

Lifelong Learning of Special Education Teachers in General and Special Education Schools: *Effective Policy or Utopia during the financial crisis?*

Vassilis Kourbetis, Ph.D.

vk@iep.edu.gr

Institute of Education Policy

Lifelong Learning?



- Special Education Teachers ?
- General Public Schools and Special Education Schools?
- Is there an antiph^rasis ???
- The answer is NO



2011

2012

2013

2015

2014

“Design and Development of Accessible Educational and Instructional Materials for Students with Disabilities”

- **Period of implementation :**

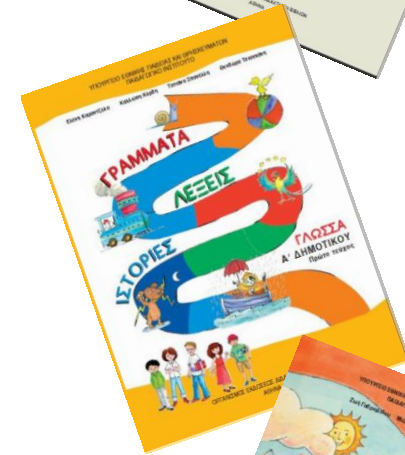


Action Objectives



Textbooks

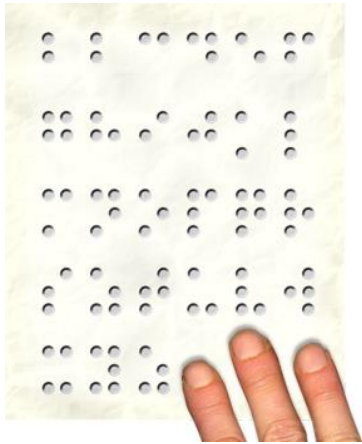
A' and B' PRIMARY SCHOOL GRADES



• Adaptation

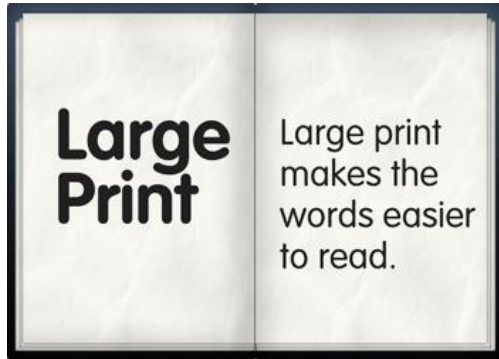
both in printed and digital format, fully accessible for students with:

- Visual Impairment
- Hearing Impairment
- Physical (motor) disability
- Mild mental disability
- Autism
- Attention deficit disorder (ADD)





- **Provision** of special software
- **Archive** of previously developed educational material



- **Standards** for material development

- **Teacher Training Courses**



Platforms for "digital content accessibility" for students with disabilities

<http://www.prosvasimo.gr>



Teacher Training Courses for Special Education Teachers and School Counselors



Needs

Low

Moderate



Substantial

Critical

- Special education Professionals in “Evaluation and Support Services”
- Special education School Counselors
- Teachers in “Special education schools”
- Special education Teachers in “General education schools”
- Over **1500** teachers
- “In-service” teacher training



«Programme of individualized measures to support students with disabilities, in order to maximize academic and social development by using New Technologies and digital educational material.»

- **Period of implementation :**





- *The programme aims at*



A) **modernization and strengthening** education of students with disabilities and/or special education needs

B) **restructuring** the role of special school units and inclusion classes using existing accessible educational material in digital format so that education meets all students' needs without any discrimination



- **Material from “Digital School”**
<http://dschool.edu.gr/>
- **Accessible and editable educational material**
- **Accessible software for Special Education**
- **Special software developed by co-funded projects of the Ministry of Education**
- **Accessible educational material that is being developed at IEP**
- **Special software developed at the University of Ioannina**
- <http://www.prosvasimo.gr/>



Phase 1 May 14-15 2013 (12 hours)



Training seminar for:

- School Counselors of SE and general education and
- teachers with accredited knowledge of IT

(16x4=64 persons),

in issues for

- individualized support [of students with disabilities] and their social development
- using ICT





Phase 2:



- **1610** SE teachers of Primary and Secondary education,
- at a local education authority level,
- in 90 groups of 18 people each on average, all around Greece.



Teachers' Training, by School Counselors of special and general education, will take place within a period of 30 days



Phase 3:

The second training seminar will be held for the Trainers.



It will be a one-day seminar lasting 6 hours



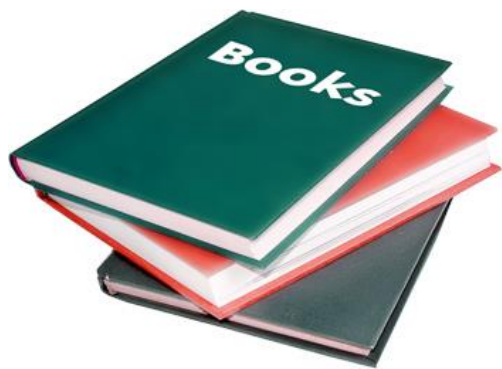
The seminar will take place in the first ten days of December at the Ministry of Education; the School Counselors will provide feedback for the in-service training they completed.

Phase 4:

A one-day training course (6 hours in total) will take place in January 2014 for the teachers.

Special Education School Counselors will conduct the training after taking into account the results from the three previous phases



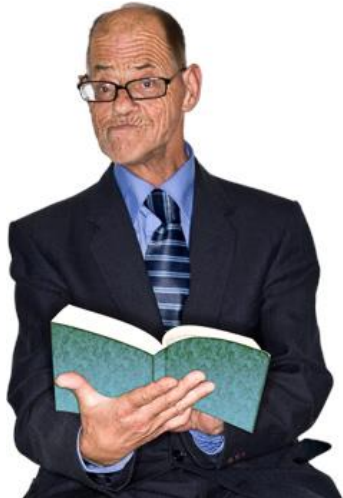


a) training material (digital school material, accessible and editable education material, accessible special education material and special education software)



b) the training procedure as a whole

c) creating pupils' portfolio and



d) Guide for Differentiating Special Education Curriculums

[Αρχική](#) [Πολυμεσικό Υλικό](#) [Το Έργο](#) [Ομάδα Έργου](#) [Δημοσιεύσεις – Παραδοτέα](#) [Ανακοινώσεις](#) [Επικοινωνία](#)
[Δομή](#)



E- Platform

In order for distance support to be achieved, all files to be shared are temporarily uploaded at “dropbox.com”

All education material to be created will be hosted on IEP’s website, which through open source platforms and appropriate interface will be accessible to all users

A spiral-bound calendar page with a red header and a white body. The year '2013' is printed in large, bold, black font. The page is slightly curled at the bottom right corner.

2013

Phase 5:

At the end of the school year (2013-2014), during the second fortnight of June a meeting of all groups of trainers will take place at the Ministry of Education, in order for final conclusions from all phases to be extracted.

A spiral-bound calendar page with a red header and a white body. The year '2014' is printed in large, bold, black font. The page is slightly curled at the bottom right corner.

2014

A spiral-bound calendar page with a red header and a white body. The month 'June' is printed in bold black font. Below the header is a grid of dates from 1 to 30. The page is slightly curled at the bottom right corner.

June

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Development of Support Structures for Integration and Inclusion in Education of Students with Disabilities or Special Educational Needs - Conversion of Special School into Support Center in Special Education Training

- **Period of implementation :**



Action Objectives

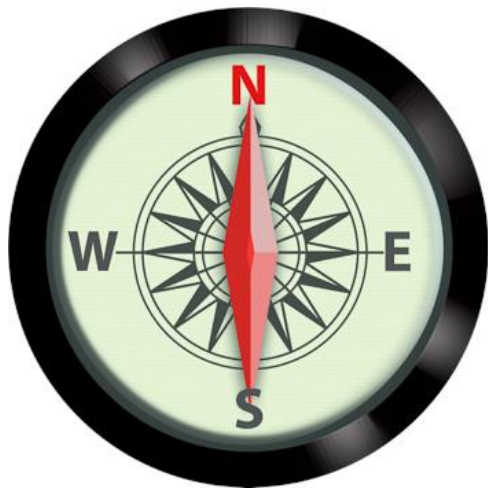
3550 SE teachers, School Psychologists, Social Workers



- Strengthening general school so as to operate for all students

- without discriminations,
- facilitate access and participation and
- prevent academic failure and school dropout.





Converting the special school into a center of an early support for general schools, their students and families too.

Bringing a paradigm shift through training courses on human rights and good practices in educating students with disabilities



Ensuring adequate staffing for special educational evaluation committees aiming at a more effective interdisciplinary support for students with disabilities.

Effective Policy or Utopia during the financial crisis?



Thank you !!!

Vassilis Kourbetis, Ph.D.

vk@iep.edu.gr

The logo for the Institute of Education Policy (IEP) features the letters 'IEP' in a white, serif font, enclosed within a blue square. The letters are positioned in the center of the square, with the 'I' and 'E' on the left and the 'P' on the right. The square has a thin white border.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POLICY