

Hackathon Thessaloniki - 32 hours developing 12 new apps using Open Data

Submitted on 03 Dec 2014 by Charalambos Bratsas

The first "[Hackathess](#)" weekend in Thessaloniki has resulted in the birth of twelve new apps that aim to improve life in the Greek city.

Taking place on 30 November 2014, the hackathon was organised by the Municipality of Thessaloniki in collaboration with [Open Knowledge Greece](#) and the [Research Unit URENIO](#).

Following on from the recent success story "[applications for Thessaloniki](#)", the hackathon saw developers from the city join forces to help create web and mobile applications that improve different functions of the municipality and the city of Thessaloniki.

Working in 12 teams of 1-3 people, the participants were asked to use the app ideas submitted by citizens in the recent contest "apps4Thessaloniki", as well as open data sets provided by the Municipality of Thessaloniki - focusing on transport, energy, food, water, buildings, infrastructure, governance, etc.

The participants worked from Saturday morning to Sunday afternoon in the open collaborative workplace Coho, before presenting their applications in front of a dedicated jury, composed of members of the Municipality of Thessaloniki, academics, researchers and entrepreneurs.

Participating teams included: the Open NaviDeck, SKGTech, SBM, Algoprog, CodePendency, QLOC, When, Meerkat, DaRe, Void, kcCode and PathFinders. Among the ideas presented was an open data platform that is accessible to every citizen, a calendar of events and actions taking place in Thessaloniki, and an application that minimizes the time required to report problems to responsible departments of the municipality.

The deputy Mayor (and person responsible for economic development) of the Municipality of Thessaloniki, Mr. Chasdai Capon, noted his delight at the number of participants and the standard of applications resulting from the hackathon, which had been six months in the planning.

The chairman of Open Knowledge Greece, Dr. Charalampos Bratsas, also noted that the thirty two consecutive programming hours by the software developers led to very valuable applications that can enhance the quality of life in Thessaloniki, and boost entrepreneurship.

The awarding ceremony for wining teams will be held on the evening of 4 December 2014, where the first three winning teams will receive prizes of €3.000 €2.000 and €1.000 respectively.



