

Experiences from Slovenia

NRENs support to education during covid-19

TF-EDU virtual meeting

Wednesday, March, 25, 2020

Croatia and Slovenia: catering for e-schools

Economy of scale, demand from MoE

Infrastructure & services

- Connectivity to NREN, eduroam
- Centralized services
 - CMS, LMS, AAI (identity hosting), MMedia ...
 - National educational portal
 - Support & trainings for teachers
- Wider spectrum in CRO
 - Content
 - E-class register
 - ...

National project(s) to introduce/support ICT in schools

Slovenia The Week Before: 9-15th March

- Universities gradually closing
 - Generally on their own (Moodle, MS Teams),
 - some ask for VC tools (used to Adobe Connect, not scalable - licensing, Flash issue)
 - Finding their own solutions (Zoom, ...)
- Decision to close schools next week, go for distance education (cross toes)
 - We knew infrastructure not ready for the demand (critical: Moodle, VC)
 - Arnes declares working from home until end of March
- MoE sets coordination with Arnes and National Education Institute
 - Task: Help MoE to provide support
 - Talks also to MS and operators (support for deprived)
- Hard working weekend
 - Central info & support portal (www.sio.si) for schools
 - Gathering basic advice, materials...
 - Moodle → expandable platform

Resources for schools

- AAI
 - Hosted IdP & user identity management for schools
- Moodle
 - Central national (ARNES)
 - Online communities & MOOCs
- MMedia
 - Adobe Connect (limited use)
 - WebRTC (internal meetings)
 - VoD portal with streaming
 - (just setting up Jitsi)
- CMS (school's pages as comm channel)
 - Central Wordpress (ARNES)

Commercial/free tools/alternatives

- e-Class Register for students and parents
 - (in CRO by CARNet, SLO commercial)
 - comm with pupils, parents
 - + virtual classrooms
- Google, Office 365 + MS Teams, Cisco Webex, (Zoom), Discord, FB
- OpenUp2U ?

Activities

- Arnes
 - Scaling infrastructures/services
 - Helpdesk
 - Managing the SIO editorial board (communication, promotion of resources)
 - Inviting & connecting more experts/stakeholders
 - MOOCs - “how to” in teaching (Moodle, mobile devices, ... online safety)
- National Education institute
 - Didactical support for teachers (Moodle online communities, Adobe Connect, Teams)
 - Materials, video guides
- Pedagogical faculties
 - Plan to engage students in helping
 - Teachers (Moodle)
 - Students (chat/Teams/Moodle)

Challenges - Slovenia

Monday 16. March - none of the popular services stable! (10-100x increase)

- Moodle
 - Reconfigured to cluster platform, adding servers (lent by JSI & some private companies)
 - optimizing the Moodle platform (possible advice from Up2U team?)
- Wordpress
 - overloaded first day (school home pages), then ok.
- Demand for VC (Adobe Connect), not scalable (licensing)
- VoD portal: 15-fold increase
 - Videos (in online classrooms, MOOC-s), plus free Slovenian films (limited time) - popular!!
 - short bottleneck Saturday, now OK
- AAI
 - Lots of lost/forgotten passwords; many pupils enter virtual classrooms as guests
 - User management & support: Central vs. @school