

# Wadden Sea Board

**WSB 21**  
**17 November 2017**  
**Vester Vested, Denmark**



---

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Operational Team Partnership Hub (OPteamPH) – Progress report</b>
<b>Document No.</b>	<b>WSB 21/6.1/3</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>30.10.2017</b>
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>OPteam PH</b>

---

## **Proposal:**

The meeting is proposed to note the progress, to endorse the approach and, taking into account the outcome of PCDG5, to prolong the working period of the OPteamPH, to cover the whole pilot phase for the PartnershipHub development until the end of 2018. The time table contained in the given Terms of Reference shall be adapted in this respect.

**OPERATIONAL TEAM PARTNERSHIP HUB  
(OPteamPH 3)**

**Progress Report to WSB 21  
date 24.10.2017**

At its 20th meeting, held in Harlingen, Netherlands, on June 16, 2017, the Wadden Sea Board decided to install an operational team, tasked with exploring possible options for enhanced stakeholder engagement of possible sectors/partner networks in the projected Partnership Hub (PH) as Part of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Partnership Center (PC). The team should constitute itself as soon as possible and conduct its work complementary to that of the Partnership Center Drafting Group (PCDG). It should comprise representatives designated by the State Parties as well one from the CWSS and one from the Wadden Sea Forum (WSF). Hubertus Hebbelmann (DE) was asked by the WSB to organize the team on short notice. The first meeting of the OPteamPH was held in August.

The Wadden Sea Board delegations (D: per Email 04.09.2017, NL: per Email 04.09.2017; DK: per Email 07.09.2017) gave their approval to the draft Terms of Reference for the Operational Team Partnership Hub (OPteamPH) with amendments.

The OPteamPH held two meetings, one in September (OPteamPH2; 22.09.2017) and one in October (OPteamPH3; 24.10.2017), where a working program was developed and first implementation steps were organized. In a first phase, a round of interviews to approach potential strategic partners, defined earlier by WSB, for instance: Wadden Sea Forum, green NGO's (via Wadden Sea Team)), Research (via working group for research agenda), Education (via Wadden Sea School), Sustainable Tourism Network (via TG-STs and regional groups); will be carried out until the end of this year, to encourage and to negotiate concrete, active participation and engagement in the PH and to learn from their networking experience. A flyer with basic information on Partnership Centre and Partnership Hub, released by CWSS to underlie the interview series, is currently under preparation. Parallel to this first phase it is planned, to support and prepare the exploration of ,new' potential strategic partner sectors through an external actor and network analysis, carried out by a scientific institute. This investigation project will be funded by Niedersachsen and conducted in close feed-back with OPteamPH and WSB, esp. concerning decisions, which 'new' partner sectors might be approached.