

Questionnaire

The impact of COVID-19 on stakeholder engagement in European energy research

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Welcome and Introduction

Dear survey participant,

The COVID-19 pandemic has large societal and economic impacts from which also different stakeholders involved in EU H2020 energy projects are affected. With this survey, we would like to find out how the crisis affects the **stakeholder engagement activities** of present research projects. This survey aims at the researchers **responsible for stakeholder engagement** - be it project **coordinators** or other **partners** who perform stakeholder engagement in your research project. We would like to learn from you how much of a problem the COVID-19 pandemic is for your project, how you cope with the situation, and how you evaluate alternative stakeholder activities that you have already implemented.

Completing this survey will take you around **15 minutes**. Your answers will be greatly appreciated. The collected information will only be used for the purpose of research and will be treated anonymously. By participating in this survey, you agree to our data protection standards (see GDPR disclaimer below). Your answers will enable us to understand the current situation of stakeholder engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic. It will thus help to tackle this challenge within existing and future EU projects and support the European Commission in taking steps to handling this new situation.

The survey is conducted as a cooperation of the EU H2020 projects PANDORA (fisheries science) and SENTINEL (energy science). If you are interested in the survey results, please leave us your email address at the end of the survey and we are happy to share them with you.

We personally want to thank you for supporting our research!

Do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions regarding this survey or our study.

Kinds regards from the SENTINEL project

GDPR Disclaimer

Compliance with the information requirements when personal data is collected from the data subject (Article 13 GDPR)

We would like to inform you here about how we use your data collected in the described survey above on 'Impacts of COVID-19 on Stakeholder Engagement in EU Energy` in the SENTINEL project.

1. Name and contact details: a. Contact details of the controller: Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V. (IASS) Berliner Strasse 130, 14467 Potsdam, Phone: +49 331 28822-300, Fax: +49 331 28822-310, E-Mail: info@iass-potsdam.de, b. Contact details of the data protection officer Frau Eva Grübel-Hoffmann ITM Ges. für IT-Management mbH Bürgerstraße 81 D-01127 Dresden, datenschutz@itm-dl.de

2. Processing of your personal data: a. Which personal data do we use and where does your data come from? Within the survey, we collect data on your field of research, geographical focus, gender, work experience, and experiences and responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. We used contact details, including names, working places, and email addresses in order to send this survey. These data have been either collected or have been stored within our institutional database on the basis of given consent to do so after personal contact with one of our employees. However, these personal data will not be further used within the analysis, will not be shared with any third parties, and kept confidential. b. For what purposes and on what legal basis do we process your data? As a part of the SENTINEL project, data will be collected within the survey among energy researchers interested in sharing experiences with and responses to the pandemic. The anonymised and aggregated results of the survey will be published in project deliverables, scientific journals, policy briefs, and presented at scientific conferences and workshops. All responses will be anonymised. This will ensure that responses cannot be subsequently associated with specific persons or projects. The anonymised and aggregated results will be made accessible to parties within the projects SENTINEL, interested survey participants, and in scientific publications. We process your personal data in accordance with the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG), Germany. The purpose of the processing is the investigation and analysis of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on energy research. The legal basis for the processing of this data is provided under Article 6 (1) (a), (e), and (f) GDPR. c. How long will your data be stored? The written data will be stored for 10 years after the date of collection to ensure good scientific practice. After this time, it will be erased. d. Is there an obligation to provide data? There is no obligation to provide data. e. Is there automated decision-making, including profiling? As a responsible institute, we do not use automatic decision-making or profiling.

3. Disclosure of your data: a. Who gets your personal data? Your contact data will only be used by our employees for the purposes indicated by the corresponding questions in the survey. Your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties other than project partners in SENTINEL that also agreed on these data protection rules. Only anonymized results will be published or transmitted to other research organizations. b. Will your data be transmitted to a third country or to an international organization? A transfer of personal data to countries outside the European Economic Area (third countries) does not take place.

4. Your rights: You have a right to information (Art.15 GDPR), correction (Art.16 GDPR), cancellation (Art.17 GDPR), limitation of processing (Art.18 GDPR), data transferability (Art.20 DSGVO) and objection to the data processing (Art. 21 GDPR). You have the right to withdraw your consent at any time. You have the right to object at any time to processing of personal data which is based on point (e) of Article 6(1) with effect for the future. Please direct your objection to the Institute of Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) or its data protection officer (see 1a and 1b). This does not affect the legality of the data processing carried out prior to your objection. Furthermore, you have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority (Art. 77 GDPR). Please contact us if you would like to exercise these rights. Potsdam, 29th of June 2020 Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V. (IASS) Berliner Straße 130, 14467 Potsdam



A GENERAL QUESTIONS

A1 Do you work in an EU H2020 project?

- A101 YES
- A102 NO

A1a If yes, indicate H2020 project name (acronym)? _____

A1b If no, which else? _____

A2 What is the duration of your project (years)?

From: _____ Until: _____

A3 How important is stakeholder engagement for the success of your project?

Likert scale: minor role <-> crucial for reaching project goals

A4 Energy: What stakeholder groups are being engaged in your project?

- Policy-maker
- Energy Industry
- Civil Society Organisation
- Research & Innovation
- Other: _____

A4a What is the purpose of your stakeholder engagement?

- Identify research needs/questions
- Co-frame the research process
- Access to data and information to understand a research problem
- Verify research results
- Disseminate research results
- Implement developed technologies/measures/approaches
- Assist stakeholders in realising their own (research) projects
- Access communities / networks of stakeholders

A5 Energy: In which country/countries are you carrying out your engagement activities?

_____ (free text)

A6 According to the original project plan/proposal, which kind of stakeholder engagement activities do/did you perform (or plan to perform)?

- Information events for stakeholders
- Face-to-face workshops
- Conferences
- Focus groups
- Face-to-face interviews
- Online interviews
- Face-to-face survey
- Online survey
- Webinars
- Other; specify: _____



A7 Within the duration of your project, in which year(s) did you originally plan to engage with stakeholders? (can choose multiple)

- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023
- 2024

A8 How often do you engage with stakeholders?

- Once
- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Periodically (e.g. every couple of months)

B CORONA AND STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

B0a To what extent is your daily life affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?

Your affectedness: Not all, not very much, somewhat, very much

B0b Did your project focus change due to COVID-19 pandemic?

Project focus changed: Not all, not very much, somewhat, very much

B1 Which stakeholder engagement activities were planned for (or already conducted in) 2020 (status beginning of the year)?

- Information events for stakeholders
- Face-to-face workshops
- Conferences
- Focus groups
- Face-to-face interviews
- Online interviews
- Face-to-face survey
- Online survey
- Webinars
- None
- Other specify: _____

B2 Does the COVID-19 pandemic change the priority of stakeholder engagement within your project?

Priority changed: Increased very much, Increased somewhat, Decreased somewhat, Decreased very much

B3 How does the COVID-19 pandemic influence the stakeholder/engagement in your project?

Likert scale: very positively <-> very negatively

B4 → You stated that you had planned to perform *face-to-face interviews* this year. How does the Covid-19 pandemic influence this stakeholder activity? (multiple choice)

- Implemented as planned
- (Implemented with social distancing measures) (not for online formats)
- Delayed
- Cancelled
- Format changed
- Other; specify _____

→ for each format ticked

B5 To what extent do you think that the daily life of your stakeholders is affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?

Likert scale: not at all <-> very much, or “I don’t know”

Please describe in more detail how your stakeholders are affected by the pandemic?

B6 Do you perceive a change in your relationship to your stakeholders since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Likert scale: strong negative <-> strong positive

B7 Related to that, please tick the boxes if you agree with the following statements (*multiple possible*)

- It is harder to reach stakeholders
- Stakeholders have less time
- Stakeholders priority has shifted away from the project
- Exchange with the stakeholders has become more frequent
- Stakeholders respond better to remote meetings than physical meetings
- I perceive no changes
- Other; specify _____

C COPING: ALTERNATIVE ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

C1 IF “FORMAT CHANGED” (1.4) (in any case from above): You stated that you had planned to perform *face-to-face interviews*, but could not implement this activity due to Covid-19. Which format did you choose instead?

- Webinar
- Online interactive workshop(s)
- Online conference
- Online focus groups
- Online interviews
- Online survey
- Other; namely: _____

→ for each format ticked

C2 For online engagement with stakeholders, what kind of formats are you using? (*Please choose all that apply*)

- Telephone



- E-Mail
- Video conferencing
- Polls
- Breakout groups
- Online whiteboard
- Chat function
- Online documents for collective work
- Other tools or formats; specify _____

C3 Are there any stakeholders/groups that you *cannot* reach via digital tools (Video calls, Whatsapp, Email,...)?

- No
- Yes

If YES (C3a), please state

1. Which ones,
2. briefly outline the difficulties you encounter in contacting them, and
3. Your alternative approaches for reaching out to them (if any).

Per stakeholder group, please answer all three points in one row, separated by commas.

_____ (free text)
 _____ (free text)
 _____ (free text)
 _____ (free text)

C4 The COVID-19 changes the life of your stakeholders in different ways. Consequently, results you may derive are highly influenced by the current context of the pandemic. Do/will you consider to implement specific measures/principles when conducting your research during COVID-19 to ensure that you derive results that are also valid after the crisis?

- Collect additional contextual information and data about COVID-19 implications in the energy sector (e.g. regional affectedness by Covid-19, implications on energy industry, ...)
- Include additional demographic data of stakeholders and potential changes, e.g. employment situation
- Include questions on self-reported behavioural changes by stakeholders, e.g. change in modes of transportation
- Address stakeholder experiences of the crisis on the individual and/or professional level
- Address the impact of social distancing measures on the cooperation with scientists and other stakeholder groups
- None of them
- Other: _____

D EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES

D1 B4 Format changed for all "OR" then: You stated that you chose alternative engagement formats due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Considering the goals of the stakeholder activity you wanted to perform originally, how suitable were the following formats as a replacement (if performed yet)?

SCALE/MATRIX for each (unsuitable → very suitable + "Not performed (yet)")

- Webinars
- Online interactive workshops
- Online conference

- Online focus group
- Online interviews
- Online survey

Did you try any new formats for stakeholder engagement that you found particularly suitable? If so, which and why? _____

And in contrast, which formats would you *not* recommend? Please briefly state which and why.

D2 Do you plan to continue using any of the new formats after restrictions are lifted?

D3 Do you think that the COVID-19 situation will influence the *outcomes of your stakeholder engagement* process (i.e. the contents you wanted to develop with stakeholders)?

Likert scale: not at all <-> very much

Please explain in what sense _____?

D3b Do you think that the COVID-19 situation will have a negative impact on the overall workflow within your project? (*multiple choice*)

- Overall workflow is not impacted
- Some tasks in the project cannot be completed
- Delays in the flow of data to other work packages
- Data for other work packages cannot be gathered at all
- No negative impact
- Other: _____

D4 How do you think the changes in your stakeholder engagement activities will affect the proceedings and results of your *overall project*? (*multiple choice*)

- The project will be carried out as planned, with the envisioned results
- The project duration will need to be extended
- The project will have the same end date, but we expect changed/reduced outcomes
- Deliverable submission has been/will be delayed
- The overall project objective cannot be completed
- No negative impact
- Other: _____

→ D4a IF TICKED: You stated that you will need to extend the duration of your project due to problems with stakeholder engagement caused by Covid-19. Do you know how to go about this extension and did you already take any measures?

- We already negotiated an extension with the European Commission
- We need an extension, but do not know how to apply for one
- We know how to apply for an extension, but did not start the process

E DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

E1 What is your gender?

- Female



- Male
- Non binary
- I don't want to say

E2 What is your main field of research?

- Energy social science & humanities
- Energy economics
- Energy policy
- Energy modelling
- Energy physics
- Other: _____

E3 How long have you worked in this field?

- 1 - 5 years
- 6 - 10 years
- 11 - 15 years
- over 15 years

E4 How long have you been engaging with stakeholders in EU projects?

- 1 - 5 years
- 6 - 10 years
- 11 - 15 years
- over 15 years

We would like to inform you about our results once we completed analysing the survey data. If you agree to hearing from us again, please enter your contact email address below.
