DIGITAL TOOLS FOR ENGAGING PARTNERS

This guide aims to support various actors, such as assessment teams, in facilitating the virtual involvement of stakeholders and authors throughout the national ecosystem assessment process. This guide provides examples of online softwares and tools, showcasing their advantages and disadvantages along with links to tutorials for further information on how to use them. The inclusion in this table do not constitute an endorsement, and the list of examples are not exhaustive, other tools can be found online to support online engagement of stakeholders.

Audience interaction tool	Advantages	Disadvantages	Free plan	Paid options available?	Tutorial Links
Poll tools					
Mentimeter A software that can gather real-time input from remote teams using live polls, quizzes, word clouds, Q&As[1] and rankings	• User friendly (Ease of use) • Low internet bandwidth • Can be accessed on multiple devices including mobile phones	• The free version is limited to two questions only • There can be a time delay in live showing results	• Unlimited audience size • Unlimited presentations • Unlimited Quick Slides (question templates) • Core question types including Word Cloud, Multiple Choice, Scales, Open-Ended, Q&A and Ranking • Image and PDF export option • 2 questions per presentation • 5 quizzes per presentation • Help Centre	Yes	Website guidance: https://www.mentimeter.com/how-to Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/Mentimeter
Slido This application offers interactive Q&A, live polls and session questionnaires for meetings and events	• User friendly • Audience interaction • Provides live polls, Q&A etc	• The free version is limited to 3 polls • It can be slow to respond on the web browser	• 3 polls per event • 1 brainstorm topic per event • Max 1,000 participants per event	Yes	Website guidance: https://www.slido/videos Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/slidoapp

[1] Q&A refers to question and answers

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Meeting Pulse A live polling, event design and analysis software. It can be used to engage audiences and teams with real-time Q&A, polling and brainstorming tools	• User friendly polling options for in person or virtual polls • Designed for virtual events and conferences	• Learning required for new users	• 3 polls per meeting/event • Live crowd-sourced Q&A • Real-time feedback (like Facebook Live) • PowerPoint integration • 1 brainstorm per meeting/event	Yes	Website guidance: https://meet.ps/posts/meetingpulse-how-to-create-a-quick-poll/ Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcY-9mC_mtO8OiTZJyIR5eQ
Poll Everywhere Captures feedback instantly during virtual meetings, classes and events through online polls	• Live online polling, quizzes and Q&A	• The paid-for plans are expensive • The software is limited by its inability to do more complex forms of polling • Limited question styles • Simple layout features	• Maximum audience size of 25 • Unlimited number of polls • 1 concurrent presentation • Live word clouds • Text walls • Survey view • Private poll questions • Downloadable poll data	Yes	Website guidance: https://www.polleverywhere.com/videos/tutorials Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/polleverywhere
Whiteboard tools					
Howspace Is best described as "An AI-powered digital facilitation tool designed for workshops and events. The software helps to design, launch and handle learning programs to facilitate workshops and training"	• Free trial available • Easy to use • Helps to facilitate training • Works as a collaboration management tool	• The tool can be slightly unsecure as access links can give external players access to private workspaces (careful consideration in needed when sharing access links) • Only allows up to 100 participants • No more than 12 video participants at any one time	• 30-day trial includes the same features as some of the paid tiers	Yes	Website guidance: https://www.howspace.com/facilitating-platform Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdO76VtgG19zeX9w7s4rm0w

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Miro An online collaborative whiteboard platform.	• Built-in video chat function • Designed to include interactive elements in virtual meetings, online conferences, and events	• It uses high internet bandwidth • There are no offline capabilities	• Unlimited team members • 3 editable boards • Anonymous board viewers • Pre-made templates • Integrates with other software/websites such as Slack, Google Drive, Zoom, Microsoft Teams	Yes	Website guidance: https://help.miro.com/hc/en-us/categories/360001415214-Getting-Started Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/RealtimeBoardEng
Stormboard Online whiteboard and workspace tool.	• Stormboard can integrate with Slack, Microsoft Teams, Flow and other websites/software. • Provides a digital whiteboard space for interacting with colleagues/audience	• Limitations on free plan	• 5 open Storm whiteboards • 5 users per Storm whiteboard • Integrated with Microsoft Office 365 (but only paid subscriptions allow for real time co-editing) • Basic reporting & exports • Pre-made templates	Yes	Website guidance: https://stormboard.com/help/video-tutorials Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiB6BTtHnHiX-j_6RqFYqyw
MURAL Digital whiteboard tool that allows for remote team working.	• Digital canvas • Allows for voting, ready to use templates for meetings, sticky notes, timers, and other visual collaboration features such as diagramming	• New users need time to get used to using the controls. Navigating around the screen can be affected if with many simultaneous users • The boards are of limited size • Internet connectivity can affect the use of this tool	• Unlimited free version includes most core features of paid version	Yes	Website guidance: https://support.mural.co/en/articles/2113707-tips-for-getting-started Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUcf9nFefdwgOoKMQ6qiHeA
Jamboard A digital interactive whiteboard developed by Google to work with Google Workspace.	• Jamboard is free and easy to use and integrates with other Google services including Google Workspace	• It is very simplistic and has some limited features such as some difficulty drawing precise shapes and images	• All the features that Jamboard offer are free • It is developed by Google so can work best through a Google account	No (software is free)	Website to access: https://jamboard.google.com/ Website guidance: https://edu.google.com/teacher-center/products/jamboard/?modal_active=video-modal

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Presentation tools					
Kahoot Platform to create e-learning courses, interactive presentations, training, and virtual events.	• It is a game-based learning platform • A free trial is available • It is suitable for multiple devices • It is available in all languages	• The design and creation of the game can present difficulties for starters • There is considerable advertising in the free version • The styles of questions are limited to multiple choice or true & false	• Free 7-day trial • After 7-day trial ends, they will automatically charge for a plan – must cancel the agreed plan to not be charged	Yes	Website guidance: https://kahoot.com/library/video-tutorials/ Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi8xTp2n_C6beNP5pkvbFBA
Prezi Presentation software that uses motion, zoom and spatial relationships to convey ideas and messages more visually.	• Free basic version is available • Provides a visually interesting way of presenting information • Uses motion and zoom effects to go between slides • Works as alternative to Google Slides or PowerPoint	• It is not intuitive at first • The software frequently crashes • It can be unreliable in areas of unstable internet	• The basic free version allows for basic presentation formats and converting presentations from PowerPoint • Limited but still useful basic presentation options which are good for those who want an alternative to PowerPoint	Yes	Website guidance: https://prezi.com/learn/ Software YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXAkLBQ65yuL63wJf5DRAuA

For further information, please contact assessment@unep-wcmc.org or visit http://www.ecosystemassessments.net/