

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

The European Distance and E-Learning Network (EDEN)
registered at: 8/9 The Old Yard, Lodge Farm Business Centre, Wolverton Road,
MK19 7ES Milton Keynes, United Kingdom

And

The Associação Brasileira de Educação a Distância (ABED)
registered at: 875 Vergueiro Street, Manhattan Office Center, Liberdade
São Paulo – SP CEP 01504-001 Brasil

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) establishes a cooperation agreement between EDEN and ABED.

MISSION

EDEN's mission is to support its members and partners in their endeavours to modernise education in Europe. The Association aims to facilitate knowledge and practice exchange and, by this, foster developments in open, distance and e-learning in all sectors and on all levels of education.

ABED's mission is to contribute to the development of the concept, methods and techniques that promote education in all forms, exploring flexible, open and distance learning in order to allow all Brazilians the access to education.

Based on their shared interests, together the Parties enter into this Memorandum of Understanding to mutually promote ICT-use in education via the means and activities detailed below. Accordingly, EDEN and ABED, operating under this MoU agree as follows:

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

EDEN and ABED will achieve their mutually agreed results by a specific cooperation.

- Considering the increasingly emerging interest in sharing international experience in the use of ICT in education and e-learning, the Parties will strive to **overcome the challenges** carried by the strengthening globalisation in education;

- Bearing in mind the importance of exploiting the synergies in international cooperation, and in particular in European-Brazilian cooperation, EDEN and ABED will **encourage collaboration** between international organisations to share expertise, ideas and solutions;
- The Parties will **improve access** for their member and partner organisations and individuals **to best international practice** and strengthen their involvement in mainstream;
- In order to exploit the potential of and gain mutual benefits from international cooperation the Parties will **develop opportunities of joint action**.

Each organisation of this MoU is responsible for its own expenses related to this MoU. There will not be an exchange of funds between the parties for tasks associated with this MoU.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Each party will appoint a person to serve as the official contact and coordinate the activities of each organisation in carrying out this MoU. The initial appointees of each organisation are Dr. András Szűcs, EDEN (andras.szucs@eden-online.org) and Alessandra dos Santos Ferreira Pio, ABED (Ale@abed.org.br and presidente@abed.org.br).

The organisations agree to the following tasks for this MoU:

- ensure regular consultation and exchange of experience and good practice especially in areas such as policy, legislative and regulatory frameworks and quality assurance, activating especially young researchers from both networks;
- explore the possibility of mutually extending the services to each other's members, especially in the area of institutional up-taking of e-learning and open educational practices;
- establish links exchange on the respective websites and support the establishment of links between their individual and institutional members;
- publish events, news, and offerings through the respective websites and publications;
- mutually promote the respective online journals and promote the calls for papers of these journals among the respective communities;
- make sure that the Presidents of both associations (or their deputy) will be invited to attend each other's annual conferences without registration fees on reciprocal basis, and that a special session/track will be reserved in the conference programme in order to promote the partner association's activities;
- collaborate in joint initiatives to raise awareness and promote quality e-learning and open education across sectors in both regions;
- co-prepare and co-publish a scientific publication presenting views from Brazil and from Europe on the issue of e-learning and distance education.

TERMS OF UNDERSTANDING

On basis of the above described cooperation ABED will be granted a special associate membership status in EDEN, implying the right for relying on the related membership services and exempt from fee paying. Reciprocally, EDEN will be listed and treated by as Member of ABED and exempt from respective fee paying.

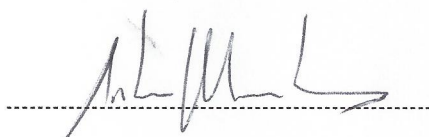
The term of this MoU is for a period of 3 years from the effective date of this agreement and may be extended upon written mutual agreement. It shall be reviewed at least annually to ensure that it is fulfilling its purpose and to make any necessary revisions.

Either organisation may terminate this MoU upon 60, that is sixty days written notice without penalties or liabilities.

Authorization

The signing of this MoU is not a formal undertaking. It implies that the signatories will strive to reach, to the best of their ability, the objectives stated in the MoU.

On behalf of the organisation I represent, I wish to sign this MoU and contribute to its further development.



António M. Teixeira
President, EDEN



Frederic M. Litto
President, ABED

Date:

Date: