

Make a difference at CERN's global Webfest



📅 25 June 2021

The 'Webfest' — CERN's annual hackathon based on open web technologies — will take place on the weekend of 21-22 August (with a pitch session on Friday 20 August, and winners announced on Monday 23 August). The hackathon is open to all and will again be held online this year, meaning that people from anywhere in the world can take part.

Run each year since 2012, the Webfest brings together bright minds to work on creative projects. Participants work in small teams, often designing web and mobile applications that can be of benefit to society.

Last year's Webfest was the first to be held online, with over 400 people signing up from 75 countries across the globe. Participants worked on a wide range of exciting projects, including an online detective-themed science show for school children (<https://webfest.cern/node/278>), a web library of LaTeX equations (<https://webfest.cern/node/281>), an app to assist with urban planning at large research centres (<https://webfest.cern/node/267>), a platform for sharing remote access to lab equipment

(<https://webfest.cern/node/283>), a learning-management system (<https://webfest.cern/node/270>), and a machine-learning program to help prevent social-media content from exacerbating depression (<https://webfest.cern/node/279>). And yes, these were all developed — or at least working prototypes were — over just one weekend!

CERN's online Webfest isn't just for those that can code: anyone with an idea, a challenge, or other skills is welcome to take part.

The theme for this year's event is '**science, society, sustainability**'. The organisers of the hackathon encourage projects that support the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Projects that relate to the five SDGs to which CERN *de facto* contributes (<https://home.cern/news/opinion/cern/cern-fully-engaged-sustainable-development-goals>), are of particular interest. These SDGs are as follows:

- 3. Good health and well-being (<https://international-relations.web.cern.ch/stakeholder-relations/international-organizations/good-health-and-well-being>)
- 4. Quality education (<https://international-relations.web.cern.ch/stakeholder-relations/international-organizations/quality-education>)
- 9. Industry, innovation, and infrastructure (<https://international-relations.web.cern.ch/stakeholder-relations/international-organizations/industry-innovation-and-infrastructure>)
- 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions (<https://international-relations.web.cern.ch/stakeholder-relations/international-organizations/peace-justice-and-strong-institutions>)
- 17. Partnerships for the goals (<https://international-relations.web.cern.ch/stakeholder-relations/international-organizations/partnerships-goals>)

Projects for facilitating online science collaboration — thus reducing the need for frequent international travel — are also strongly encouraged. This picks up on the theme of last year's Webfest and is in line with SDG 13 on climate action (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal13>). The goal is for the CERN Webfest to serve as an exemplar for how people can come together virtually — from all corners of the globe — to collaborate successfully, without the need for long-distance travel with a large CO2 footprint.

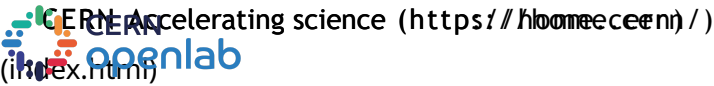
Other environment-focused projects are encouraged at the Webfest too, in support of CERN's Year of Environmental Awareness (<https://home.cern/news/news/cern/cerns-year-environmental-awareness>).

Join us via the web — born at CERN — to help improve our world.

Please find more information on the Webfest and how to register here: <https://webfest.cern> (<https://webfest.cern>).

Registration closes at 23:59 CEST on Tuesday 17 August.

— Andrew Purcell



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