Brazilian edtech company Teachy closes $1.6 million pre-seed investment to enhance teachers' work outside the classroom through Artificial Intelligence

Teachy helps school teachers perform tasks such as creating exercise lists, correcting questions, and making personalized lesson plans; a study conducted by McKinsey shows that they work 20 hours per week at home without being paid

Teachy, the first Brazilian edtech company to utilize generative artificial intelligence to address the challenges faced by elementary school teachers, has closed a pre-seed investment of $1.6 million. The funding round was led by NXTP with participation from Roble Ventures. This is the largest investment ever received by an edtech company at this stage in Brazil, and one of the largest in Latin America.

Through the use of AI, Teachy enables elementary and high school teachers to optimize their tasks outside the classroom. This includes tasks such as preparing lessons with digital content, creating exercise lists through only a few clicks, and automatically grading responses to questions, including open-ended prompts. As a result, Teachy reduces the time teachers spend on these tasks by up to 80%.

The idea for Teachy was born from a personal observation made by one of the founders, Pedro Siciliano, who is currently pursuing an MBA at Stanford University. While he was a student at the Military Institute of Engineering (IME) in Brazil, Pedro started a preparatory course to help students get into the best universities in the country. During that time, he realized that teachers dedicated a significant amount of time outside the classroom.

According to research conducted by McKinsey in partnership with Microsoft, teachers work an average of 50 hours per week, with over 20 hours dedicated to lesson preparation, grading, and administrative tasks. These activities are typically performed during evenings and outside of paid hours. The same study indicates that less than half of the total working time of teachers is spent on interaction with students.

To address this challenge, Pedro collaborated with [Fábio Baldissera](), co-founder of startups PipeRun and Foodcraft, to create Teachy. They assembled a team of engineers and educators from prestigious Brazilian institutions such as IME, Universidade de São Paulo, Fundação Estudar, and Prolíder. Together, they developed a proprietary artificial intelligence technology for content creation and classification, based on international models.

Teachy's mission is to empower teachers and allow them to focus more on interacting with their students by automating and streamlining time-consuming tasks through cutting-edge technology.

"We are very proud to use technology developed by Brazilians, in Brazil. One of our great missions is to transform the country into a major hub for artificial intelligence, similar to Stanford, by bringing back senior professionals with experience from the United States, Europe, and Asia who are currently working abroad," says Pedro, Teachy's CEO. "The resources from this funding round will primarily be dedicated to growing our team while maintaining excellence."

The product developed by Teachy offers complete personalization to teachers. They can evaluate suggested questions, compose exercise lists according to their preferences, edit answer keys, bookmark content, and provide feedback to optimize the AI. "We believe that Teachy should serve the teacher and never restrict them. We don't want to be a static educational system but a tool that enhances their dynamics of knowledge transmission. We want to be the teacher's best friend, making their life easier and optimizing their time so they can focus on classroom work and building relationships with students," says Fábio, Teachy's CTO.

Teachy's platform has been tested by over 100 teachers from across Brazil and three schools, and it is now available for free use in the country with limited functionality. To access unlimited resources, Teachy offers monthly plans that can be purchased by individual teachers or schools wishing to provide this convenience to their teaching staff.

"Today, most edtech companies focus either on the school or the student, but very few turn their attention to the teacher, who is the most important link in this chain. There are over 2 million educators in Brazil alone, and 7 million in Latin America. The opportunity is enormous," affirms Pedro.

"We are thrilled to partner with Pedro and Fabio, two exceptional founders uniquely positioned to execute their vision to transform how we teach and learn using AI. Their complementary expertise in education, management, and artificial intelligence gives them a profound understanding of the challenges and opportunities in the space. Their initial product focused on helping teachers become more efficient is the first of many exciting, innovative products they are working on," says Alex Busse, partner at NXTP.