Changing the way teachers think about technology

Collaborators from five countries worked together to create a teacher training course that 'demystifies the digital'

Legal representative Mireia Riera is enthusiastic about HandsON, a project that enabled the development of an online course in IT-based activity design for teachers.

> " The European funds and the European brand made it possible for us to facilitate the first multilingual MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) ever offered, with course participants contributing in seven languages. The course was built under the assumption that its participants were able to read the activities and materials in English. However, course participants could contribute in any of the seven languages that were offered. It has been an enriching, challenging and awesome experience!"

IT training often focuses on the software or tool itself, rather than how it might be used in context. As a result, many teachers think of digital tools as a bit of a burden, rather than something that can make teaching easier.

HandsON was set up to develop teacher training that focuses on integrating IT into the design of learning activities. The result is a multilingual course, available in seven languages, that anyone can take online.

The course aims to improve the quality of teaching and learning by increasing the digital skills of both teachers and students. It encourages the trainee to see IT as a facilitator rather than a set of tools, and to focus on the end result rather than the learning materials. Those who complete the course come away with a methodology that they can apply to all future activity design.

Funding for the HandsON project enabled partners across the EU to fully design, develop and test the online course. And it's proved so popular that the course, and relevant course materials, are now being downloaded every day.

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Field: ICT

Key facts and figures

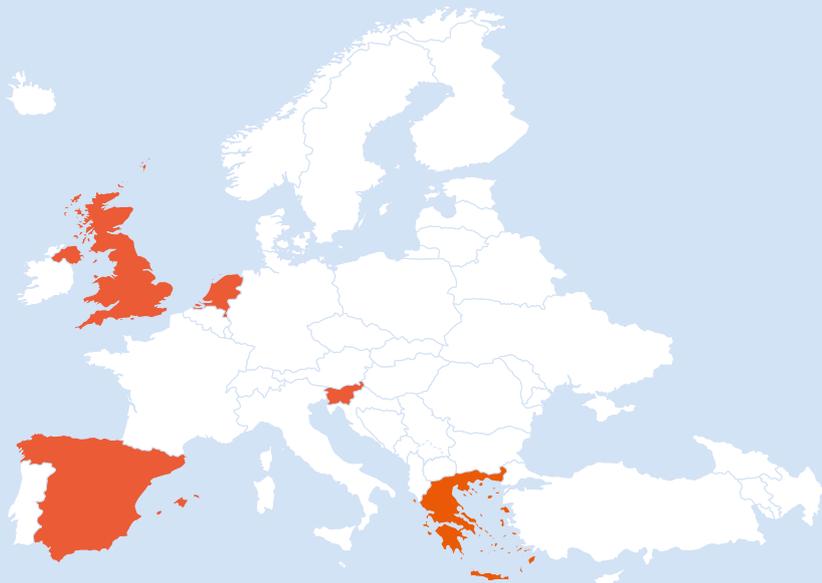|			
Organisations: 5		Countries: 5	
EU grant: €550,000		Project duration: 2013-2015	

Project title
Hands-On ICT: Learn, practice, teach creativity and ICT

Lead organisation
Name: Fundació per a la Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Location: Barcelona, Spain
Website: www.uoc.edu

Partners
Ellinogermaniki Agogi, **Greece**; Open University of the Netherlands, **Netherlands**; Euro-Mediterranean University, **Slovenia**; MirandaNet Ltd., **United Kingdom**

More information
Project website:
www.handsonict.eu

The Erasmus+ Project Results Platform:
http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects

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