

WHAT the HACK?!

NEWSLETTER I DECEMBER 2022



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WHAT THE HACK?!

Creating more opportunities for young people in safe cyber space

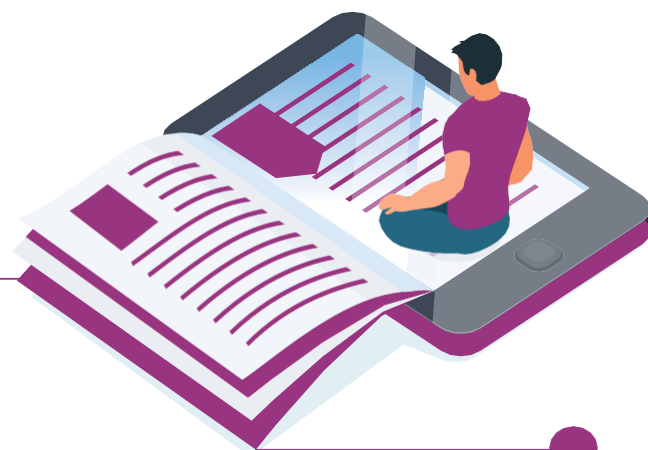
Find out more on www.what-the-hack.eu and www.what2hack.eu



IN THIS ISSUE

1. **Online platform of What The Hack?!**
2. **Partners meeting and the intellectual Outputs**
3. **Second Training Activities week (TA2) Spain**
4. **Third Training Activities week (TA3) Netherlands**
5. **Evaluation**
6. **Partners**

WHAT
the HACK?!



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OUR WHAT THE HACK?! PROJECT

The sixth issue of What the Hack?! Newsletter contains the latest and last news on the project. What the Hack is a KA202 project that brought together partners and experts from the Netherlands, Belgium, Estonia and Spain.

The Project aimed 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.

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

Covid19 delayed the project considerably but it is all history now. After three partners meetings and training activities weeks with our students we have managed to complete everything with flying colors. Unfortunately our project will reach its end on 31st December 2022.





1. ONLINE PLATFORM IS UP AND RUNNING SUCCESSFULLY

Friesland College students of Leeuwarden supervised by their teacher Jan Hoogesteger, managed to finalize the online platform successfully and all the partners are greatly enjoying the website and its content. It is a great source of dissemination and its content will serve well not only to raise awareness and educate the youngsters on cybersecurity and cybersafety but also to find the much wanted guidance on opening new hack labs.

The site is made by using HTML, CSS and PHP. It is supported by tailwind which will make it easy for all the users to upload content and it is protected by a newly built protection wall.

The goal was for the Online community to have a creative concept. It started with a basic version that was later upgraded in design and style using the branded purple colour.

The Thinkific and the online community are connected/linked and we hope to have a live feed from Instagram soon..



2. PARTNERS MEETING AND THE INTELLECTUAL OUTPUTS

Reporting on the IOs

The WTH project started in September 2019 and it was wrapped up in December 2022 in Leeuwarden. During the 3 years very useful and tangible results/outputs have been produced by all the partners.

From our last Newsletter two transnational partners meeting and two training activities weeks have taken place, in September 2022 in San Sebastian, Spain and the last one in December 2022 in Leeuwarden, Netherlands respectively.

In the TRN Meeting of San Sebastian, 26th - 27th September 2022, the main focus was on the progress of each IO and their dissemination and in the final partners meeting in Leeuwarden, 6th - 7th December, a final up to date report on each IO was presented by the coordinator:

IO 1 Training programme by Learning Hub is completed and fully pilot tested in all languages.

- English: <https://learninghubfriesland.thinkific.com/courses/what-the-hack>
- Dutch: <https://learninghubfriesland.thinkific.com/courses/what-the-hack-dutch>
- Spanish: <https://learninghubfriesland.thinkific.com/courses/what-the-hack-spanish>
- Estonian: <https://learninghubfriesland.thinkific.com/courses/what-the-hack-Estonian>

IO2 the Hacklab set up guide by MKB Cybercampus is also completed and translated. It is a self-paced, and tailor made for students, as they are central in the method. Students suitable for the job follow basic IT courses and other choice courses.

The situation is different in every country when it comes to hacklabs. There are already Hacklabs in Leeuwarden, a new one in Hoogeveen and another one is starting its activity in Groningen, the Netherlands.

In Parnu, Estonia there is a hacklab that was set up at the beginning of the project and in Brussels, Belgium, there is a collaboration between two schools and a running lab.

Unfortunately, there are no hack labs in San Sebastian, the Basque Country but with the help of the partners and the intellectual outputs of the 'What the Hack?!' project the goal is to open one in the future.



IO 3 Pedagogical Teacher guide by PVEC is also completed including the translations which were transferred into the right graphical Design by FAANAD. They are all published on the website and shared with the partners.

IO 4 Online Platform by FC

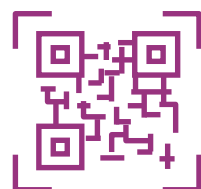
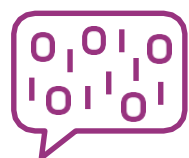
The final website www.what-the-hack.eu was presented by Jan with the final IOs published.

Dissemination

The project will continue to be disseminated internationally during the coming years. To start with an article about the project will be included in February's EFVET newsletter (*EFVET is the European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education with hundreds of members in all the continents*) and will be shown in a different events such as the one taking place in Cebanc, the Entrepreneurship Day.

Future collaboration

Most of the partners are looking forward to taking this successful collaboration to other projects in the near future. Online discussions will take place before deciding on our next venture.

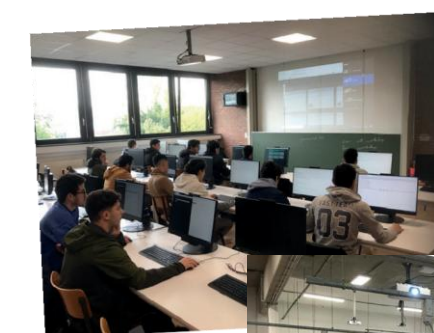


3. SECOND TRAINING WEEK SAN SEBASTIAN, 26TH – 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

After the first training activity week in Estonia, this was the second international training week with the students of the What the Hack?! project that took place in the week of 26th September. 41 students from Vocational Institutes from Estonia, Belgium, Netherlands and Spain worked together in San Sebastián on Cybersafety, Cybersecurity and Ethical Hacking. It was a week full of cyber and cultural activities that students enjoyed very much despite the wet weather.

The team building activities of the first day allowed the participants to get to know each other better. Drawing each other was one of the most successful activities as lots of laughing took place when sharing their drawings.

The activities helped in creating group awareness among the participants and in establishing close links for the days to come. Cyber activities such as Kahoot and Capture theFlag that were held during the second and third day of the week in the classrooms of Cebanc and the modern cyber space in Tknika, covered different topics related to cybersecurity and cybersafety.



In Tknika, Ibai Peña, a cybersecurity technician, explained to the students how the Cyber Range works. Tknika offers training and capacity building exercises in cybersecurity using next-generation technologies and services.



On our fourth day students had the possibility to meet with some of the experts of the sector. It started with **Ziur**, The Industrial Cybersecurity Agency of Guipuzcoa. Its director, Maria Penilla gave the students a very interesting talk on the OT in general and in the Basque country in particular. Afterwards the students were given the opportunity to visit the facilities of Ziur where they learned about new approaches to industrial cybersecurity.
<https://www.ziur.eus/es/>

Students' second visit was in **s21sec**, Basque country office, where its director Igor Unanue gave the students a technical presentation on cybersecurity and the importance of carrying out pentesting to detect vulnerabilities in computer systems. He also introduced the students to s21sec and its mission in the business world, showed them chronology of some cyberattacks, and also spoke on threat intelligence driven cyberdefense strategies.
<https://www.s21sec.com/es/>

In the afternoon, Ibermática presented its line of work in the field of IT Security, especially in relation to Health and Personal Care.
<https://ibermatica.com/>

The cultural activities were as intense as the cyber activities. They included:

- a walking guided tour of the city from the Ondarreta beach to the Old Town and the harbour
- a visit to the San Telmo museum, a former convent with a beautiful architecture where the Basque history and art are beautifully exhibited
- a visit to the Mota castle and its museum on the history of San Sebastian
- ice skating in the rink of 'Txuri Urdin Palacio del Hielo'. Doing a bit of sport was necessary after a hard day's work. The students enjoyed it very much as they all have excellent ice skating skills. There was a bit of billiard too for the professionals.

It is worth mentioning that all the students had their lunch in Cebanc during their stay and it was excellently prepared and served by the students of the center.

4. THIRD TRAINING WEEK IN LEEUWARDEN, 5TH TO 9TH DECEMBER, 2022

In the week of December 5th, 45 Ethical-Hackers-to-be from Vocational and Higher Education institutes from Estonia, Belgium, Spain and the Netherlands came together again to work in Leeuwarden on Cybersafety, Cybersecurity and Ethical Hacking.

The training week kicked off at the premises of Friesland College. After a getting to know each other session moderated by Jan Hoogesteger, the students received the What The Hack hoody from Erna van der Werff as a teambuilding boost.



The highlight of the day was the presentation of Ernst Panstra, the ICT manager at Wetsus, the research institute for Water Technology in Leeuwarden that got hacked in 2020 by a not so ethical hacker.

The students continued the day working on the IO1 Blended Training program, then a walk to the IJshal Leeuwarden where they participated in the activity 'Security on Ice'. In this activity, the student squads could earn points by solving Cybersecurity Challenges at the stamping stations alongside the ice-skating route (11 posts just like the 11 Frisian cities in the famous 11-cities ice skating contest).





The second day of the training week was connected to the What the Hack Multiplier event during the Connect.frl Microsoft Tech event. The 45 students invaded the Microsoft Tech Event in their What the Hack?! hoodies and learned all about the importance of cybersecurity for companies and the latest developments in the sector.

On the last day the student training program took place at the Media Innovation Campus in Leeuwarden. It was set up as a carousel model where students got the opportunity to learn about Leeuwarden based ICT companies and put lessons learned in practice.



After an intensive morning program, the student got to experience Graffiti in Leeuwarden in a guided Street art tour. After the tour, the students jointly enjoyed pizza during the farewell dinner.



With this final What-the-Hack event we finalized 3,5 years of cooperation between education and industry partners of Cybersafety, Cybersecurity and Ethical Hacking.

5. EVALUATION OF THE LAST TRAINING ACTIVITY WEEK IN LEEUWARDEN

Conclusions and recommendations

The results show that, over the whole line, our IO1 blended training programme for youth had a positive impact on the knowledge, competences, attitudes and skills of the VET youngsters that participated. Results show that a lot of progress was made in all areas. As figures show, most objectives were reached.

In Cybersecurity in the baseline measurement about 38% of respondents claimed being able to use the appropriate terminology to explain cyber security and its aspects and to sum up the different steps of a cyber attack. This percentage respectively grew up to almost 80% in the impact measurement.

In Cybersafety about 40% of respondents indicated being to explain unsafe practices and clarify risks and consequences prior to the training week. This percentage increased to more than 80% at the end of the training week, during which IO1 was pilot tested.

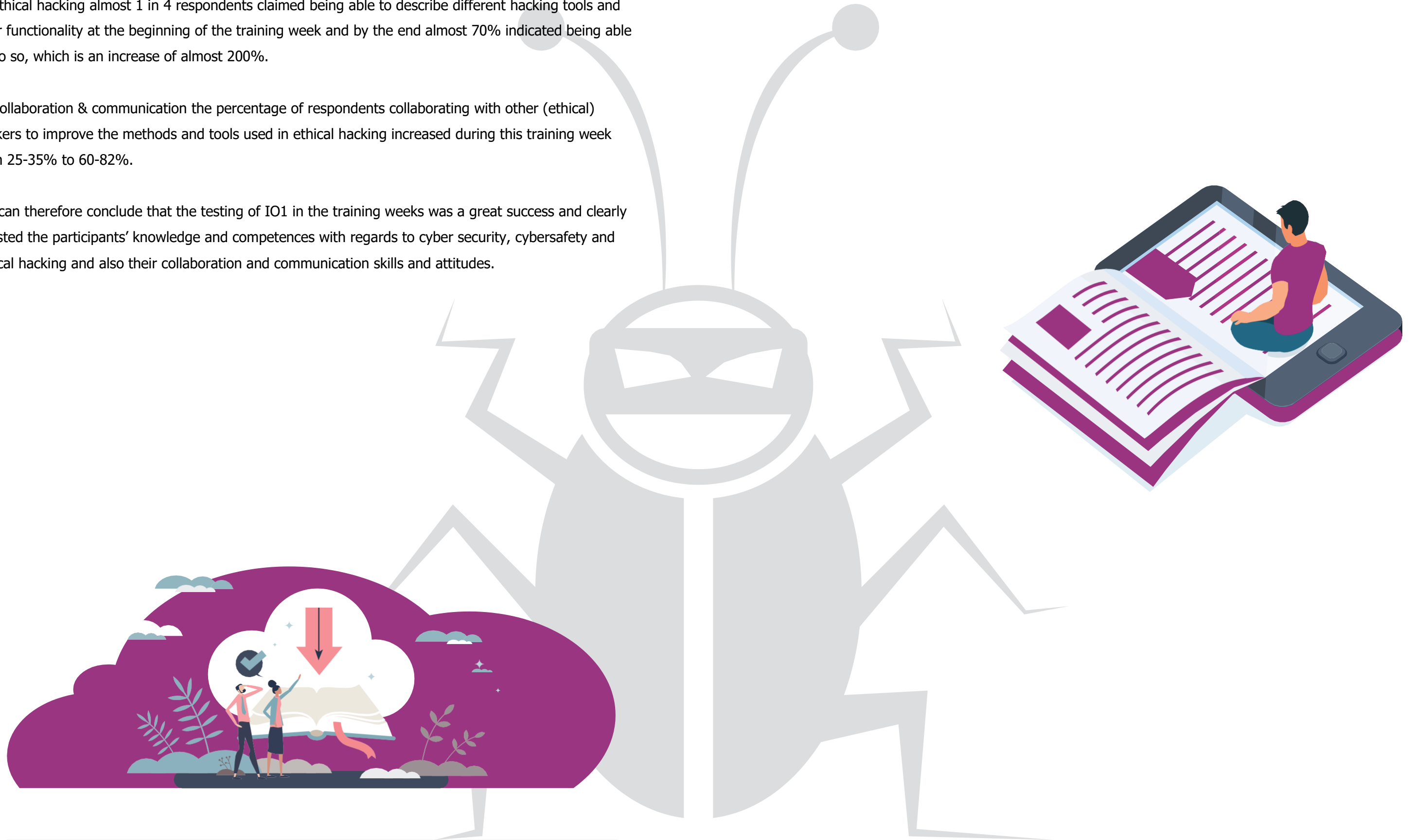




In Ethical hacking almost 1 in 4 respondents claimed being able to describe different hacking tools and their functionality at the beginning of the training week and by the end almost 70% indicated being able to do so, which is an increase of almost 200%.

In Collaboration & communication the percentage of respondents collaborating with other (ethical) hackers to improve the methods and tools used in ethical hacking increased during this training week from 25-35% to 60-82%.

We can therefore conclude that the testing of IO1 in the training weeks was a great success and clearly boosted the participants' knowledge and competences with regards to cyber security, cybersafety and ethical hacking and also their collaboration and communication skills and attitudes.





NEW YEAR WISHES

wWihshaetsthaewHoancdke?r!fuPlr,oject team

wreilnaxteinrghoalinddayctyobeevresrayfoene!!

PARTNERS

Four regions 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 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 Republic of Estonia Education and Youth Authority (HARNO)- EE

