Since last years minitrack on Next Generation Learning Platforms the eLearning industry went through a rough time consolidating a lot of the diversified market. We have carefully watched that a lot of the quick wins Companies and other organizations tried to get out of learning-on-the-web did not come through and we see at least from a commercial aspect that people in the training industry hit reality. This minitrack is about to check which approaches could add new aspects to the educational scene, specifically as the pressure to life-long learning is growing in a lot of organizations, and training and education is now a part of major development programs in Europe.

A couple of architectures and pilots we have seen over the last years (e.g. L3 and Cecile) materialized in either commercial implementations such as e.g. the SAP Learning Solution or became widely used as part of university infrastructures.

The Next Generation of Learning Platforms minitrack focuses in its third year on dedicated approaches of learning architectures that allow flexible delivery of learning content over traditional networks and upcoming wireless networks to reach potentially every person. The need for integrated systems and how they work best in a highly distributed web-based environment tackling problems such as

- collaborative computer aided authoring and learning support,
- work benches for international coverage of learning topics,
- enabling the reuse of learning fragments,
- metadata approaches and related standards,
- personalization of the learning environment supporting context,
- retrieving learning material on-demand and
- ensuring a proper certification of the learners achievements and quality control.

The accepted papers for this year's minitrack provide a good overview of the work conducted in this research area. The topics include

- web-based tools for the JIGSAW method used in teacher design activities for collaborative learning scenarios.
- A variety of approaches to support collaborative learning