MAY, 2026 VOL - 4

ENCODE-IT

ENCODE-IT PROJECT

NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL HACKATHON IN BELGIUM WOMEN COLLABORATE, CREATE AND BUILD AI-SUPPORTED DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

As the final practical activity of the ENCODE-IT project, the International Hackathon brought together women from Türkiye, Portugal, and Belgium in Brussels for an intensive and collaborative learning experience focused on artificial intelligence, digital creation, and innovation.

Implemented by SDSN in Belgium, the hackathon transformed the knowledge gained during the Interactive Modules and Virtual Bootcamps into practical production processes.

In the Hackathon event, participants worked in international teams, explored AI-supported technologies, and developed creative digital solutions through hands-on experimentation and collaborative problem-solving activities. The event welcomed students, unemployed women, housewives, newly graduated participants, and professionals from different backgrounds, creating an inclusive and motivating international learning environment.

Throughout these three-day activity, participants explored modern AI tools and digital platforms such as ChatGPT, Cursor, GitHub, Vercel, Netlify, and several no-code and low-code systems. The sessions focused on prompt engineering, workflow logic, AI-supported coding, design thinking, and practical product development. Participants actively experimented with digital creation processes, developed small prototype ideas, and learned how AI can support creativity, productivity, communication, and innovation. The educational methodology emphasized practical learning, teamwork, experimentation, and confidence building. The hackathon demonstrated that artificial intelligence can become an accessible and empowering tool for women when supported through inclusive and practice-oriented learning environments.

INTERNATIONAL HACKATHON IN BELGIUM

The ENCODE-IT International Hackathon represented the final and most practical phase of the project's learning journey. Organized in Brussels, Belgium, the activity allowed participants to apply the skills developed throughout the Interactive Coding Modules and Virtual Bootcamp sessions within real collaborative production environments.
The educational content focused on AI literacy, design thinking, prompt engineering, workflow automation, AI-supported coding, and no-code application development. Participants explored how modern AI systems can support digital production processes while also learning the importance of human-centered thinking, creativity, and problem-solving.

Read more on our website at www.encode-it.eu

FROM LEARNING TO REAL DIGITAL PRODUCTION

A major focus of the activity was hands-on experimentation. Participants actively tested AI-supported tools, created structured prompts, explored workflow systems, and developed small digital outputs with mentor support. The hackathon also introduced participants to deployment and digital publishing environments, helping them better understand the complete process of transforming ideas into practical digital solutions.

The activity created a strong intercultural learning environment where women from different countries collaborated, exchanged ideas, and learned from one another. Through teamwork, mentoring, and practical workshops, participants improved not only their digital competencies but also their confidence, communication skills, and motivation to participate actively in digital transformation processes.

AI, CREATIVITY, COLLABORATION

The International Hackathon highlighted the importance of accessible AI education for women across Europe. By combining practical production and AI-supported creativity, the activity strengthened participants' technological confidence and interest in future-oriented digital skills.

Co-funded by the European Union

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