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| Project: | Synthesis of systematic resources |
| Project acronym: | SYNTHESYS PLUS |
| Grant Agreement number: | 823827 |
| Work Package: | NA1 - Management |
| Deliverable number: | 1.1 |
| Deliverable title: | Kick-Off Meeting |
| Deliverable author(s): | Katherine Dixey, Vince Smith |
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SYNTHESYS+ Kick-Off Meeting Participants 19/02/19 (Photograph - Kristina Gorman)

**Meeting Summary**

The Kick-Off meeting for SYNTHESYS+ was held at the Natural History Museum, London on the 18-19 February 2019. The meeting brought together a total of 62 delegates representing 31 participating institutions. The aim was to communicate and consolidate project aims, consider strategic alignment with the wider European and global landscape, and facilitate networking and discussion between project participants.

Themes for presentations and discussions were as follows:

* **Project Management:** Introductory sessions by the project manager covered procedural issues and tasks relating to Networking Activity 1 (Management). These included financial administration, communication, dissemination, ethics, and deliverables.
* **Access:** A brief overview of the Transnational Access programme was given, outlining the addition of 4 new partners to the project, as well as regulatory changes to applicant eligibility. The Virtual Access component of SYNTHESYS+, new to this iteration of the project, was introduced by Access Stream Coordinator Sandra Knapp with the opportunity for discussion amongst attendees.
* **New Participants:** The 9 partners new to the SYNTHESYS consortium were given the opportunity to deliver a short introductory presentation, showcasing their current activities and planned contributions to the project.
* **Work Package Introductions:** Each work package (Networking Activity 2-5 and Joint Research Activity 1-3) had an introductory session on day 2. Work Package leaders individually summarised their objectives, deliverables & milestones, connectivity to other initiatives, key risks, and global relevance.
* **Linked Projects:** The remainder of the second day was largely given to discussing strategic alignment, horizon scanning and linkages with [DiSSCo](https://dissco.eu/) and other related projects.

Following this event, Work Package leaders will arrange individual Kick-Off meetings via teleconference to facilitate further in-depth planning discussions.

**Documents Enclosed**

* Agenda
* Copies of presentations
* Participant list (sign-in sheet)