

WHO MOOCs: Knowledge transfer and training for disease outbreaks

External project partner:

World Health Organization (WHO), Department of Pandemic and Epidemic Diseases, under the WHO Cluster for Outbreaks and Health Emergencies (OHE).



Background:

The WHO and its partners have developed a number of face-to-face training courses, and other training material and guidance, focusing on outbreaks, infectious diseases and health in emergencies. Due to a continuous demand for easier and faster access to training packages, and the need to address an ever growing audience, WHO is now looking into the delivery of various thematic contents through Massive Open Online Courses.

The HPI as one of the European MOOC pioneers and the WHO will join forces for this purpose.

Project objective:

Based on the award winning MOOC platform that powers openHPI and openSAP and already counts more than a million course enrollments, we want to research how MOOCs can become a tool in the fight against disease outbreaks.

The project will design and develop enhancements for the openHPI platform and/or the mobile apps that support the WHO-specific use cases.

Watch our **intro video** at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ytk0gJkdnUw>

Research questions:

- What content works best in emergency settings?
- Can we define best practices and pathways for the production of new material?
- How can the time requirement for content production and rollout be reduced in emergencies?
- How do people learn in this usage scenario? -> Identify user groups and their needs (health care workers, population affected, etc.). What works, what doesn't work?
- What are technical requirements in this use case?
 - How can we face challenges like poor network coverage?
 - Offline Support

- Peer2Peer
- Mobile Solutions
- How can we deal with a broad range of devices?

Technologies:

openHPI consists of a web app and two mobile apps. The web app is based on a set of twenty Micro-Services, mostly written in Rails 4.x. Parts of the frontend use Client Side Rendering using Ember JS. Basic Offline support is enabled by means of Service Workers. There are also two native apps for iOS and Android and a Smart TV Application for Apple TV. The native apps are written in Java and Swift.

Contact:

Chair: Internet-Technologien und –Systeme

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Links:

<https://open.hpi.de/pages/about>

<http://www.who.int/knowledge-transfer/en/>