



ISO/IEC JTC1 SC36
Information Technology for Learning, Education, and
Training

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FYI and to invite all NBLOs to submit scenarios for and essential characteristics of nomadic learning and mobile learning (according to the SC36 Plenary Resolution #15 (Toronto 2007) in 36N1597).

Deadline 2008-01-15

Distribution:

P, O, & L Members, WG Conveners

ISO / IEC JTC1 SC36 WG3

Questionnaire on scenarios for and essential characteristics of nomadic learning and mobile learning

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Dear colleagues,

The goal of the nomadicity and mobile learning project is to prepare a technical report that will describe the needs and requirements of nomadic learners and involves a description of the elements of learning environments from multiple perspectives (e.g., business, academic, government, etc.). The report will also include the learner information specific to mobile learning that can be used as a reference by software developers, implementers, instructional designers, and others to ensure that learning, education, and training environments to reflect the specific needs of mobile learners.

In order to move forward with our work, we are inviting National Bodies and Liaison Organizations (NBLOs) to provide scenarios for and essential characteristics of nomadic learning and mobile learning.

Contributors are asked to complete the questionnaire below. Please return your completed questionnaire by email to the WG3 Convener Bernard Blandin:

bblandin@cesi.fr

The deadline for submission: 15th of January 2008

If anyone has any questions on completing the Questionnaire that they should contact the Project Co-Editor, Dr. Mohamed Ally at e-mail address:

mohameda@athabascau.ca

Answer the questions from the perspective of your country or your JTC1/SC36 mirror committee.

WG3 members will analyse the scenarios and essential characteristics provided, and these will form the basis for WG3 work on nomadicity and mobile learning.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

“Questionnaire on scenarios for and essential characteristics of nomadic learning and mobile learning”

Please provide your documentation based on the following framework

Contact Person (Name and E-Mail):	
Name of the Organization:	
Address:	
Primary function or activities or business:	(For example, tertiary educational institution, government department, corporation.)

1 Nomadic Learning

It has been suggested that nomadicity “refers to the system support needed to provide a rich set of capabilities and services to the nomad”, also referred to as the infrastructure, as this person “moves from place to place in a transparent and convenient form” (Kleinrock, 1995). There are currently several approaches in different countries to nomadicity within learning, education, and training. Increasingly, people (e.g., workers, students, etc.), are required to accept a nomadic lifestyle, which may involve changing location, time zone, and technological surrounding infrastructure. In addition, new technologies that support nomadic learners are being developed and implemented.

For the questions below, we ask that you consider the characteristics and needs of the learner who requires technologies to support their learning as they move from place to place. Some examples may include students who access their course materials on a virtual hard drive or server that is accessible from anywhere in the world, corporate learners who use mobile devices to complete assessments within a Learning Management System (LMS) learning module, government employees from different locations who share and collaboratively develop policy documents across different time zones.

- 1.1 How is “nomadic learning” being implemented in your country? Please provide some examples or scenarios of “nomadic learning” in your country.
- 1.2 What infrastructure exists in your country to support “nomadic learning”?
- 1.3 Does your country have existing frameworks or standards for “nomadic learning”? If yes, please attach details of the frameworks or standards for “nomadic learning” that exist in your country.
- 1.4 What are some characteristics that a “nomadic learning” system must have to meet learners’ needs? What should a “nomadic learning” system provide for learners?
- 1.5 Based on nomadic learning that is within your own country, what is your definition for “nomadic learning”?

2 Mobile Learning

It has been suggested that mobile learning is “e-learning facilitated by mobile devices and not constrained by location or movement” [ISO/IEC 2382-36: 2005 (E/F), 36.01.05]. However, within

different research domains, and within JTC1 SC36 itself (e.g., 36N1349, German presentation Wuhan 2006, 36N1357, 36N1330, and 36N1288) several different definitions of mobile learning have been proposed. Recognizing that there are several approaches in different countries to mobile learning, additional information is needed to harmonize our understanding of mobile learning.

For the questions below, we ask that you consider the characteristics and needs of the learner who uses mobile devices to support their learning. Scenarios may include learners who engage in activities:

- within one location and at one time (for example, using mobile devices to demonstrate the principles of germ transmission to young students in the classroom);
- in one location across different timespans (for example, using GIS handheld units to gather data for a series of fieldtrips for a Forensic Anthropology class);
- occurring different locations at the same time (for example learners at a museum access multimedia information regarding exhibits from different locations and communicate and compare information with their colleagues/co-learners synchronously);
- occurring across different timespans (for example gathering environmental data to track changes over time); and
- many others ...

2.1 How is “mobile learning” being implemented in your country? Please provide some examples or scenarios of “mobile learning” in your country.

2.2 What infrastructure exists in your country to support “mobile learning”?

2.3 Does your country have existing frameworks or standards for “mobile learning”? If yes, please attach details of the frameworks or standards for “mobile learning” that exist in your country.

2.4 What are some characteristics that “mobile learning” must have to meet learners’ needs? What are the features that mobile devices must have for use in “mobile learning”? What should “mobile learning” provide for learners?

2.5 Based on mobile learning that is within your own country, what is your definition for “mobile learning”?

2.6 Does your country differentiate between "e-Learning" and "mobile learning"? If so, how?

3 Additional Information Relevant to Nomadic Learning and Mobile Learning

Please use this section to provide additional information that will help to understand the scenarios and/or characteristics you have provided. For example, please provide additional website links, definitions, and/or other documentation.