



Draft Minutes from Steering Group (Zoom) meeting June 2020

Venue: Zoom (video meeting), June 9, 2020, 13.30-15.00

	Steering Group (SG) Members	Others
Attendees	Petter Bjørstad, Kjersti Fløttum, Jessica Jewell, Matthias Kaiser, Dieter Roerich; Anne Gro Salvanes, Sigrid Eskeland Schütz and Svein Sundby	Martin Fernø, Eystein Jansen, Kristin Bakken and Andreas Hadsel Opsvik
Prevented	Dag L. Aksnes, Stein Kuhnle and Marit Warncke	Annelin Eriksen

Item no	Title and matter of concern	Decisions/input
1/2020	Adoption of agenda and AOB	The agenda was adopted.
2/2020	Status & Plans for the AE Bergen hub Presentation by Academic Director Eystein Jansen	The SG took note of the presentation.
3/2020	Status and plans for a regional consortium for decarbonization pathways and hydrogen usage – Presentation by Martin Færnø, professor at UiB, YAE member and member of the Hubs Advisory Board Issue: To discuss possible roles for the Hub	The SG found the project promising and gave their support to the potential Hub-engagement areas that were suggested. See details below.
4/2020	A substitute for “the corona-lost” May 2020 Rosendal Seminar Issue: To decide on how to follow up on the cancelled 2020 spring seminar for the members of the Advisory Board (AB) and Steering Group (SG).	The SG decided: 1) To organise a local seminar for the Steering Group in October/November 2020 (if safe due to the COVID-19 pandemic). 2) To postpone the cancelled 2020 Rosendal seminar for AB- and SG-members until spring 2021 (if safe due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

5/2020	Future activities Issue: An invitation to the SG-members to suggest and engage in concrete activities for the hub	The SG decided: To appoint Jessica Jewell and Matthias Kaiser to a small working group <i>on the role of science when the need for action is urgent</i> (in crisis), and to prepare this as a theme for the SG-seminar in the fall. See details below.
6/2020	Any other Business (AOB)	None

Item 3/2020 Status and plans for a regional consortium for decarbonization pathways and hydrogen usage - **USE**- possible roles for the AE-Hub

Background

The ambition of USE, an initiative by UiB *still to be formalised*, is to:

- create a meeting place for regional stakeholders working on reduced environment impact and low carbon solutions
- enable widespread communication to raise public awareness that Vestlandet is the national epicenter on hydrogen and decarbonization technology
- facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration between regionally prevalent activities

The AE-hub has already expressed a strong interest in joining the consortium as a partner, and Eystein Jansen participated May 12, 2020 in a web-seminar together with several other regional interested parties.

Possible roles for the AE-Hub

In Martin Fernø's presentation for the Steering Group he pointed out some areas where he and Eystein Jansen think that the AE-Hub could contribute to the development of the consortium:

- Utilizing the AE-network of experts
- Raising awareness and discussions on decarbonization pathways and hydrogen usage
- Being a door opener to relevant actors or instances
- Connection to Science Advice in EU

Item 5/2020 Future activities

Mathias Kaiser pointed out, with reference to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, that mechanisms like SAPEA is a good tool for science advise in "normal times", but not suited when the need for action is urgent. He suggested this as a topic that could be relevant for the AE-Hub to elaborate on.

Some points made during the discussion that followed:

- There is a great variety in national mechanisms for science advice being utilised by governments around the world in their handling of the pandemic
- Some countries with "good" mechanisms for science advise (e.g. UK) have not been able to repress the virus in early stages, resulting in high mortality rates.

- The pandemic has demonstrated that in acute crisis there is need for ethical guidelines, and to handle a competitive struggle for attention, money, and influence.
- More than usual: Ongoing science dispute has been visible to the public
- Scientific brokerage is a theme that could fit well into this
- Sweden has “brokerage institutions” and nice public debates (but high mortality rates)

Bergen, June 26 (KB)