



102 - Climate Change Challenge WebQuests

EnviroHacks



**Building Problem-solving Skills of Youth to Address
Environmental and Climate Change Issues**

IO2 – Climate Change Challenge WebQuests

WebQuest Theme: EnviroHacks

TIME ALLOCATED:	5 hours
TITLE OF THE WEBQUEST:	#PoliticalHack4thePlanet
INTRODUCTION	
<p>Our health depends on the health of our planet. The COVID-19 epidemic confirms what we already knew: you can't live a healthy life on a sick planet. The destruction of the environment contributes to the emergence of zoonoses, diseases transmitted from animals to humans.</p> <p>Nature is declining at a staggering rate and it is our health that is at stake. Yet, despite all the signals that the planet is trying to send us, we continue to destroy living things. The blatant disregard for the environment, rooted in our current economic model, damages our environment a little more every day.</p> <p>The pandemic is an unprecedented wake-up call exposing the failures that are addressed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. Proposing new solutions to fight climate change is essential to steer the world back on track towards the Sustainable Development Goals. This is the time for change, for a deep shift to more sustainable models that work for both people and the planet.</p> <p>The United Nations have indicated seventeen Sustainable Development Goals leading to greener, more inclusive economies, and stronger, more resilient societies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 17 Sustainable Development Goals: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/ <p>These Goals are a call for action to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognise that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs. This includes; education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.</p>	



These objectives cannot be achieved without the active participation of all of us and our communities, proposing new actions to fight climate change and asking policymakers and decision-makers for immediate intervention.

TASK

The UN Sustainable Development Goals have been the last topic addressed by your favourite TV show, 28 Minutes, streamed by Arté. You talk about it with your friends who tell you that they have also watched the show. It presented some examples of young people fighting against climate change and insisted on the importance to take action for the planet.

You think that if so many people of your age are now multiplying their actions to face climate change, mostly thanks to digital tools, you can definitely join the movement and take action in your community. One of your friends tells you that the Mayor of Paris is organising the #PoliticalHack4thePlanet, a Hackathon for young people. It will be inspired by the Paris Agreement to propose innovative digital projects connected to the 17 Development Goals of the UN. It will look to influence public policy makers to hear young people's voice and take the environmental challenge.

You can't miss this chance! You call your friends and propose them to participate in this Hackathon. You know it will require good organisation, teamwork and a winning pitch. Follow the steps of this WebQuest to become a proficient "hackathoner"!

PROCESS

Step 1: What is a Hackathon and how to prepare it the best?

You and your friends are ready to start this new experience! You are very excited in taking part in a Hackathon, but this is the first one for you, so first of all you need to know a bit more about it.

1. How is a Hackathon structured?
2. What are the steps?
3. What is exactly expected from me?
4. How can I get ready for that?
5. How shall I share tasks with my friends?



You really want to win this Hackathon, so together with your friends you conduct some research about Hackathons. You can start by clicking the links here below. You decide to work in two teams. One team can search and watch the videos (for about 15 minutes) and the other team can focus on the web articles for (15 minutes too).

- How to Run a Successful Hackathon: <https://hackathon.guide/>
- Top 5 Hackathon Projects for the Environment: <https://www.januaryadvisors.com/top-5-hackathon-projects-for-the-environment/>
- What is a Hackathon [VIDEO]: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckloOeGmQl0&ab_channel=ThePatriotFounder
- How to win a Hackathon Without Coding [VIDEO]: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gh62PCBMqfl&ab_channel=ThefunIndianguy

Now that you have clear ideas about what a Hackathons is and what the key to success is, the second step is to organise your team so that each member has a specific role corresponding to their skills. You know that this will lead the team to victory.

Step 2: Build up your team!

Every teamwork requires a good preparation phase. You are working with your friends to win this Hackathon, you know them quite well, however that doesn't mean that you were made to work together. You will have more chances to get along and to avoid misunderstandings while preparing your Hackathon if you organise a session to distribute the work among your team. Usually, Hackathon teams are composed of developers, in the case of the #PoliticalHack4thePlanet you won't need any developers, but rather a person who has basic knowledge of digital communication.

Have a look at these links to find out how to organise your team and how to assign roles within your team:

- 5 Roles Every Hackathon Team Needs: <https://entrepreneurquarterly.com/5-roles-every-hackathon-team-needs/>
- Hackathon Team Roles [VIDEO]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIJrOXQLbA>

Now that you know what the roles for your Hackathon team must be, you need to assign them among your team. To know who does what in a Hackathon team is essential to brainstorm ideas and think of how to implement them.

You can start with your team a short activity to assign roles that will take 20 minutes. The research that you have just conducted allowed you to identify the roles that each teammate should be responsible of. Now, you need to identify the tasks that correspond to these roles.



Make a list of these roles and brainstorm with your friends the tasks that are linked to them. Then, discuss in your team the competences and skills of each teammate and assign together the roles. Review the results to ensure tasks match roles, roles match leadership styles and that no one is under or over tasked. This activity will last about 15 minutes.

Finally, you can answer together the following questions:

1. How will I support my team members in my role?
2. What will I look for in terms of support from my team members?
3. What skills do I hope to develop in my assigned role?
4. Why is it important to find roles and responsibilities that suit my leadership style but still challenge me?

For further information on how to assign roles, you can go through these articles or search for more:

- How to Define Roles Within a Work Team: <https://bizfluent.com/how-7477266-define-roles-within-work-team.html>
- The Art of Team Alignment or Assigning Roles and Responsibilities: <https://www.teodesk.com/blog/assigning-roles-and-responsibilities/>

Step 3: Research and brainstorm time

Now that your team is ready and everyone knows what their role is, you can start finding a brilliant idea that will lead you to the victory! Remember: your project must focus on one or more of the 17 Development Goals of the UN. But all these goals seem very important to achieve. Wondering how to choose your project topic? Don't forget that this Hackathon is organised by the Mayor of Paris, so the best route would be to match one of the UN goals with the environmental priorities and needs identified by the city of Paris or by its environmental organizations. To do that, you will need to conduct some research. Start with the links below, and look for more with your teammates:

- How Clean is Your Country?: <https://www.azocleantech.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=550>
- Air Pollution and Climate Change Top French Environmental Concerns: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/climate-environment/news/air-pollution-and-climate-change-top-french-environmental-concerns/>
- Paris Air Pollution: French State Blamed in Landmark Case: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-48762911>



You have a better idea of what topic to focus on, so now you need to pick one together with your friends. To do that you will ask to your teammates to indicate what environmental issues you found through your research and list the topics. Next, start a discussion with your teammates about which of these issues will be at the center of your project to present at the Hackathon. If you still don't get to choose one topic, organize a vote session with your friends. This activity will last about 20 minutes.

Now that you have selected your goal, you need to propose a digital strategy to influence public policy makers to listen to the voice of young people and to take the environmental crisis more seriously. But where to find ideas? You need a brainstorming session for that! You can start by searching for relevant publications on the web. Here are some ideas of how to engage policy makers through communication strategies and digital tools:

- Communication Strategy for Stakeholders: <https://www.sustainet.com/communication-strategy-for-stakeholder/>
- Stakeholders Management: Using Digital Tools to Engage with Stakeholders: <https://www.tractivity.co.uk/blog/stakeholder-management-digital-tools/>
- How to Engage Stakeholders on Sustainability: <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/how-engage-stakeholders-sustainability>

This research inspired you and gave you good idea for your Hackathon pitch. Now you need a little of brainstorming to come out with your final idea! Have a look at these brainstorming activities and pick one to do with your teammates:

- 15 Creative Exercises That are Better than Brainstorming: <https://blog.hubspot.com/marketing/creative-exercises-better-than-brainstorming>
- 7 Techniques for More Effective Brainstorming: <https://www.wrike.com/blog/techniques-effective-brainstorming/>

Super! You now know what your pitch will be about and what communication campaign tools you will use to engage stakeholders to look at the environmental crisis. Well done!

Step 4: Prepare your pitch!

You are almost there; the Hackathon day is swiftly approaching! You and your teammates are more motivated than ever to win. You know that you can only succeed if your pitch will be



the best. There's just a little problem, you have never pitched before. Don't worry, there are many interesting articles that will support you with that.

First of all, you need to prepare your pitch. You can search for articles that will explain how to prepare a perfect pitch, here are some you can start with:

- How to Prepare a Winning Pitch at Hackathons: <https://developer.salesforce.com/blogs/developer-relations/2014/07/deliver-winning-pitch-hackathons.html>
- How to Win a hackathon Pitch: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/how-win-hackathon-pitch-david-beckett/>
- The Structure of a Pitch: <https://openclassrooms.com/en/courses/2901541-launch-your-innovative-venture/4282256-the-structure-of-a-pitch>

You will spend 30 minutes studying the best ways to create your pitch, then you will create your own pitch with your friends. You can share work in your team by assigning each section to the teammates according to the roles established in step 2. You will need about 1 hour & 30 minutes to prepare your pitch.

Step 5: Hackathon day

Good job, your pitch is ready. The only thing you haven't done is think of how you will present your project idea visually. You can find many examples of how to deliver your pitch presentation, have a look at the following ones and look for more:

- Six Hackathon 2017 [VIDEO]: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GTjvBFxuQ&ab_channel=SIX
- How to be a better Public Speaker: <https://www.thrillist.com/culture/13-tips-for-speaking-confidently-in-front-of-a-crowd-how-to-be-a-better-public-speaker>
- How to Hack the Pitch and Win the Hackathon: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/how-hack-pitch-win-hackathon-ket-katarina-popovic/>

Your pitched like a professional! We are sure that you are going to win the PoliticalHack4thePlanet! Not only you have learnt how to prepare and present a pitch, but you have also developed a new strategy to engage policymakers in environmental issues. You can be proud of yourself and your team!



EVALUATION

Thanks to the tasks and exercises of this WebQuest the participants have increased their knowledge about the importance to engage stakeholders and policymakers in environmental actions. They now have a better knowledge about the UN' Sustainable Development Goals and are aware that we need to work together and ask institutions and decision-makers for support to achieve them.

The participants have also acquired practical skills to create their own pitch and to present their ideas in front of an audience to win a Hackathon or a contest. They have increased their competences in communication which can benefit them when organising campaigns against climate change.

In addition, they have increased their teamwork skills, are able to organise the work in a group, to assign roles and to make decisions with their teammates.

After accomplishing all of the tasks proposed in this WebQuest, participants can answer the following self-assessment questions in a session guided by the youth educator:

- Do you think that the activities of this WebQuest have helped you to learn more about the actions that you can carry out for the environment?
- Do you have a clear view of what you can do to engage stakeholders against climate change?
- List at least 3 strategies that you can use to communicate and raise awareness about environmental issues?
- What are the 3 most useful skills you acquired or increased by doing the exercises proposed in this WebQuest?
- If any, what were the obstacles in working in a team?
- Do you think that the distribution of roles in your team worked well and that everyone was happy with their role?
- Do you feel that your ideas were taken into account within your team?
- Are you satisfied with the pitch that you created for the PoliticHack4thePlanet Hackathon?



CONCLUSION

Stakeholders' engagement in environmental issues is essential for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN. Without it, we cannot hope to make a real change to the environment. Their participation is a critical means of ensuring adoption of new interventions and innovative initiatives for the environment. Policy-makers' intervention improves long-term sustainability of the actions against climate change and contributes to changing people's habits to more environmental-friendly behaviours.

This WebQuest has introduced you to the strategies to engage stakeholders in environmental issues and has guided you through different kinds of approaches to do that. You also have learned how to prepare a pitch and how to present your ideas effectively in front of an audience. Wouldn't it be great to take a further step by participating in a local conference about climate change? You could propose a new communication strategy to engage policymakers and stakeholders in your city and suggest new ideas for environmental actions.

"The Covid-19 pandemic must be a wake-up call: let's change our relationship with life and demand from decision-makers a real protection of biodiversity, now."

Arnaud Gauffier, Program Director, WWF France



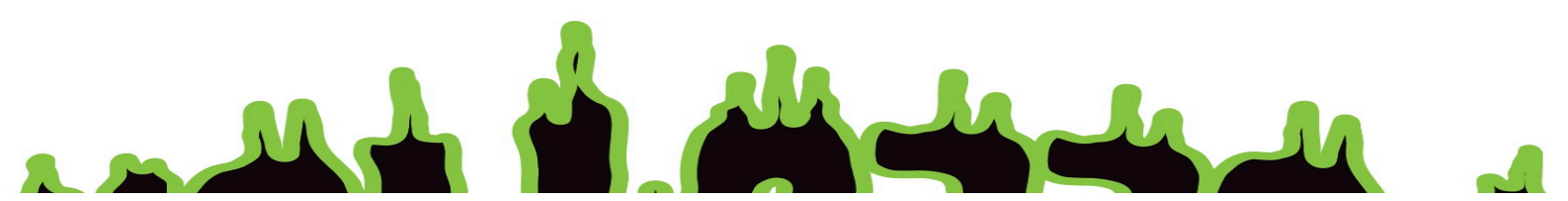
Source: Pixels

TUTOR SECTION



On completion of this WebQuest, young people will have achieved the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge	Skills	Attitudes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theoretical knowledge about the Sustainable Development Goals. • Theoretical knowledge about the Paris Agreement. • Factual knowledge of the importance to fight climate change. • Basic knowledge of how to influence policy makers' actions for the environment. • Theoretical knowledge of what a Hackathon is. • Basic knowledge of the steps to get organised for a Hackathon and develop one's own Hackathon project. • Factual knowledge of teamwork and how to assign roles in a team. • Knowledge of brainstorming techniques. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain what the UN Sustainable Development Goals are. • Developing project ideas to fight climate change. • Participate in a Hackathon for climate actions. • Organise work in a team. • Ability to work in a team with different styles of work and skills. • Decision making in a group in a democratic way. • Brainstorming skills and processing of ideas. • Use critical thinking to choose and implement environmental ideas. • Collect and analyse ideas in a team. • Development of basic digital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals and why it is important to support the achievement of the objectives of the Paris Agreement. • Awareness of the importance to engage policy and decision-makers to take action for the planet. • Understanding of the importance to propose digital solutions and present them to audience to increase awareness about climate change and other environmental issues. • Awareness of the utility to work in teams to come out with innovative solutions against climate change.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge about digital communication campaigns. • Basic knowledge of how to influence policymakers and public decision-makers. • Factual knowledge of how to create a winning pitch. • Knowledge of best presenting techniques. 	<p>communication campaigns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to engage decision and policymakers. • Create an innovative winning pitch for a Hackathon. • Pitch own projects in front of an audience. • Present a project idea in a convincing way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to inform other people about the importance of taking action for the planet and for stakeholders' engagement. • Awareness of the potential of digital communication tools and campaigns to engage policymakers for the environment.
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Questions that a youth worker or teacher might use in a whole class discussion to debrief this WebQuest:

- What have you thought of learning new notions through the WebQuest method?
- How have you found this particular WebQuest?
- Are there things that are not clear yet? Which ones?
- Did you feel comfortable while working in your group?
- Are there things in your behaviour with the others that you would have changed?
- Has this WebQuest helped you to increase your public presentation skills?
- Do you think that the knowledge and skills you acquired in this WebQuest will be useful to you in other activities or in everyday life?
- Finally, would you share your WebQuest experience with a friend? What would you tell them?



SOLUTION NOT POLLUTION



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