




Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Reception

Welcome to the Mitigation and Prevention of Marine Debris VCC. The Marine Debris community aims to contribute to tackling the challenge that marine debris poses to the marine biosphere and, in many ways, to humans. To achieve this mission, the community assesses related societal knowledge needs, assesses existing technologies and identifies needs for new technologies, approaches and best practices, utilizes Earth observations and models to meet those knowledge needs, and assesses options that could mitigate existing marine debris or prevent future debris entering the ocean.



 [Login or sign up?](#) **Yes**

 You may continue to visit this VCC as a guest with limited access.

Elevator

(12)	Who We Are	?
(11)	Governance	?
(10)	Participatory Modeling	?
(9)	Newsroom	?
(8)	Town Hall	?
(7)	Meet Experts	?
(6)	Envi Gym	?
(5)	Citizen Science	?
(4)	Classrooms	?
(3)	Deliberation Rooms	?
(2)	Exhibition Hall	?
(1)	Reception	?
(0)	Workspace	?

MarineDebris VCC Billboard

Ratings and Mappings: On the Participatory Modeling Floor a rating of priority actions and several mappings of stakeholders and rules are open for Place4Us users to contribute...

2022_Brest Workshop: The Workshop "Solutions for a Cleaner Ocean will take place on September 28-29, 2022 in Brest, France. For all details, see https://www.gstss.org/2022_Brest.

TED Talk: "The problem with plastics – and how they're changing the environment" – Watch the **TED Talk** by Patricia Villarrubia-Gómez ...

News

 **MarineDebris VCC News**

No VCC News found.

 **Place4Us News**

No P4Us News found.

Towards Mitigation of Marine Debris: Increasing Social Capital Through an Ecosystem of Virtual Community Centers for Marine Litter

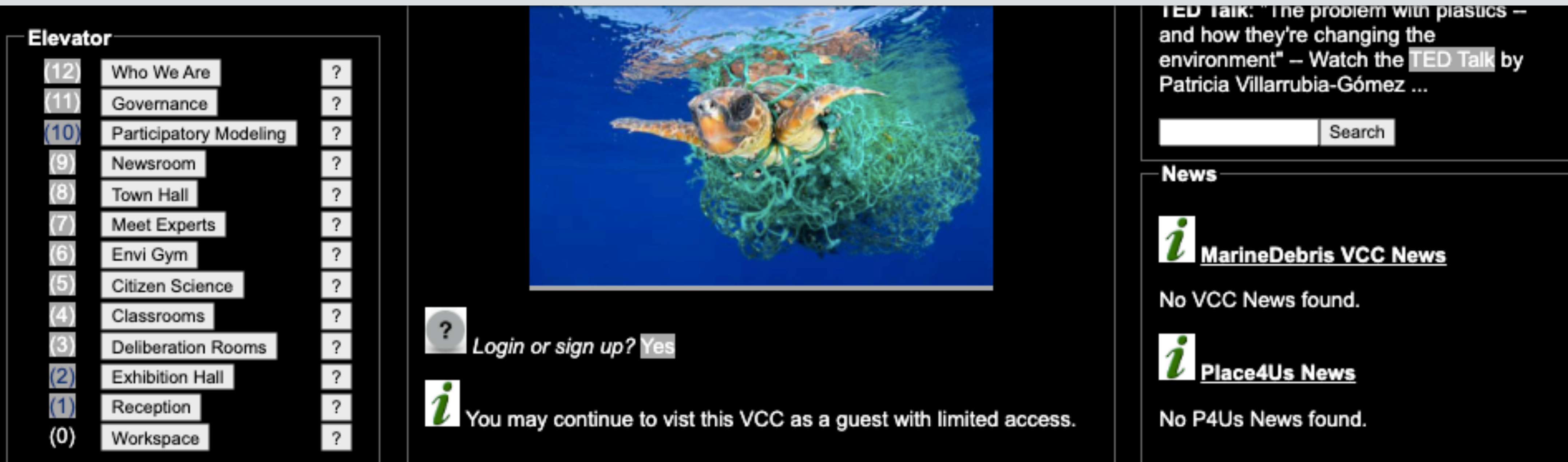
by

Hans-Peter Plag^{1,2,3}

1) Dep. Ocean and Earth Sciences, Old Dominion University

2) Mitigation and Adaptation Research Institute, Old Dominion University

3) Earth Viability Center, Inc



The screenshot displays a virtual community center interface with several key components:

- Elevator:** A vertical navigation menu on the left with 12 levels. Level 10, 'Participatory Modeling', is currently selected. Other levels include 'Who We Are', 'Governance', 'Newsroom', 'Town Hall', 'Meet Experts', 'Envi Gym', 'Citizen Science', 'Classrooms', 'Deliberation Rooms', 'Exhibition Hall', 'Reception', and 'Workspace'.
- Central Image:** A large underwater photograph of a sea turtle swimming through a dense cloud of green plastic debris.
- User Interaction:** A 'Login or sign up?' prompt with a 'Yes' button and an information icon. Below it, a message states: 'You may continue to visit this VCC as a guest with limited access.'
- Search and News:** A search bar with a 'Search' button. Below it, a 'News' section lists 'MarineDebris VCC News' and 'Place4Us News', both with 'No VCC News found.' and 'No P4Us News found.' messages respectively.
- TED Talk:** A promotional banner for a TED Talk by Patricia Villarrubia-Gómez titled 'The problem with plastics – and how they're changing the environment'.

Past Efforts and Lessons Learnt:

- The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) has made many efforts to link to societal agents and decision and policy making (*e.g., User Interface Committee, Communities of Practice, User Requirement Registry, Tasks and Community initiatives, web pages, knowledge bases, ...*).
- Cross-sectoral collaboration remains low in many areas.
- Transformative approaches to knowledge creation and sharing are needed.

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- COVID posed a significant challenge to many governmental and nongovernmental organizations to achieve their goals of interacting with the public and other organizations.
- Existing social media, collaboration tools and platforms are not sufficiently community focused.

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A transformative Alternative:

- Several pilot projects aim for Virtual Community Centers (VCC) as a transformative concept.
- One pilot project is the Marine Debris Virtual Community Center.

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Evolved into Place4Us:

- A novel social collaboration platform
- A global infrastructure for the a global movement

Place4Us: A Global Ecosystem of VCCs

https://www.place4us.net

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A Global Ecosystem of Virtual Community Centers

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Place4Us: The Social Collaboration Platform for You and Your Community

Why Your Community Should be On Place4Us

We provide the online platform [Place4Us](#), you establish your [Virtual Community Center](#) (VCC), and you organize, develop, and govern your VCC together with your community.

[Join](#) the global citizen movement to take back our world from the global elite and reclaim it for the common man/woman ...

[Connect](#) with others, with nature, with the transcendent is a basic human need, genetically programmed into us ...

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As you develop your VCC, you connect with other VCCs, share resources, learn from each other, and plan joint activities.

With your VCC you contribute to progress towards the shared vision of all VCCs on Place4Us.

For New Users

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Virtual Community Centers: a Place to Connect, Collaborate, Learn and Act

Exhibition Hall

Envigym

Classroom

Citizen Science

Meet the Expert

Collaborate

Place4Us News

No P4Us News found.

Place4Us Jobs

Founding Editor for the Place4Us Newsletter

Place4Us is initiating a Newsletter and is looking for an engaged editor for this new newsletter. Besides news about the Place4Us developments and activities, the

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A Global Ecosystem of Virtual Community Centers

Place4us is mission-focussed:
 A novel social collaboration platform (SCP) that has the mission to facilitate a global citizen movement that can lead the transformation from the current suicidal system to a new system of humans meeting their needs while safeguarding the Earth's life-support system.

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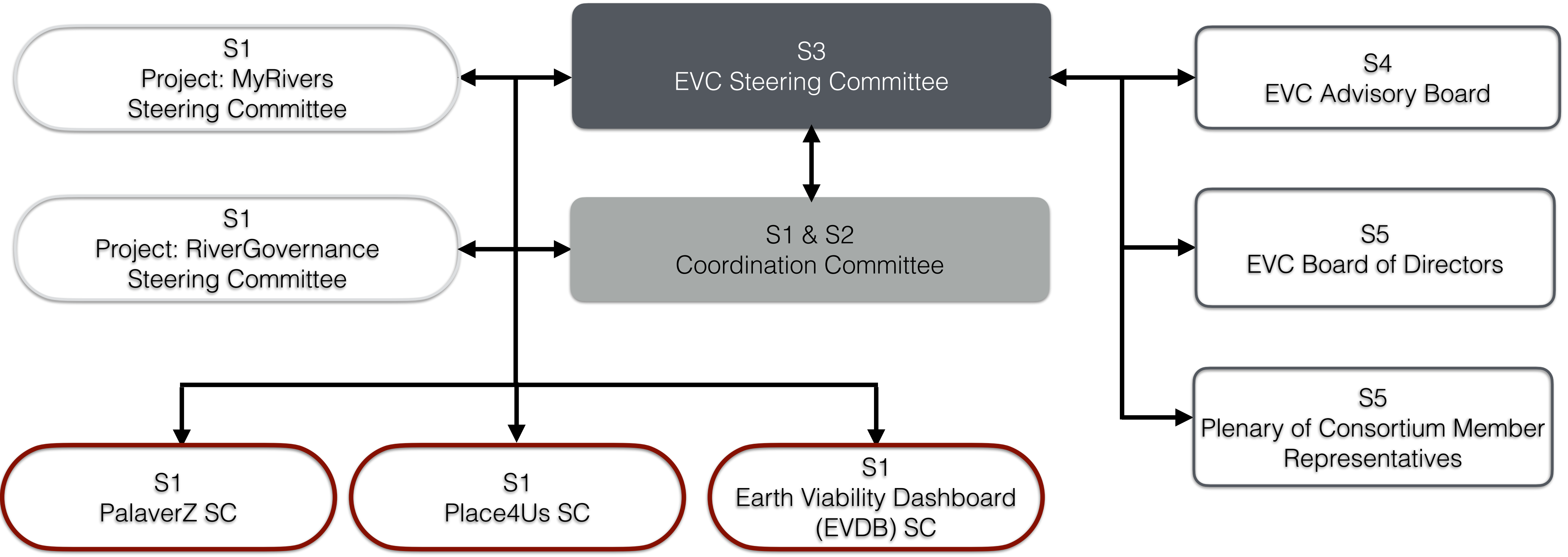
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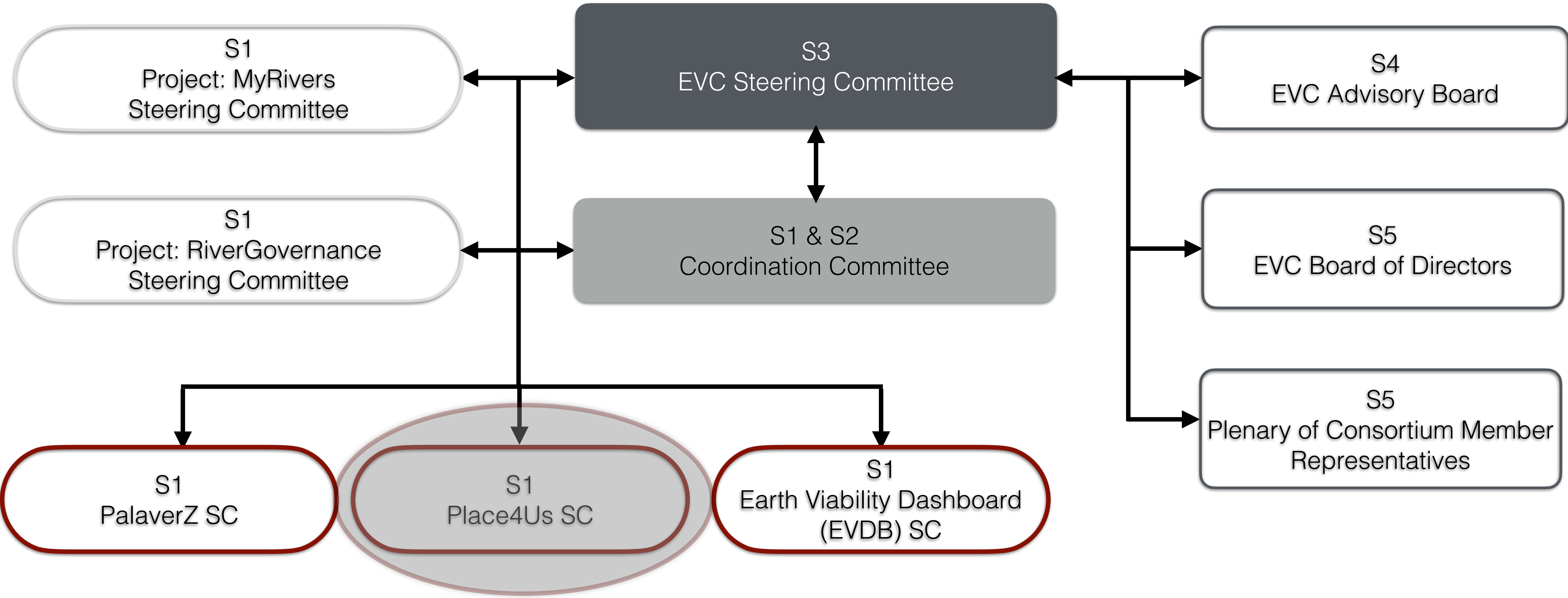
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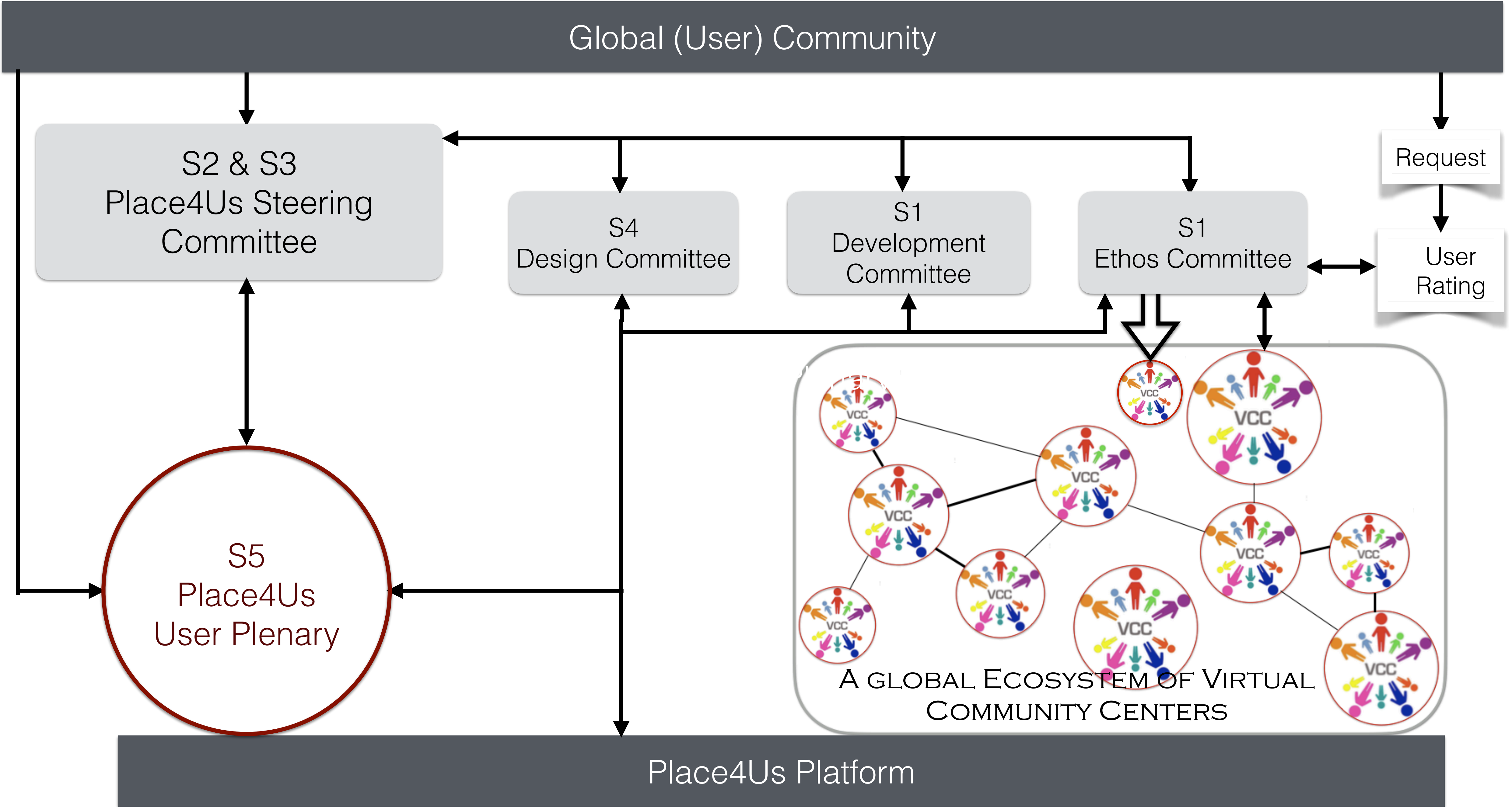
Earth Viability Center, Inc. is a not-for-profit company registered in Virginia, USA

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Governance of Place4Us



The **VCC** concept:

A VCC:

- Is community developed and governed
- Is community focused and does not elevate individuals
- Is a tool for collaboration and community building, not aiming for manipulation
- Does not use notification, likes, recommendations to facilitate growth
- Does not collect/sell/exploit user data and does not sell user time to advertisers

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The **VCC explores transformative ways:**

- inclusion of all societal agents in knowledge creation and use;
- increase of literacy (information, risk, sustainability, ...) and
- tackle of societal challenges (including wicked problems) in a cross-sectoral and transdisciplinary approach.

VCC Ownership, Governance, Participation:

- VCCs are community-based and not 'owned' by one organization
- VCCs are open for participation of all (cross-sectoral and transdisciplinary)
- For each VCC, governance is detailed in Terms or Reference
- Each VCC has an Advisory Board
- Each VCC has (voluntary) staff with different roles
- Partners (organizations) and members can have different privileges (e.g., to set up booths, contribute lectures, register as experts, certify citizen scientists, initiate and monitor chats, publish news, organize Town Hall meetings and other events)

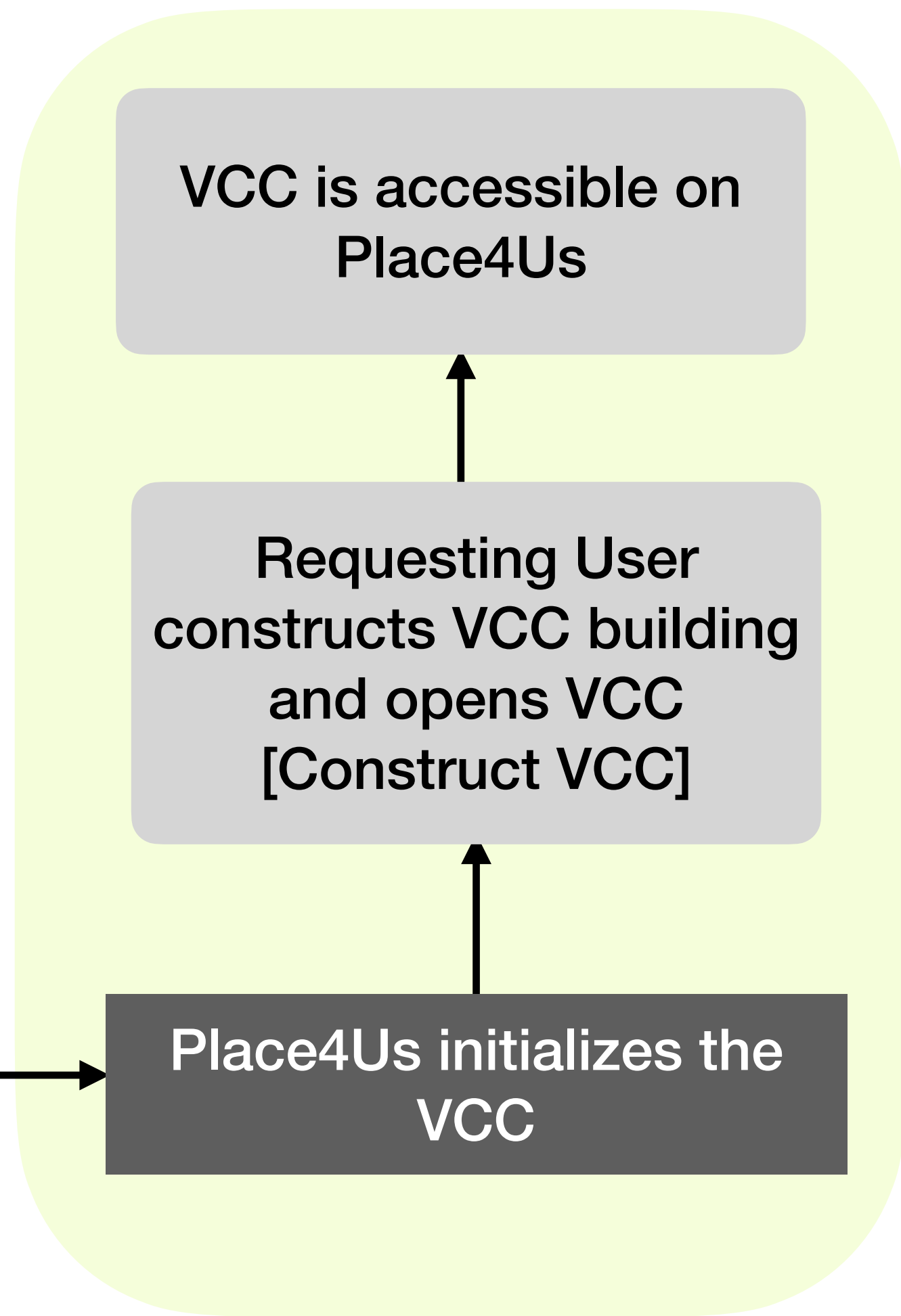
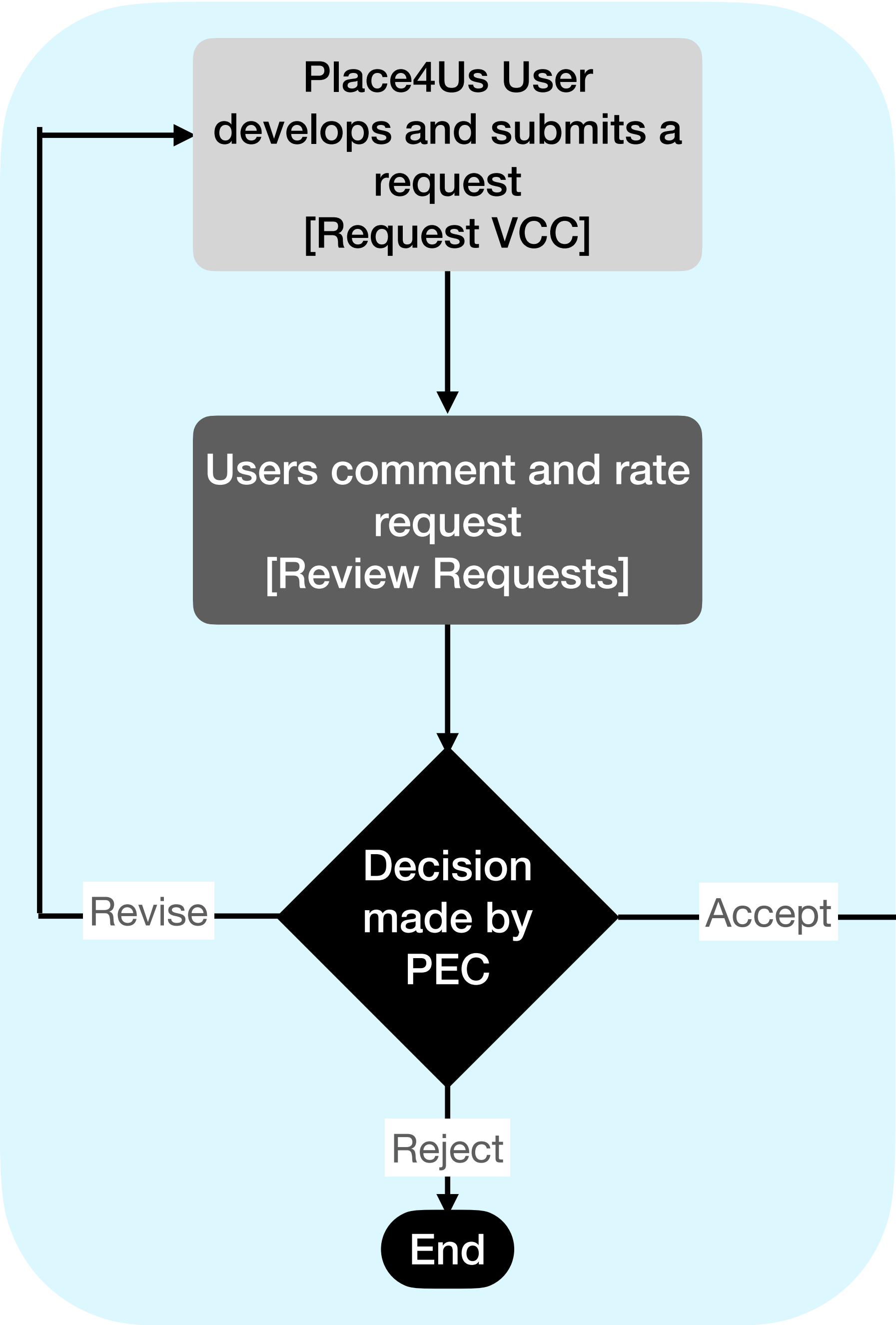
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Overarching goals:

- Efforts to develop a diverse, inclusive, and supportive community where everyone has the opportunity to participate and benefit.
- Community development, including, engagement of all sectors, resource mobilization, communications, and capacity development.

Setting Up a New VCC



Virtual Community Centers are Virtual Buildings ...



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This is the place that freely test all parts offered by the platform to the VCCs. Join us in stressing the platform to see the capabilities and to discover any issues before others do. We can only fix ... [Full Description](#)



Our members are all committed to healing the Earth's life support system via developing a platform to provide synergy and coherence among the millions of activist groups documented in Hawken's "Blesse ... [Full Description](#)



Triumph Community Church VCC

We are a small non-denominational, inner city church. Our main focus is on healing prayer (physical illnesses, emotional/trauma illnesses, spiritual illnesses such as hate, greed, etc. and demonic opp ... [Full Description](#)



Mitigation and Prevention of Marine Debris VCC



Marine debris or litter is a growing threat to the health of the ocean. The community requesting this VCC is grounded in an "Ocean Plastics" initiative of the Oceanic Engineering Society of IEEE. The ... [Full Description](#)



Davisville Ecovillage VCC



Roadmap to Future VCC






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MarineDebris VCC Billboard

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Exhibition Hall for participating organizations to feature what they offer.

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Talk about community-related topics

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Classroom for courses, lectures, and educational videos

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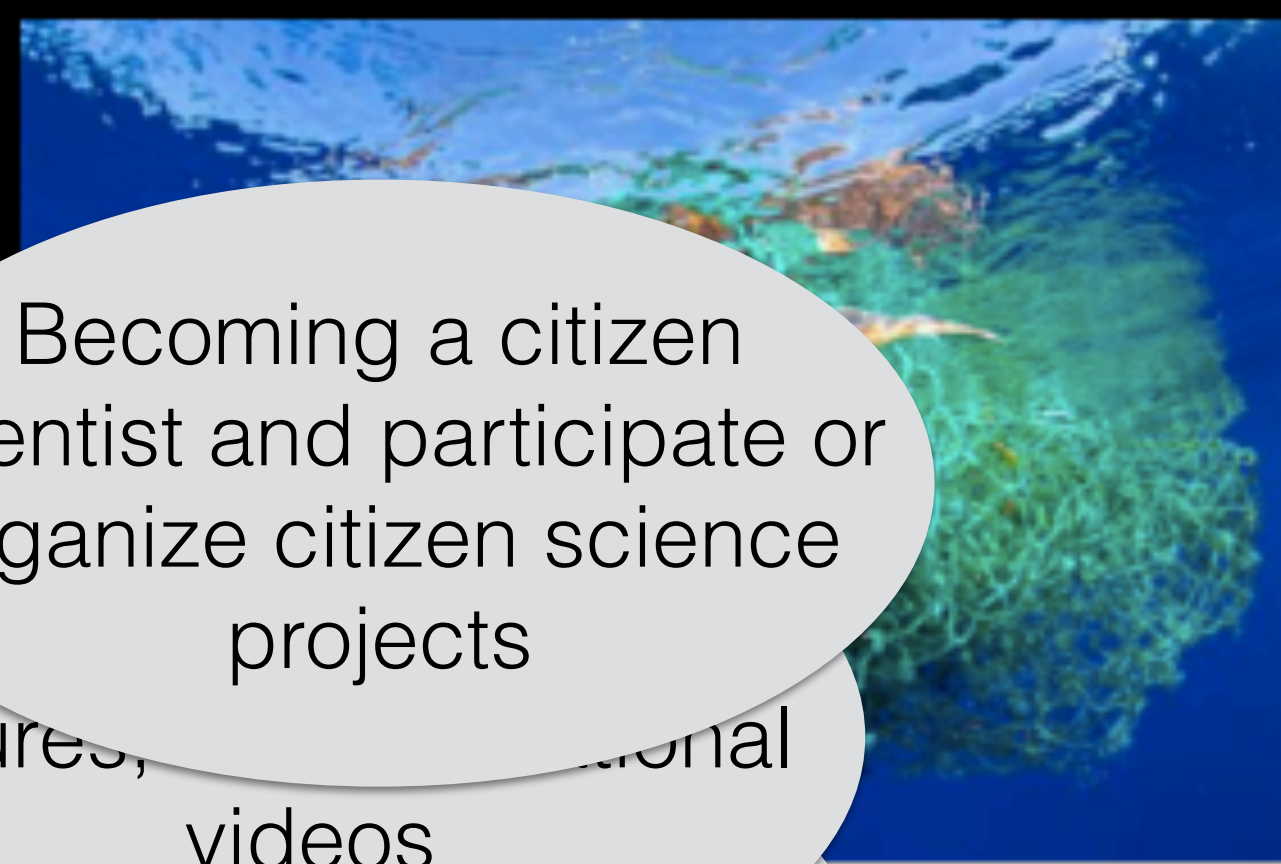
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Becoming a citizen scientist and participate or organize citizen science projects

lectures, videos

related topics

participate in related topics. as a guest with limited access.

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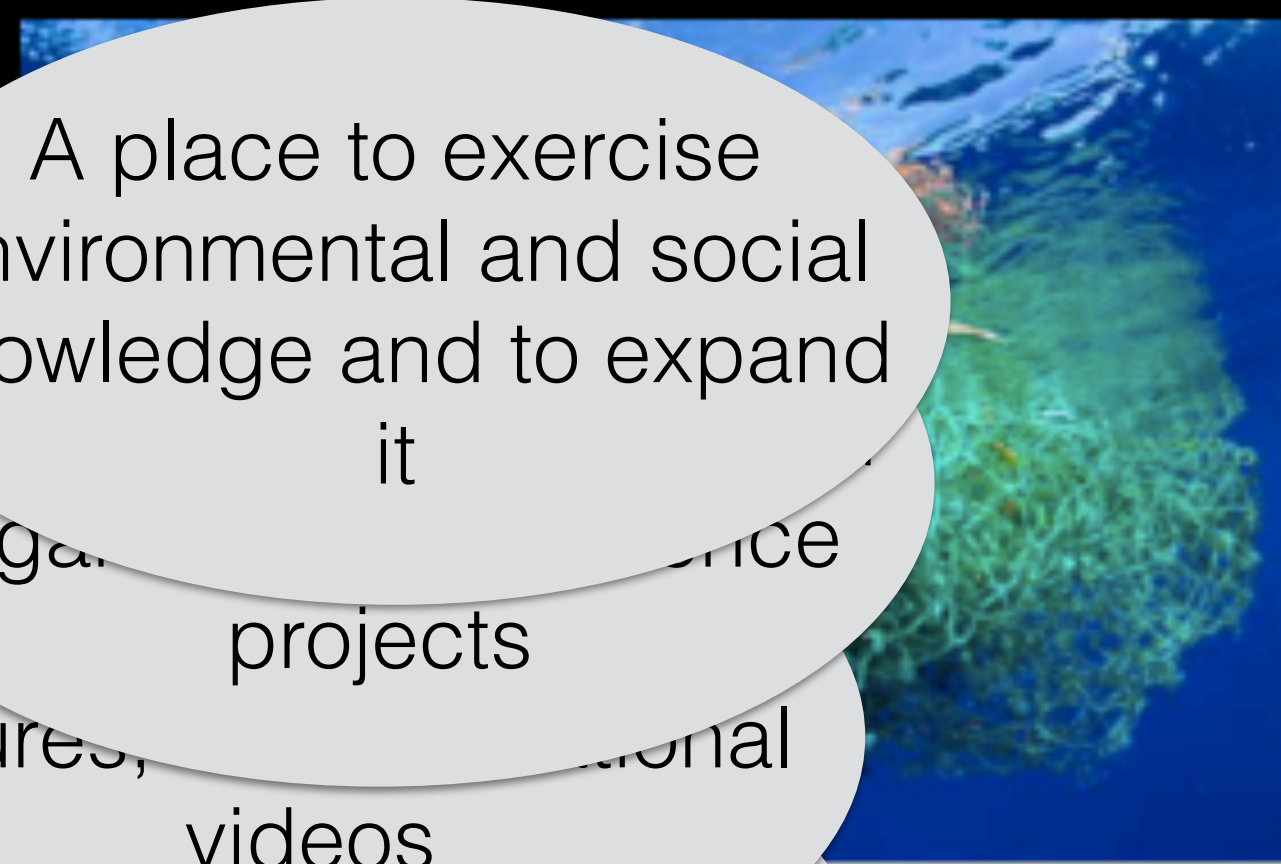
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A place to exercise environmental and social knowledge and to expand it

organizational science

projects

lectures, educational

videos

related topics

participatory modeling... as a guest with limited access.

Elevator

(12)	Who We Are	?
(11)	Governance	?
(10)	Participatory Modeling	?
(9)	Newsroom	?
(8)	Town Hall	?
(7)	Meet Experts	?
(6)	Envi Gym	?
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MarineDebris VCC Billboard

Ratings and Mappings: On the Participatory Modeling Floor a rating of priority actions and several mappings of stakeholders and rules are open for Place4Us users to contribute...

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TED Talk: "The problem with plastics – and how they're changing the environment" – Watch the TED Talk by Patricia Villarrubia-Gómez ...

 Search

News

MarineDebris VCC News

No VCC News found.

Place4Us News

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Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Reception

Welcome to the Mitigation and Prevention of Marine Debris VCC. The Marine Debris community aims to contribute to tackling the challenge that marine debris poses to the marine biosphere and, in many ways, to humans. To achieve this mission, the community assesses related societal knowledge needs, assesses existing technologies and identifies needs for new technologies, approaches and best practices, utilizes Earth observation and models to meet those knowledge needs, and works to mitigate existing marine debris or prevent new debris from entering the ocean.

A space to meet experts, talk to them, learn from them, ...

knowledge and to expand it

organize science projects

lectures, educational videos

related topics

participate in a guest with limited access.



Elevator

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Organize and participate in Town Hall meetings

exchange information, ...

share knowledge and to expand its

organize projects

lectures, videos

related topics

participate to feature as a guest with limited access.



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Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

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Publish and access news including newspapers

From them, ...

knowledge and to expand it

organizational projects

lectures, videos

related topics

participatory ... as a guest with limited access.



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Place4Us News

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Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Reception

Welcome to the Marine Debris VCC. The Marine Debris VCC is a virtual community center that makes the challenge of addressing the marine debris problem more accessible to humans and organizations. We provide a platform for societal knowledge and best practices, and we utilize participatory modeling to address the need for more effective solutions to existing marine debris or pollution problems.

Participatory modeling to tackle wicked problems

newspapers

from them, ...

knowledge and to expand

it

organizational science

projects

lectures, educational

videos

related topics

participatory modeling to tackle wicked problems. as a guest with limited access.



Elevator

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Place4Us News

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Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Reception

Welcome to the Marine Debris VCC. The Marine Debris VCC is a community-based organization that works to address the challenge of marine debris. We are a community of individuals and organizations that are passionate about marine debris and its impact on the environment. We provide a platform for people to share their knowledge and experiences related to marine debris, and to collaborate on projects and initiatives. We also provide resources and information on marine debris, and we offer support and assistance to individuals and organizations who are working to address the problem.

Organize a community-based governance

newspapers

projects

lectures, videos

related topics

to feature

as a guest with limited access.

Elevator

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Place4Us News

No P4Us News found.



Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Information about the VCC and its members

newspapers

lectures, videos

projects

related topics

Recent

Welcome to the Marine Debris VCC. The Marine Debris VCC is a virtual community center that provides a space for people interested in marine debris to connect, share information, and work together to address the challenge that marine debris presents to our oceans and, in many ways, to our societies. The VCC provides a space for people to share their knowledge and experiences related to marine debris, to discuss the latest technologies and best practices, and to collaborate on projects and initiatives. The VCC is a free and open community, and we encourage everyone to participate. For more information, see [our website](#).

Elevator

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Place4Us News

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Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Elevator

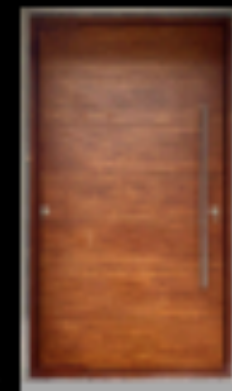
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Citizen Science

The Citizen Science space provides for both, training and certification as a citizen scientist and carrying out citizen science projects.



Enter the Citizen Science:





Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Elevator

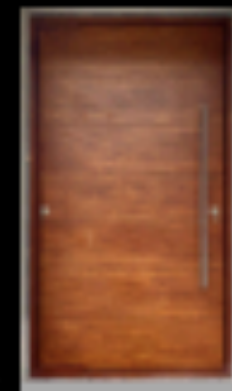
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Enter the Citizen Science:



Citizen Science



Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

EVDB WORKSPACE

Beam me to ...

Reception | Exhibition Hall | Deliberation Rooms

Classrooms | Citizen Science | Envi Gym

Meet Experts | Town Hall | Newsroom

Participatory Modeling | Governance

Who We Are

Citizen Science of the Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Main

About

Certification

Participate

Initiate

FAQs

About CitizenScience

Citizen Scientist Certification

We are developing a curriculum for a citizen scientist certificate. Read more about the curriculum ...

Participate

As a certified citizen scientist, you can participate in open citizen science projects. Read more about the projects that are currently open ...

Initiate

As a certified citizen scientist, you can initiate and organize new projects. Read more about the process of initiating new projects ...

Solicit

If you are a researcher at a research or higher education institution and are managing a research activity, you may solicit citizen science support for your activity. Read more about the process of initiating new projects ...

The Citizen Science space provides for both, training and certification as a citizen scientist and carrying out citizen science projects.



Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

EVDB WORKSPACE

Beam me to ...

Reception	Exhibition Hall	Deliberation Rooms
Classrooms	Citizen Science	Envi Gym
Meet Experts	Town Hall	Newsroom
Participatory Modeling	Governance	
Who We Are		

Citizen Science of the Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

- Offer educational materials and courses on scientific literacy
- Certification course?
 - Marine Citizen Science course offered by the Ocean Sanctuaries organization, but focused on marine science and species identification
 - General citizen science education should focus more on scientific literacy, scientific modes of thinking
- Potential partnering with ODU to offer Citizen Science as a minor, graduate certificate, or an online class through their system

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Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

EVDB WORKSPACE

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- Potential partnering with ODU to offer Citizen Science as a minor, graduate certificate, or an online class through their system
- Enabling Citizen Scientists to devise and act upon projects
 - Obtain research and resources needed including other citizen scientist volunteers
 - Access to experts to verify, improve upon, and approve research topics
- Supporting trusted experts in existing research projects
 - Using citizen scientists as resource for experts in the field working at NGOs, GOs, or universities



Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Elevator

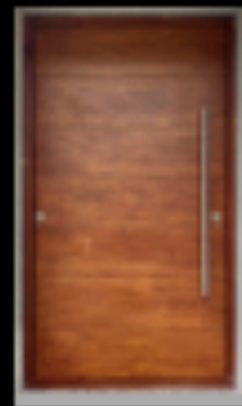
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Exhibition Hall

The Exhibition Hall in the VCC is a place for community member to display their work in a booth and to meet other members and the public in their booth.



Enter the Exhibition Hall:





Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

Elevator

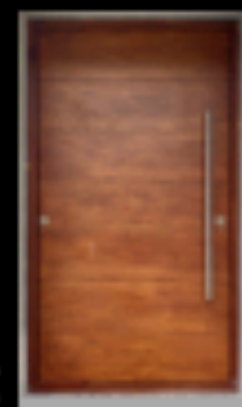
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Exhibition Hall



Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

EVDB WORKSPACE

Beam me to ...

- Reception
- Exhibition Hall
- Deliberation Rooms
- Classrooms
- Citizen Science
- Envi Gym
- Meet Experts
- Town Hall
- Newsroom
- Participatory Modeling
- Governance
- Who We Are

Exhibition Hall of the Marine Debris Virtual Community Center

- Main
- Manage Your Booths
- FAQs

Plastic in The Ocean Initiative



The IEEE OES Initiative aims to develop a metrix for assessing the different approaches to the observation and detection of plastics required to for a set of indicators. To achieve this, a working gro ...

[See Full Booth Description](#)

Visit the [web resource](#) of IEEE/OES ...

Earth Viability Center



The Earth Viability Center is telling the story of Earth's viability. To tell this story, the Center is creating a book of river stories with the people who live at the rivers. The story of the viable ...

[See Full Booth Description](#)

Visit the [web resource](#) of ...

Mitigation and Adaptation Research Institute



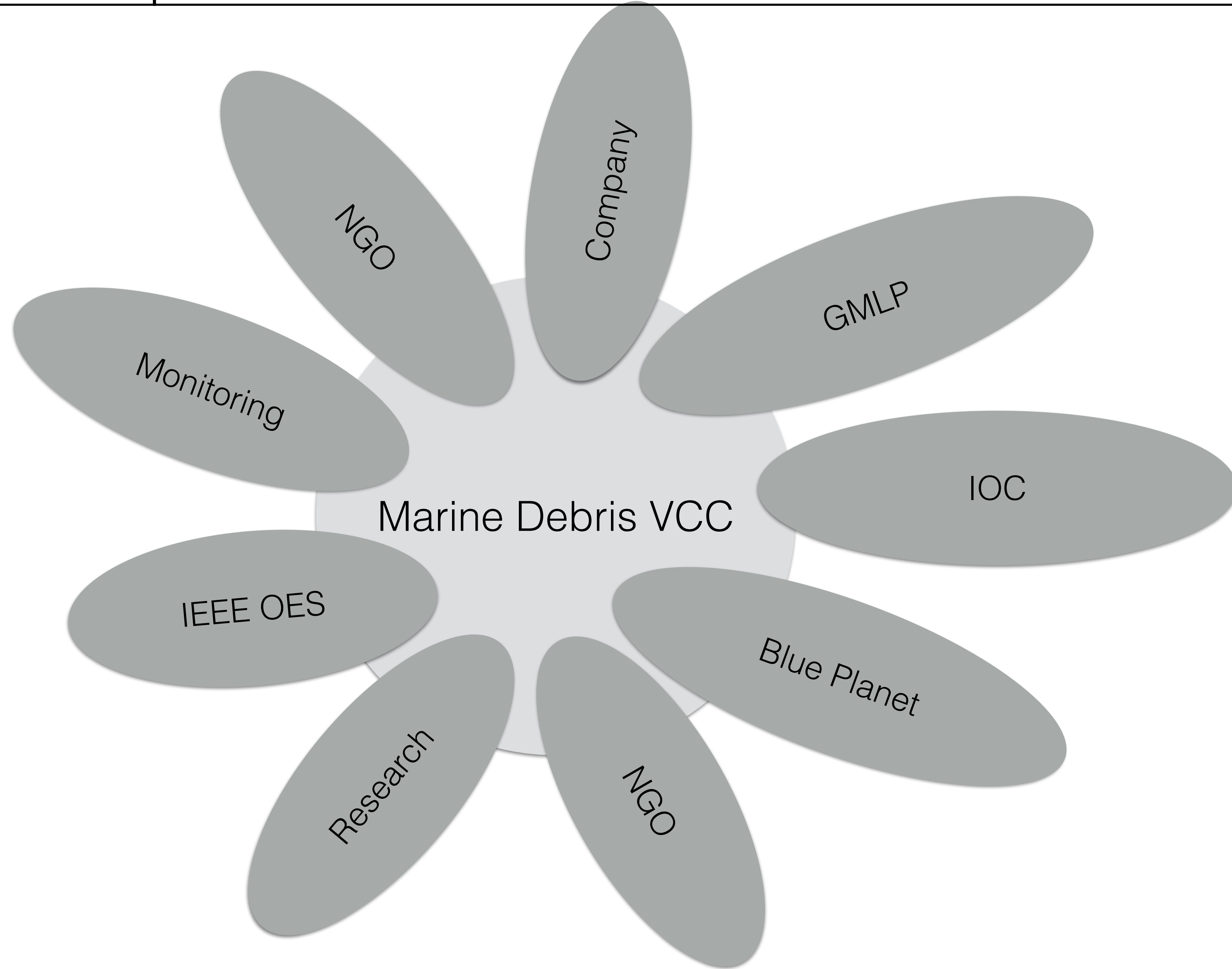
Blue Planet Initiative



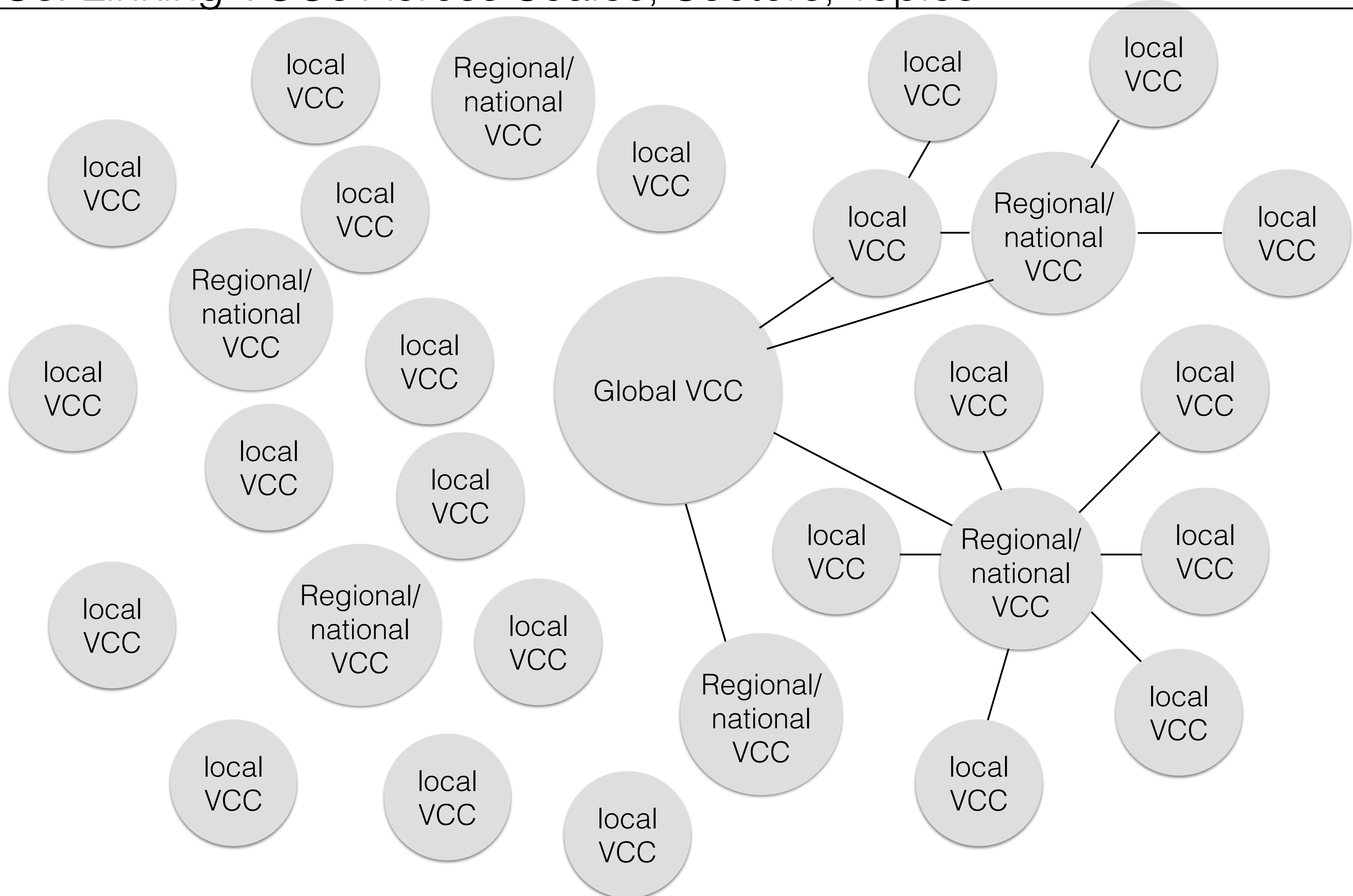
Blue Planet is a GEO Initiative focused on the use of Earth



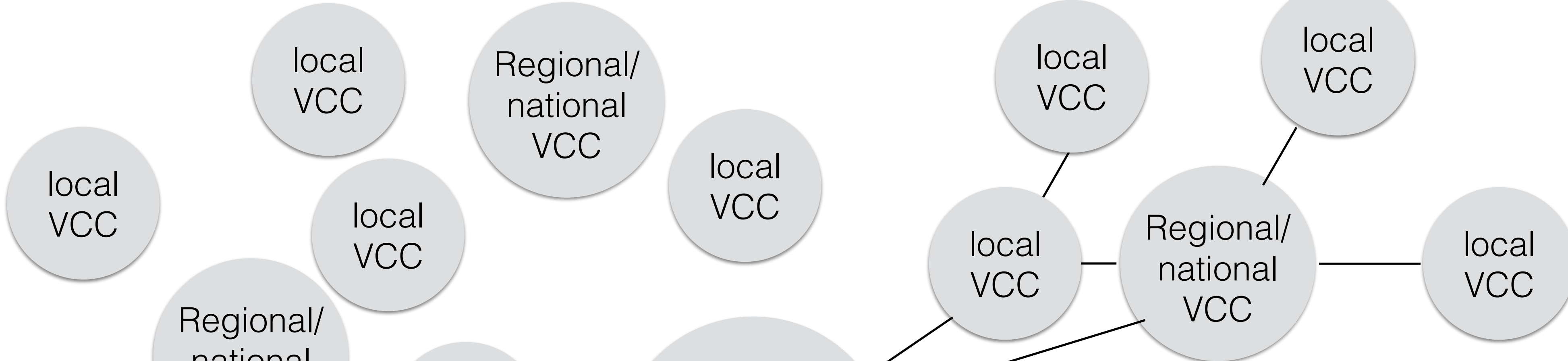
A VCC: A Place for Groups to Connect and Collaborate



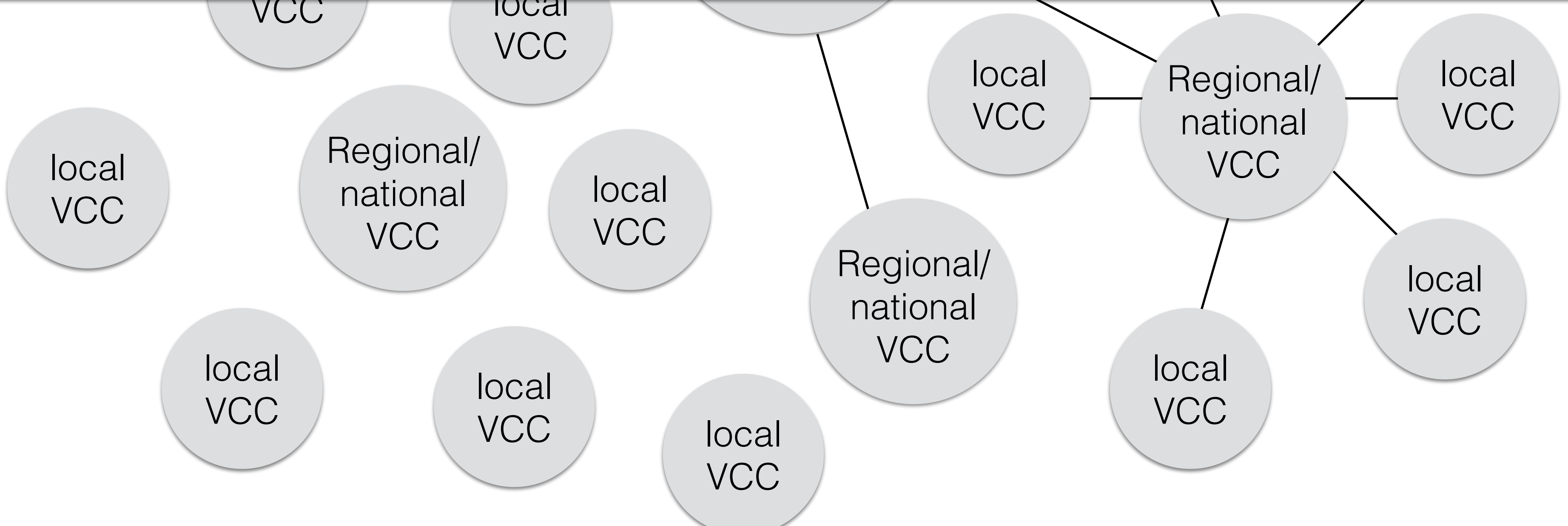
Place4Us: Linking VCCs Across Scales, Sectors, Topics



Place4Us: Linking VCCs Across Scales, Sectors, Topics



Concept for linking VCCs and sharing resources under development
Goal: Facilitate Emergent Properties





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- REQUEST VCC

A Global Ecosystem of Virtual Community Centers



Home

About

Virtual Community Journal

Blogs

User Access

Place4Us: The Social Collaboration Platform for You and Your Community

Why Your Community Should be On Place4Us

We provide the online platform [Place4Us](#), you establish your [Virtual Community Center](#) (VCC), and you organize, develop, and govern your VCC together with your community.

[Join](#) the global citizen movement to take back our world from the global elite and reclaim it for the common man/woman ...

[Connect](#) with others, with nature, with the transcendent is a basic human need, genetically programmed into us ...

[Collaborate](#) with other VCCs to understand the threats we face and to create and bring to scale the actions needed to mitigate those threats ...

As you develop your VCC, you connect with other VCCs, share resources, learn from each other, and plan joint activities.

With your VCC you contribute to progress towards the shared vision of all VCCs on Place4Us.

For New Users



If you are new to Place4Us, you can sign up as a Place4Us users in [User Access]. You can also sign up as a member of a VCC, which makes you also a user of Place4Us.

After you have signed up and then logged in in [User Access], you can edit your user profile on Place4Us in [User Access] -> [Edit Your Profile] or the workspace of a VCC you are a member of. In the profile, you can publish a brief bio, upload a picture of you, and set a number of preferences concerning privacy, login tracking, and notifications. Currently, your user profile applies to all VCCs you are a member of.

Virtual Community Centers: a Place to Connect, Collaborate, Learn and Act

Exhibition Hall



Envigym

Classroom



Citizen Science

Meet the Expert



Collaborate

Place4Us News



No P4Us News found.

Place4Us Jobs

Founding Editor for the Place4Us Newsletter

Place4Us is initiating a Newsletter and is looking for an engaged editor for this new newsletter. Besides news about the Place4Us developments and activities, the



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