



Brussels, 14 June 2011

PRESS RELEASE

Enhancing innovative learning in western Sweden: Gothenburg region joins iTEC project

In June 2011, European Schoolnet's iTEC project welcomed an important new Associate Partner, the Gothenburg Region Association of Local Authorities (GR). The new partnership aims to strengthen scenario building in Sweden as iTEC develops and validates scenarios for the future classroom in over 1000 classrooms across 15 countries in Europe.

Allocation of resources to lifelong learning is considered as one of the key areas within the Gothenburg Region Association of Local Authorities (GR), a co-operative organisation uniting thirteen municipalities in western Sweden. As one of the iTEC's newest Associate Partners, GR provides iTEC with a solid base in Sweden and further extends the project's pan-European scope. With the involvement of GR, iTEC will now be able to involve and work with schools in 15 countries.

The Gothenburg region includes 210,000 pupils, 20,000 teachers and 1000 school heads. GR Education, a service organisation within the regional body, plays an important role among these actors by supporting lifelong learning and providing a place for exchanging ideas, knowledge and experience. The association also runs several joint projects and collaborates with a large number of organisations outside the municipal sphere. For example, a new project called GUNS will establish cross-border cooperation between 9 Nordic schools and 18 school classes, who will jointly plan and carry out joint cross-border projects related to languages, science, history/social studies and mathematics supported by new technologies. GR Education will also organise a two-day "Mötesplats Skola" conference in October 2011 to present different regional initiatives in the field of education. iTEC will take part in one of the conference sessions called *European perspective into school digitalisation*.

GR's concrete activities to support iTEC will be related mainly to future classroom scenario development and school piloting. So called "one-to-one" computer projects have a relatively strong presence within the region's educational sector and schools involved in these initiatives will pilot and test some of the iTEC scenarios.





For more information: itec-contact@eun.org

About iTEC (<http://itec.eun.org>)

The four-year iTEC project, launched in September 2010, involves 27 partners, including 14 Ministries of Education. iTEC aims to investigate how established and emerging technologies can be used effectively in classrooms in the next 5-10 years. This European Schoolnet's flagship project looks beyond the way schools are currently using learning platforms (e.g., learning management systems, virtual learning environments, etc.) towards community-driven, personalised learning spaces created by individuals through their interaction with multiple online educational services.

About GR (<http://www.grkom.se/>)

The Gothenburg Region Association of Local Authorities (GR) is a cooperative organisation for 13 municipalities in western Sweden; the combined population of these municipalities is 900,000 people. GR's mission is to promote cooperation over municipal borders and provide a forum for exchange of ideas and experience within the region. GR's activities are meant to benefit the municipalities, and also support the region nationally and internationally.

About European Schoolnet (www.europeanschoolnet.org)

European Schoolnet is a unique network of 30 Ministries of Education in Europe and beyond. EUN was created more than 10 years ago with the aim to bring about innovation in teaching and learning to its key stakeholders: Ministries of Education, schools, teachers and researchers.



The work presented on this document is partially supported by the European Commission's FP7 programme – project iTEC: Innovative Technologies for an Engaging Classroom (Grant agreement N° 257566). The content of this document is the sole responsibility of the consortium members and it does not represent the opinion of

the European Commission and the Commission is not responsible for any use that might be made of information contained herein.