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ITEC SPARKS INNOVATION IN OVER 2000 EUROPEAN CLASSROOMS

Brussels, 17 September 2013

iTEC, a flagship four-year EC-funded project involving 14 Ministries of Education, has doubled its original target by now involving over 2000 classes across Europe in future classroom pilots. The project evaluation is also showing an extremely positive impact on students' knowledge, skills and understanding, and a beneficial effect on teachers, especially on their technology-supported pedagogy, digital competence, and motivation.

Led by European Schoolnet, a network of 30 European Ministries of Education, the iTEC project, with its €9.45 million EC-funding (FP7) and 26 partners, including Ministries of Education, ICT providers, and research organisations, has piloted learning and teaching activities using integrated technology solutions in more than 2000 classrooms in 19 European countries.

The iTEC pilots, now in their fifth and final cycle, have developed 'Future Classroom Scenarios' and 'Learning Stories and Activities' to inspire teachers to change their pedagogical practices with the support of ICT. 'Learning Activities' and 'Learning Stories' have been developed through a participatory design process with teachers. Moreover, European Schoolnet has also delivered an international programme of online and face-to-face training, including courses at the [Future Classroom Lab](#) in Brussels on teaching and learning activities for the future classroom.

The newly published meta-analysis of the evaluation data over the first three cycles shows that the project has had a positive impact on students' knowledge, skills and understanding – in particular on their 21st century skills, motivation, engagement, attitudes, and learning practices. iTEC has also had a beneficial effect on teachers, having a positive impact on their technology-supported pedagogy, digital competence, and their motivation and attitudes. *"The project evaluation has demonstrated that iTEC is leading to many innovative changes in pedagogical practices",* said Professor Cathy Lewin, the evaluation coordinator. *"Almost 90% of teachers agreed that the iTEC process enabled students to become more deeply engaged in their work, and allowed them to undertake more collaborative activities. Teachers observed also a higher student attainment, an increase in student autonomy and independent learning, as well as more opportunities to learn beyond the boundaries of the classroom".*

According to the meta-analysis of the evaluation data, iTEC is fully seen as scalable, having the potential to support pedagogical and technological innovation, to increase the effective use of ICT and to enable teachers to experiment with innovative technologies and tools. *“We are confident that iTEC products and processes can have an impact on key educational policy areas and ensure that the advancement of teaching practice keeps pace with changes in society and technology,”* affirms Marc Durando, Executive Director of European Schoolnet.

Useful links

iTEC website: <http://itec.eun.org>

Full report "[Evidence of the impact of iTEC on learning and teaching](#)" (PDF)

About iTEC

iTEC (Innovative Technologies for Engaging Classrooms) is a major EU-funded project in which European Schoolnet is working with education ministries, technology providers and research organisations to bring about transformation in learning and teaching through the strategic application of learning technology. With 26 project partners, including 14 Ministries of Education, and funding of €9.45 million from the European Commission's FP7 programme, iTEC is the largest and most strategic project yet undertaken by European Schoolnet, and has the potential to be a flagship project for the design of the future classroom. The project runs from 2010 to 2014. <http://itec.eun.org>

About European Schoolnet

European Schoolnet is the network of 30 European Ministries of Education, based in Brussels. As a not-for-profit organisation, we aim to bring innovation in teaching and learning to our key stakeholders: Ministries of Education, schools, teachers, researchers, and industry partners. www.europeanschoolnet.org Follow us on Twitter [@eu_schoolnet](#) and on Facebook [european.schoolnet](#).

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