



HAND=HAND
Kent College Dubai



“ This website is such a relief as I am always worried about my kids back in the Philippines asking for my help for homework when it is very difficult to assist them. This project is a hero. ”

Hand-in-Hand's Mission

We started by studying the best way we could make a big impact on our community and after talking to several of our school's staff and lower-paying job workers, the people in most need, we found an issue that wasn't talked about often - a hidden issue that very few people realise: Many nations have migrant workers that see parents having to live in another country to work, where the United Arab Emirates is leading with 87% of its population are migrants. **This leaves a large gap in the lives of their children who are left behind in their home countries, with little guidance on homework, no help when they have educational struggles, not to mention the emotional impact that goes hand-in-hand with having no parental support or guidance for both school work and emotional well being.**

We aim to fill the gap in the academic development and emotional support of children. We've created a website and social media full of educational videos and features discussed below to help fill this gap.

Partners & Funds

We partnered with our school's student council for the funding of our website. We had amassed funds through our fundraising efforts from the previous year. Additionally, we brokered partnerships with several tutoring groups, schools, and famous Youtubers for academic materials and support, we also partnered with individuals that have donated books, stationery, and furniture for two full classrooms. We involved our entire community by partnering with companies to present our website to their employees. Our name grew so large that we got published in the famous BSME newsletter! We amassed over 37 direct partnerships.



Global Goals

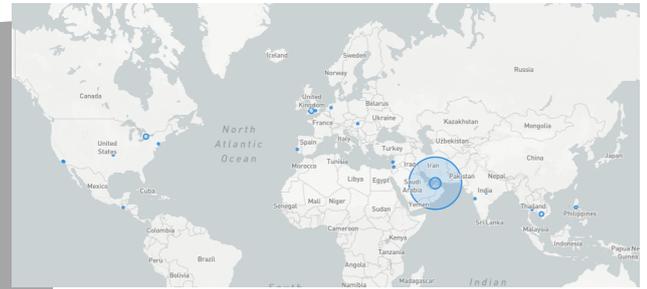
We primarily tackle Global Goal 3 and Global Goal 4 and since they act as domino effects we were able to also tackle another 8 Global Goals as displayed above. Our involvement in the attainment of the Global Goals is a major highlight of our journey.



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250+ Hours spent on the project



JOIN OUR DISCORD SERVER

Join Now

Want to connect with students that are in the same boat as you? Want to get even more resources and advice from more international students? Join our Discord Server for study rooms, quick answers to your questions, and fun networking!

Our Features

Our Hand-in-Hand Platform provides various support sections and platforms:

- 1) Videos on a wide range of educational topics (vetted by teachers)
- 2) A blog full of tips and help, as well as educational games
- 3) A forum where users can share their ideas
- 4) A Discord Channel
- 5) An Instagram page full of mental health tips
- 6) A Q&A Area where students can ask teachers academic questions
- 7) A platform where students can reach out to qualified psychologists for free

Our website is unique in that it uses much less bandwidth than YouTube making it even more accessible for students in countries with bandwidth issues. Our website, forum and Discord channel are always monitored and safeguarded.

The Impact

Our website helped students struggling with subjects such as English, Maths, Science, Humanities, and overall general motivation. We have over 115 daily users in over 15 countries such as the Philippines, Netherlands, India, Hungary, Vietnam, Malaysia, Guatemala, and Portugal - users are growing daily. We have 25 active community members on our Discord and many students which regularly ask for schoolwork questions. We've received plenty of positive feedback from many parents in our community. We are successfully managing social media pages and community communication spaces where people could support each other and have a safe space to talk. We were able to spread more awareness on how mental health affects everyone of all ages and provide them support as well as letting them know they're not alone. We even partnered our Instagram with @Elegantmdelux (with 120k followers) to advertise our mental health posts. Our website has been publicized in 2 local newspapers, on the KCDSpeaks online newspaper, and the well renowned British Schools in the Middle East (BMSE) newsletter, as well as having several published blogs on many outlets.

What we learnt

This project has created opportunities for us to learn and develop new skills and experience how they can be used to push projects forward. These skills included teamwork, organization, time management, motivation, consistency, and creativity. Other transferable skills and experiences we learned were soft skills and the importance of partnerships. This project has also opened our eyes to see the issues affecting our world that we never considered before, and it is possible to help solve these issues and make a real impact. These solutions turned out to be much more accessible than we thought. Our project, which has a main goal of longevity, will be continued with many more projects planned such as virtual meetups and lessons, personal tutors, funding scholarships, and the supply of classrooms.

Challenges

One of our biggest challenges was notably COVID-19; we could almost never meet in person, we couldn't interact with our partners with anything more than emails, and we couldn't get much live feedback. However, we were able to discover creative ideas to connect with each other such as discord, our website's forum, and forms, and many more platforms.