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## Introduction for teachers

- The product name is Iceland, your country. It's a group assignment.
- This is an interdisciplinary project with an aim of independent work to increase students ability to gather, process and coordinate informations.
- In the project the country is divided into seven regions (see picture attached).
- The class is divided into seven groups, each group containing 3 - 4 students.
- Each group get one region randomly selected to study thoroughly and 4 weeks later make a presentation for the rest of the class.

Students are expected to study geology, biology, geography and population of the country. No lecturebooks are used, only online informations as well as slides from teachers presentations.

Several times during the season teachers provide students with a presentation related to the project. They are carefully selected and made sure to be relevant to the students content at the time.

Students are trained to work both independently and in groups. Obtain informations and process them into a well structured presentation. The presentations are aimed to take around 20 minutes. Google Drive is used during the process to ensure access for the whole group.

Few days before the presentation, students meet with a teacher to practise the performance and finalize the presentation.

The goal for students is to:

- Increase their knowledge of their country, Iceland
- Familiarize themselves with the area and the natural environment in their region
- Understand the impact of nature on economic development in the country
- Get trained to work on a big project in a group and presentate for fellow students

Project frame in Spring 2016

- Time: 1. – 26. febrúar.
- Students work in groups, 3-4 students in each group
- Each group is assigned one part of the country. In the end of the project a 20-minute presentation should be performed
- Slides for presentation returned to teacher three days before presentation-practise
- Presentations for all groups are divided into three days
- During the working period, teachers held presentations . Teacher presents the country in general, geography and geology. Another teacher presents biology.

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Assesment

- Introduction , presentation slides and a word document will be evaluated comprehensively .
- The students in the same group receive different ratings, depending on the contribution and participation in each project.

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Partition of regions. See pictures attached:



1. West part of Iceland. From Hvalfjörður to Gilsfjörður
  2. Westfjords. From Gilsfjörður to Hrútafjörður
  3. Northwest. From Hrútafjörður to Akureyri
  4. Northeast. From Akureyri to Vopnafjörður
  5. East. From Vopnafjörður to Skeiðará
  6. South part of Iceland. From Skeiðará to Ölfusá
  7. South-west corner. From Ölfusá to Hvalfjörður. Thingvellir and Þingvallavatn
- Included, not included the capital area.

## Details and implementation for students

- Start to create a word document in Google Drive to gather information. The document should contain all relevant chapters and references. Note in real time all the references that you use.
- Create the text in this document that you are going to use in the presentation. In this document it is forbidden to copy text directly from the Internet, you have to use your own words. Each member of the group puts his/her name behind the text they work on.
- Next step is to make a presentation document (power point) in Google drive. This is the document you will use for your presentation, so here you will insert short text, pictures and videos for the presentation.
- Next thing is to look at a online map. Use a snipping tool to cut your part of the country and add the picture to the first slide in the power point. Following, use your time to look at different maps of the country online and try to become familiar with the territory you're about to do your presentation about.
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  - Here below are several Icelandic URLs
    - Námsgagnastofnun <http://flashmap2.nams.is/>
    - Kortasjár Landmælinga Íslands <http://www.lmi.is/stafraengogn/kortasjar/>

- Vegasjá Vegagerðarinnar  
<http://www.vegagerdin.is/ferdaupplýsingar/faerd-og-vedur/faerd-um-allt-land/island1.html>
- Umhverfisstofnun. Friðlýst svæði, gagnvirkt kort  
<http://ust.is/einstaklingar/nattura/fridlyst-svaedi/>

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- The product should be split into 13 different chapters, see here below:

- 1) Municipalities and towns. Go clockwise over the area (like a clock).  
Municipalities: How many are there, which one is the largest and smallest.  
Towns: Names, which one is the largest and smallest. Which municipalities have the most towns/villages?  
Population in the "largest vs. smallest ". Population development (graphical representation) in the largest / smallest municipality.  
Development of the population in the municipality total - (proportional) controls all of Iceland.
- 2) **Landscape.** Bays, fjords, islands, headlands, mountains, mountain ranges, glaciers, moors, valleys, rivers, lakes and other characteristic of the land.
- 3) **Geology.** Volcanoes, lava fields, geothermal, cracks, caves, waterfalls, canyons, sand, basalt, fossils etc. hydrogeology.
- 4) **Ecosystem.** Wild species of mammals and birds, birds, rocks, caught, fishing lakes, pastures, forests, marshes, fisheries, marine utilization etc.
- 5) **The economy.** The most important industries in the region and the use of natural capital resources, industry, manufacturing, agriculture, remarkable company, service, ex .: public institutions such as hospitals, schools, local government offices.
- 6) **Energy generation.** Power plants and all that it is associated with.
- 7) **Transportation.** Road transport, mountain roads, airports, ports, ferries, transport disruptions (how common is that it for example, because of the weather?)

- 8) **Attractions.** Nature and other tourist attractions. Fishing, hiking, mountaineering, skiing, etc.
  - 9) **Preservation area.** National parks, nature reserves, natural and other declare protected.
  - 10) **Cultural Events.** Off events, music festivals, museums, cultural activities and leisure.
  - 11) **General characteristics.** What is special about the area?
  - 12) **Your experience.** Share your own experiences or maybe someone you know.
  - 13) **Future prospects.** Put yourselves in the shoes of the population. How many people live in the region? Is a particular risk of natural disasters? What changes are likely in the coming years in the region? How do you see the area in for example 50 years?.
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## References

- Make references by APA system in the word document.
- Make image files in the power point document.