



ProFouND: Prevention of Falls Network for Dissemination

DELIVERABLE D 2.3

BASIC PLATFORM FOR DISTANCE LEARNING PROVISION

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Introduction:

ProFouND aims to ensure that there is *easily accessible* online training into *evidence based falls prevention and management* to users **across Europe**. Whilst much of this training will be freely accessible (eg. short online training for use of the *ProFouND App*, narrated presentations on falls awareness campaigns etc), some training is only for named users (eg. online cascade training modules for WP5 roll out of cascade trainers). This distance learning platform will have a number of facilities, ranging from evidencing/ documenting external access to online podcasts or other learning content (eg. YouTube clips) identified by WP3 and WP5 and the rest of the Consortium, to provision of assessment of knowledge gained and evidence/documentation of local action plans suggested by those accessing the training (e.g. reach of new service delivery to older people themselves).

The training platform allows for these potential uses and has been set up (using existing online software) to have a **ProFouND identity**.

This report describes the work conducted to create the online deliverable D2.3.

Workpackage and Partner Input:

Demokritos (Partner 11) have set up the basic online training platform on behalf of ProFouND. Working closely with WP2 and WP5 the basic look and feel of the platform and the current access levels for content management have been refined.

ProFouND e-learning Training Platform (Moodle):

The ProFouND e-learning Platform has been set up on Moodle. Moodle is a software package for producing web-based courses and web sites. It is a global development project designed to support a social constructionist framework of education. Moodle is provided freely as Open Source software (under the GNU General Public License) can be installed on any computer that can run PHP, and can support an SQL type database (for example MySQL). The word Moodle was originally an acronym for Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment, which is mostly useful to programmers and education theorists. It is

also a verb that describes the process of “lazily” meandering through something, doing things as it occurs to you to do them, an enjoyable tinkering that often leads to insight and creativity. As such it applies both to the way Moodle was developed, and to the way a trainer might approach studying or teaching an online course.

The Platform is installed at NCSR’s Demokritos premises and fully supported/administered by NCSR Demokritos for the whole duration of the project. The online training platform will be hosted on "profoundtraining.dat.demokritos.gr" but linked through to the ProFouND website so that there is an integrated and seamless transition from the main ProFouND website to the online training site. After the end of the project this can be hosted either in NCSR Demokritos or transferred in another partner’s hosting premises or transferred to a commercial web server with appropriate server security and service user agreements eg EU Data Protection Directive 95/46/EC and proposed update and Safe Harbor agreements.

The main features of the platform include:

1. The number of the e-courses to be created is unlimited and can be categorised (e.g. Courses for physiotherapists, Courses for trainers for older people, Courses for ICT-for-falls experts, Courses for everyone). Each category can be public or accessible by specific users (e.g. only physiotherapists).
2. Moodle’s administrator within the realm of the project (NCSR Demokritos) will upload and organise the existing material in cooperation with the leaders of the relevant tasks. Multiple administrators will be created. The process is compatible for any administrator and keeps the online training portal running.
3. Users will be able to upload any type of files (e.g. videos, documents) and write their comments.
4. A course activity report, showing the number of views for each activity and resource (and any related blog entries), will be able to be viewed by administrators and users with specific roles.
5. Communication activities will be available such as forum, chat and personal messages (internal e-mails).
6. Activities with deadlines will be able to be assigned (e.g. reviews).
7. Workshop activity modules enable the collection, review and peer assessment of participants' work. Moodle users will be able to submit any digital content (files), such as word-processed documents or spreadsheets and can also type text directly into a field using the text editor.
8. This platform will request basic user details and a follow up survey on potential reach of new information learned.

Note: More information about Moodle and its features are available at <https://moodle.org/>

ProFouND e-learning Training Platform Screenshot

The screenshot displays the ProFouND Online Training platform interface. At the top, a dark blue header contains the text "ProFouND Online Training" and a user status indicator "You are not logged in. (Login)" next to a language dropdown menu set to "English (en)".

The main content area features the ProFouND logo (Prevention of Falls Network for Dissemination) and a detailed description of the network's mission and objectives. It states that ProFouND is an EC CIP funded Thematic Network working with the EIP-AHA to disseminate best practice in falls prevention across Europe. It mentions 21 partners from 12 countries and aims to bring together stakeholders to consolidate roadmaps and guidelines regarding fall prevention.

Below the description, there is a section for "laterLife training" with the URL <http://profound.eu.com/>. A "Courses" section lists two options: "ICT 4 Falls in English" (with a sub-option "Demo course for trainers 2") and "ICT 4 Falls in German".

On the right side, there is a sidebar with the title "Maximising Take-up of Effective Falls Prevention Interventions". It includes a flyer image with the text "Is your fall prevention practice as effective as it could be?" and contact information for ProFouND at the University of Manchester, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL, United Kingdom. It also mentions an EC ICT PSP Grant Agreement 325087. At the bottom of the sidebar, there is a logo for the "Δημόκριτος Εθνικό Κέντρο Έρευνας Φυσικών Επιστημών".

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text "You are not logged in. (Login)" and the Moodle logo.

Conclusion

Although the basic platform is set up, it is not fully operational at 16/09/2013. The first online training will be for the cascade training and although Deliverable 5.3 (Online resources to support tutor training) has been submitted, the actual content is yet to appear on the online training platform as the deliverables were set at the same month, without adequate time between deliverables realistically to ensure the platform can be populated. By month 8 the online resources for WP5 cascade training will be available on the e-learning platform. This is in good time for cascade training to commence as planned.

The ProFouND e-learning platform will support the development of a European Repository for trainers with e-courses for Online Training on ICT and Technology for Falls.