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Toward an innovative strategy for the deployment of a regional ePortfolio

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The aim of this paper is to present an innovative approach to study, to analyze and to support the uses of the regional Council of Lorraine ePortfolio called LorFolio. Our approach is based on a partnership including two laboratories one dedicated to Computer sciences ([LORIA](#)) and one dedicated to Educational sciences ([LISEC](#)), the pedagogical engineering department of the University of Lorraine ([NUTICE](#)), the department for student employability of the University of Lorraine and the Regional Council of Lorraine.

Our approach is based on a two complementary axis. Based on previous works which have shown the need to study the real uses of all the target users (students, professionals, integration agencies, ...), the first axis is devoted to the pedagogical aspects and it will focus on :

- the analysis of the learning process of the students (formal, informal and non formal learning, social activities, ...),
- the description of the products i.e. how do students exploit the ePortfolio in their professional insertion strategy
- the link with the strategy of the Regional Council of Lorraine.

The second axis is devoted to the computer sciences approach which will provide a detailed analysis of the students uses to be able to elaborate a model of the uses. This model gives the possibility to adapt the functionalities and to elaborate strategies for the recommendation of the appropriate pedagogical resources or services to the students. These systems can also be viewed as information retrieval (IR) systems as they search and suggest the adequate resources in the whole set of resources.

In a first step, we determine the available data. Then, in the second step, we exploit these data :

- to model the user's behaviors
- to recommend the appropriate resources
- to perform services personalization.

To perform our study, we assume that the formalization of the formal and informal learning by the students can facilitate their process of professional development. Furthermore, the availability of the web-service (ePortfolio) is an important way to enhance their visibility at a regional level.

The experiment is lead on two sets of students (about 100 students) chosen from the four universities in Lorraine :

- one set containing students from higher education (Bachelor and Master degrees)
- one set containing students from the continuing education institution.

The strength of our work is based on a multidisciplinary approach including two main axis :

- Educational sciences which provide the analysis of the formalization of the competencies ;
- Computer sciences which bring the necessary theoretical backgrounds for uses modeling and the recommending strategy.

Our organization gives us the possibility to cover all the landscape of the uses to have outcomes which will have significant impacts on the modernization of the services for the professional insertion of the students.

We will present our organization and we will detail our methodology and the chosen approaches to achieve the wide deployment (in the higher education institutions and the continuing education institutions) at a regional level of this ePortfolio.