

Future Classroom Ambassadors

ACTIVITY DIGEST

Issue #16, December 2021

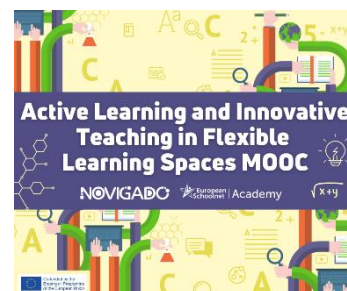
At the end of the year, we are again happy to share with you an overview of some of the activities that took place in the countries of the network of Future Classroom Ambassadors.

We would also like to invite you to enrol for the free online course Active Learning and Innovative Teaching in Flexible Learning Spaces, starting on 17 January 2022.

The course, developed as part of the Novigado project, is certainly interesting for everybody interested in the use of flexible learning spaces.

All info can be found here: bit.ly/ActiveLearningMoooc

Enjoy the winter break!



CZECH REPUBLIC

December 2021

Changes in the Curriculum of Computer Science

In Czech Republic, the content of the school subject of computer science has changed this year. Its hourly subsidy has also increased. Schools are supported in the introduction of the informatics by the Ministry of Education, and they are also supported at school and teacher level.

Velvar Bett Conference

On 16 November 2021, the Velvary Primary School organised the second edition of the Velvar Bett conference, which was focused specifically on helping teachers - how to develop the digital competences of teachers and pupils, how to include digital technologies in teaching and how to change the school curriculum.

The Velvary Primary school web page can be found [here](#).



DENMARK

December 2021

Digital Learning through Play

Digital Learning through Play & Future Classroom Lab FCL Denmark is hosting and developing the new national CFU DK project Digital Learning through Play. The overall aim of the project is to enable, empower and engage teachers to experiment with creative and playful approaches to teaching with digital technologies, creating creative, meaningful, and child-centred education, leading to increasingly joyful, motivated, and engaged students. The project has a whole system approach and wants to develop and test module-based capacity-building resources for local adaptation and remediation to support local change processes in Danish schools to provide teachers, supervisors, and leaders with a shared professional language, knowledge, and skills to collaborate and co-develop playful teaching with digital technology. Through the next 2 years the goal is to reach approx. 250 leaders, 5.000 teachers and 25.000 students in the Danish schools with experiential, creative and playful approaches to digital technologies.

Digital
LEARNING
through **PLAY**

ESTONIA

December 2021

Participation in Dubai World Expo with concept classroom

Education is one of the main topics of the Dubai Expo that will be open until April 2022. In the Estonian pavilion you will get acquainted with a concept classroom depicting a modern learning space based on the Future Classroom Lab. The Estonian pavilion and learning space will introduce Estonian digital society, with education, research, innovation, and educational technology solutions being an important component. The world exhibition will introduce the educational technology solutions of Estonian companies *Eliis*, *Clanbeat*, *SpeakTX*, *Opiq*, *Schoolaby*, *TutorID*, *DreamApply*, *MobiLab* and will organize debates on the future of student-centered and high-quality education.

The video of this initiative can be found [here](#).



FINLAND

October – December 2021

Interactive Technology in Education Conference 2021

"*Everyday Life and Dreams*" Interactive Technology in Education (ITK) is Finland's largest educational technology conference, where professionals give lectures, forum presentations and organize workshops. This time the event gathered more than 1,500 education professionals in Hämeenlinna. [FCLab.fi](#) participated in the event on a wide front - this is the largest educational technology event in Finland. Nearly 20 FCLab-Ambassadors participated. FCLab.fi organized a half-day workshop entitled "*I have a dream*". The workshop presented some experiences in implementing flexible learning environments, learning zones, technologies that support learning, and designed innovative spaces. More than 30 enthusiastic participants from different levels of education were satisfied with the content of the event.

Forum Presentations

In addition to the workshop, FCLab.fi carried out two forum presentations at ITK. The first presentation provided an insight on how to get rid of barriers to learning in a well-designed school. The focus was especially on sensor technology. The second forum presented the construction of a virtual space as a community project in the English course of high school. In both presentations the hall was full of crowds and the feedback was very positive indeed! During the corona period, the number of live conferences has been very limited, so the event was a refreshing change - we got to meet, share and show our FCL skills!

More information about the event can be found [here](#).



HUNGARY

October-December 2021

Future Classroom Lab project and FCL Toolkit

During the first face-to-face meeting of the MenSI project in October, the lead FCL Ambassador presented the concept of the Future Classroom Lab project and introduced the FCL Toolkit as a planning tool for the mentor schools. There were nearly 20 participants from schools in Budapest, and really enthusiastic about the concept, the innovative learning labs and various digital devices. They enjoyed the presentation, especially the virtual tour of the Future Classroom Lab. Although their options are limited, at the end of the presentation, the teachers and school leaders were discussing how they can implement new, innovative learning solutions and spatial layouts in their schools.



ISRAEL

November-December 2021

Matatalab Pilot

The first round of Matatalab Pilot: Coding to 1st graders in Petah Tikva, Israel ended the last week of November. In the pilot, 5 primary schools participated: Hadar School, Gordon School, Amir School, Izthak Navon School and Krol School. Each school choose a leading teacher and after a training session at Beta School – the Israeli FCL- where they were trained to work and teach with the sets, they introduced it to their classrooms. The first round of the pilot was attended by representatives of *Robotek* and the leading teachers. During the event the leading teachers shared about successes, challenges and what are the next steps to promote a coding program to the youngest students. At the end of the event, they received a certificate of participation in the pilot and a donut in honour of Hanukkah. The feedback from the students and teachers during and after the pilot was excellent. The pilot received 5 out of 5 points when teachers were asked about their satisfaction with the pilot. The teachers reported that the use of the set motivated the students and increased their engagement.



The main challenges as reported by the teachers were:

1. Technical issues regarding the loading and maintenance of a robot and its control tower.
2. Not enough time to work with assessments.
3. The cooperation among the group members in the activity.

The 2nd round will take place in January with 4 additional schools and a hacking challenge for all the schools participating in the pilot will be organized in the end.

Community XR Dome

December started with one of the most innovative projects of 2021. As part of our partnership in the “Renew Together project” with *Intel*, Beta School is hosting the Community XR Dome. A joint journey between the Petah Tikva Municipality, city residents, students, and us. The innovative project has completed its first phase: the Construction of the Geodesic Dome (see image attached). Next week the second phase of the journey will begin and innovative computing equipment with professional graphics processing capabilities (based on the latest Intel processor) and an interactive projection system and additional interfaces such as controller (game controller), RealSense camera, touch sensors and more will land in the dome.



ITALY

December 2021

FCL Training Programme 2022

At IIS "Savoia-Benincasa" we are currently working on the new FCL training programme for the upcoming season. The training sessions will be held both online and onsite, for all FCL teachers and for all the educators from other surrounding schools who may be interested in that. The Covid-19 era has been hindering most of activities, in fact it has been noticed that distance learning cannot fully replace classroom learning. Trainees do need a direct interactive exchange with their trainers.



MALTA

September - December 2021

Professional Development Session

A whole day Professional Development session on the strategies and concepts of the FCL pedagogy took place for the school staff at Ħandaq Middle School, Qormi. The school has just launched a new Future Classroom Lab allowing teachers and students within the school to embrace 21st Century teaching and learning. Educators explored and discussed how the FCL pedagogy can be implemented in their teaching. The school will be focusing on different learning spaces based on the Future Classroom pedagogy.



FCL in Hamrun

The Erasmus+ project: Developing Digital Competence: A Multi-national Exchange of Technological Innovation in the Classroom was promoted during an activity, held in one of the Future Classroom Labs at the Digital Literacy Centre premises in Ħamrun in September 2021. The Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister was present for this activity.



NORWAY

November – December 2021

Professional Development

The new reorganized network in Norway has just recently arranged a meeting and workshop at University of Stavanger in November 2021, exploring how to use podcasts in teaching and education. Norway will continue to focus on active teaching methodologies the following year and planning at least on digital/online conference and one event at one of the universities. The time for these conferences will be announced early spring 2022. The network will continue to share best practices and innovative teaching methods from all Norwegian learning labs. The didactic digital educational lab in the University of Stavanger and DigTekLab at the University of South-Eastern Norway has joined the Matatalab Pilot and will explore and test the pedagogical value of this programming learning tool from January to May 2022.



PORTUGAL

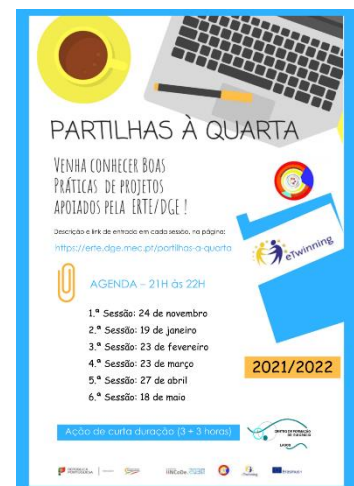
November- December 2021

Videoconference Series

For the fourth consecutive year, and with the aim of disseminating innovative teaching and learning practices, the ambassador's team will streamline the "Partilhas à Quarta" ("Wednesday's Sharing") initiative - a set of 6 videoconferences, where teachers and students from schools at the national level, have the opportunity to share their experiences. The first session, with the theme "Creative spaces for learning" took place on the 24th of November. In this session, a brief explanation of the Makerspace and Fab Lab concepts were displayed and then colleagues from the Freixo Schools Cluster (AE Freixo) presented their own experience and practices in this domain.

AE Freixo has been following a consolidated path of innovation and integration of technology in education that resulted in recognition by Microsoft Corporation as a Showcase School since 2012, also distinguishing teachers as Microsoft Expert Educator. They develop spaces that encourage multidisciplinary initiatives to motivate students to enjoy the scientific areas of knowledge, from the perspective of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.

The next sessions will address the following themes: Digital Educational Resources - Ongoing Projects, Digital Manuals - ongoing initiatives, Safe internet for everyone, Live Science Clubs and Digital Transition in action.



SLOVAKIA

December 2021

INOŠKOLA 2021 conference

The BESST school in cooperation with the Víčatá.sk organization and under the auspices of the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic organizes the INOŠKOLA 2021 conference dedicated to innovations in education. The conference will be held ONLINE on December 16th via ZOOM. The event is intended primarily for teachers and school leaders. The conference will address innovative projects, the Future Classroom Lab concept and it will provide practical examples of innovative methods and activities. For the participants there will also be an opportunity to have a discussion with teachers and educators who are dedicated to innovative methods. Participation in the online conference is free and available to all teachers in Slovakia.



KONFERENCIA INOŠKOLA 2021
Súkromná základná škola BESST vás pozýva na ONLINE konferenciu o inováciách vo vzdelávaní v rámci nultého ročníka projektu INOŠKOLA.
16.12.2021 | 13:00 - 16:30
KONFERENCIA SA USKUTOČNÍ ONLINE
www.inoskola.vicata.sk
www.zs.besst.sk
andrea.misovicova@besst.sk
+421 918 394 243

Víčatá.sk | EUROPSKÁ ÚNIA | OPERAČNÝ PROGRAM VZDELÁVANIE | MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLY, VÝCHOVY A ŠPORTU SR

SPAIN

November – December 2021

Aula del Futuro Ambassadors activities

The IV Aula del Futuro Ambassadors Meeting was held at INTEF on 11 and 12 November. The ambassadors were able to learn about the new features of the project, the new INTEF Aula del Futuro and, above all, the colleagues who have joined the Network of Ambassadors. During both days, working sessions were held on the training modalities and themes oriented to Aula del Futuro, the evaluation of the "Centro Aula del Futuro" seal, in parallel with workshops on STEM, gamification and virtual reality and augmented reality that took place in the new Aula del Futuro space.

On-line FCL training

The third edition of the online course Aula del Futuro organized by INTEF comes to an end with 275 participants and 70 hours of training, to get familiar with the toolkit. INTEF has also completed the first edition of three NOOC courses launched during the year 2021 on the theme Aula del Futuro. #DescubreAdF was the first opportunity within this new training offer to learn about Aula del Futuro project and its objectives and allowed participants to design a classroom-prototype adapted to their environment. Later in the year, #SituacionesAdF and #ActividadesAdF allowed to approach the project and to deepen respectively in the design of future classroom scenarios and learning activities. These three experiences have been created and facilitated by ambassadors María Castro, Mari Carmen Montoya, David Artime and Lucía Álvarez.

Blended FCL training

The attendance sessions of the nine Aula del Futuro blended courses have finished during September and October in the new Aula del Futuro classroom at INTEF. New edition is expected to be launched in 2022 with three new courses in Mobile Learning, Computational Thinking and Robotics oriented to Aula del Futuro methodology.

Regional FCL training

Canarias has held the first Digital Education Congress "Transforming education for the 21st Century: pedagogy + technology + inspirational spaces". During the congress teachers have been informed about the main measures and strategies available to the education community as a part of the Plan for Digital Education in Canarias such as web services, tools, digital and educational resources as well as the support dynamization and advisory services.

Castilla-La Mancha has developed the first edition of "Jornada Aula del Futuro" that consisted of two training days for teachers to present the pedagogical model of the Aula del Futuro, its origin and evolution. It also aimed to discover new educational



trends, to use the educational classroom in a creative way by making use of different spaces and to apply new learning technologies in the classroom.

Comunidad Valenciana has held “Jornada Aulas transformadoras de espacios y metodologías educativas” in [Valencia](#), [Castellón](#) and [Alicante](#) where Valencian project for Aula del Futuro has been presented, under the name of “Aules Transformadores d'espais i metodologies educatives”. During the three training days work has been done on the trio *space-methodology-technology* upon the evidence from scientific research carried out and from the experience of different centres in Comunidad Valenciana.

Extremadura is developing “[Las Aulas del Futuro: espacios que promueven las metodologías activas](#)” a course oriented for the teachers to discover the possibilities available to them to promote methodological changes in their teaching practice by creating an Aula del Futuro at their schools.

TURKEY

October – December 2021

Continuous Professional Development and Online Learning Events to raise awareness about FCL

Several online learning events including webinars, workshops and zoom meetings were organized to introduce the Future Classroom Lab approach and overall methodology in Turkey at both national and local levels. Within the scope of these trainings conducted mostly by the local ambassadors the following activities took place:

- ‘Active Learning’ Webinar for 800 teachers
- ‘Techno-Pedagogy’ webinar for different cities for more than 1500 teachers (4 Webinars)
- ‘Rethinking learning spaces and What is FCL’ for different cities for more than 2000 teachers (6 Webinars)
- ‘How to integrate technology within school subjects’ Webinar (3000 teachers - & webinar for different cities)
- In Rize, FCL local Ambassador Adil Tuğyan hosted webinars on various topics such as ‘Artificial Intelligence’, ‘Web 3.0 and the Future of Education’, ‘Media Literacy and Disinformation’, ‘Coding as a 21st Century Skill’, ‘Blended Learning and Micro Learning and Preventing Learning Loss during the Covid-19 pandemic’.
- Webinars with the participation of academics from various universities on ‘How Teachers can Provide Active Learning in Distant Education during the Pandemic’ for 450 teachers in Adana.
- Online learning event on ‘eTwinning and FCL for Teachers’ for 732 participants in Giresun.
- Online learning event on ‘eTwinning and FCL for Principals’ for 150 participants in Giresun.
- On-site visit and face-to-face learning event in Ankara Bilge Kağan Primary School on the 26th October 2021 on transforming schools into an innovative learning environment with different learning spaces related to one another.
- In Eskişehir, FCL Ambassador had two ‘Parents Informative Meetings’ about FCL in October.
- Webinar for the teachers of Ordu, Ünye Anafarta Primary School who newly created an FCL, on the 25th and 26th of November 2021.
- Webinar for the teachers of Zonguldak, Ereğli Bahçelievler İlkokulu that newly created a FCL in their schools, BİSTEM FCL on the 8th and 9th of December 2021.

Learning Labs

In Turkey, innovative learning spaces were supported at the national policy level, and there are some spaces like Makerspaces, design-skill labs, STEM Labs to transform traditional classrooms and support innovative ones. New FCLs are on their way in different cities and schools. A new FCL in Ordu, Ünye Anafarta Primary School is created and its accreditation process will start soon. Another new FCL is created in Zonguldak, Ereğli Bahçelievler Primary School and the accreditation process of this new FCL has started. At the national level, the FCL lead team guide the schools and cooperate with local ambassadors to build innovative learning spaces.

In addition, the article entitled “**Rethinking the Learning Spaces and Pedagogies: Not just as a classroom, as the whole school**” was submitted to “International Education Journal: Comparative Perspectives” awaiting for publication with co-writers İpek Saralar Aras and Sümeyye Hatice Eral. The Ministry of National Education has launched Digital Education Ecosystem in Turkey and this ecosystem will be operationalised based on Professional Learning Lab inspired by FCL. All the tasks for FCL at national level will be led within this ecosystem.

Design FILS Training Course on Future Innovative Learning Spaces

Coordinated by the MoNE Directorate General for Innovation and Educational Technologies in Turkey, the Design FILS project aims to train trainers and teachers on transforming traditional learning environments into flexible learning spaces enhanced with technology and innovative pedagogical practices, especially through the learning scenario approach both at the Pan-European and at the national level. The capacity building program of the project is composed of trainer and teacher training courses organized in three phases:

1. **Trainer Training at pan-European Level:** An online trainer training course has taken place on the 27th September-4th November 2021 at the Pan-European level with the 14 trainees from Turkey, Spain and Czechia. Throughout the course, live events took place with the experts from the field for the learning, teaching and training activities.
2. **Trainer Training at National Level:** An online trainer training course will take place in January-February 2022 at national level in four countries; Turkey, Spain, Czechia and Austria. In total, 60 trainers will be trained.
3. **Teacher Training at National Level:** The teacher training courses will take place in April-May 2022 at national level in four countries; Turkey, Spain, Czechia and Austria. In total, 1750 teachers will be trained.



For further information on the Future Classroom Ambassadors, please contact Bart Verswijvel - bart.verswijvel@eun.org