



FREE
TECHNOLOGY
ACADEMY



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

FTA – the short introduction

Free Technology Academy

Introduction

- The FTA is born to set up an **International Master Programme** inspired on the UOC's experience.
- Freedom and Cooperation:
 - **Distance Learning through a Virtual Campus:** 100% free technology.
 - All course materials are published as **free educational materials (OER)**.
 - All courses are about concepts and vendor-independent, **free technologies** (FS, OS).
 - Creation of an **international partnership** for recognition of courses and sharing of the FTA programme and network.

Who's behind it

Consortium partners:

- **Free Knowledge Institute** (FKI) - Netherlands
- **Universitat Oberta de Catalunya** (UOC) - Spain
- **Open Universiteit** (OUNL) - Netherlands
- **University of Agder** (UIA) - Norway

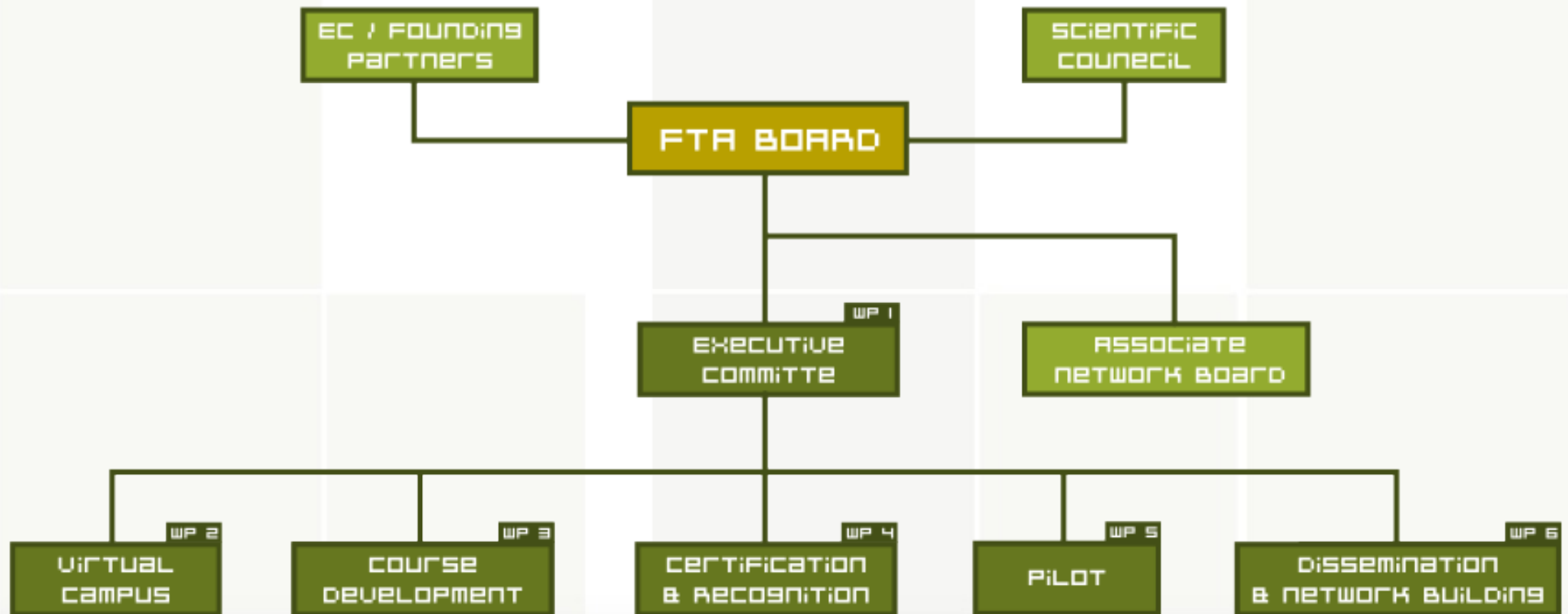
Associate Partners

- **Seed** - Switzerland

Supported by

- **European Commission** (EC) - Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)

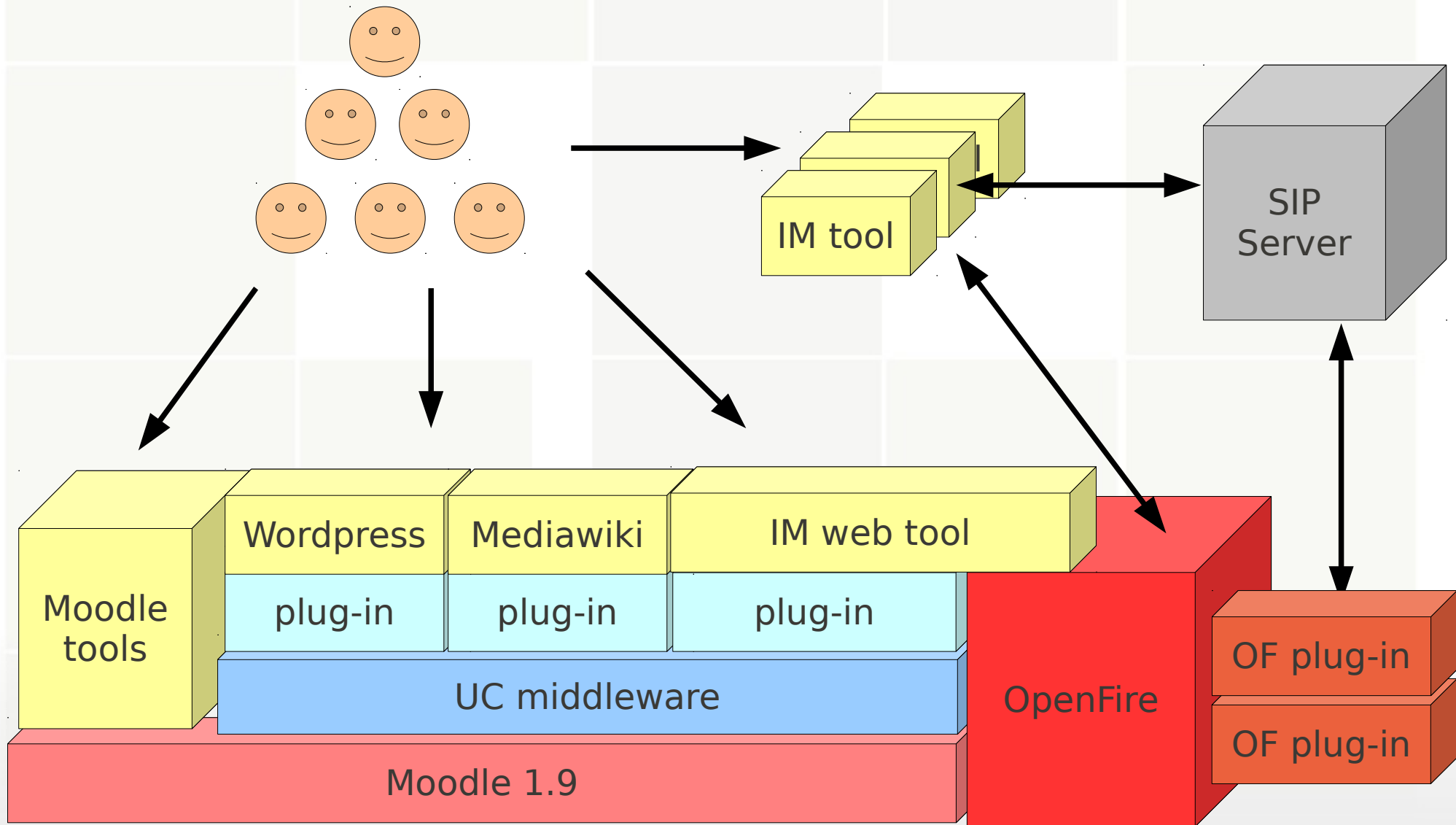
Organisation



About Virtual Campuses

- Problems within the area of LMS and campuses:
 - many different online applications for education: tend to be **islands**
 - Applications change quickly;
 - Services architecture is emerging
- Solution: interoperability layer that allows for the seamless integration of desired apps and services

OpenFire + SIP Solution



FTA Campus on shoulders of giants

- University Campus framework implemented
- Selection of applications:
 - Moodle
 - WordPress
 - MediaWiki
 - OpenFire (Jabber + SIP) (in progress)
- Main campus set up is implemented and tested
- Personalisation of templates
- Configuration and pedagogical choices
- Documentation for end-users (tutors, learners)
- Documentation for developers at <http://campusproject.org/>

The Learner

Typically:

- has a bachelor's degree
- has a job
- wants/needs to be knowledgeable about free technologies
- is generally an IT student, teacher, consultant, manager, coordinator, decisionmaker
- may want to obtain official credits (ECTS) for getting a Master's degree
- lives somewhere on the globe

Methodology

- Experienced tutor from one of the universities guides a group of learners through an intense study plan
- Duration: 12-13 weeks courses (5 ECTS)
- Participate in FTA Campus
- Work through course materials
- Online and Asynchronous
- Activities, exercises, projects, debates
- Guidance & feedback from tutors
- Sometimes experts are invited to present a **Guest Lecture** over video
- Evaluation based on performance
- Receive FTA certificate per course module

Example course book

- Title: Introduction to Free Software
 - Authors: Jesús M. González-Barahona, Joaquín Seoane Pascual Gregorio Robles
 - Coordinators: Jordi Mas Hernández David Megías Jiménez
 - Licenses: GNU Free Documentation License, Creative Commons Attribute ShareAlike License
 - 291 Pages; 3.2Mb
-
- Download: <http://ftacademy.org/materials/fsm/1#1>



Course Materials

- These materials are published openly and under a free license:
 - **Module 1: The concepts of Free Software and Open Standards**
 - **Module 2: The GNU/Linux Operating System**
 - **Module 4: Web applications development**
 - **Module 5: Economic Aspects and Business Models**
 - **Module 7: Software development**
- **URL: <http://ftacademy.org/materials>**

Study Programme 2010

V0.5		1 st Round Jan-april	2 nd Round April-July	3 rd Round Sept-Nov
Intro FS + OS	mod1	FKI		UIA
GNU/Linux	mod2	OUNL		
Network Technologies	mod3			OUNL
Web Apps	mod4		UIA	
Economical Aspects	mod5		FKI	
Legal Aspects	mod6			UOC
Software Dev	mod7		UOC	
Case Studies	mod8			t.b.d.

■ courses ■ evaluation

Studie Programma 2011

Tentative programme 2011

	Materials Ready 2010	1 st Round Jan-April	2 nd Round April-July	3 rd Round Sept-Dec
Concepts FS + OS				
GNU/Linux Basic				
GNU/Linux Advanced Admin				
Free Software Utilities				
Network Technologies				
Web App Development				
Software Development				
Implementation				
Economic Aspects				
Legal Aspects				
Software Architecture				
Assessment of FS projects				
FS in Public Administrations				
SW Engineering in FS				

Registration & Tuition Fees

- Registration form at FTA website:
<http://ftacademy.eu/registration-form>
- Tuition fees and discounts 2010
 - *Normal registrations:* 380 Euro per 5 ECTS course module
 - *Early registrations:* 25% discount
- Tuition fees and discounts 2010
 - *Normal registrations:* 380 Euro per 5 ECTS course module
 - *Early registrations:* 10% discount

Joint Quality Assurance

- QA plan
 - Purposes: international credit transfer, recognition of academic level
 - Aspects: curriculum, course production, course delivery, course support, assessment
 - Stakeholders: experts (SC), students (course evaluations), course tutors (yearly cycle)
- Reports on evaluation of teaching quality are reviewed by QA team and discussed with Scientific Council

Conclusions

- Campus integrates successful apps for learning space
- Curriculum covers initially 8 modules (5 ECTS each)
- Study Programme 2010 runs above all expectations and is assessed for improvements
- Study Programme 2011 almost ready
- Recognition of FTA Certificates by UOC, OUNL, UIA
- Joint Quality Assurance
- Methodology for distance education, for IT teachers, students, coordinators and decision makers
- Economic sustainability through cooperation and tuition fees
- Partner Network for cooperation between organisations

- Presenter's name -
- Institution name -
- your@email.com -



This material is under a **Creative Commons BY-SA 3.0 license**
Full license: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>