

How a simple online language platform can support your international activities?

Case study - PhD student in Parasitology and Tropical Diseases, Valencia, Spain

Description

Working in the area of the scientific research involves international activities such as attending international conferences (e.g. Finland, Morocco) and publishing papers in scientific journals (e.g. the Ugandan journal "African Health Sciences") or abstracts to seminars.

It is also very important to be able to amplify networking in order to enhance collaboration between researchers (e.g. in that case from Rwanda, Brazil, Mozambique and UK). This also allows to better attract funding from public and private institutions which is crucial to finance research projects.

In the area of Parasitology and Tropical Diseases, a lot of work is developed with international NGOs established in countries impacted by tropical diseases in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Challenges

They lie mainly in the lack of infrastructure and language barrier which apply on two levels:

- Communication with colleagues and project partners
English is the scientific language commonly adopted in science in general especially in multi-national teams. So to have a good English for general discussion and in terms of scientific vocabulary is essential
- Communication with local population, local staff to train and patients
Because lots of tropical diseases work is developed in Latin America and Africa, Spanish and French are two key additional languages to know in terms of general conversation and medical language

Languages courses are an option but they can be expensive and once they're taken they don't offer support on site with for example specific vocabulary.

EasySpeak answer

EasySpeak was introduced by [ALOS Centro de Idiomas in Valencia](#).

Being a Spanish speaker, the platform EasySpeak proved particularly useful, in both English and French for general and scientific vocabulary. It was also useful for more general day-to-day work and conversation.

The platform is great for vocabulary but is better to use as a complement of deepest English and French classes. It is however great because it can save few classes just by taking the basics of languages and offers the flexibility of using it when traveling.

Find out more about the 1000 words and phrases in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish on the [EasySpeak platform](#).