

Introduction to ESA Knowledge Management

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ESA facts



EUROPE'S GATEWAY TO SPACE

WHAT

22 Member States, 6000+ workforce

WHERE

HQ in Paris, seven sites across Europe and a spaceport in French Guiana

WHY

Exploration and use of space for exclusively peaceful purposes



Many diverse activities





(Some of the...) specifics & challenges



- **Distributed and versatile workforce**: 22 member states, 9 main establishments in 8 countries (Europe and South America)
- 13 Directorates with individual focus and missions
- Diverse types of knowledge and very specialized: Scientific, Technological, Operational, Managerial
 - Alone in TEC: 50 different fields of expertise in 10 competency domains
- Decades-long projects
- Ageing demographics
 - 50% current ESA workforce will be retired by 2030
- Newcomers wave

Vision, Mission, Objectives of ESA KM



"KM for ESA: every day and everyone"

Ensuring the management of ESA's critical knowledge (scientific, technical, managerial) to continuously improve its effectiveness and efficiency in pursuing its mission.



Capture, retain and share critical expertise for future use



Learning from Projects



Control of how information is created, stored, shared, tracked and protected - make it FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)



Optimize access to online resources through the ESA Libraries service

Knowledge Management: people & activities





Lessons Learned @ ESA



Continually improve the Agency's activities as a result of experience gained in the execution of the Agency's mission.

Creating "systematic" learning in projects for ESA

Transformation: Project Management-reduced time to
launch

E-books created for functions

- Project Manger e-book
- Controller e-Book
- Systems e-Book ...
- Establish new products including WG and new on-line resources
 - CFI Handling
 - Review Skills

Capture

Working with project teams to access function-based learning at project start and for review milestones

Systematically working to identify "candidate" projects for lessons capture

1600+ lessons captured/imported from 400 individuals in 50+ capture events to the ESA LL Portal → 1000 learning actions

Capture Events including industry, academia and Space Agencies

Validate

100% LL validated < 2 weeks from capture

1000+ actions assigned to 99 process owners

Action

Learn

Evaluate

- 100% of lessons evaluated within 8 weeks from capture at ESA level (ESA LL Board)
- Release also externally

7

Learning from experience @ ESA



We capture experience

through Lesson Capture events, at key project milestones

We assure learning of lessons

 through process change or creation, embedding change in what and the way we do things

We create "systematic use" of learning resources

• by project teams, and during reviews



Forward Learning



Lesson Capture events



ESA Lessons Learned Board



Learning Actions



Creating new learning resources



Addressing ESA Workforce learning needs

Lessons Learned – Next Steps and Challenges



Next Steps

- Internal release of New AI capabilities for lessons learned (Knowledge Graph and Chabot)
- Integrate "systematic" learning in projects for ESA Transformation: Project Management-reduced time to launch
- Provide means to share ESA's experience across the European Space Community
- Deploy additional AI solutions to improve quality of experience capture and improve retrieval of learning

Challenges

- Increasing demand (positive!), but limited resources
- Dependency on KM team

Critical Knowledge Retention and Transfer



300 retirees in until 2026 @ESA

Identify Expert

Based on imminence of retirement, uniqueness and importance of knowledge

Engage

Engage expert and line manager in the CKRT process

Scope

Identify knowledge topics (create knowledge map





Prioritise and

Plan

Creation of the

CKRT Roadmap

Implementatio n of the agreed **CKRT Roadmap**

Knowledge **Integration**

Storage of captured materials in appropriate and accessible location

It can be simplified bc of time and availability of the expert

Critical Knowledge Retention and Transfer – Next Steps and Challenges



Next Steps

- Review / refresher (?)
 of the process
- Closer cooperation with HR for a better planning of CKRT exercises

Challenges

- Increasing demand (positive!), but limited resources
- Single point of truth for captured resources

ESA Expert Lectures





ESA KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT @ 2024





STAFF RETIREMENT BY 2030

ACCESS TO EBOOKS, JOURNALS AND DATABASES ALLOWING > 200,000 DOWNLOADS PER YEAR

KNOWLEDGE **PRINCIPLES**

FINDABLE

ACCESSIBLE

INTEROPERABLE

RE-USABLE

KNOWLEDGE **RETENTION & TRANSFER EXERCISES**

UNDERWAY IN TEC



EXPERT DIRECTORY PROFILES

EXPERTS LECTURES TARGETING GREATER



LEARNING

ACTIONS CLOSED

ESA

CAPTURE EVENTS INC. INDUSTRY AND AGENCIES

PROCESSES IMPROVED THROUGH LEARNING

 TOOL CATALOGUE **ENTRIES**

ESA CLASSIFICATION PLAN AVAILABLE @ ESA TAXONOMY 1200+WIKI ENTRIES

VIDEOS

KNOWLEDGE 550 **PORTAL**

TOPICS

WORKSPACES

R&D CONTRACTS IN CONTRACT CLOSURE **DOCUMENTATION** (eCCD) PILOT



GENERIC PROTOCOL FOR EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE WITH AGENCIES AND INDUSTRY

NOVEL USES OF ARTIFICIAL **INTELLIGENCE**



LESSONS LEARNED:

DATA-MINING, KNOWLEDGE GRAPH (KG) AND CHATBOT FOR QUALITY TRANSFER

NEBULA LIBRARY:

KG-SUPPORTED SEARCH FOR TDE, GSTP AND DISCOVERY & PREPARATION **REPORTS**

TEXT MINING FOR CONFERENCES:

EXTRACTING TRENDS AND TOPICS FROM SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

NEWCOMERS TO BE TRAINED IN KNOWLEDGE CAPTURE AND SHARING

KNOWLEDGE FOR **NEWCOMERS: ENABLING** SPACE CAREERS TO 2050

ASTROLABE KNOWLEDGE & VISITOR CENTRE Open and running @ HQ-N

