



MenSI

Mentoring for
School Improvement

MenSI Learning Labs

ZFCL (TURKEY)

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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.

Our working plan, which we have prepared as a school in order to disseminate ICT applications and FCL classroom model within the scope of the MenSI project, continues to be local, national and international. In our school, we formed a team with the participation of the school principal, IT teacher and teachers from different branches within the scope of the MenSI project, and we held our first meeting with this team. This team will work actively on the basis of a holistic school approach in the studies carried out at our school and planned for the future. This team of teachers will take part in both online and face-to-face training and in the dissemination of innovative digital applications. We will organize meetings at certain intervals. At the national level, we have carried out two trainings under the coordination of the Turkey FCL team. As part of our Erasmus+ and eTwinning projects that we are carrying out with the aim of developing digital competencies of the teachers and students with reference to the EU DigComp 2.2 framework, we plan to share our ZFCL class and the innovative learning approaches we apply in this area online with our partner schools in other European countries.





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?

In May 2015, I visited the Future Classroom Laboratory within the framework of the program in Brussels, where I was due to the eTwinning Award Ceremony, and attended a 2-session training with eTwinning teachers from other countries in this innovative learning zone. That was the first time I had the opportunity to see the Brussels FCL and I was impressed. In the future, I also saw the work of schools with FCL classes accredited both in my country and in Europe. After the spatial facilities of the school were sufficient at Zile Science High School, where I am still working, in 2018, I met with the school administration to bring the Future Classroom Laboratory, which I call my dream, to my own school. I explained the FCL class model. We talked about the benefits it would bring to our school, teachers and students with a holistic school approach, and we decided to create an FCL within the budget possibilities. In 2018, our FCL preparation started on the basis of thought and after balancing our budget, we started to create our FCL classroom physically in December 2020. First of all, it is a 2.5 classroom space. We expanded our FCL by adding one more classroom space in September 2022, and we are using a total of 172 m² area equipped with modern technologies, which includes 6 flexible learning zones and and FCL class to all teachers of our school, students, work for the professional development of our teachers and as an innovative space where eTwinning and Erasmus+ projects are carried out.

Local, regional and national support

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

During the preparation process of our classroom, the resources of the District and Provincial Education Directorates, and the budget of our school were utilized. In addition, an NGO in our city, a local company, a tradesman and a charitable parent contributed financially to the provision of technological tools and the organization of FCL's learning areas.

Collaboration with the private sector

Any support/collaboration with the private sector?

During the creation of our FCL classroom, we did not have any cooperation with the private sector, except for the financial contribution of a resident company operating in our city to cover the financial expenses of some wall images of our classroom. We have not had a commercial partner.



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 learning lab.

***Note: these activities can go beyond your collaboration with MenSI.**

As ZFCL, we participate in the ongoing national webinars organized under the coordination of the Turkey FCL team. I also participated in the National Conference organized by the eTwinning Turkey Support Organisation between 11/13 November 2022.

School training sessions

School network

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

As ZFCL, we have completed 2 trainings at the national level, one online and the other face-to-face. We organized two trainings under the coordination of the Turkey FCL team and approximately 100 school representatives from different cities at the national level participated in this webinar. The webinar was on 02 December 2022 at 20:00 Turkey time. It lasted for about 2 hours. Myself, our math teacher and a school administrator from our own school participated in the training. The announcement of this webinar was made by the Turkey FCL team through the relevant social media accounts of our Ministry of National Education. We also made announcements about this training at the local level on our school's social media accounts and on our personal social media accounts.

In addition, we attended a workshop organized under the coordination of our Ministry of National Education's FCL team between 12/14 December 2022 as an official guest and we held a workshop on the MenSI project and our ZFCL class. Approximately 120 teachers from different schools participated in these face-to-face trainings.



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?

I attended the on-site workshop organized under the coordination of the Turkey FCL team, representing ZFCL, and organized a workshop for school representatives. In the presentation I made at the workshop, I first presented the MenSI project and our future classroom lab.(ZFCL)After that, I applied an online questionnaire to the participants about where they saw their own school as Mentor and Mentee, using the Slido tool. We discussed the survey results with the participants. I then divided the participants into teams and asked an online question using the Padlet tool. In this episode, each team of teachers discussed a different aspect of school-to-school mentoring; They shared their ideas on Padlet. The questions asked to the teacher teams were as follows:

Innovative Learning Areas in Schools, Indicators of Digital Development in Schools (Institutional-Digital and Pedagogical), Effective Ways of School-to-School Mentoring, Methods-Studies, School Motivating Issues for Mentoring, Why FCL Classroom Model Should Be Disseminated.

At the end of the workshop, I made a digital evaluation of the session on Gimkit.

We will share the images related to these trainings and the links of the works done on the website we prepared within the scope of the MenSI project, and also on the tab related to the MenSI project on our school website.

Any relevant links/examples to be shared?

<https://bit.ly/3W3ml0m> (National Webinar)

<https://bit.ly/3ho30br> (Workshop)

(School Website- <https://zilefenlisesi.meb.k12.tr/> You may find it on the the school website (AB Projeleri-MenSI Projesi)



Beyond MenSI

Future plans

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

We continue our dissemination efforts within the scope of the MenSI project. We are planning a face-to-face training for local schools who want to work with us as a mentee, design an innovative learning space like FCL and use innovative technology supported applications between 20/30 December. These trainings will be organized under the mentorship of our own school. First, we create a school network that starts at the local level. Then, first of all, there are a few schools in our country that we have identified that want to establish the FCL classroom model in their own schools but need guidance. By inviting these schools to the existing network and also through online platforms or social media groups, we want to stay in touch and make the sharing of experience sustainable. In this context, we will upload the contents of school-to-school mentoring activities on our school's website on the area we have reserved for the MenSI project.

Challenges

Description of challenges when implementing your agenda as learning lab.

Within the scope of the MenSI project, we completed two trainings, one online and one face-to-face. I would like to emphasize the support of the Turkey FCL team in this process. The interest of the school representatives who received the training in the project was motivating for us. Thanks to this project, we had the opportunity to disseminate the FCL classroom model to other schools. We did not encounter any problems in this process. In the next 2 weeks, we will continue our efforts to disseminate the trainings for local schools, as we planned as a school. However, we need more time in these face-to-face trainings, but due to the current workload of the schools and the lessons, we will continue our efforts to expand it. It can be a problem to find longer time for the dissemination activities.



Opportunities

Opportunities for collaboration, suggestions, enablers?

The communication and cooperation we will establish with other schools at the institutional level within the scope of the MenSI project will set a very good example in terms of schools transferring good practices in the short and long term, learning from each other and carrying them into the future, and supporting each other's digital development. We think that since we will do these dissemination activities by involving local education authorities in the process, they will also increase their awareness of the importance of digital development of schools.

Sustainability

We will continue to strengthen our FCL classroom at the local, national and international level after the project. We plan to organize face-to-face in-service training for other school teachers as a school twice a year, primarily at the local level which we organized one in September 2022. We also plan to organize a face-to-face in-service training for school representatives at the regional level under the coordination of the Turkey FCL team in 2023. As part of the MenSI project, we will set up a website and we would like to share the dissemination activities we have made at local, national and international levels on the website. The results of the studies will also be accessible to other interested schools on our school's official website.

Coordinator



Partners



EDUCAÇÃO



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