



The Informal[®]
School of IT

IT4Kids in Rural Areas

Project overview



“There is a line of code which can change the world”

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The Informal School of IT

Re-imagining education as it should be

We are the **tech education market leader** in Romania

Our mission is to mentor, inspire and teach technology to passionate people, through an efficient and recognized alternative education platform

We are **creating positive ripple effects** by shaping people, communities and companies

- a project by **Educatie Informala SA** -



4000+ GRADUATES



130+ MENTORS



160+ HIRING COMPANIES



29 DISCIPLINES



7 LOCATIONS

IT4Kids in Rural Areas

Project overview

Project initiators

The Informal School of IT - member of the Skills4IT Coalition and Banca Comerciala Română (BCR) with APDETIC, Ecotic, Ateliere Fără Frontiere



The purpose of the project

Creating a better chance for children in rural areas to access modern & on-line education, especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. On a worldwide level, 770 million pupils were affected by the pandemic; in Romania 64,9% of schools are located in rural areas and statistics show that there are 13 children for every computer.

The main objectives of the project

- Equipping schools in rural areas with IT equipment (computers, laptops, printers etc.)
- Creating digitized teaching materials
- Organizing courses for teachers in rural areas ("Intro in IT"), delivered by volunteers from The Informal School of IT

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Description

- BCR donates approximately 300 laptops and/or computers (used), which will be distributed through the Informal School of IT, the Via Nova Domini Association, the Agapis Foundation and the “Harul” Christian Baptist Church to children in rural areas of Sălaj, Sibiu and Cluj counties;
- The Informal School of IT, together with its partners, prepares the laptops for use in on-line learning, installing (with the help of volunteers) specific operating systems and applications;
- BCR Social Finance IFN SA donated 5 tablets of the latest generation, which were equipped with software specific to on-line education;
- The Informal School of IT will award 5 children with the best educational results, from the "Simion Bărnuțiu" gymnasium school from Bocșa commune, Sălaj county. The prizes consist in the latest generation tablets;

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Project stages

- **Stage 1:** the first tranche of equipment (5 tablets and about 150 laptops) were prepared (formatting, software installation) at the end of April, followed in the first weeks of May by the effective distribution of the equipment in the mentioned rural areas.
- **Stage 2:** the second tranche of equipment (about 150 laptops and / or PCs) we hope to be able to distribute it in the rural areas (Cluj, Sălaj, Hunedoara) somewhere at the end of May 2020.
- **Stage 3:** creating the teaching materials and delivering the courses for teachers in rural areas ("Intro in IT") by volunteers from The Informal School of IT is planned for the period of May – June 2020. Approximately 30 teachers will benefit from these activities.
- **Stage 4:** on the long term, BCR will continue it's program to donate equipment to this cause. Also, the project will continue in cooperation with the Circle of Solidarity (Cercul Solidarității), a project initiated by Ateliere Fără Frontiere and Ecotic. At each action, training programs for teachers will be organized.

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Invitation

Similar needs exist in many of the rural schools in Romania. Therefore, a much larger number of laptops could be distributed in other areas than those identified so far and a large number of teachers could benefit from the trainings regarding on-line learning.

Everybody can help by

- donating PCs, laptops
- donating funds for printers, routers etc.
- sharing educational video content, internet access subventions, other connected activities

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