

ERASMUS+ project

- Biotechnology in our life -

COURSE OF THE PROJECT

"Biotechnology in our life" is an international education programme co-financed by the European Union, in which pupils and accompanying teachers learn, teach and conduct research on biotechnology together.

This project was carried out from summer 2015 to summer 2018 and coordinated by the **students lab teutolab-biotechnologie** based at Bielefeld University.

Project partners were six schools from six different countries:

Koidula Gymnasium (Pärnu, Estland)

Coornhert Lyceum (Haarlem, Niederlande)

IES JOSE DE RIBERA (Xativa, Spanien)

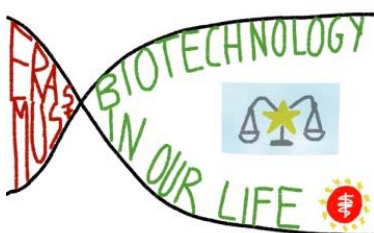
Liceo Scientifico Statale Galilei (Verona, Italien)

St Neots Learning Partnership (St. Neots, England)

Öffentlich-stiftisches Gymnasium Bethel (Bielefeld, Deutschland)

The project lasted three project years:

1st project year



2015/2016

2nd project year



2016/2017

3rd project year



2017/2018

Who were the participants?

Each of the six participating partner schools provided four pupils and 1-2 accompanying teachers per school year. These 24 young people were divided into four international teams (six participants each from six different countries), which worked together on a thematic focus in the field of biotechnology.

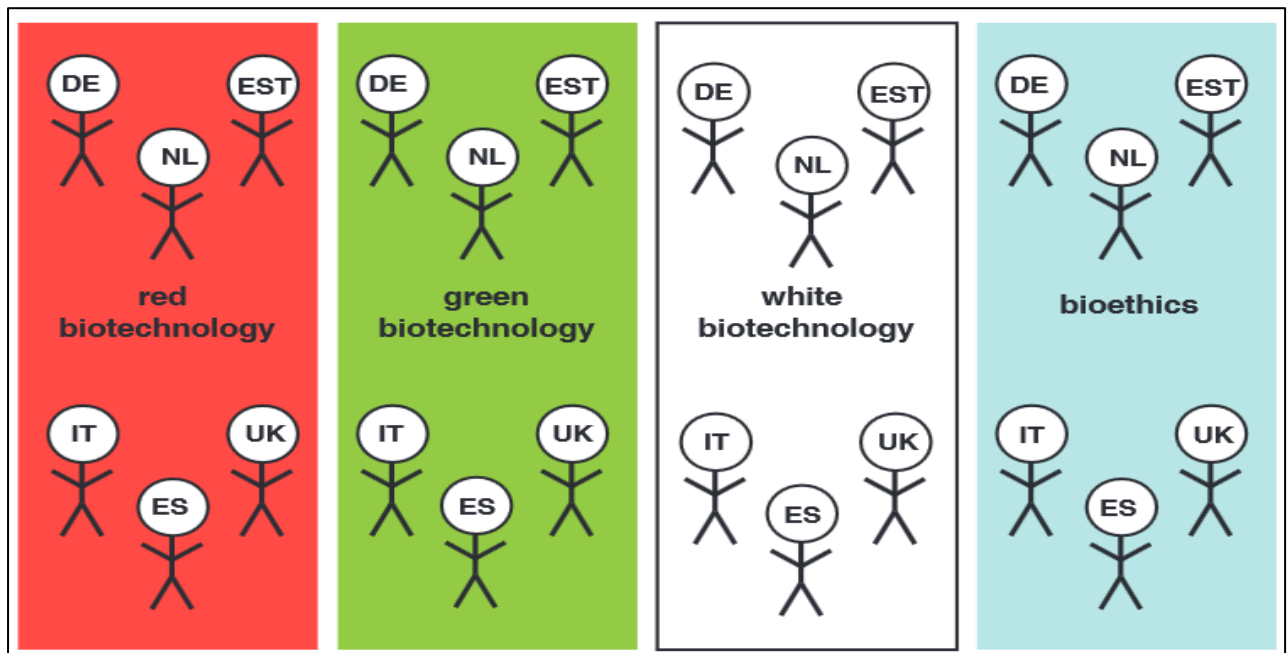


Figure 1: Example of a composition of international teams

What did the young participants do in the project year?

Three international project meetings (in three different countries) took place each school year. During these project meetings, the young people were able to learn and conduct research together in the international teams.

Each international team researched a scientific field in biotechnology (see Figure 1). In addition, groups of two (tandems) worked on a specific topic of their own choice, did research on this topic and, if necessary, conducted surveys or expert interviews. In the time between the project meetings, the young people continued their work and exchanged their progress using the eTwinning internet platform.

The young people learned how to summarize and present their research results profitably in various ways. To this end, the young people created a project poster in the tandems in which the research topic was presented in an appealing and descriptive manner with as little text and illustrations as possible. The article written by the pupils and produced by the international tandems should have a more scientific, detailed character. Another presentation medium was the presentation of the results

in the form of a short lecture. Here, it was not the tandems but the large groups that worked together and gave a joint lecture on the scientific field of biotechnology that they researched.

The work of the young people was particularly appreciated by the public exhibition organised and carried out by the project participants at the end of each project year. The project posters were exhibited here and the short lectures were presented to an interested audience. Guests were schoolmates, teachers, friends, family members of the project participants as well as interested citizens. In addition, a discussion forum with representatives from business and politics took place during the exhibition, during which the pupils discussed critical topics of biotechnology with the experts.

	1st meeting	independant/national team work transnational team work (eTwinning)	2nd meeting	independant/national team work transnational team work (eTwinning)	3rd meeting
	transnational team work - build transnational groups and pairs - find topics - start work on poster, article experiments excursion sight seeing	- continue work on poster, article	transnational team work - continue work on poster, article - start work on presentation experiments excursion sight seeing	- finish work on poster, article - continue work on presentation	transnational team work - finish work on presentation experiments excursion sight seeing EXHIBITION
1st year	16.-21.01.2016 Bielefeld, Germany		12.-17.03.2016 Verona, Italy		17.-22.05.2016 Haarlem, The Netherlands
2nd year	01.-06.10.2016 Bielefeld, Germany		04.-09.02.2017 St. Neots, United Kingdom		25.03. - 01.04.2017 Xativa, Spain
3rd year	07.-12.10.2017 Bielefeld, Germany		03.-08.02.2018 Haarlem, The Netherlands		10.-15.03.2018 Pärnu, Estonia

Figure 2: Course of the project

What was the course of an international project meeting?

The international project meetings were each held in a different country (see Figure 2). Thus, the students had the opportunity to get to know the biotechnology landscape in three different countries. The project meetings were organised by the host organisations (school or University of Bielefeld) and usually included the following activities:

- group-strengthening, communication-promoting offers
- working phases in the international teams
- attendance at expert lectures
- implementation of workshops
- visits to museums/universities/companies
- experimenting in the laboratory
- conducting discussion rounds
- cultural program
- training of the accompanying teachers (every project year at the first meeting)
- organisation and execution of a public exhibition (every project year at the third meeting)



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.