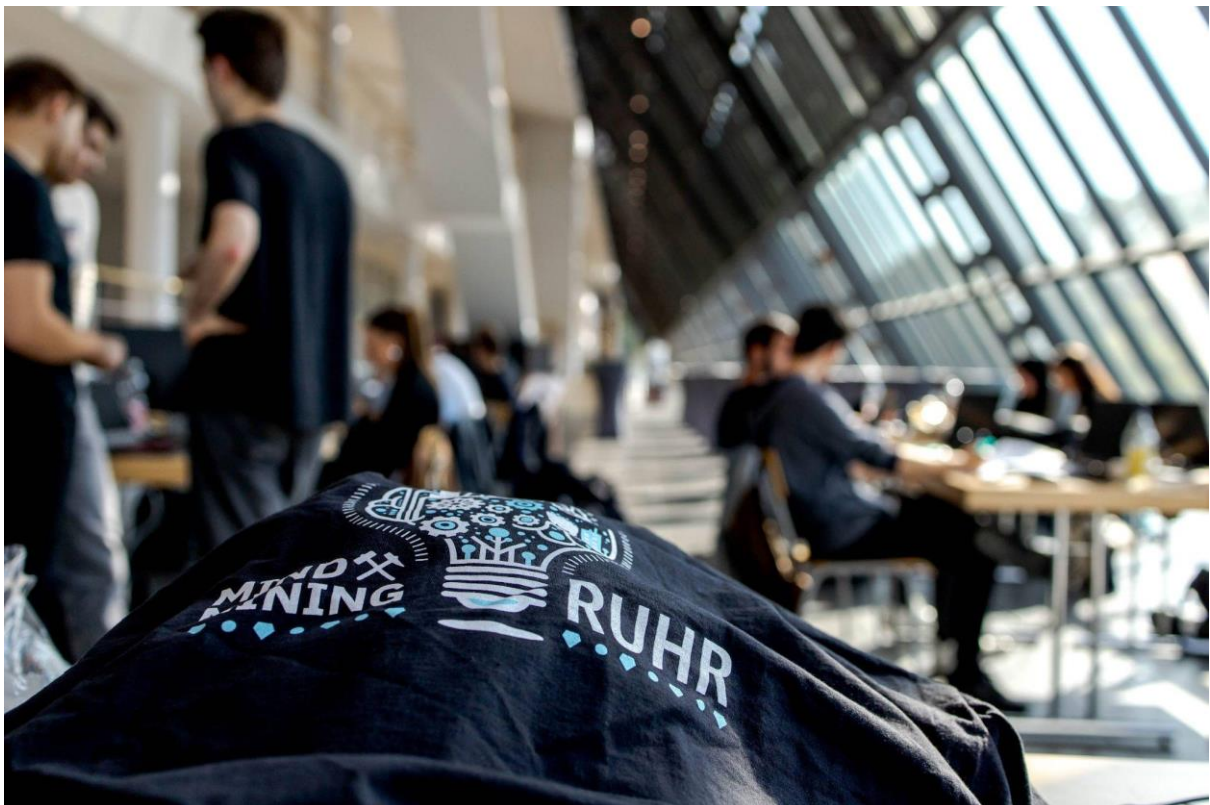




Ecosys4you Co-ideation challenges in the Ruhr, Germany in September 2024

✿ Mind Mining Ruhr – First hackathon was a success ✿



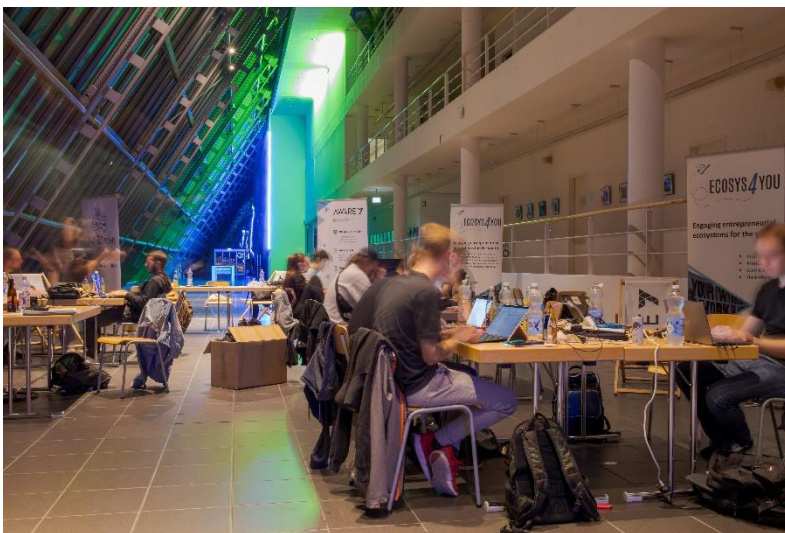
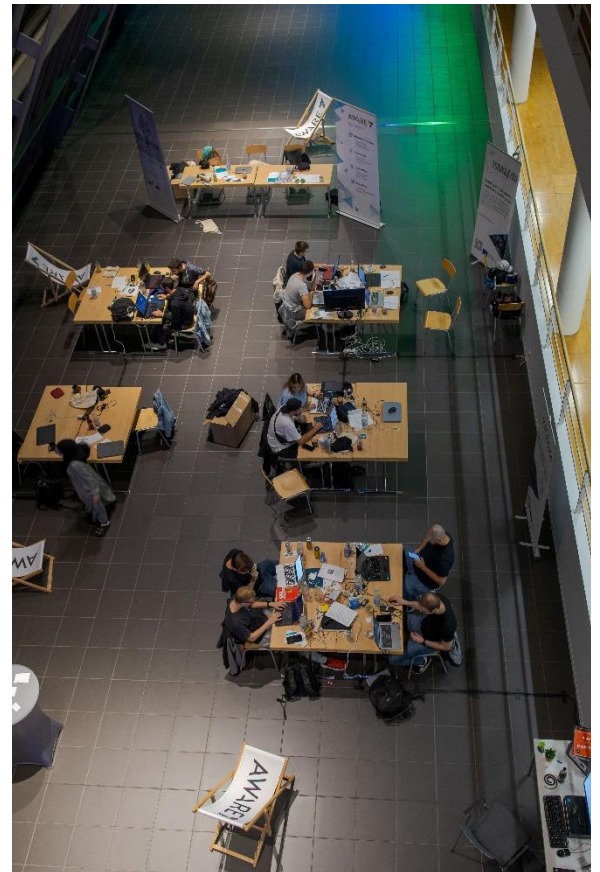
Funded by
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The Hackathon

On September 21st 2024, the Science Park Gelsenkirchen hosted our "Mind Mining Ruhr" hackathon! In the heart of the Ruhr area, a region with a proud history of mining and innovation, we were digging for new ideas.

17 participants with an international background took part in the hackathon. The five teams of three or four people were confronted with five challenges provided by local companies. From coding, design, and marketing to sustainability, innovative solutions were developed within 24 hours.



The Pitches

On September 23rd, the participants were able to present their results to an audience of entrepreneurs, investors, politicians and the press at the [ruhrSTARTUPWEEK opening ceremony](#). A jury assessed the results and the quality of the pitches. The winners were honored in a concluding ceremony at the Heilig-Kreuz-Kirche, Gelsenkirchen.



Meet the winners

1. Place



Challenge 5: From coal to building materials: Urban mining in Gelsenkirchen

Solution: Identifying building materials via app

Urban mining refers to the recycling of previously used raw materials from existing buildings, for example, to conserve natural resources and reduce environmental pollution.

Is it possible to identify the building materials during a demolition process and then reuse them?

The challenge was posed by the Department of Economic Development Gelsenkirchen

The team presented the idea of an app to identify building materials with cameras. They created a website and a video to promote the ideas. The ideas and presentation completely convinced the jury.

2. Place



Challenge 4: Escape the Threat — Learning IT security through play

Solution: A nearly fully functional escape room

In an escape room, players are presented with various puzzles that they have to solve one by one in order to leave the room. What if this room was a computer and the puzzles revolved around real IT security incidents?

Develop an interactive, mobile escape desk on the topic of IT security! Your goal is to create exciting puzzles that teach the basic principles of cybersecurity. Whether cracking passwords, recognizing phishing or overcoming firewalls - design creative tasks that convey knowledge and are fun. The Escape Desk is designed to be challenging and educational for both beginners and IT professionals.

The challenge was posed by AWARE7 GmbH

The team created a demonstrator of a nearly fully functional escape room on a single desk. They showed what can happen during a cyber-attack, e.g. Webcam activated unexpectedly and showed the surprised user on the screen.

3. Place



Challenge 1: Making quality visible online

Fair and ecologically produced clothing has a noticeably better quality than fast fashion. This is not only reflected in the durability of the clothing, but also in its feel. People can touch the clothing in the showroom and experience it for themselves, but how can we transfer this experience to the online world?

The challenge was posed by Fairnica GmbH

Solution: A new website

The team unveiled a new website for Fairnica that focuses on the experience. Numerous pictures and links gave an impression of the quality of the clothing.

✿ The next hackathon will be in Varna, Bulgaria in 2025. ✿
Stay tuned on our [website](#).

Imprint

Publisher and Contact

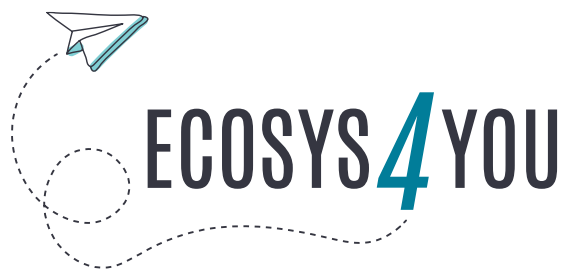
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Pictures by Franz Flögel, IAT



Consortium



Ecosys4you – Engaging Entrepreneurial Ecosystems for the Youth (2023-2026) strives to bridge the entrepreneurial ecosystems of the Ruhr in Germany, Varna in Bulgaria, and Slovenia by connecting young founders, start-ups, HEIs and other ecosystem actors.

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