

Emily Serafini, coordinator of Paraguayan network ARANDU, share the progress made by the NREN in 2010, the support obtained from RedCLARA and challenges for this year.

What were the major achievements Arandu in 2010?

Among the main connection I can mention the experimental held on 30/07/2010. Were connected to the following universities: Nacional de Asunción, National Eastern Catholic Our Lady of the Assumption and the Autonomous University of Asuncion, as well as the following institutions: National Computing Center, National Council of Science and Technology Foundation Technology Park Itaipu. This connection was made possible through the collaboration of the Paraguayan Telecommunication Company (COPACO), who made available Arandu its communications infrastructure.

We also transmitted via videoconference, the keynote speeches made in the context of CLEI2010. This activity was made possible through the support of the Guatemalan Advanced Network Research and Education (RAGIE) and Mariano Gálvez University, who allowed use of the MCU through UMG RedCLARA.

Digital Mercosur project assigned items to purchase computer equipment and communication network to the network physically implement ARANDU. It is important to mention the signing of agreements with "We wish continue to count on the support of RedCLARA" WECAFC and FPTI.

We were also invited to present the project at various events, such as: Expomática, Meeting of the House of Paraguay Information Technology, Technical Meeting CLARA, Virtual Educa 2010, Information Day and Steering Committee Meeting of Mercosur Digital Project.

What challenges have arisen for this year?

First, have statutes that allow for the legal framework for the project, a visibility plan and strategies for sustainability of the network then have an adequate physical space for equipment

installation and operation of the NOC, the second half of this year.

In addition, we have the socialization of the project to universities and research centers across the country and secure the support of these institutions. By the end of this year, we expect the effective membership of 15 universities.

Conducting training events aimed at technical staff Arandu and the general public are also among our goals.

What benefits will be reflected ARANDU this year in the academic community and research from Paraguay?

One benefit is the creation (in some cases) and strengthening of research communities. We hope that through ARANDU these communities to establish ties and participate in collaborative work with other communities around the world.

We can also identify Interest Groups on various issues to its members using the services of the network.

Another important point is the identification of young researchers in universities, who will have the opportunity to be part of the communities mentioned above.

What support have had from RedCLARA and what support do you expect?

RedCLARA supported the ARANDU participation in various activities during 2010. It also allowed transmission via videoconferencing CLEI2010 activities and, most importantly, signed an agreement with WECAFC and RNP. This will allow the installation of communications equipment that will enhance the journey between Asuncion and Ciudad del Este.

It is important to mention the support received from RedCLARA technicians, especially Gustavo Garcia and Alex Moura, who helped in the design of the network and other useful recommendations.

We hope to continue to count on the support of RedCLARA in the sense of participating in training and other activities, as well as the support of qualified technicians. We are eager to realize the network, as a new node RedCLARA and to work actively for the benefit of partner networks