



AMERICA/PARAGUAY - Solar panels bring the internet in schools without electricity

Asuncion (Agenzia Fides) - According to the Secretary General of the Organization of Iberoamerican States (OEI), thanks to a pilot program involving the installation of solar panels, 100 colleges in rural areas and difficult to reach, will have access to the internet . The campaign, called "light to learn," intends to bring electricity to some 60 000 schools by 2014. With this project, children and teachers will have access to new technologies and to come out of isolation, which limits their social status. The promoters of the project are confident that with these opportunities violence decreases. Because of the difficulty of transport of the panels, the Andes or the Amazon regions may be penalized. The OEI will organize training courses for teachers to use these new technologies, and awareness campaigns to encourage communities to take ownership of the project. Furthermore, the solar panel industry will also bring new job opportunities and training. (AP) (Agenzia Fides 14/5/2012)