

INVOLVING THE PRIVATE SECTOR (FOUNDATIONS AND COMPANIES) IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

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The idea of the « seed city » should be extended in order to involve private companies. However one of the problems might be the teacher careers themselves since they usually have few experiences with the private sector.

Example 1: the *Xperilab* is a science labo bus designed and built in Belgium by Solvay Enterprise, but it seems not fully recognized by the governmental authorities.

Conclusion: we have to involve both the private and public sectors to succeed.

Example 2: *Remèdes sciences* is a small educational project in Belgium with the objective to help young people to become better in science. It is supported by Solvay Enterprise (private).

What are the advantages of the industry/education association?

- For students: better link to reality
- For teachers: link to reality, hands on
- For the project: money !

Presentation by Marie-Claire Certiat, Airbus EADS foundation, France

Role: promotion of science and research in aeronautics.

Support to: European contest for young scientists (EUCYS) and UPPC (physics olympiad) both in France.

Actions and developed projects: C.Genial (France) to promote science and technics (contests, school visits, science fairs). Book on aeronautics (for young people 12-16). Mob-e3, a contest for transports of the future. Alouette, technical schools involved in helicopter repair.

Problems : engineers and technicians do not have much time to spend for visits, etc. Actions limited to France. The scientific level is often too low to be useful in aeronautics.

Presentation by Wolfgang Gollub, metal industry- Gesamt metal Berlin, Germany

The interest of private companies for education is mainly considered as a way to attract young and motivated people in the company.

Actions :

- 9 information busses fully equipped with multimedia/experiments/science exhibitions. 12,000 visitors/year. Excellent publicity.
- Support of science and technic teaching. Giving informations about engineer careers.

- Website for jobs/projects/portraits.
- Organization of large events/lectures/science camps/teachers courses/science projects.
Involved in Science on stage. Science books edition.

Short term objectives: reduction of academic dropouts, promotion of girls in science

Very large action overall involving a web of private companies and the public sector.