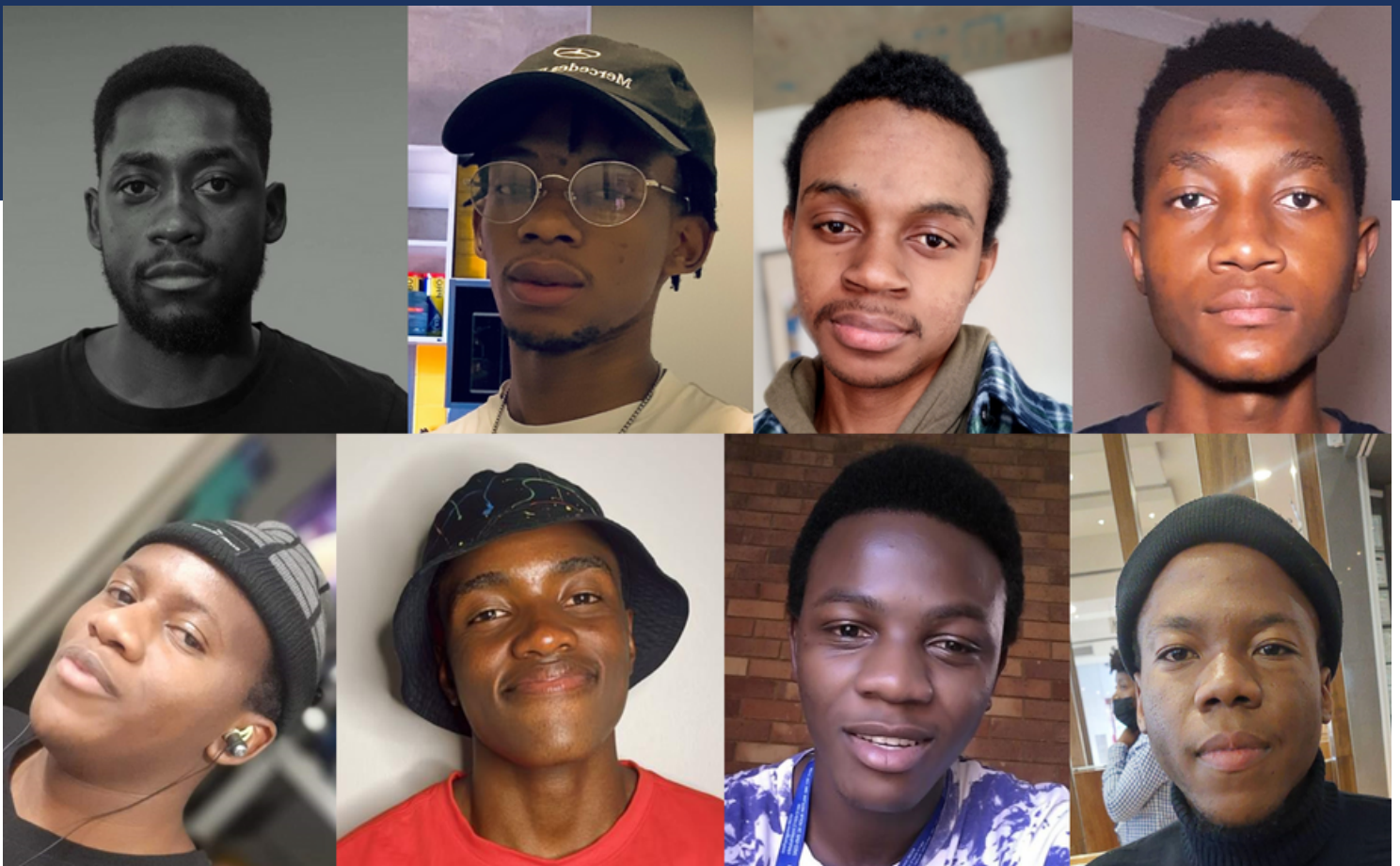


Press Release

HACKING FOR THE FUTURE: EDUCATION

30-31 July 2022

Sponsored by :



Winning Team: Full Stack Squad

Top Row (from left): Ketro Sithole (Team Leader), Kgomotso Moroke (Deputy), Oscar Makwakwa, Isheanesu Dzingirai.

Bottom Row (from left): Elphus Malope, Takudzwanashe Muguti, Siyabonga Thabetha, Neo Seefane.

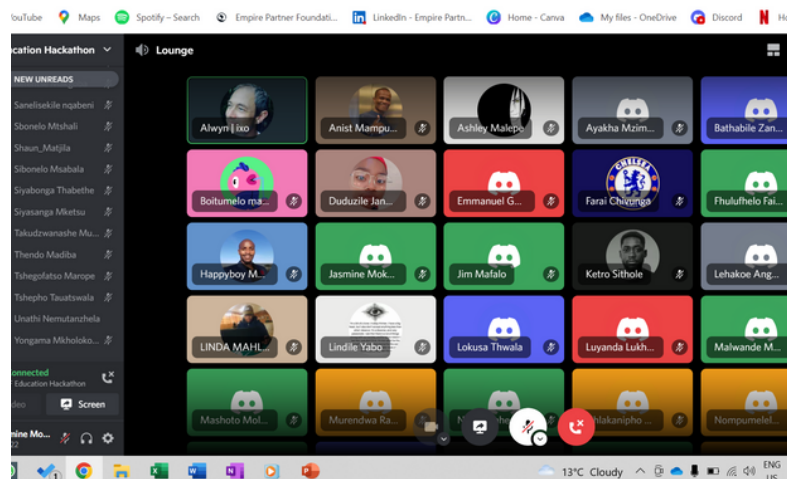
FAST FACTS

- EPF and Younglings partnered to host EPF's 21st hackathon.
- Funded by the EPF Tech Fund, the virtual Education Hackathon was hosted on Discord (online platform).
- **Context:** A contributing factor to the low student enrolment numbers in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is attributed to the quality of teaching in these disciplines.
- **Hackathon challenge focus:** How can technology assist Educators in delivering their STEM lessons more impactfully so that it leads to an increase in the number of student enrolments on STEM subjects?
- 300 young digital innovators from across South Africa in various fields of study such as programming developed tech solutions to solve the challenge.
- The winning team 'Full Stack Squad', who were awarded R14 000 in prize money, will join the EPF Incubation Hub where they will receive support to become tech-preneurs.

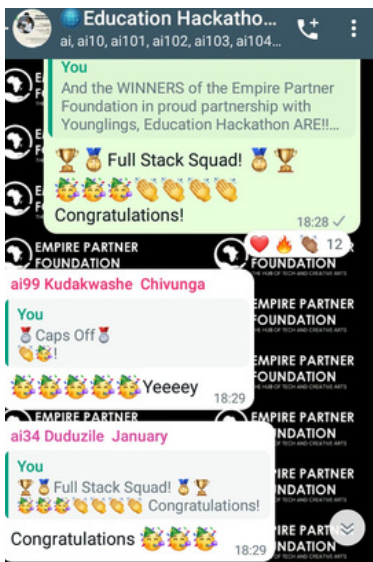
- 21 HOSTED HACKATHONS
- 4 UPCOMING HACKATHONS IN 2022
- 1000+ TOTAL DIGITAL INNOVATORS
- ITWEB NEWS COVERAGE
- 213 SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED
- 18 NEW PARTNERSHIPS SECURED
- 54 KEYNOTE SPEECHES
- 16 INTERN OPPORTUNITIES CREATED
- 10 BURSARIES PROVIDED
- 22 WINNING TEAMS WITHIN OUR INCUBATION HUB
- OVER HALF A MILLION RAND IN CASH PRIZES AWARDED

Discord (Online Platform):

Guest Speaker Alwyn Van Wyk, Founder of Younglings, speaks to youth logged into Discord as they listen in live.

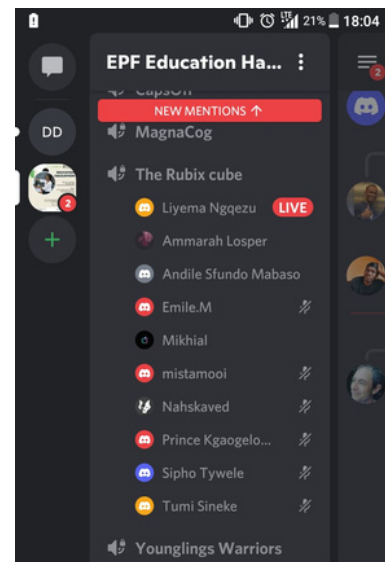


- Their solution, Metasist, is a web-based teaching and learning platform that focuses on providing teachers a simple way to assess learners and track their progress. Pupils can learn at their own pace and assess their progress in a fun and iterative way. It also provides parents a platform to assess their children.
- Their Team Leader, Ketro Sithole, comments "The hackathon allowed us to grow by challenging ourselves, demonstrating coding skills, meeting new people, and even discovering new techniques. The hackathon builds our CV's and record of accomplishments."



(On left):

Screenshot of EPF announcing the winners and top 3 teams, as the participants celebrate in response, in the Hackathon Main WhatsApp Group.

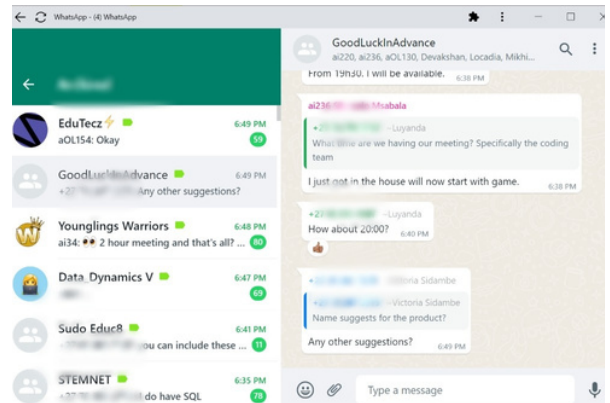
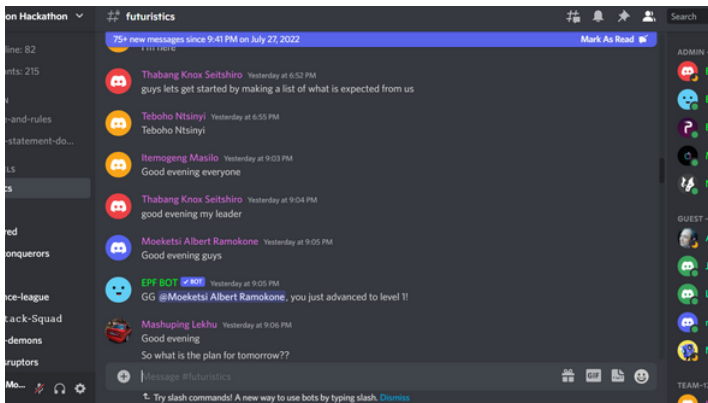


(On right):

Screenshot of the last team, to present their solution to the judges, 'The Rubix Cube', on the Discord platform.

- Congratulations to Caps Off and Python Demonds who were placed 2nd and 3rd respectively.
- Alwyn Van Wyk, Founder of Younglings comments, "Amazing! I'm describing the experience, professionalism, and energy of the EPF organisational team.
- They are on top of every detail and make sure that all participants, from hackers and mentors through to judges and speakers are aware of what is required and when.
- Their attitude is that we are all here to improve the country and doing it together; with passion and purpose!
- The turnout was astounding and the solutions world-class. Well done to all who participated! You rock!"

- Jasmine Mokwena, EPF's Marketing & Hackathon Coordinator says, "The mission at Younglings directly spoke to EPF's language: 'Youth, Tech, and Entrepreneurship', which positioned both organisations for a favourable partnership, and the success of this Education Hackathon was a very clear testament to that!
- Participants showed authentic passion for the education challenge focus on STEM, because of being in STEM themselves as programmers and digital innovators."



Upcoming Hackathons:

- Save the calendar by clicking here: <https://cutt.ly/tGn0Ye5>
- Next month EPF will make history in hosting its first global hackathon, the hybrid Healthcare Hackathon on 27-28 August.
- Follow us on these social media handles to not miss out: <https://linktr.ee/epftechhub>

Special thanks to:

- EPF Tech Fund for sponsoring the Hackathon.
- ITWeb for covering our Hackathon story.
- The guest Speaker: Alwyn Van Wyk (Younglings, Founder)
- The mentors: Lindani Masinga (Younglings) | Gadija Abrahams (Younglings) | Alwyn Van Wyk (Younglings)
- The judges: Tumi Sineke (Younglings, Committee Board Member) | Mokhudu Machaba (Ngwanamago, Top 10 Global Teacher Prize finalist) | Malcolm Mooi (Zibuza, Founder) | Dev Naicker (EPF, Software Engineer).
- EPF's university partners that assist in inviting students to register to participate: WeThinkCode. Hyperion Dev. Durban University of Technology (DUT). University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal (UKZN). Jobox and their university partners.

PROUD SUPPORTERS



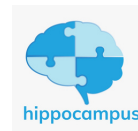
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SKILLS BLACKBOARD
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