



Education and Culture DG



Education, Audiovisual & Culture
Executive Agency

**EU Life Long Learning Programme – Virtual Campus
‘Virtual Campus for Digital Students - ViCaDiS’
134039-LLP-1-2007-RO-ERASMUS-EVC**

ViCaDiS

Summary of the Post-Piloting Results

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The Piloting process has been described in a separate document written for the CELDA Conference 2009. All the piloting cases are described separately in ViCaDiS Campus Piloting Cases. The selection and use of social media in piloting cases was heavily dependent on case specific pedagogical settings. This means that not all the ViCaDiS features were fully covered in each Campus during the piloting phase.

In this paper we present a short summary of the Post-Piloting Questionnaire Results.

Post-Piloting Questionnaire Reports

Links to Post-Piloting Questionnaire Reports:

Technical English <http://kysy.oamk.fi/zef7/reports/e66397c01fa7b6d4c85751c47dbb21bc/>

TMM Course <http://kysy.oamk.fi/zef7/reports/1d4a22bab505d28fea405f61eea41670/>

All: <http://kysy.oamk.fi/zef7/reports/160c019d1a3e132a54f0f7ee8ba923e6/>

Lithuania: <http://kysy.oamk.fi/zef7/reports/ce7e39b5c56e44e74ba7450074969a28/>

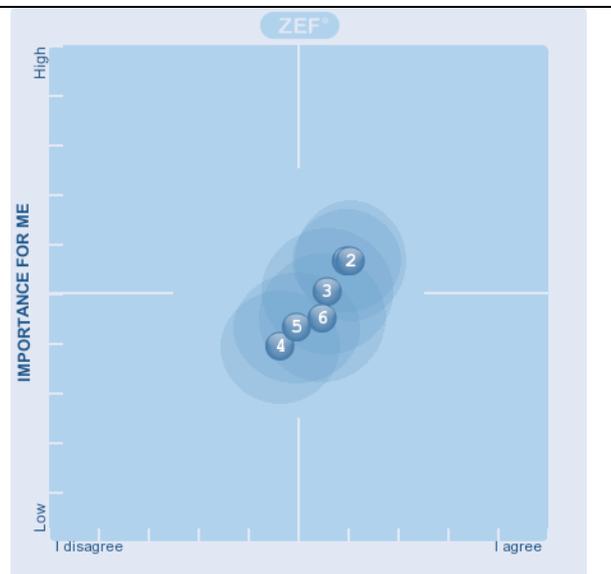
Finland INMO: <http://kysy.oamk.fi/zef7/reports/ac2ef2fe8d175ac06f1f317123355dc7/>

Finland KEKE: <http://kysy.oamk.fi/zef7/reports/5dc93ceddc9db6f38d24883a270332bd/>

General Results

ViCaDiS Features

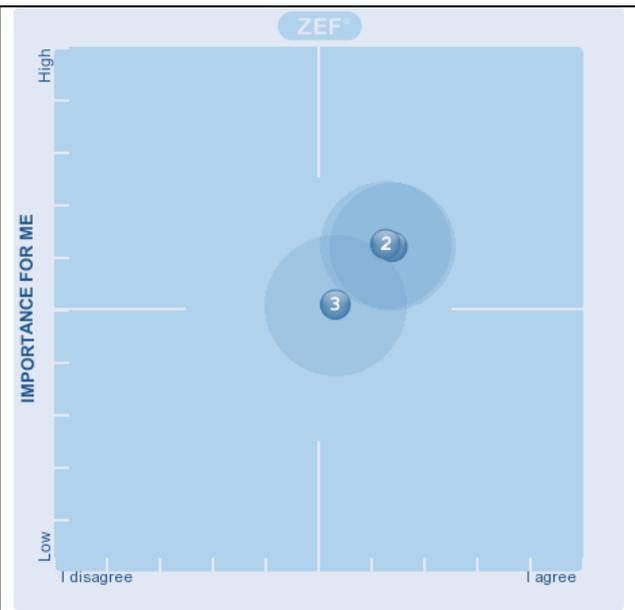
1. I found using the ViCaDiS Wiki beneficial
2. I found using the ViCaDiS Blog or OU Blog beneficial
3. I found using the ViCaDiS Chat beneficial
4. I found using the ViCaDiS Flash Cards beneficial
5. I found using the ViCaDiS Video aula beneficial
6. I found using the mobile aspect of ViCaDiS beneficial



In ViCaDiS piloting wiki, blogs and chat/forums were used extensively for fulfilling the given academic task. The Wiki, OU Blog and Chat/Forums were seen as the most important ViCaDiS features for users. They were also included in pedagogical settings of the piloting cases. ViCaDiS Video aula and Flash Card were not included in the piloting cases – which perhaps explains why they were not so highly rated by pilot users. It is also clear that students preferred blogs and chats for communicating their thoughts, reflections or working in groups for the same tasks.

Communication/Interaction

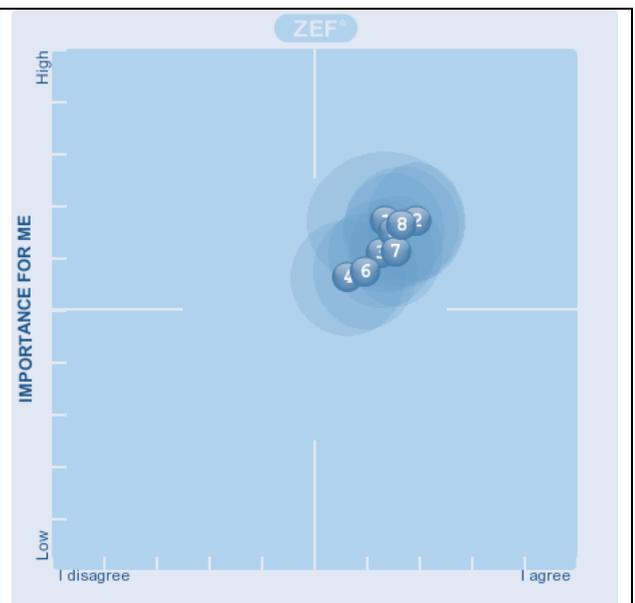
1. I found using ViCaDiS allowed me to better communicate with other students
2. I found using ViCaDiS meant I communicated with students I wouldn't otherwise have interacted with e.g. those in other countries
3. I found using the mobile aspect of ViCaDiS meant I interacted with the content/people at times I wouldn't have done otherwise



According to these answers ViCaDiS is particularly good at facilitating international communication between students, which was one of the main goals of the project. In some piloting cases students worked internationally in fulfilling the same tasks. This allowed them to get to know each other better and to interact in ways which weren't the usual in their universities settings. Only some of the piloting students used ViCaDiS through a mobile interface. None of the piloting cases was specifically based on mobile communication, but about 12% of users connected to ViCaDiS via their mobile phones.

ViCaDiS Error Tolerance

1. No system errors (e.g. crashes) occur when I work with the software.
2. If I make a mistake while performing a task, I can easily undo the last operation.
3. I perceive the error messages as helpful.
4. The software warns me about potential problem situations
5. When I attempt to perform a destructive operation (e.g. deletion of data etc.), I am always first prompted to confirm the action.
6. The software provides me with useful information on how to recover from error situations.
7. The explanations provided help me understand the software so that I become more



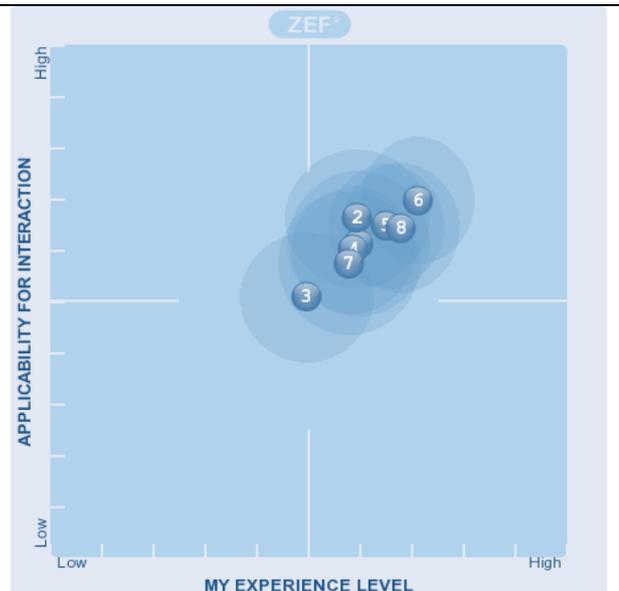
and more skilled at using it

8. I was able to use the software right from the beginning, by myself, without having to ask co-workers for help

These questions looked at some usability features of ViCaDiS. The answers on ViCaDiS Error Tolerance and interviews for the piloting suggest that the environment as tested was easy to use and highly reliable. The only problems were related to a couple of virus attacks and electric current interruptions in Timisoara. Romanian partners sorted out the virus problems very fast, which were caused by an entirely separate server on the same network.

Social Media and Tools

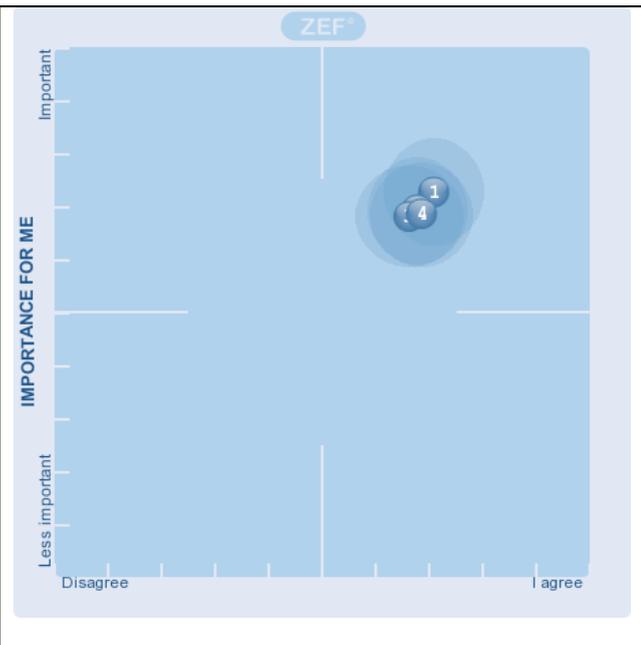
1. Skype
2. Google Docs
3. Social bookmarking
4. Blogs
5. Wikis
6. Instant messaging
7. Video discussion e.g. Skype, Adobe Connect Pro
8. Chat
9. What other social media tools and methods are you familiar with?



Most of the piloting students were familiar with social media tools, and most were evaluated positively as being suitable for interaction. Most piloting students were not very experienced in social bookmarking and interaction based on it - social bookmarking was included only in one of the piloting cases. Currently popular social networking tools (Twitter, Facebook and other Google applications) were not included in the pilots, even that in one case students used it to promote ViCaDiS. It is also obvious that students appreciate the high educational value of online video connection with peers or tutors during a course. This tool was extensively used in 2 piloting cases and better academic results were obtained by the group of students which used it.

Social networking and Learning

1. The freedom to select tools for learning and related communication facilitates learning . A selection of tools was in the previous question set.
2. Students freedom to select social networks facilitates learning . More info: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_networking
3. Digital campus facilitates learning related social networking of students and teachers
4. Possibility to create social networks with the students studying in various fields enhances learning results



Answers to this group of questions in the post-piloting questionnaire show clearly that students have a very positive attitude to the use of social networking, social media related tools, digital campus and interaction in their learning process. It is possible that some respondents were also considering tools such as Facebook or MySpace in answer to this question.