

OQI operational launch | 5 March 2024

Workshop A3: Advancing capacity building – Summary

Key objective: Attendees will discuss OQI's achievements to date, test ideas on practical engagement of the group and conclude with concrete next steps as OQI is entering the pilot phase.

Workshop A3 timespan: 13.15 – 14.45

Location: CERN, Science Gateway Auditorium C

Zoom: <https://cern.zoom.us/j/66830322495?pwd=N1J6MzRjdDVuVVBsT3FqZGZvbXZtdz09/>

Passcode: 00523924

Session chairs: Tim Smith (CERN) and Marianne Schoerling (GESDA)

Rapporteurs: Sana Odeh (NYU) + Rosario Fazio (ICTP)

Summary and Key Takeaways

- We had **45 participants in-person and 8 online** from industry, academia, the UN and non-for-profit organizations. They represent the diversity of the ecosystem working in developing diverse QC educational resources for different skills and different audiences
- **We agreed that education is a key pillar** to the success of OQI, supporting OQI's mission to provide access for all at the nexus of the SDGs and quantum computing
- It was agreed also that the audience of the educational offering should be focused on **underserved communities** in countries.
- One of the key points of the workshop was the **endorsement of an educational consortium**, with representatives present from the different communities/sectors that would come together, share resources, set goals, define the audience for each of the tasks, produce education programs and the implementation of these programs → keeping in mind these points:
 - We confirmed the **relevance of focusing on the creation of new educational tools and initiatives by OQI** at the nexus of SDGs and quantum computing and agreed on the next steps
 - We are not reinventing the wheel, OQI can **leverage existing content**, including ours, which we are committed to put at its disposal and build a **repository**
 - OQI must **vet for the quality of the content it disseminates**, our group is here to support that, but OQI will also need the active participation of external experts
- At the workshop, the majority endorsed that the **process should be bottom up**, focusing use cases brought up by local participants, empowering these local communities to come up with their own problems and uses cases, making sure that these use cases will remain in the country to inspire these communities, to avoid the brain drain.
- We highlighted the use of **appropriate access language** to deliver to the specific audience.
- We agreed that we collectively have a responsibility to make this educational content available to the largest part of humanity, that this is an essential condition to **try bridging a new digital divide**



Photos of the workshop can be downloaded here: <http://cds.cern.ch/record/2890914>

Next Steps

Interested institutions are invited to officially onboard as member to OQI. Following up the endorsement of an OQI Education Consortium, the OQI invites OQI launch workshop participants to join the consortium. Our next meeting is planned to take place mid of June with the objective to endorse the modus operandi of the Education Consortium. An invitation will be shared in due course.

Detailed run of show

12.00 – 12.45	<p>Optional informal standing lunch <i>Location:</i> Science Gateway Foyer</p>
12.45 – 13.00	<p>Welcome / Introduction to the workshops Enrica Porcari <i>Location:</i> Science Gateway Auditorium B</p>
13.00 – 13.15	<p><i>Transfer to workshop A3</i> <i>Location:</i> Science Gateway Auditorium C</p>
13.15 – 13.20	<p>Welcome to the workshop A3 Tim Smith</p>
13.20 – 13.40	<p>Round of introduction All</p>
13.40 – 13.55	<p>Education at OQI – what have we achieved so far Marianne Schoerling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission and values of OQI and how they related to educational pillar • Lessons learned: not reinventing the wheel / need for alignment between like-minded institutions and for exchange of best practices etc. • (2) Target groups for the educational activities • Tools developed and already planned for development for 2024 (hackathon, game, repository, exploration of AI tool)
13.55 – 14.40	<p>Moderated discussion on practical engagement with the community Tim Smith and Marianne Schoerling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment and exchange of best practices > how could this work practically, testing the idea of a consortium as informal working group, what deliverables would this group produce <i>Marianne Schoerling (15 min)</i> • Tools in the making > how can we collate expert contributions to the development, more tools needed? Mechanisms for the vetting of the resources in the repository, mechanisms for the dissemination and adoption of tools by target groups <i>Tim Smith (20 min)</i> • Think big: other objectives for the pilot in 2024 and until 2026, including 2025 UN Year <i>Tim Smith (10 min)</i>
14:40 – 14.45	<p>Conclusions and next steps Tim Smith</p>