

Stay at home with ACRA & STMicroelectronics Foundation #nooneleftbehind

Covid-19 is now hitting education in Italy. As educational activities are organized online, not all Italian children have the same opportunities. While school entrusts the Internet with the difficult task of managing all educational paths that have been stopped since the beginning of the lockdown, we find that almost the 30% of families do not have computers or tablets at home. In other words, thousands of students cannot finish their studies.

Having a long and international experience in Bridging the Digital Divide, the ST Foundation has decided together with its partner ACRA Foundation, to build a new project not to leave anyone behind.



Representatives of ST, ST Foundation, Acra and ACISMON at the IC Bontempi school of Agrate Brianza

With the spread of COVID 19, Italy was the first European country to announce a nationwide lockdown on March 9. After that date, the country has seen a ramping up of cases. Now, after almost two months from the beginning of the outbreak, the country is planning how to get to phase two: reorganization of the usual activities in a totally different way.

This is the case of education for which eLearning approaches will be used till the end of the academic year, but unfortunately, not all schools and families have the right competences and tools. Difficult situations were found in Lombardy, the region that paid the highest price to the pandemic.

In this scenario the ST Foundation decided to partner with ACRA Foundation sharing what we do best: teach informatics!

Together we identified nine schools to which we are:

1. Donating over 100 laptops to fragile families to allow kids follow their regular lessons;
2. Preparing effective FAQ for students to guide them in the use of tools they may be not familiar with;
3. Creating a help desk service with the constant help of ST volunteers who will reply to possible questions coming from teachers.

Today, April 24 the Foundation is reaching schools in Milan, Settimo Milanese, Cinisello and Agrate. The supported institutes are: Istituto Comprensivo "Q. Di Vona T. Speri", Istituto Comprensivo Casa Del Sole, IPSAR Amerigo Vespucci, Liceo Artistico Statale Caravaggio, Istituto Comprensivo Gino Capponi, Istituto Comprensivo Cairoli, Istituto Comprensivo Settimo Milanese, Istituto Comprensivo Bontempi and Istituto Comprensivo Buscaglia.

For the implementation of the initiative we owe a special thanks to ACISMON military corps (Association of the Italian Knights of the Military Order Sovereign of Malta) that is helping us with the distribution of the equipment to all our beneficiaries.

ST Foundation's computers will contribute to guarantee educational continuity. STMicroelectronics volunteers will support the schools in better understating informatics. In parallel Acra will enrich standard school's curricula with the important subject of Global Citizenship, particularly relevant in a moment where we all are realizing the concept of responsibility and interconnection.

We are so proud of this teamwork against exclusion, an example of what Covid 19 has taught us: we are all connected; therefore, we need to work together to build a better world.

How you can support us

[Became a volunteer](#) for the Foundation, if you are a ST employee wishing to support our cause feel free to share your ideas, time, and competences.

Share this story with your colleagues, friends, and networks to reach and involve more people.

[Donate](#) to the project: Stay at home with ACRA & STMicroelectronics Foundation

Donate

We have to work together, because we are all in this together, join us and make it happen.

Thank you!

STMicroelectronics Foundation

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