



LEARN IT



Education and Culture DG
Lifelong Learning Programme
Leonardo da Vinci

LearnIT project PL/08/LLP-LdV/TOI/140001

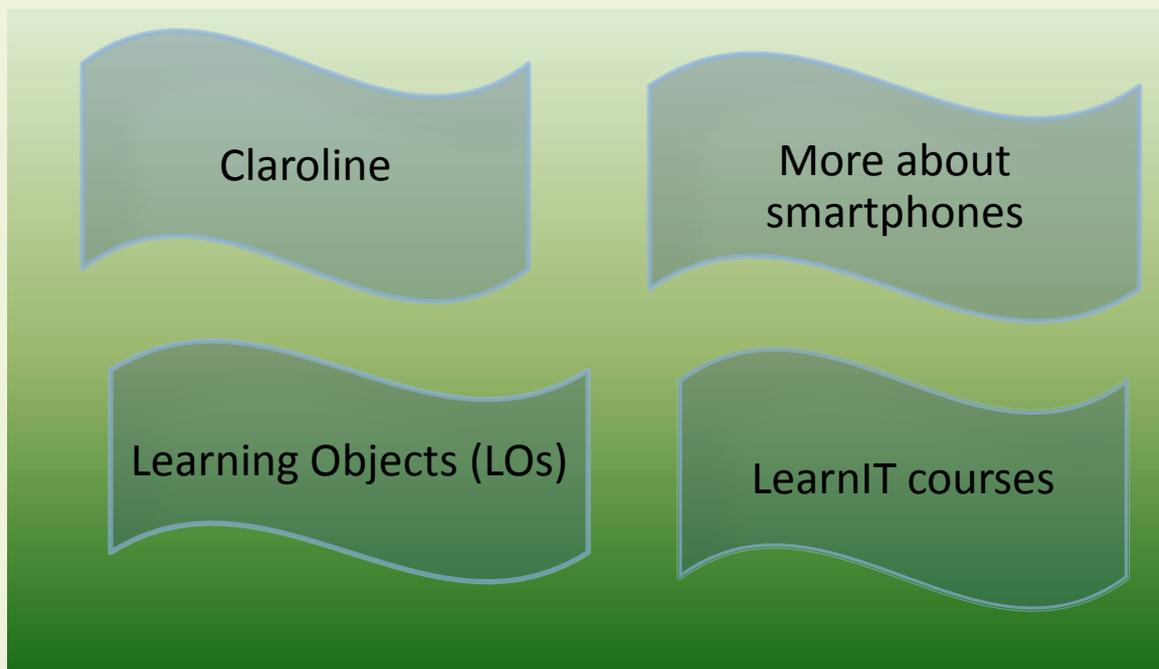


Dear Reader,

We present to you the third issue of the LearnIT newsletter. Today we want to tell you about our LMS – Claroline and more about smartphones. As promised in the last newsletter, we will also discuss Learning Objects. Another topic in this newsletter is about LearnIT courses that are being developed with our target groups in mind but can be used by anybody who is interested in these topics. The courses are: Computer Networks, Technical English and Women in IT.

The LearnIT project consortium

In this issue:



Claroline – the LMS chosen for LearnIT

Claroline, as the laureate of UNESCO is a very popular platform used by hundreds of organisations from 93 countries. It is called not only eLearning but also an eWorking platform. The platform is adaptable and flexible and an easy custom-made working environment. Each course space provides a list of tools enabling the teacher to :

- Write a course description
- Publish documents in any format (text, PDF, HTML, video...)
- Administer public and private forums
- Develop learning paths
- Create groups of students
- Prepare online exercises
- Manage an agenda with tasks and deadlines
- Publish announcements (also by e-mail)
- Propose assignments to be handed in online
- See the statistics of the users activity
- Use the wiki to write collaborative documents

Adjustable to various training contexts, Claroline is not only used by schools and universities, but also by training centres, associations and companies.

Every year, the Claroline community gets together for the Annual Conference of Claroline Users (ACCU). It's a unique opportunity to meet users and developers from several countries, to share experiences and achievements, and to discuss the future versions of Claroline.

4th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CLAROLINE

This year's conference was organised in Brussels. The conference gave specific attention to the community of developers with a reflection time based on good practices for Claroline development and also to the community of users with an exchange of ideas dealing with the exciting new version of the platform.

Addressing itself to various audiences made up of confirmed and future users, developers, trainers, administrators and training managers, e-learning experts and human resources managers or decision makers, the conference had alternated talks, workshops and poster sessions around selected topics.

The official languages of the conference were French, English and Spanish.

Report about technical parameters of smartphones

The comparison included following models:

- ASUS P565
- HTC Touch Pro
- HTC Touch Diamond
- HTC Touch HD T8282
- HTC T7272 Touch Pro

- Sony Ericsson XPERIA X1
- Toshiba Portege G900 3G
- HTC Touch Diamond II
- Nokia N810
- HP iPAQ214

They were compared including following features:

- Name and model
- Screen and resolution
- Processor
- Memory (RAM/ROM)
- Connection
- Operating system
- Application support
- Earphones compatibility
- Price in euro



HTC Touch Diamond – A typical smartphone

Learning Objects

A Learning Object is a multimedia object designed for the self learning, according to the Multimedia Learning Principles and is accompanied by metadata that describe it and allow the research, the update and the reuse. A LO has to contemplate a specific didactic objective, convey the best contents to achieve the objective and the exercise and assess/test the knowledge of the learners.

The aims of a Learning Object are to examine and further explore a topic and the contents of the modules, assess the learner's knowledge of different topics and contents of the modules and to demonstrate examples, case history, best practices.

Examples of Learning Objects:

 Mobile Learning Pills

 Audio lessons for e-learning

 Quizzes

 Lecture notes

 PPT slides

 Documents and Links

LearnIT courses

The partners are working on the development of the content for three courses for the project's target groups: IT professionals working in SME and young people, holders of IT diplomas including women. These courses are:

- Computer Networking – e-learning and m-learning - will include six modules. Each being built in a modular manner. They will consist of different lessons and each lesson will consist of different learning objects. This means: the learners can choose what they will learn within one module and in which order, though there is a recommended order. All modules will be structured the same way.

- Technical English – e-learning and m-learning – the course will also be built in modular manner. They will consist of different lessons which will consist of different learning objectives. All modules will be structured the same way.

- Women in IT – e-learning course – it will be a set of case studies/examples of successful women working in IT. This course will consist of 10 different stories (2 from each partner country: Bulgaria, Italy, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom) in the form of audio, video and written interviews.

The courses will consist of a mix of methods. Text, video clips, audio files, graphics, slide shows, links to databases, bibliography and multiple choice tests.

Further activities of the project

The project is developed according to the work schedule. On 24-25th September the partners will meet in Bulgaria. This meeting will be hosted by Acsymiry Soft, Bulgarian partner in the consortium of the LearnIT project.

We will keep you informed about the progress of the project.