Argentina's ICT in Education Policy: Promoting Social Inclusion and South-South Cooperation through IBERTIC

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Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science, and Culture

• Intergovernmental, 22 Spanish/Portuguese speaking countries of America & Europe
• 18 offices and 10 specialized institutes, HQ in Madrid
• Over 60 years as an active development agency
• Directive Council: 22 Ministers of Education
2021 Educational Goals

www.metas2021.org

• At 2010 Ibero-American Summit, Presidents commit to *2021 Educational Goals*, consensus of 11 Targets & Indicators

• They request OEI to seek *extra-regional* partnerships:
Lights for Learning
www.lucesparaaprender.org

• 2011 Ibero-American Conference: OEI announces main cooperation program (framework 2021 Goals)
• Solar panels, computers, internet >60,000 schools across the region + teacher training, sustainability, community engagement
• Designed and administered by OEI
• Funded by member governments and diverse international donors
Ibero-American Institute for ICT & Education

www.ibertic.org

- HQ in Buenos Aires, Argentina, ADEA participation
- Regional authority: Research, Training, Evaluation activities; specialized technical assistance to governments
- 1st project, AlfabeTIC: literacy via laptops & mobile devices, adaptable to different contexts: http://alfabetic.educativa.org
- Located in Argentina because of leadership in ICT in Education
ARGENTINA

- 41 million people, 8th largest landmass
- Middle-income, Regional leader in Human and ICT Development Index
- Post-2001 crisis, recovery fueled by social spending + transformation of education system
- National Education Law (2006) expands the role of State, guarantees mandatory public education (>10 years)
- Education Financing Law (2006) guarantees a budget floor of 6% of GDP by 2010; today > 6.5%/GDP
ARGENTINA’S ICT FRAMEWORK

Agenda Digital Argentina (2009): economic, social, educational progress + digital inclusion:

• Multi-sectoral cabinet; collaborative, open, permanent strategy; locally produced goods services.

Argentina Conectada (2010-2015): Telecommunications Plan, “Argentines...right to be informed, connected, communicated”:

• Infrastructure, equipment, services; digital TV, connectivity in remote areas, public access ICT centers

ITU´S World Telecommunication and Information Society Award: “under President Kirchner’s leadership, ICT development has made great strides.” (2012)
1. **Policy Coordination: Educ.ar State Corporation**

   - Develop educational web portal ([www.educ.ar](http://www.educ.ar))
   - Produce and broadcast audiovisual content in the framework of national education policy
Argentina’s ICT in Education: Policies

2. **Conectar Igualdad**: Argentina’s 1-to-1 netbook program

   www.conectarigualdad.gob.ar

   - Digital + educational inclusion: **3.78 million** netbooks for *every* student & teacher in public secondary schools, special education centers & teacher training institutes (2010-2013)

   - Content development & teacher training with *Educ.ar* & *OEI*

   - Internet access via *Argentina Conectada*, ensuring optical fiber or satellite connection

   - **Largest 1-to-1 in the world** (followed by Venezuela, Peru, Brazil, and Uruguay)
ARGENTINA’S ICT in Education: Main Lessons

✓ *Conectar Igualdad* & 1-to-1s can reduce digital literacy gap & promote economic development

✓ **Best practices** for successful educational transformation:

1. *Strong leadership supported by long-term funding*
   Full support of president & supervised by several federal agencies

2. *Independent oversight*
   Independent committee & OEI provides transparent control

3. *Early consideration of all components to transform education*
   Comprehensive planning focuses on teacher training and feedback
South-South Cooperation Opportunities:

• Argentina leads regional ICT in education trend
  ➢ OEI Buenos Aires evaluates progress of ICT 2021 Goals
  ➢ *IBERTIC* collaborates with *RELPE’s 1-to-1 Observatory for the region*: [http://observatorio.relpe.org](http://observatorio.relpe.org)

• OEI and IBERTIC continually seek extra-regional partnerships
  ➢ MOUs with *Adea* and *SEAMEO* (2011)
  ➢ IBERTIC joins *Adea Task Force* (2012)
  ➢ This is a synthesis of a country study by *IBERTIC* for Task Force + two papers on Paraguay and Uruguay
Thank you!

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