

Key Action: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices
Action Type: Partnerships for Digital Education Readiness

Project Title

Specially Digitalised (Special Learning Disability)

Project Coordinator

Organisation ISTANBUL MILLI EGITIM MUDURLUGU
Address BINBIRDIREK MAH 304 IMRAN OKTEM CAD. NO:1 SULTANAHMET FATIH , 34180 ISTANBUL , İstanbul , TR
Website <http://istanbul.meb.gov.tr>

Project Information

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Partners ANADOLU UNIVERSITY (TR) , MEDIA CREATIVA 2020, S.L. (ES) , Association Euni Partners (BG) , CASA CORPULUI DIDACTIC "SPIRU HARET" IASI (RO) , Agrupamento de Escolas António Correia Oliveira (PT) , ISTANBUL SABAHATTIN ZAIM UNIVERSITY (TR)
Topics Research and innovation ; New innovative curricula/educational methods/development of training courses ; ICT - new technologies - digital competences

Project Summary

Background

The Erasmus+ SLD project is focused on overcoming challenges in the implementation and designing of a curriculum that is both engaging and accessible for students with special learning difficulties resonated with us and respond to the students needs. The project focuses on overcoming challenges in the implementation and designing of a curriculum that is both engaging and accessible for students with special learning difficulties resonated with us. The goals of the project (e-learning toolkit and in-service training for teachers) reflected a comprehensive strategy to empower both educators and students.

Objectives

The project's main goal was to address the negative consequences that online learning had on students diagnosed with special learning disabilities. In other words, the aim was to eliminate academic disadvantages faced by these students, helping them reach a suitable academic level and building a sense of achievement and confidence. We believe this was an existing problem that has been deeply perpetuated by the COVID-19 pandemic consequences. In sum, creating an accessible and comprehensive learning environment for students with SLD. In this sense, the project aims to support and develop students with special learning difficulties. Thus, it was expected to support the theoretical and practical training of students with special learning difficulties in a virtual environment and to increase the interest in school. The main purpose of the project is to design, develop, implement and evaluate additional digital content (e-books and e-learning). In line with this purpose of the project, the project has a partnership structure with very serious experience. Institutions with very ambitious expert staff have been preferred in terms of both content creation and software

Implementation

The most important feature of our project is to improve the design thinking skills and competencies of students with special learning difficulties. In this context, the successful completion and dissemination of Virtual Materials are directly related to this goal. The products accomplished were aimed to bring the students with special learning difficulties to similar standards with their peers by making the learning experience more effective. Within the scope of the project, virtual training materials and applications supported by the partners were developed. After developing the curriculum, it was aimed to increase the motivation of students, teachers and parents with virtual e-book applications containing theoretical and practical information. The project partners attached great importance to the e-book applications, which were among the project's intellectual outputs, to reach students in different cultural areas. The idea output of the project that meets this need is the e-learning toolkit. In this context, practices that enable individuals in need in the entire education community to easily access these intellectual outputs have been determined. In this context, while students can access virtual materials quickly and easily, teachers were meant to be able to digitally evaluate their students' learning efficiency. In sum the has had four ideas:

- e-learning program,
- e-book parent guide,
- Virtual Material,

- e-teacher guide applications and dissemination.

All the intellectual outputs have been prepared by the partners in their native language and the project language, English, and also the partners translated all outputs into their native language.

E-learning program includes e-learning toolkit,

Virtual Material Content includes E-book supported with theoretical and practical information
E-Book includes Parent and Teacher Guide

Achievements

The first intellectual output for the project had six internal packages in total. Information on the contents of these work packages is as follows; Review of guidelines and implementation Processes (general education curriculum and Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) of students with SLD. Analyzing the status quo regarding academic and psycho-social challenges experienced by students with SLD and identifying the areas of need. Identifying teacher and parent experiences, perceived challenges and expectations concerning existing instructional practices, online learning platforms, and student outcomes. Reviewing the generated Need Assessment Report (WP.1-3), and identifying critical components to be integrated into the proposed DOTC that aims to improve learning outcomes for students with SLD. Creating the DOTC with integrated evidence- Based strategies for students with SLD. Establishing guidelines for Quality Assurance and Evaluation (QAE).

The second intellectual output of the project “Creating an online learning platform, e-learning toolkit, and a Teacher Manual for Online Instruction to guide teachers in effectively implementing online instruction for students with SLD” had four internal work packages. An online platform made of Interdisciplinary training modules was created. A teacher manual for online instruction was created and teacher in-service training was conducted.

The third intellectual output “E-learning Tool Kit for Students (and Parents)” had 5 intellectual outputs. Following the format utilized in the teacher manual, creating the E-Learning Guide for Students and Parents with additional Parent Support Strategies included was conducted and teacher-led student and parent training on the use of the online learning platform and the e-learning guide was made in accordance with teachers as trainers in-service program. Desk researches regarding current education policies, procedures and practices regarding the education of students with SLD with/by partner nations were made and finally an international form of a Combined Teacher Manual and Student-Parent Guide for E-Learning that includes the general format and guidelines outlined in the DOTC which will allow for adaptation to cultural elements and the policies of the partner nations was created.

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