Ocean-based Negative Emission Technologies

Deliverable Title	Web-based SRG platform established
Lead	GEOMAR Helmholtz Center for Ocean Research Kiel
Related Work Package	WP7
Related Task	Related to tasks 7.1 and 7.2
Author(s)	Judith Meyer
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Summary: The SRG platform we established for OceanNETs serves as a tool for our consortium members interaction with stakeholders. The platform allows for direct interaction and stakeholders are engaged in a harmonized and coherent way across all WPs. The platform is established on our OceanNETs <i>Slack</i> channel and connected to our media platform <i>Elements</i> .

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OceanNETs stakeholder platform - overview

The stakeholder platform we established is supposed to allow our OceanNETs consortium members to manage stakeholder processes such as sharing of event dates, presenting research results etc. in an efficient manner. Stakeholders on the other hand can interact with consortium members in relation to the different OceanNETs activities, are able to give direct input and exchange their ideas with the consortium and other stakeholders on the platform.

The OceanNETs stakeholder platform can be accessed through an extra tab located on the official OceanNETs homepage (<https://oceannets.eu/>) and is restricted to invitation only.

Initial considerations

We realized in the beginning of the project, that a classical stakeholder e-platform approach was not a feasible option for the OceanNETs consortium. The project had already implemented a project website with information on work packages, consortium member contact details, list of deliverables and milestones and links to download them that the public and stakeholders are able to access. Apart from that we also developed an internal project portal, where consortium members were able to share data, documents, results, publications, upcoming events and much more. We had also implemented a communication platform that the consortium used for direct interaction within and across work packages.

This meant that another platform seemed to be redundant and learning how to interact with a brand-new platform was considered a potential barrier. We suspected that registration and user engagement on yet another platform would be quite low and hinder the interaction with stakeholders.

Since we felt that our stakeholders wished to be directly engaged in discussions, get involved in decision-making processes, receive project results and have a direct connection to members of the consortium and other project stakeholders, we felt it would be best to integrate the stakeholder platform in our communication platform *Slack*. We further connected *Slack* to our Media Library *Elements* to be able to share, comment and edit files and videos.

About Slack and the OceanNETs stakeholder channel

Many members of the OceanNETs consortium already use Slack as work communication platform since the project has started in July 2020. Slack is designed for teams that work in different locations and allows for both direct messages between two consortium members, as well as group chats where many members can share content, comments, and reactions. It has an easy-to-use interface and we were able to open and utilize various channels. That way, each work package can have their own distinct thread, cross WP

channels can be established or OceanNETs boards can open their own threads, making it easy to work together.

Figure 1: OceanNETs Slack workspace. In the channel "general" information on interesting publications, job postings etc. can be shared and general questions can be posted.

To connect our stakeholders with the consortium, we established a Slack *stakeholder platform* channel for direct communication between the OceanNETs consortium and our Stakeholder Reference Group. Instant messages for both one-on-one communication and group discussions allows us to discuss the project, share news, decisions, actions, proposals and recommendations. The direct connection to our Media Library *Elements* allows us to share, comment and edit larger files and videos, such as recordings from our workshops and annual meetings.

The following information can be accessed on our Slack *stakeholder platform* channel:

- Videos and recordings from OceanNETs virtual events such workshops, focus groups or annual meetings
- Dates of upcoming events/workshops/focus groups
 - Event information, speakers and schedule
 - Registration
- Links to surveys
- Downloadable information
- Project results

Figure 2: Media Library connected to the Slack stakeholder platform channel. On this page, presentations and recordings from the annual meeting 2021 can be accessed by the stakeholders.

Besides the stakeholder platform channel all stakeholders also have access to many other channels on our Slack workspace, where they receive information on specific workpackage activities, OceanNETs publications, general project information and news in the field of marine carbon dioxide removal and much more.

Figure 1: The channel "other-projects-on-ocean-based-nets" informs consortium members and stakeholders about news and events related to the field of marine carbon dioxide removal.