



## **A nationally funded service providing textbooks in alternative formats**

### **The context for the use of ICT for Inclusion**

Since 2010, the Centre for Education Development, on behalf of the Ministry of National Education, has been co-ordinating work on textbooks for students with visual impairment (enlarged print) and blind students (Braille system) in electronic format. Adapted books can be found on the specially designed website. This system allows books to be downloaded and printed in whole or in part, according to the student's individual educational needs. The list and the presentation are publicly available. However, books can only be downloaded after receiving personal authorisation. The project gives students with visual impairment free access to textbooks and ancillary materials in DXB, BRF and PDF formats, enabling them to be educated within the mainstream education system.

### **The policy context**

The existing regulations are sufficient.

### **The use of ICT**

The system currently covers over 400 positions in the I, II, III and IV education levels. The Centre for Education Development website also includes a list of available titles and the textbooks and materials in the process of adaptation. This list is available to both teachers and parents and aims to help them select textbooks.

### **Key outcomes and benefits**

This form of information dissemination on adapted schools helps schools to select books from the list. The internet is an accessible means of obtaining and printing adapted textbooks and ancillary materials, according to the student's individual needs. There are no additional costs associated with distribution (large volume of books).

### **Main challenges and obstacles**

Challenges include the high costs and the lengthy adaptation process. It is impossible to adapt all existing textbooks on the market, so students with visual impairments have a much more limited choice of textbooks than other students. The books to be adapted are selected according to demands submitted by schools for each school year.

Publishers are reluctant to make textbooks available in electronic format.

### **Additional information**

<http://www.adaptacje.ore.edu.pl/>

[http://www.ore.edu.pl/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1009&Itemid=1338](http://www.ore.edu.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1009&Itemid=1338)

In addition, the Special Educational Needs Department of the Centre for Education Development disseminates information materials and training relating to inclusive education at [www.ore.edu.pl](http://www.ore.edu.pl) and through the following CDs:

- Changes in the law in the field of educational and vocational guidance in schools
- My child is in kindergarten and school

DVD:

- 'What unites us is autism' – educational material for teacher