FACTSHEET

“In difficult times we have always two options: remain seated when the ground is burning or start searching for solutions. We chose the last option! I appeal to the international community to call you up to join our initiative and start working on finding and creating solutions, for the reason to minimize coronavirus’ socio-economic impact on our lives,”

Kersti Kaljulaid, President of the Republic of Estonia

“Estonia is known to be a pioneer in innovative solutions and an online hackathon is living proof of how one digital nation can tackle the huge challenges its society faces. In difficult times it’s easy to just sit and do nothing. We always have two options: remain seated when the ground is burning or start searching for solutions. We chose the last option!”

Viljar Lubi, Deputy Secretary General for Economic Development

Digital solutions from e-Estonia to combat COVID-19 crisis

In a time of crisis, when things are progressing fast and measures need to be taken quickly, great minds gather to find solutions to the current corona pandemic. In just weeks, a large number of Estonian IT companies have created solutions to reduce the pressure on the economy, help citizens and to support the state with analysis. Garage48 together with Accelerate Estonia announced a fully online hackathon called Hack the Crisis on the day the emergency situation was declared in Estonia.

As a follow-up to all the regional hackathons, a team from Estonia also organised The Global Hack so that crisis related solutions could be scaled worldwide. The event took place on April 9-12 and was supported by numerous international organisations such as The World Bank, United Nations, European Commission, Startup Europe and many more. There were more than 15 000 participants from around 98 countries. The prize pool for the best ideas was over 200 000 euros.

Here in this factsheet we have put together a list of digital solutions created by Estonian companies and the government to help manage the COVID-19 crisis.

Koroonatest

The Ministry of Social Affairs created a coronavirus questionnaire for self-assessment of possible infection. It gives recommendations on what to do and where to turn to and users can share their location to gather data about the spread of the virus in Estonia.

Koroونakaart

Created at the Garage48 Hack the Crisis hackathon by OKEE, Koroунakaart is a map about the current situation of COVID-19 in Estonia that collects information from Estonian Health Board, Estonian Land Board and demographic data from Statistics Estonia.

Chatbot SUVE

Chatbot that can answer questions in Estonian and English people need answers to during the emergency situation in Estonia. Automated answers to different incoming request across different state authorities.
AI Chatbot in Estonian and English by AlphaBlues

A conversational AI chatbot that can give information on the COVID-19 virus both in English and Estonian. Can be implemented on any website. Coronabot uses two sources from World Health Organization and Johns Hopkins University.

Remote verification for notaries by Veriff & Chamber of Notaries

Remote verification, initially meant for e-residents, but now used to avoid face-to-face interactions while ensuring a flexible environment for business. Veriff’s identity verification technology enables notarial acts to be carried out at Estonia’s foreign representations without physically visiting a notary’s office.

Temporary job offers by Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund

Opportunity for temporary jobs to match employers who are currently in need of a helping hand with jobseekers who are currently unable to work. Jobs are provided by companies that temporarily need additional manpower in the current situation. The online trade fair format offers an opportunity for direct communication between employers and jobseekers. Jobseekers can ask questions about the jobs and benefits they offer and also apply for the job they want.

Automatic sick leave letter admission by TEHIK

In collaboration with software company Heisi an automatic sick leave feature was launched in the Patient Portal in just a matter of days. Patients can temporarily open sick leave themselves to manage the burden on doctors and nurses.

Collective data about protective means by MASC

The state launches a digital solution for monitoring the stocks and prognosis of personal protective means, created during the hackathon The Global Hack, which will simplify and make more comprehensive, the collection of information.

Medical consultation help via video bridge by Viveo

Telemedicine startup Viveo Health has raised €2 million to provide medical help via video bridge, and act as a form of ‘social distancing’. In summary, the service will help control the spread of the coronavirus in the waiting rooms of healthcare institutions.

Free e-learning tools by Education Nation

Tools made available globally by Estonian and other Scandinavian businesses. As the schools are closed during the crisis, teaching and learning have moved fully online. To support the teachers and parents in this new situation, Nordic countries have opened up their e-learning solutions for the world for free. Platform offers more than 40 remote learning solutions.

Online and remote admission solution for education institutions by DreamApply

Offering support for education institutions who struggle with their current admission system. Lightweight and deployable online admission system with free usage that collects data reliably and includes all data protection and privacy guards.
Mobile learning platform subscription for school by BeED OS

Mobile learning platform subscription for school Complimentary BeED Subscription to Schools Affected by Covid-19. BeED provides schools complimentary 6 months’ subscription to the mobile learning platform. A platform will enable educators to move beyond the closed walls of schools to conduct lessons remotely, giving the support students need at this time, through continual learning.

Database of volunteers with medical background by VAAB MTÜ

VAAB strengthens the health care system by providing a database to bring together volunteers and organizations who have medical training background. Today, the database contains more than 750 medically trained volunteers to help hospitals.

Platform for sharing workforce by Share Force One

A platform for sharing the workforce. It matches companies who have been hit by the crisis and need to cut down on workers with companies who have a temporary need for more workers.

Global It Now by Markit

A real time view of IT product availability in Europe — containing over 1 million IT products from nearly 200 leading IT distributors.

Platform to provide assistance for those in need by Zelos

A volunteer platform that matches people willing to help with those requiring assistance (like the elderly with shopping). The platform has already been successfully exported to Latvia as well.

Contactless food delivery from shops by Bolt Food

Launched delivery from grocery shops immediately after the emergency situation in Estonia was announced. Shops are added continuously, including bookshop Puänt as well. Delivery is contactless.

Comparison of COVID-19 trajectories worldwide by BIIT/ University of Tartu

A map that gathers the latest data are fetched from the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases repository, provided by JHU CSSE and compares the COVID19 trajectories all around the world.

Bicycle rent for free by Bikeep

Bikeep put bicycles in its bike parks, which everyone can rent for free through the Bikeep app. The renter is identified through Smart-ID, Mobile-ID or ID-Card and renting a bicycle is accessible for free. During the crisis, it provides people safer way of transportation and opportunity to avoid using public transportation.

Real time information on border crossing times by Sixfold

Truck border crossing tool to help supply chain professionals through the disruptions caused by COVID-19. The map has been used by more than 300,000 supply chain professionals in its first week alone, helping to improve transport planning for cross-border deliveries in these critical times. Access is for free.
Swap of trucks at border checkpoint by Goswift

Swapping trucks at border checkpoints together with an electronic booking system, meaning that only national trucks and drivers are being used for pulling trailers across the road network. The online booking system will be used to drop-off and pick-up trailers with cargo at border checkpoints.

Location tracking on anonymised mobile data by Reach-U

The Demografi Platform, which offers location tracking based on anonymised mobile data. This could help government officials understand how the virus is spreading and aid in preparing responses.

Mobile data based insights on movements by Positium

A concept of insights based on mobile phone data can help understand the ways to curb the spread of the virus. Efforts are currently underway within the field in several countries across the world.

Meeting room renting service by MySpotit

Meeting room renting service, now available to book for individual workers to practice social distancing. MySpotit team have prepared for this private remote working rooms, which are disinfected after each use and provide people a chance to work calmly and undisturbed.