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**INVITATION FOR PILOT PROJECT PARTICIPATION**

**Digitalization of the pre-university education system**

The Ministry of Education and Sports of the Republic of Albania has foreseen in its strategy to pilot the use of tablet devices in the pre-university education system, a project to be implemented in accordance with the most recent developments in the approved national curricula and the long-term strategy of the Albanian Government.

The experience of other countries has shown that the use of the electronic devices, starting with desktop computers, lap tops, tablets and smart phones has increased the digital skills of the individual in general, but also turning into important tools in the education system. Nevertheless their role in the education system needs to be confirmed at national level.

The National Curricular Framework underlines the importance of the digital competence as very important towards new professional perspectives, not only in terms of increasing cooperation in time but also in space. Child centers teaching and learning methodology, adding the use of devices, turns the parties from simple technology consumers into active players.

The Ministry of Education and Sports considers the use of tablet devices in education as very important not only to break the divide of the use of tablet devices in the education system but also the lack of usage by the students and teachers in their homes.

Through this project the Ministry of Education and Sports of Albania aims at analyzing the solutions provided by different actors before taking a final decision at national level.

**THE INTERESTED PARTIES**

The parties interested to participate in the piloting phase should present a project proposal by 15 August 2014.

The Ministry of Education and Sports of Albania will hold the right to accept project proposals even after that date.

Should you have any questions on the issues in this Invitation, please contact Mr. Sokol Muça, Advisor on Innovation and ICT to the Minister of Education and Sports of Albania in the email: sokol.muca@arsimi.gov.al

The interested parties will be responsible for all the expenses incurred in the process of the implementation of the project proposal. The equipment and other resources used in the frame of the project implementation may be taken back by the piloting party, except for the cases when differently agreed in advance.

1. The Ministry of Education and Sports of Albania will provide to the project one school, in which, one class of 10th grade students will be identified for the project. There should be tablet devices for all the students in the classroom, including the teacher(s).
2. The Ministry of Education and Sports of Albania will provide to the project one primary school, preferably grade I, IV or VI, with approximately 32-35 students each. There should be tablet devices for all the students in the classroom, including the teacher(s).
3. The Ministry of Education and Sports of Albania will provide to the project one group/class of children in the pre-school system (last year of kindergarten), with approximately 22-25 children. There will be no necessity to have personal devices here.

The Ministry will evaluate the results of the projects individually, based on an initially agreed evaluation format. The outcomes will be used for the preparation of the long term digitalization strategy of the Albanian pre-university system.

**THE PROJECT**

The Project must include:

* General information on the company/NGO/consortium participating in the project, including previous experiences;
* The concept of the project and the proposed implementation phases;
* The devices to be used;
* The software programs to be used.

**THE TIME LENGTH OF THE PROJECT**

15 September 2014 – 15 June 2015

**THE CLASSROOM INFRASTRUCTURE:**

* Smart board; VGA project;
* Printer with USB connector; Lap Top for the teacher;
* Digital content for four subject;
* WiFi (if not available in the school)

**PEDAGOGY**

* The use of tablets in teaching and learning;
* The promotion of digital, literary and numerical skills;
* The successful use of the above by children with special needs;
* The improvement of the professional skills of the teachers.

**THE SOFTWARE PROGRAMS**

* Programs for the transition from hard copy books into e-books;
* Programs for children with special needs;
* Digital content;
* Classroom management system;
* Internet filtering and monitoring.

**HARDWARE:**

Lap tops, smart boards, tablet devices, pre-school learning digital devices.