

EDUTIC - A Training Programme Dedicated to Primary and Secondary School Teachers with the View to Implement ICTs in Actual Education

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SUMMARY

The EDUTIC Project - proposed under the sectoral operational programme POS-DRU - aims to create a Romanian regional education network between pre-university and university institutions, composed by a University (Valahia University Târgoviște) and 9 educational County Inspectorates (Argeș, Buzău, Călărași, Dâmbovița, Giurgiu, Ialomița, Olt, Prahova, Teleorman), with future possibilities of extension. Basically, the project proposed a training programme dedicated to primary and secondary school teachers, structured in three accredited modules, having the following structure (Brezeanu *et al.*, 2010): (a) Module 1: Fundamentals on pedagogical use of ICT in education, e-learning technologies and learning platforms. ICT tools for drawing teaching materials; (b) Module 2: Visual communication and multimedia technology in education. Procedures for integrating multimedia applications in education; (c) Module 3: Teaching methodologies and pedagogical strategies based on the use of virtual instrumentation. Designing learning activities which include the use of virtual experiments in education - Module 3. The training sessions were held using blended learning methods. There were provided face-to-face courses (around 20% of allocated training time), but also distant activities having as support the EDUTIC platform (<http://moodle.edutic.ssai.valahia.ro/>) that was installed, configured and used together with the related resource like: forums, wikis, blogs and assessment features. More than 500 teachers were enrolled in the training process which started in November 2010 and ended in July 2011 with the final evaluation. Their feedback was a positive one, most of them emphasizing on the clear advantages of using the study-time according to their own agenda, learning and solving the proposed tasks in their own rhythm, communicating with colleagues using the platform instruments, receiving the evaluation grades and comments through platform capabilities. But the main gain is represented by the acquired knowledge strongly related to the integration of ICT in the teaching / learning process. Like an important achievement, the teachers - who have just graduated - become able to use and integrate ICT in their classroom, being familiarized with the new educational opportunities offered by the actual Information Society.

Keywords: training programme, regional network, blended learning, EDUTIC Project

REFERENCES

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