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**PROGRESS REPORT ON PERÚ PILOT: “DISTANCE EDUCATION HEMISPHERIC COURSE
FOR TEACHERS: THE INTER-AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC CHARTER AS INSTRUMENT
FOR TEACHING VALUES AND PRINCIPLES”**

Distance Education Hemispheric Course for Teachers:
**The Inter-American Democratic Charter as Instrument for Teaching
 Democratic Values and Principles**



<u>M1- 2 hours</u>	<u>M 2 - 20 hours</u>	<u>M 3 - 20 hours</u>	<u>M 4 - 18 hours</u>
EDUCATIONAL PLATFORM	THE INTER-AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC CHARTER	PEDAGOGIC TECHNIQUES FOR VALUES EDUCATION	THE DEMOCRATIC CLASSROOM

Progress of Pilot Project: Peru 2006-2007

Project Overview

A state of the art project for supporting democratic development. Using distance education technology, this Course seeks to disseminate the Inter-American Democratic Charter (IDC) among primary and secondary teachers and to provide them with basic pedagogic tools to foster their ability to teach and transmit democratic values in the classroom. The project foresees not only developing and implementing an on-line course, but most importantly the creation of “Democratic Classrooms”.

Background:

2001: The Inter-American Democratic Charter (IDC) is signed.

2002: The SG/OAS formulates a project with the purpose of promoting the values and principles contained in the IDC in the future generations of the Americas.

Planning, Design and Preliminary Production Phase

2003: A strategic alliance is built between the SG/OAS and the Missions of Peru, United States and Argentina and the ministries of education of Peru and Argentina and the National Distance Education University of Spain (UNED) as technological partner. The Mission of the United States to the OAS provides financial support to the initiative

The Third Meeting of Ministers of Education of the Americas was held in Mexico and its Final Declaration urged that efforts be made to incorporate the principles of IDC into the educational programs of the OAS member states.

Peru became the first country to officially incorporate the IDC in the curriculum of its educational system; and expressed its interest in serving as the site for the pilot project.

2004: The first version of the course syllabus is outlined and discussed during 3 video conferences held on April 20, June 3, and July 28, 2004. Participants also included OAS experts in democracy, education and drug prevention, the Inter-American Children's Institute, the Ministry of Education of Peru and UNED. The opinions of the ICHR, IWC and OAS/DPI are incorporated into the course syllabus.

2005: During the first semester of 2005 progress was made in the development of the contents of the first version of the course including setting up a group of experts in political science, democracy, psychology, education and technology. Four videoconferences were held for the presentation, discussion, review and validation of the course contents. The videoconferences were followed by 2 workshops.

By the end of the year 2005 the first complete version of the course was ready on-line based on the educational platform of UNED. The final product is a 60 hour-course to be taken in a three month period. Its purpose is to provide teachers with the basic pedagogic tools to foster democratic values in children and youth from 6 to 16 years old.

Pilot Project 2006

The course was applied for the first time on four occasions during 2006, training a total of 700 teachers in 46 schools of 7 cities of Peru.

Additionally, in the framework of the Second course, 22 educators were trained as future on-line tutors. The joint effort of the OAS and the Ministry of Education of Peru to build this local capacity constitutes the backbone of a strategy for long term sustainability and handling of the project to local partners.

Approximately 300 of the teachers who attended the First and Second courses had the chance to implement their own projects of "democratic classrooms" during the second half of 2006, reaching an estimated 15,000 children from 6 to 16 years old.

The contents of the Course were updated and an improved new version was produced for teaching during 2007 (version 2.0).

A by-product is a new course of 25 school-hours based on the contents of module two and new content and activities in topics related to the right of identity, transparency and the exercise of the rights: the instruments and guarantees. This course will help to reach more extensive audiences in a more cost effective way.

The Project is transferred from the OAS Department of Good Governance to the Department of Education and Culture and is inserted as a component of the Inter-American Program in Democratic Values and Practices. The contents, experiences and expertise acquired in the pilot project in Peru were used for the development by the OAS of a similar project in the English-speaking Caribbean obtaining support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for implementation in the years 2007 to 2009.

An exit test was applied to 150 teachers who attended the Third pilot course and also the same test was applied to a group of 40 teachers, control group, who did not take the course.

The test was applied and analyzed by an independent consultant by assignment of the Ministry of Education of Peru having found very significant differences in the averages obtained in the professional dimension between the experimental group and the control group, in favor of the first one.