In Greece, schools were closed from 8th March to 18th May 2020. To learn more about the situational review in Greece, please go to:

https://www.france-education-international.fr/expertises/cooperationeducation/projets/keep?langue=f



## Collaborative e-class

I teach Mathematics in an urban vocational school in Greece.

16
age of pupils
on average

600 pupils

30
pupils per class
on average

8 classes



#### Teaching environment

My students come from diverse socio-economic backgrounds. They live in our town or in villages within the school area. Some of them are bilingual or trilingual.

#### **Digital tools**

With the help of the parents' association and our own institution, the school is technologically well-equipped. There are computers, projectors and tablets in our classrooms.





## Experience with digital tools before Covid-19

I have been interested in computer science since I was 15 years old. I did a master's degree in **pedagogy and educational technology** and I have been generally involved in training my colleagues.

#### The tool: e-class

#### https://eclass.sch.gr/

The Electronic School Classroom is a modern educational platform for students and teachers which is used daily in schools in Greece.



## Needs for this teaching practice

Teachers needed to learn how to teach online. There was a strong need for collaboration. So we needed a platform which could host courses structured in a way that favours the collaborative creation and use of learning material.

#### **Needs solved**

Online classrooms spread and teachers started contributing and adding more and more resources. It was a success.





### **Audience targeted**

This practice was aimed at teachers, so they could be trained during lockdown and teach online.

## Organisation

I organised e-classrooms for my colleagues. Essentially it was a way to **keep training teachers** so that they were ready to provide blended learning, and eventually they were better prepared for distance teaching.

.

There were both trainers and trainees. Teachers could subscribe to specific modules and were trained to the use of technology or to disciplinary subjects.



This overtime became a real community of practices sharing tips and teaching resources. Each time a teacher shared a resource on our e-classroom platform, it instantly became available to every other colleague.

Quickly, as everyone participated, a lot of ready-to-use teaching resources were available on e-class and this gave us a lead in preparing to address educational needs at the onset of the pandemic.



## Practice activity



We used e-classrooms as a way to train teachers. First, my colleagues signed up as students. Modules were divided into two different types: synchronous and asynchronous lessons. For instance, we focused on "How do we make a module and what should be in it."

So every colleague who signed up for our lessons learnt how to create a module, change the title, upload images, create folders, but also how students access the documents, how teachers can assess them, how to give feedback.

I created a real community of practice that, initially, started within my school and was then extended.

## Impact of the practice

#### An innovation

t creates a real cooperation dynamic. Every teacher can participate.

Courses once developed are the school's ownership for the years to come. In that sense, the school becomes a blended learning provider.



# An efficient practice



- Teachers' feedback showed that they were very **satisfied** with the platform.
- Colleagues can implement modules in their practice whenever they want, and progressively.
- It has a lot of positive impact on students as well. It improves learning as a whole. It prepares them for their academic online learning.

## Keys to success

First, you have to put in a lot of time to make it work.

Someone needs to manage this community of practice.

**Communicate** with other teachers to decide what to share.



#### **Benefits**



Students benefit from **blended learning** and are better prepared for a successful **e-citizenship**.



This community of practice stimulates **cooperation** as teachers who did not work together started acting as a team.



Every teacher can contribute and help us build together.

## Ready?

Be patient and don't give up! This practice takes effort but it is worth it in the end!



## Resources

#### **Screenshots**

Teacher's e-class assignment: teachers are in charge of preparing their e-class with a structure suitable for collaboration with their colleagues.

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For each task there is a fully illustrated tutorial for either the assignments given in the school lab or left to be done at home.

This portrait gives a representation of the teacher's choices which are not our own.

The statements in this portrait are not direct quotations but have been adapted from an interview which took place in 2022.















