4th Annual Workshop

Practice of OR – sharing experiences, building networks

16 November 2021, 13:00 – 17:00 CET, online

We're looking forward to meeting you at this online, collaborative workshop sharing experiences of OR in practice. Please read this to make the most of the workshop.

We are meeting on gather.town. This works best on Chrome or Firefox: performance on other browsers is not guaranteed. It has limited functionality on mobile phones; laptop or desktop is recommended.

You received the link to the space when you registered. You are welcome to use this link at any time to set up your gather.town avatar, explore the space, catch up on the programme details, and access resources and links to support OR in practice. If your first-time access is when the workshop starts, please be patient with the set-up process and tutorial; it's best to join 5 or 10 minutes early.

When you arrive, there will be plenty of people around to help, and a help-desk. But here is a summary, to help you feel more at home from the start.

EWG POR Event organisers and Committee members will host and guide you through this exciting virtual workshop experience:

Ruth Kaufman, Björn Thalén, Waldemar Kocjan, Michele Quattrone, Patrick Schittekat, Susanne Heipcke, Matteo Pozzi, Joaquim Gromicho, Andy Harrison, Sofiane Oussedik, Adisa Mujezinovic

EURO Working Group on Practice of OR past and planned activities are available to the Group members and the wider public. Visit the EWG POR website and register as a member for free, to receive updates on all activities: EWG POR Member registration page

About gather.town

The workshop takes place in a virtual conference venue. An avatar represents your position in the space.

You move your avatar around using the arrow keys on your keyboard. You can use audio and video to interact with others you are close to, and 'raise a hand' function to ask questions during Q&A session.

In private spaces (groups of chairs and tables), you can only interact with people if you are inside the space; a message comes up at the bottom of your screen to tell you when you are in a private space.

To be able to move your avatar through other people and who are blocking the way, hold the letter 'g' on the keyboard.

Our workshop venue has 6 separate areas for different uses, shown on the map below.

EWG POR Workshop gather.town space is specifically created in line with the programme bellow, keeping in mind the importance of social interaction. The function of each segment of the space is dedicated to specific timeline and activities.
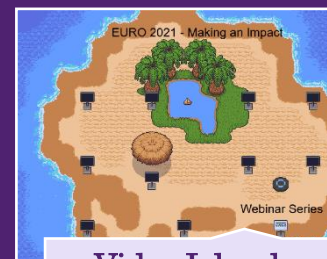

Auditorium

Speed Network Room


Break-out Discussion Room
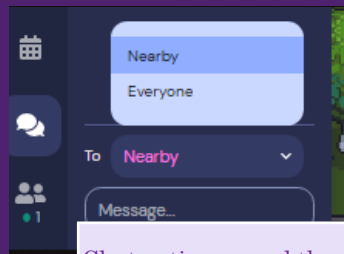

Lobby

Garden

Video Island Portal

Wherever you are, if you can see an object that is glowing (maybe a video screen, a notice board, or a telephone icon), you can press the letter 'x' on your keyboard to see what's behind the icon.

Generally, features are quite intuitive. Feel free to experiment, and above all, take the opportunity to interact with others.
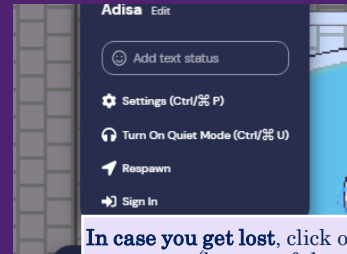
With an aim to enhance the user experience during the workshop, we prepared the summary of convenient functions:

Help Desk
Press **X** for welcome document
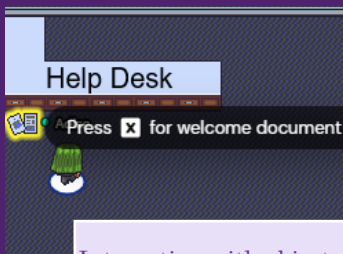
Interaction with objects – guide your avatar towards it and press x

Nearby
Everyone
To Nearby
Message...

Chat option – send the message to everyone or people near your avatar

Adisa Edit
Add text status
Settings (Ctrl/⌘ P)
Turn On Quiet Mode (Ctrl/⌘ U)
Respawn
Sign In

In case you get lost, click on your name (bottom of the screen) and click on 'respawn', which will take you to the entry room

EWGPOR
Search
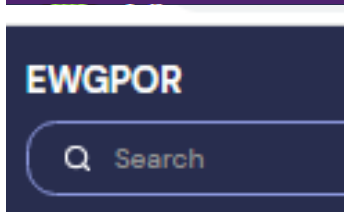
Locating people in the workshop space – use the find bar and follow the black line
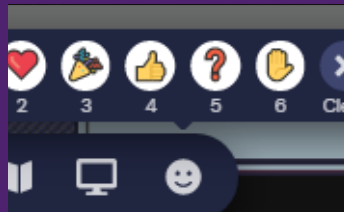
Minimap, share screen (for those few who might use it), emoji icon – react, raise a hand (6) to participate in Q&A and ask a question (video and audio on)

Click on 'x' in top right corner of the box to close activated option, such as the minimap, object interaction window, etc

The following links related to gather.town might also be useful: Audio and Video Troubleshooting | Gather.Town, and Gather 101 | Gather.Town

Workshop Programme

13.00	Welcome, introductions and exploration	Auditorium
13.20	**Analytics for a better world**: using OR to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals Plenary speaker: Dick den Hertog	Auditorium *via provided Zoom link*
14.10	**Speed Networking:** a fast, focused, supportive session to meet peers and make serendipitous connections	Speed networking room
14.45	**Comfort break:** and opportunity to mingle – introduce yourself to strangers or catch up with old friends	Lobby, Garden, Video Island Portal
15.15	**Launch of Practitioner Forum:** - review of the achievements of EWG-POR, the opportunities offered by the forum, electing the committee - small discussion groups exploring different aspects of Forum support for Practice of OR	Auditorium Break-out Discussion room
16.00	**Lightning talks:** a stimulating, inspiring series of 5 minute talks showcasing practical OR	Auditorium
16.45	Collective Q&A	Auditorium
17.00	Close	

Visit the EWG POR website for workshop programme details.