3.1Version 3.1

REPORTING PERIOD:

1   THE ORGANIZATION
1.1   General information

Name of the organization: Fundación Esquel
Adress: República del Salvador N34-229 y Moscú
CEP/RUC: 1791116992001
City/State/Province: Quito/Pichincha
Website: www.esquel.org.ec
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2   THE PROJECT
2.1   PROJECT'S NAME: Reading Companion Software implementation in schools and community education of northwest of Pichincha, Ecuador

2.2   SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT:

The project was looking for improvements in the pronunciation of English language through the use of the software *Reading Companion*. The specific objectives were:

- Implement English language skills in children and young people from schools and community education centers selected from the three cantons chosen in the northwest of Pichincha.
- Improve the pronunciation of English through the use of the software.
- To encourage greater involvement of youth and adults into the tourism industry in the area, through knowledge of English.

This means implement English language skills in children and young people from schools and community education centers previous selected, in the northwest of Pichincha: San Miguel de los Bancos, Puerto Quito and Pedro Vicente Maldonado.

The communities previous selected were:

- Nueva Delhi School (San Miguel de los Bancos)
- 26 de Septiembre School (Pedro Vicente Maldonado)
- Darío Guevara School (Puerto Quito)
- Faros del Saber implemented in Mindo and Pedro Vicente Maldonado
- Municipal Library in Puerto Quito
- Enterprise Incubator in Puerto Quito

2.3   DELIVERIES

Date	Description of the activity
October, 2009	The operative program was planned and approved as the SPME monitoring system determines in Esquel.

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November, 2009	The previous selected schools were visited to begin with the project, but as the same time that we understood that the software Reading Companion needs the Internet to be used, we found that these previous selected schools have problems with their connections. So, as a solution, we tried to help them by signing in a new contract. Nevertheless, this couldn't be possible. As the Government is the one who deliveries the service, the contract couldn't be modified as the rules of "Contraloría General del Estado". The directors and coordinators of both Faros del Saber and the Corporación de Emprendedores were visited and explained about the project and the basic needs to use the software. The Faro located in Mindo, wasn´t is able to function, because of internal problems. The others places didn't have any problem with Internet connection. But, the coordinators had to assist to an international meeting during three weeks. So, it couldn´t be possible to start with the use of the software. A model of the institutional agreement to sign in with the institutions was designed.
December	*Puerto Quito*.- The Corporación de Emprendedores was visited. In the meeting we agreed that children from Centro Artesanal de Puerto Quito, Escuela Comunitaria de Puerto Quito, and people with microenterprises from the Corporación will use the software inside the installations of the Corporación. The Mayor and the director of education and culture of this county were visited to agree the use of the Municipal Library. *Pedro Vicente Maldonado*. - The coordinator of Faro del Saber located was visited and we agreed that children from one of the previous selected schools could use the computers and the Internet connection besides the regular public that visits the place. But, this couldn´t be possible because the school didn´t have authorization to take the students out from the school.
January	English teachers who work with children in *Puerto Quito* and *Pedro Vicente Maldonado* were trained in the use of Reading Companion Software. This training workshop was delivered in January because of the holidays celebrated in December that produce distraction and changes in schedules.
February	*San Miguel de los Bancos*.- This month we agreed with the "Centro de Gestión Empresarial de la Provincia de Pichincha" which belongs to the Province Government, to use this place whenever the software would be needed. Whit this Institution was not necessary to sign an agreement, but a letter was sent to regularize the relationship. The institutions that agreed to use the software were equipped with microphones and speakers (see Annex 1). There were delivered 33 speakers and 35 microphones, as described as follows:

Counties	Institution	N. of microphones	N. of speakers
San Miguel de los Bancos	Centro de Gestión del Gobierno de la Provincia	12	12
Pedro Vicente	Faro del Saber	11	11

	Maldonado			
	Puerto Quito	Library	10	10
		Corporación de Emprendedores	2	0

The use of the software took place in *Puerto Quito* inside the Library. This could happen because of the agreement with teachers from "Experimento", which is an institution that works in Ecuador with German people, that shares the voluntaries who work as English teachers. At this place, children received English classes using the software every day in the reinforcement course that took place every day in vacations time.

March	*San Miguel de los Bancos.-* the software began to be used with a group of people interest in tourism inside the "Centro de Gestión del Gobierno de la Provincia". They receive classes every week on Monday and Wednesday, as a tool to strength their pronunciation.
April	*San Miguel de los Bancos.-* The group that use the software inside the Centro de Gestión finished the use of the software in April when their English course finished. *Pedro Vicente Maldonado.-* This month is the first one to return to classes after vacation period, and as it was not possible to work with the previous selected school, we searched to work with others, and teenagers from high schools. The teachers decided to use the software at Faro del Saber Ciudadano. At this place have arrived students that used the software as another tool to improve their pronunciation skills once in a month. *Puerto Quito.-* Children that assisted to classes at Municipal Library in Puerto Quito, finished the course in April when their regular classes began.
May	*Pedro Vicente Maldonado.-* The groups that work with Faro del Saber Ciudadano continued the use of the software once in a month.
June	*San Miguel de los Bancos*: We received news about Faro del Saber Ciudadano located en Mindo was closed. The Unidad Educativa Fiscomisional Técnico Ecuador was reached as an alternative institution to install the software. But, as the Internet connection was slow, it was needed to sign a new contract with better conditions. *Puerto Quito* – Inside the Corporación de Emprendedores, the members decided to take English classes from July until September every week, so, Esquel found an English teacher to help them to improve their language skills to apply with the tourist that they receive inside their entrepreneurships. *Pedro Vicente Maldonado*. - The Unidad Educativa Fiscomisional a Distancia de Pichincha asked for an authorization to use the software inside the Faro del Saber Ciudadano located in Pedro Vicente Maldonado.
July	*Puerto Quito.-* The English classes as a tool to improve the language skills with the guides begun with the entrepreneurs. These classes were designed to improve the touristic guides' language skills. People were interested in an everyday class, so they assisted per two hours at night since Monday until Thursday. *Pedro Vicente Maldonado.-* Teachers worked until this month because of they have to return to their country, Germany; so, the schools stopped the English classes.
August	*Puerto Quito.-* The English classes focused on touristic guides continued with the same scheduled: Monday until Thursday during two hours per day.

	Pedro Vicente Maldonado.- At the end of the month, new teachers from Germany arrived to the schools.
September	*Puerto Quito*.- The English classes continued and finished the last day of the month.
	Pedro Vicente Maldonado-. New teachers haven't been introduced to the use of the Reading Companion software because of their first month is a process to adapt to the country and the county.

2.4   IMPACT TO DATE / PROJECT PROGRESS

Number of people trained to date:

County	Number of teachers and administrators	Number of students (adults, teenagers and children)
San Miguel de los Bancos	2	9
Pedro Vicente Maldonado	8	529
Puerto Quito	8	61

Listes:

Participantes Maestros
Participantes Puerto Quito
Participantes San Miguel de los Bancos
Participantes Pedro Vicente Maldonado.PDF

2.5   COST *(detail of project expanses to date. Please include copy of receipts as attachments):*

The Financial Report is an attached

2.6   ADDITIONAL INFORMATION *(comments, pictures, other relevant results)*

The necessity of an Internet connection to use the software was the main problem inside the selected schools. Although, the project has resources to help with this lack, it could not be possible because of the administration procedures linked with the government and its institutions which controls the contracts and the services provided by them. As a way to solve this lack, Esquel tried to find places with an Internet connection instead of another school, but instead of this new school we decided to use the Faro del Saber Ciudadano in Pedro Vicente Maldonado and Corporación de Emprendedores in Puerto Quito as the central places where people could use the software.

The work with Faro del Saber Ciudadano in Mindo could not be possible because this place was closed and the agreement that regularized the relationship between the local government and this Faro was canceled.

The work with Faro del Saber Ciudadano in Pedro Vicente Maldonado was successful because this place helped to coordinate the schedules with English teachers who work in that county. That´s why the project had good results.

San Juan Evangelista High School and Unidad a Distancia, both located in Pedro Vicente Maldonado, have asked for IBM´s permission to use of the software until the end of their courses, which is in February 2011. That is because they are interest in using this tool inside their classes until the students finish the level.

ANNEX

Annex 1. Actas de Entrega