

Global Forum 2003 Developing Communities  
Extremadura, the outcomes from a political commitment



Session 7  
Developing Communities:  
Opportunities for Local & Regional Authorities  
**EXTREMADURA: the outcomes from a political commitment, from regional strategy to practice**

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Carlos Castro / Luis Lozano, Rome, 27/10/2003

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### Structure of the presentation

- The Background
- The Strategic Framework
- The Technological Framework
- Some Strategic actions
  - The New Knowledge Centres
  - VIVERNET
  - FLOSS: Free – Libre – Open Source Software

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### The background

A border region with around

1 million inhabitants

More than 42.000 Km2

And one of the lower incomes rates in Spain and in the EU



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### A region on the way towards the IS

**Regional Parliament Feb. 1998**

*"The Regional Government is committed in playing a leading role as promoter and stimulator of the process of establishment of the Information Society, so that Extremadura will not be backwards in the social progress race, as it has been in the past during the Industrial Revolution."*



The Regional President:  
Juan Carlos Rodriguez Ibarra:  
Key note speech in the European Conference  
The Information Society and economic, social and territorial cohesion  
Lyon 2002

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## The Strategic Framework

### 1997: INFODEX:

a holistic and integrated approach built upon a wide regional partnership:

- Analysing ICT to modernise productive activities
- Improving the services related to citizens
- Reducing the differences between rural & urban
- Profiting from the potentialities of a border region



### 2002: eExtremadura:

the Regional EU programme for Innovative Actions

- Extremadura online
- Integrating Extremadura
- Entrepreneurial Extremadura
- Extremadura contents
- Sustainable Extremadura

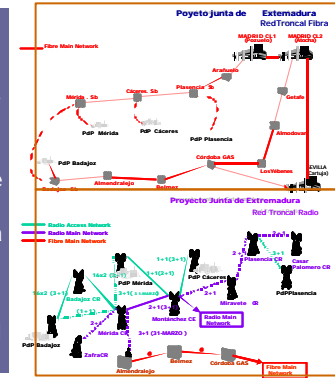
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## The Technological Framework

### The Regional INTRANET

A Corporate Telecommunications Network connecting 1.478 points in the regional administration, at a minimum 2Mbps, of which more than 700, are educational centres



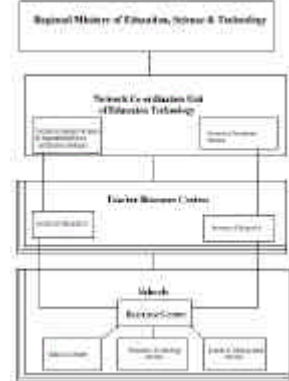
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## The Technological Education Network

### The RTE

- Equal opportunities of all centres to access the Informational networks
- E-mail address, personal web page and access to common resources for every pupil, teacher and education personnel
- Transform pedagogical methods incorporating progressively ICT
- Education centres as the motors for the incorporation of Extremadura in the Information Society



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## The Technological Education Network 2

In less than 4 years all public secondary centres will teach with computers in all the classrooms with 1 PC for every 2 pupils

More than 66.000 PCs are being installed in secondary centres and more than 21.000 in primary

The 112 old institutes have already been cabled and equipped

12 new have been prepared for the new situation and other 26 are under construction with new building specifications

The 18 centres of teachers and resources are preparing content and giving training courses for teachers



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### The New Knowledge Centres

#### The NKC

- Promote free access to ICT to every citizen
- Extend the local culture by making people participate in the IS
- Develop local capacity, such as entrepreneurship to build a new region
- Create a social and virtual space to commit people in the transformation of the region
- Create guidelines to best practice to favour the transfer of knowledge between communities and regions



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### VIVERNET: Starting business in the new economy

#### VIVERNET:

- Business Centres for new age entrepreneurs
- Physical and virtual spaces to facilitate the development of new business in IS fields
- Provide resources without having to face the initial burden of access to technological and financial resources
- Continuous training, personal advice and access to shared resources
- Promote exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge
- A framework for the development of private initiatives



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### FLOSS: Free – Libre – Open Source Software

- The sustainability of the Educational System
- The sustainability of the Regional Strategy
- The independence of the public Administration
- The independence of the users:
  - ✓ Educational System (ETN).
  - ✓ Technological Literacy Centres (NKC).
  - ✓ Enterprises



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Thank you  
for your attention

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