

LEARNING RESOURCE EXCHANGE WHITEPAPER CONSULTANCY – CALL FOR EXPERT

The [Learning Resource Exchange Subcommittee](#) (LRE Subcommittee) of [European Schoolnet](#) is a group of European Ministries of Education and other organizations. The LRE Subcommittee promotes and supports the creation, discovery, exchange, and (re)use of Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practices. It is open to regional and local education authorities and private for-profit and non-profit organizations that wish to utilise LRE services and take advantage of available benefits.

Members participate in European and international projects investigating the impact and best practices of OERs. To foster networking opportunities, the LRE Subcommittee collaborates closely with [EdReNe](#), a network of European repository nodes and stakeholders dedicated to the development of recommendations and exchange of expertise. Together these two networks participate in face-to-face meetings and online seminars which provide opportunities for members to keep up-to-date on the latest developments in the field and learn about new and ongoing initiatives across Europe.

As part of its activities, the LRE Subcommittee wishes to work with an independent expert who will help them identify and review implementations of recommender systems that support K-12 teachers in identifying appropriate learning resources. In particular, the LRE-subcommittee is interested in how recommender systems can help teachers optimize the use of learning resources in their classrooms. The focus of this work must be on systems for teachers and their professional development rather than on learners at the K-12 level.

Description of Work

This short piece of work will draw on the existing expertise of the consultant related to recommender systems for K-12 teachers. It will require desk research (possibly complemented by interviews with recommender system owners) exploring different recommender systems, either already in use or under development, that can support teachers in discovering resources and in effectively using these resources in their classrooms. Of possible interest are recommender systems that can take advantage of multiple data sources (e.g., repository, school, administration). The expert should identify examples of recommender systems already in use and provide an evaluation of their effectiveness in bridging the gap between learning resources and their use in the classroom.

Deliverables

The study is expected to produce the following outcomes:

1. A 25-page whitepaper (not including the bibliography) summarizing the main results of the study and
2. The presentation of these results by the expert during an EdReNe webinar.

The whitepaper will cover the following:

- A brief overview of recommender systems for teachers potentially relevant at K-12 level;
- Examples of implementations of these recommender systems;
- An evaluation of the effectiveness of different types of recommender systems supporting teachers in using digital learning resources in the classroom;
- A comprehensive bibliography referencing relevant readings and studies that can be used in selecting, developing or implementing recommender systems.

Two versions of the whitepaper will be produced:

1. A complete draft will be produced two months after the start of the project to check that the work is aligned with the expectations of the Subcommittee;
2. A final version will be delivered one month later that addresses the feedback received after the first draft.

Finally, the consultant will present the results of their work during a one-hour EdReNe webinar organized as soon as possible after the delivery of the final version of the whitepaper.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Fee

European Schoolnet can offer a fee of €3,000 for this work payable on completion of the EdReNe webinar. In case the consultant cannot carry out the assignment in full, the fee will be revised accordingly.

Timetable for work

March – June 2019

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ABOUT EUROPEAN SCHOOLNET

European Schoolnet (www.eun.org) is the network of 34 European Ministries of Education, based in Brussels. As a not-for-profit organisation, we aim to bring innovation in teaching and learning to our key stakeholders: Ministries of Education, schools, teachers, researchers, and industry partners. Since its founding in 1997, European Schoolnet has used its links with education ministries to help schools make effective use of educational technologies, equipping both teachers and pupils with the skills to achieve in the knowledge society. In particular, we pledge to:

- Support schools in achieving effective use of ICT in teaching and learning
- Improve and raise the quality of education in Europe
- Promote the European dimension in education