JERICO-S3 DELIVERABLE

Joint European Research Infrastructure for Coastal Observatories
Science, Services, Sustainability

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1.EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The JERICO-S3 TransNational Access (TA) activity is built on the successful experience of the previous FP7 JERICO project, G.A. 262584 (Sparnocchia et al., 2014, 2016) and JERICO NEXT G.A. 654410 (Sparnocchia et al., 2019).
The range of facilities has continued to expand and 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 D8.1 for a detailed description of all the access facilities involved in TransNational Access). A limited number of supporting facilities (calibration and research laboratories) and one item of special equipment are also included in the TA service catalogue.

This document relates to WP13 - Outreach, communication and engagement, and in particular to Task 8.8: Implementing Transnational Access to coastal observatories. It describes the procedures adopted for providing TA during the three planned Calls for proposals, one per year from May 2020 until 2022. These procedures are a review and update of those already used by JERICO.

This is the first revision of the 13.3 Policy and Procedures deliverable (Gaughan et al., 2021) after the first Transnational access call was conducted.

2.INTRODUCTION

As part of the Transnational Access (TA) activity implemented in WP8, JERICO-S3 offers opportunities to researchers or research teams from academic and industry to access original coastal infrastructures for measurement campaigns and instrument testing. Free-of-charge access to the facilities specified in the TA 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-S3 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. Users accessing the Infrastructure will not only get access to the best available equipment and facilities for their needs, but also the personnel. Having access to this detailed knowledge at each of the Facilities adds value for external users of the Infrastructure, improving research outputs and scientific excellence.

Between June 2020 and January 2024 will offer more than 8800 days of Transnational Access (TA) to more than 40 different integrated marine costal observation facilities located at 21 JERICO-RI partners throughout Europe.
The TA 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 first TA call was implemented in Task 8.8. The call was announced on 2 June 2020 and closed on the 16th of November 2020, the press release for the announcement is in Annex 1. The first call was conducted according to the 13.3 Policy and Procedures deliverable document (Gaughan et al. 2021) which outlines the procedure for how the calls would be run. After a successful first call where 19 projects of 20 submitted were accepted, some revisions and clarifications were needed before the second call was opened. During the first call, COVID-19 became an obstacle that the JERICO TA coordinators, facility operators, and

successful applicants had to work around in order to manage the funded projects. Due to this, there have been many delays to project start times in this call.

3. Revisions to Policies and Procedures

3.1.Transfer of funds

During the process of finalising the contracts and projects beginning to start, an issue arose pertaining to Covid restrictions. How to redirect travel expenses to support remote sampling if the user cannot travel to location due to COVID. In April 2021 The Ifremer Science Officer was consulted by the project coordination and clarified how to address this with the following points:

- Travel funds can be redirected to the Access Providers (to support increased effort of local staff etc.)
- Users **cannot** fund the development/ purchase of equipment on the TA "Travel and subsistence" funding allocations

BUT…

- **ONLY** the Access Provider can claim the cost of buying a device(s)/ equipment if the infrastructure is in **TA-uc** (unit costs).

Limitation: the equipment **cannot be claimed** if it is considered *'durable equipment"* and if the infrastructure is in **TA-ac** (actual costs).

3.2. Flexibility for project schedules

COVID restrictions have also caused issues with project start times due to travel related restrictions, delays in contract finalising, and shipping related delays. As a result, the JERICO TA coordination team have been accommodating in granting extensions for these schedule changes as long as there has been communication between the user and facility that confirms this change. Users have queried when is the latest a project can be conducted under the JERICO TA funding. For this, the JERICO TA coordination team has been advising all projects, including the final report, to be completed and submitted by September 2023. This will allow for JERICO-S3 final reporting to be finalised before February 2024.

4. Status of First TA Call

In the first TA call, 19 of 20 submitted project proposals were accepted for funding by the Jerico-S3 steering committee in January 2021. Details on the decision making process is outlined in 13.3 Deliverable (Gaughan et al., 2021). Due to COVID related delays, final contracts have been taking longer to finalise and start dates being changed to accommodate the delays. The call estimates a total of 1682 days of access units to be used of 4466 total days (Figure 1) allocated for JERICO TA. The transnational access program has been successful in this first call connecting researchers from 12 countries (based on PI institution location) to 7 hosting countries (Figure 2). The type of facility requested for use the most were the cabled observatories, with 9 projects being hosted. As part of the TA program, applicants requested Travel and Subsistence budget to facilitate access to the host infrastructure. The proposed estimate cost of T&S is 50% of the budgeted T&S, averaging 3,172EUR per project. However, this cost may change as projects are completed due to COVID restrictions for travel.

Projects have begun work on experiments throughout 2021. Table 1, below, outlines the status for each facility and the projects being hosted. As of the time of this writing, 3 projects have completed and submitted a final report. The remaining 3 projects that are indicated as completed (C) in the table have not yet submitted their report and are currently working on it; likewise, the access units are not yet finalised with the TA Coordination team and therefore are marked To Be Confirmed (TBC). The projects marked In Progress (IP) have confirmed the project has started and is on-going at this time. Projects indicated Not Started (N) have been in touch with TA Coordination/ host facility for revised schedule start times and extensions have been granted.

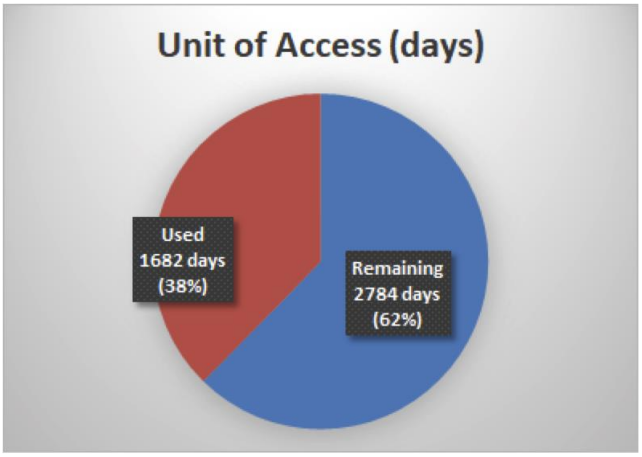

Figure 1.The red indicates the estimated Unit of Access (in days) that will be used in the first call out of the total Unit of Access (in days) allocated for Jerico TA).

*Figure 2. The map shows the home country of user group institution location in **blue** and the location of facilities used in the first call in **red**.*

Table 1 The facilities used in first TA Call with their associated access unit allocation, projects for this call, and break down for access provided for each project (TBC: To Be Confirmed). The last column indicates the status for each project C: Completed; IP: In Progress; N: Not Started (Table adapted from Sparnocchia and Ferluga, 2018).

Facility ID & Name	Country	Access Unit Allocated	TA Project Title	Access Unit Provided	Project status
7.1 CNR SICO MPLS	Italy	1 (6 months)	DeepDeg (A): Development of a reliable system to assess biodegradation of different materials in the European deep sea		IP
7.4 CNR CoCM CoCM	Italy	1 (6 Months)	DeepDeg (B): Development of a reliable system to assess biodegradation of different materials in the European deep sea		IP
8.2 CNRS GNF DT INSU	France	45 Days	AMBO: AMBO: Autonomous Multiplatform Biophysical Observations		N *in discussion if it will continue under JERICO-S3 TA funding*
16.2 HCMR POSEIDON Cal Lab	Greece	2 (1 week)	EuroFluoro (C)	TBC	C
23.1: MI SmartBay Observatory	Ireland	378 Days	CONAN: Cabled Observatory Network for the Advanced monitoring of ecosystems and their Natural resources		N
			FISHES (B): Fibre-optic Intelligent Submarine High-Fidelity Environmental Sensing	TBC	C
			YUCO-CTD: Validation of an innovative easy-to-use affordable micro-AUV platform, embedding an high accuracy and resolution CTD sensor.	TBC	C
			EuroFluoro (B)	18 Days	C
29.1 PLOCAN	Spain	40 Days	FISHES (C): Fibre-optic Intelligent Submarine High-Fidelity Environmental Sensing		N

33.1: SOCIB GLIDER	Spain	88 Days	FRONTIERS: Fault detection, isolation and Recovery fOr uNderwaTer glIdERS	17 Days	C
			FRIPP-Spring: Frontal dynamics influencing Primary Production: investigating the onset of the spring bloom mechanism through gliders	15 Days	C
			ABACUS 2021: ABACUS 2021: Algerian Basin Circulation Unmanned Survey 2021		IP
37.1:UPC OBSEA	Spain	108 Days	V-RUNAS: Validation of a Real-time Underwater Noise Acquisition System		IP
			MultiNuD: In-situ parallel nutrient sensor deployments		N
			ATLAS: Advanced ecosysTem monitoring in ecoLogicAl obServatory		IP
			FISHES (A): Fibre-optic Intelligent Submarine High-Fidelity Environmental Sensing		N
			S1100-Bio: ANB Sensors S Series: Longterm Biofouling Deployment		IP
34.2 SYKE MRC LAB	Finland	21 Days	EuroFluoro (A)		N
35.2 Taltech Glider Mia +profiler	Estonia	9 Days	EMPORIA: EMPORIA: Exploring the mesoscale processes in the area of freshwater influence (Gulf of Riga)		N

5. OUTREACH, DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

The JERICO-RI website was utilized for communicating about the first call with the press release uploaded in the blog section, relevant TA pages updated about the call, and announcing the extension for the submission deadline. The website was also updated with short summaries of the successful projects along with the relevant host facilities.

Outreach was continued throughout this year as projects began to start. The JERICO-RI twitter (and other JERICO social media platforms) tweeted about projects from host facilities as they were completed. For example, SOCIB tweets for the FRONTIER and FRIPP-Spring projects were retweeted, and 2 MI Smartbay projects were tweeted from the account (examples shown in Image 3) This social media interaction will continue as the first call still has more projects to be completed. The news section on the website also featured a post about the TA project Euroflouro testing an instrument on the JERICO-S3 Cretan Sea Pilot Supersite (https://www.jerico-ri.eu/2021/11/05/a-single-turnover-active-fluorometry-sensor-labstaf-tested-successfully-in-the-oligotrophic-cretan-sea-pss/).

Figure 3 Tweets from JERICO-RI twitter for TA projects Seaber and FRONTIERS

6. CONCLUSIONS

This report gives a status update of the first call projects and provides revisions to the policy and procedures from 13.3 deliverable (Gaughan et al 2021). New revisions may be made to this report after the second call.

7. REFERENCES

Gaughan, P., Godiveau, L., Berry A., 2021. JERICO-S3-WP13-D13.3-28.01.2021-V2.0, 28/01/2021.

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Sparnocchia, S., Meccia, V., 2015. Transnational access provision. JERICO D8.1, 20/03/2015.

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Sparnocchia, S., Ferluga, S., 2018. Trans National Access Provision V1. JERICO-NEXT D7.2, v1, 06/02/2018.

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Annex 1 TA first call Press Release

*******Jerico S3 Transnational Access call Press Release*****

The Jerico Research Infrastructure (www.jerico-ri.eu/) is pleased to announce the first of 3 Transnational Access funding calls to support a wide range of marine researchers by giving free of charge access to high-quality infrastructures and support services at unique multi-disciplinary sites consisting of a mix of gliders, fixed platforms, ferryboxes, cabled observatories, HF radar, benthic stations, and bio-sensors. The users will be able to carry out first-class experiments on the multi-disciplinary, multi-platform coastal observing systems thus maximising impact for science, environmental managers, industries and other relevant stakeholders.

Users accessing the Infrastructure will not only get access to the best available equipment and facilities for their needs, but also the personnel. Having access to this detailed knowledge at each of the Facilities adds value for external users of the Infrastructure, improving research outputs and scientific excellence.

Between June 2020 and January 2024 will offer more than 8800 days of Transnational Access (TA) to more than 40 different =integrated marine costal observation facilities located at 21 Jerico RI partners throughout Europe. Detailed information about each = Jerico RI facility, technical design and available resources etc. can be found here - (https://www.jerico-ri.eu/ta/jerico-facilities-in-ta/)

To determine the capabilities and service offerings of each facility we strongly encourage all TA applicants to contact the respective facility providers – as early as possible in the proposal process about possible usage of facilities and cooperation at the infrastructures. Please ensure that the objectives and aims of the call are fully addressed before submitting a proposal for Transnational Access. The TA application form and Guidelines can be found online https://www.jerico-ri.eu/ta/call-program/first-call/.

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.

Contact JERICO.TA (at) marine.ie /jerico.ta@marine.ie for more details

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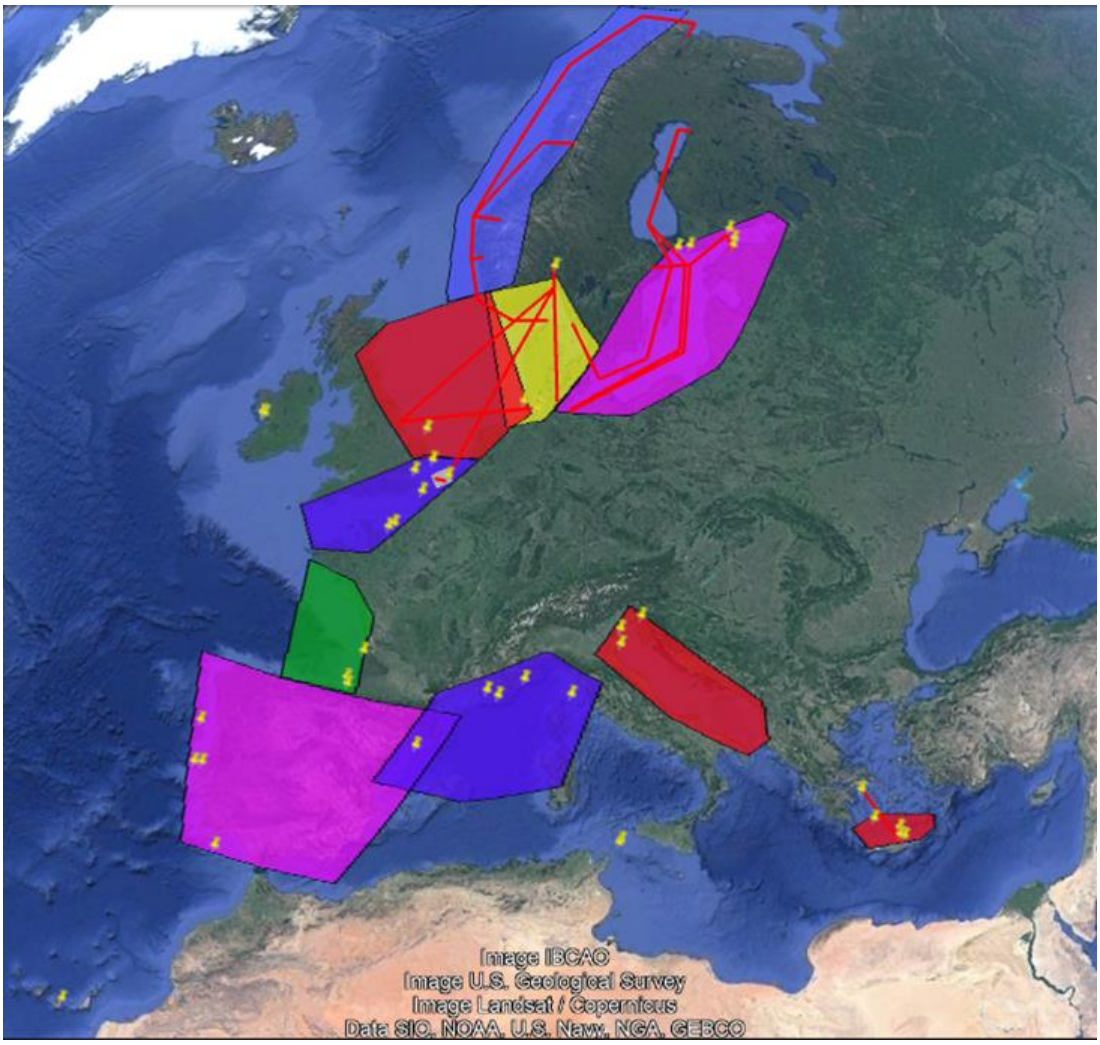

The Jerico RI invites you to respond to the call and request access to the JERICO RI facilities and to Please circulate this announcement with your networks and potentially interested parties.

Links to previous TransNational Access call In the Jerico RI

Thirteen facilities hosted 19 JERICO user groups during the original JERICO project life-time 2010-2014, delivering 2670 calendar days of access.
https://www.jerico-ri.eu/download/filebase/jerico_fp7/deliverables/D8.1_Transnational_access_provision.pdf

In JERICO-NEXT 2015-2019 , 28 access projects were supported with EU funds.
https://www.jerico-ri.eu/download/jerico-next-deliverables/JERICO-NEXT-Deliverable_8.10_V1.2.pdf