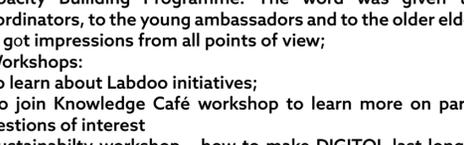


In this 6th edition of our Newsletter we arrived finally to the point where we can share pictures from our activities not taken only behind the screens.

After so many months spent in online communication the International Academy took place face to face! It was a great opportunity for all the participants from all partner countries to meet and share experiences, emotions, ideas and culture. Nowadays it is a real celebration when we manage to put together more than 40 people across Europe who share intergenerational experience in international environment.



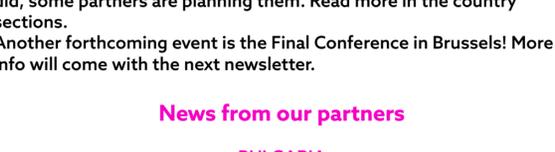
The host of the event was ProArbeit - our German partner who did fabulous job in organizing the plenary sessions, the workshops with interesting speakers and trainers among which the participants could choose to participate.



The programme was arranged around few major topics:

- Getting to know each other and sharing the experience from the Capacity Building Programme. The word was given to the coordinators, to the young ambassadors and to the older elderly so we got impressions from all points of view;
- Workshops:
  - To learn about Labdoo initiatives;
  - To join Knowledge Café workshop to learn more on particular questions of interest
  - Sustainability workshop - how to make DIGITOL last longer and reach more people;

And last but not least - a session devoted to the Pilot projects - activities which should bring the DIGITOL idea to more people outside the project participants through series of activities. Partners shared their experience, ideas and plans, and got inspired from each other.



And what's coming next? The Pilot Projects! Some partners already did, some partners are planning them. Read more in the country sections. Another forthcoming event is the Final Conference in Brussels! More info will come with the next newsletter.

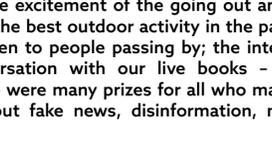
### News from our partners

#### BULGARIA

##### International Academy

Great opportunity to meet! It started exciting as some of the young ambassadors met some of the older adults for first time at the airport. And the journey began!

Five older adults and 4 young ambassadors took part of the event. Sharing and inclusion were to of the many important aspects of this event and the participants were committed to actively participate in all the activities, to make new contacts, to share with other partner groups and to profit fully from the opportunity given in the framework of the event.

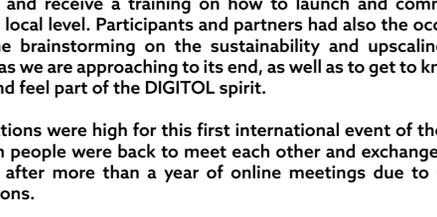


##### Pilot projects

Bulgaria is the first who organized the event. It took place in the Sea Garden of beautiful city of Varna. With all the promotional materials, the good vibes, the excitement of the going out among people, the event turned into the best outdoor activity in the park. Informational materials were given to people passing by; the interested one were involved in conversation with our live books - out older adult participants. There were many prizes for all who managed to answer the questions about fake news, disinformation, net-etiquette and human rights.

As a result of the massive campaign, we were invited in two high schools to give a talk to young people about the project topics.

At the moment we are preparing more promotional materials for them. The word about DIGITOL was well spread.



#### ITALY

##### The International Event

The main aim of the meeting was to share thoughts about the Pilot Actions and receive a training on how to launch and communicate them at local level. Participants and partners had also the occasion to do some brainstorming on the sustainability and upscaling of the project as we are approaching to its end, as well as to get to know each other and feel part of the DIGITOL spirit.

Expectations were high for this first international event of the project in which people were back to meet each other and exchange ideas in person, after more than a year of online meetings due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Moreover, this was a very important moment for the project as well, as it was the time to check that the project activities in each partner country had been carried out in an appropriate and engaging way for our beneficiaries but also as a chance for a shared discussion about the future of the project.

Well, we are very happy to inform you that the "International Academy" has succeeded beyond our most optimistic expectations: we received very positive feedback from our participants and useful insights on the sustainability plan of the project.

3 Adults over 55 and 4 Young Ambassadors were the members of the intergenerational group of participants from Italy. They actively took part in every workshops held during the 2-day event. English language was not a big obstacle to interaction for them also thanks to the support of the Italian staff members for any translation needs.

Italian participants especially enjoyed the international and intergenerational dimension of the event.

Since the Pilot Actions in Italy were still in an early co-design stage, they had the chance to collect some useful tips and inputs for their implementation by listening to what the other partners are doing in their own country.

Moreover, they are willing to continue the pilot actions and the DIGITOL project after the established end. That's why they discussed with other participants about possible alternative funding sources, crowdfunding actions or how to practically reorganize among volunteers to continue the actions undertaken so far.

##### Pilot Actions

Three intergenerational groups are currently organizing 3 Pilot Actions to raise awareness of public opinion on Digital Culture.

The initiatives or pilot actions will take place on the territory of Monza and Brianza or online, and they will be:

- 1) The "Interactive Walk between Web and Nature", to be held on November 7, 2021 at the park of Monza.

The walk is about 5 km and it is open to people of all ages. The Walk will be an occasion to raise awareness about the topic of disinformation. In particular, there will be a first stop during the walk, where an expert will have a speech on risks and opportunities of the Web in our daily lives. In the second stop there will be a theatre play for reflection while having fun on the risks related to the spread of fake news and hate speech online.

- 2) The Blog "Digitol News" is a digital space where "invented" fake news are created and shared, to challenge public opinion on the importance of correct information. Useful lessons will be shared to learn how to recognize fake news, and to defend against its effects.

- 3) The Festival "Digitally Aware? You become" on December 4, 2021 at Villa Longoni in Desio (MB). It will be a full-day event dedicated to digital culture and information, with the aim aims to increase awareness in the choice of inclusive and constructive languages in online environments, to offer training opportunities for a correct interpretation of information and to provide tools to learn about risks and opportunities of digital technology.

#### GERMANY

##### International Academy

The international academy has been a longed opportunity for us and for our participants to meet our project partners and the participants from all project countries to exchange ideas and to learn about their activities.

As host organization of the event, it was of utmost importance for us to create both a comfortable and stimulating environment as the main condition for fruitful exchange and mutual learning among participants. This included all aspects of the two-day conference, including the formal and informal aspects of the meeting, the conference venue and joint dinner locations.

We were very happy to see that our efforts paid off. Participants were engaged in discussions, exchanged their ideas and had the opportunity to get to know each other beyond project related discussions. And at the end of the day there was still enough energy for party music and dance floor like performance. Participants of all countries contributed their happy mood and good vibes to turn the meeting into a great experience for all. A big thanks again here to all the participants.

We are looking forward to meeting all of you soon again at the final conference!



##### Pilot Projects:

Both participants and local Stakeholders have developed four pilot activities during several brainstorming sessions and exchanges. These are currently in planning stage and will be implemented in the coming months.

##### Knowledge Café

Interactive and participative workshop on the use of digital devices and apps - Participants learn from others, teach their skills and exchange their knowledge with each other. People can bring their own devices and will be able to get help and guidance concerning their questions or issues with using the devices.

Workshops will form part of the activities at the Knowledge Café

##### Digital heroes/Digital Ambassadors

Young people take older adults on an expedition into the digital world. They teach them the relevant skills to use smartphones, tablets and apps to navigate the digital world independently.

##### Network creation

Identification and beginning of collaboration with key stakeholders in the field of combatting fake news and spreading digital literacy

##### Field Visits

Visit to NGOs and Institutions in Brussels and Berlin

Learning about cutting edge policy developments and the work of stakeholders engaged in promoting digitalization, media literacy and intergenerational exchange

#### GREECE

##### International Academy

After many months within the project, it was finally possible to meet in person with participants, Young Ambassadors and partners from all countries, with the occasion of the International Academy. Three Young Ambassadors and five older adults travelled from Greece to Dietzenbach, in order to participate in this exciting event. They had the chance to meet people from other cultures, exchange thoughts and ideas, and work with them in groups, something that many had never done before. As one of the older adults said "It was unique experience that I will never forget! I have learned so many things I didn't even think was possible, or even existed!".

Thanks to the excellent planning of the event from our German friends, engaging presentations and interactive workshops gave the opportunity to all to contribute to the goals of the meeting and build on mutual acceptance and understanding on an international and intergenerational level.

##### Pilot Projects:

So far, one Pilot Action has been implemented from 50plus Hellas. With the occasion of the International Day of Older Adults, an event took place under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Labour. It was addressed to stakeholders, older adults and organisations working with older adults. It included speeches from various experts and representatives from the political scene, such as the Ministry of Labor, The World Health Organization and the Ministry of Digital Policy of Greece. The aim of the event was to raise awareness on the need for policies and a legislative framework to encourage digital and media literacy for older adults.

Other activities planned are the preparation of an age/user friendly toolkit with short presentations and videos for the older adults who participated in the project to disseminate in their own communities. Also, a network of NGOs from all over the country that work with and for older adults, is currently being formed, aiming to advocate for digital inclusion of older adults in Greece. So far 12 organizations have joined the network.

Finally, an intergenerational festival is planned for November the 14th where there will be workshops and speeches on digital literacy, fake news and misinformation, scams and fraud on the internet and stereotypes on ageing.