





Una manera de Bacer Europa



ICT EQUIPMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTRES
General Direction of Information and
Communications Technologies

Programa Operativo de la Comunidad Valenciana

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Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

ICT EQUIPMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTRES

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Presentation

The development of technologies has opened a new field of possibilities when it comes to educating. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are a pedagogical instrument since they facilitate the participation of people with functional diversity at all levels of social, cultural and economic life.

The tablets are a great opportunity to work and reinforce very specific skills with the students of Special Education Centres. They offer a wide range of specific resources to influence the different problems and deal with important and essential aspects for their development, while favoring autonomy and improving their self-esteem.

The performance that we present as a good practice consists in "ICT EQUIPMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTRES", framed in the operation "ICT FOR EDUCATION AND INCLUSION" driven by the General Direction of Information and Communications Technologies of the Generalitat Valenciana. It has supposed an investment of 20.567.292 € and a percentage of co-financing of 50% by the Operative Program European Fund of Regional Development of the Valencian Community 2014-2020.

Inside this operation, it is contemplated the distribution of 1000 digital tablets among every school belonging to the Conselleria of Education, Investigation, Culture and Sport which have students with disorders of communication and mobility impairment, although this good practice focus exclusively in Special Education Centres.



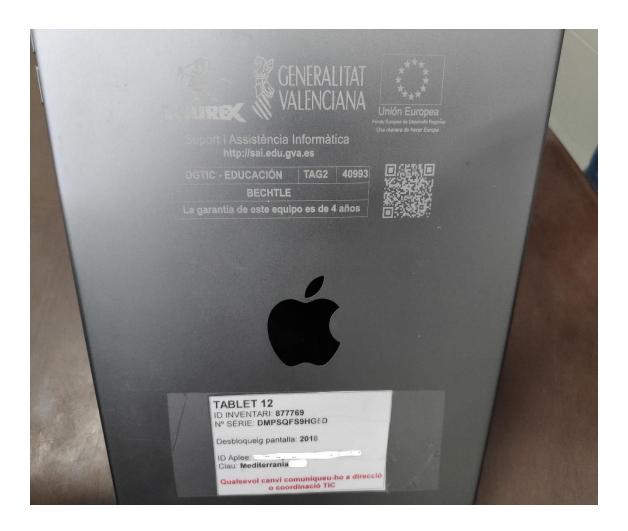
It is about providing the specific technical tools which students with special educational needs (autism, mobility impairment, auditory or visual and other) need to allow their correct integration and which have been already distributed in the public educational centres dependent of the Generalitat Valenciana.

Therefore, the purposes of complying with this action are the following: Improve the process of education-learning and the digital competition of the students with different abilities, to apply motivating and innovative technologies, to integrate and make compatible the use of ICT with the special educational needs and to increase their employability.

This performance is consider as a good practice because:

The performance has been conveniently spread among the beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and public in general:

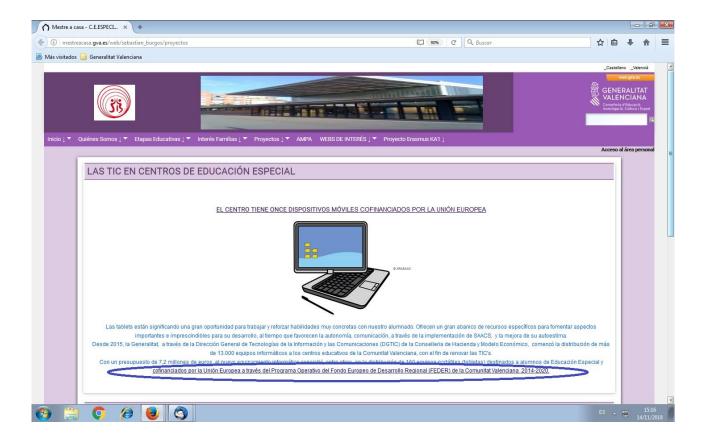
The performance has been spread in fulfilment of the obligations in matter of communication that mark the regulations, as it can be seen in the following photographs where appears screen printed in the computer equipment the emblem of the European Union and the reference at the European Regional Development Fund.





In addition to this, a press release has been published whose diffusion has gone directed to the public in general and several reviews in the web pages of the Special Education Centres receptors of the tablets informing on purpose that the performance is co-financed by the Operative Program European Regional Development Fund of the Valencian Community 2014-2020.





The performance incorporates innovative elements:

The use of adapted digital tablets in Special Education Centres for correct educational development of the students is considered as an innovative element.

New technologies can help students with special educational needs to win autonomy and to interact with their surroundings without external help, which directly favours their motivation and self-esteem, when they see themselves more able to confront new challenges.

They can be adapted hardware (modified keyboard, voice digitalizer, tablets, modified mice, etc.) or specific educational software or programs that allow to adapt the activities of learning. Nevertheless, considering that each person has some very concrete needs the use of different technologies has been adapted to them.

There are applications designed to work specific difficulties like no verbal communication, anticipation, sequencing, social skills or recognition of emotions, which allow continuity and reinforcement of therapies at school and at home. In the case of tablets, they are portable so that students with special educational needs can take them with them anywhere, and ultimately, they are a tool that favors the school and social inclusion of children.



Adaptation of the results obtained to the established objectives:

The results obtained with the action taken is to integrate ICT in all existing spaces in an educational center of the Generalitat Valenciana. The Valencian model of Intelligent Center offers the necessary computer tools so that the use of ICT would be a reality in all the centers of the Valencian education system. To achieve this curricular integration, electronic devices are available to students, which are used as support, and even as an engine that allows innovative didactic methodologies.



Contribution to the resolution of a problem or weakness detected in the territorial scope of execution:

The action proposed as good practice responds to the need to solve a specific situation such as the correct integration of students with special educational needs (autism, mobility impairment, hearing or visual disabilities and others) in the centers dependent on the Generalitat Valenciana, by providing the specific technical means.

This action, without doubt, favors the development of students in the educational field to the extent that they are achieving the objectives set to solve the weaknesses detected in the territory of the Valencian Community both educationally and socially.



Degree of coverage of the population to which it is addressed:

The Generalitat Valenciana continues advancing in the objective of bringing information and communication technologies to the educational population and guarantees equity in access to them, so that this action responds to the implementation of the Intelligent Educational Center model in all centers of the Valencian educational system.

In the Comunitat Valenciana there are currently 32 Special Education Centers belonging to the Conselleria of Education, Research, Culture and Sports, and so far, 159 digital tablets have been distributed in 23 Special Education Centers adapted to students with special educational needs (autism, mobility impairment, hearing or visual disabilities and others).

The distribution of the 159 tablets by provinces between 2015 and 2018 was as follows: Castellón 40, Alicante 61 and Valencia 58.

Consideration of the horizontal criteria of equal opportunities and non-discrimination and accessibility:

The action respects the principles of equality, non-discrimination and accessibility.

This action is respectful of the rules on equality between women and men and non-discrimination in applying the principle of gender perspective, promoting equality between men and women and the integration of disadvantaged groups in society, in this case, in the school setting.

It also complies with the principle of accessibility, since it provides the specific technical means required by students with special educational needs to eliminate the obstacles that affect people with functional diversity and thus ensure accessibility to information technologies.

Synergies with other policies or instruments of public intervention:

The action presents synergies with the Digital Agenda of the Comunitat Valenciana (DACV) which constitutes the regional strategic framework to advance in the development of the digital society and expresses the firm purpose of the Generalitat Valenciana to establish a plan to promote the use of ICT as an engine of sustainable economic growth and quality employment in the period 2014-2020, specifically Digital Citizenship, Line 1.2 "ICT for Education."









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