EUCONET CLUB
ICTs FOR AN ACTIVE, SOLIDARITY-BASED AGEING

BACKGROUND
The EUCONET CLUB, which arose as a direct result of the research undertaken inside the European EuCoNet (European Computer Network) Project—created to facilitate seniors’ access to the Internet—is formed by students enrolled in UPUA’s Senior Diploma and has been operating since the 2004/2005 academic year within the framework of the “Incubator of Values” for the purpose of making progress in ICT knowledge and use, as well as in the reduction of technological exclusion amongst older adults.

INTRODUCTION
The “Incubator of Values” is a set of initiatives proposed by volunteer students enrolled in the Permanent University of the University of Alicante. It was born from a group of over-50 students who wished to dedicate part of their time to others and share their knowledge and interests, promoted from UA, within the framework of the training and research carried out in the Diploma Senior programme. Their proactive attitude allows CLUB EUCONET actors (peer-to-peer training) to cause a strong impact both on Social Responsibility and on the fields of voluntary service and personal development, within the university and socio-educational context.

METHODOLOGY
Participation is free, but students necessarily have to be registered in UPUA’s Senior Diploma, in any of its subjects and pursuant to the general registration and operation rules. At the beginning of each academic year, and with the support offered by the University of Alicante in terms of infrastructures, dissemination and coordination, students are summoned to an informative meeting which serves to carry out the free-of-charge registration and to establish:

- The calendar for the activity
- The Club’s timetables
- The distribution of tutors and students by groups, according to the teaching days and levels
- The general sessions in which specialists and academic coordinators deal with specific topics of common interest to everyone

AIMS
- Helping students to learn how to use new technologies providing solutions to specific issues
- Developing and normalizing UACloud as a tool to keep in touch with UA
- Promoting contact between students interested in the utilisation of new technologies
- Establishing a volunteering culture through the creation of a small group of cybervolunteers who can collaborate with the Club
- Creating a training and collaboration exchange forum in contexts where new technologies are used
- Consolidating a Guided Learning and Self-Learning Project with materials, tools and support groups
- The interaction of participants communicating with one another, taking advantage of new technologies and bridging the gap between the different generations
- Ensuring satisfaction with regard to perceived effectiveness and the feeling of being useful
- Encouraging intergenerational solidarity
- Promoting active ageing

OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of participants/students</th>
<th>279</th>
<th>446</th>
<th>693</th>
<th>806</th>
<th>904</th>
<th>921</th>
<th>1248</th>
<th>1113</th>
<th>1163</th>
<th>1494</th>
<th>1765</th>
<th>1280</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of hours dedicated to volunteering</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>126</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of sessions</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://www.facebook.com/groups/122495987797695/