

Financial / Administrative co-ordinator

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Executive Summary

The present report refers to work progress that took place during
 M25-M27, i.e. June to August 2004

1- Overview

Objectives

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Progress towards achieving objectives</i>
WP 4: Remote scenarios Support (M25-M28) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the users in the experimentation phase (Task 4.4) 	<p>UDUI / VXU Biodiversity scenario: Collaborative work on BioTube: Connection via Web Service to the internet and implementation of a Cool Modes client</p> <p>UCH Astronomy scenario:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a remote web-based client for the telescope • The system is now working and it is possible to control and take pictures with the telescope from any place in the internet • Development of a system for requiring observations and retrieving photographs for the astronomy scenario. Development of a "requirement language" for astronomical observation in the context of the experiments foreseen by the COLDEX project (moon heights, discovering asteroids, cepheids, photographing and classification of galaxies, describing trajectories of planets) • Development of a model for a recommender system for retrieving multimedia learning material

Objectives	Progress towards achieving objectives
	<p>USB Biodiversity scenario: Continued implementation of generator which produces protocol handler from specification. Application in the biodiversity scenario planned for autumn.</p> <p>UNED Chemistry Scenario: Implementation of a test pilot with students using remotely the infrared spectograph. Fixing the user interface and the virtual functionality</p> <p>UPM (Leader in WP4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The telescope could be finished already, however we now have funds and we will start to build it up in the next period. However we can control it completely via web and we manage the images from it. • The chemical laboratory prototype has been finished. • We have finished a scheduling tool for remote labs. However it hasn't been integrated yet in any laboratory. • A robot scenario has been set up. <p>Task 4.2: Development of COLDEX client API</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Installation of a "laboratory planification tool" webcal (http://gayuba2.datsi.fi.upm.es/~ohornero/) in the chemistry scenario as committed in the workshop in Duisburg in July. ■ Continued work in the API for the UPM telescope, implementing some of its functionality via "Web services", especially for the solar scenario. All the work is updated in the website http://gayuba2.datsi.fi.upm.es/~mapeces/ ■ We have started integrating the robot scenario for the teaching Real Time Operating Systems in the UPM's Computer Science School (http://gayuba2.datsi.fi.upm.es/~rcedazo/) <p>Task 4.3: Test the prototypes and modify according to the users' requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ We have performed many tests with the chemistry scenario at the UNED. <p>Task 4.4: giving support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ We have been giving support to chemistry scenario at the UNED.

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Progress towards achieving objectives</i>
<p>WP 5: Local scenarios Support (M25-M28)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the users in the experimentation phase (Task 5.4) 	<p>UDUI</p> <p>Maze scenario:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop has been held for students of K10 with the new version of the maze software. Summer studies 2004 in natural science and technology: the maze scenario has been presented. <p>UCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a system for retrieving learning objects of the COLDEX repository for carrying out experiments with the AudiBattle game with blind and sighted children. Debugging and installing in the Chilean server the CIC environment for using the astronomy and seismo scenario. <p>VXU</p> <p>Preparatory discussions with teachers to initiate experimentation in the local scenario.</p> <p>UNED</p> <p>The deployment of the chemistry scenario has been carried out. Supporting students and academic staff in the pilot experimentation. Documentation for the scenario has been written in addition to deliverables.</p>
<p>WP 6: Communication and pedagogical networking Support (M27)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the users in the experimentation phase (Task 6.4) 	<p>UDUI</p> <p>Elaboration of the Cool Modes Archive: restructuring of the web interface considering the user tests.</p> <p>UCH</p> <p>Contact with four schools in the area of Santiago de Chile for using the astronomy and seismo scenarios.</p> <p>UNED</p> <p>In this period we were working mainly in WP6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalising the LOR (the metadata mapping for objects and tools and the search functionality), the implementation of the COLDEX network architecture. Developing a second prototype, as specified in deliverable D6.3.1
<p>WP 7: Open User Scheme Pre-evaluation (M27)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-evaluation of the system considering the established user group (Task 7.3) 	<p>UDUI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elaboration of Cool Modes Archive considering the demands of the targetted user group. Enlargement of the user group and dissemination of tools in order to foster generation of learning objects which can be feed into the LOR.

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Progress towards achieving objectives</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to the LOR: metadata structure for Cool Modes learning objects. • Extension of the COLDEX website: OUS area with downloadable tools, how-tos and instructions to conduct workshops or other events for several scenarios. <p>VXU Preparation, design and implementation of educational activities for the formation of an initial user community in Sweden.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop with teachers from two local schools. The aim of the workshop was to make them familiar with the tools and material from the DExT "BioDiversity". • A collaboration agreement has been signed with one school that gives them access to COLDEX material and use the possibility to follow their work more closely for evaluating the results of their efforts. <p>USB Cooperation with geography department of KU Eichstätt to develop and test learning material for meteorite impact / moon crater scenario in class. First use and evaluation as in a four hour module in class.</p> <p>UNED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete description of the chemistry scenario for potential use in the OUS and handout for students. • Contribution to functional documentation (metadata and LO packaging model).
<p>WP 8: Evaluation Pre-evaluation (M27)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-evaluation of the first prototype with learning material produced by WP7 • Definition of evaluation settings to test the pedagogical claims produced by WP2 • Development of methods for evaluating collaboration, based on approaches based on formative evaluation (Task 8.2) 	<p>UDUI Evaluation of Maze workshop as a case study.</p> <p>VXU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaboration of the final evaluation plan (still in a draft). • Initial preparations for a field study to be conducted during the fall term at a local school using the biodiversity scenario. <p>UNED Formative evaluation of the chemistry scenario pilot.</p>

1.1 Milestones

<i>Milestone*</i>	<i>Planned date</i>	<i>Actual date</i>	<i>Comments</i>
MilestoneNo13 – Continuous enlargement of the user group WP7	30 Nov 2003 to 29 Feb 2005		on-going
MilestoneNo10 System Prototype 1	30 Nov 2003	30 Nov 2003 (draft) 15 June 2004 (final version)	See the revision history section of deliverable D6.1.1
MilestoneNo16 Final Prototype	31 May 2004	May 2004	LOR System prototype ready for the OUS scheme workshop
MilestoneNo18-20/22/24 Workshop on dissemination and evaluation / WP4	31 Aug 2004		
MilestoneNo21 Dissemination of the infrastructure via the Open User Scheme to external users	31 Aug 2004	26 Jul 2004	Downloads of learning material and tools available
MilestoneNo23 Pre-evaluation done / WP 8	31 Aug 2004		

* Note: The milestones are renumbered, according to their due dates. (A number list is attached to this report)

1.2 Deliverables

<i>Deliverable Code & Name</i>	<i>Planned delivery date</i>	<i>Actual delivery date</i>	<i>Comments</i>
D1.2.1 – Project presentation (brochure, website, video)	30 Nov 2002 30 Nov 2003 30 Nov 2004		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> additional materials (publications etc.) within the deliverables area extension of the OUS area: downloads of learning materials, tools etc. related with subsequent updates
D4.2.1/D5.2.1/D6.2.1 – System Prototype	31 Jan 2004	(details see below)	merged
D4.3.1/D5.3.1/D6.3.1 – Final Prototype	30 Jun 2004		

D6.2.1 – Coldex Portal Access Guidelines (prototype 1)	30 Jan 2004		
D6.3.1 – Coldex System Architecture Summary	30 Jun 2004		
D7.2.1 – Learning Material and Guidelines	29 Feb 2004	28 Jul 2004	
D7.2.2 – Functional Documentation	30 Jun 2004		
D4.2.1/D4.3.1 – System Prototype	31 Jan 2004	19 Aug 2004 (draft available on COLDEX website)	A draft of the deliverable "D4.2.1 System Prototype I" is finished. Some changes and corrections are pending.

1.3 Deviations from Plan

<i>Causes and Description</i>	<i>Corrective actions</i>
The System Prototype I (WP4/5/6) hasn't been ready in time	The prototypes "System Prototype I" and "Final Prototype" have been merged in order to minimise further delay (project meeting July) of deliverables.
Astronomy scenario	We have some delay in the Astronomical scenario since we didn't have funds until last month for buying the dome.
Chemistry scenario	We had some delay in the chemistry scenario because the spectrometer got broken and we could not work on it for three weeks.

2 - Contractual Arrangements

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3 - Project Meetings (held and foreseen)

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date and Place</i>	<i>Main conclusions</i>
Preparatory project meeting for the review	1 – 2 July 2004 Duisburg, Germany	Deliverables, preparing of presentations and demonstrations, more attention to deadlines and administrative issues. Preparation of the further enlargement of the OUS community. Merging of the prototypes in deliverables; preparing of work list for the review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prototypes • Administration • Scenarios • Evaluation

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date and Place</i>	<i>Main conclusions</i>
Programmers' workshop	5 – 9 Jul 2004, Växjö, Sweden	Elaboration of biodiversity scenario, namely BioTube via Web Service connected to the internet. Work on Cool Modes client.
Preparatory meeting for the review	9 September in Växjö. Sweden	
Second project review	10 Sep 2004 in Växjö, Sweden	

4 - Dissemination / Promotional Information

4.1 Conferences and / or Workshops organised / foreseen by the project

<i>Date</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Number of persons attended + other information</i>
2 – 4 June 2004	The Challenge of Integrating ICT in Teacher Education, Jönköping, Sweden	Milrad, M. Presentation of COLDEX. The conference took place at the School of Education and Communication, Jönköping University, Sweden.
18 June 2004	Scenario discussion, Borken, Germany	Hoeksema, K., Sachdeva, K., presentation of the astronomy scenario and contacts with telescope experts
1 – 2 July 2004	Project meeting, Duisburg, Germany	Several project presentations
4 – 6 July 2004	ATE, Kefalonia, Greece	Hoeksema, K., Baloian, N. "Collaborative Learning in Class Room Scenarios", international symposion on advanced technologies in education.
23 July 2004	CFP	Call for proposals of co-operative activities at partner sites based on COLDEX scenarios / DEXTs; these projects will be clearly focused on specific target groups (schools / classes or teacher education). There is a good chance to initiate cooperation activities with partners from Latin America.
23 July 2004	Riesmuseum, Nördlingen, Germany	Diehl, S., presentation of the CRATER prototype
10 Aug 2004	Katedral school, Växjö, Sweden	Workshop for teachers conducted in the Kronoberg region
13 Aug 2004	Araby school, Växjö, Sweden	Workshop for teachers conducted in the Kronoberg region
23 August 2004	SW-EL 2004, Eindhoven, Netherlands	Pinkwart, N., Jansen, M., Oelinger, M., Hoppe, U., Korchounova, L. "Partial Generation of Contextualized Metadata in a Collaborative Modeling Environment".

Date	Title	Number of persons attended + other information
22 – 23 November 2004	NCWS 04, Växjö, Sweden	Jansen, M., Gottdenker, J., Rossmann, P., Milrad, M. "Exploring the Use of WebServices for the Design and Implementation of Innovative Collaborative Technologies".
December 2004 or Jan/Feb 2005	not yet determined	Second COLDEX-OUS workshop with invited participants, reporting on co-operative OUS activities

4.2 Articles Published, Press coverage etc.

Date and Type	Details
22/07/2004 – Regional newspaper	Newspaper article about a workshop <i>Die Flucht aus dem Labyrinth</i> (german) www.collide.info/~oelinger/coldex/mazeRP20040622.jpg
17/06/2004 – Online information service for science	Press report about a workshop <i>Uni DuE: Schüler gesucht für Informatikprojekt "Flucht aus dem Labyrinth"</i> (german) http://idw-online.de/public/zeige_pm.html?pmid=81910
17/06/2004 – Online service and information platform for schools and teachers	Press report about a workshop in the maze scenario <i>Uni Duisburg sucht Schülergruppen. Dass man Roboter so programmieren kann, dass sie aus Labyrinth freikommen, haben jetzt Weseler Gymnasiasten an der Universität Duisburg-Essen erfahren.</i> (german) http://www.lehrer-online.de/dyn/9.asp?url=411128.htm
23/06/2004 – Regional newspaper	Newspaper article about a workshop in the maze scenario <i>Dem Roboter sagen, wo es lang geht</i> (german)

5 - Main results

Description	Details
LOR	Second prototype implemented
Scenarios	Biodiversity scenario: connection via Web Service
	Maze scenario: workshop for students of K10 with evaluation
	Chemistry scenario: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenario pilot • The scheduler has been installed and set up at UNED.
	Astronomy scenario: the telescope laboratory prototype has been adapted to the astronomy scenario for the solar demo in the review in September.
Open User Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact to several users like teachers, students etc. to prepare evaluation. • Call for proposals of co-operative activities at partner sites (Europe and Latin America). • OUS download page within the Coldex website.

6 - Project Effort

The effort for the reporting period and the cumulative effort to-day is presented as an Excel sheet which is attached to this management report.

Summary

This summary contains a list of technical, business and administrative highlights, including:

Overall assessment of the main milestones achieved, or results delivered

The prototypes have been implemented and tests have been conducted. Especially the LOR has been used within the OUS initial workshop to store the created learning objects. Thus the OUS has been started very promising and with a great motivating effect.

Problems encountered and decisions taken

The description of the system prototypes had not been clear to all of the partners. To face this problem, during the project meeting in July the structure of the description concerning the prototype deliverables have been specified.

Conclusive statement on correspondence between planned project progress (as detailed in the Project Programme) and actual accomplishments

Despite the reported problems the overall progress of the project is very positive. On the one hand there are few delays now, on the other hand the scenarios have been elaborated and tested, the support of the user group is increasing.

Work progress overview

Specific objectives (for the reporting period)

Initiating OUS proposals is one of the main objectives for this reporting period. Furthermore the prototypes are meant to be implemented. The third objective is the (pre-)evaluation of the scenarios and systems.

Achievements

List of Deliverables

Detailed information is contained in the table "1.2 Deliverables" above. The reports (management and progress report) are also available within the website's deliverable area: www.coldex.info > deliverables. There is additional material (publications etc.) available, too.

Progress by Workpackage / task

In the scenario workpackages (WP 4 and WP 5) the support of the users in the experimentation phase has been done. For the biodiversity scenario the users are now

supported by a flexible connection via Web Service to the internet. USB has planned for this scenario an application (autumn).

Within the astronomy scenario the support of the users contains a remote web-based client. A user can now control the telescope via the internet and take pictures. Furthermore retrieving for photographs has been developed.

For the chemistry scenario a pilot has been implemented with students who use remotely the spectrograph.

For the WP 5 (local scenarios) and WP 8 (evaluation) a workshop for students has been held which has been a case study for a second evaluation of this scenario (first one has been done in 2003).

The seismology scenario has been elaborated by using the CIC environment. This environment is also be used for parts of the astronomy scenario in Chile.

WP 6 – communication and pedagogical networking – has been enriched by the Cool Modes archive (with an restructured webinterface). The finalisation of the LOR has started and the COLDEX network architecture is implemented in Madrid.

Several contacts to schools and museums build the base for WP 7 (Open User Scheme). Enlargement of the user group is also supported by the Call for proposals within the Open User Scheme target group. For the OUS purpose the COLDEX website has been extended: in an OUS area users can download tools, how-tos and instructions for several scenarios.

For the evaluation – which belongs to WP 8 – not only the maze and the chemistry scenario have been evaluated, but also the final evaluation plan has been discussed as a draft version. An evaluation in the biodiversity scenario has been prepared.

Deviations if any and corrective action

The draft version of the deliverable "D8.1.1 Evaluation Plan II: Specialised Evaluation and Test Plan" has to be finalised, considering the first evaluation plan ("D2.3.2 Evaluation Plan I: Methodology and Examples"). "D7.2.2 Functional Documentation" has to be delivered, too.

Project reviews

Follow-up of recommendations from previous review and / or preparation of inputs to upcoming review

The next review is held in September and will be considered in the next reporting period.

Work planned for the next reporting period

(UDUI)

Contact to interested groups for the Open User Scheme and support of the submitted projects.

Project Management

The project management keeps the progress of the project in mind and focusses on minimising of delays. Time schedules and thorough handling of deadlines supports the partner in the ongoing work.

Contractual issues

The workshop in Buenos Aires caused a delay in the cost statement because of collecting bills and determine dates of exchange rates. Since the administrative side in Latin America bases on a different system, communication took some time to clarify the common administrative process.

Co-operation within the consortium, including project meetings

The project meeting in July has been very successful regarding clarification of problems (see above) preparation of the review in September. A time schedule has been adopted in order to support the work progress.

Contribution to clustering, concertation and standardisation

Within the biodiversity scenario and the Cool Modes metadata mechanism, Web Services have been implemented which are nowadays a very important standard. The LOR structure has considered the metadata needs of the partners' scenarios which is fundamentally needed for the usage of the repository.

Participation in workshops and / or conferences, publications, etc.

Several workshops and conferences with resulting publications have been successfully conducted. Details about this can be seen above in 1 – Overview.

Effort breakdown

Essential work being done in this reporting period is the support of the users in the experimentation phase for the scenarios and the communication and pedagogical networking, the pre-evaluation of the Open User Scheme system considering the established user group and the pre-evaluation in WP 8 of the first prototypes with learning material produced within WP 7.

Again standards have been used to enable connecting Coldex work to a bigger community, e.g. Web Services as interface technology.

The recently developed tools and systems are published not only at appropriate conferences, but also for the local demand to extend the user community for COLDEX. Furthermore the local press has been involved in this reporting period to make the scenarios known to potential disseminators.

The evaluation plan II is now elaborated to fit the current development of the project. Following this plan will contribute to the success especially of the evaluation and open user workpackages.