



What is SOMOBNET?

SoMobNet (Social Mobile Networking For Informal Learning) is a capacity building network (i.e. a Theme Team) part-funded by STELLAR, the Network of Excellence on TEL funded within FP7 (see <http://www.stellarnet.eu>), for the years 2011-2012.

Who are the partners?

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What is the background and what are the research issues?

Mobility and networking are two important emerging issues. Learners and teachers, as well as workers, especially in developed countries, are continuously involved in ubiquitous relationships with other people on the net, exchanging information and sharing knowledge and skills.

However, in the field of mobile learning, a great deal of emphasis has been placed on technologies and content transfer, while the potential to support community building processes through the integration with other socio-technical mechanisms such as social networks has tended to be underemphasized. In this context, the aim of the SoMobNet Theme

Team is to explore educational and socio-cultural perspectives on the use of the increasing convergence of mobile devices and digital media for social networking in formal and informal contexts of learning. In particular, the SoMobNet Theme Team intends to investigate the following research questions:

A How can/do mobile devices support workers' community building through social networks?

B What models of assessment are possible through new mobile devices in informal learning situations?

C How can mobile devices support workers' training between real (e.g., their force, or classroom and so on) and online contexts (e.g., social networks)?

Each research question is related to the three STELLAR "Grand Challenges" framework:

- 1 - Connecting learners
- 2 - Orchestrating learning
- 3 - Contextualising learning

(<http://www.stellarnet.eu/programme/wp1>)

What are the expected outputs?

- Organizing an International Roundtable
- Publishing a Special Issue on the topic
- Building a social repository of digital resources
- Identifying examples of good practice
- Promoting synergies and networks
- Disseminating findings and results

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SoMobNet website: <http://www.somobnet.eu>

More info: Follow us on Twitter: #SoMobNet and Diigo: <http://groups.diigo.com/group/somobnet> or visit our Facebook fan page: <http://tinyurl.com/3v33vok>

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