

## ENOLL WEBINAR SERIES



European  
Network of  
Living Labs

# HACKATHONS OF TECHNOLOGY FOR GOOD: CO-CREATING AND DEPLOYING DURING COVID19- CRISIS (HELD ON 5TH MAY 2020)

ENoLL community is actively working on the challenges that the COVID-19 crisis has brought to us. Our aim now, as it is for many others, is to react in an agile way and prepare our cities and communities now for the new societal changes that will take place in Europe and the World. The second webinar of the Webinar Series “Let us tackle COVID-19 together“ looks into creative ways in which citizens were brought together to work on challenges presented by the confinement - through the use of hackathons. Two inspirational examples from Spain were presented.

## | Presented cases

**Raúl Oliván, Laia Sánchez:** The initiative [frenalacurva.net](http://frenalacurva.net)

**Rosa Paradell, Miquel Angel Pérez and Pat González:** Hackovid: The people’s hackathon: Confronting the Confinement

**MODERATOR: Fernando Vilariño** (ENoLL Chairperson, Library Living Lab)



## THE INITIATIVE FRENA LA CURVA (INTERNATIONAL PROJECT)

Presenters: Raúl Oliván (Gobierno de Aragón),  
Laia Sánchez (CitiLab)

Frena la Curva (in English “Flatten the Curve”) is a citizen platform where volunteers, entrepreneurs, activists, social organizations, makers and laboratories of public and open innovation, cooperate to channel and organize social energy and civic resilience in the face of the Covid19- pandemic giving a response from civil society complementary to that of the government and essential public services.

The movement has connected people from Spain and Latin America

It took 24 hours to design Frena la Curva - the first focus was to create an open guide on social innovation initiatives. This platform collects all initiatives. In first two days 500 initiatives were created.



Website: <https://frenalacurva.net/>



Image Credit: Frena La Curva

**FRENA LA CURVA  
FESTIVAL HAD  
75 SPEAKERS  
42 ACITIVITIES  
40.000 VIEWS**

## AIM

To reach the politicians to design new policies to put the open innovation system in the center.

## PROCESS:

- First step was to create a map with different pins
- Next to create common challenges
- 140 applications received – selected 10 best
- Collaboratory with 100 people
- Finally the Frena la Curva festival had 75 speakers, 42 activities and 40.000 viewers

## KEY MESSAGES

- It is important to channel collaboration energy
- In the lockdown, internet has become a place to be with others. A place to collaborate, to co-create solutions, to share scientific knowledge, prototypes and ideas. And to become stronger.
- Willing to share experiences in Spain with Latin America. We need global responses to this crisis and strengthen collaborations.
- Challenges and dangers: populism, threats to democracy. If we will rebuild our society we need to do it with people who are affected. If we want to rebuild schools we need to do it with the children and the parents.
- Living Labs know how to involve users.
- We need to empower other institutions from local to international level.

# HACKOVID: THE PEOPLE'S HACKATHON: CONFRONTING THE CONFINEMENT (CATALONIA, SPAIN)

Presenters: Rosa Paradell, Miquel Angel Pérez and Pat González (i2Cat)

## I2CAT - THE INTERNET RESEARCH CENTER

i2Cat began its operations 15 years ago as a project and has become a foundation based in Barcelona with focus on the internet research and societal challenges. The foundation has used the quadruple helix framework for multiple years and it is able to gather the private sector. i2Cat has a strong relationship with the government of Catalonia. Amongst other initiatives it is collaborating on Smart Catalonia strategy. As i2Cat observes, Social Digital needs are evolving. The foundation is researching how to experiment on digital policies and innovation and studies how to manage and create different digital innovation ecosystems.

### How the idea of a Hackovid was born:

A physical hackathon was planned on the topic of Mobility, but because of Covid19- lockdown the decision was to be made on whether the hackathon should be cancelled or held virtually. Concerns were raised on massive co-creation and how it would be possible to organize a hackathon completely online. This is how the idea of Hacovid was born.

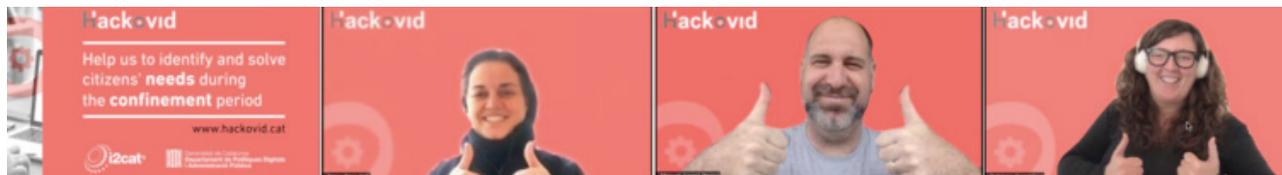


Image Credit: Hackovid

## HACKOVID CALL:

»Help us to identify and solve citizen needs during the confinement period«

**1,157 CITIZENS  
ANSWERED  
175 NEEDS IDENTIFIED  
1,665 VOTES RECEIVED  
61 SOLUTIONS  
6 WINNERS**

100 teams of two to five people participated to solve the needs to the problems identified. Answer had to be a mobile application or a website to give answer to these needs.

There were 307 participants, out of those 21 % were women (aim is to increase the participation of women). 60 mentors were volunteering from collaborating organisations.

The teams had one week to design the product. After one week the jury composing of 30 people from diverse background voted on 61 solutions and determined who are the 6 winners.

Website: <https://hackovid.cat/>

## LESSONS LEARNED

- This was a disruptive project for the organisation. It was the first step to show there is a world to go to. All that we are doing has to have an impact – not just the cities but also the rural areas
- Social Ecology – in debates focusing on relationship among diverse people.
- We have to take into account talents by each individual person and how to put talents together
- A project that is impossible to be resolved with classical methods of work and fixed roles and hierarchy. This project tested new ways of working. A lot of the work was self-organised. The leaders of the group were changing. No-one could imagine which would be the next step. Everything was happening at the same time.

# Q&A

## .01

**IS THIS COLLABORATORY BEING ANOTHER TECHNOCRACY TOOL? IS THIS DATABASE GOING TO BE USEFUL FOR THE NEXT YEARS.**

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### **CitiLab**

Hackathons have a short term approach. This is a tactic operative method, which allow us to channel all energies. Many are discarded

and thrown out. A lot of projects with people. Collaborating with a group of bio-technology students from Madrid. Try to find positive news. Help people learn. We need from the strategic point of view to articulate these people to join us. This is why the Collaboratory is important. We cannot achieve to discard those projects and those people involved. We need to combine tactics with strategy. We need an ecosystem mindset.

Who wants to be part of the ecosystem. We now have networks of different part of labs. Grass-roots. You need universities and powerful minds to build a society.

## .02

**HOW DID YOU PERCEIVE THE APPLICATIONS WHICH DON'T HAVE A BIG IMPACT. HOW CAN WE ENSURE WE DO NOT WIDEN THE GAP WITH THE ONES THAT HAVE NOT DIGITAL ACCESS?**

## i2CAT

We are working on post-hackovid. We are analysing the solutions to see if they are mature enough. Checking if the teams are improving the solutions and interested in develop them further. Six winners are continually developing the solutions. We have three solutions that will be connected to the official application of the Catalan government, which help people in confinement (confinapp). Analysing the path of solutions which are interesting and can be used. Helping to get in e-commerce in the local shops. Digitalisation was not in their roadmap – they should use technology.

Second prize was for navod which was for young people who are experts in ICT technologies and can help and for older people who need help with ICT technologies to connect with their family. Can access the citizens to help us define the needs. How we can continue working with this community. With these solutions how we can get the best for them.

## FURTHER DISCUSSION POINTS

To what extent is this affecting our education. To what extent to these actions impact home learning projects?

To be more practical, can you make some examples of the main needs expressed by people?

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

CitiLab

Aim is to reach the politicians to design new policies to put the open innovation system in the center.

i2CAT

With the spread of the digital tools that we have, we are now aware that to democratize the digital society tools need to be affordable to all people.

In addition to that, we have to understand the human mechanisms that make people engaged in causes. These mechanisms are important, not to focus on the tactical part – to give answer as the problems are coming.