INVOLVEMENT IN THE E-BUG PROJECT
The best way to improve knowledge of the public on infection, hygiene and prudent antibiotic use is to start educating at a young age. Since the launch of the website of the Dutch Working Party on Antibiotic Policy (SWAB) www.swab.nl in 2001, games for children were offered on its “junior” page, but resources to extend it further were lacking. When e-Bug was introduced, SWAB decided to join e-Bug because the programme offers a wealth of information for pupils and students and could be adapted for Dutch schools.

IMPLEMENTATION OF E-BUG
• We translated the junior version in Dutch for primary school children
• We translated the senior version in Dutch for high school students
• Teachers can find all information on www.e-bug.eu
• The website of the Dutch Working Party on Antibiotic Policy www.swab.nl offers a direct link to games and to the Dutch pages www.e-bug.eu
• All 8.250 primary schools in The Netherlands have received an introduction leaflet in the autumn of 2011
• All schools are invited to pay attention to antibiotics, disease prevention and healthcare

CHALLENGES
The primary aim of SWAB is to optimize the use of antibiotics by means of guideline development for hospitals, education of healthcare workers and antibiotic use and resistance surveillance. E-Bug has a much broader focus on public health aspects of infection such as personal, respiratory and food hygiene in the community and vaccination programs that are beyond the scope of SWAB. The challenge is to keep this extensive material updated and adapted to the Dutch situation.

THE FUTURE OF E-BUG IN THE NETHERLANDS
E-Bug has an extensive software package with valuable material that is relevant for public health. E-Bug offers technical support and continuity at a reasonable cost. However, SWAB concentrates on antibiotic policy in the Netherlands. Antimicrobial resistance, antibiotic use and stewardship are only minor components of e-Bug. In 2014 SWAB will explore whether the Dutch National Institute of Public Health and the Environment is interested to take over (part of) the collaboration with E-bug in The Netherlands.