
SEVAQ+ NEWSLETTER

5th Issue, September 2011 – into the home straight...

To welcome you all back after the summer SEVAQ+ proudly presents...

... a number of key results since our last newsletter in April together with our plans for the final two months of the project...and beyond!

Delphi results

The spring and summer months were important ones for SEVAQ+, culminating in the **Delphi expert validation** of the tool. We set up an online survey and ran two webinars, one to introduce experts to the tool and self-evaluation approach, and a second one streamed live from the face to face validation session held on June 20th at the EDEN Annual Conference 2011 in Dublin, Ireland.

The learning café setup enabled participants to engage in lively discussion around key issues emerging from the online Delphi phase, refining the notion of self-evaluation and exploring how this can contribute to quality and innovation in learning organisations. The Delphi process also served to validate the final adjustments required in order to prepare SEVAQ+ for its post-project life.

SEVAQ+ contributes to the discussions at the EIF: Sept 14th – 16th

As SEVAQ+ is coming to an end, a new beginning is approaching, the time for SEVAQ+ to stand on its own feet! With this idea in mind, the project consortium is gathering its forces to develop the final policy recommendations regarding self-evaluation and showcase the tool behind the concept at its best. Therefore four partners of the SEVAQ+ consortium will attend the EFQUEL Innovation Forum to present, facilitate and discuss in three respective sessions the following topics:

- **“How can self-evaluation help to enhance user generated content in HE?”** in this workshop the SEVAQ+ team will be linking the concept of Self Evaluation with User Generated Content. Student’s interaction, constructive feedback and contribution are key words for success of both concepts.
- **“Re-thinking self-evaluation”**: This session will look into the relevance and potential of self-evaluation in Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education, exploring the reasons why and how we should be engaging in such evaluation.
- **“Fostering a culture of self-evaluation: recommendations for policy makers”** an interactive session in which policy recommendations from the SEVAQ+ white paper will be presented, discussed and reformulated.

The EFQUEL Innovation Forum takes place from the 14th till the 16th of September in Oeiras, Portugal (info on last minute registrations on: www.efquel.org). The outcomes of the sessions will be published on the EFQUEL website after the EFQUEL Innovation Forum.

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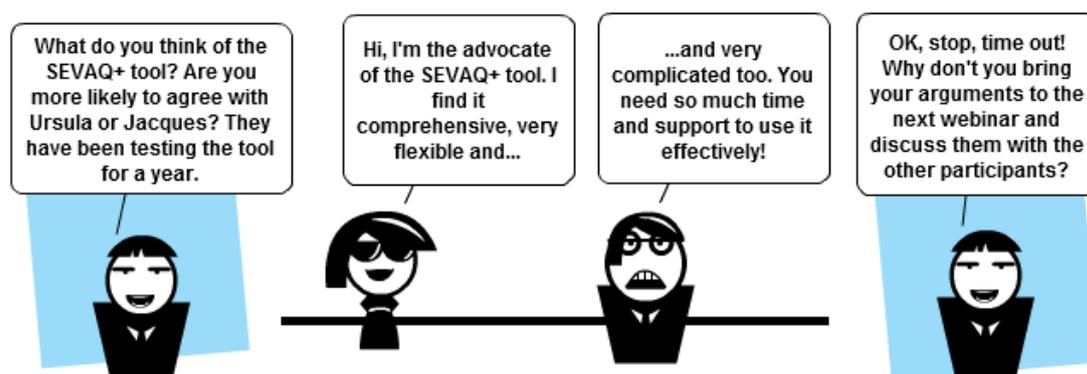
Look out for the new release of SEVAQ+ 3.0 and accompanying handbook

At the end of September, version 3.0 of SEVAQ+ will be made public. This new version of the tool will offer specific functionalities and services to differentiated groups of users and will include an integrated account request function, something many of you have asked us for! We will be continuing to offer a free version of SEVAQ+, though in order to benefit from the full range of possibilities, we strongly encourage you to upgrade. All details will be available on the SEVAQ+ website and in the tool itself to coincide with this launch.

As this represents quite a major version upgrade, we are obliged to make some changes as regards the registered accounts. **All active designer accounts (i.e. if you have published at least one questionnaire) will remain valid, though if you want to re-use your data then you will need to export it from the tool before September 26th.** If you signed up for SEVAQ+ but have not created or published a questionnaire, you may find that your account has been deleted. But don't worry, the new sign-up process is quick and simple and you will be able to get familiar with the new version just as easily. For all queries, please contact Gerard.Casanova@univ-nancy2.fr

To accompany the new release and to provide additional support to SEVAQ+ users, we will be publishing the **SEVAQ+ handbook** in 6 languages (EN, FR, DE, IT, PL, LT) by the end of October. This will be available as a PDF document downloadable from the SEVAQ+ website and from the tool itself.

Join our last SEVAQ+ webinar: 29 September 2011



You are invited to attend our 2nd Practice Exchange Webinar, the last of 4 interactive online SEVAQ+ events, at the end of September.

This webinar coincides with the launching of the freshest upgrade of our flexible self-evaluation tool, [SEVAQ+ 3.0](#), plus you will be introduced to our brand new questionnaire templates and hear about our exploitation and sustainability plans.

This is your last chance to participate and learn from your colleagues who are experienced with self-assessment in general, or familiar with using the SEVAQ+ tool itself. If you haven't done so before, it is time to make your voice heard, raise your concerns and/or ask your questions to the project team or your fellow SEVAQ+ users. We look forward to welcoming you in our [Adobe Connect online conference room](#) at 13:00 CET on the 29th of September.

See the [SEVAQ+ website](#) for the latest updates to the programme, including guest speakers.

Meet the person behind the username



Jacques Dang

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 Jacques Dang from Hautes Etudes Commerciales (HEC) in Paris, France.

Jacques is a senior researcher involved in large scale research and development projects, with a focus on e-learning, standardization and IPR.

Major projects include the ICOPER best practice network on standards in competency based learning and the PROLEARN network of excellence in professional learning. In SEVAQ+, Jacques is responsible for WP7: Exploitation. He has been instrumental in coaching the partners through the market research phases in order to draw up a clear business plan for the future of SEVAQ+, with an emphasis on the specific needs of both academic users and large multinational corporations.

Hot off the press: EFQUEL to become main SEVAQ+ contact point!

As THE European association devoted to Quality in eLearning, it was only natural for us to invite our SEVAQ+ partner **EFQUEL** to take over the day to day running and promotion of SEVAQ+ once the project comes to a close at the end of October this year. We are therefore delighted to announce that as of November 2011, SEVAQ+ will be in the very capable hands of the European Foundation for Quality in eLearning, a vital step to ensure the continued development of self-evaluation as an approach to quality assurance in Higher Education, Vocational Education and Training and the corporate sector.

A word from the SEVAQ+ coordinator

As this is the last official newsletter of the SEVAQ+ project, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the project team for bringing SEVAQ+ to this very exciting point. Thanks to the efforts of all involved, we can be proud of our achievements in raising awareness about self-evaluation as a valid approach to quality assurance and in producing a sound, flexible tool to support this approach. It has been a great pleasure to work with such a dedicated and competent team who have never been afraid of the hard work needed to get us to where we are today.

So warm thanks to my colleagues in Nancy (Edwige, Gérard, Patrick, Florence), at HEC (Jacques, Martine), at CCIP-Le Préau (Anne-Marie, Christian, Raphaël), at EDEN (Ildiko, Andras, Gabor R.), at EFQUEL (Connie, Claudio, Ulf, Marie, Rolf), at METID Politecnico di Milano (Lorenza, Sandra, Susanna), at Marie-Curie Sklodowska University in Lublin (Adam, Andrzej, Magdalena) and at Vytautas Magnus University (Lineta, Vaida) as well as Muriel, our external evaluator.

I would also like to thank all of you who tested the tool, provided the feedback vital for adapting it and who challenged us on many occasions! We couldn't have done it without you!

Kind regards,

Deborah Arnold, Project manager, Vidéoscop-Université Nancy 2

Contact:

In line with the future exploitation of SEVAQ+ by EFQUEL, your new contact point will be Marie Bijmens, EFQUEL Director: Marie.Bijmens@efquel.org.

www.sevaq.eu