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**P O P O T A**  
por TRUST FOR THE AMERICAS

PROGRAMA DE OPORTUNIDADES PARA EL EMPLEO A TRAVÉS DE LA TECNOLOGÍA EN LAS AMÉRICAS



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# OAS/Trust



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A close-up photograph of two hands shaking, symbolizing partnership. The hands are of different skin tones, representing diversity and collaboration.

The Trust for the Americas is a foundation established in 1997 to foster partnership among:

- Corporations
- Foundations
- Governmental entities
- Academic institutions operating in the Americas

## THE TRUST'S MISSION

Mobilizing resources to confront extreme poverty and to promote democracy through actions that are environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable

## PARTNERSHIP IN OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY IN THE AMERICAS, POETA:



Created by the Trust for the Americas

Provides on-site training and support in the use of the information technology

We bring the private sector, governments and civil society together to create long term, lasting change for people



## POETA'S OBJECTIVE IS

To provide persons with disabilities access to and training in the use of Information Technologies (IT)

To further their education, access the workplace and participate more fully in community activities

## THROUGH LOCAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:

Focused to ensure the successful local execution and sustainability of each POETA technology training center

Responsible for recruiting volunteers and instructors from academic institutions/ universities in addition to businesses



POETA also helps provide job readiness and job placement. The centers are also opened to the general population for greater community use

# POETA: From a Pilot Project to a Hemispheric Initiative



Countries in gray indicate pending requests

**ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY HAS INCREASED  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD  
THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE TECHNOLOGY SKILLS  
AND TRAINING IS GREATER THAN EVER**



Approximately **50 million people** in Latin America are disabled

**80-90%** are unemployed or outside the workforce

**82%** live in poverty

In Argentina, the unemployment rate of disabled people is estimated **to be close to 91%**

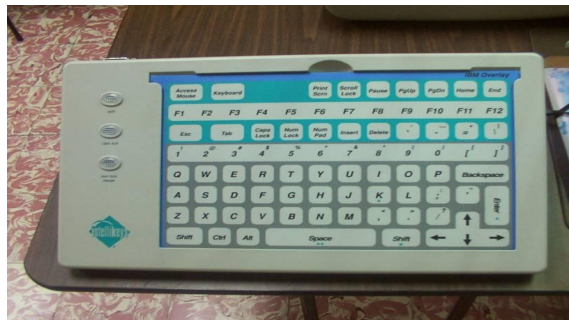
In Mexico, the **75% of the population** with disabilities are unemployed

Microsoft's company mission is:  
**To help everyone, including those with disabilities, realize their full potential**



# ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY

**Adaptive technology** is the name for products which help people who cannot use regular versions of products, primarily people with physical disabilities such as limitations to vision, hearing, and mobility. The Adaptive Technology used in the POETA program include, but it is not limited to, the following: Trackballs, Dragon Naturally Speaking, Intellikeys, JAWS, and Open Book.





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