

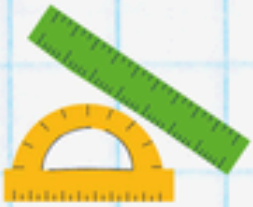



EDU MANUAL

by iGEM Thessaloniki













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This is a manual referring to how the education subteam of an iGEM Team should be organized. It is the overview and aftermath of the iGEM Thessaloniki 2026 path in the educational department. Here follows a list of practical advice for the organization of the next education subteams

1. Gather your team

The most suitable are those who are more recent to secondary education as they are more familiar with students and the educational process in general. For example, first year students of any department are considered a viable option. Also, there should be enough members because there will be a need for simultaneous activities.

2. Define clear goals and responsibilities

It is important for everybody to know their role in the subteam so that they stick to it with dedication. Design a general plan with your teammates which contains all the age and social groups you want to address and define a timeline for your activities. Remember to be as inclusive as possible and do not forget that it is not only the schools which you should visit but groups like the elderly , refugees and the general public should also have access to synthetic biology.

3.Seek advice for stakeholders

For each activity you should get feedback and information from people who are more experienced and specialized in each group to which you are planning to address. School professors, psychologists, social workers are the simplest examples for possible stakeholders

4.Brainstorming- Think outside the box

It is time now to use your creativity. Put yourself in the shoes of someone who would ask “Why should I be interested ?” . Imagine the most suitable ways to answer clearly. Do not just give a lecture on DNA and genetics. Try to transform the educational process into a dynamic relationship between you and the hardest stakeholder. Use any resources you can imagine. Podcasts, presentations, experiment exhibitions, social media, leaflets, boardgames.

5. Think outside the box

Education is everywhere even in areas you could not imagine! Almost anything can be related to education. Your team’s goal is to find that area and use it in advance . There should be something no other team has imagined about.

6. Observe your environment

Local people solve local problems! Your university, your city , your neighborhood and your social network are all sources of inspiration. Find a problem and educate all the relative population to it through SynBio

7. Remember to document every activity of your team

Not only should the team display a serious image to the general public but you must prove that to the competition reviewers. Detailed information and photos are the base for a strong wiki appearance

8. Get ready for turbulence and troubleshooting

Human engagement can sometimes be overwhelming. Deadlines, different schedules and priorities , unexpected incidents may lead to problems , misunderstandings and anxiety. It is important to maintain your peace and calmly solve any problems. Prepare for putting pressure on your teammates for deadlines. Just remember to always be kind, include yourself into everything you order too and show respect to special scenarios.

9. Beware of the cost and consumptions

Communicate with the fundraising department of the team in order to ensure that you can cover any expenses needed. Cards, leaflets and any other materials have a cost which your budget should be able to support

10.Connect your work

The aim for the education subteam is to leave a scale on which the future iGEM teams can step on. Use your University's previous teams, seek for inspiration and advice they have left for you and do not forget to leave resources for the future teams too. Education is a chain.

A state that is not based on education is a building built on sand.

Adamantios Korais

Teacher of the Hellenic Nation

18th Century BC