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PU Public

PP Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)

RE Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)

CO Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)

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## 2 Executive Summary

This deliverable represents a report on the participation and organisation of events, i.e., Consortium Meetings, Fairs & Exhibitions, Conferences, etc.

The activities summarised in this report are related to task 5.4. Such activities has begun with the kick-off meeting of the TERRINet Project (held on December 4-5, 2017 in Pontedera (PI) at the BioRobotics Institute of the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna) and will continue for the entire duration of the Project. A dedicated section to the Consortium meetings is included in this report.

The overall intent of task 5.4 is to disseminate and keep the stakeholders informed on the progresses and developments achieved in TERRINet. Indeed, the main action undertaken was the marketing of general flyers of the Project, roll-ups and specific Call for Application flyers at Fairs, Exhibitions and Conference related to Robotics and satellite fields.

Of course, another important goal of task 5.4 is the dissemination of the Calls for Application to the Trans-national Access (TNA) in TERRINet. TNA, widely described in D2.2, is free of charge access to a specific research infrastructures or platform available in TERRINet that can be granted through a Call-based selection mechanism to selected users. Access includes the logistical, technological and scientific support and the specific training that is offered to TERRINet users.

### 3 Introduction

The Work package (WP) 5 addresses one of the TERRINet Networking Activities (NA).

NA in TERRINet are synergistic actions to facilitate a stronger interaction and cooperation between users and providers from academia and industry across Europe.

More specifically, NA in WP5 are a group of actions towards the Scientific Dissemination & Outreach, with the following main goals:

- disseminate the project outcomes as wide as possible;
- plan the exploitation of the results of the project during its duration and beyond.

Indeed, this deliverable represents a report on the participation and organisation of events, i.e., Fairs & Exhibitions, Conferences, seminars, Workshops, fertilization events, open days, etc.

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#### 3.1 The dissemination plan

The dissemination plan established during the period covered in the present periodic report (M1-M18, December 2017-May 2018) is the result of a large and well-structured dissemination timeline (Figure 3.1) agreed and shared with the partner from University of Ljubljana (UL).

The timeline comprised three main dissemination actions, taking place in the period from November 2018 to March 2019. The intent of communication was to announce the launch of the TERRINet Project and the establishment of the first European Robotics Research Infrastructure.

Furthermore, the additional goal of the dissemination plan showed in Figure 3.1 was to promote the First TERRINet Open Call for Applications.

The started First TERRINet Open Call was launched on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and was closed on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Formerly, the deadline of the First TERRINet Open Call was set to February 28, 2019. However, in consideration of the fact that the European Robotics Forum (ERF) 2019 would have been held very close after the deadline, the Project coordinator Prof. Paolo Dario, decided to grant a deadline extension of the Call until March 31, 2019. The TERRINet Project Officer, Dr. Lorenza Saracco, was duly informed and agreed. This decision was based on the opportunity that the TERRINet Consortium could have been leveraging on the promotion of the Project and of the ongoing Call at ERF 2019.

ERF is the premiere and largest annual event on Robotics in Europe, as it gathers around 800 participants from all over Europe, the euRobotics and SPARC board members and many EU officers from the Robotics and AI Unit in Luxembourg.

As regards the activities showed in Figure 3.1, they were organized into three groups: 1.) monthly e-mail communication; 2.) media coverage of the activity (more precisely presented in D5.6); and 3.) informational stands at Fairs, Exhibitions and Conferences related to Robotics.

The UL was in charge of handling the dissemination activities toward the EU 13 countries following the activities showed in Figure 3.1. The first activity (monthly e-mail communication) was planned as e-mail campaign sent to the database of potential users on a monthly basis in the duration of Call for Application opening – from November 2018 to March 2019.

The UL sent out one email campaign every month with a dedicated communication message, with the aim to inform potential users about the Project and to solicit the application to the first Call. UL 's email campaigns covered general presentation of Project's activities and the compliance with a General Data Protection Policy - GDPR, the first invitation for the application, such as informing potential users about the project, first call for application submission, reminder mail for application submission, the notice about extended call for application deadline and final invitation for the application.

The second activity (media coverage) was planned as publishing different media announcements about the Project in robotics related media in Europe. This activity was in addition to the basic media publishing regarding news about the participation in Conference and/or organization of events related to TERRINet.

As the third activity (information stands at Fairs, Exhibitions and Conferences) was planned the organization of informational stands on major robotics events, with the aim to target potential users by personal communication.

#### **TERRINET DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES TIMELINE**

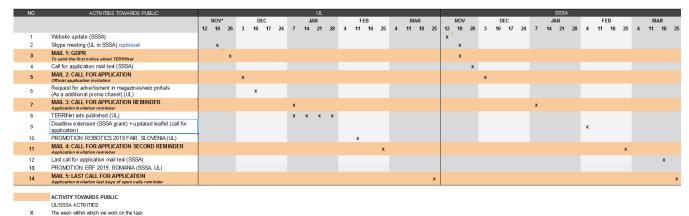


Figure 3.1: The timeline of planned dissemination activities for the period from November 2018 to March 2019.

#### 3.2 Consortium Meetings

#### 3.2.1 The TERRINet Kick-off Meeting

The TERRINet kick-off meeting was a 2-days meeting, held in Pontedera on December 4-5, 2017 in Pontedera (PI) at the BioRobotics Insitute of the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna.

20 participants attended the meeting physically, while others joined the discussion and giving contributions (presentations) via Skype: 3 from SSSA, 2 from LAAS, 1 from IIT, 2 from UT, 1 from KIT, 2 from UPC, 2 from USE, 1 from EPFL (+ 1 via Skype), 1 from BRL via Skype, 1 from IMPERIAL, and 2 from UL.

The TERRINet Scientific Coordinator at SSSA, Prof. Paolo Dario, had an overall presentation of the Project. The TERRINet Project Manager at SSSA, Dr. Francesca Cecchi, had a specific presentation on the Work Package (WP) WP7, related to the Trans-national Access (TNA), and on the most peculiar features of the Project that had to be shared and agreed by all the partners.

One representative of the administration office at SSSA, Dr. Elisa Meloni, had a specific presentation on the financial aspects of the Project.

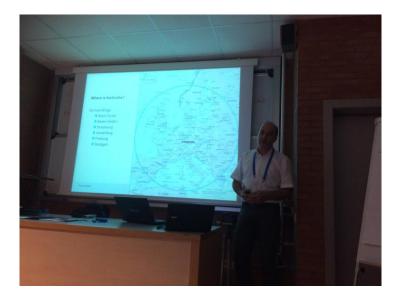
In turn, all the partners presented the activities related to WPs of their responsibility.

During the discussion, the TERRINet UE Project Officer, Dr. Lorenza Saracco, joined the consortium at the phone to provide answers to specific doubts raised from partners.

It might be worthy notice that, on the first day of meeting, a document case containing the brochure of the Project was provided to participants. The brochure and other dissemination material, i.e. the leaflet and the TERRINet roll-up, that are stored in the private area of the TERRINet website (www.terrinet.eu) and available for partners to use when participating Events to disseminate TERRINet.

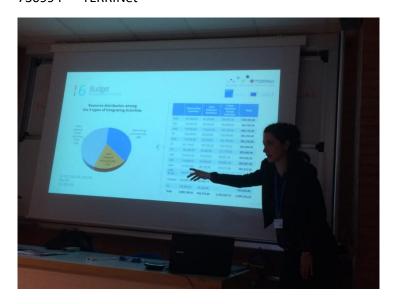














#### 3.2.2 TERRINet consortium meeting @ ERF 2018 in Tampere

The first TERRINet consortium meeting was held on March 13, 2018 in Tampere (Finland), during the European Robotics Forum (ERF) 2018, Finland, 13-15 March 2018.

16 participants attended the meeting physically: 3 from SSSA, 2 from UPC, 2 TUM, 1 USE, 1 CEA, 1 UT, 1 BRL, 1 LAAS, 2 EPFL, 1 UL and 1 from KIT.

The TERRINet SSSA Scientific Coordinator, Prof. Paolo Dario, and the TERRINet Project Manager at SSSA, Dr. Francesca Cecchi, gave a presentation on the status of the Project, summarising the active tasks and the activities done from M1 to M3. More specifically, the discussion focused on the sharing of the TERRINet website, that would have been implemented a short time later, the provisional schedule of the Calls to be launched during the Project and the templates of both the application form and the Ethics Self-Assessment.





#### 3.2.3 TERRINet consortium meeting @ ERF 2019 in Bucharest

The second TERRINet consortium meeting was held on March 20, 2019 in Bucharest (Romania), during the European Robotics Forum (ERF) 2019.

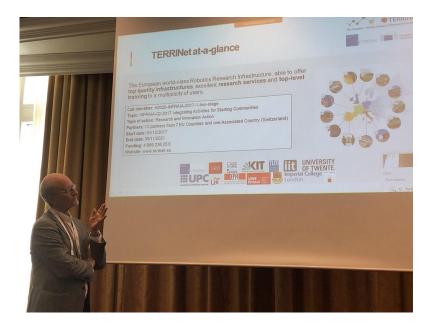
10 participants attended the meeting physically, 2 participants joined the discussion remotely via WebEX interacting during the discussion: 3 from SSSA, 1 from LAAS, 1 from IIT, 1 from UT, 1 from KIT, 1 from UPC, 1 from USE, 1 from EPFL, and 2 from UL.

The TERRINet SSSA Scientific Coordinator, Prof. Paolo Dario, gave a presentation on the status of the Project, summarising the active tasks, the status of the deliverables and the activities done from M4 (April 2018) to M16 (March 2019).

The pro-tempore Project Manager at SSSA, Dr. Rossella Raso, gave a presentation on the status of the deliverables and on D2.2 "The TERRINet Handbook", released in a draft version to be shared and agreed by all the partners.

In turn, all the partners presented the activities done from M4 to M16 related to WPs of their responsibility, along with the released deliverables (if applicable).

A discussion followed with important considerations and consensus on the forthcoming action to take in preparation of the end of the first reporting period (M18 – May 2019).



#### 3.3 Fairs, Exhibitions and Conferences

#### 3.3.1 Participation in the European Robotics Forum (ERF) 2018 in Tampere

The TERRINet Project was disseminated during the European Robotics Forum (ERF) 2018 in Tampere, Finland, 13-15 March 2018 (Finland).

The Forum was populated by more than 50 workshops and panel discussions, and more than 50 robot demonstrations and exhibits, under the theme "Robots and Us", covering societal and technical themes, including human-robot-collaboration. The ERF also highlighted current robotics projects funded by the European Commission under Horizon2020, and success stories from completed projects.

Indeed, the TERRINet Project was officially presented to the Robotics community in two presentations during the following DEI, PPP, H2020 sessions organized by Cécile Huet:

- The new H2020 robotics projects in the SPARC strategy";
- EU Projects offering services: don't miss it!.









#### 3.3.2 Participation in the International Conference for Research Infrastructures (ICRI) 2018

The TERRINet Project was showcased at ICRI 208 (International Conference for Research Infrastructures), that was held in Vienna from 12 to 14 September 2018.

The Conference saw participants from more than 50 different countries. The speakers represented high-level stakeholders from across the globe and highly profiled institutions intervened in the debate.

Among other things, ICRI 2018 aimed at providing a forum for strategic discussion on international cooperation for research infrastructures at global level, at highlighting the essential role of research infrastructures, and at reflecting on the needs, development, and operation of global and national research infrastructures.



# 3.3.3 Participation in the IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS 2018)

The TERRINet Project was showcased at IEEE/RSJ IROS 208 (International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems), that was held in Madrid from 1 to 5 October 2018.

The IEEE/RSJ IROS is the flagship conference in the field of robotics and the biggest international event for researchers, companies and end-users.

The IROS 2018 received 4.401 attendees during one week among conference & workshop registered persons, exhibitors and visitors, competitions teams and VIP personalities. The IROS 2018 saw 3.678 full registrations to the conference (+37% with respect to the IROS 2017).

The robotic exhibition had 158 booths (sold out) that presented the leading commercial firms in robotics and also the results of the European research projects and the most advanced robotic research centres. The TERRINet Project was showcased here within the EU projects area.





#### 3.3.4 Participation in the ICT 2018 in Vienna

SSSA together with TERRINet partner from Slovenia, University of Ljubljana (UL), has organized a networking session at ICT Vienna 2018, held on December 6, 2018 in Vienna, Austria.

The ICT 2018 Conference covered topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Next Generation Internet, Digital Skills and High-Performance Computing and was an opportunity for the people involved in this transformation to share their experience and vision of Europe in the digital age.

The networking session proposal was titles "Science-grounded Robotics: the TERRINet and RoboCom++ European Projects". The goal of the proposal was to present a synergistic and virtuous interaction of two European projects FLAG-ERA RoboCom ++ and TERRINet.

SSSA was responsible for the presentation of the RoboCom++ project, meanwhile UL presented research services, access opportunities and the high-level training offered by the TERRINet Robotics Research Infrastructure Network.

The networking session was divided into two parts: after a first speech corners in which the two projects and relative opportunities were briefly presented to the audience, two brainstorming sessions ran in parallel.

More specifically, purposive feedbacks were collected through the use of questionnaire, addressing the topics such as:

- 1.) the synergies needed to be explored and implemented by the two Consortiums to generate value for the worldwide scientific community;
- 2.) weakness and strengths of presented projects;
- 3.) suggestions on the improvement of general implementation of the Project's activities.

The expected outcome for TERRINet project was to collect proposals for the improvements in procedures and mechanisms about access to the research infrastructure and possible plans to deliver training initiatives. The workshop attended 12 participants, 2 of the participant filled the questionnaire. The networking session proposal and questionnaire are included in the Appendix.





Furthermore, for the **ICT 2018 in Vienna**, SSSA together with the coordinators of the ESMERA and EUMarineRobots Projects submitted a proposal for **general exhibition of the TERRINet Project**.

Although the proposal was rejected, we believe that it is worth mentioning it since its aim was to share the networks and the infrastructures of the three Projects with harmonised services and complementary capabilities where talented researchers from the academia and the industry would have access to them and will be able to explore new ideas and establish personal and joint projects monitored by experts.

The proposal contained the plan to show procedures and timelines for accessing the robotics research infrastructures (with more than ninety robotic platforms) offered by the three Projects. The visitors would have been provided with concrete information for each project on the topics of open calls, the requirements for preparing and submitting the research project, the reimbursement procedures for users.

After this proposal, we remained in contact with the coordinators of ESMERA and EUMarineRobots Projects.

#### 3.3.5 Participation in the ERF 2019 in Bucharest

In synergy with the TERRINet partner from Slovenia, the University of Ljubljana, SSSA reserved an exhibition area at the venue of the European Robotics Forum (ERF) 2019, held from March 20-22 in Bucharest, Romania.

The main goal of such dissemination action was to promote the Project in general and specifically the last days of the First TERRINet Open Call for Application (deadline on March 31, 2019). The organizing TERRINet partners addressed the target audience with different promotional material, such as leaflets, roll-ups and on-screen promotional video.

The event was attended by more than 900 participants from Robotics and neighbouring communities, such as big data or cybersecurity, offering a unique opportunity for academia and industry to discuss and boost together science and innovation.

The Forum hosted more than 50 workshops, discussing the future of Robotics and AI in the European landscape.



#### 3.3.6 RoboSoft

Finally, the TERRINet Project was disseminated during the RoboSoft Conference, that was held on April 24-28, 2018 in Livorno (Italy).

The Conference aimed at providing a proper space for discussing soft robotics challenges in research and applications, at international level. Given the young area and the lively interdisciplinary community that grew around soft robotics, an international conference on this topic was extremely timely and important for further developments in this field, for producing new science, new technologies and new opportunities for applications. The Conference was very suitable to young researchers and students, too. The interdisciplinary nature of soft robotics gave the Conference the potential for attracting attendees from more disciplines and the current expectations around soft robotics provide the potential for attracting attendees from companies.



#### 3.3.7 Events where TUM disseminated TERRINet

- R-18 Robotmesse (presentation+booth), Odense, Denmark (12.09.2018)
- Robot Investment Forum (presentation), Istanbul, Turkey (18.10.2018)
- ICT 2018 (be a part of the networking session, EU Robotics Applications: From scattered to networked), Vienna, Austria (04.12.2018)
- Invited speech on funding opportunities in robotics at Poznan University of Technology, Poznan, Poland (06.02.2019)
- IRT Jules Verne Innovation Days 2019, France (23.05.2019)
- IV 2019 (presentation in a workshop), Paris, France (09.06.2019)