



MenSI

Mentoring for
School Improvement

MenSI Learning Labs

*The Ukrainian Future Classroom Lab
(Ukraine)*

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National Context

Short description of your local/regional/national context (depending on range of impact of your activities) with a specific focus on innovative whole-school approaches to implementing ICT.

I work as a teacher of computer science at the Lyceum named after Ivan Pulyu, which is located in Lviv, the western part of Ukraine. More than 1,000 students study at the lyceum. This is a modern educational institution with many innovative technologies and an excellent teaching staff. At the lyceum, I opened the First Laboratory of the Future, in which we conduct STEM lessons, use robotics kits, augmented and virtual reality, and various innovative methods. As a teacher of computer science and a teacher and trainer of robotics, I believe that the main context of my laboratory should be the use of the stem approach, innovative methods of teaching and using robotics, information and communication technologies, as well as cooperation with the IT department and IT companies



Fostering a learning lab

Launching a learning lab

Short description of how your learning lab was created. What inspired you to set up the lab?

I participated in a workshop in the The Future Classroom Lab in Brussels as the winner of Stem Discovery Week in 2018 or 2019. When I saw the possibilities of the The Future Classroom Lab, what modern equipment, sets of robots, 3D printers were in the Lab in Brussels, I began to dream of creating such a laboratory for my students in Ukraine. I understood that this dream is very far from me. But I talked with my colleagues from Brussels, I understood that it was necessary to act. I was looking for sponsors and patrons among business and IT representatives. And I was able to create a cool laboratory for my students

Local, regional and national support

Any support/collaboration from local, regional and national authorities?

I was looking for cooperation with local businesses, authorities and IT cluster of Lviv. And I received support from them. First of all, I organized a STEM festival at my school with the support of the authorities. I talk about my idea of creating a laboratory. And then I received support from the IT cluster, with which I continue to work now.

Collaboration with the private sector

Any support/collaboration with the private sector?

I also continue to cooperate with the IT sector, I am also looking for sponsors in the business sector. But it is even more difficult now during the war to look for business support, because the situation in my country is extremely difficult. There have already been many rocket attacks on my city, but our lyceum continues to work offline, my students attend classes offline and participate in training at The Ukrainian Future Classroom Lab



School training activities

National workshop and events

Please describe here the different type of conferences, webinars, workshops, symposia, educational fairs, in-service trainings, events in your country in which you usually participate as a The Ukrainian Future Classroom Lab team is an expert in innovative pedagogical practices and

use of advanced digital technologies. For 5 years, I have been the organizer and mentor of the Lviv International Stem Festival. Every year, this festival takes place both offline and online, and sometimes in a mixed format. During this event, teachers from Ukraine and Scientific Ambassadors from Slovakia, Poland, Albania, Israel, Ukraine and IT specialists from Ukraine share new experiences, new cases and conduct various practical lectures. It is a place to exchange and introduce new practices and STEM approaches. And on the basis of the Laboratory at the lyceum, we will conduct online trainings and webinars to transfer skills and methodology to our project schools. Now we have a war and big problems with light and the Internet, but we continue to teach children and share our experience with other educators. I believe that soon we will be able to work in a peaceful country, that is why we are making plans for the future. Also, during cooperation between project schools, we plan to invite teachers to our lyceum, we will conduct face-to-face training for teachers in the Laboratory. We intend to create a network of schools that in the future will create similar The Future Classroom Labs in schools to implement new practices, learning methodologies and technologies such as robotics, augmented and virtual reality, 3D printing and modeling.

We are also already starting to negotiate future cooperation with a colleague from the USA from the Mensi project(mr.Chad, coordinate the FCL from the United States of America) and with Scientific Aambassadors from Greece and Poland.





School training sessions

School network

Please describe here how do you invite schools/teachers to participate to workshops and training sessions.

We have created a network between teachers, so I am a co-organizer of the Educational Organization "Teachers' Guild". For more than 5 years, my organization has been engaged in conducting training session for teachers, training offline, workshops, and during covid-19 we started to hold webinars and training in online format. We also have various educational groups in social networks and contacts of electronic mailboxes of Ukrainian schools

Workshops and other training events

Learning labs have been invited to work with other schools in order to accelerate the adoption of the FCL model and the innovative pedagogical practices involving ICT that are available in these labs.

How would describe a typical workshop of your learning lab?

Any relevant links/examples to be shared?

We plan to introduce other schools in order to accelerate the adoption of the FCL model with the necessary digital skills to organize a joint project with schools.

Our goal is to involve as many stakeholders as possible (teachers, students, parents, local community). Organize weekly or monthly online meetings to discuss topics and exchange ideas between all students from the different schools participating in demonstrate. Establish links with other schools that are ongoing for future projects and continuation of the current project. To enable communication with students from abroad through digital resources we can rely on.

Beyond MenSI



Future plans

What are the plans for your organization regarding the dissemination of innovative practices and ICT within your school network.

We plan to implement the following practices to help increase the potential and skills of teachers in teaching practice with technology in my cluster of schools: online courses, online mentoring, video recordings of classroom classes, webinars and reports of IT cluster experts, panel discussions, face-to-face seminars and courses, school circles of inventors, guides and articles on dedicated blogs and websites

Challenges

Description of challenges when implementing your agenda as learning lab.

A description of the challenges in implementing your agenda as a teaching laboratory.

The biggest challenge for me and my team right now is war. We have difficult conditions, we have frequent attacks by Russian missiles, we have limited time light, heat and Internet. This of course reduces the possibilities, but we will never stop fighting for future freedom and peace and we continue to generate new ideas, look for new contacts for cooperation, we conduct lessons in bomb shelters so that our students continue to learn and gain new knowledge. I believe and know that I will implement my project

Opportunities

Opportunities for collaboration, suggestions, enablers?

I am ready to cooperate with colleagues from the project, I will be happy to share my experience and also organize cooperation with colleagues for the future.

I have an idea to organize online meetings between teachers and students. And in the future, organize offline meetings in laboratories and practical trainings. My motivation is to create innovations and adopt new experiences and share my experiences with colleagues, as well as create innovative conditions and introduce new methods in the lessons for my students.





Partners



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