

Digital infrastructure for teachers and secondary learners

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 BELGIUM-DE

Timeline

2021 Implementation 2022 Implementation 2023 Implementation
2024 Implementation 2025 Completed

ID number 42130

Background

Due to COVID-19, all classes were suspended for certain time periods. Continuity in secondary education was provided through online classes and virtual communication. However, many teachers, and even more learners, were not sufficiently equipped for digital classrooms and showed poor knowledge of specific online tools.

Objectives

Providing teachers and secondary learners with laptops so that they can participate in digital classrooms.

Description

The Government of the German speaking community decided to equip teachers and secondary learners (including apprentices) with laptops to guarantee good functionality of online classes. The Ministry of the German-speaking Community is responsible.

2021 Implementation

In November 2021, the provision of the laptops for teachers and learners was made available through a leasing concept, which included maintenance, service, and guarantee. Since December 2021, all teachers are invited to order a laptop via the established ordering platform, where they can order a device with maintenance, on-site warranty and service. The costs for standard laptops are covered by the government of the German-speaking Community.

The laptops are purchased by the Ministry of German-speaking Community and delivered to the schools. Altogether EUR 3.68 million were invested, jointly co-financed through the European Union project Next Generation.

2022 Implementation

In 2022, computer equipment was distributed to teachers and to learners of the 1st and 2nd secondary school cycle:

- (a) provision for learners: in June 2022, a total of 1 828 laptops with protective covers were delivered to schools. An additional 1 804 devices were distributed in August, followed by 104 more in October.
- (b) provision for teachers: in 2022, a total of 888 laptops were ordered for teachers.

2023 Implementation

In 2023, computer equipment was continued to be distributed to teachers and now also to learners of the 3rd secondary school cycle.

- (a) provision for learners: in August 2023, an additional 1 569 devices were delivered to schools. In total, 5 305 laptops were distributed in 2022 and 2023, enabling all learners in the 12 secondary schools of the German-speaking Community to be equipped. This marked the completion of the 'initial provision phase' for learners;
- (b) provision for teachers: in 2023, a total of 232 laptops were ordered for teachers.

From September 2023, another important step followed. From then on, all staff members employed at schools are entitled to a free work tool.

2024 Implementation

In 2024, the provision of computer equipment to learners and teachers continued.

- (a) provision for learners: since 2024, the project has entered a 'long-term supply and exchange' phase. In 2024 (for the 2024-25 school year), a total of 1 760 laptops for learners were delivered: 1 007 for first-year secondary learners and first-year apprentices. The concept is based on a leasing model, which means that laptops are replaced after three years. In 2024, 753 replacement devices were made available for fourth-year secondary learners;
- (b) provision for teachers: in 2024, a total of 184 laptops were distributed to teachers.

2025 Completed

In 2025, the provision of computer equipment to learners and teachers continued:

- (a) provision for learners: in 2025, the exchange logic was adjusted. A total of 903 laptops were delivered for first-year secondary learners. In addition, the service contract for 2 243 laptops was extended to prolong the lifespan of existing devices;
- (b) provision for teachers: in 2025 (as of 10 September 2025), a total of 227 laptops were ordered for teachers. The project continued to operate and has become a regular, ongoing practice.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of German-Speaking Community
- Government of the German-Speaking Community

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

Education professionals

Teachers
Adult educators

Thematic categories

Modernising VET infrastructure

Improving digital infrastructure of VET provision

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Provision of school laptops](#)

“ ... ” Cite as

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