

Case Study

Artsactive

The screenshot shows the website 'artsactive.net/network'. At the top, there is a search bar and a logo for 'GOBIERNO VASCO'. The main heading is 'artsactive.net/network'. Below this, there is a world map and several columns of text and links. The columns include:

- /organisers:** /ANAT, /Artistsinlabs, /The Arts Catalyst, /Arts Council England, /Arts & Genomics Center, /Disonancias, /Ectopia, /FUSE: cadre_montalvo artist research residency, /MÉRA, /ITEM, /SymbioticA, /Tilt, /TransGenesis.
- /partners:** /australia, /czech republic, /great britain, /netherlands, /portugal, /spain, /switzerland, /USA.
- /resources:** /reports & evaluations, /publications, /patents, /contracts, /databases.
- /press:** /press releases, /artsactive in media.
- /supporters:** /Leonardo / ISAST, /Leonardo / OLATS.
- /advisors:** /Bronac Ferran, /Emmanuel Mahé, /James Leach, /Samuelle Carlson, /Robert Thill.

 The main text on the right describes Artsactive as an international network of projects, organisations or individuals involved in artists collaborations with science and industry research labs. It mentions that it was created in 2006 and gathers 14 organizations and 4 experts. It also lists its aims:

- develop new sources of innovation and creativity within scientific, technological, economic and social fields;
- change the context and the direction of scientific, technological, economic and social fields (social embedding);
- disseminate the fruits of research (especially scientific research) into society at large;
- encourage knowledge transfer and professional development.

 At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a browser status bar showing 'Internet | Geschützt Modus: Aktiv' and a zoom level of 100%.

Profile

Website's name / Domain	http://www.artsactive.net
Country of origin	Spain
Geographical scope	National, European, Global
Language/s / tackling of language issues	The website is only available in English

Website owner

Contact	Headquarters: Disonancias Centro Kursaal. Grupo Xabide Av. Zurriola 1 20002 Donostia - San Sebastián Euskadi (Spain) info@artsactive.net
Type of organisation	Non-profit organisation
Description of the owner organisation	Artsactive is a network formed of different organisations, artists and companies interested in the collaboration between art and culture and science. The headquarter of the network is located at Disoniacs in Spain which is a platform that liaises and promotes relationships between artists and companies, research centres or public organisations in order to foster innovation in all its aspects and transmit to society the importance of developing creative environments.

Importance of the website within the organisation structure	The website functions as the network and platform between the different organisers participating in this project and creates a basis for different facilities initiated by the network like a database and different blogs on topics concerning art and scientific research.
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Description of the website’s mission and objectives including the main activities of the website and which domains and disciplines are addressed, as well as how the accomplishment of the mission is facilitated

The network “artsactive” aims at connecting artists with science and research labs and to initiate artistic cooperation between them. The idea of the network is develop innovate and creative ways of collaboration between the arts, science and social fields as well as to find a way to disseminate research results in to the larger society. Furthermore, dialogue about information, progress, ethics, social impact of science and arts should be stimulated.

The website focuses especially on facilitating communication via blogs as well as offering support and advice for artists. Furthermore, the database of network encourages exchange and communication between artists.

Website facilities

Kind of facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links to different blogs • Data base for artists • Media library • Publication download 	
Member / non-member facilities	Non-member facilities	
Importance within the website content	The connection to seven relevant blogs shows the importance of communication facilities. The publications are an important resource for advice like the personal and direct advice contact.	
Frequency of usage	Number of visitors (monthly):	Average of 602
	Frequency and number of uploads of contributors:	Fortnightly-Monthly
	Frequency of website updating by the website owner:	Fortnightly
Does the website show any results for working communication and debate on a European / cross-border level?	The reports and evaluations of projects show the results of a working network going beyond national and European borders. And the establishment of the platform itself is a result of European and international cooperation, communication and exchange.	

Evaluation of the website

Mission and objectives, accomplishment of mission	Attitude towards the European idea, incorporation of the European idea	The website goes beyond cooperation between European countries and focuses on a rather international network. Nevertheless, most organizers of the network belong to the European Union.
	Cultural values	Besides the encouragement of intercultural dialogue and collaboration between stakeholders of the arts and science as well as the broader public, the network fosters innovation and creativity within the cultural sector by including scientific research and social fields. Exchange and debate are stimulated by the relating blogs as well as the database www.synapse.net.au .
Presentation, navigation, structure	The website's presentation, structure and navigation are simple and well structures. All information is easily accessible.	
Trustfulness	The organisers of the website are well known nationally and across Europe. Some of the organisers are supported by European projects.	
Main strength	Main strength of the website is the variety of connections to other platforms, blogs and databases. The website is a network platform for cooperation and exchange.	
Main drawback	Main drawback is the availability only in English	
Usage of communication facilities	The blogs and the data base are frequently used.	

Vision and recommendation of website owners

Recommendations for the European Commission	<p>Funding for virtual and physical platforms that stimulate cross-border exchanges between the arts and other fields.</p> <p>Dissemination of the value of cross-border exchange platforms.</p> <p>Support from other Directorate General than the DG EAC (e.g. DG Enterprise and Industry or DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities).</p> <p>Support by the implementation within other European cultural, entrepreneurial and scientific networks.</p>
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Vision of further development of the website

Importance of linking the European members of artsactive.net to the broader international network. Facilitating an annual meeting of network members, which would have as its primary business an analysis of how best to fulfill the network's aim; how to grow network benefits (principally online, given the network's geographical dispersment); how to grow engagement with the communities of artists, scientists, researchers and thinkers; and finally, how to effectively communicate the importance of pursuing trans-disciplinary approaches to the complex issues the network is faced with.