A MOOC for Certification of 10,000 LME Practitioners

Co-presentation by Mish Hamid and Kristen Honey
Swakopmund, Namibia
October 2014
What is Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)?

- Unlimited Participation
- Open Access*
- Interactive user tools complement traditional course materials

*Open Access refers to the ability to access the course materials for free.
MOOC History

- From correspondence courses to MOOC’s
- Galway based online education provider ALISON is often cited as the first MOOC
- 100’s of Platforms Exist
### Attributes of major MOOC providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>For profit</th>
<th>Free to access</th>
<th>Certification fee</th>
<th>Institutional credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EdX</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coursera</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Partial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udacity</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Partial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udemy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Partial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2PU</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MOOC Benefits & Good Practice

• Best content (often from highly ranked universities) for free
• Real course experience (more than just videos)
• In some ways more personal learning experience
• Machine (xMOOC) and peer grading (cMOOC)
• Interactive user tools complement traditional course materials
• Escape physical and time constraints
• Lowest barriers to entry (language, institutional)
MOOC Fails

- A Misnomer? (Not massive, not open, not courses?)
- Terrible completion rates (time, bad lecture videos, clunky technology, trolling, hidden costs, self-regulation)
- Assessment challenges
- Paying a small fee tends to solve the problem
- McDonaldization of higher education?
- Hype?
- Future: Flipped classrooms?
MOOC Results & Impacts

- October 2013 – Coursera passes 5,000,000 and edX passes 1,500,000

- Universal access to education becomes possible?
Existing MOOCs

www.mooc-list.com
www.class-central.com

- Tropical Coastal Ecosystems
  https://www.edx.org/course/uqx/uqx-tropic101x-tropical-coastal-1442#.VDFzJfmSya8

- Ocean Solutions
  https://www.coursera.org/course/oceansolutions

- Marine and Antarctic Science
  https://www.open2study.com/courses/marine-and-antarctic-science

- Contemporary Issues in Ocean Governance
  https://www.open2study.com/courses/contemporary-issues-in-ocean-governance-150914
MOOC Vision: IW-Learn

GEF LME/ICM/MPA practitioners trained in latest techniques and approaches for ecosystem-based 5-modular assessment, management, and governance for ecosystem and mitigation of effects of climatic variability and change in LMEs.

- Leverage two UNDP-GEF Projects
  LME Connect + IW:LEARN = IW-Learn
- GEF-supported Community of Practice to catalyze IW-Learn
- 2,500 LME experts and practitioners exist worldwide
- Target of 10,000 LME stakeholders by 2017
- Semester long course (13 weeks)
- Partnerships with institution(s) — likely university or coalition of universities & other partners
Things to Consider

- Do we buy into an existing platform?
- Open source (Google Course Builder, EdX Stanford)?
- Which university/network of universities?
- Which facilitators?
- Do we issue a certificate?
- Do we charge for participation?
- What about intellectual/property rights?
- Cost of facilitator time, assembling course material
- How do we market the course?
- Ability to put “M” in MOOC?
MOOC Recommendations

- One size will **not** fit all — context matters
- Create vision & “core” MOOC module, customizable by:
  - LME region/project
  - Language
  - Course length
  - Audience
- Responsive design
  - Mobile phone apps
- Scalability
- Interoperability
MOOC Recommendations

- Open source, open data
- Leverage strengths of LME partners, other organizations
- User testing — LME practitioner & field feedback
- Forge & leverage public-private partnerships
- Prize challenges
  - LME Education Challenge
  - Mobile apps emphasis
  - “Apps for Ocean Education”
  - Game learning
  - Innovations-X
- Education Datapaloozas
Use existing infrastructure and partnerships to establish Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) to train 10,000+ international practitioners with five Large Marine Ecosystem modules.
Transform static PowerPoint content into interactive Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for smart phone apps, learning games, aquarium & natural history museum exhibits & more!
Complementary Pathways

LME Community of Practice
IW-Learn = anchor at iwlearn.org

Academic Partnerships
Stanford
UBC
MIT-WHOI
The University of Rhode Island

Professional Associations
AAAS
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Duke
New York Hall of Science

Innovations Outside the Box!
Thank You

Please keep in touch: www.iwlearn.net

Learn more at: http://www.ted.com/talks/daphne_koller_what_we_re_learning_from_online_education?t-552486

Mish Hamid  
Kristen Honey

mish@iwlearn.org  
khoney@stanford.edu