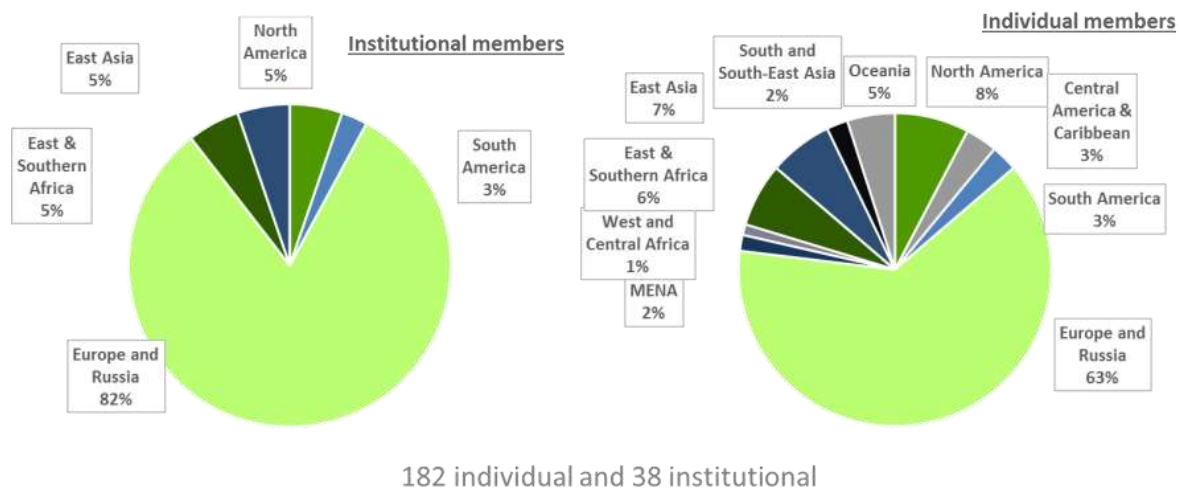


## Notes from **ESP Member Forum** 12 December 2017

*during ESP9 Conference Shenzhen, China 11-15 December 2017*

The meeting was chaired by Benjamin Burkhard and Wieteke Willemen. Around 30 people attended. Items discussed:

### 1. Members # and diversity



### 2. Working Groups & Regional networks

The Good: Most very active. Many WG organize sessions during this conference. Challenges: Continued collaboration in between conferences. Promoting activities and achievements (via ESP website)

### 3. Mission statement

What do you expect from ESP? Why are you a member? Why not?

### 4. Member engagement

- a. Improve interaction among ESP members
  - Total attendance ESP conference has gone up 😊
  - Long term collaborations within working groups 😊
  - But not for all working groups 😞
  - News item sharing in ESP monthly newsletter 😞
- b. **Enlarge the ESP community: more and more diverse members**
  - Regional conference 😊
  - Not more members 😞
  - New diversity strategy for ESP governance 😊

## c. Improve visibility and linkage to the others: linking-up with the outside world

- Science Communication platform 😊
- Still no go PR materials 😞
- ESP Blog wish

## 5. ESP website updates

- a. **Science Communication platform:** An online repository of ESP members publications. All members will be able to upload their publications. The publication will be listed at the ESP website. Time frame – after 2009 (ESP foundation). 2-3 publications will be highlighted in the ESP monthly newsletter (timely, high impact journal, unique ESP initiative). Published in peer-reviewed scientific journal. Have at least one ESP **member** author. English language (pot. other languages in the future). Submission through ESP papers repository portal (google form)
- b. Registration and payment online available
- c. Recurring membership subscription available
- d. Members can publish announcements/news/collaboration calls/vacancies on the homepage (after reviewing from admin) <https://www.es-partnership.org/submit/>

## 6. Member input [For action & serious consideration]

### 6.1. On institutional membership:

- Make number of ESP representatives higher for larger (more paying) institutes. Two persons is too little for example for a 2000 person organization.
- Encourage institutes to only put forward representatives who plan to be active with ESP (no admin person).
- Stimulate Institutional Members to become active in WG.
- Facilitate institutional collaboration: Plan institutional member meeting/network options during conferences, create a platform

### 6.2. On membership in general:

- Better communication on membership motivations including benefits of being a member. For example, by having a plenary conference presentation by a member about the added value of ESP (“Me & ESP”). Besides tangible benefits (reduced conference registration fees, reduced journal subscription fees, access to WGs, etc.) also advantages of by being a member and supporting a very active global community of world-class experts dealing with highly relevant topics should be clearly promoted.
- ESP should be more pro-active and better market its strengths and qualities
- Communicate better what the membership fee is used for/ need to keep ESP running. Indicate that beside the secretariat, ESP runs entirely on people contributing their time voluntarily (EC, SC, WG), including travel to conferences. Members are encouraged to play an active role in ESP, the fee is used to improve ESP capacity to do things well.
- Announce new members in the Newsletter
- Indicate on conference badge if someone is a member.
- Do not assume that €50 is a small amount when paid for by individuals (not organizations). This support, “competes” with other good caused one could donate to.

### 6.3. On ESP activities

- “I was kicked out of all WG because of the new restrictions”. -> Something in the communication about WG membership through the new website went wrong.

### 6.4. On visibility:

- Post at least two times a day on Facebook, twitter, etc.
- Consider organizing events for the general public (besides science and practice)

### 6.5. Wish-list, expectations, ideas from member.

- Permanent possibility to join scientific publications and project proposal writing
- Create a “flying team” to visit countries for promotion of ES
- Lower the conference fee could attract more people
- Provide membership cards for in your wallet to create a “membership” feeling.
- Being a member has given me research ideas and collaboration opportunities