

## PPP Project: Enhancement of “E-Readiness” in Kosovo Schools

### Project Description

The PPP (public-private-partnership) Project: “Enhancement of E-Readiness in Kosovo Schools” is the first project of this kind in Kosovo. The project partners: Smart Bits, GTZ and MEST (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology) have joined their forces in this project to setup the foundation of e-Learning future in Kosovo.

The project has started in December 2007 and will be finished in November of 2009.

The total volume of the project is: 251,200.00 EUR. This investment is shared between Smart Bits and GTZ.

### Project Objective

The objective of the project is to integrate e-Learning into the primary and lower secondary school system in Kosovo and to enhance the ability to use Information and Communication Technologies (“E-Readiness”) in 5 pilot schools.

To achieve this goal, the project will support the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) in:

- Development of a nationwide e-Learning implementing strategy
- Introduction e-Learning in 5 primary and lower secondary pilot schools.
- Development of digital literacy curriculum and implementation in the five pilot schools.
- Development and implementation of two e-Learning contents: “Fit4EU” and “Creative Conflict Resolution – Communicating without violence”
- Establishment of a LMS (learning management system) with integrated e-Learning contents

During the project implementation altogether 300 students and 30 teachers will have registered access to the LMS and will be trained in digital literacy or in one of the developed eLearning

contents on non-violent communication methods and on the opportunities and challenges of the European Union.

### Motivation

E-learning, being a very effective means of communication and improving the flexibility and quality of learning, is seen as offering solutions to several challenges which the Kosovo youth and education system are currently facing.

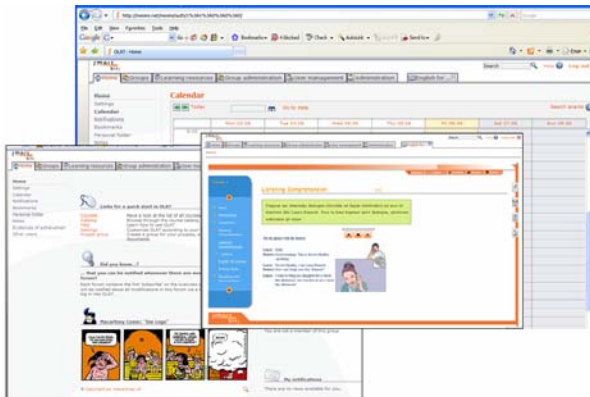
Digital literacy is considered to enhance young peoples’ skills to cope with the challenges of modern jobs which increasingly depend on a skilled use of ICT. As a consequence, digitally educated youths are expected to find employment more easily. Digital literacy is thus considered, in the long run, to contribute towards reducing unemployment among youths in Kosovo, which at present is as high as 60%.

E-Learning is also considered appropriate to develop young peoples’ competences through methods of active learning and critical thinking, thereby encouraging initiative and tolerance among young people, which may, in the long run, combined with better economic prospects, contribute towards reducing violence at schools in Kosovo.

To answer these challenges, the MEST has planned the introduction of e-Learning in Kosovo schools, especially by contributing to the establishment of a sustainable linkage of education with global economic and social developments.

## Learning Management System

The **Learning Management System: Edukimi.NET** will provide educational organizations, teachers, lecturers and trainers with online classrooms where the people who study and communicate are the centre of interest. Exchange of information, feedback and cooperation in **Edukimi.NET** are supported by more than a dozen different learning activities.



The learning managements system **Edukimi.Net** supports the delivery of training courses to the learners with comfortable evaluation possibilities of the learning progress. The data includes the actual learning time, which supports the optimization of the learning process as well as:

- Access to sophisticated e-Learning contents,
- Access to the virtual classrooms and learning-/working groups,
- Administration of resources and time management for blended learning,
- Synchronous and asynchronous communications functions,
- User-group-role administration,
- Course administration,
- curricula and learning guidelines,
- Performance evaluation/ assessments of proficiency,
- High flexibility,
- Platform independence,
- Multi client capability and multilingualism,
- High security

## e-Learning Content Fit4EU

The e-Learning Content “Fit4EU” will inform the students on the opportunities and challenges of the EU, on EU actions and policies and the EU institutions and history,

as well as the way of life of EU young people and



other EU-related data. The learning content Fit4EU will consist of 6 modules:

- EU programs for young people
- EU territory
- Historical Development
- EU institutions and procedures
- Challenges
- Debating EU

## Creative Conflict Resolution – Communicating without violence

The module “Creative Conflict Resolution – Communicating without violence” will particularly teach the students conflict resolution methods and skills on how to respond to and manage violent incidents that may happen at school.

This content will consist of 10 modules:

- How to listen
- Understanding feelings and needs
- Building self-esteem, accepting differences
- Heating up and cooling down – dealing with anger
- How a misunderstanding becomes a conflict
- Conflicts and gender
- Under the iceberg...
- The conflict devil, the conflict angel
- How to solve the conflict
- Conflict resolution through mediation

## Digital Literacy Curriculum

This digital literacy curriculum will include the acquisition of a large variety of complex cognitive, motoric, sociological, and emotional skills, which users need in order to function effectively in digital environments. It comprises skills such as:

- using digital reproduction to create new, meaningful materials from existing ones
- -constructing knowledge from a nonlinear, hyper textual navigation
- evaluating the quality and validity of information
- have a mature and realistic understanding of the “rules” that prevail in the cyberspace
- and “reading” instructions from graphical displays in user interfaces.