Secondary Education and Professional Training

IS NEW TECHNOLOGY SUSTAINABLE?

OBJECTIVES:

- Encouraging pupils to move towards making sustainable use of new technology by reflecting on how we use it.
- Promoting green consumerism with regards to mobile phones.

SKILLS DEVELOPED:

- Multi-disciplinary basic skills:
    - Linguistic communication
    - Scientific and technological
    - Social and citizen-related

- Related basic skills:
    - Verbal communication
    - Learning by studying and learning by thinking
    - Activism
    - Learning by being

OTHER REFERENCE MATERIAL OF INTEREST:

·The story of electronic devices / La historia de las cosas:
   - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sW_7i6T_H78

· "Technology and Sustainability". ITA(Institute of technology assessment)
   - http://www.oeaw.ac.at/ita/en/topics/technology-and-sustainability
   - http://www.alboan.org/portal/index.asp
   - http://www.alboan.org/edukalboan/inpaktu-irudiak.pdf
   - http://www.tecnologialibredeconflicto.org/eu/

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
We encourage reflection about technology and sustainability.
What is technology? And sustainability?

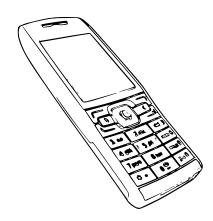Get the class together as a group, agree on definitions and discuss.

1. Then each pupil writes four types of technology which he/she thinks indispensable in every day life and, next to them, their advantages.

2. In groups of four, pupils put all the technologies they have listed together and answer the following questions:

- Why do you all use them?

- Do you all have the same needs?

- With regards to the environment, what are the advantages?

Until now we have discussed the advantages of new technology. But are you aware of the conflicts which the large-scale use of new technology creates? There are explanations about the matter in this video: http://www. tecnologialibredeconflicto.org/eu/

3. A question for starting the debate: We need technology in our current world, but **how can we improve the way we use it in order to achieve "conflict-free technology"?**

Several conclusions will be drawn during the debate. Basing ourselves on those conclusions, we will develop a plan for responsible consumption of mobile phones. **Green consumerism with mobile phones.**

Four stages must be taken into account:
- **Before buying:** Examining the need to buy.
- **On buying:** Giving priority to the criteria of not harming the environment.
- **Use:** Making appropriate use of devices and buying ones which can be recycled.
- **Waste material:** This must be correctly disposed of.