



## Call Notes for the Portal Committee

Web meeting held: Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
10 AM Eastern/ 7:00 AM Pacific / 5:00 PM CAT (Central Africa Time)

### The following Committee members were in attendance:

- Ruva Chindara, ICPD
- Albino Gaw Dar, FYI
- Scott May, ICPD
- Dustielyn Savage, ICPD
- Elisabeth Valerio, ICPD

**Welcoming remarks & introductions: BOLD ITEMS WILL BE COVERED DURING THE CALL.** For a more in-depth briefing or if you are unable to attend a meeting but would like a debrief, contact Elisabeth Valerio at [evalerio@icpdprograms.org](mailto:evalerio@icpdprograms.org).

Scott May welcomed the council members to the ELISA Development Committee meeting and oriented (through screen-sharing) the committee members to the web-based resources that had been added since the ELISA Advisory Council's last meeting. Scott asked the committee members to go to the ICPD website [www.icpdprograms.org](http://www.icpdprograms.org), select "Committees" from the "Select an ICPD site" drop-down menu at the top right side of the page. Scott informed the committee members that they could locate the meeting agendas, past meeting notes and supporting documents for the meeting on the ELISA Portal Committee Tab. Scott reviewed the proposed [agenda outline](#) for the committee meeting and the [committee objectives](#). Scott then invited everyone to introduce themselves and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

## ELISA Development committee

### Updates, Past Action Items and Recent Developments

#### Focus topics:

#### Proposed changes to committee objectives

##### Committee Objectives:

Focusing on enhancing portal content and functionality to support the growth of a robust and active online community.

- Advise on improvements for existing and future portal features
- Ensuring project pages become a valuable tool for portal members
- Optimize user experience, portal community engagement and user generated content

Scott explained the difference between the new and the old objectives being that the old focused on content creation for the portal and the new ones are more focused on the functionality of the portal as a whole.

### **Developments on ELISA home page; making the ELISA Portal more dynamic**

Elisabeth went through the recently added widgets on the ELISA home page which are allocated at the bottom of the ELISA Portal. The widgets include Luminary content and Project-pages which have been added as a way of making sure that the home page has fresh content to keep website visitors engaged, see [www.elisanetwork.com](http://www.elisanetwork.com). As the Home page is developing, the idea is to have a Netflix style directory where a user can easily browse through content and will want to revisit to find more info in the portal directory. With time different fleets will be added including a Confab calendar.

Scott asked if the content that will be on the ELISA Portal will be also available when you search using a search engine tying it back to the Portal for example if searching a Luminary's name on the internet will an article about them on our portal be part of the results the user has to choose from. Elisabeth responded confirming that metadata is being added on the backend of the Portal and is searchable in Google search fields.

Scott asked whether the metadata will be built in a way making it dynamic. Elisabeth responded saying, Bootstrap Briefs are weekly updates, where the ICPD team adds the content weekly. Project pages will be purely user generated content. There is some programming happening behind the scenes to make projects set to automatically load the latest one or automatically show the user's recent setting. Scott suggested that the home page be worked on to give more appeal to the user or visitor. Elisabeth added that the main focus for now is the functionality then the aesthetics.

### **Developing an ELISA mobile app**

Ruva shared screen and walked the committee members through the mobile app presentation. The goal of creating this app is to be able to try to reach out to everyone in Africa including those that have difficulties actually accessing the website. The mobile app provides an easy-to-use application accessible on a smart phone just like WhatsApp. The mobile app will have the following features:

- I. Landing-page: this is where the user or guest can either sign up, log in or request for password if they have forgotten it.
- II. Home page: this will contain buttons that will allow users to explore different functions including viewing Luminaries, Bootstrap Briefs, Confabs and Projects.
- III. Dashboard: which allows users to edit their profiles, chat, check activities, add/manage connections and share or invite other members to view their profile or join the portal.
- IV. Social network function that will allow users to search for other members, post content and view content posted by other members. Under every post there will be buttons that enable users to like and share the post. When uploading a post picture/video the maximum megabytes of the content will be 2mb.



Scott raised a concern about the cost of being able to access or use the app being high. Ruva responded explaining that the challenge with the App will be its data intensive website features which includes the project pages as they will exhaust a lot of mobile data. This can only be managed by limiting the number of megabytes a user can upload. Scott suggested having a "Lite" version of the App that could strip imagery on project pages as a way to save data.

Scott raised a concern about the differences between the functionality for the different membership levels. Elisabeth responded highlighting that the topic will be discussed with the development committee. The Insider members benefit have the ability to add content and can access the chat feature.

Elisabeth explained that the next stage from this mobile app presentation will be sharing it with the developers. The mobile app should be architected in a way that it will be the mirror of the website (portal) including being able to use the same back office that allows an admin to access and change the content without having to contact the developer.

### **Other/Next Steps and Future Action Items**

The committee members agreed to create a WhatsApp group. The next focus topic will be analytics on the ELISA Portal and project page use cases. The ICPD Team will share information on the analytics tool and provide updates on social media. Scott reminded everyone that the next ELISA Portal Committee meeting will be Tuesday, July 13, 2021.

Please plan on 45-minutes for this call. Visit <https://elisanetwork.com/> for more information about ELISA.

### **Upcoming ELISA Portal Committee meetings:**

Tuesday, July 13, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific

Tuesday, August 31, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific

Tuesday, November 2, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific