



Making education more inclusive & equitable in Chile

A national project to promote computer science in public schools is equipping students for the 21st century.

Developing digital skills

With technology rapidly transforming the world, the skills required by students to contribute to society have changed. It's now essential for every child of the 21st century to have an opportunity to learn about algorithms, how to make an application, and how the Internet works.

OECD studies confirm teaching computer science in the classroom generates specialized processes where children learn to understand, in a systematic way, how technology works, its potential and the ethical dilemmas the digital world brings. Computer science covers topics such as problem analysis, programming and algorithms, data storage structures, computer architecture, networks, cybersecurity, robotics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning.

It is in this context that a strategic alliance between Fundación Kodea and the BHP Foundation created IdeoDigital, a national project to promote the teaching of computer science in the Chilean public school system. The project aims by 2025, to make computer science education more inclusive and equitable, ensuring thousands of students are equipped for the digital world of the 21st century.

Part of the national curriculum

The goal of IdeoDigital is to reach 1,000 schools, 850 teachers, more than 150,000 students, and influence public policies so that computer science becomes part of the national curriculum.

It's an innovative capacity transfer model that will be piloted, then rolled out to other regions of Chile in the second year.

- Computer science content will be developed for first to fourth grade, based on Code.org, and adapted for technology. The content will be available free of charge.
- Implementing partners (ATES), currently in the national educational ecosystem, will be trained and supported to train teachers and develop a network of leading schools in computer science.
- Public advocacy and awareness programs at all levels will be deployed to highlight the importance, viability, and benefits of computer science in the educational system.

The BHP Foundation Chile Country program works to improve long-term economic, social and environmental sustainability in Chile.

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