



There are many groups on the Ocean Decade Network (ODN), organized in five categories:

- National Decade Committees (NDCs)
- Thematic Communities of Practice (COPs)
- Regional Communities of Practice (COPs)
- Open Groups
- Working Groups

For more information about the **types of groups**, please review our "Understanding Groups" fact sheet under the "Resources" tab of the ODN.

Each group has been assigned either a **Group Lead** (in the case of COPs) or **Group Admin**. This designation gives you authority to edit and manage your own group, including adding members, posting content, and coordinating discussions.

If you are a Group Lead or Admin, please take a moment to flip through this user guide.

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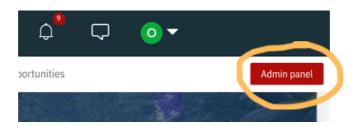
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Admin Panel

If you are a Group Lead or Admin, you will see this "Admin Panel" upon logging in. This will take you to the back-end of the Ocean Decade Network (ODN) to edit information about your group.



Among other things, you can change your group's photo, add and manage members, add a group description, and add files to the group's Media Centre.

If you think you should be a Group Admin but do not have access, please reach out to the Ocean Decade Network Manager (oceandecadenetwork@unesco.org) with your group's name.

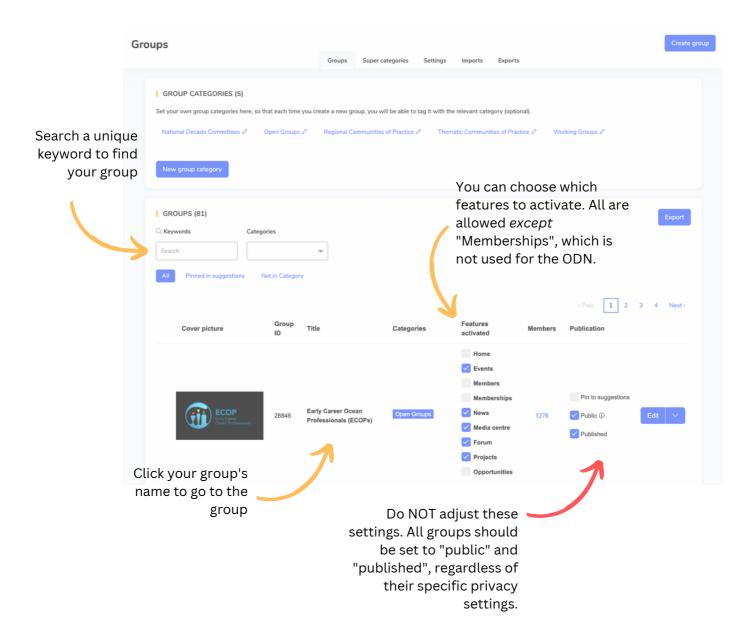
There can only be **one Group Admin per group**. However, some groups have created a group email address (and an associated ODN profile), which allows multiple members to help manage the page via the one email address.

If you would like details about how to begin a new group, please first review the "Understanding Groups" and "What are Communities of Practice?" Fact Sheets, found under the Resources tab of the ODN.



Find your group

Go to the "Groups" tab and type a unique keyword in the Search function to find your group. Then click on the name to go to your group.





Home Page

Once in your group, make sure your group's home page is updated with a logo, banner photo, group description, key team members, important links, and partners.

First steps

Settings

Next, go to the "Settings" tab, where you can adjust key information about your group (including which pages you would like to feature, notifications you will receive, and auto-emails to interested members).

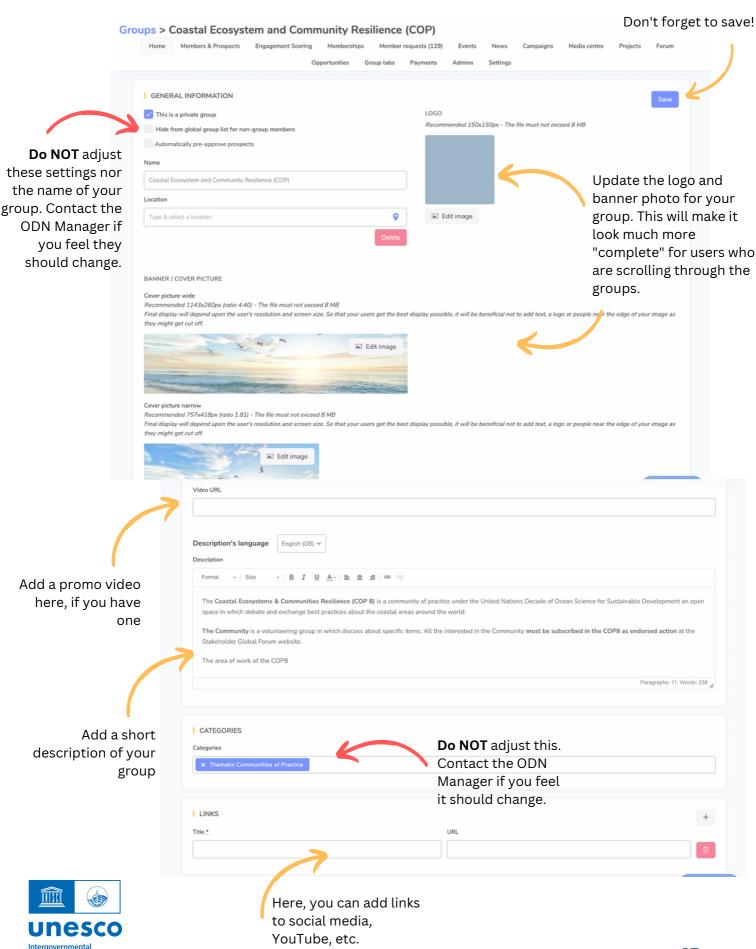
Resources

Take a look at the User Guides & Tutorials under the "Resources" tab of the ODN. Please guide your group members to the "ODN User Guide" so that they can learn the platform's basic functions, including how to set up their profiles.

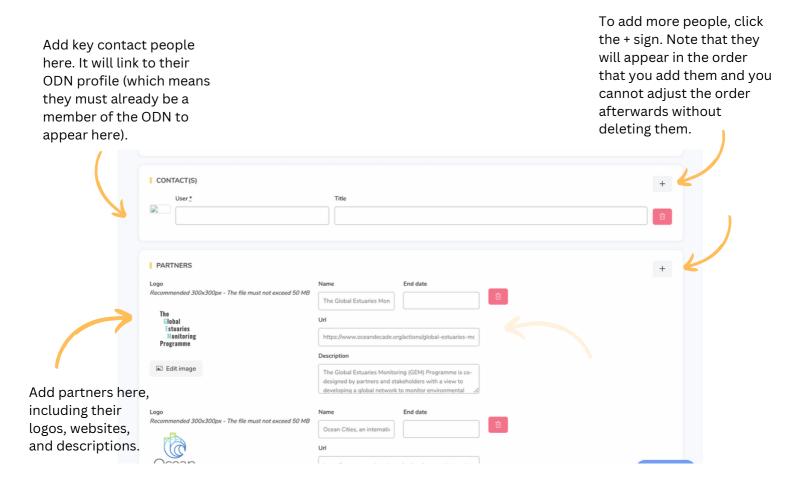


Home page

Oceanographic Commission

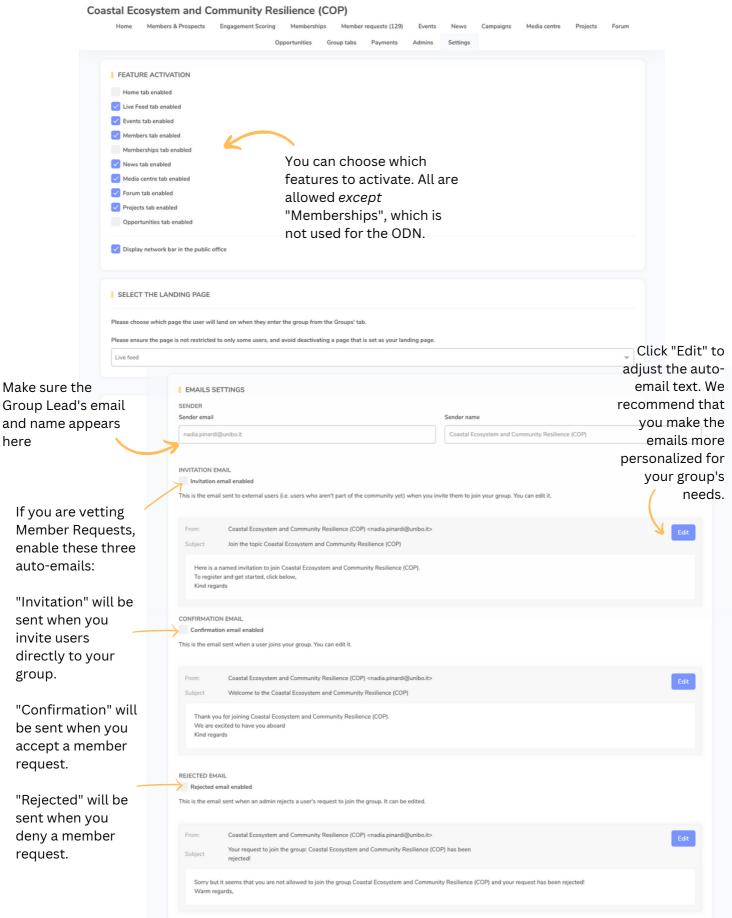


Home page, continued...





Settings



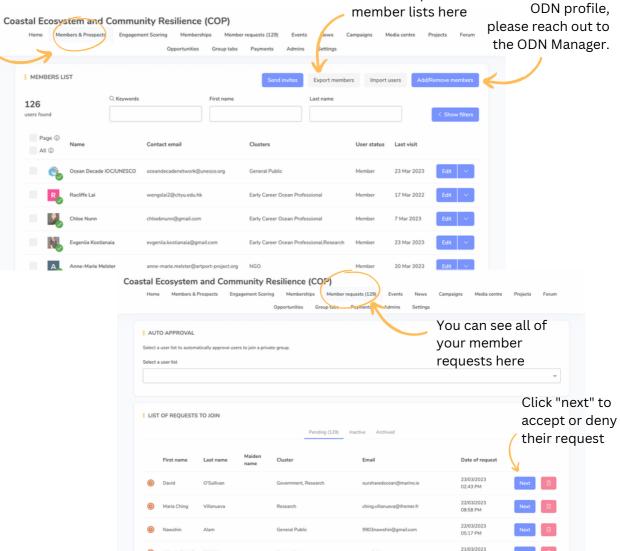
Members

If you are administering an open group (either an NDC that has chosen to be an open group or another non-COP), you will not need to manage **member requests**, as people will be able to join automatically. Also, if you are managing a closed NDC or Working Group that has a specific list of committee members, you do not need to manage member requests. In either of these cases, please contact the ODN Manager to remove the "Member Request" tab for your group.

If you are managing a Community of Practice (which only accepts members who are affiliated with endorsed Decade Actions) or another closed group that requires vetting, you must individually approve or deny member requests. We ask that all Group Leads review member requests at least weekly.

You can add members as long as they are already part of the ODN. If you would like to add members who do not yet have an ODN profile, please reach out to the ODN Manager.

Under "Members & Prospects", you can see all of your group's members

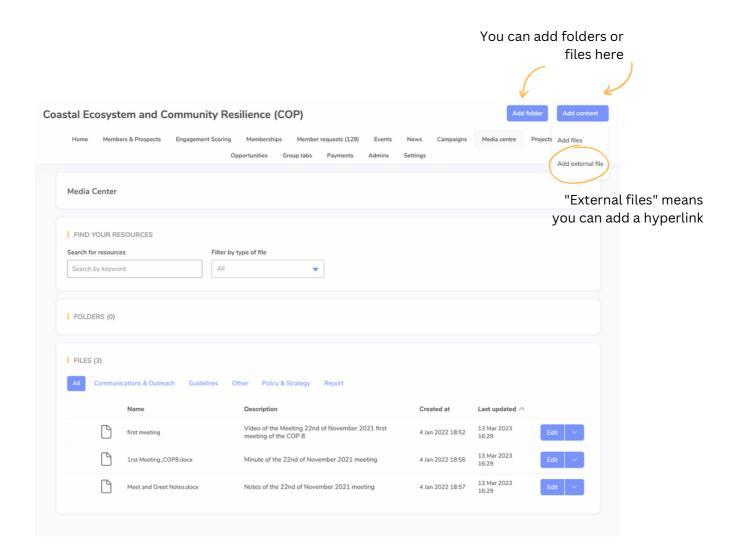


You can export



Media Centre

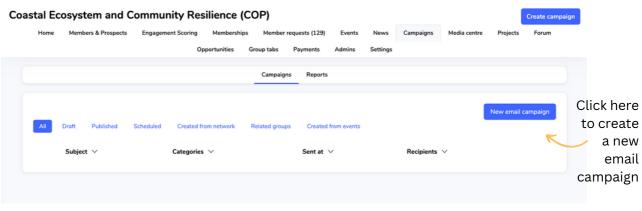
This is where you can store files (and links to external files), such as PDFs, documents, photos, and videos. Only the Group Admin can update this page.

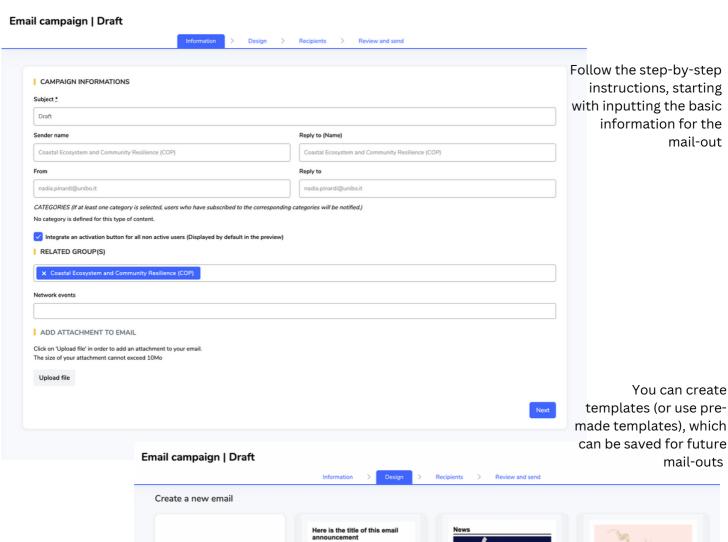


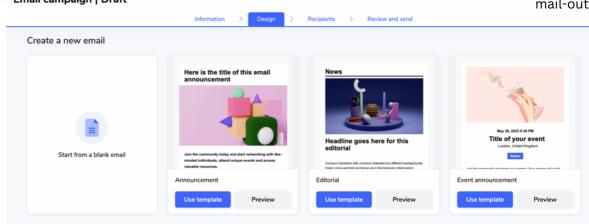


Email Campaigns

You can send email campaigns to all of your group members - essentially mail-outs and newsletters, similar to Wix Shout-Out or Mailchimp





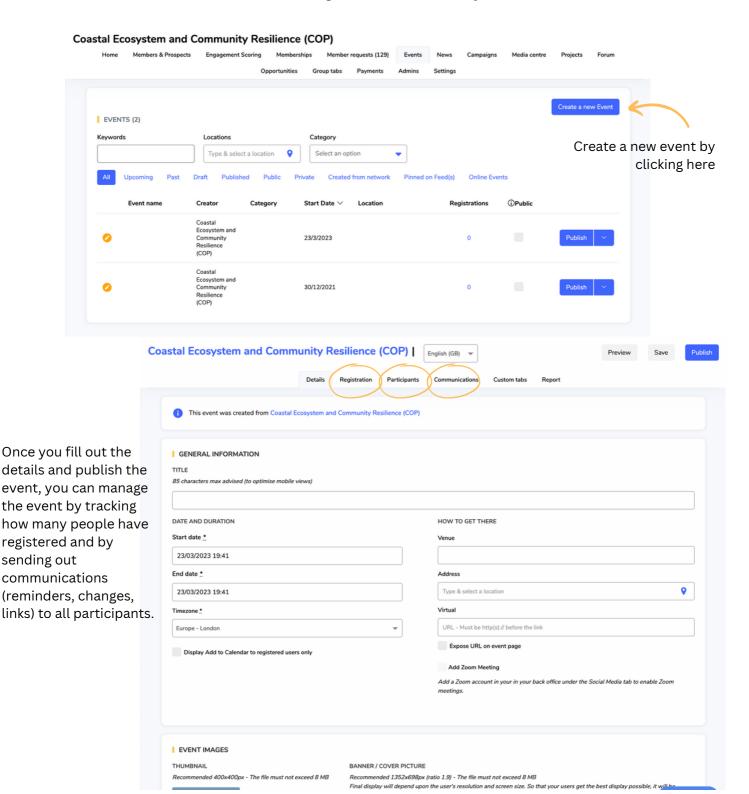




This section is similar to the main Events tab of the ODN. The difference is that events created within your group are *only* for your group members.

Events

If you would like to create a public event (for all ODN members), go through the + (share) tab located on the top right of the main page, not through your group page. If you would like to link your public event to your group, please reach out to the ODN Manager who can do this for you.



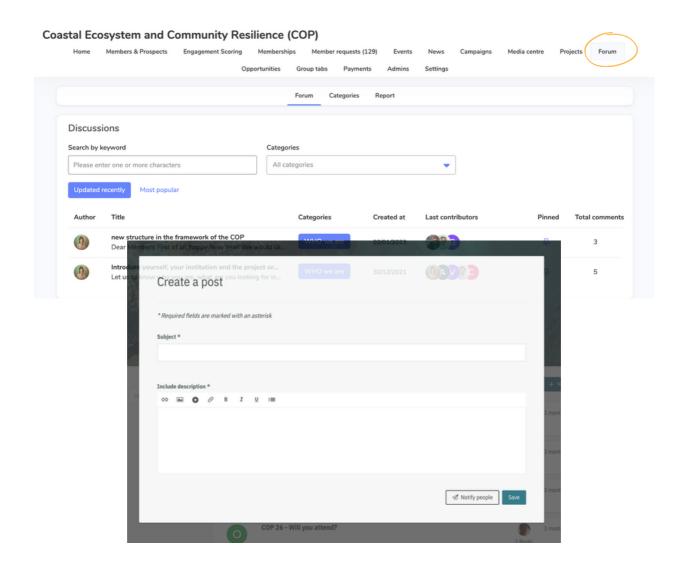
Forums

Under the "Forum" tab, you will see a discussion board. All group members can add their own threads (by clicking

"+ New discussion") or contribute to existing threads.

This space is a great way to get involved in ongoing conversations about a specific topic, project, or committee, so that they don't get lost on the Live Feed.

The forum is only visible to group members.





News

All group members can add news items. These will only be visible to group members. If you would like to publish news items for all ODN members, you can do so through the main + (share) button rather than through your group.

Other functions

Projects

Most groups are disabling the "Projects" tab, as it is not relevant. If you do decide to use it, you may choose to do so for subcommittees or group projects you would like to showcase. However, please DO NOT use this function to replicate already-existing endorsed Decade Action pages.

Opportunities

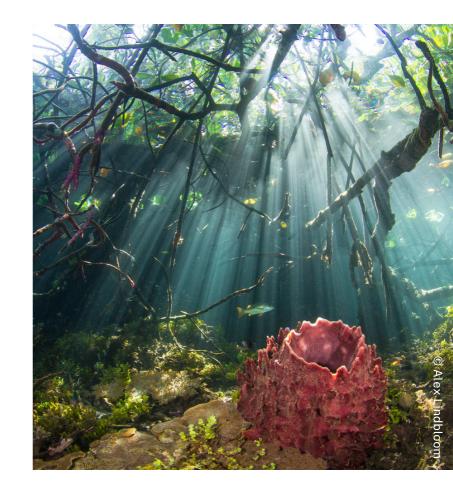
All group members can add to this space to share jobs, internships, collaboration opportunities, or volunteer opportunities with other group members. Like with the News, Forum, and Events tabs, these will only be shared within the group. If you would like to share opportunities publicly, please use the main + (share) button on the top right of the main page instead of from within your group.



Schedule a live tutorial

Thank you for acting as Group Lead. Your role is pivotal to building important dialogue around the Ocean Decade goals.

If you would like to schedule a Live Tutorial and Q&A to help you more efficiently manage your group, please reach out to our ODN Manager.







Questions?

Please reach out to our Ocean Decade Network Manager!

Network URL

forum.oceandecade.org

Email Address

oceandecadenetwork@unesco.org