MODERNIZING AND ENHANCING INDIAN E-LEARNING EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES – MIELES

MIELES External Evaluation

Introduction

This research will adopt a mixed-methods strategy, comprising different instruments to collect both qualitative and quantitative data and to acquire information and input from as many relevant stakeholders as possible. This strategy allows for a triangulation of findings that will provide a complete picture of the project, evidence of its efficacy and impact with regards of its general objectives and target outcomes. Although several approaches, instruments will be employed and different stakeholders will be taken into account, the evaluator will first work closely with the quality committee leader and project management team leader to design the evaluation in a way that it can effectively assess the project progresses, identify its key successes and its areas for improvement.

MIELES Overview

MIELES is an innovative approach that aims to enhance quality and access to Indian Higher Education system by supporting the design of institutional e-learning strategies. Funded by the EU Commission, under the Erasmus+ program, the projects was awarded to the Universidad de Barcelona. Project activities are delivered in partnership with 14 Institutions from Europe and India. The Indian partners have dissimilar educational profiles, diverse student communities, and different experience in EU project collaboration. The ultimate goal of this partnership is to promote Indo European active collaboration in e-learning. This will be achieved by sharing skills, best practices and innovative approaches toward e-learning. Specifically, MIELE project endeavours to achieve the following outcomes:

-Better awareness and understanding of Indian university governance and leadership about their needs and potential benefits/gains with regards to e-learning

-Improved capability of Indian Institutions to develop clear, sound, effective strategic approaches to e-learning

-Empowered capacity of Indian Institutions to implement their institutional e-learning strategies via trained staff and pilot projects

-Transfer of knowledge within India regarding e-learning strategy and capacity

Evaluation

The main purpose of this evaluation is to collect data and evidence to assess the project and to confirm that it is accomplishing the planned goals and achieving the expected outcomes.

The analysis will be centred on the following questions:

- Is the project meeting its objectives?
- Do its objectives still meet the needs of the partners involved and, generally, of the relevant Higher Education Systems?
- Are the expected outcomes being delivered as planned?
- Are the deliverables of acceptable quality? Are they being implemented in a way that they can be sustainable?
- Is the degree of collaboration among partners acceptable?
- Are the accomplished outputs effectively disseminated?

Evaluation: methods

The evaluation will be based on different methods to collect data.

Analysis of project documentation

Review of Main Project Deliverables

Event observation/ Focus group discussion: by attending XXXX the evaluator will be able to assess the degree of collaboration and interaction among partners, the quality and relevance of the planned sessions and presentations, the participation and contribution of regional-local stakeholders. A Focus group discussion might be organized with partners representatives; this will allow for an interchange on various issues related to project objectives and outputs, leading to an investigation on more qualitative factors beyond the focus of the structured questionnaire responses.

Survey questionnaires(N.): will be designed to gather data from respondents across different stakeholders. Respondents will be elicited to provide their feedback in relation to identical questions in order to facilitate the identification of common themes. Questionnaires will be focused on the quality of project deliverables and quality of project management.

Key informant Interviews (N.): will be conducted via Skype and in person during planned project events/meetings. Interviews will be mainly unstructured although they will make use of the same lines of the questionnaires. Interviews will allow the evaluator to collect data which might not be solicited by structured questionnaires. They will therefore provide an insight on the project outputs that cannot be acquired through structured questionnaires.