EOSC Support Office Austria

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Towards the European Open Science Cloud: The Austrian Experience

Moment of truth: 19-20 April 2021 – setting up the Austrian Mandated Organisation

Building Consistency for Open Science in Europe: Rhetoric and Practice

Abstract: Towards the European Open Science Cloud: The Austrian Experience
Moment of truth: April 2021 – setting up the Austrian Mandated Organisation

The European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) envisions establishing a European data infrastructure, integrating high-capacity cloud solutions, eventually widening the scope of these services to include the public sector and industry. In November 2018, the European Commission launched the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) at the University of Vienna. Two years later the EOSC Association was established as a legal entity on 29th July 2020 with four founding members. In January 2021 TU Wien created a new organizational unit, the *EOSC and International Liaison Office*, based at TU Wien Bibliothek – and in February 2021 the Austrian Mandated Organisation applied for membership in the EOSC Association. But, what does it mean to implement the EOSC at a domestic level, and how does it fit with the now launched EOSC Association? How can relevant Austrian communities engage with the EOSC? How can Austrian EOSC Stakeholders contribute to the structuring of these co-creation processes? How can the addressed communities help to prepare the transition to a new "Stakeholder-based governance" at domestic level?

This presentation offers some reflections for a better understanding of the realization of the EOSC at the present stage at a local level, including the newly established Austrian EOSC Mandated Organisation and the EOSC Support Office Austria.

The EOSC Association - DEC 2020

EOSC ASSOCIATION (AISBL) *https://www.eosc.eu/*
Statutes: https://www.eosc.eu/sites/default/files/EOSC_Statutes.pdf

EOSC ASSOCIATION – Chair Karel Luyben (DEC2020)

Elected candidates for the EOSC Association – Board of Directors

- Marialuisa Lavitrano (UNIMIB) – 3 years
- Suzanne Dumouchel (CNRS) – 3years
- Klaus Tochtermann (ZBW) – 3 years
- Sarah Jones (GEANT) – 2 years
- Ignacio Blanquer (UPV) – 2 years
- Wilhelm Widmark (SU) - 1 year
- Bob Jones (CERN) – 1 year
- Ronan Byrne (HEAnet) – 1 year

In DEC: 139 provisional member organisations and 48 provisional observer organisations have applied for membership
https://www.eoscsecretariat.eu/sites/default/files/list_of_members_and_provisonal_members_and_observers.pdf

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The EOSC Partnership-structure 2021+

Governance of the co-programmed Partnership

EUROPEAN OPEN SCIENCE CLOUD

- A contractual agreement (MoU) will be signed between the EOSC Association (currently being set up) and the Commission.

- The Commission and the EOSC Association will establish a Partnership Board as the main mechanism for dialogue in order to reach the objectives of the Partnership.

- A Steering Board (composed of representatives of Member States and Associated Countries) will be set up outside of the EOSC Association to provide advice at policy and strategy level.

Advisory groups of EOSC AISBL (status FEB2021)

The Advisory Groups will provide advice on the fulfilment of the Association's mission and their outputs will contribute to the preparation of documents such as the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and multi-annual roadmap. Directors will be nominated to act as a liaison between AGs and the Board to ensure an effective two-way communication.

Sustaining EOSC
- Defining funding models for EOSC
- Long-term data preservation

Technical challenges on EOSC
- Technical interoperability of data and services
- Infrastructure for quality research software
- AAI architecture

Research careers and curricula
- Data stewardship curricula and career paths
- Research careers, recognition and credit
- Upskilling countries to engage in EOSC

Metadata and data quality
- Semantic interoperability
- FAIR metrics and data quality

Implementation of EOSC
- Rules of Participation compliance monitoring
- PID policy and implementation
- Researcher engagement and adoption

Some reflections for a better understanding of the realization of the EOSC at the present stage
at a local level, including the newly established initiative

Austrian EOSC Mandated Organisation

and the EOSC Support Office Austria

Austrian Mandated Organisation and the EOSC Support Office Austria

Mandated Organization:
Each Member State or Associated Country that has one or more organizations that are Members of the Association may appoint one Member to act as its Mandated Organization, **to represent national interests**

Austrian Mandated Organization (2021)

Legal Entity – Austrian NREN →   ACOnet

Application by the
Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

EOSC Support Office Austria, based at TU Wien

BMBWF →

AT **Mandated Organisation**
ACOnet

EOSC Support Office AT

Austrian Participation in the EOSC Association

Austrian Members (2020)	Austrian Observers (2020)
Naturhistorisches Museum Wien	Climate Change Centre Austria
TU Graz	
TU Wien	
University of Vienna	→ akademie der bildenden künste will apply for observer status → Johannes Kepler Universität Linz (Observer ?)
Mandated Organization (2021) ACOnet (application by the Ministry)	

Mandated Organization: Each Member State or Associated Country that has one or more organizations that are Members of the Association may appoint one Member to act as its Mandated Organization, to represent national interests

In January 2021 TU Wien created a new organizational unit, the
***EOSC and International Liaison Office*,**
based at TU Wien Bibliothek,

and in February 2021 the **Austrian Mandated Organisation** applied for membership in the EOSC Association.

What does it mean to implement the EOSC at a domestic level, and how does it fit with the now launched EOSC Association?
How can relevant Austrian communities engage with the EOSC?
How can Austrian EOSC Stakeholders contribute to the structuring of these co-creation processes?
How can the addressed communities help to prepare the transition to a new "Stakeholder-based governance" at domestic level?

Challenges - Tasks

Creation of a virtual environment for the EOSC Support Office Austria

Create a setting: Coordination of Activities

Default liability towards ACOnet → TU Wien

Creation of a trusted virtual space at domestic level

Creation of Austrian EOSC Points of Reference based at each participating institution or related initiative

Governance model (compliant with EOSC and EOSC Association)

MoU – consensual agreement

Definition of rules of participation

Austrian „EOSC Points of Reference" - coordination
EOSC Support Office Austria

INSTITUTION	EOSC POINTS OF REFERENCE
Naturhistorisches Museum Wien	Katrin.Vohland@NHM-WIEN.AC.AT Heimo.Rainer@nhm-wien.ac.at
TU Graz	Ilire.Hasani-Mavriqi@tugraz.at
TU Wien	Beate.Guba@tuwien.ac.at Paolo.Budroni@tuwien.ac.at
Climate Change Centre Austria	Chris.Schubert@ccca.ac.at
University of Vienna	Lisa.Hoenegger@univie.ac.at Raman.Ganguly@univie.ac.at
akademie der bildenden künste	A.Ferus@akbild.ac.at (Andreas Ferus)
Johannes Kepler Universität Linz	Michael.Kranewitter@jku.at

Permanent contact to EOSC SB Member: Stefan.Hanslik@bmbwf.gv.at; florian.brandt@bmbwf.gv.at
Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

Development of the MoU

"Austrian EOSC Mandated Organisation" as a joint undertaking and the "EOSC Support Office Austria"

MoU - This includes defining the following: the relationship of the partners to each other, the regulation of operations, the institutions and the management including the rights, duties and responsibilities with respect to the initiative, and to determine the results and
to preserve free access to the results of joint work carried out within the initiative and relevant information with respect to the assignment of intellectual property rights.

Preserve direct interaction with *supra-national levels*

EC

EOSC Steering Board/ Member AT

EOSC Association, AISBL

Further AT Ministries

BMBWF

EOSC Support Office AT

AT **Mandated Organisation ACONET**

AUSTRIAN STAKEHOLDERS (LOCAL LEVEL)

MEMBER

MEMBER

OBSERVER

Institution/ legal entity n

Related Initiatives (no legal entity)
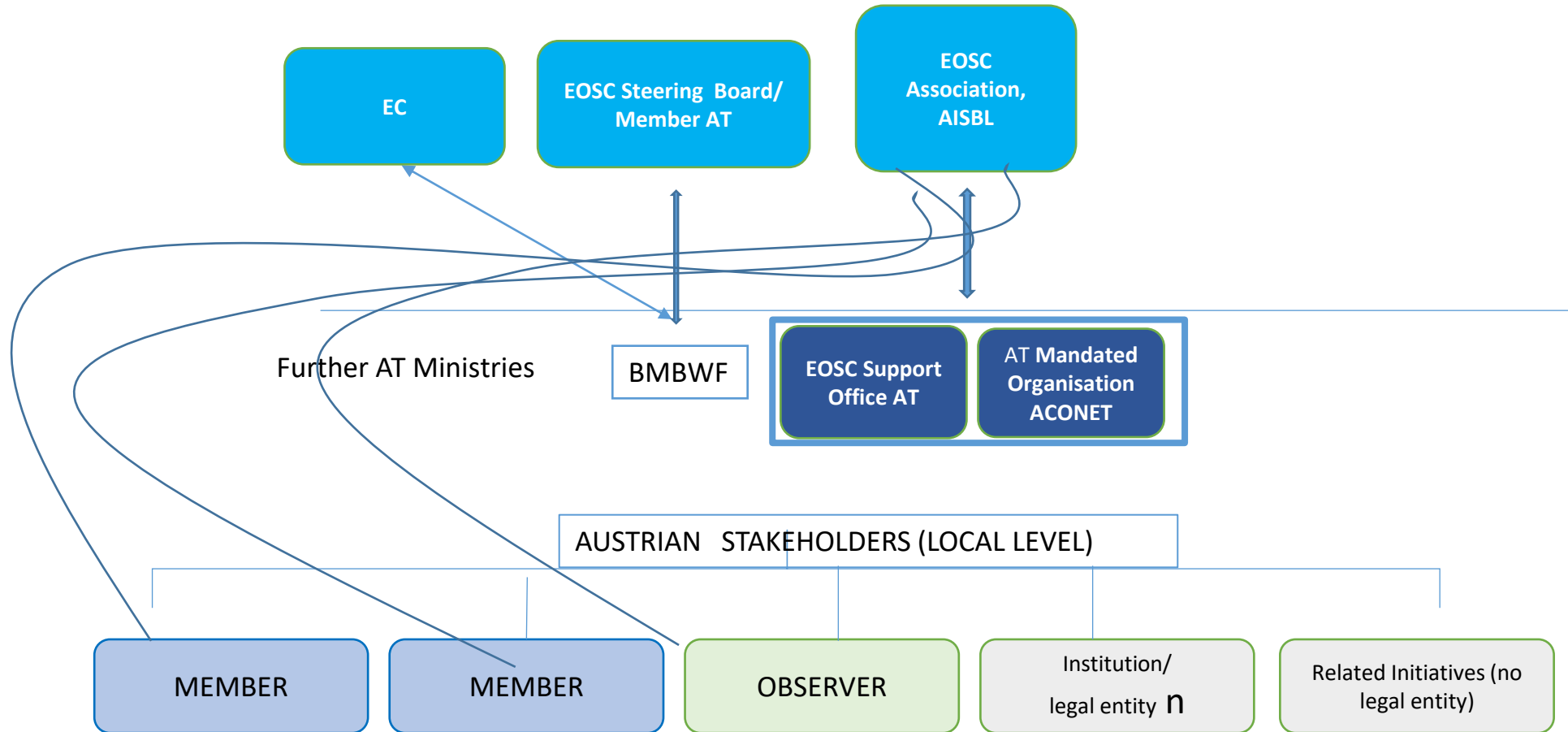
EOSC - Austrian Entities
Interactions regulated by MoU

BMBWF

Further AT Ministries

Members of AISBL

Observers Status at AISBL

Generic Members of Austrian Mandated Organisation

AT Mandated Organisation ACOnet (MEMBER OF AISBL)

EOSC Support Office AT
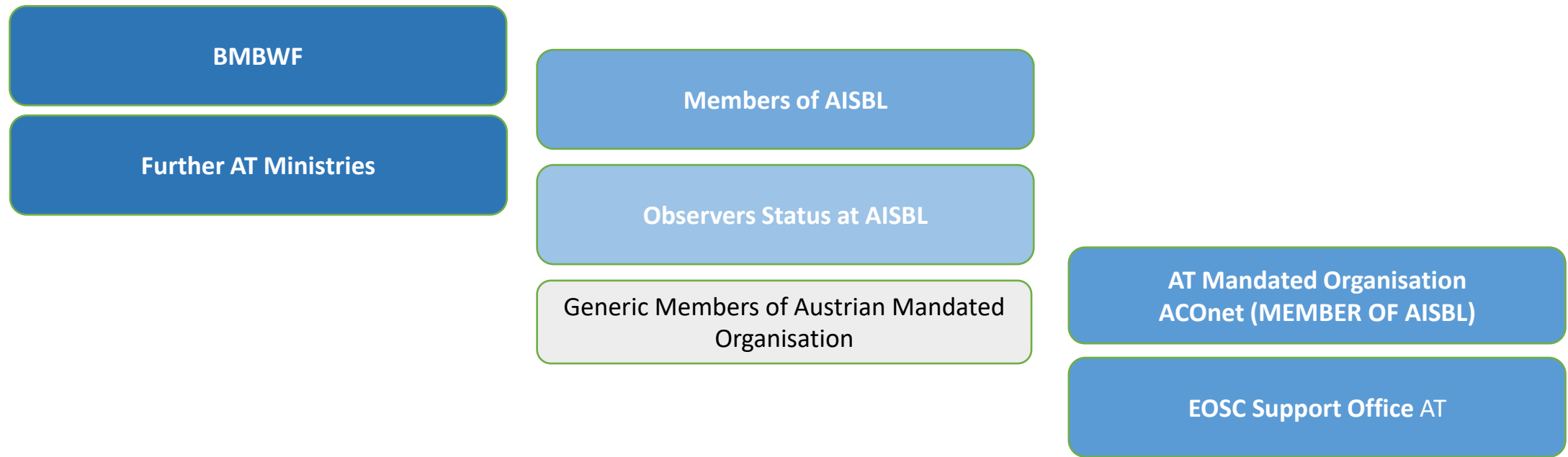
Governance model (compliant with EOSC and EOSC Association)

The internal management structure of the
Partner Network includes four institutional bodies and
a Reflection Group (former *"Austrian EOSC Café"*).

Roles and responsibilities within the project are
regulated through a (MoU)

The internal management structure of the partner community consists of the following institutions:

(a) The General Assembly acts as the representative body and as the final body responsible for decision-making.

(b) The Management ensures the optimization of processes and acts as an intermediary and coordinator between the institutions of the Community Partner and the partners.

(c) The Steering Committee sets the basic orientation of the project.

(d) The Synergies Teams bears the responsibility for expertise in each discipline/WG.

(e) The Reflection Group provides external influence and stimulus

Governance Model

General Assmbly

Steering Committee

Synergies Teams

Management

Reflection Group

EOSC Support Office Austria

The **Reflection Group** is a team of experts of multi disciplinary organisations (such as industry, politics, and science) that provides insight and expertise to the different organisational units of the initiative Austrian Mandated Organisation. The Reflection Group actively participates in the definition of long-term development strategies and provides motivation for their implementation. The Reflection Group only provides recommendations, however.

It promotes the networking with similar Austrian and European institutions working in similar projects, and ensures that Austria is connected with the rest of the world in research matters, promotes access to decision-makers in Austria and in the European Union, and facilitates access to qualified and structured data and information.

Coordination:
The Austrian Representative at the EOSC Steering Board

Activities and Tasks

Focus of Activities

Stakeholder engagement	Enlarge Association membership	Landscaping activities	Engage providers
Engage users	Adopt EOSC KPIs	Increase awareness	Reflect on sustainable business models

Communication

Trusted Space:

WIKI

Creation of a trusted virtual space at domestic level

A centralised web based Wiki, available to all partners, provides the organisational framework for the pooling of resources, the centralisation of current information about the project status, meetings, documentation as well as stimulating the exchange of experiences and knowledge.

The Wiki is regulated by clearly defined Terms and Conditions of use

Quote:

Aus den Nutzungsbedingungen des WIKIs:

- *In Anlehnung an die Idee des Open Access ist es auch ein besonderes Anliegen der Initiative „EOSC Support Office Austria /Austrian EOSC Mandated Organisation", das im Rahmen der Initiative zu bündelndem Wissen frei zugänglich verfügbar machen. Insoweit ermöglicht das Projekteigene Wiki die Lizenzierung im Wege von Creative Commons Lizenzen.*
- *Die/der NutzerIn verpflichtet sich, den Betreiber des Dienstes (TU Wien) schad- und klaglos zu halten und von sämtlichen Ansprüchen freizustellen, die von Dritten gegen den Betreiber des Dienstes wegen von der/dem NutzerIn schuldhaft (fahrlässig oder vorsätzlich) eingebrachter rechtswidriger Inhalte geltend gemacht werden.*

Activities of the EOSC Support Office Austria

Liaison: National and International

Researchers Engagement In Austria

Austria Country Report (quarterly)

Landscaping activity, Continuous Monitoring als strategisches Tool

Coordination of Information concerning the Advisory Groups of EOSC Association

Incubator for publishing activities /visibility

Liaisoning with ACONET

Liaisoning with the H2020 Project „EOSC Secretariat"

Activities of the EOSC Support Office Austria

EOSC Support Office Austria

Single Point of Entry ffor qualified information concerning the EOSC:

Austrian Stakeholders (members/ Observers/ others

Three Involved Ministries

Reporting activities

Coordination of communication activities

Networking with further "EOSC Nodes" in Europe

Liaisoning with EOSC Association AISBL

Liaisoning with FAIR Initiative in Austria

Activities of the EOSC Support Office Austria

Liaisoning with RDA Austria National Node

Organisation of Webinars

Support of Reflection Group

Coordination of activities concerning the MoU

Liaisoning with the Austrian EOSC Reference Points

Alignment activities (e.g. concerning the Data Management Policies)

Liaisoning with „Funders"

Supporting "Austrian EOSC Reference Points"

Guiding principles - Summary

Openness: open communication between all partners in the partner network.

Culture of Dialogue: Encouraging a "culture of dialogue" to promote institutional networking and exchange of ideas.

Access: The partners are committed to a free access to the results of the joint operation in the project.
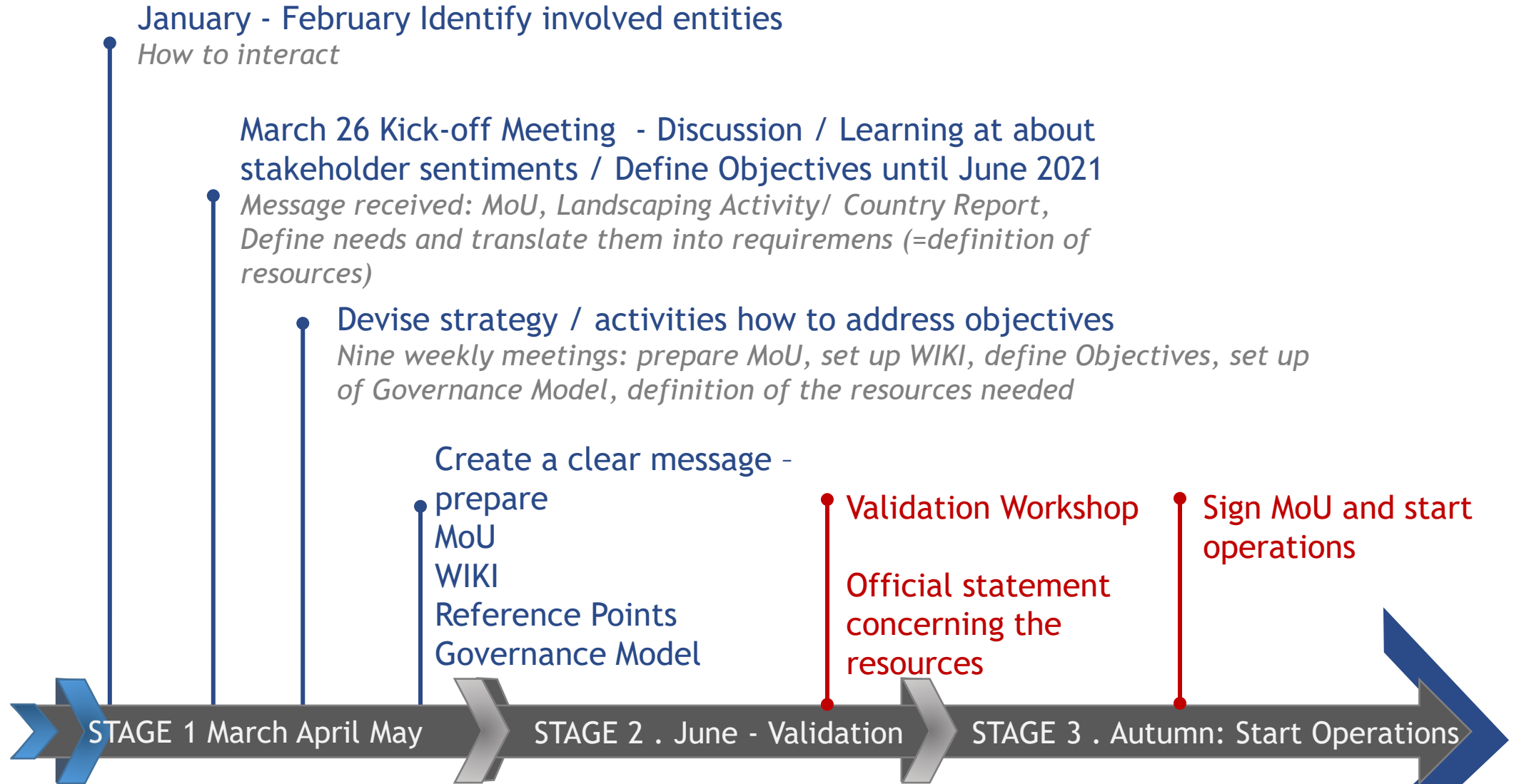
Ownership of rights: The project partners ensure the sustainability of the results by a regulated ownership of rights within and outside the network.

Recognizable roles: regulated relationship between all project partners by means of defined organizational units and processes. Roles and responsibilities are clearly visible from inside and outside.

Structured approach: The operation of the work packages is defined by controlled sessions, responsibilities, well defined voting, and communication.

Clear information infrastructure: The project partners have at their disposal a common, nation-wide information infrastructure established in the form of a Wiki.

Activities until June

January - February Identify involved entities
How to interact

March 26 Kick-off Meeting - Discussion / Learning at about stakeholder sentiments / Define Objectives until June 2021
Message received: MoU, Landscaping Activity/ Country Report, Define needs and translate them into requiremens (=definition of resources)

Devise strategy / activities how to address objectives
Nine weekly meetings: prepare MoU, set up WIKI, define Objectives, set up of Governance Model, definition of the resources needed

Create a clear message – prepare
MoU
WIKI
Reference Points
Governance Model

Validation Workshop

Official statement concerning the resources

Sign MoU and start operations

STAGE 1 March April May   STAGE 2 . June - Validation   STAGE 3 . Autumn: Start Operations

EOSC Support Office Austria

THANKS!

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