

AGORA Products:

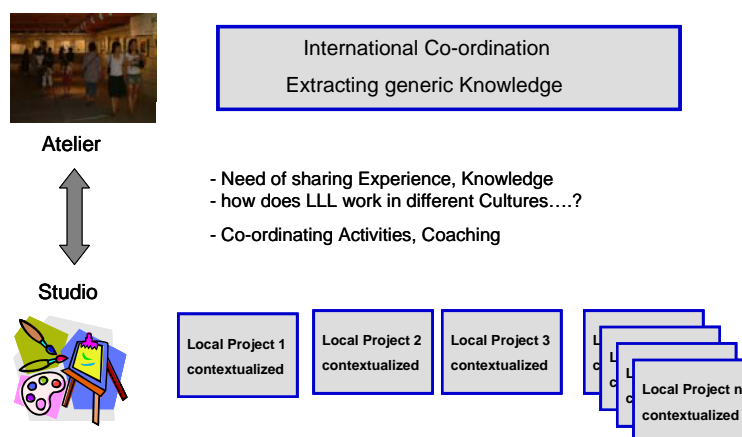
IFIP AGORA Initiative

The AGORA Initiative on Lifelong Learning was launched by IFIP in Poitiers, France, last October. TC3 has played a major role in proposing and creating this project. The AGORA Initiative, an element of the process of revitalisation of the IFIP strategy, aims at implementing a dynamic methodology for initiating cooperation projects on Lifelong Learning with many different stakeholders. It is providing a methodical concept of action where contextual local efforts are connected to each other and contribute to generic common knowledge about Lifelong Learning in a synergetic manner.

Methodical concept of action: Local studios and generic Atelier

The methodical concept of “*Atelier*” was developed. The function of an “*Atelier*” is to generate generic knowledge based on the experience in different “*studios*”. This knowledge in its turn can be used to enhance the “*studios*” where Lifelong Learning pilot implementations are realised. In Seoul 4 international “*studios*” were created. Each “*studio*” will be directed at practical, real-world creation of practical instances of e-Education for Lifelong Learning. “*Studios*” will provide contextual solutions, suitable for the cultural, social and economic context.

In the Agora Initiative local LLL projects focus on specific objects and processes in specific contexts. The Initiative tries to study these projects as integral and meaningful phenomena allowing context-free generalizations. The projects provide contextual pilot implementations of LLL, called ‘*Studios*’. Context specific knowledge is developed in these Studios, but shared in an ‘*Atelier*’ linking the Studios. The ‘*Atelier*’-function generates generic knowledge based on the experiences in studios. This generic knowledge can then be applied in the local ‘*Studio*’s’ where Lifelong Learning pilot implementations are realised. Thus, the generic educational Lifelong Learning model developed in the Atelier will be evaluated and improved in a process of critical review of the pilot implementations and concurrently improve practice of Lifelong Learning in the local Studios.



Methodological concept of action: Studios and Atelier

The 4 first AGORA studios were created during the Seoul seminar. These are:

- The “Cyber-Teacher Studio”, aiming at working on the new competences of Teachers and Trainers in the Lifelong Learning Society, and providing ideas, tools and resources for building such competences.
- The “Digital Divide Studio”, aiming at using Lifelong Learning as a mean to reduce the digital divide and aiming at making Lifelong Learning available for all, in order to avoid a “knowledge divide”.
- “How to manage and administrate Lifelong Learning”: The studio will work on the impact of Lifelong Learning on the management of Education and Training, and will provide tools for managing Lifelong Learning.
- The “Croatian Studio”, aiming at organising e-Learning for Croatian businesses and providing the basic skills to Managers.

Seoul 2.0 Model: How to become a learning organisation

The second AGORA event, a Seminar about Lifelong Learning, was held in Seoul, Korea, 3-4 June 2007. The result of this first “*Atelier*” on Lifelong Learning was created: “**Seoul 2.0**”, a model helping IFIP to become a real “Learning Organisation” in the Lifelong Learning Society. The *Seoul 2.0 Model for Learning Organisations* is a practical analysis tool that helps managers and others to implement organisations that are sustainable in the knowledge society. The model is generic and applicable in different, specific contexts. The IFIP Agora Seoul seminar in 2007 (South-Korea) was used to test the effectiveness of the model for developed countries (<http://www.ifip-tc3.net>; choose: The IFIP Agora Initiative; choose: Agora in 2007).

The model is based on earlier work in IFIP on ICT curricula and educational change (Anderson & van Weert, 2002) and on practical research conducted at SEM¹ (Geneva, Switzerland), SATW, ICT Commission² (Switzerland) and Hogeschool Utrecht, Chair ICT and higher Education³ (The Netherlands). Also use is made of the work of the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM)⁴

Addis Ababa 2.0 Model: How to realise a lifelong learning environment

The *Addis Ababa 2.0 Model for Learning Environments* is a practical analysis tool for educational designers to build and implement a lifelong learning environment inside an existing organisation. The model helps to design the environment on four levels: *personal, project, organisational and societal level*. It takes account of the local organisational and societal context and results in an action plan suiting the particular situation. The Addis Ababa 2.0 Model is integrated with the Seoul 2.0 Model. The IFIP Agora Addis Ababa seminar preceding WITFOR 2007 (Ethiopia) was used to test the effectiveness of the model for developing countries (<http://www.ifip-tc3.net>; choose: The IFIP Agora Initiative; choose: Agora in 2007).

Plans:

AGORA will contribute in many future IFIP events. The next AGORA Conference will be held in Krakow, Poland, in 2008.

All Technical Committees are welcome!

¹ Educational Foresight, Case Postale 3144, CH-1211 Geneva 3, Switzerland

² Swiss Academy of Technical Sciences, www.satw.ch

³ Hogeschool Utrecht, www.hu.nl/lectoraten

⁴ EFQM, www.efqm.org