

# Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Marine & Coastal Partnership Inaugural Meeting Workshop Report

## 1. Introduction

Chaired by Lord Robin Teverson, we had 45 individuals representing 31 different organisations attend the inaugural meeting of the MCP on 22<sup>nd</sup> February at the National Maritime Museum Cornwall, Falmouth. This launch of an important new partnership in Cornwall and Isles of Scilly saw organisations from across various sectors come together to collaborate and discuss the major issues affecting our local marine and coastal ecosystems and communities and how we can work together to address them.

## 2. Workshop Summary and Methods

### ‘Collaboration and A Closer Look at the Strategic Themes and Objectives’

Jade Neville (JN) & Jenny Wright (JW), MCP

#### Current Strategic Themes:







 <b>Working across our coast</b> Establishing a new partnership to drive a coordinated and collaborative approach Lead(s): tbc	 <b>Restoring our coast</b> Developing the framework for marine nature recovery Lead(s): tbc	 <b>Focusing on coastal hotspots</b> Pilot areas, coastal partnerships, place-based approach Lead(s): tbc
Maintain oversight, drive collaboration across actions for coastal and marine resilience and share information across the Partners' stakeholder networks.	Work without boundaries across the land / sea divide, ensuring effective and meaningful engagement in relation to the delivery of the 30 by 30 marine nature recovery targets.	Work with existing partnerships to integrate coastal resilience into the place-based approach for hotspots, support updating of the Fal and Helford management plan, and identify support needed for Mounts Bay and other isolated areas elsewhere.
 <b>Supporting marine-aware communities &amp; businesses</b> Marine literacy, blue-environmental growth. Lead(s): tbc	 <b>Investing in our coast</b> Innovative funding solutions for marine nature recovery Lead(s): tbc	 <b>Understanding our coast</b> Shared data, data portal, evaluation, monitoring Lead(s): tbc
Deliver engagement with marine, estuarine and coastal champions including a programme to increase marine literacy amongst businesses in order for them to support the blue-environmental growth agenda.	Utilise all available public, private and blended funding sources to ensure maximum benefits for marine and coastal nature recovery. Explore options relating to ESG agenda's as well as any new funding for net environmental gain in the marine and coastal areas.	Share data to support effective decision-making and monitoring and make best use of the natural capital approach.

Image1: MCP Strategic Themes and Objectives

#### Spectrum Lines (JN)

- JN explained the spectrum lines activity and asked the following questions:
  1. Where do you value Cornwall's coast - work or play
  2. I feel confident that the challenges Cornwall's coastline is facing can be addressed
  3. My organisation has a role to play in restoring Cornwall's coastal/marine ecosystems

- 4. I work in the Voluntary sector
- 5. Public sector – Private sector
- The consensus after this activity was that people felt inspired by the meeting today

### Discussion and Activity (JW)

- Intro
  - Intros to each other and roles
  - What brought you here today
- Discuss strategic themes
  - Is there anything missing? Write them down in the gaps provided
  - Add weighted dots to pick priorities
  - Discuss why you've weighted your priorities as such. Prompts:
    - Which themes do you feel most drawn to, align most with?
    - What is your organisation doing related to those themes?
    - Which themes really don't speak to you?
- 1 point from each tables fed back to room

### Mentimeter Survey (JW)

1. Do you have any specific actions you would like to see the MCP deliver or ways the MCP could support your organisation to deliver your priorities?
2. Do you have any particular knowledge gaps or research needs? How could the partnership help address these?
3. Do you have any specific topic areas or agenda items for future meetings?
4. Is there anything you would like to offer to do for the partnership e.g. present a talk, site visit, funding etc?
5. Do you have any other suggestions?

## 3. Workshop Summary and Results

### 3.1 Current Strategic Themes – weighted dots activity

The aim of this activity was to get an idea of how each individual would rank the current strategic themes. The current themes were developed throughout the previous work undertaken as part of the Cornwall 3C's project. This activity is not statistically relevant due to the methods; however, it gives a good idea of how members would prioritise the current themes.

From the weighted dots, an average was taken, and the themes were ranked from 1=highest priority to 6=lowest priority. The results are shown below.

1. Supporting marine-aware communities & businesses (**2.98**)
2. Investing in our coast (**2.99**)
3. Working across our coast (**3.16**)
4. Understanding our coast (**3.29**)
5. Restoring our coast (**3.52**)
6. Focusing on coastal hotspots (**4.89**)

There was not a significant difference between priorities 1 and 2, with only a 0.01 difference between the averages. Priorities 3 to 5 also placed very close together. The main and clearest outcome was that 'Focusing on coastal hotspots' was ranked as priority 6. There were some comments around this that will be discussed below.

## 3.2 Summary of Comments on Current Strategic Themes

### Working across our coast

- Elaborate on what this means - we have now established a partnership.
- Build in the need for cross sector collaboration - needs to be clearer (industry, communities etc.).
- Good to have, but it's already happening with MCP.
- Support existing industry (fishing etc) as well as new developments and renewables.
- Encourage sustainability in all sectors.

### Restoring our coast

- We need to start delivering and driving action NOW.
- We need spatial plans and opportunity mapping to achieve many of the actions that would be associated with this theme.
- Goal must be restoration and themes are factors that need to be in place to achieve these.

### Supporting marine-aware communities & businesses

- The education needs to be clearer - more detail on skills, training and upskilling.
- Marine industry must be better represented in themes – could it fit in here or does it need a separate theme?
- We need to engage with those that are not already connected.
- Could coastal resilience fit in here? Or does it need its own theme?
- Improving accessibility to our coast needs to be included and more prominent. It could be included throughout all themes.

### Investing in our coast

- Sustainable marine economy could be built in here?
- We need funding to develop delivery plans, get more data, monitor what is there and improve/restore.
- We need funding to develop and action all themes.

### Focusing on coastal hotspots

- Change from hotspots to 'focusing on coastal communities'. The current language could seem exclusionary to some communities.
- We need to include a sense of place, culture and heritage.
- Language is wrong 'place-based' not 'hotspot'.
- Hotspots - is this the right approach? Consider diversification as there is a wider need. Activity is already happening in hot spot areas and funding is focused there. Important work can happen elsewhere, need to start small and scale up (it is easier to get smaller pots of money).
- Communities can feel isolated and not listened to if not in a 'hotspot' area.
- Could feel exclusionary.

### Understanding our coast

- Need to mention data collection
- We need to invest in monitoring and coordination of monitoring programs
- Use best available evidence.
- Marine spatial plan - is there a need for Cornwall? MMO not fit for purpose as a spatial plan.
- Data and information need to be accessible and visible.

## 3.3 Additional Themes -suggestions

### Coastal Resilience

- Need to focus on impact of coastal change on communities (the human element) i.e. Sea level rise and coastal erosion and its effect on community.
- Coastal resilience needs to be mentioned or have its own theme.
- Adaptation and climate resilience.

### Better representation of industry

- Marine industry must be better represented in themes.
- Currently too much environmental focus.
- Blue economy.

### Community voice

- Community ownership doesn't really come through in the themes.
- People can impact at all levels from policy/strategy to on the ground action.

### Other activities and boundaries

- Link to other boundaries and activities at sea that impact our waters and activities (EU fishing fleet).
- Who's not at the table i.e. Health. Health of the ocean = health of people.

### Additional Comments

- Themes act as a net of principles to take projects and issues forward so all themes may differ in priority when looking at specific projects/organisations.
- Innovation in all areas.
- Potential for partnership to create a shared voice which would be very useful for organisations deciding on whether to support projects such as seaweed farming/planetary project.

## 4.Summary of Mentimeter Results

### Question 1. What is your name and organisation?

We had 35 respondents for the Mentimeter survey. A full list of names and responses can be found in Appendix A.

**Question 2. Do you have any specific actions you would like to see the MCP deliver or ways the MCP could support your organisation to deliver your priorities?**

A key theme throughout many of the responses to Q2 was communication, collaboration and joined up thinking between sectors. The responses have been grouped into key headings and the full list of responses can be seen in Appendix A.

- Collaborations & communication
- Funding
- Data & mapping
- Marine nature recovery and protections
- Specific projects & pilot areas

**Question 3. Do you have any particular knowledge gaps or research needs?**

There were 24 responses to this question with a wide range of answers, from socio-economic impacts and knowledge to species & habitat specific data and research. Some key responses included:

“Local community knowledge is underutilised as only consulted at the final planning application stage, when it should be sought at the start. All local communities can do is object rather than co-design.”

“The marine environment has HUGE knowledge gaps. We don't even know what is in our Cornish waters and where, let alone how it will be impacted as the next commercial frontier.”

Responses have been grouped into the following headings with a full list of responses available in Appendix A.

- Socio-economic knowledge and impacts
- Habitat mapping and data
- Protected features
- Marine nature recovery opportunities
- Land-sea interface.
- Natural capital assessment
- Tourism
- Water quality

**Question 4. Do you have any specific topic areas or agenda items for future meetings?**

There were 25 responses to this question. These responses will be used to inform future agenda items for the MCP. There was a variety of responses with some key themes which can be seen below. Many of the responses mentioned accessibility and equality throughout the MCP, future meetings and agenda items.

- Equality, inclusivity and diversity – bringing together all sectors and how to reach those that are less engaged – how to make the MCP accessible to all.
- Local and community education

- Seaweed aquaculture
- Research gaps
- Funding
- Spatial planning
- Marine nature recovery
- Member organisations sharing their work areas/specific projects
- Fisheries
- Current and future planning/development

**Question 5. Is there anything you would like to offer to do for the partnership?**

There were 14 responses to this question. With many organisations offering to do talks/presentations; to facilitate and run site visits; and to share MCP news with their networks.

- Site visits e.g. National Trust sites and Cornwall Wildlife Trust – Sea Quest and Shore Search sites
- Talks and presentations e.g. Community - Your Shore Network and tourism and recreation sector
- Data and research sharing
- Collaboration and sharing news/info through member networks

**Question 6. Do you have any other suggestions?**

There were 7 responses to the final questions. Full results are listed below and in Appendix A.

- The Partnership needs to be flexible to adapt to changes in industry, recreation, legislation, and policy. Membership needs to reflect a changing Cornwall.
- Just looking forward to discussing how we as a sub partnership can work together. But other than that, it's fantastic and look forward to working with the group more.
- Look at/report on effects of coastal erosion on wildlife. E.g. bird's dependent on cliffs such as Sand Martins.
- Look at/report on effects of land use (agriculture, leisure, and tourism) on coastal wildlife.
- Keep us updated.
- Would like to hear talks from other sectors (tourism/ development/fishing) on how they think sustainability of our marine environment and coast fits with their work, possible joint solutions.
- Find a way to include the next generation in this process...perhaps with a youth forum representing different ages groups from primary schools up to university age students.

## 5. Recommendations

### Updates to Strategic Themes and Objectives

#### Working across our coast

Use the partnership to drive a coordinated and collaborative approach. Maintain oversight, drive collaboration across the sectors for coastal and marine resilience and share information across the Partners' stakeholder networks.

#### Objectives:

- Hold 3 Partnership meetings per year and one annual conference.
- Develop and form specific working/sub-groups as required (examples below):
  - o *Marine Liaison Group*
  - o *Blue Economy*
  - o *Fisheries*
- Maintain a coastal partnership officer position to ensure there is the ability to coordinate the partnership and wider network.

#### Supporting marine-aware communities & businesses

Deliver engagement with marine, estuarine and coastal communities including an education programme to increase marine literacy amongst community members, businesses, and industry, with the aim for them to support blue-environmental growth and the blue-economy.

#### Objectives:

- Work with members to ensure our industry and business partners are aware of the blue-environmental growth and blue-economy agenda.
- Work with members and stakeholders to ensure marine literacy is included in any training of businesses and communities.
- Work with members and stakeholders to support their training and up-skilling programmes.
- Work with the Your Shore Network to support the delivery of the Charter of the Seas throughout Cornwall communities.
- Improve the accessibility to our coast through engagement work, ensuring inclusivity throughout.

#### Restoring our coast

Develop a framework for marine nature recovery. Work without boundaries across the land / sea divide, ensuring effective and meaningful engagement in relation to the delivery of the 30 by 30 marine nature recovery targets.

#### Objectives:

- Support Cornwall Council with their Marine Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- Work with partners to develop marine spatial plans and opportunity mapping.



- Work with partners to bridge the land-sea interface, engaging with catchment partnerships and terrestrial groups.

### **Investing in our coast**

Utilise all available public, private and blended funding sources to ensure maximum benefits for a coordinated marine and coastal community throughout Cornwall & Isles of Scilly. Explore options relating to the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) agenda as well as any new funding for net environmental gain in the marine and coastal areas.

#### **Objectives:**

- Develop a sustainable funding strategy for the MCP:
  - o Engage with other coastal partnerships (nationally) to gain insights into possible funding plans.
  - o Work with MCP members, looking a possibility of membership fees.
- Seek out innovative projects for the partnership to develop together ready for possible funding pots (shovel ready)

### **Understanding our coast**

Share data to support effective decision-making, evaluation, and monitoring. Make best use of the natural capital approach.

#### **Objectives:**

- Work with Cornwall Wildlife Trust & Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly to further develop the Coastal Data Hub.
- Work with partners to identify and monitor boundaries and activities at sea that impact our waters and activities.
- Work with partners to identify ongoing monitoring, and further data and monitoring needs.

### **NEW: Supporting resilient coastal communities**

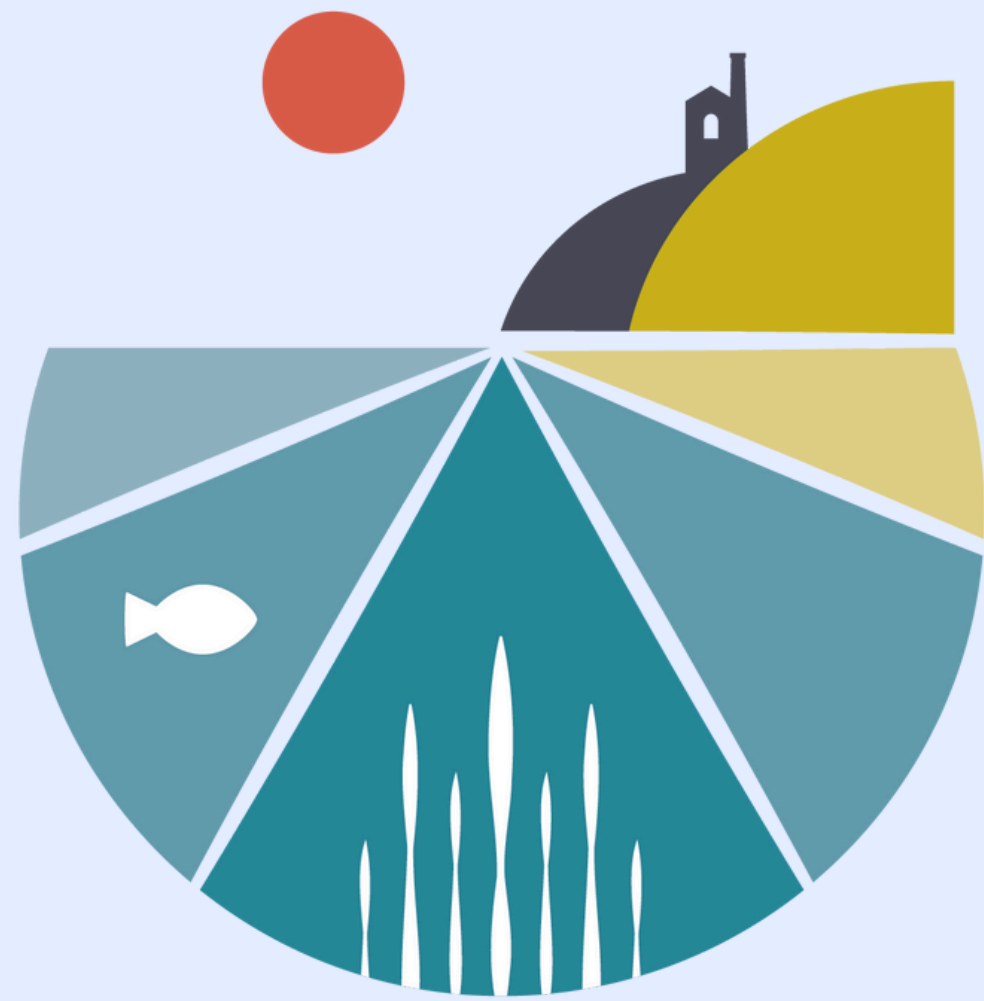
Work with partners and communities to develop a combination of mitigation and adaptation strategies to address climate change and other challenges faced by our coastal areas.

- Support engagement and education activities for coastal communities focusing on climate resilience. Empowering the community to be better equipped and more able to adapt to changing environmental conditions.
- Work with partners to help develop plans to strengthen infrastructure, improve land-use planning, and promote ecosystem-based approaches for natural defence mechanisms.

### **REMOVE: Focusing on coastal hotspots**

There were many comments around the language of this particular theme being exclusionary to other communities and area, so it is there for proposed that this theme be removed and any relevant objectives have now been covered in the above strategic themes and objectives.





Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

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**Marine & Coastal**  
Partnership

# APPENDIX A

## MCP Inaugural Meeting Workshop Workshop

Mentimeter Results

# 1. Do you have any specific actions you would like to see the MCP deliver or ways the MCP could support your organisation to deliver your priorities?

Who's who directory

Annual forum

Coordinate action, engagement and education.

Loads but especially, but not exclusively, nature restoration

Share governance progress with CPN

Providing the link between land and coast. Accessing and supporting funding bids which deliver integrated outcomes

Keep us informed

More effective county-wide coordination of projects, funding and resources



# 1. Do you have any specific actions you would like to see the MCP deliver or ways the MCP could support your organisation to deliver your priorities?

Data provision. Investment in surveying in the coastal and marine area

Provide a space to share information and ideas

Yes I would love to see an economic group that looks at a Blue Local industrial strategy

Ensure all work is transparent and on the website.

Coordinated approach to development proposals and joint project submissions to address multiple objectives.

Support to the mounts bay coastal strategy  
Develop an integrated catchment / estuary / coastal scale proposition for the Fal

Funding sources

Good consultation Reduce duplication of effort Clarity where possible Pace of response



# 1. Do you have any specific actions you would like to see the MCP deliver or ways the MCP could support your organisation to deliver your priorities?

The 6 principles cover most areas well

I would welcome a pilot to produce a marine spatial choice map identifying the equivalent of spatial allocations for different activities including areas for colocation of activities

Guide with funding and assistance with accessing this for coastal nature recovery projects

Balance social, economic and community. Promote sustainability in all aspects. Gain a deeper understanding of the challenges facing our marine area and identify solutions

Be a co-ordinating gateway for funding applications

Workshops for specific issues and topics for a strategic approach

Bring greater awareness to the coastal partnership work already happening and boost it at the county level.

Joined up thinking across organisations delivering resilience and recovery evenly around the coast not just the more exciting spots!



# 1. Do you have any specific actions you would like to see the MCP deliver or ways the MCP could support your organisation to deliver your priorities?

Support Seabird Recovery Projects  
Produce a recreational strategy that's supports nature recovery.  
Set up a bio-security scheme for users and managers of the marine environment

Encouraging coastal communities that they have a say and enable their engagement.

better communication of marine issues

Support with access to funding for our group which is a voluntary organisation and a CIC with or without collaboration with others

Highlight the importance of protecting the marine environment

A key priority is helping everyone to understand we are all on the same side and NOT a continuum with business at one end and nature at the other in competition with each other

We need to unite behind genuine beliefs that nature is vital for a prosperous economy that can then support nature. We need to fully embrace the concept of the 'Ecozoic'



## 2. Do you have any particular knowledge gaps or research needs?

Socio-economic  
knowledge of coastal  
communities

Land sea interface working is  
critical. Lots of different  
initiatives ongoing and the  
partnership could help pull  
together

Role of facilitator/neutral  
coordinator

Tourism data

Natural capital assessment -  
technical expertiseHabitat  
monitoring - resources and  
skills

None at present

Health and wellbeing  
benefits

Coastal Data Hub



## 2. Do you have any particular knowledge gaps or research needs?

Data visualization - Exeter uni  
happy to help and have a  
visitor suite

Natural capital valuation  
Marine nature recovery  
opportunities map

Habitat data Help to  
understand the challenges  
and opportunities of the the  
Duchys marine estate

Lots of evidence gaps around  
specific protected features  
within MPA's and the humam  
impacts on these.

Status and distribution of  
seabird food prey itemsSocio  
economic impacts of bycatch  
mitigation measures for water  
birdsTracking of seabirds to  
better understand their at sea  
ecology and distri

Robust local seagrass  
research over long  
timescales (10+ years)

Link our organisation with  
others applying and with  
business wishing to help for  
funding bids

Seabed habitat mapping has  
big gaps, broad scale  
mapping needs ground  
truthed. Water quality data  
would be useful



## 2. Do you have any particular knowledge gaps or research needs?

No

The marine environment has HUGE knowledge gaps. We don't even know what is in our Cornish waters and where, let alone how it will be impacted as the next commercial frontier

Local community knowledge is underutilised as only consulted at the final planning application stage, when should be sought at the start. All local communities can do is object rather than co-design

We all need better skills and knowledge about how to work together

### 3. Do you have any specific topic areas or agenda items for future meetings?

Not sure yet

Evidence based decision making

Planning at local level - power or not of parish councils .  
Second home council tax rises

Happy to provide an overview with the MMO on how the marine space works from an activity point of view and who does what etc. if useful?

Education locals and residents

Equity of access - connecting people to nature

Seaweed aquaculture

Sharing collaboration opportunities. Drawing in underrepresented communities



### 3. Do you have any specific topic areas or agenda items for future meetings?

Ensuring membership of the partnership is balanced and representative of the diversity of the area

Communication strategies-  
worth getting some key docs  
etc eg plain English society  
review

Spatial allocations across  
sectors and areas for co  
location

Research gaps is a good focus,  
meetings could have habitat or  
species specific conversations  
and working groups for specific  
locations.

Agenda item specifically for  
different people to share their  
own project or work area e.g.  
Presentation. Plus enough  
space to network and  
collaborate.

Spatial planning on a  
local scale

MPA management

Blue economy



### 3. Do you have any specific topic areas or agenda items for future meetings?

Aquaculture

Funding.Working with  
Westcountry Rivers  
TrustWorking with the EA

Marine nature recovery potential  
projects.Start to list pipeline  
costed projects we can put to  
funders and provate investors  
(eg flow developers as their  
environmental benefits  
requirement / MBNG

Marine nature recovery potential  
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Marine SPATIAL planning  
and options for  
colocation

Someway of engaging the  
fishing sector....? dispelling myths  
that conservation and fishing are  
in opposition when there are so  
many joint benefits.

No

Current and future  
planning / developments

### 3. Do you have any specific topic areas or agenda items for future meetings?

How to balance the 'voices' of  
an impoverished nature with  
affluent business



## 4. Is there anything you would like to offer to do for the partnership?

Site visits. Host meetings, talks and case studies, collaboration or leading funding bids, match funding opportunities

Happy to present and share data etc

Facilitation at meetings

See previous

Share researchPresent a talk e.g. coastal wildbelt

Talks site visits. Community crowdfunding. Private investment framework. Coordinate

We want to stay engaged and act as a conduit to share Partnership information and opportunities at a local scale

Potential collaboration and possible talks from Marine Conservation Society specialists/ scientists



## 4. Is there anything you would like to offer to do for the partnership?

Support in any way I can as one of your affiliated coastal coordinators

Happy to do occasional talks/ articles and potentially host field trips.

I maybe able to send out news items and info to all RYA members via magazine / enews letter.

Not at this moment

Nothing specific

Site visit or talk on CWT seagrass restoration site (limited numbers for site visit). Site visit to do a seawatch / snorkel / shore survey

SRT are always happy to deliver free online presentations about our amazing globally rare, native, heritage, UK speciality seals



## 5. Do you have any other suggestions?

Thank you!

The Partnership needs to be flexible to adapt to changes in industry, recreation, legislation and policy. Membership needs to reflect a changing Cornwall

None at present

Just looking forward to discussing how we as a sub partnership can work together. But other than that its fantastic and look forward to worling with the group more.

Look at/report on effects of coastal erosion on wildlife. Eg birds dependent on cliffs such as Sand Martins. Look at/report on effects of land use (agriculture, leisure and tourism) on coastal wildli

Keep us updated

Would like to hear talks from other sectors (tourism/ developmentfishing....) on how they think sustainability of our marine environment and coast fits with their work, possible joint solutions

Find a way to include the next generation in this process...perhaps with a youth forum representing different ages groups from primary schools up to university age students