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THE ROLE OF INDEPENDENT ONLINE EDUCATION PLATFORMS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE QUALITATIVE EDUCATION IN UKRAINE

The research goal was to understand the opportunities of independent on-line educational platforms to satisfy the needs in qualitative education for diverse learners' groups. The paper presents Ukrainian experiences on how the information and communication technologies may be used to address the challenges of modern society related to constant change of the teaching approaches.

Using the concept of the ICT and Internet role in creating the effective educational environment the paper presents the overview of a success story of the EdEra project for elementary schools teachers. The project is a private initiative which is currently designing and providing the educational distance learning course in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The course was assigned as an obligatory qualification improvement for all the teachers who will start teaching the first year pupils in September 2018. The conclusions were delivered under the context of open education and lifelong learning concepts, explored data provided by the EdEra, challenges and opportunities described by the course users in social media and interviews. The paper highlights the importance of identifying good practices in the on-line adult education under the increasing pressure of global trends and their close influence at the quality assurance standards for modern education.

The research outlines the pressing need for collaboration with independent companies to avoid a widening gap between the adult learners needs/abilities and technologies progress. The low computer literacy, absence of skills in on-line courses use, administrative information distortion within the elementary schools management system resulted in the project launch failure. Only a repetitive presentation of the framework, tools and methodology combined with wide social media use helped to maintain the course further operation which is a success now. The results of the paper generalize the best approaches which allowed the project team to succeed.

Key words: open education, e-learning, on-line course, teachers, platform