



"Distance learning is a powerful tool to overcome the barriers of time and space in the Italian-speaking world."

Larry, eDOT Italian representative

Connecting in Prayer

- Praise God for unity among ministry partners in **Moldova**. There are many opportunities to reach the Russian-speaking world through the Internet, and we were **united on what resources to develop together**.
- Ask God to help eDOT **course designers** who are **revising the online facilitator training course** to prepare Ukrainians for online mentoring this fall.
- We are in the process of uploading many of our courses into our new online delivery system running Moodle (www.Moodle.org). Pray for a **smooth transition** to this new system.

"...because a great door for effective work has opened to me."

I Corinthians 16:9 (NIV)

Making Progress with Moodle in Italy

As a member of a small evangelical church in Naples, Italy, Maria volunteers her office skills to help the Istituto Biblico Cristiano (IBC), an eDOT partner developing online courses in Italian. Tim M., the visionary behind IBC's ministry, realizes the importance of the online program and values eDOT's help



Three Italians and two Americans receive Moodle training from Sue (right).

with resources and training. Currently, Tim M. travels long distances throughout Italy to teach intensive weekend courses on-site. He recognizes that the huge amount of information transferred in a weekend cannot be absorbed, especially without time to process and apply the truths being studied. The

escalating costs of travel also make the online program increasingly attractive.

In order to help IBC move forward, eDOT colleagues Sue and Larry offered two days of Moodle training in Naples in early July to Maria, Tim M., and three other volunteers. Moodle is a state-of-the-art, free, open software program used to provide courses on the Internet. It is much easier to use for non-technical volunteers and partners than the HTML/XML format previously used by eDOT. Using laptop computers, Sue and Larry went through the step-by-step process of inserting translated text into the course and showed how to use graphics and forums. They also shared the vision of the potential of distance learning for Italian speakers everywhere. There were challenges, including Internet connections that were slower than usual and complications in setting up the volunteers' passwords to work on the course. However, in the end, each volunteer came away from the training encouraged and excited about moving forward in Moodle.

During their time in Naples, the eDOT team was encouraged as they witnessed God's incredible provision of talented people to help IBC. Brenda is one of those people. The wife of a U.S. Navy serviceman based in Naples, she has a degree in graphic design and is excited about using her skills to develop graphics for the newly translated Jesus: His Life and Ministry course.

Grazie al Dio! As we rely on God to help us, He orchestrates circumstances and people to further His kingdom in amazing ways as only He can.

Sue, an eDOT team member, shows Maria (right), an Italian volunteer, how to use Moodle.

