MOOQ’s main goal: the development and the integration of quality approaches, new pedagogies and organisational mechanisms into MOOCs with a strong focus on the learning processes, methodologies and assessments.

Research Questions
• How can we develop and integrate quality approaches, new pedagogies and organisational mechanisms into MOOCs to deliver high quality learning experience?
• How can we combine online and traditional formats to enhance quality of the learning experience for MOOC users, and at the same time, devise sustainable university business-models?

Methodology
1. Quality Reference Matrix
2. MOOQ Quality Reference Process Model
3. Global Survey on the Quality of MOOCs
4. Design Pilot MOOCs

Project Outcomes
1. Development of a Quality Reference Framework (QRF) for the design, evaluation and assurance of MOOCs drawing upon formal standardization principles issued by ISO and CEN.
2. Standardisation activities to allow the integration of the project’s outcomes into specifications and standards both at European level (CEN–European Committee for Standardisation) and internationally (ISO).
3. Dissemination and creating awareness to introduce and promote the QRF to all stakeholders including the establishment and pilot operation of an Observatory for the Quality of MOOCs – European Quality Observatory for Massive Open Education/EQO.
4. Development of a new Q-generation of MOOCs that will be designed, organized and tested as qMOOCs.

Address current trends in the use of educational content by already deployed MOOCs using qualitative and quantitative methods:
• Capture and analyze MOOC design patterns and existing practices for integrating quality approaches on emerging open online courses, including active discourse on open issues and concerns arising from the massive, large-scale implementations, displaying paradigms of key players in the field.
• Identify common quality criteria and indicative descriptors to support the evaluation, monitoring and quality assurance of MOOC courses and MOOC providers.
• Develop a holistic QRF (with differentiated quality indicators for the different types of MOOCs) that embodies the three main constructs: pedagogical, technological and business model.