

Report on the Green Hackathon

Organized by ART+INN (Menas ir inovacijos)
Biržai, Lithuania | November 6, 2024

1. Introduction

On November 6, 2024, ART+INN (Menas ir inovacijos) successfully organized a Green Hackathon in Biržai, Lithuania, as part of the *Eco.Digi.VET* project. The event focused on equipping VET teachers and staff with digital tools and strategies to promote environmental sustainability in their institutions. The hackathon brought together 8 participants from 2 different VET schools, encouraging collaboration and innovation in paperless management and green digital solutions.

2. Participants and Organization

The event was attended by 8 VET teachers and staff, representing two distinct vocational education and training (VET) schools. ART+INN facilitated the hackathon with a structured program that included:

- Theme Definition: Digital sustainability in VET institutions.
- Training and Mentorship: Experts provided insights into digital tools for eco-friendly education.
- Team Collaboration: Participants worked in two teams to develop actionable solutions.

3. Hackathon Activities

The hackathon focused on solving the problem of unsustainable practices in VET schools through structured activities:

- Problem-Solving Workshop: Participants identified key barriers to sustainability in their schools and discussed possible digital interventions.
- Collaborative Solution Design: Teams worked together to create actionable strategies using digital tools such as cloud storage for administrative processes, digital learning materials, and eco-friendly school policies.
- Presentation of Prototypes: Each team presented their proposed solutions, outlining how they would implement digital tools to improve sustainability in their schools.

4. Evaluation and Recognition

Teams were evaluated based on:

- Innovation: Creativity in applying digital tools to sustainability challenges.
- Feasibility: Practicality of implementing the solution in their respective schools.
- Impact: The potential for long-term reduction of unsustainable practices.

5. Impact and Next Steps

- The best solutions will be piloted in the participating schools, with a focus on digitalizing administrative and educational processes.

- Schools committed to implementing at least one digital sustainability initiative in the coming months.
- ART+INN will provide ongoing mentorship and support to track the effectiveness of these solutions and encourage further innovation.

6. Conclusion

The Green Hackathon in Biržai was a significant step toward tackling unsustainable practices in VET institutions. By engaging teachers and staff in problem-solving, digital tool integration, and collaborative innovation, the event empowered VET educators to take practical steps toward a more sustainable and digitally enhanced learning environment.