
SEVAQ+ NEWSLETTER

4th Issue, April 2011 – Into the third lap...

Achievements so far

SEVAQ+ is now almost three quarters of the way through its implementation. During the first year the self-assessment tool was extended (making it not only available in 6 languages but also to covering a wider range of stakeholders, include more levels of the Kirkpatrick and EFQM models and to be relevant to both HE and VET environments). The partner organisations engaged in widespread pilot testing both on national and international levels, with over 2000 testers logging in as designers or respondents. Feedback from these testers has been integrated into the tool to improve its content and functionalities and to ensure it best meets the needs of stakeholders in HE and VET. The upgraded tool is therefore now richer, more sophisticated, purpose-tailored and user-friendly than ever.

Launch of SEVAQ+ v2.0 – April 20th 2011

New features and improvements include:

- A brand new, user-friendly interface;
- The streamlined ‘designer’ area, including a comprehensive dashboard for quicker and simpler questionnaire administration;
- More options for questionnaire designers, including:
 - defining comments as obligatory or optional,
 - automated functions for communicating with questionnaire respondents.
- More flexibility and information for respondents, including:
 - choosing the language to use,
 - progression of questionnaire completion.

See for yourself @ www.sevaq-plus.preau.ccip.fr/

Join us for the first SEVAQ+ webinar – April 20th

To coincide with the launch of SEVAQ+ v2.0, and following the success of the face to face events we are running our first webinar on **Wednesday 20th April 2011**, in collaboration with the [Teach.us](http://www.teach.us) project at **18:00 – 19:00 CET**.

For further information on the programme and to access the webinar, please go to:

[http://www.sevaq.eu/08 - EVENTS](http://www.sevaq.eu/08_-_EVENTS)

1st Practice Exchange Webinar
April 20th 2011

Delphi experts Webinar
May 2011

2nd Practice Exchange Webinar
June 2011

Some key figures:

- Over **170** direct responses to the call for testers
 - leading to nearly **20 000** potential testers (56% HE / 44% VET)
- **7** local and national seminars in FR, PL, LT and IT
- **3** international workshops
- **2300** current testers
 - 300 Designers
 - 2000 Respondents
- **8000** Questionnaires distributed
- **5800** Questionnaires completed (Response rate = 73%)

Responses to user survey	Oct 2010	Nov 2010	Dec 2010	Jan 2011
Total	729	1466	1583	1768
Designer profiles	84	170	190	218
Respondent profiles	645	1296	1393	1550

A brief analysis of these figures shows:

A highly satisfactory impact rate of 12% for the call for testers (most online surveys bring back around 10%). We reached more designers, though these appear to have overestimated in the call for testers the number of learners with whom they would be using the tool.

Excellent results in terms of testing the tool and providing feedback:

- **73%** of designers who tested the tool provided feedback through the user survey.
- **78%** of respondents (mainly learners) who tested the tool also completed the user survey.

SEVAQ+ in the public eye

Out of the many public appearances it is well worth highlighting that SEVAQ+ presented a very successful workshop with the [HEXTLEARN](#) and [REVIVE](#) projects in October 2010 in the frame of the Sixth EDEN Research Workshop; and that the project was also invited to the kick-off meeting organised by the EACEA for freshly accepted LLP projects, where SEVAQ+ served as a sample initiative to illustrate good dissemination and exploitation practices. These achievements can no doubt be perceived as important indicators of success.

Preparing for the Delphi

The next step in the validation of the SEVAQ+ approach and the tool itself is to organise a Delphi survey. Given their reputation in the field, we have identified an initial group of c.a. 60 experts of self-evaluation (Higher Education and VET professionals, researchers, experts, psychologists, educational researchers, etc.), who already experienced using the SEVAQ+ tool. They have been contacted individually by a formal invitation letter to take part in this important validation activity. We are interested in their contribution to the success of the SEVAQ+ project by:

- Participating the upcoming SEVAQ+ webinars;
- Validating the SEVAQ+ approach;
- Testing the tool and providing feedback;
- Joining the consensus building process with other Delphi experts;
- Meeting with the other experts at the EDEN Conference 2011 to advise on further improvements.

If you have recommendations of experts whom you think would benefit from participating in the above activities while providing valuable input, please contact marie.bijnens@efquel.org.

But don't delay, the Delphi process starts in the second half of April 2011!

Synergies with other projects, presentations at external events

SEVAQ+ continues to seek new synergies, while it also nurtures collaborations built during the first year of the project. In the second half of its lifetime, SEVAQ+ will put more emphasis on the involvement of its associate partners and the National Agencies of the partner countries, especially in dissemination and multiplication activities. The thematic online discussions are also spreading from the dedicated Facebook and LinkedIn communities established by SEVAQ+ to other groups, such as the popular "Higher Education Teaching and Learning" in LinkedIn.

Meet the person behind the username



The SEVAQ+ consortium has a very strong intention to remain in every user's eyes a group of dedicated flesh and blood individuals. In every newsletter, a core partner will introduce themselves and their research interest as well as their tasks within the project. In this newsletter you can meet Lineta Žilinskaitė from Vytautas Magnus University (VMU).

After studying Philosophy, Latin, Pedagogy, English Language Teaching and Adult Education at VMU, Lineta got her Ph.D. in Social Sciences in 2007. Since 2001 she still works at the same university as a researcher, lecturer and project manager in the field of adult education. Lineta's particular scientific interest is in profession of adult educator and strategic development of adult education system. As a lecturer and manager of adult learning services in HE she is interested in innovative ways of organising learning enhanced by technologies and creative thinking techniques.

In the SEVAQ+ project, Lineta and her colleagues, Vaida Sabaliauskiene and Giedra Linkaityte, were responsible for the coordination of local seminars during which the SEVAQ+ tool in project partners' countries was tested. Vytautas Magnus University together with Kaunas University of Applied Sciences had two successful seminars in Kaunas where university teachers and managers had excellent opportunities to learn about the project's quality approach and to explore the possibilities of the SEVAQ+ tool by applying it in their teaching situations.

Keep in touch and help to extend the network

If you wish to suggest the SEVAQ+ newsletters to your colleagues, encourage them to subscribe directly by filling in the [online registration form](#). If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, you can [unsubscribe](#), using the [password](#) given when you registered.

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