

## Project

The X-Cross Project has been designed to be implemented in alignment with the social cohesion aspect in attaining the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and in particular reinforcing the importance of the teaching and school administration fields in order to improve the quality of education.

Moving the Millennium commitments from the global to local level, the project helps to identify easily the achievements, challenges or obstacles encountered in attaining these "Goals" in partner cities:

- Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, Germany (Co-ordinator),
- City of Segrate, Italy,
- City of Miraflores, Peru,
- City of Pirai, Brazil,
- City of Vitoria, Brazil.

The X-Cross Project provides preliminary indicators for cross-curricular competencies in science at secondary schools, improving the quality of education in two different continents, contributing to deepening and developing bi-regional links and encouraging mutual participation in research programmes. The project aims to increase the participation of small and medium-sized cities on the international chess-board. These cities will apply specific strategies to improve the capacity building of educational and computing technology leaders, directors, teachers, educators and students/pupils.

In order to integrate multimedia and broadband technologies into the local science agenda of 15 secondary schools (6 European and 9 Latin American) of the participating cities, the city administrations will work out common strategies to improve the capacity building in using ICT tools for fostering cross-curricular learning of 15 and 17-year-old students/pupils over both and between the two continents (Latin America and Europe), also implementing distance learning due to the time lag, helping these young people to face the new challenges of the labour market.

Furthermore, X-Cross will introduce new teaching styles as specific unit of lesson given by the pupils from a higher to a lower grade and the training programmes of "teachers teaching teachers" and "teachers teaching pupils teaching", knowing that the appropriate use of ICT can help to accelerate the development and acquisition of some cross-curricular and also subject-specific competencies.

Due to the fact that ICT are suitable for use in differentiated learning environments, X Cross will reinforce the education level in which pupils are expected to take responsibility for the building and transmission of their learning.

The main objectives of X-Cross are:

To develop the capacity of the local authorities management as well as the educational and technological leadership by training their staff (administrative and teachers) and the media literacy of the students

The incorporation of e-learning, communications and information technology into school programmes

Using effective digital audio and video components in a converged learning environment

Offering media rich teaching and learning experiences

Encouraging the use of innovative technology to shape and transform teaching styles (teachers teaching teachers, teachers teaching students, students -higher grade-, teaching students -lower grade-).

Expected results

Target groups: For the administrative staff, this project will permit an opening to new horizon and to learn on the way how new technologies should be integrated into smart classrooms as well as to pave the way for useful discussion on this hot topic. Moreover the technical and management capacities of the target groups will be improved, increased and optimised via the training sessions, the exchange of information, the working sessions and by learning by doing.

The project will provide a high number of publications and other outputs, such as: internal reviews, action and infrastructure plan, all reports on intermediate stages of the project; conception and development of the e-platform; press releases, editing the web page; guideline of the project.

Multiplier effects: Once established the know-how get from preparing the e-platform, using the platform and from adapting it will be given towards the colleagues and furthermore from the colleagues to the working place, from the involved schools to new ones and from the involved administrations other departments that may profit from these skills.

Short- and long-term impact:

The financial aspect: Cities invest at long term for their educational institutions and therefore this aspect is a non critical one regarding the European cities. For both continents the time after X-Cross "only