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Deliverable 2.2

Communication and Dissemination Plan

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KOMAG

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REECOL

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1. Introduction

The Communication and Dissemination Plan (CDP) is developed within the REECOL project:

- to ensure that the project brings the expected impacts, and to maximize them
- to ensure the use and uptake of the project results.

To enable and facilitate the above, this document:

- includes guidelines and instructions regarding communication and dissemination to be carried out in the project,
- defines the corresponding monitoring and evaluation procedures (and related documents).

In the project, communication and dissemination is a subject of WP2. This WP is directly related with one of five objectives declared for the REECOL project:

Objective 5: Familiarise stakeholders and disseminate results in the coal regions in transition with innovative and sustainable ecological rehabilitation options, requirements for their implementation, long-term viability and socio-economic impact;

Applicable quotations from the project proposal are as follows:

Description of the project OBJECTIVE 5:

Objective 5 of REECOL is central for the success of the project and its impacts. Indeed it aims to familiarise stakeholders in the coal regions in transition with innovative and sustainable ecological rehabilitation options, requirements for their implementation, long-term viability and socio-economic impact. The REECOL analyses, experiments and monitoring results and conclusions may facilitate better practices for operators of post-mining areas who are in a position to positively influence the outcomes of their own rehabilitation schemes with new or improved monitoring methods. Improved understanding of soil conditions, plant community composition and climate change influence patterns in post-mining areas that will help European societies better manage post-mining investments, which are important to improve economic growth, community liveability and health, and environmental equity within these areas.

The main objectives of WP 2:

The main aims of WP2 are:

- to develop potential exploitation routes for the project results;
- \cdot to carry out effectively the dissemination and outreach phase and to encourage all the stakeholders to actively participate in dissemination forums and activities;
- · to confer visibility to the results achieved during the project realization;
- \cdot to communicate research and project's findings in a way that is understood by industry experts, non-specialist, public and other defined stakeholders;
- · to disseminate project results to a wide range of communities including academia, industry and general public;
- \cdot to influence positively the attitude of the decision makers and induce the stakeholders to provide feedback, including the scientific sectors;
- · sharing knowledge with external institutions, which will contribute to the further use of the acquired knowledge
- \cdot to support and complement other WPs and promote cooperation between research groups.

2. Applicable obligations stated in the Grant Agreement

In the SECTION 2 RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION of the **Grant Agreement**, ARTICLE 17 - COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY the following requirements are set out:

- the beneficiaries must promote the action and its results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public),
- communication and dissemination actions have to be carried out:
 - in accordance with declarations in DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION (PART B)
 - in a strategic, coherent and effective manner.
- In the communication and dissemination activities:
 - · European flag/emblem and funding statement must be visible;



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REECOL

the emblem must remain distinct and separate; cannot be modified; when displayed in association with other logos, it must be displayed at least as prominently and visible as the other logos

- · Factually accurate information must be used
- Mandatory disclaimer must be indicated:

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• **Translation** of the funding statement and disclaimer into local language is not mandatory; it should be done where appropriate.

In the ANNEX 5 SPECIFIC RULES of the Grant Agreement the following requirements are set out:

- it is expected that the detailed communication and dissemination plan sets out the objectives, key messaging, target audiences, communication channels, social media plan, planned budget and relevant indicators for monitoring and evaluation
- the beneficiaries must disseminate their results, as soon as this is possible, in a publicly available format
- presenting the project on the beneficiaries' websites or social media accounts is a mandatory communication activity
- Tiews of relevant pages from the Grant Agreement are provided in ANNEX 1.

3. Key terms - explanation

Communication and dissemination are measures that will: maintain the project visibility, make the project and its results recognizable, help to maximise the impacts expected from the project, and pave the way for the project results exploitation.

Communication vs dissemination

Communication regards both the project and the project results, while dissemination regards only the project results. Communication is targeted at multiple audience (including the media and the public) while dissemination – at audiences that may use the results. Communication informs about the project and its results, and promotes them, while dissemination enables the use and uptake of the project results (the focus is on ensuring their availability of the project results for others/users). Communication starts at the very beginning of the project while dissemination is carried out when the results are ready.

Communication

Communication on projects – it is a strategically planned process that starts at the outset of the action and continues throughout entire lifetime of the project, aimed at promoting the action and its results. It requires strategic and targeted measures for communicating about (i) the action and (ii) its results to a multitude of audiences, including the media and the public and possibly engaging in a two-way exchange.

Communication measures should promote the project throughout the full lifespan of the project. The aim is to inform and reach out to society and show the activities performed, and the use and the benefits the project will have for citizens.

The **purpose of the communication** activities is to promote the project and make the research activities/successes known to multiple audiences, beyond the project's own community (in a way that they can be understood by non-specialists). Typical channels for communication might include: project website, press release, brochure, exhibition, school visits, etc.

Dissemination

Dissemination means sharing research results with potential users

Dissemination is the **public disclosure of the results by appropriate means**, other than resulting from protecting or exploiting the results, including by scientific publications in any medium.

REFERENCES:

- Introduction to the concepts of Communication, Dissemination & Exploitation; 1_intro2comm-diss-expl_en.pptx; https://rb.gy/wgkev
- Glossary https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/glossary







- So, what IS the difference between Dissemination and Communication! <u>https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/so-what-difference-between-dissemination-donald-mc-donagh</u>
- Glossary https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/glossary
- What is dissemination and exploitation? <u>https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/dissemination-and-exploitation-research-results_en</u>
- Effective communication, dissemination, and exploitation successful valorisation of knowledge and research results in Horizon Europe <u>https://polsca.pan.pl/en/effective-communication-dissemination-and-exploitation-successful-valorisation-of-knowledge-and-research-results-in-horizon-europe/</u>

4. Target audiences

The following target audiences can be indicated for the project:

- Scientific community higher education, research; universities, institutes (researchers, scientists, academic staff, students etc.– depending on the unit)
- Industry companies related with coal mining; companies related with coal mines liquidation; companies focused on rehabilitation, remediation and reclamation technologies, local entrepreneurs;
- Policy decision makers, regulators and planners at EU, national and local level
- Local communities/citizens
- General public.

5. Message conveyed

The target audience has to be informed about the REECOL project objectives and results in a way that will make its recognition as important, valuable and bringing expected impact. The messages are among others:

- REECOL solutions meet the European "just transition" policies;
- REECOL project results follow environmentally friendly approach to deal with degraded (here: post-mining) lands;
- REECOL project provides a comprehensive solutions for rehabilitation and reclamation of post-mining areas;
- REECOL project offers environmental advantages for habitants, communities in post-mining areas;
- REECOL project contributes to knowledge on soil remediation technologies, processes and approaches;
- It is possible and worthy to turn post-mining lands into green areas;
- Turning post-mining lands into green areas is within capabilities of local communities;
- Tailoring land rehabilitation and reclamation process to conditions existing at particular location is crucial to obtain best effects;
- The REECOL project's research findings provide valuable contribution to knowledge on land rehabilitation and reclamation;
- Applicability of REECOL results has been checked/proved by field tests and cost-benefit analyses.

The communication messages should be tailored to particular target audiences to attract their interest and support.

6. Project visual identity

6.1. The establishment of the project's visual identity will enhance its recognizability, which will contribute to efficient communication and dissemination. Logo(s), favicon and colours

The project logo has been designed by KOMAG. To maintain its applicability for different materials, the following versions were developed:

- full scale,
- small,
- mini full colour, greyscale, B/W,
- animated (on a pptx slide).







FULL SCALE



All these are presented also in a pptx presentation. Identification of colours is also included, there.

REFERENCES:

REECOL_LogoVisualIdentity.pptx

6.2. Templates

Templates for particular types of documents and materials created in the project will be developed to keep them consistent and in accordance with the project visual identity and formal requirements regarding RFCS projects. Subsequent templates will be proposed by KOMAG and shared with partners. Based on the feedback, the templates will be accepted or modified to meet the expectations.

The templates are to be used among others for:

- pptx presentations REECOL_TEMPLATE.pptx
- deliverables REECOL_deliverable_TEMPLATE.docx
- newsletters.

REFERENCES:

- REECOL_LogoVisualIdentity.pptx
- THE USE OF THE EU EMBLEM IN THE CONTEXT OF EU PROGRAMMES 2021-2027; eu-emblem-rules_en.pdf; https://shorturl.at/nouKP
- European flag (emblem) and funding statement co-funded_en.zip; other versions available at: Download centre for visual elements https://shorturl.at/enNP9;







7. Project's online channels

7.1. Website

The project website has been launched on KOMAG's server. Its current address is <u>https://reecol.komag.eu/</u>. Its official address will be <u>www.reecol.eu</u>. The website's project/idea includes the following purposes:

- providing information about:
 - the project objectives, methodology, planned activities and results;
 - the partnership;
 - the project results produced to date;
 - work progress and deliverables and project results;
 - the activities carried out by the partners: meetings, communication and dissemination actions, etc.;
 - the news, publications, articles related to project subject (to build the target audiences' knowledge and awareness on the topic);
- providing access to: the downloadable deliverables, downloadable materials produced for the project communication and dissemination (newsletters, leaflets, articles, presentation etc.);
- providing access to the project social medial.

KOMAG will be responsible for keeping the website updated, but all the partners will contribute by giving input materials.

The website design complies with the project visual identity. It also contains mandatory and/or recommended elements like: RFCS logo, European flag (emblem) and funding statement, disclaimer.

REFERENCES:

- THE USE OF THE EU EMBLEM IN THE CONTEXT OF EU PROGRAMMES 2021-2027; eu-emblem-rules_en.pdf; https://shorturl.at/nouKP
- European flag (emblem) and funding statement co-funded_en.zip; other versions available at: Download centre for visual elements https://shorturl.at/enNP9;

7.2. Social media

The following social media channels will be used to carry out communication and dissemination in the REECOL project:

- Twitter,
- Facebook,
- LinkedIn.

Creation of these and keeping them update is KOMAG's responsibility, but all partners are obligated to provide information and materials for the posts.

8. Measures

8.1. Posts and articles on websites and social media

During the whole project realization, posts and articles will be published:

- on the project website and social media
- on the project partners' websites and social media;
 - address of the project website (link) should be provided in the articles and posts (which will contribute to number of visits on the project website)
 - mandatory elements have to be included (European flag/emblem and funding statement)
 - the RFCS logo should be included
 - the project logo should be included to build its recognisability.







For the posts and articles regarding activities carried out by the project partners, it is required that they provide relevant material (description, photos) not later than two days after an activity.

8.2. Informative project materials

The informative materials should comply with the project visual identity. They must contain mandatory and/or recommended elements like: RFCS logo, European flag (emblem) and funding statement, disclaimer. Regarding on the material, a dedicated template should be applied.

Informative project materials should be available in English and in each partner's national language (overcoming language barriers).

In the materials, information about the project website address, optionally also about the project social media should be provided. In the printable materials, displayed materials (e.g. videos, presentations) and exhibited materials (e.g. roll-up), use of QR codes is desired.

Except for the newsletters, the informative materials should be developed in versions to be used as general project description, addressed for the whole target audience, and in versions in which the content, style, language used, proportion of "text to graphics" is tailored to particular groups of recipients within the target audiences.

Taking into account different preferences of the target audiences representatives, it is planned to provide general information on the project, each type of the material will be used/developed. So, the starting info-pack on the project will include: newsletter no 1, a leaflet, a video, and a presentation. Regarding the next items of the materials, they have to be up-to-date, taking into account the project progress.

NEWSLETTERS

Form: an electronic and/or printable material.

Release schedule: the 1st issue should be released at the beginning of the project. The subsequent issues - approx. every 6-9 months, depending on the project progress (fresh, updated information should make the newsletter interesting).

Distribution: mailing; project website and social media; partners' websites, social media; handed in (printed version) to target audience representatives (present at meetings, events etc.).

Differentiating depending on the recipient: no, one for all approach.

LEAFLETS

Form: an electronic and/or printable material.

Release schedule: the 1st leaflet should be released at the beginning of the project to provide overall view of the project. Additional leaflets should be developed along with the project progress and/or thematically (focus on particular aspect, result etc.).

Distribution: mailing; project website and social media; partners' websites, social media; handed in (printed version) to target audience representatives (present at meetings, events etc.).

Differentiating depending on the recipient: yes.

VIDEO MATERIALS

Form: short, video spot.

Release schedule: the 1st video should be released at the beginning of the project to provide overall view of the project. Additional videos should be developed along with the project progress and/or thematically (focus on particular aspect, result etc.)

Distribution: link/QR code provided in other materials, websites, social media, emails etc.; embedding in pptx presentations; showing/displaying as individual material during meetings, events etc. (e.g. on display tv). Differentiating depending on the recipient: ves.

PRESENTATIONS

Form: developed in an office tool for creating presentations; transferable into pdf or video (depending on the content).







Release schedule: the 1st presentation should be released at the beginning of the project to provide overall view of the project. Additional ones should be developed along with the project progress and/or thematically (focus on particular aspect, result etc.)

Distribution: downloadable from websites, social media; attachment in emails; showing/displaying as individual material during meetings, events etc. (e.g. on display tv)

Differentiating depending on the recipient: yes.

It is also suggested that at the beginning of the project, each partner will develop a **POSTER** and/or **ROLL-UP** to be exhibited at their facilities, at events etc. These should include the main information about the project that should attract further interest.

8.3. Events

8.3.1. Project workshops and conference

Three project workshops will be organized - in Greece, in Slovenia and in Poland. The participants will learn about the project objectives and results. National languages will be used. Representatives of industry and local community, and policy makers will be invited.

Additionally, a conference will be organized at the end of the project. During the REECOL conference the project results will be presented to representatives of industry, academia and authorities (policy-makers). The conference will be preceded by promotion and invitation campaign. It will be also reported to the public – by posts on the project website and social media, by press releases etc.

8.3.2. External events

The project results will be promoted and presented at scientific, technical, industry events at which the target audience can be reached. These are among others:

- conferences, e.g.: REMEDy (PL); KOMTECH (PL); ICMLUR (IT); ICMLR (AUS); MINING SUMMIT (UK), Intersoil (B), SETAC EUROPE ANNUAL MEETING (IRL).
- exhibitions, congresses, trades, e.g.: POLLUTEC (FR); Salon des maires et des collectivités locales (FR), Congrès de la SIM SIM Société de l'Industrie Minérale (FR)

8.4. Articles in scientific and technical journals

To reach the varied target audience, namely the intended varied users of the project results, articles will be published in scientific journal and technical journals that cover topics related with: mining, post-mining lands reclamation, ecosystems degradation and rehabilitation, soil quality and regeneration, planting and revegetation, etc.

This dissemination will be carried out at European and at national levels, covering scientists and engineers.

8.5. Articles in popular science and technically-oriented press and portals/websites

Popular science press and/or portals will be used to reach the target audience who are interested in science, engineering, technology etc. The style, language used, and scientific level of the articles has to be appropriate for non-scientists. The articles would be also comprehensible for representatives of industry, authorities (local decision-makers etc.) and other, who will wish to learn more about project results.

8.6. Presence in media

News about the project will be spread in local and regional media: portals, TV stations, newspapers/ magazines, radio, portals.







9. Management issues

9.1. Assignment of responsibilities

To maintain effective planning, realization, monitoring and reporting:

- KOMAG being responsible for the WP2 has assigned the Project Dissemination Manager;
- each partner has appointed their "Dissemination Manager", who will be the organization's representative for issues related with communication and dissemination;
- the Project Dissemination Manager: i) will supervise development of required documents regarding communication and dissemination, ii) will contact directly with the Dissemination Managers.

The Project Dissemination Manager reports to the Project Coordinator.

9.2. Continuous planning of communication and dissemination activities

Each partner is obligated to continuously search for opportunities to carry out communication and dissemination activities and share this plan with others. For that purpose partnerID_ComDiss_1.xlsx document has been prepared. It contains tabs/tables to be filled in with the main data regarding events, science and technical journals, press/media and audience that match the project profile and needs. The file has been uploaded on the shared project drive. The partners will be periodically asked to upload the completed and updated documents on the project drive. A partly filled in document to serve as a help/example has been also developed and shared with all partners partnerID_ComDiss_1_EXAMPLE.xlsx. The deadline to provide the 1st issues of the document was 1 DEC 2023.

The obtained documents have been combined into one **REECOL_ComDiss_1.xlsx**. Due to RODO, the tab with names of dissemination managers has not been included.



TAB: 'dissemination_manager'



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9.3. Monitoring and evaluation

Dissemination and communication actions carried out by the project consortium will be reported every six months. Conclusions will be drawn taking into account the quality and quantity requirements established in this plan. Subsequent report will be uploaded on the shared project drive.

9.3.1. Periodic reporting

Every 6 months, each partner will develop Communication and Dissemination Actions Registry. The document template will be provided by KOMAG. Partners will be instructed, how to provide sufficiently detailed descriptions. Based on the obtained information, KOMAG will develop a Communication and Dissemination Report. Therefore, subsequent reports will be developed every six months.

9.3.2. Performance indicators

In the table, the main performance indicators are listed.







Performance indicators

Channels, measures	Objectives					
REECOL website	Min. 1200 visits;					
REECOL social media	Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn - each: min. 80 posts and 100 followers					
Publications in journals	Min. 20					
Participation in external events (presentation)	Min. 12					
REECOL events	3 workshops, 1 conference (the final conference)					
Emails with informative materials	Min. 500 recipients/addresses					
Newsletter, leaflet, video, presentation	For each: min. 1/year; EN and partners' languages					

9.4. Framework for the communication and dissemination in the project

On the picture below the main elements and relations that form the framework for dissemination and communication in the REECOL project are presented.





Communication and dissemination in the REECOL project main elements and relations between them

The main responsibilities and relations are as follows:

- KOMAG develops the Communication and Dissemination Plan (CDP) and makes its revision every six months;
- EACH PARTNER continuously carries out investigation/search to identify opportunities regarding communications and dissemination;
- EACH PARTNER provides input to the CDP the filled in xlsx file (partnerID_ComDiss_n.xlsx); every six months;
- EACH PARTNER carries out communication and dissemination; taking into account CDP and their and other partners xlsx documents;
- EACH PARTNER develops report on their communication and dissemination activities Communication and Dissemination Actions Registry; every six months;
- KOMAG periodically develops Communication and Dissemination Report, based on registries from the partners; every six months; the drawn conclusions/summing up information takes into account the CDP.





ANNEX 1: MAIN APPLICABLE PROVISIONS FROM THE GRANT AGREEMENT

COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY (- ARTICLE 17)

Communication and dissemination plan

The beneficiaries must provide a detailed communication and dissemination plan, setting out the objectives, key messaging, target audiences, communication channels, social media plan, planned budget and relevant indicators for monitoring and evaluation.

Dissemination of results

The beneficiaries must disseminate their results, as soon as this is possible, in a publicly available format, subject to any restrictions due to the protection of intellectual property or legitimate interests.

In addition, where the call conditions impose additional dissemination obligations, they must also comply with those.

Additional communication activities

The beneficiaries must engage in the following additional communication activities:

present the project (including project summary, coordinator contact details, list of participants, European flag and funding statement and special logo and project results) on the beneficiaries' websites or social media accounts

GRANT AGREEMENT – ANNEX5, page 6 (page 162 in the PDF file)

ARTICLE 17 - COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY

17.1 Communication — Dissemination — Promoting the action

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, the **beneficiaries** must promote the action and its results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public), in accordance with Annex 1 and in a strategic, coherent and effective manner.

GRANT AGREEMENT – page 32









exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

GRANT AGREEMENT – page 33

17.3 Quality of information — Disclaimer

Any communication or dissemination activity related to the action must use factually accurate information.

Moreover, it must indicate the following disclaimer (translated into local languages where appropriate):

"Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or [name of the granting authority]. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."

GRANT AGREEMENT - page 33,34



