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Useful resource to organize Earth Science Laboratories and lessons thanks to Scientix and NextLab project

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European Schoolnet is a Brussels-based consortium of thirty-four ministries of education fostering pan-European collaboration between schools and teachers. European Schoolnet is coordinating two projects that aim to improve the STEM education in Europe: Scientix and Next-Lab. Scientix is a project funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union for research and innovation, that promotes and supports a Europe-wide collaboration among STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) teachers, education researchers, policy makers and other STEM education professionals. The Scientix project supports teachers in their professional development with face to face workshops, moodle courses and webinars, and provides a repository of teaching materials, developed by different European projects on STEM topics. Next-Lab Project (<http://www.go-lab-project.eu/>) opens up online science laboratories (remote and virtual labs) for the large-scale use in school education. The overall aim of the project is to encourage young people aged from 10 to 18 to engage in science topics, acquire scientific inquiry skills, and experience the culture of doing science by undertaking active guided experimentation. Both Scientix and NextLab are represented by “ambassadors”, STEM teachers from middle and high school interested in promoting STEM topics and teaching activity. These projects include teaching resources and tools focusing on Earth Science, available for teachers with, or without, geological background that would like to improve their knowledge in this field.

This contribution aims to present teaching materials included in the Scientix and Next-Lab repositories, focused on geological topics as useful tools to engage students in Earth science. Moreover, we would share our experience as ambassadors in order to invite new teachers, policy makers and stakeholders involved in Earth science education to participate in our communities and share best practices and experiences.