

Deep Network 1st Hub Summary | A summary of input and action points from the first On-line Deep Network Hub Meeting on Friday 2nd June, 2023

The meeting started with a brief presentation to introduce the objectives of the Deep Network Project, and some information about Adult education.

The first question posed to the participants was:

How do you define responsibility?

- Responsibility was primarily defined by participants both as an awareness of the consequences of their own actions on others.
- This awareness is not passive, and requires 'taking charge' and acting, based on what you know and how you define your role.
- Responsibility also has a legal definition in terms of obligation, as a moral or legal duty that requires us to act, with potential penalties for the failure to do so.

Breakout groups within the Hub

Participants then elected to join one of three hubs, designed to cover a broad range of ocean issues:

- Tourism and the ocean
- The ocean
- The seafloor and habitats

The group work was broken down into three activities, designed to draw out the profile, barriers and opportunities for adults to learn about the ocean, as well as specific learning outcomes for each specific topic area.

Activity 1 Group discussion results (combined from all 3 groups)

	How might adults access learning?	What could be a barrier?	What would support them?
Late teens/ young adults	videos, reels, simulations, articles, talks, workshops, mainly social media (but channels do vary amongst different demographic groups and regions).	traditional learning is boring – no active interest in learning! Complicated, hard-to-understand concepts involving large spatial and long-time scales; do not see the point; do not realise they have a role to play; why should we care it doesn't affect us personally. "Out of sight, out of mind."	make learning accessible and fun; support: interactive learning, flexibility, self-directed learning, positive learning environment, relevance to their interests and lives; Make use of technology to show the ways of exploring the seafloor; access to information via common platforms.
Adults/families	Social media, particularly Viber or WhatsApp which facilitate interaction and mobilisation, not simply informing people; guided tours; histories, images and photos; online courses, lifelong learning initiatives, documentaries	lack of information; accessibility; guides don't inspire action/ change; too expensive; too much government bureaucracy.; lack of interest, difficulties to understand, lack of time, lack of motivation, work overload, family obligations, lack of motivation	Guided training; dialogue with cruise ship operations; Come to them, don't expect them to come to you! Scientifically accurate, visually accessible, graphic resources understand their difficulties, make knowledge simple. paid seminars, eye-catching fast-paced videos/posters on YouTube/ social media; need to find ways to engage them, make them understand they can and have a role to play in the process; explain concepts that are connected to daily life or have relevance to daily life; sometime the information is available, but interpretation is a problem (e.g. provenience of fish).
Older adults	Mainstream media; reading article on magazines and newspapers	Misinformation; Limited access to high quality learning material; access to internet, literacy, lack of resources, different abilities; the difficulty to connect the role of the ocean to their lives on shorter and longer timescales; economic benefits are "more important" than long term conservation	promote a friendly EU policy on tourism; provide more educational opportunities for older adults; Use role models in 4" ads in social media; development projects, outreach events in local communities

Activity 2 Group discussion results from each group

Tourism

Why do I need to know about this topic?	tourism important for economy and important for safety or water and wastewater
What pre (or mis) conception might I have about this?	harmless for the environment, no matter what oceans will always be there for us
Why I need to take responsibility (to change behaviour not just learn passively)	To act is to make a difference. As tourist has money to travel and therefore privileged and has the responsibility to set a good example.
What experience could I bring to this subject?	Can learn about sustainable ways to be in different places and share this knowledge with friends back "home." Awareness of climate change. "Danger" of greenwashing.
At what point in my life might this learning be MOST relevant to me?	always relevant

Oceans

Why do I need to know about this topic?	This is our only home, we need to protect our Earth
What pre (or mis) conception might I have about this?	It does not affect me personally, ocean can clean itself, and ocean is not directly related to climate change
Why I need to take responsibility (to change behaviour not just learn passively)	To develop sense of belonging and take charge of my "home"
What experience could I bring to this subject?	educational materials, personal technical knowledge
At what point in my life might this learning be MOST relevant to me?	always relevant

Seabed

Why do I need to know about this topic?	The sea supports services like fishing which support our daily lives. To continue to benefit from the beauty of the ocean, we need to protect the organisms who help create this.
What pre (or mis) conception might I have about this?	All dissolves into the ocean, problems simply disappear
Why I need to take responsibility (to change behaviour not just learn passively)	Maintaining biodiversity from seafloor up through the ecosystem is the only way individuals can benefit from what coasts provide tourist for example.
What experience could I bring to this subject?	Changing behaviour can only be achieved when people understand how the sea floor affects our daily lives.
At what point in my life might this learning be MOST relevant to me?	always relevant

Activity 3 Results from group discussions

What skills do adults need?

Media literacy; active citizenship; community network; self motivation; critical thinking; time management; decision making skills; communication skills.

What types of activity would really help me to learn these things?

Being part of a community. Hands on activities—learning by doing, working/volunteering within community, videos, documentaries, entertainment, debates and discussions. Additionally coordinating education system in EU countries, and educational flyers/ information available to tourists before travelling to a location.

What is the minimum these adult learners should learn?

That ocean pollution turns back on human health (e.g. microplastics entering the human body again through eating fish), basic concept that there is an ocean on this planet and it is important to us and affects how we live. The interconnectedness of the ocean and life within. How an individual can personally have an impact by making small changes that are financially viable. Also to be able to distinguish between “green washing” of companies and real commitment.

Action Points

Deep Network should spend more time developing well-defined sub profiles, which could be used to generate, target and assess the effectiveness of specific educational material.

Tourism and the Ocean:

Distinguish between tourists and tourist companies/operators:

- Scholarship for an ocean literacy or ocean tourism fellow
- Create training material for tourist operators so that they have the tools to inform clients
- Vocational training for different levels in the tourism industry
- Create flyers and social media campaigns for local communities to inform tourists about the country and ecosystem they will be visiting, and what impact they may have as tourists -- Information graphics
- Documentaries about ecotourism and coastal communities.

The Ocean:

- Graphics for sharing social media posts, and easy language
- Collab with projects that already are active in **hands-on activities** in communities
- Fact sheets linking extreme local weather events to ocean—bridging the link for people based on what is happening in plain sight, to what we don't "see" in the ocean
- Educational family events for the whole family- Networking opportunities to facilitate this

The Sea Floor:

- Include more information about where seafood comes from at markets or grocery stores.
- Graphics to make organisms living on the sea floor "cute" for social media posts to explain how important they are to the ecosystem as a whole.
- Develop educational materials or posters for diving and snorkelling companies to either hang in their shops or implement a short lesson to inform people about habitat destruction in the places they are about to see.
- Create framework of how to connect with local journalist or newspaper to include a bi-annual article about deep sea mining, or other topic related to the sea floor.