

CHARTER FOR ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

INVITATION TO JOIN ITELAB AS AN ASSOCIATE PARTNER

UNIVERSITIES, COMPANIES, MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION and REGIONAL EDUCATION AUTHORITIES are invited to join the ITELAB project as associate partners.

ITELAB OBJECTIVES

ITELab (Initial Teacher Education Lab), co-ordinated by European Schoolnet, is a Knowledge Alliance project between higher education institutions and industry to foster innovation and knowledge exchange in Initial Teacher Education (ITE). It is co-funded under the European Commission's Erasmus+ Programme from January 2017 to December 2019.

Universities and companies will come together in ITELab and work with Ministries of Education, national ICT agencies, regional education authorities and other stakeholders (participating as Associate Partners) to address the issues of how student teachers currently receive training on the pedagogical use of ICT, and the mainstreaming of innovative pedagogical practice that involves ICT.

WHY JOIN?

The new **ITE University-Industry Forum** that will be put in place during the project, will work with a wider group of stakeholders online and in three annual Capacity Development Workshops to establish and sustain this as a permanent network under the independently funded European Schoolnet Future Classroom Lab initiative.

A key benefit for all stakeholders will be the extent to which the project addresses the 'disconnect' between ITE and Continuing Professional Development for teachers. By working closely with teacher educators, ICT suppliers (both project partners and Associate Partners) and policy-makers will gain a better insight into how they can best support new entrants to the teaching profession.

The new open source course modules developed within this project will benefit all ITE educators across Europe. ITELab will particularly provide higher education institutions with recommendations to support innovation within ITE in terms of how it addresses technology-enhanced learning, including recommendations related to the competences that teacher educators themselves will require to prepare student teachers to enter C21st classrooms.

Joining as an Associate Partner will also provide organisations with opportunities to contribute to the development and review/use the course modules for training student teachers on the pedagogical use of ICT both face-to-face and via a MOOC for student teachers.



ROLE OF ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

ITELab enables organisations to participate as unfunded Associate Partners. Associate Partners do not participate in project General Assembly meetings or do not have voting rights but ITELab aims to have an active engagement with a wide range of different stakeholders who have an interest in initial teacher education.

ITELab project partners are particularly interested in working with Associate Partners as members of the ITELab University- ICT Industry Forum:

- to review and discuss online the initial recommendation for how ITE curricula can be improved to better reflect the needs of new entrants to the profession related to the pedagogical use of ICT.
- to launch a programme of (recorded) webinars and online discussions for Associate Partners related to:
 - leveraging/adapting existing teacher professional development resources so that they can be incorporated in ITE courses;
 - rethinking how ITE curricula can be improved to provide student teachers with the competences they need for technology-enhanced teaching and learning and the design of the future classroom scenarios involving ICT;
 - improving the ICT knowledge and competence of teacher educators;
 - developing new policy-level initiatives to build better bridges between existing CPD programmes and ITE;
 - making recommendations for how EC research programmes can support innovation within ITE.

The benefits for ITELab Associate Partners include having opportunities to:

- help shape the discussion by exchanging knowledge and ideas with the project partners;
- have early access to the modules for reviewing/using in the Universities and the student MOOC;
- receive an invitation (one per associate partner) to participate in three ITELab capacity building workshops involving Ministries of Education to coincide with European Schoolnet's annual EMINENT conference (November 2017, 2018, 2019).
- be recognised as an Associate Partner on the ITELab website and promotional materials.

HOW TO BECOME AN ASSOCIATE PARTNER

If you have any questions regarding the ITELab project and/or if you are interested in becoming one of our Associate Partners, please visit the website <http://itelab.eun.org> and contact us at info-itelab@eun.org.

