

Draft Proposed Network

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The network we propose has a broad interest in e-literacies and access to representational technologies. Our expertise is in the mediation of experience and facilitation of intercultural communication and understanding. Our emphasis is on forms of cultural inclusion, which can be technologically mediated, offering increased access to groups who are excluded for reasons of physical disability, education provision, geographical and economic marginalisation.

Current work and envisaged future work would fall within the societal challenges sub-section of 1.2.1, with particular reference to e-inclusion. It would also relate to the Knowledge technologies and digital content sub-section of 1.2.4.

Examples are projects currently underway:

- CHICAM (EU-funded), working with refugee children in six European countries to use new media technologies to mediate entry into host cultures
- BECTa study of the introduction of DV into schools, including a special school where children with cerebral palsy have difficulty with conventional digital video editing equipment.
- ILET project - EU/US funded collaboration between European and American universities to develop doctoral specialism in inter-cultural educational technology.

We are currently building our expertise in working with linguistically and culturally diverse communities and their uses of and access to new media services and applications by planning future funded projects centred on the development on new applications and interfaces to extend access. These include:

- SCREEN ONLINE - a joint proposal to ESRC with the British Film Institute, to develop an interface for a digital archive of British Film and television, to be distributed to all schools and libraries over the next few years.
- GAMES AUTHORIZING PROJECT - this proposal, in collaboration with the games development industry and educational multimedia development companies (we are discussing this with TAG media at present), would develop a games authoring software package for educational use (both formal and informal) to give young people access to production practices in the context of new technologies and their contributions to cultural life.

The network proposed here combines international expertise in the fields of media education, informal learning, the development of online communities, the use of media technologies by young people, intercultural applications of new technologies, the use of ICT in education, and

the cultural resources of the moving image. The network has grown out of a number of established research projects. The partners are:

- WAC Performing Arts and Media College, London
- Fondazione Centro Studi Investimenti Sociali (CENSIS), Rome
- Centre for Research in International Migration and Ethnic Relations (CEIFO)
Stockholm University
- Department of Media Education/Media Centre, University of Ludwigsburg, Germany
- Forum Institute of Multicultural Development, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Greek Council for Refugees, Athens
- University of Barcelona
- Aalborg University, Denmark
- British Film Institute
- TAG Learning, Ltd
- The Open University, UK