WH🐞T the HaCK?!

NEWSLETTER | DECEMBER 2021

NR. **4**

PÄRNUMAA KUTSEHARIDUSKESKUS

WHAT THE HACK?!
Creating more opportunities for young people in safe cyber space

Find out more on www.what-the-hack.eu and www.what2hack.eu

IN THIS ISSUE

KEEPING UP WITH OUR WHAT THE HACK?! PROJECT

The fourth issue of What the Hack?! Newsletter contains the latest news on the project. What the Hack is a KA202 project that brings together partners and experts from the Netherlands, Belgium, Estonia and Spain.
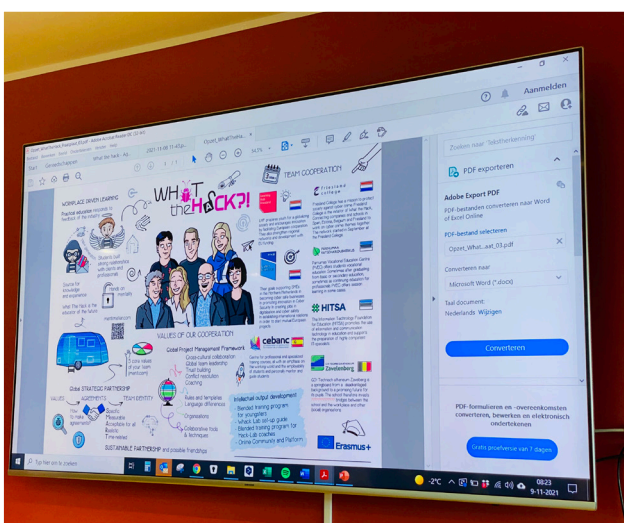
The Project aims primarily at youngsters inside AND outside of VET (NEETS). It is open to digitally aware youngsters, gamers, school lovers, the autism spectrum and young people who miss a challenge in their current education.

NEETS, VET students from different sectors with affinity to ICT are also targeted and it allows those students from different backgrounds to learn from each other.

In addition, the project targets VET teachers, staff and ICT professionals as it actively involves ICT professionals in education.

Covid-19 has delayed the project considerably but we were happy when the restrictions were lifted in summer and we were able to hold our second face to face partners meeting in Parnu in October.

COVID19 still remains a concern as variants of it are spreading and countries are acting differently to prevent it. It might affect our project testing and future face to face meetings. It is very important that all students and trainers are vaccinated before any upcoming events.
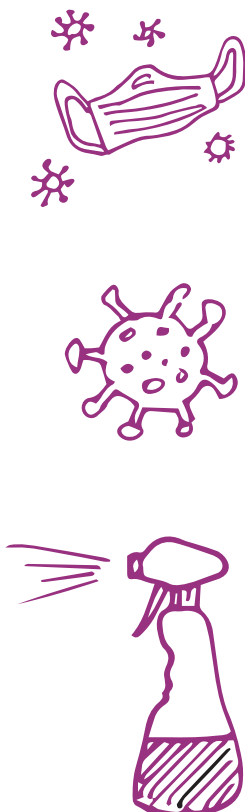
SECOND TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING
PÄRNU, ESTONIA, 9 – 10 NOVEMBER 2021 (1)

The meeting took place at Pärnumaa Vocational Education Centre (PVEC) in Pärnu. It was a very good and productive meeting in all aspects. Partners got to know each other better as it had been quite a while since they had last seen each other and new members have joined the project.
By answering the question 'What strengthens you personally', partners got to learn about each other values, background, hobbies and drawing capabilities .

The Estonian partners gave the rest of the partners an introduction on PVEC and how they educate students on Ethical Hacking, Cybersecurity and Cybersafety. Partners learned about the Estonian education system that focuses on lifelong learning, with educational programs that cross different levels starting from primary education to PHD programs and cyber is an important part of it.

Partners were also taken on a tour in the premises of the school with its well organized classrooms, workshops and cafeteria where they enjoyed a lovely lunch prepared and served by the students.

SECOND TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING
PÄRNU, ESTONIA, 9 – 10 NOVEMBER 2021 (2)

The main goal of the meeting was to give an overview on where we are at now and what is left to be completed in the coming months of the project until its completion in December 2022.

It was concluded that by collaborating together partners ought to be able to:

- finalize all the Intellectual Outputs by the end of December 2021
- agree on the dates of Transnational Partner meetings/training weeks
- organize Multiplier events
- disseminate information

The link takes you on a short trip to see our activities in Pärnu
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcC4Q8tju9Q

INTELLECTUAL OUTPUTS (1)

IO1- WHAT THE HACK?! Blended training programme for young people

Learning Hub Friesland has been enthusiastically working on the educational materials for What The Hack!? They decided to use the Thinkific platform for our course content, as there are many useful features. Thinkific is user friendly for both the course creator as well as the student learners. The creator can upload various educational materials such as videos, text, PDFs, PowerPoints, pictures and more, as well as embed links from Youtube and other platforms.

A lot of content has already been added and an interactive timeline has been developed with videos and news articles, where students can go more in depth on topics that interest them. Their aim is to create something that engages the learners and encourages them to discover more about IT, cybersecurity, and ethical hacking. Revisions have been made on the Thinkific content based on the input of the partners.

Much of the information needed on cybersaftey self-scan tool (in English or in each language), cyber incident report, White hat oath, Best IT schools in each partner country, famous hacker portraits was provided by the partners and we are happy to announce that the Student training programme has been finalized.

You can find the final version of the materials in the following link: https://learninghubfriesland.thinkific.com/courses/what-the-hack.

Another round of feedback on Thinkific is needed in order to use it for quality assurance (if we organize it with schools or students). It will be done on the 3rd week of January and the evaluation team will have the questionnaire ready to be filled out by the participants of pilot testing. A full completion of IOs is required before the making of the questionnaire.

INTELLECTUAL OUTPUTS (2)

IO2 - Hack Lab set-up guide

With many thanks to Ellen, Pieter, Alo, Simon, Jamie and Martin the Hack Lab set-up guide has been finalized and most likely, a pilot testing on setting up a Hacklab will start in Q1 2022.

IO3 - Blended training programme for Hack-Lab coaches

Will be delivered shortly.

IO4 - Online Community Platform

Is undergoing and we are very much looking forward to it.
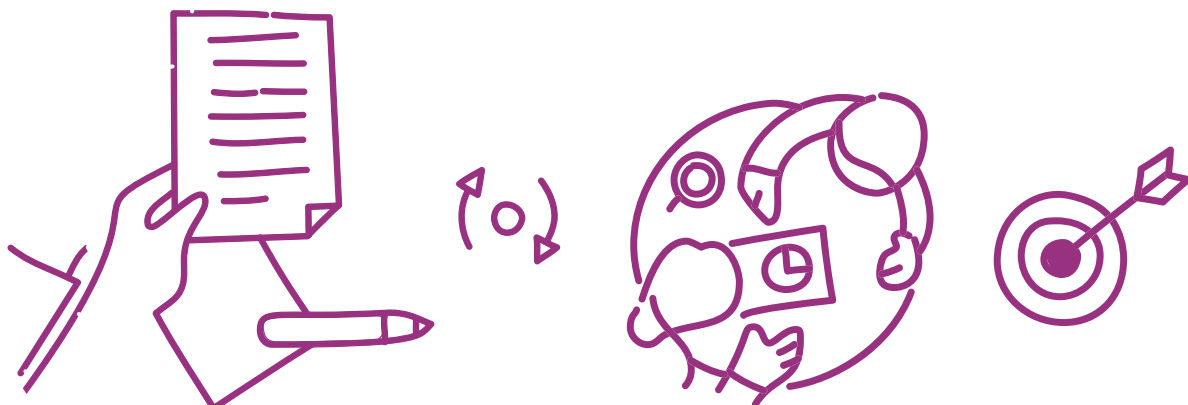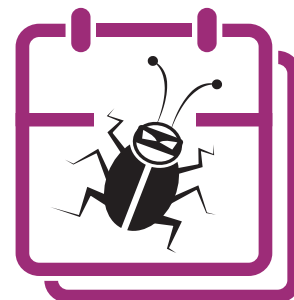
PROGRESS REPORT

There have been two amendments to the grant agreement. A Spanish partner has been replaced by Fanaad and the prolongation of the project due to Covid - 19.
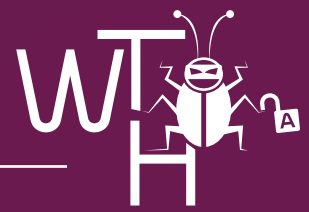
Due to Covid -19, alternative activities took place online monthly instead of MEs, LTTAs, and TPMs and also Capture the flag training.

Some activities have been postponed due to Covid-19 but will be held in the coming year 2022.

The dates of our one week trainings and 3 remaining transnational project meetings in SP, BE, NL are:

1. **EE – week of 9th May, 2022**

2. **SP – week of 26th September, 2022**

3. **BE – week of 24th October, 2022**

4. **NL – week of 7th December, 2022**

DISSEMINATION EVENTS (1)

SPAIN

The project was disseminated in Berlin, in the EfVET conference on 26th November, 2021. EfVET is one of the leading European-wide professional associations which has been created by, and for, Vocational Education and Training (VET) providers.
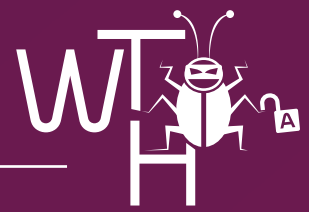
At round table sessions, the objective and desired final results of the project were shared with other VET schools and organizations, members of EfVET association. It raised awareness of the growing challenge of the shortage of cyber security professionals in Europe and of the importance of preparing vocational cyber security professionals that later on will contribute to the growth of companies. It also showed the impact that the project will have in Europe as it contributes to making SMEs and individuals less vulnerable to cybercrime and to tackling cybersecurity threats and attacks because its goal is to educate competent vocational cyber security professionals.

An important multiplier event took place in Tknika on 17th December as part of a Multiplier Event that Tknika organized for the local VET schools of the Basque Country. About 40 representatives attended the event and are eagerly waiting for the final results of the project .

Tknika is a Basque VET Applied Research Centre that works closely with Erasmus+ projects. Similar events have been scheduled to take place in April, June and July 2022.

Another event of dissemination will be in Cebanc on 3rd February 2022 during the ´Entrepreneurship Day ´ where students and different local institutions will participate to evaluate students´projects. The WTH project will also be disseminated during the upcoming transnational project meetings of other projects with VET partners.
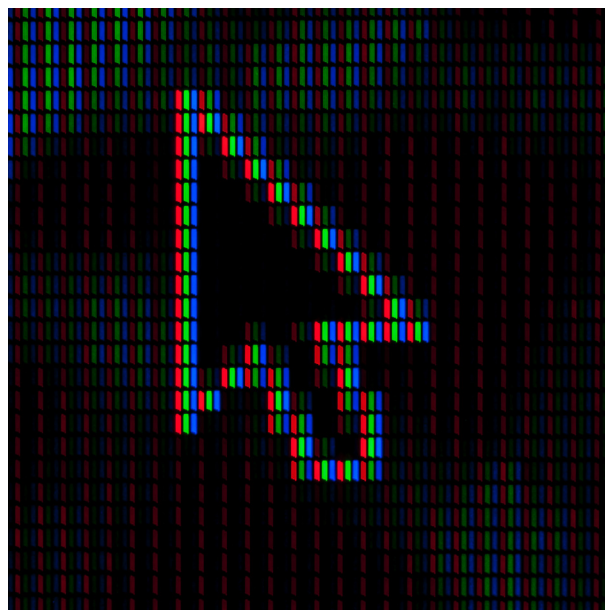
DISSEMINATION EVENTS (2)

NETHERLANDS

Our Dutch partners, Friesland College and MKB Cyber Campus, will connect the multiplier event with Connect FRL event that was meant to take place on 8th December but that it has been postponed to March 2022 due to the pandemic. The event contains workshops, lectures where they meet up with companies, leave CV, look for jobs etc. Companies are invited to deliver expertise on hacklabs.

Same set-up is planned for December 2022. The event will take place on a Wednesday that will coincide with the 5 day training week at the end of the project. Training week, multiplier event, and the final ransnational project meeting will take place on the same week.

Also, our partners in the Netherlands, will present the What the Hack project at the new Digital Workplaces Friesland starting March 2022 and at the Digitale top, where we are sure it will get a big echo! ESTONIA

A new cybersecurity office will open in Estonia in Feb 2022 and new Estonian Hack lab will be opened after the summer 2022. This will be widely published in our future newsletters.

We are happy to say that our project is getting some national attention in Estonia. A small article about the project has been written to a national "Targalt Internetis (wisely online)" newsletter. A more thorough article is also being developed by a national newspaper and is going to be published by the end of March.

DISSEMINATION EVENTS (3)

BELGIUM

GO! Technical Atheneum Zavalenberg has a workshop for White Hat hacking coming in January or February. Dates are not clear due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Also, there will be an online event on 5th & 6th of February. Open calls have started for different rooms. Friesland College would like to see if there is a room for What the Hack project and be able to share a presentation with content, learning materials, or hook up with interesting partners for hack lab. GO! Technical Atheneum Zavalenberg can support Friesland College in this activity.

PARTNERS

Four regions will participate in the WHAT THE HACK?! Project. They all share the ambition to make the cyber world a place of safety and opportunity for young people inside and outside VET. All four regional consortiums will include a VET institution and an ICT regional stakeholder.

The following are the project partners:

P1 Friesland College - D'Drive - NL
P2 Learning Hub Friesland Foundation - NL
P3 Foundation for Cybersafety Northern Netherlands - NL
P4 GO! Technisch Atheneum Zavelenberg - BE
P5 Cebanc – ES
P6 Fanaad - NL
P7 Pärnumaa Vocational Education Centre - EE
P8 Information Technology Foundation for Education (HITSA) - EE