ENHANCING THE RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE EXPANSION OF THE SCIENCE SHOPS ECOSYSTEM IN EUROPE

D5.3

European SciShops Digital Awareness Channels (Additional Report)

Project

Acronym: **SciShops.eu**

Title: Enhancing the Responsible and Sustainable Expansion of the Science Shops Ecosystem
                    in Europe

Coordinator: SYNYO GmbH

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Consortium: **SYNYO GmbH (SYNYO)**, Austria

Handelsblatt Research Institute GmbH, Germany

University of Hohenheim, Germany

KPMG Limited, Cyprus

The National Unions of Students in Europe, Belgium

Institute of Social Innovations, Lithuania

University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Katholieke Universiteit, Belgium

Universidad Carlos III De Madrid, Spain

Universitatea Politehnica Din Bucuresti, Romania

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Universiteit Leiden, Netherlands

International Center for Numerical Methods in Engineering, Spain

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1 Introduction

Deliverable 5.3, European SciShops Digital Awareness Channels, base responds to Task 5.3:

Task 5.2 Create various SciShops Awareness Channels including an Expert SciShops Navigator and Local and European Dashboards providing information at European level

Promoting the implementation of SciShops.eu across Europe, the established awareness channels featuring social media syndication will address various stakeholders to engage in the platform. The expert navigator as well as dashboards of different regional granularity ease preparation of own SciShops.eu, providing insight in offers and needs of the community.

Deliverable 5.3 European SciShops Digital Awareness Channels:

The established channels are up, running, constantly filled with new content and moderated. Based on platform and user-generated content, intuitive data visualisation and modular dashboards are made available to the public, providing insight into the regional, national and Europe-wide characteristics and coverage of the SciShop ecosystem.

During the past months, SciShops representatives have been in contact with InSPIRES (sister project, funded in the same call) regarding different ICT tools developed by the two projects, in order to create synergies between the two and to avoid duplication of efforts. The communication is ongoing and calls are being organized on a regular basis. This will happen until the end of the project implementation.

2 Platform structure

Figure 2 illustrates the overall structure that is currently being implemented. New modules, renaming or modifications of existing ones might be subject to the upcoming iterations.

Figure 1 SciShops.eu Platform homepage

Figure 2: Web Platform upcoming Menu Structure and accessibility

3   Awareness channels in the SciShops.eu Description of Action

SciShops Navigator: The intuitive layout and control of the SciShop Navigator enables users to efficiently sort and filter in their region and across Europe, in order to find a suiting Science Shop.
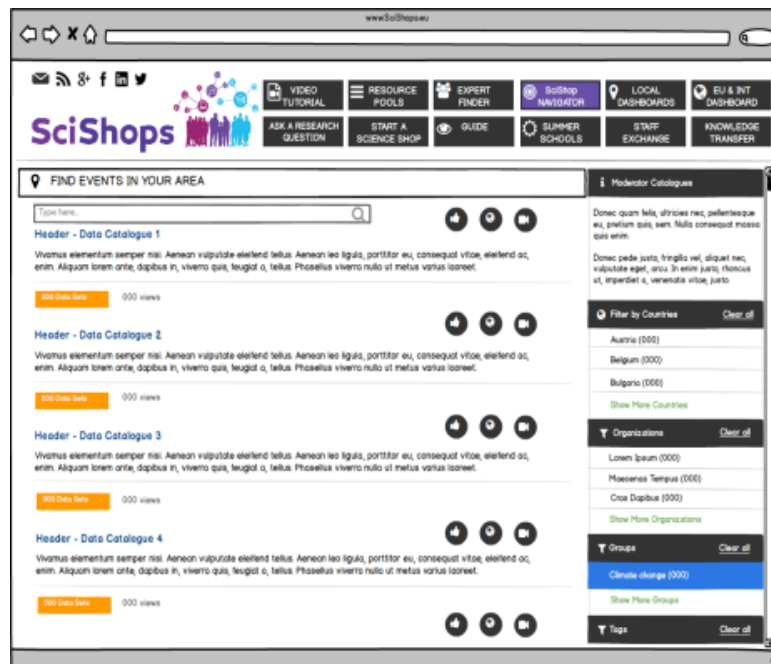

Figure 3 SciShops Navigator Mockup

Local Dashboard: The local dashboard provides a quick overview on available Science shops and events, organized by topics and location, enabling assessment of ongoing activities and identification of potential actions.

Figure 4 Local Dashboard Mockup

EU & International Dashboard: One level above, a comparison of national and international distributions promotes assessment and creation of incentives for Science Shops.
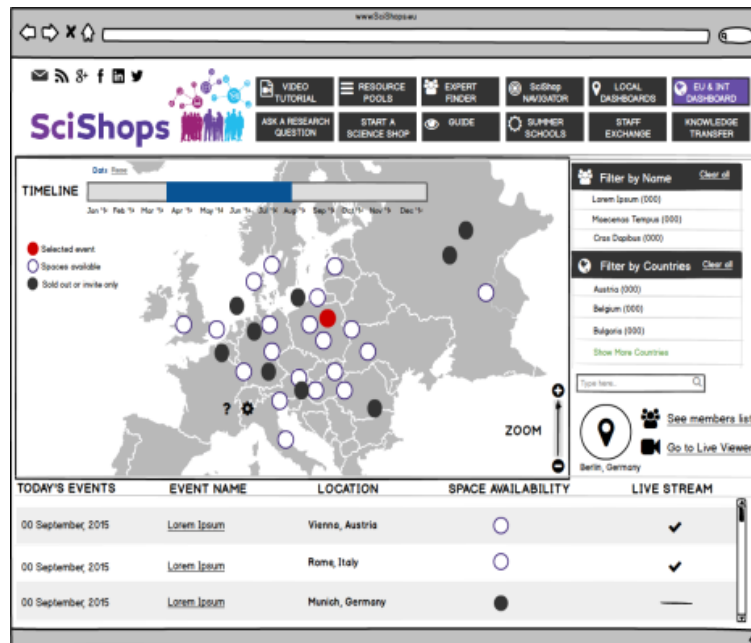

Figure 5 EU & International Dashboard Mockup

4 Awareness channels development overview

4.1. Target groups

As defined by the SciShops.eu consortium, the target group of the project is divided in two categories:

- **Project and SciShops.eu Platform main target group** is comprised by **experienced researchers** who are **searching for support, advice, resources, training or partners to establish a Science Shop** or a similar Community Based Participatory Research structure.
- **Individual Science Shops target group** is different for each Science Shop as they are targeting their **local communities** or **communities with issues similar to their communities.**

With this division in mind, SciShops.eu is currently implementing new database-triggered modules, especially targeting experienced researchers interested in establishing a Science Shop or existing Science Shops.

4.2. Science Shops Taxonomy

Deliverable 2.4 Science Shops Taxonomy represents the basis for the database-triggered modules on the SciShops Platform. The taxonomy included a detailed categorization of existing Science Shops, based on their themes, type of mother or host organization and capacity level. This deliverable comprised an extensive list of 100 Science Shops or similar Community Based Participatory Research organizations around the world. The information collected was clustered in 3 categories of information, as it can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1 Structure of the Taxonomy

Cluster	Category
Organisational Information	Name
	Weblink
	Country
	Category of Institution
	Active/Inactive
	Year of Establishment
Supportive Structure	Funding/Funders
	Mother Organisation
	Participants/Recipients
	Country Information
Content	Scope
	Topic
	Mode of Operation

The above structure is the basis of the database development. However, for clarity purposes, some categories will be removed from the database when published on the SciShops.eu platform and some new ones will be added.

SciShops

4.3. Fields

As it can be observed in Table 2, the final fields included in the database are fewer than the ones collected in the taxonomy. However, additionally, some new ones will be included, such as website and social media channels of the Science Shops.

Table 2 Database fields

Field	Type
Name of Research Institution	Text
Website	Link
Country	Drop down
Category of Institution	Drop down
Year of Establishment	Drop down
Funding	text
Mother Organization	Text
Participants	Text
Scope	Text
Topic	Text
Mode of Operation	text

The backend will also host a number of not-yet-defined fields in order to be able to include more relevant information, based on expert feedback.

4.4. Science Shop registration process

The process of including the initial information in the database has been streamlined in order to ease it up for the user (Science Shop coordinator/representative). As such, the SciShops team will prefill the Science Shops' profiles with the information available in the taxonomy (public information). The Science Shops representatives can then create an account on the platform and "claim" their organization profile, of which they would become manager and can take over the profile after a verification process. The account/profile manager can then update the profile with more information, can provide direct contact details, as well as availability for twinning and partnerships but also research projects capacity.

Additionally, any new Science Shop can have a representative register and create a new Science Shop profile which will be quickly verified and published on the platform.

SciShops

4.5. Main functionalities

For the initial development iteration, the taxonomy was used to quickly provide a first transition from the designed mockups to a functional prototype. This allowed both the developers and the designers to get first insights on the underlying interaction and navigation concept. In addition, it enables the developers to focus on the programming of the main functionalities initially.

Organisation Search

On the top right, in the first position of the filter panel, there is a search functionality for the Science Shops navigator.

Filter Option

The complex filter functionality provides filtering of the stakeholder database depending on the country, type of Science Shop or topics.

Sorting Option

The sorting option is available for the list view and grid view of the library, either reverse or in alphabetical order.

View Option

Different view options allow a list view with short descriptions or a grid view as boxes of entries.

Map Navigator

The Map navigator displays the different Science Shops on the map, where one can navigate according to the organization's location.

5 Next Steps

This deliverable D5.3 presents a progress report of the European Digital Awareness Channels of the SciShops.eu platform and the main functionalities together with the technical framework and backend development.

The European Digital Awareness Channels, comprising the first of platform's database-triggered modules are currently under initial testing. This was initially defined as an online Science Shop-related event finder; however, it was adapted to the identified needs in the field.

During the iterative development and testing with users, the platform is being presented to various stakeholders for functionality testing and expert feedback Furthermore, the Expert and Advisory Board, comprised of Community Based Participatory Research experts and practitioners will provide the first external feedback and thus the relevant filtering options will be included in order to ensure high applicability to the field. The outcomes of the feedback and testing rounds will be described in Deliverable 5.5 End users feedback report and optimization.

The upcoming modules will be further developed and integrated into the platform during the next months and will be presented in the progress report deliverables D5.4, D5.5 and D5.6. The relevant stakeholders in Community Based Participatory Research will be invited to register or claim their organization and express their (temporary) availability for different actions.