

BACK TO SCHOOL 2011 : Digital education in Haïti to serve the more.



Will the back to school 2011 be different from any that preceded it? In Haïti the topic seems more relevant than ever! In our case, this season will be - we hope - the hope and rebirth. The pilot program of digital education that will start next September in 15 schools, brings together public sector structures (Direction of Basic Education, UPSAC, EFACAPs, national schools) and private schools or community we work with over 15 years. It starts in the three areas of Port-au-Prince, Jacmel and Cayes / Camp-Perrin and brings together several partners who have taken up the challenge of education reform by new technologies.

It would not have been possible without the support of vigilant Fondation de France and has the international network set up by Sankore that develops in Africa (especially Senegal and Mauritius) similar programs that will benefit all those involved around the world.

This newsletter will keep you regularly informed of developments in the program, questions and debates it has provoked among all participants.

It is therefore reasoned that an adventure we invite you to participate by leaving your convictions or your enthusiasm or at the door. We will need people involved and critical for success of the greatest revolutions: that of knowledge and responsibility.

Josette Bruffaerts-Thomas
President of Haïti Futur



The Digital Education, main ideas:

▮The interactive whiteboard is a tool for the often expressed need for strengthening the educational support to the teacher. It allows you to "fit" classes especially when accompanied by a teacher's guide (paper and digital), which advises and assures the teacher in his daily magister.

▮Students - even those in small classes - are particularly receptive to an approach that appeals to their ability to observe and seeking their active participation.

▮The rehash, the excessive repetition as a teaching method, so common in Haïti, can only produce passive students and formatted. In contrast, observation, dialogue and direct experimentation will learn students to be curious, ambitious and open to the world.

The program, schools and partners

PROGRAM

The pilot program of Haïti Futur takes place over 3 years and is summarized as follows:

- Make freely available for sixty schools representing a significant sample of schools in Haïti, interactive digital equipment (video projector, whiteboard, laptop).
- To develop programs of the first three years of fundamental teaching of the Ministry of Education of Haïti by the best educational digital and interactive experts.
- Implement the second year a transfer of technical and teaching competences for the benefit of local teams so that the production of digital content can be achieved even in Haïti.
- Develop all over digital courses in both official languages of the country: Creole and French.
- Train all teachers in the teaching practice of digital technical by training sessions and educational adapted and provided by the staff trained in teacher training.
- Create a network between all participants in the pilot program in order to benefit all best practices, encourage emulation and mutual encouragement in the success of the operation.
- To collect systematic observations, criticisms and suggestions for improving the current device.
- Working with the Haïtian University in the evaluation and assessment of the

KEY FIGURES



- Pilot program in 3 years.
- 15 classes equipped in 15 schools from the autumn of 2011.
- 30 classes the second year.
- 60 classes the third year.
- After the experimental phase, more than 6000 children have been involved in the program.
- More than 200 teachers trained in digital education.
- 3 materials to start the class CP1: experimental sciences, mathematics and French. All courses are offered in Creole and French. The teacher can choose to turn its course in one or the other..
- By the second year, the social sciences complement the list of proposed disciplines.
- 3 areas of deployment, on the earthquake



program after the first 3 years of implementation.

- Submit to the Department of Education in Haïti at the end of the first three years of testing all the content developed in "open source" and all related materials (teacher guides, results of studies and evaluations). It will then have all the elements necessary to deploy the program across the country.

SCHOOLS

15 schools will be equipped for the start of 2011 with an interactive projector Epson and a laptop with the software of interactive whiteboard (Tableau Numérique Interactif - TNI) Sankoré 3.1. This application allows you to project digital interactive courses on a single sheet of plywood and formica (lower cost).



This projector, specially designed for the tropics that sometimes benefit from a regulated power supply, is attached to the wall of a secured room. When it's possible, it's strongly recommended to cover the projector to protect it from ambient when the device is unused.

An internet connection is not required to deliver the courses. These are stored on the PC's hard drive and are updated via USB at training sessions held at regular intervals by our officials in Haïti.

Schools starting the program in September 2011

Very different schools were selected to form a representative sample of different types of schools located in Haïti and the difficulties to be overcome:

- ▶ National schools
- ▶ Private or community schools
- ▶ A school for poor and very old children
- ▶ A rural school with autonomous power supply (small generator)
- ▶ A school with "Montessori" teaching method
- ▶ A school rebuilt in temporary building
- ▶ and so on.

Of the 15 schools participating in the experiment, the Mersan's EFACAP (near Les Cayes) plays a special role because of its status of National School with 26 affiliated schools.

Each chosen school is also committed to serve as a training center for three nearby schools during the second year of the program.

PARTNERS IN HAITI

EDITOR KOPIVIT

Kopivit- Action Sociale wanted to join the pilot program to allow Haïti Futur to benefit from his experience as educational textbook publisher. Kopivit put freely available for us his educational fund. The digital education that we advocate an approach is based on "open source" free law that has influence on the traditional practice of educational publishing. Publishers will renew their editorial practices in the light of this new paradigm. Kopivit is ready for the challenge of digital and accompanies us in the deployment of the schools in the area west and north.

FOUNDATION FIERE HAITI

The Foundation Fièrè Haïti created in honor of Edouard Tardieu committed with Haïti Futur for create digital content developed in Haïti, particularly in the design and implementation of Creole's courses and the translation of all other materials in Creole.

L'UPSAC (Université Publique du Sud aux Cayes)

The Faculty of Education of the UPSAC works with us to measure the effectiveness of the pilot program. Assessment protocols will be developed with young students who will be involved in each school participating in the program.

fault line: the departments of the West, South and South East (Port-au-Prince / Les Cayes-Camp-Perrin / Jacmel).

Good preparation of your course with the Teacher's Guide ...

The Teacher's Guide is provided to each teacher. It will find how to approach each activity of the course in maximizing the potential of each sequence:

- ▶ He suggests the questions that the teacher should ask the class,
- ▶ It indicates the correct answers that students should give,
- ▶ It details the actions of the teacher and those expected for students,
- ▶ At each stage of the lesson, the teacher's guide provides advice and guidance to the teacher's course becomes more lively and effective ...

It is why it is necessary to prepare its course by reading the Teacher's Guide on the eve of it. The courses place more easily for the students' benefit and their teacher!



The partnership with the Direction of Basic Education

The Ministry of Education, and in particular its Direction of Basic Education, was associated with the pilot program from the initial design phase. As such, it proposed a number of guidelines that have been incorporated



Rénoald Telfort, Directeur à l'Enseignement Fondamental

as and when the project progress:

- Integration of the Mersan's EFACAP in the initial device betting on the multiplier effect on the teachers trained in digital education,
- Taking into account the difficulties of electrification of many schools in rural areas,
- Put a team from the Ministry available some times to monitor and evaluate the project in way to establish the conditions for its possible generalization to the whole country.

Next step ...



The school year extended to October 3 will be a crucial test for the program. We will follow on a daily basis the progress of the first sessions with students.

We believe that children will adhere to this teaching fun and participatory. But we are aware that it will require effort on the part of teachers who,

for some of them, will discover on this occasion the teaching method can be different.

In three months we will establish an initial assessment of the current digital basic first year. In the meantime, we warmly invite you to send us your feedback and your expectations. Suggestions, criticisms and comments are welcome as this program will not succeed without the involvement of each of you. This letter will be one of the places of debate, we will invest more.

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- > [The history of the program](#)
- > [Online courses](#)

For the success of the program, a strong commitment of each school

Each participating school will be asked to sign a partnership agreement setting out the main following commitments:

- Participate in the program by sharing with Haïti Futur the feedback, comments and suggestions to improve the pedagogical and technical device ;
- Involve teachers affected by the program in the training sessions organized by Haïti Futur;
- Training in digital education teachers from other schools in the network, proposed by Haïti Futur or the Ministry once its own cadres and teachers will have acquired the educational and technical necessary skills;
- Maintain the equipment provided, secure the area in which it was installed and maintain the log book that reflects the activity of the establishment of the proposed digital education.

The equipment (projector + PC) made available to the institution remain the property of Haïti Futur which retains the right to take it back, if Haïti Futur thinks that the above commitments were not met.

However, it is agreed that Haïti Futur may decide to offer the equipment at the school at the end of the third year of the program, if it considers that it took place under conditions that justify continuing and strengthening the partnership.