

# Future Classroom Ambassadors

## ACTIVITY DIGEST

Issue #19, October 2022

We are happy, once more, to present an overview of activities organised or supported by the FCL Ambassadors. In this issue of the Activity Digest you can discover again a selection of initiatives, taken in 14 European countries of the network, to promote innovation in education.

The network continues to give active support to the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary programme of the Future Classroom Lab at EUN. On Friday 21 October at 11 am CEST a webinar will take place with the title **Fostering Students' Creative and Computational Thinking**. A panel of specialists in the field will share their insights.

More info: [bit.ly/FCLWEBINAR](https://bit.ly/FCLWEBINAR)



### BELGIUM

#### Mapping the ICT competencies of teachers through *Digisnap*

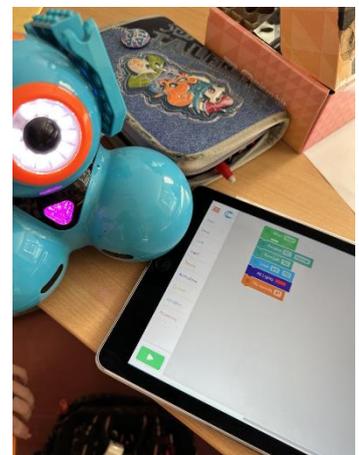
On September 1, schools in Flanders started again. This school year, the schools in Flanders are again facing many challenges in terms of innovative teaching and the integration of ICT in the lessons. Therefore, schools received a lot of funding to invest in hardware and ICT courses. To support the schools in their choices, the Department of Education and Training developed a tool called *Digisnap*. This tool allows schools to map the ICT competencies of their teachers and guide them toward training and education based on their needs. The tool, based on the [European framework DigCompEdu](#), starts from a questionnaire. After completing the questionnaire, teachers receive tips, suggestions and advice on how to improve their competencies. For school leaders, there is also a dashboard, which gives them a global overview of the situation in their school. In addition to the concrete tips, there is also a link to a database filled with training courses. Teachers and school boards receive a selection of the offerings, based on the completed questionnaire. We are currently looking at how the training offer of European Schoolnet can be incorporated into the tool, so that more Flemish teachers are directed to this offer.



### CZECH REPUBLIC

#### Czech Schools joining Codeweek

Every year, more and more Czech schools join Codeweek, a European programming week that aims to promote programming. Many events are held in the Czech Republic to support this initiative. As an example, we can mention the event called Code, Robot, School/Kindergarten, organised by the Czech National Agency for International Education and Research. Participants took part in a variety of workshops that introduced programming, coding or working with robotic tools and toys. They tried everything out under the guidance of experienced trainers. The programme was complemented by a specialised lecture.





concerned about learning environments as much as about pedagogy. The first three topics were: 21st century skills, the FCL philosophy and the Hybr'Ed project.

The team will work on the Novigado project in November and 'Happiness at school' in December.

## HUNGARY

### Inspirations for STEM lessons: accredited Scientix course starts in 2022

From September 2022 the Educational Authority runs 30-hour accredited online pedagogical courses in Hungarian. These professional development courses build on the achievements of the Scientix project and focus on innovative STEM education. The aim of the training is to enable participants (primary and secondary school teachers) to deliver motivating lessons on a high scientific quality, and to stimulate students' interest in STEM careers.

The main topics covered during the 5-module course are: the Scientix programme, real problems presented in STEM classrooms, activity-based design and inquiry-based learning, problem-based learning, creative problem solving and design thinking, as well as interdisciplinarity and school collaborations.

In order to earn a course certificate, participants need to submit their idea in the form of a scenario inspired by the course content that will be implemented in their own school practice.



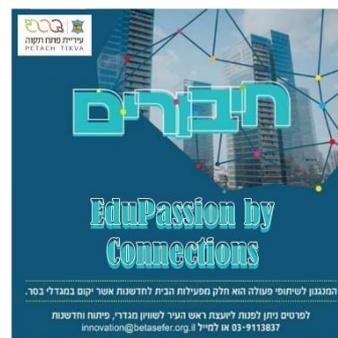
## ISRAEL

### EduPassion by Connections System

This July, the "EduPassion by Connections" system was officially launched in the city of Petah Tikva.

"EduPassion" is a unique system, the first of its kind in Israel, which was created after the work of data collection and analysis by Rachel Alon, Petah Tikva Mayor Adviser, leader of the PT Innovation Team and Ziv Elul, the entrepreneur and CEO of a large hi-tech company in the city. The purpose of "EduPassion by Connections" system is to create connections and bridges between the world of the hi-tech industry and the education system in order to expand the set of tools for a sustainable new ecosystem. We understand today that the more we invest in these connections - since the students will be the employees and the customers of the future – the more skilful young people will become. We would ideally like the entire population of the city to take part in the "EduPassion by Connections". In the future, we see all the city's resources contributing to the world of education, which is becoming more relevant day by day.

The PT Innovation Team is currently working together with the City's Director of Industry and Hi-tech and Beta School are working on turning the mechanism into a hybrid application (digital + human) that will allow connections in a simple and easy way.



## ITALY

### School 4.0 - Innovative schools, new classrooms, and labs

Let's make Italian schools more innovative! This is the hot topic which gathered many professionals working in education in the webinar which took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September led by Dea Formazione. Great speakers had the floor and shared their experience to support and help Italian schools to reinvent their learning environment making them innovative and versatile; Bart Verswijvel, senior adviser in the European Schoolnet, who has been working on learning environments for many years as part of the Future Classroom Lab project, Prof. Mario Castoldi, expert in didactics,



Alessandra Rucci, school leader and Italian Ambassador for the Future Classroom Lab project and Rita Coccia, Ambassador of Avanguardie Educative INDIRE.

This great investment (more than 2 billion euros) is possible thanks to the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) which aims to accelerate the digital transition of Italian schools by making their facilities more technologically advanced, flexible, equipped with ultra-fast networks and suited to a greater digitalization of teaching.

By handling this important challenge, the project Future Classroom Lab has played a crucial role and has been a great example to get inspiration from. We want to thank Bart Verswijvel for his precious support and collaboration.

## MALTA

### Training for Early Years Educators

Training sessions for the Early Years educators were held at the Future Classroom Labs in Hamrun, Malta towards the end of the school year 2021-22. The sessions aim to introduce teachers to new digital technology in order to provide innovative experiences in teaching and learning.

Amongst the training provided, the use of Green Screen in the Early Years classes was introduced to the educators. Educators were then divided into workshops on how this technology can be adopted in the Early Years pedagogy.



## NORWAY

### Conference in Tromsø for all FCL in Norway

The Conference in Tromsø on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of November is an event for the FCLabs of Norway and the topic is how we can use computer games in education and learning. The Conference is arranged by the [Arctic University of Norway](#) and the FCL in Tromsø, [Den Digitale Framtidssmia](#).

Educators and students working in our FCLabs will gather to share experiences and give examples. UiT have invited Tobias Staaby and Aleksander Husøy from [Spillpedagogene](#) (The Computer Games Educators in Norway). They will give a speech on how they have used computer games in a school in Bergen, named [Nordahl Grieg vgs](#). The University of Stavanger (UiS) and Didaktisk digitalt verksted (DDV) will give a speech on how they have developed a Guidance Book for teachers [on how to use computer games in education](#) and give a report from a Minecraft pilot and the use of Minecraft in schools together with teachers. There will also be a Teach Meet where the participants can give short practical examples, tricks, ideas or demonstrate a new game or software/learning tool.

## PORTUGAL

### Professional Development Workshops organised by the FCL Ambassadors

Within the scope of the National Programme for the digitalization of schools and aiming at implementing the Digital Textbooks Pilot Project (Projeto-Piloto Manuais Digitais – PPMD), the General Directorate for Education is promoting a set of workshops addressing the topic "*Pedagogical Practices with the Use of Digital Technologies and Textbooks*". 68 schools are involved in this initiative.

These workshops were organized by the FCL ambassadors' team and will take place online from October 2022 to January 2023. Their purpose is to provide a platform for sharing good practices between teachers and head teachers from school clusters involved in this pilot project.

The initiative intends to promote the sharing of experiences within this pilot project's implementation in different teaching and learning contexts, provide support and



mutual help in problem-solving, and reinforce practices that favour pedagogical innovation with the integration of digital technologies, digital textbooks and other digital educational resources (OER).

We believe that these workshops will reinforce the capacity-building actions for teachers so that the transformation of pedagogical practices may, effectively, take place in the schools/classes involved in this pilot project.

## SLOVAKIA

### Creating local network of teachers

Our teachers, who participated in the active learning training in FCL Brussels in June 2022 (through the Erasmus+ program), passed on their acquired knowledge and retrained their colleagues directly in the FCL BESST in August 2022. The training included topics, such as active learning of children and offered tools for using innovative methods and technologies in education. The quality of education as well as the fulfilment of the principles of the Future Classroom Lab is important for us. We are creating a network of teachers who support each other, advise each other, share new experiences, inspirations and make the teaching profession more attractive.



## SPAIN

### Future Classroom mixed modality training courses over 2022

As in charge of the Future Classroom Lab we offer a wide range of training courses to teachers in all educational stages and areas of teaching. This training is organized from the INTEF and in collaboration with the Autonomous Communities, through a vast network of ambassadors who work in order to boost the general knowledge of the project Future Classroom Lab.

During the year 2022, twelve mixed modality courses have been offered within a total amount of 300 places as permanent teacher training. These have included three phases: an online phase, a face-to-face phase at the INTEF facilities and an implementation phase in the classrooms.

The last of these twelve courses has completed its face-to-face phase last October the 5th and will conclude the implementation phase the upcoming November the 11<sup>th</sup>.

### New Future Classroom Lab launch

During 2022, new facilities have been launched under the project Future Classroom Lab. During last September the 30<sup>th</sup>, a new space was unveiled in Valladolid (Castilla y León). The inauguration took place at the CEFIE in Valladolid. The current Minister of Education and Vocational Training, Pilar Alegría chaired the event.

A useful equipped space is offered in order to encourage different stakeholders in reflecting on the integration of New Technologies within the current framework of the ongoing educational reforms. This is a flexible learning space divided into six large zones: Investigate, Explore, Interact, Develop, Create and Present.

This classroom is offered as an inspirational model so that teachers can implement and encourage the use of active methodologies in which the student becomes the centre of the teaching and learning process.

On Tuesday 11 October, a new classroom will be launched in Logroño (La Rioja).

### Forming Autonomous Communities

Several Autonomous Communities are currently offering training to their teachers at different levels of education.

Castilla la Mancha Autonomous Community is currently running teacher training programme for Pre-Primary, Primary, Junior and Secondary schools. [Open enrollment](#) is scheduled until November the 7<sup>th</sup>.



Madrid also offers a unique opportunity for training in best practices and new learning spaces in Future Classroom Lab. This training focuses on those currently working as teachers within the Autonomous Community and will take place in November 2022.

## TURKEY

### Face to Face Trainings and Online events

Face to face and online learning events including webinars, workshops and meetings via zoom or Microsoft Teams were conducted by the local ambassadors in different provinces of Turkey to introduce the Future Classroom Lab pedagogy. The events included 1.000 participants in total, addressing administrators as well as teachers from different subjects. The professional learning activities are listed below:



- An Informative meeting in order to promote and disseminate the Future Classroom Lab pedagogy for around 200 teachers in Adana
- An online training session in Antalya for Portugal, Greece, North Macedonia and Turkish partners about Future Classroom Lab and the integration of technology into lessons, within the scope of the Ka201 Erasmus+ Tech to Teach project
- A face-to-face seminar on Future Classroom Lab environments and current pedagogies for 42 teachers in Antalya
- Informative meetings on FCL, Project Based Learning and Arduino at basic level conducted by the local ambassador in Balıkesir province for around 300 teachers
- A Training on flexible learning areas for 100 teachers in Burdur
- An online meeting on Future Classroom Lab and mathematics mobilization for 44 teachers from different subjects in Giresun
- An informative meeting for 162 administrators in Kütahya
- In-service training on Future Classroom Lab for around 20 teachers in Kütahya
- Online trainings about Web 2.0 tools provided by the local ambassador for a number of teachers in Munich.

More face to face and online trainings are planned in the upcoming dates.

### University-based learning lab

A university-based learning lab inspired by the FCL model will be launched on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October in İstanbul Aydın University and representatives from the FCL Team will organize a two-day workshop for trainers within the scope of the "Future Classroom, Future Teachers" project. The trainers will organize teacher-training to teachers in İstanbul and four more learning labs will be launched as a part of this project.

### Workshop on Active Learning in Innovative Learning Spaces

The workshop on Active Learning in Innovative Learning Spaces was organized between the 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> September in Ankara targeting Maths and primary school teachers. The FCL Team organized a workshop in an interactive way following the principles of active-learning pedagogy, presenting the FCL model, introducing the scenario tool, and developing learning scenarios.

### New members of FCL Network of Learning Labs

In the past few months, 4 Turkish schools at primary, lower secondary and science high school level, have been officially recognised as members of the Network of Innovative Learning Labs. The school-based learning labs are located in the provinces of Ankara, Ordu, Tokat and Zonguldak.

### For more information:

[FCL Active](#), Ankara Mamak Ticaret Odası Ortaokulu  
[Ready for the Future](#), Ordu, Ünye Anafarta Primary School  
[BISTEM FCL](#), Zonguldak, Ereğli Bahçelievler Primary School  
[ZFCL](#), Zile Fen Lisesi Tokat

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