

Questions and answers recorded from the SeaBuddy launch webinars

Q: Do you have an open forum to discuss the maritime industry like Reddit?

A: It is possible to open a thread within SeaBuddy in which you can ask a question and start a conversation

Q: Do we have educational training videos to get better engagement?

A: There are videos on the website to demonstrate how to navigate and use the system; in addition, there are some videos discussing the benefits of mentoring in general (for example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uBzOOIDH6ak>)

Q: How would you ascertain if one is good at mentoring?

A: Within the platform, there is a confidential rating system for mentors and mentees, which can support you as you develop

Q: Do you have a limit to the number of users in the pilot phase? And do you have a short communication package to share with seafarers we want to reach out to?

A: Currently, we have not set a limit on numbers within the pilot. A communications package will be available on the website.

Q: Will there be a question bank of popular questions raised by mentees available for access by others?

A: This feature is not available during the pilot, but we would like to add it to the platform in future

Q: How will you handle sexual harassment? If anyone (mentor /mentee) reports this?

A: SeaBuddy is not designed as a place to report issues of sexual assault or harassment. However, the website has links to specialist organisations, such as [ISWAN](#) and [Saferwaves](#), who can offer specialist support.

Q: Is there an app, or is it only accessible via PC? =

A: The website address is sea-buddy.org. The connections platform is available through the Pushfar App, which can be downloaded from the [Google Play](#) or [Apple store](#).

Q: Will there be mental health support on the platform?

A: Your mentor will not be able to offer mental health support. If your DPA cannot support you, specialist organisations such as [ISWAN](#) offer specialist, dedicated resources.

Q: I just signed up as a mentor. Can I see the pool of mentees so that I can choose someone to mentor?

A: As a platform member, you can select a SeaBuddy It is a two-way process.

Q: Is it possible to use this platform while at sea?

A: The platform will require connectivity to identify matches; however, it is designed to function in situations where bandwidth is limited. An app version is also available.

Q: Will the Seabuddy platform be the medium for communication between Mentor & Mentee and if so, will there be a history of the communication exchange?

A: The platform can be used as the medium of communication, but this is not mandated. However, it is very useful to utilise the functionality to create a record of each conversation and to record your objectives. The success of any mentoring relationship will depend, to a large extent, on both parties understanding each other's objectives, expectations and experience.

Q: Can the mentors reach out to each other for tips for mentoring?

A: Mentors can reach out to one another for support, hints and tips. We aim to create greater functionality and resources to support mentors as the concept develops.