e-Bug IMPLEMENTATION (2014-2015), CHALLENGES AND FUTURE IN GREECE

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Involvement in the e-Bug project

- The National School of Public Health (NSPH) had been the original partner 2006-2013 and still supports it but cannot fund it.
- Endorsements from Ministry of Education (MoE) & Ministry of Health (MoH) have been acquired since 2009, but support remains minimal.
- Both packs (2100 copies of each pack) were distributed to all regions of the country, since 2009, through Health Education departments in Regional Offices of the Ministry of Education, but promotion remains minimal.

Implementation-- Presentations, conferences, teacher networks etc:

13 MAY 2014: NSPH – PRESENTATION of e-Bug TO GRADUATE STUDENTS

SEPTEMBER 2014- JANUARY 2015 - In Sept 2014, the MoE initiated the “Social School” activity. The NSPH participated in this activity, through training and certifying Health Professionals (HP) and members of Parents and Teachers Associations (PTA) on hygiene and prevention of infections, implementing the e-Bug educational resource. All certified HPs and members of PTAs have been implementing the activities in about 6000 students in 100 elementary schools and about 20 junior high schools, mainly in Athens and Thessaloniki.

On January 2015, the day was proclaimed as “Health Day” for schools in Greece and e-Bug activities were also suggested to be included in the festivities (http://socialschool.gr/)


SEPTEMBER 2015: National Junior and Senior website update (acknowledgements: Georgia Farmaki, M.D. and Marissa Farmaki)

OCTOBER 2015: The MoH includes the e-Bug website in a document regarding nutrition of children

IN THE BEGINNING OF EVERY SCHOOL YEAR: THE NSPH makes a formal request to THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, in order that the Regional Offices of Health Education are “reminded” of the e-Bug project

THE RESOURCE APPEARS IN MORE EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES and SCHOOL WEBSITES:

- http://blogs.sch.gr/kyriakou
- http://2odimotikokrinidon.blogspot.gr/p/blog-page_4726.html
- users.sch.gr/mchatzinik/sinedria-hmerides/The%20e-Bug%20Project.pps
- http://docplayer.gr/1352400

Elementary and Junior High School teachers had agreed to bring the development and publication of e-Bug educational resource into discussion among Elementary and Junior High School Teachers Associations, respectively, to promote the educational material and website among their members and the schools, BUT REJECTION OCCURRED AND THE DISSEMINATION NEVER TOOK PLACE

The Department of Pedagogics, School of Pedagogic and Technological Education (ASPAITE), Athens, Greece and the Faculty of the annual “Counselling and Vocational Orientation Certification Programme” for teachers in both primary and secondary schools support our efforts, by agreeing to inform the teachers that attend the course, about the pack and involve them in its implementation, BUT THE PROGRAMME HAS BEEN SUSPENDED DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS

The topic “The evaluation of e-Bug as an educational resource in elementary schools”, was assigned to three postgraduate students, as two separate dissertation thesis projects [one at the National School of Public Health (NSPH), and the other at the Department of Pedagogics, School of Pedagogic and Technological Education (ASPAITE)], in Greece, BUT ALTHOUGH BOTH THESIS WERE PUBLISHED THERE WAS NO FOLLOW-UP.

Challenges BUT STILL no breakthrough(s)

- Lack of a national partner and an official e-Bug team
- Lack of extracurricular activity in a dense school curriculum, school units that have been merged and shortage of teachers
- Low student interest in comparison to other projects (e.g. Ecology, Psychology)
- Minimal feedback from schools and lack of health campaigns coordination
- Financial difficulties and social instability in the nation

The future of e-Bug

- Translation of and participation in other than only the Junior and Senior e-Bug resources and activities
- Inclusion of the e-Bug website link in more websites (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Primary Health Care Organization – EOPYY, Hellenic Center for Disease Control & Prevention -KEELPNO )
- Introduction of the e-Bug resource into private schools
- Collaboration with national Health and Educational Institutions, as key stakeholders