

The survey results

Realize: 5th of November, 2021

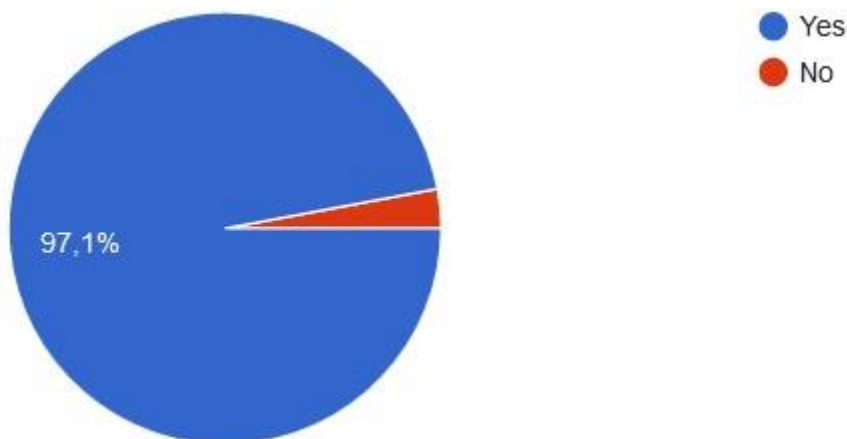
Preamble: The survey was realized for given approval or rejection of the module content. The OpenCops team wanted to understand if their ideas and understanding of working for in a distributed team are state-of-the-art or they might have some misunderstanding in this topic. They wanted to receive feedback from the practitioner community about actually of the topic, main problems, and challenges that are appearing during the distributed team working.

General information about the survey provided: The survey started in June and finished in August 2021. The survey was prepared in Google form and was distributed to alumni and on social media of professionals (Linkedin, Facebook, etc.) Overall responses are 103.

Analysis of the results.

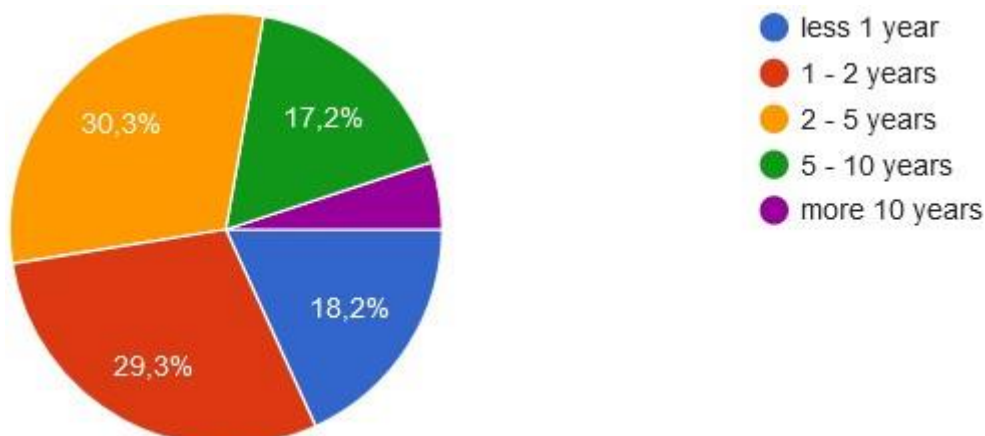
Statement 1: The topic of the Module is on the top

It is a correct statement because 102 respondents (97,1%) from 103 affirmed their experience working in a distributed team, and only 3 indicated "No" (2,9%).



Additional information:

1. From 99 answers, 94 respondents (94,9%) indicated to have had international experience in the distributed team, 5 answers (5,1%) have not had international experience.
2. Meanwhile, 29 respondents (29,3%) indicated their work experience in the distributed team working from 1 to 2 years, 30 respondents (30,3%) indicated the experience from 2 to 5 years, 18 (18,2%) indicated the experience less than 1 year, 17 (17,2%) indicated the experience from 5 to 10 years, and only 5 (5,1%) indicated the experience more than 10 years.



3. From 59 answers (the question was not be mandatory), the professional field using the distributed team approach on the first place is IT (31 respondents (52%)), Project Management is the second place (19 respondents – 32%), Healthcare is on the third place (5 respondents – 8,5%), Finance is on the fourth place (4 respondents – 6,8%).

4. Most people (78,8%) took part in the distributed team as a team member (78 responses from 99), 15 respondents were managerial (15,2 %), others 6 answers (6%) concerned other positions.

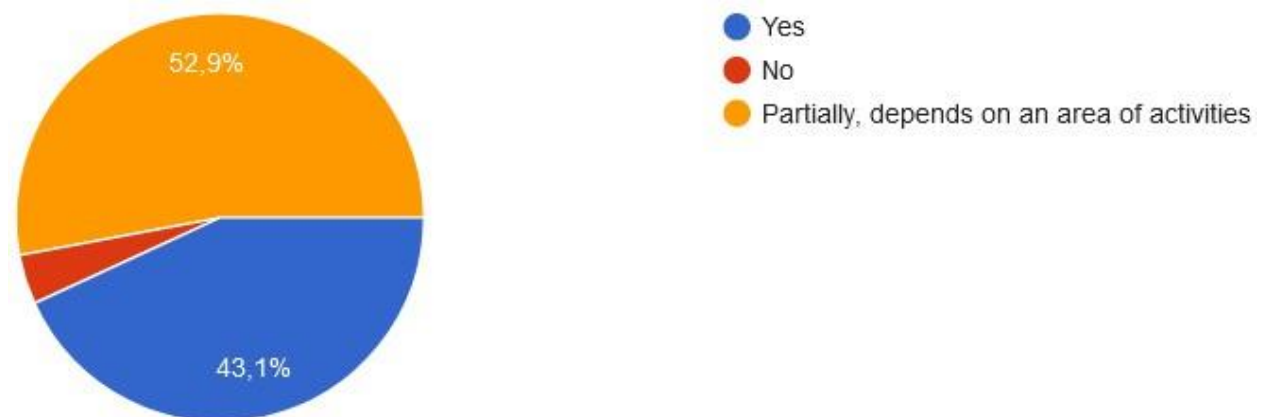


Summary: the data analysis indicates that the topic of the module is on the top. The last 2 years were the push for more active use of the distributed team approach in working. People with experience less than 1 year and from 1 to 2 years amount to 47,5%. The most popular field for working in a distributed team is IT (52%). The distributed team approach is used for international cooperation. Many people work as team members in the distributed team.

Based on the summary, now is the most appropriate time for creating and including this module in a curriculum. The module content should concern aspects of teamwork on the one hand, and on the other hand, managerial approaches in the distributed team.

Statement 2: A distributed team working is our future

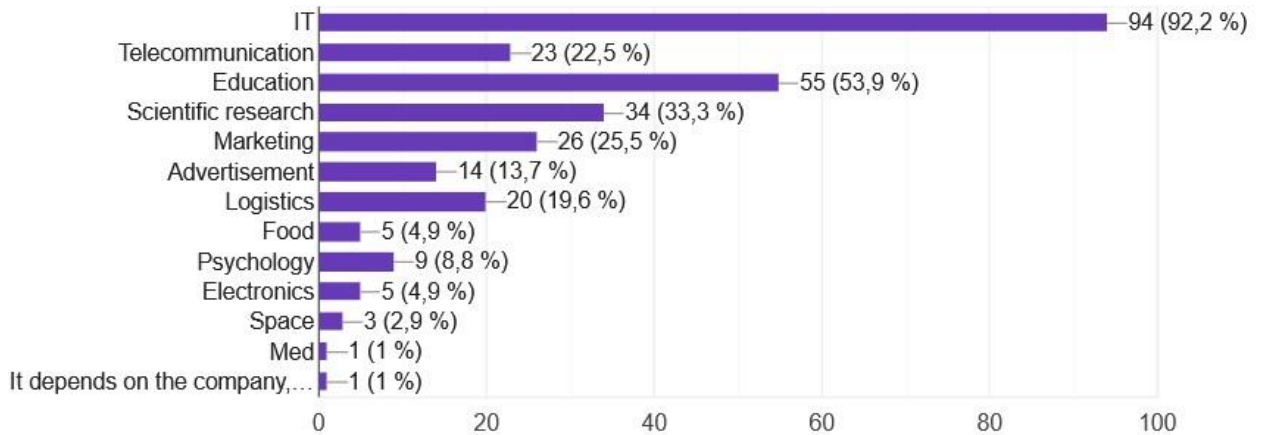
It is partially correct. 44 respondents from 102 answers (43,1%) indicated that a distributed team would be a dominant type of team in the future, 54 (52,9%) indicated that it would depend on an area of activities, and only 4 respondents (3,9%) indicated that a distributed team approach would not be our future.



The survey should help to understand which aspects of a distributed team working should touch in the content. What are the main influenced factors (positive and negative)?

Question 1: Which of the following fields of activities do you feel are more encouraged to benefit from distributed teams in future?

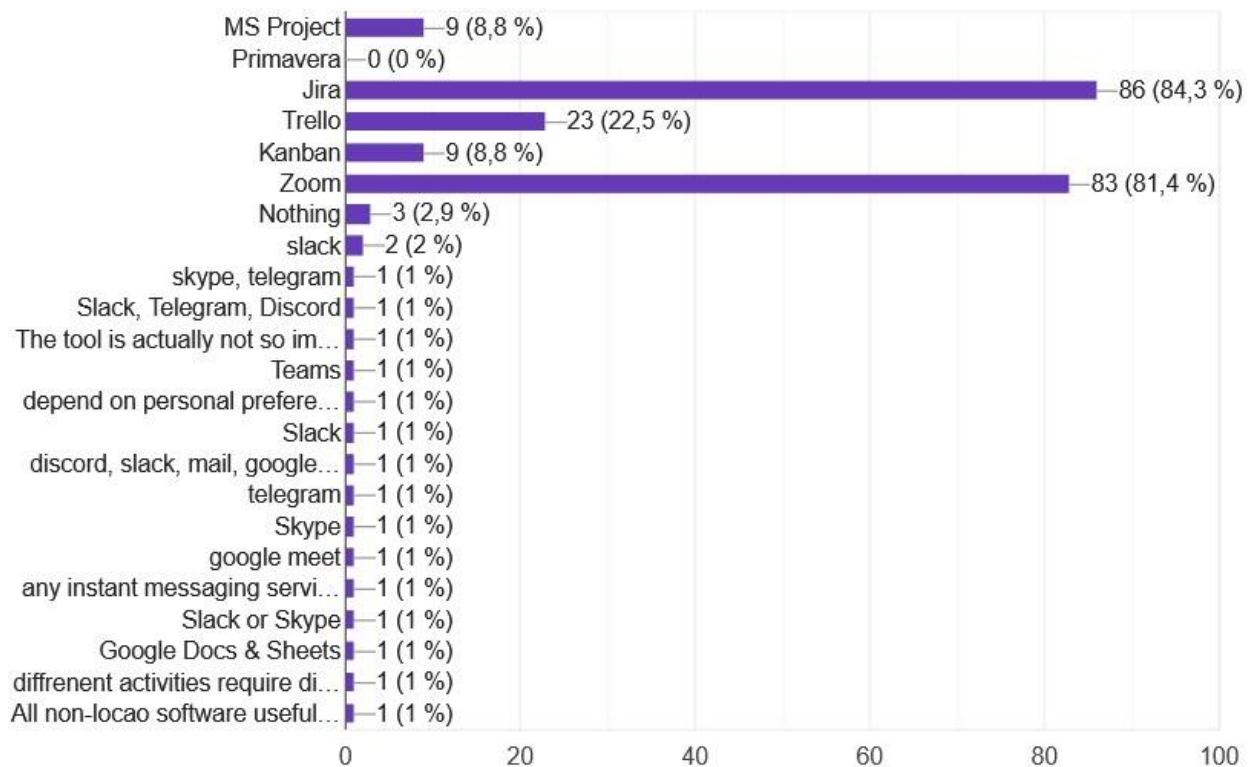
The respondents consider IT, Education, Telecommunications, Scientific Research, Marketing, and Logistics as the fields that can receive more encouragement to benefit from distributed teams in the future. The IT field occupies first place with 92,2%, Education occupies second place (53,9%), Scientific Research occupies third place (33,3%), Marketing has a fourth-place (25,5%), Telecommunication has fifth-place with 22,5%, and Logistics in sixth place with 19,6%, and Advertisement on the seventh place with 13,7%. Each respondent could choose 3 options to answer the question. Overall answers are 102.



Summary: This question was created for understanding what will the main fields more encouraged to benefit from distributed teams in the future. It is important for the understand what the learning materials should be prepared, and fields for the case studies should be chosen.

Question 2: Which software you think is more useful for a distributed team working?

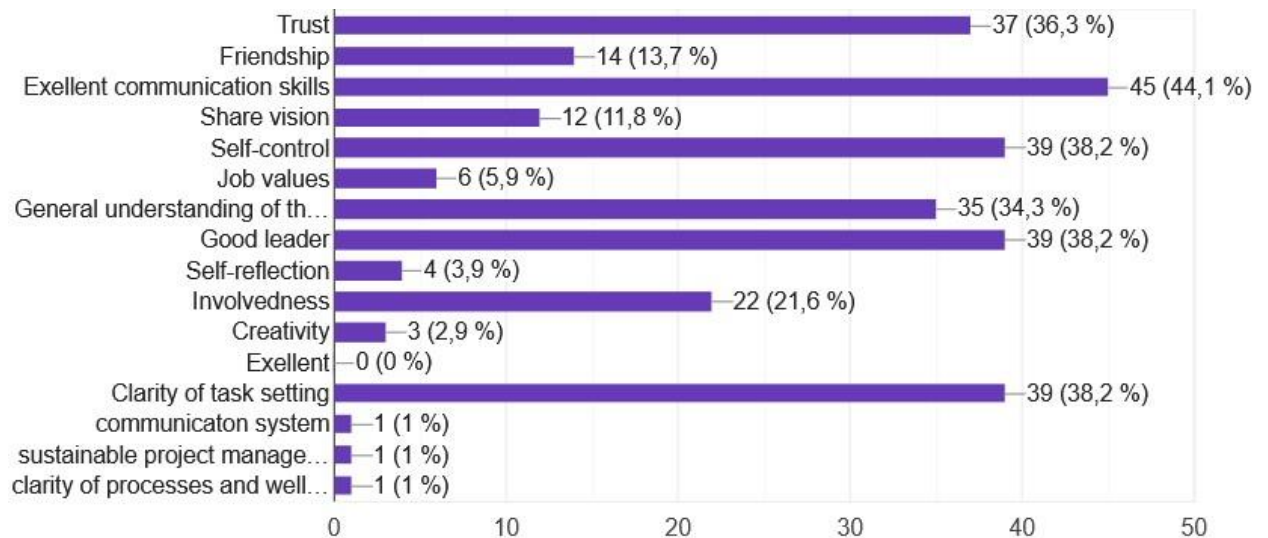
The respondents' practice indicated that the most useful is Jira (84,3%) and Zoom (81,4%). Then Trello follows (22,5%). Kanban (8,8%) and MS Project (8,8%) are less useful. The usefulness of others has around 1%. Interestingly, some people think that no useful software. Overall answers are 102.



Summary: The module content should include more detailed information about the most popular software. Information about others software can be presented as additional material or as self-education material.

Question 3: Which factor you think is more important for successful distributed team working?

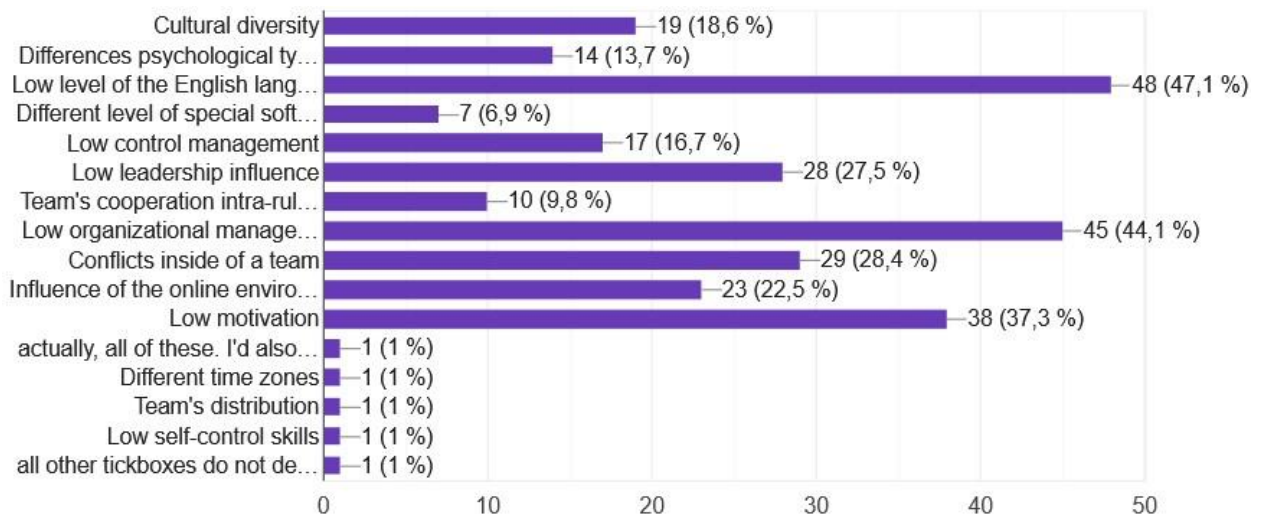
Answering this question, the respondents could choose not more than 3 options. Overall answers are 102. According to the answers, the first place has excellent communication skills (44,1%), and clarity of the task settings, self-control good leader occupy the next position with 38,2%. After these, respondents indicated trust (36,3%). General understanding of the final results (34,3%) is very close to it. After that, there are Involvedness (21,6%), Friendship (13,7%) and Share vision (11,8%). Others have less importance for respondents.



Summary: Answers this question concentrate the team's attention on the content's topics concerning the psychological and managerial aspects in the frame of the distributed work. Marked options should be discussed in the module because their influence is huge. The learning materials should present technics for creating and controlling trust; present methods and technics that can be used for self-control (time management); describe approaches for good argumentation and facilitation; present technics and approaches to create a friendly atmosphere for the employees who can't see each other in any time, but should work under one project. The case studies should be prepared for more practice these skills. The content draft has included all these main topics and planned case studies.

Question 4: What are the biggest negative influences on the success of distributed team working?

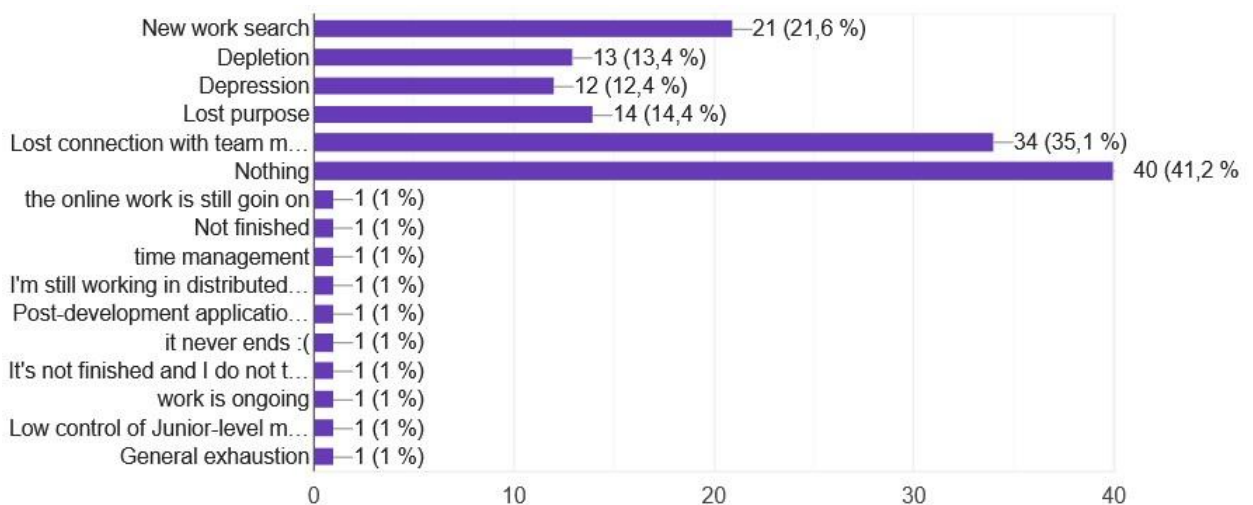
Answering this question, the respondents could choose not more than 3 options. Overall answers are 102. According to the answers, the first place has Low level of the English language by team members (for an international distributed team) (47,1%), and the next position has Low organizational management level (44,1%). After these, respondents indicated Low motivation (37,8%). Conflicts inside of a team has 28,4%, Low leadership influence has 27,5%. The influence of the online environment (real communication absence) (22,5%) is the next factor. Other essential influences are culture diversity (18,6%), Low control management (16,7%), different psychological types (13,7%), and the next aspects with lower influences are Team's cooperation intra-rules absence (9,8%) and Different level of special software using (6,9%). Others have a less negative influence according to the respondents' opinions.



Summary: This question pays attention to the list of the negative influences for the fruitful work of a distributed team. Their appearances create an unfriendly atmosphere during the work, and if the manager can't feel on time this influence and the job will be not with the high quality, not in time, and not in the frame of the goals, tasks, and schedule. The learning materials should present methods and technics how to work if you have team members with different levels of English skills, managerial methods for organization team for working, technics of increasing motivation in the team, techniques of the conflict evaluation, and definition of the conflict start and etc. The content draft has included the needed topics. That means that the team has a full understanding of the situation and has the needed competencies and skill set for the module creation.

Question 5: What were the biggest challenges did you meet after the distributed team working had finished?

Answering this question, the respondents could choose not more than 3 options. Overall answers are 97. Interestingly, that most people marked that they don't meet any challenges after finishing work in a distributed team (41,2%). For some respondents, Lost connection with team members (35,1%) was the biggest challenge. The next position has a new work search (21,6%). And the closer positions are the three factors lost purposes (14,4%), depletion (13,4%), and depression (12,4%). Other factors have only 1%.



Summary: This question was created for understanding what about the topic discussion should be with students for presenting the learning material of the topic "Disbanding".

Overall summary. The OpenCops approach helps to create the learning module based on the wide practical experience of the OpenCop's team members. However, the team can't include all project

participants and outside practitioners. The team of this module used the materials, ideas, and practical skills of all participants. But the content approval or rejection should be based not only on the OpenCop's team ideas but also on the opinion of the practitioners. A survey is a good approach to receive the practitioners' opinions. The received result gave the possibility to say that the module's content is "approval" by the practitioner community, and it is not only "theoretical" ideas of the educators.