

Joint European Research Infrastructure network for Coastal Observatory – Novel European eXpertise for coastal observaTories - **JERICO-NEXT**

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Approvals					
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Executive Summary

The JERICO-NEXT Trans National Access (TNA) activity is built on the successful experience of the previous FP7 JERICO project, G.A. 262584 (Sparnocchia et al., 2014, 2016). However, it will involve a greater number of observatories distributed, as before, in coastal and shelf seas all around Europe, including some dedicated to biological observation (see D7.1 for a detailed description). A limited number of supporting facilities (calibration and research laboratories) and one item of special equipment are also included in the TNA service catalogue.

This document relates to WP8 - Outreach, communication and engagement, and in particular to Task 8.8: Implementing Transnational Access to coastal observatories. It describes the procedures adopted for providing TNA during the three planned Calls for proposals, one per year from May 2016 until 2018. These procedures are a review and update of those already used by JERICO.

Updates of this report prior to the next Call are possible and will depend on new needs that may emerge while conducting the first Call.



1. Introduction

As part of the Trans National Access (TNA) activity implemented in WP7, JERICO-NEXT offers opportunities to researchers or research teams from academy and industry to access original coastal infrastructures for measurement campaigns and instrument testing. Free-of-charge access to the facilities specified in the TNA context will be granted following the evaluation and selection of proposals submitted by user groups for their utilization in response to three dedicated Calls during the lifetime of the JERICO-NEXT project. The assessment and selection of submitted proposals will be conducted by an independent panel of experts (Selection Panel, SP), and will be based on scientific excellence, innovation and eventual impacts on the state-of- the-art.

The TNA management team will coordinate the evaluation process by pre-screening the proposals, depending on type of facility(ies) involved, and assigning them to the evaluators (the SP members and, in case of reception of a large number of applications, additional experts nominated to assist them).

The JERICO-NEXT TNA office, based at CNR-ISMAR in Trieste, will manage all administrative aspects. In particular, the TNA office will receive and register the proposals submitted by the users, and will assist the TNA management team and the SP in the evaluation and selection processes and in the production of related documentation.

Access to a specific infrastructure (or a specific installation that is part of an infrastructure) by a user group is to be intended as a concession granted to use the infrastructure to collect specific data following the implementation of a specific automated measuring system. Unless otherwise stated (e.g. for the use of gliders), the measuring system shall be provided by the user group. The access conceded includes logistical, technical and scientific support by the access provider, and any special training required by a user group to use the assigned infrastructure.

A written contract or agreement between the "Access Provider" and the "End User" will define the actions to be undertaken, the resources that will need to be allocated, the length of planned user stays (if any), and the period of use. It will also define the rights and obligations of all the Parties involved, including eventual provisions for early termination of the conferred access. Support for travel and subsistence costs relating to visits by users, as well as shipping of their equipment, is foreseen. The exact amount will be considered case-by-case, depending on the type of access, the types and number of facilities requested in the specific user's proposal, the length of stay, and the costs in the visited country.



2. Access rules

2.1 Access provision

User groups will benefit of 'free of charge' access to one or more infrastructures, or a part of them (e.g. installation), offered in the JERICO-NEXT TNA program after applying for the same during three Calls, planned once per year from 2016 to 2018, if their proposals pass the evaluation and selection phases.

2.2 Eligibility of user groups

In compliance with Article 16.1 (Rules for providing trans-national access to research infrastructure) of the Grant Agreement (European Commission, 2015), a user group is eligible when the following conditions are satisfied:

- a) The access must be transnational, i.e. the user group leader and the majority of the users in the group must work in a country other than the country(ies) where the installation is located.
- b) Only user groups that are allowed to disseminate the results they have generated under the action may benefit from the access, unless the users are working for SMEs.
- c) Access for user groups with a majority of users not working in an EU or associated country is limited to 20 % of the total amount of units of access provided under the grant.

2.3 Modality of Access

Unless otherwise specified, access to a specific infrastructure (or a specific installation that is part of an infrastructure) by a user group is to be intended as a concession granted to use the infrastructure to collect specific data following the implementation of a specific automated measuring system. A written contract or agreement between the "Access Provider" and the "End User" will delineate the actions to be undertaken, the resources that will need to be allocated, the length of planned user stays (if any), and the period of use. It will also define the rights and obligations of all the Parties involved, including eventual provisions for early termination of the conferred access.

Unless otherwise stated (e.g. for the use of gliders), the measuring system shall be provided by the user group.

Whenever possible, the start and end of an access interval will be set by the access provider to coincide with times scheduled for the ordinary maintenance of the installation in the interests of financial economy (e.g. limiting the costs of vessel-time needed to access the infrastructure, etc.).

It is mandatory that user groups interact directly with the managers of the infrastructures/installations they wish to use during the preparation of proposals

- to verify the particulars of access to the infrastructure/installation they wish to use, and
- to verify the feasibilities of the proposed projects and address practical concerns.



2.4 Support to user groups

Besides the access conceded free-of charge, the user groups will receive logistical, technical and scientific support by the access provider, and any special training required to use the assigned infrastructure.

Users will receive a financial contribution for travel and subsistence costs for visiting infrastructures, if justified. A base amount of 3000 € has been set for each facility involved in a project. The effective grant assigned to a project will be considered case- by-case depending on the type of access, the types and number of facilities requested, the length of stay, and the costs in the visited country.

Funds for shipping equipment are also available, and the amount conceded will be evaluated case-by-case.

2.5 Post-access requirements

At the stipulated end of the access project, the user group leader must submit a report describing the resulting technical and preliminary scientific outputs within 30 days (see Annex 3). The report will be published on the JERICO-NEXT web site, and will be made available to the European Commission if requested.

The receipt and approval of this report will be required to finalize any and all financial support received by the user group, as indicated in the relevant TNA End-user Agreement.

- ii. Any publications or patents resulting from the JERICO-NEXT TNA project must be reported to the host institute and the JERICO-NEXT TNA office. Furthermore, all such publications or patents shall acknowledge the support of the European Commission's H2020 Framework Programme under grant agreement No. 654410, JERICO-NEXT Trans National Access program, and the host institute.
- iii. Access beneficiaries undertake to reply promptly to all the requests of the JERICO-NEXT coordinator and the TNA office relating to their access activities.





3. Call program

JERICO-NEXT will organize three Calls for Transnational Access (TNA) to a chosen number of its infrastructures/installations. Visiting scientists, technologists and technicians from user groups working on approved projects will receive local assistance by the operators of the infrastructures/installations they use.

The access is provided free of charge and includes all the logistical, technological and scientific support, as well as any specific training, that is normally provided to external users of the specific infrastructure/installation.

The Call programme is as follows:

	1st Call	2nd Call	3rd Call	
Opening of the call	May 2, 2016	May 2017	April 2018	
Deadline	June 20, 2016	June 2017	May 2018	

Each Call will be published on the JERICO-NEXT website, clearly stating the timeline and providing the template for transnational access proposals (see Annexes 1 and 2).

3.1 Submission of access proposals

The user groups must request access by submitting (in writing) a description of the work that they wish to carry out and their names, nationalities and home institutions.

Proposals must be sent to the JERICO-NEXT TNA office, using the email address: <u>jerico.tna@ismar.cnr.it</u>, during the publication of the call and before its deadline. They will be registered (a submission number will be assigned), archived and prepared for evaluation.

If users apply for access to a facility, the access time of which has already been used up, they may be redirected to another facility with unconsumed access time. As far as possible, the alternative facility offered will have similar technical or geographical characteristics.





4. Procedure for archiving TNA proposals

The proposal must be received at the email address of the JERICO-NEXT TNA office: <u>jerico.TNA@ismar.cnr.it</u>, during the period when a Call is open (about 2 months)

They will be registered in order of their arrival (see the attached template in Annex 4), and a reference number will be assigned: JN_CALL_#.progressively_increasing_number (starting from 1).

Each applicant will receive the following acknowledgement message

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is to inform you that we have received your application for Transnational Access (TNA) to the JERICO-NEXT network, and that it has been assigned the following reference number: JN_CALL_#_prog.num.

Best regards, The JERICO-NEXT TNA office

The proposal will be downloaded and archived in a folder on a PC. Subfolders for each type of installation will be created:

•	ferrybox	(FB)
•	fixed platform	(FP)
•	cabled observatory	(CO)
•	glider	(GL)
•	supporting facility and specialized equipment	(SF)
•	mix	(M)

(the folder mix will contain proposals asking concurrent access to different types of installation).

The proposals will be also printed and archived as hard copy. The assigned reference number will be annotated in the designated space at the end of the proposal, along with the date it was received by e-mail.



5. Evaluation and selection procedure

5.1 Selection Panel (SP)

The user groups will be selected by the SP, nominated at the JERICO-NEXT kick off meeting and consisting of independent international experts. The SP also includes the members of the project's Scientific and Technological Advisory Committee (STAC):

- Peter Herman, NIOZ
- Richard Lampitt, NERC and representative of Fix03
- Laura Beranzoli, INGV and representative of EMSO
- Eric Delory, PLOCAN and representative of NEXOS
- o Janet Newton, University of Washington (past member of FP7 JERICO SP)
- Roger Proctor, IMOS and University of Tasmania (past member of FP7 JERICO SP)
- o Isabel Sousa Pinto, University of Porto and vice chair of EMBOS
- Alicia Lavin Montero, IEO (past member of FP7 JERICO SP)

5.2 Evaluation and selection

The adopted procedure is built on the principles of transparency, fairness and impartiality.

Submitted proposals will first be checked by the JERICO-NEXT TNA Office to ensure formal compliance with access rules. Incomplete proposals, where the template has been filled in only partially, will automatically be rejected.

Properly compiled proposals will undergo a three-step selection process involving:

- 1. Validation of each proposal by the interested facility operator (feasibility assessment).
- 2. Evaluation based on scientific excellence, innovation and impacts on the state-of-the-art. This step will be performed by the SP with the aid of additional experts, if necessary.
- 3. Final assessment and selection by the SP, which will recommend a short-list of proposals eligible for support.

Only proposals successfully validated by the relevant facility operators, will pass on to the evaluation phase. To avoid misunderstandings and difficulties, users shall interact directly with the facility operators during the preparation of their proposals, to confirm that their targeted facilities are suitable for the planned experiments.

In assigning proposals, care will be taken to exempt an evaluator from his/her duties if: 1) members of the user group are from the evaluator's home country, 2) the facility being requested is located in the evaluator's home country.



5.2.1 Evaluation criteria

The submitted projects will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

#	Criterion for Evaluation	Max Score
1	Scientific excellence of user group	5
2	Scientific and technical value of the project	5
3	Quality of the work plan	5
4	Potential for seeding links with industry	5
5	European relevance and interests for the scientific community	5
	Total score	25

A proposal will be considered for acceptance if it receives a total score that is \geq 15.

5.2.2 <u>Selection of proposals</u>

The SP will meet in person or by videoconference to assess all the proposals received and recommend a short-list of the user groups that should benefit for access.

The SP decision will be based on the ratings resulting from the evaluation.

Priority will be given to user groups composed of users who:

- have not previously used the installation and
- are working in countries where no equivalent research infrastructure exists.

According to EU requirements, special attention will be paid to female participation in order to promote equal opportunities in the implementation of the TNA activities, to the extent possible.

The SP is empowered to make recommendations that may deviate from those provided by the additional experts who may have been involved in the evaluation.

The results of the selection will be published on the JERICO-NEXT web site, and will be communicated directly to user group leaders and facility providers by email.



6. Agreement between parties

Before starting a project approved under JERICO-NEXT TNA, an END User agreement will be subscribed by the Institution leading the user group (end user), the JERICO-NEXT Consortium in the person of the coordinator IFREMER and the beneficiary giving access to its infrastructure (facility operator).

The agreement will define the terms of access, and will detail:

- The conditions regulating access.
- The end user's duties regarding:
- obligations in case the experiment is cancelled by its on-site party,
- the documentation of expenses and distribution of funds among the members composing the user group,
- commitments regarding safety rules,
- reporting obligations after the visit and during the JERICO-NEXT life-time, including proper acknowledgement of grant agreement n° 654410 "JERICO-NEXT",
- data delivery obligations.
- The facility operator's duties regarding:
- confirmation of the availability of the facility,
- the intimation of insurance requisites, and their fulfilment,
- the intimation of on-site safety rules, and their obedience.
- Rules of reimbursement of end user expenses, and the coordinator's role in managing this issue.
- Obligations and rights of all the involved parties as concerns: intellectual property rights, confidentiality, liability and other legal issues pertinent to the signed agreement.

A detailed working plan presenting the scope of the proposed activity and its schedule is part of the agreement.

Along with the agreement, the end user will also receive a template to report immediate outcomes after the visit and to provide information useful for reporting to the European Commission.





7. Conclusions

This report is a guide for preparing and managing TNA Calls in JERICO-NEXT.

It is a review and update of procedures already established by JERICO (G.A. 262584) and will be released before the first Call.

Updates of this report prior to the next Call are possible and will depend on new needs that may emerge while conducting the first Call.



8. References

European Commission (2015): Grant Agreement Number 654410 - JERICO-NEXT, 13/04/2015.

Sparnocchia, S., Farcy, P., and Delory E. (2014): The trans-national access in FP7 and H2020: A tool for sensor testing, observing system validation and collaborative research. IEEE Conference Publications, Sensor Systems for a Changing Ocean (SSCO), 2014 IEEE, 1-3, 2014, DOI: 10.1109/SSCO.2014.7000381.

Sparnocchia, S., Nair, R., Petihakis, G., Aydoğdu, A., Dobricicd, S., Farcy, P., Martinelli, M., Petersen, W., and Petit de la Villeon, L. (2016): An inter-linked Coastal Observatory Network for Europe, Journal of Operational Oceanography, DOI: 10.1080/1755876X.2015.1114808.





Annex 1 – TNA call template

<Nth> call

The <Nth> call for access to the JERICO-NEXT Coastal Observatories and Supporting Facilities is open

from <date> to <date>

with access activities scheduled in the period <from - to>, following a formal screening and selection process.

The JERICO-NEXT project is offering access to ferrybox lines, fixed platforms, including cabled observatories, glider fleets, and fishing vessels based in coastal and shelf-sea areas around Europe.

Calibration and **research laboratories** complement the offer, as also certain specific kinds of **special equipment**. These are intended to be used in conjunction with one or more of the observing systems mentioned above.

Go ahead and browse the JERICO-NEXT catalogue of available infrastructures and facilities to find the ones most suitable to your research purposes!!!

The catalogue of facilities is accessible by clicking on through the 'Jerico Facilities in TNA' option in the Menu bar; items are sorted either by country or by facility type (Cabled observatories, Ferryboxes, Fishing Vessels, Fixed Platforms, Gliders, Specialised Equipment, Supporting Facilities).

In addition to this catalogue, an interactive map has been provided to allow you to visualise the locations of all the facilities, to zoom in and out, and to view cursory descriptions of single elements by hovering over them with your cursor. Clicking the 'View Details' button in the popup, will permit you to recover more information and go directly to the relative facility page in the catalogue.

- Browse the interactive map [link to the map]
- Browse the facilities by type [link to <u>http://www.jerico-ri.eu/tna/jerico-facilities-in-tna/by-type/]</u>
- Browse the facilities by country [link to <u>http://www.jerico-ri.eu/tna/jerico-facilities-</u> <u>in-tna/by-country/</u>]

This is a unique opportunity for scientists and engineers to avail of high-quality, interlinked instrumented infrastructures operating in coastal and shelf-sea areas for carrying out research and/or testing activities.

Interested users can request access to one or more facilities in the same proposal. JERICO-NEXT will provide them with technical assistance, travel support and complimentary core measurements that may be necessary to their work, if these are available. Projects will be selected on the basis of the quality and novelty of the proposed activities

Tester for the first set



Check rules and procedures on this website using the following links

- Access rules [link to http://www.jerico-ri.eu/tna/access-rules/]
- Evaluation and selection procedures [link to <u>http://www.jerico-ri.eu/tna/calls-and-selection/]</u>

Proposals must be drafted according to the attached template, and should be submitted by email within

<date> < time (CET)>

to the following email address:

JERICO.TNA (at) ismar.cnr.it

Proposals for the nth call will NOT be accepted after this date: **late submission will be rerouted to the next Call**.

[JERICO-NEXT TNA Application Form attached]



JERICO-NEXT

Annex 2 – TNA proposal template

JERICO-NEXT

Proposal for Transnational Access

to Coastal Observatories

<N> Call

<opening date> - <closing date>

Description of the project to be sent in pdf format to jerico.tna@ismar.cnr.it <date and time> the latest

Please consult access rules at <u>http://www.jerico-ri.eu</u> and contact the manager of the infrastructure/installation you wish to use before writing the proposal

Reference: JERICO-NEXT-WP8-D8.9-260416-V1.3



PART 1

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Title of the project (255 characters max.)	
Acronym (20 characters max.)	
Applying Institution	
Host Institution	
Host facility(ies)	

Have you or other members of your user group previously used the requested facility(ies)?	Yes	No	
If yes, please indicate the EU Program(s), the name of the project(s) and year(s) you or other members of your user group have used such facility(ies)			
If you have received transnational access support by the JERICO FP7 project, please list below resulting publications, conference contributions, patents. List only the ones that acknowledge the support of the European Commission and JERICO			

Is this a resubmission of a previously rejected proposal?	Yes	No	
If yes, please give the exact reference number and submission date. Kindly describe briefly the changes made in comparison to the rejected version.			

Is this a continuation of an earlier project funded under a previous call for Transnational Access in JERICO-NEXT at the same facility?		No	
If yes, please give the exact reference number and submission date. Kindly indicate also what has been achieved in the previous experiment and the reasons why the objectives have not been fully met.			



2. USER GROUP DETAILS

Indicate if the proposal is submitted by

an	individual
u	mannada

a user group

Principal Investigator (user group leader)

First and last name				
Gender	Male	Female	Nationality	
Institution				
Address				
Country				
Email address				
Telephone				
Fax				
Previous user	Yes	No		

User group members

Member # 1

First and last name				
Gender	Male	Female	Nationality	
Institution		· ·		
Address				
Country				
Email address				
Telephone				
Fax				
Previous user	Yes	No		

(duplicate below for each member of the user group)



3. HOST INFRASTRUCTURE

Indicate the JERICO-NEXT host facility(ies) offered in Chapter 1 (Observing systems) you are interested in

(Tick more than one boxes if it is useful for your project)

	Short name	Requested access time (UA*)
cabled observatory		
ferrybox		
fixed platform		
fishing vessel		
glider		

*UA: please refer to the Infrastructure description in the JERICO-NEXT website

Modality of access

remote	the measuring system is implemented by the operator of the installation and the presence of the user group is not required
partially remote	the presence of the user group is required at some stage e.g. installing and un-installing
in person/hands on	the presence of the user group is required/recommended during the whole access period

If you wish to avail also of a support facility from Chapter 2, please fill in the table below

S	Short name	Requested access time (UA*)
 ng facilities and ed equipment		

*UA: please refer to the Infrastructure description in the JERICO-NEXT website

Modality of access

	remote the measuring system is implemented by the operator of the installation and the presence of the user group is not required	
		the presence of the user group is required at some stage e.g. installing and un-installing
	in person/hands on	the presence of the user group is required/recommended during the whole access period





Explain briefly why you think your project will be best carried out at the specified host facility(ies)	
If possible, list other JERICO-NEXT facility(ies) where you think your experiment could alternatively be carried out	

Is there a facility similar to one/all those you wish to utilize in your country?	,	Yes	No	
If yes, please indicate your reasons for requesting access to the JERICO-NEXT facility(ies) you have chosen and also exist in your country				

4. REQUEST FOR A JERICO-NEXT GRANT

(tick	the	box)
-------	-----	------

Travel grant (*)	
Shipment of your equipment, if applicable	

(*) travel, hotel and meals

Please provide a detailed and realistic budget for the expenses you expect to incur, including the number of people and days required. Explain clearly the role of each person for which a travel grant is requested.

Please note that a base amount of $3000 \in$ has been set for each facility involved in a project. The effective grant assigned to a project will be considered case- by-case depending on the type of access, the types and number of facilities requested, the length of stay, and the costs in the visited country.

- Travel : <number, costs, persons' role >
- Hotel : < number, costs, persons' role >
- Meals : < number, costs, persons' role >
- Shipment of equipment : <type of carrier, costs>





JERICO-NEXT

PART 2

Note: This part contains material for the evaluation

1. SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE OF USER GROUP (maximum score: 5)

Short biography of the PI

(half a page)

Expertise of the user group in the domain of the application

(half a page)

A list of 5 recent, relevant publications of the user group in the field of the project

1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
1) 2) 3) 4) 5)			

2. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL VALUE OF THE PROJECT (maximum score: 5)

Description of the project

Main objectives (half a page)

Scientific background and rationale

(one page)

Tester for the first set

Reference: JERICO-NEXT-WP8-D8.9-260416-V1.3

3. QUALITY OF THE WORK PLAN (maximum score: 5)

Experimental method and work plan

<Describe the proposed method and work plan for the project>

Proposed time schedule

<Provide here a clear schedule for your project including interruption, restarts and expected duration of access time>

Please specify your requests regarding the use of your chosen facility's equipment/instruments/sensors, including any additional services, data or other requirements

List all material/equipment you plan to bring to the facility (if any)

Risks, contingencies and mitigation measures

Describe below the potential risks and contingencies that might occur during the project and how do you plan to avoid, mitigate or resolve them?

#	Risk / Contingency	Prevention / Mitigation / Corrective action
1		
2		
3		



(one page)

(half a page)



4. POTENTIAL FOR SEEDING LINKS WITH INDUSTRY (maximum score: 5)

Do you think that this proposal has potential for seeding links with Industry? If so, how?

(half page)

5. EUROPEAN RELEVANCE AND INTERESTS FOR THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY (maximum score: 5)

Describe the relevance of your proposal at the European level and the potential interests for the research community

This section is reserved to the JERICO-NEXT TNA office					
Date of proposal receipt by email					
Assigned reference number		-			
Signature of receiving officer					

1001001001001001001

Reference: JERICO-NEXT-WP8-D8.9-260416-V1.3



Annex 3 – TNA project report

1. Project Information

Proposal reference number ¹	
Project Acronym (ID) ²	
Title of the project ³	
Host Research Infrastructure ⁴	
Starting date - End date ⁵	-
Name of Principal Investigator ⁶ Home Laboratory Address	
E-mail address	
Telephone	

2. Project objectives⁷ (250 words max.)

3. Main achievements and difficulties encountered (250 words max.)⁸

¹ Reference number assigned to the proposal by the TNA-Office.

² User-project identifier used in the proposal.

³ Title of the approved proposal.

⁴ Name of the installation/infrastructure accessed with this project. If more than one installations/infrastructures are used by the same project, please list them in the box.

⁵ Specify starting and end date of the project (including eventual preparatory phase before the access).

⁶ Fill in with the full contact of the Principal Investigator (user group leader).

⁷ Write the short-term, medium and long-term objectives of project. Use no more than 250 words.

⁸ Describe briefly the main achievements obtained and possible impacts, as well as possible difficulties encountered during the execution of the project. Use no more than 250 words.



4. Dissemination of the results⁹

5. Technical and Scientific preliminary Outcomes (2 pages max.)¹⁰

[Location], [Date (dd/mm/yyyy]

Location and date

Signature of principal investigator

⁹ Describe any plan you have to disseminate and publish the results resulting from work carried out under the Transnational Access activity in JERICO NEXT: scientific articles, books - or part of them -, patents, as well as reports and communication to scientific conferences, meetings and workshops. Highlight peer-reviewed publications. Note that any publications resulting from work carried out under the JERICO NEXT TNA activity must acknowledge the support of the European Commission – H2020 Framework Programme, JERICO NEXT under grant agreement No. 654410.

¹⁰ Describe in detail results and main findings of your experiment at the present stage.





JERICO-NEXT – Applications for Transnational Access to Coastal Observatories

Assigned reference number	Date of proposal receipt by email	P.I. Name and Surname	Institution and Department	Date of acknowledging email of the TNA office

JERICO-NEXT TNA office Head

(signature)

Reference: JERICO-NEXT-WP8-D8.9-260416-V1.3



Annex 5 - Glossary

'Access project' means a written request for accessing an infrastructure made by a user or user group.

'Access provider' means a beneficiary or linked third party that is in charge of providing access to one or more research infrastructure or installations, or part of them.

'Associated country' means a third country, which is party to an international agreement with the Union, as identified in Article 7 of the H2020 Framework Programme Regulation No 1291/2013. Article 7 sets out the conditions for association of non-EU countries to Horizon 2020.

'End-user' means the legal representative of a user group.

'Infrastructure/Facility operator', 'Operator' in short, means the same as Access provider.

'Installation/Facility' means a part or a service of a research infrastructure that could be used independently from the rest. A research infrastructure consists of one or more installations.

'Selection Panel' means a team of independent experts established to evaluate and select access projects.

'User-group' means a team of one or more researchers (users) led by a 'user group leader'