SUPERCOMET 2 - Superconductivity Multimedia Educational Tool, phase 2

Type of project
Pilot

Contractual year
2004

The Challenge
Since the start-up of the SUPERCOMET project in 2001, a number of new conferences and surveys (PISA, TIMSS, Physics on Stage 2, Science on Stage, GIREP, MPTL) have confirmed that there are still problems on a European level in recruiting competent teachers. There are also challenges concerning the level of competency among pupils in mathematics and natural sciences, particularly in physics.

Short Description
The project builds on the results of SUPERCOMET and ePhys projects, and has recruited its partnership from GIREP (The International Group for Research into Physics Education) and MPTL (The European Physical Society workgroup for Multimedia in Physics Teaching). In addition to the project aims, we wish to develop a model for learning materials and resources for blended learning based on modern pedagogical theory. This can be followed up in future projects through the established partner network.

Objectives
The SUPERCOMET 2 project has two main aims/activities. One is translating the teacher seminar, teacher guide and electronic learning modules developed by the SUPERCOMET project to approx. 10 new languages, testing and adapting it to local curricula in a total of 15 European countries. The other main aim is further development of the materials based on these tests as well as previous tests from the SUPERCOMET project.

Target Group
The primary target group is upper secondary school physics teachers - both those with a formal background in physics and those with other backgrounds who might have an increased need for easily understandable, good quality teaching materials in a subject the are not fully qualified for. The end users are the pupils.

Responsible Organisation
Simplicatus AS

Contact person
Vegard Engstrøm,
tel: +47 911 88 774,
e-mail: supercomet@simplicatus.no

Participating countries
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, UK

Partnership description
The project has a total of 40 partners in 15 countries. 14 universities in 13 countries participate as development and dissemination partners. 24 upper secondary schools are testing partners in the project, and around 30 additional schools participate as associated ‘testing schools’. The Institute of Education at the University of London participates as Evaluator, and Simplicatus AS is the only corporate partner. The e-learning company Timsoft Ltd. in Romania carries out tasks equivalent of a developing partner as a subcontractor.

Expected outcomes and when
The project deliverables include a teacher seminar in several half day modules, a printed teacher guide with extensive additional electronic materials, as well as new and revised e-modules with animations and text explaining the phenomena of electricity, magnetism and superconductivity. These will be available during the fall of 2007. The English version will be presented at the Final Conference in Poland in Sept. 2007.

Project website
www.supercomet.no