

D.2.4.2. REPORT ON 2nd BTS

InnovaMare project

Blue technology - Developing innovative technologies for sustainability of Adriatic Sea

WP2 – Communication activities

Project References

Call for proposal 2019 Strategic – InnovaMare

Project number: 10248782

Work package: WP2 Communication activities

Activity title: A4 Public events

Deliverable title: D.2.4.2. Report on 2nd BTS

Expected date: M17

Deliverable description: D.2.4.2. Report on international interdisciplinary field workshop of maritime robotics and applications where all the leading experts will be present to share and upgrade their knowledge in this specific field that shall contain all the gathered information and conclusion from this event

Partner responsible for the deliverable: IRB

Dissemination level: CO - Confidential

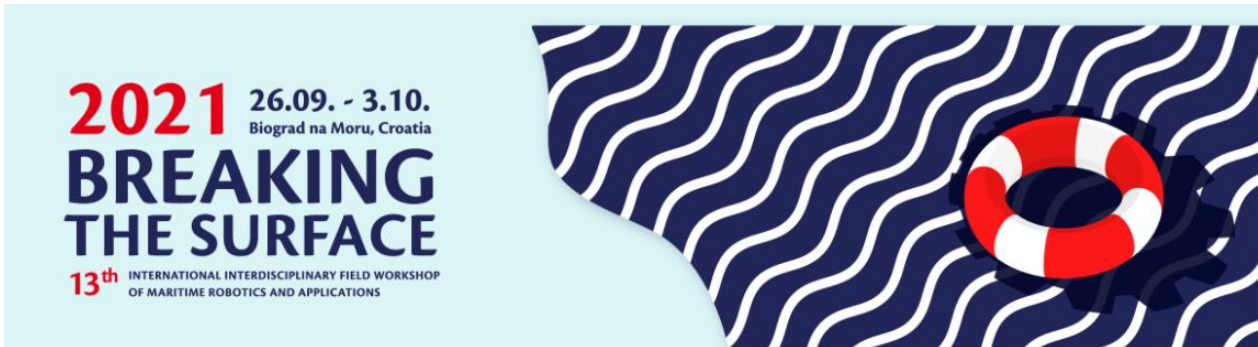
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The Breaking the Surface 2021 was held from 26th September until 3rd October in Biograd na Moru, Croatia and more than 130 people participated. It was the first, successful, post-pandemic edition of Breaking the Surface (Bts), the international interdisciplinary workshop on robotics and maritime innovations organized by the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering (FER) of the University of Zagreb. The BtS scheduled events, held over 20 in depth lectures, 7 tutorials maritime innovations related (in marine robotics, maritime archeology, marine biology), 5 demos and one full day workshops on Analysis Of Data From Marine Observatories including talks and demos by partners and stakeholders to allow participants to get a first-hand knowledge on the latest in scientific results, on technological achievements, as well as hands-on experience in working with complex and modern underwater systems, such as in the case of the 6 vehicles demonstrated.

Dates: 26th September – 3rd October 2021

Location: Biograd na Moru, Croatia

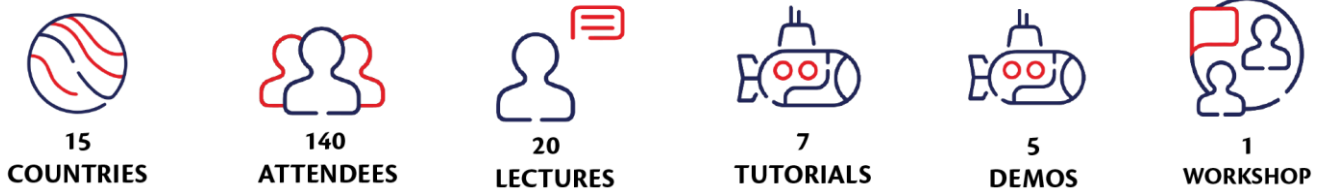
Website: <http://bts.fer.hr/>

GENERAL INFORMATION OF THE EVENT

Breaking the Surface - BtS International Interdisciplinary Field Workshop of Maritime Robotics and Applications has been organized by UNIZG FER LABUST for the last 12 years – first three years as a part of FP7-REGPOT CURE project, while in the following years with Office of Naval Research Global and EU funded projects. This year's BTS was financed and supported by Interreg Italy-Croatia InnovaMare project, H2020 EUMarine Robots – Marine Robotics Research Infrastructure Network and IEEE Oceanic Engineering Society. During the years, BtS served as a meeting place of experts and students of marine robotics and the marine robotics application areas such as marine biology, marine archaeology, marine security, oceanography, marine geology, and oceanology. This is the world's first successful, multi-year field training programme that combines academic topics in marine robotics and robotics application areas and hands-on working experience in the sea, doing remote sensing and sampling for various ocean sciences. The workshop took place from 26th September to 3rd October in Biograd na Moru, Croatia.

The programme is organised in the form of plenary talks, hands-on tutorials and demonstrations of marine technologies. Over the years, the programme has been growing and has been modified with novel elements.

BTS 2021 IN NUMBERS



ORGANIZERS

Breaking the Surface is organized under the European Union's Horizon 2020 project EUMarineRobots – Marine Robotics Research Infrastructure Network (GA: 731103), Interreg Italy-Croatia InnovaMare project (ID: 10248782), and IEEE Oceanic Engineering Society. The main organizers are University of Zagreb Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, Laboratory for Underwater Systems and Technologies and Centre for Underwater Systems and Technologies University of Zagreb Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing.



University of Zagreb Faculty of
Electrical Engineering and
Computing



Laboratory for Underwater
Systems and Technologies



Centre for Underwater Systems
and Technologies

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



AMOS – Centre for Autonomous
Marine Operations and Systems



Associação do Instituto Superior
Técnico para a Investigação e
Desenvolvimento



Distretto Ligure delle Tecnologie
Marine



Herriot Watt University



King's College London



NATO S&T Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation



The Association of Instituto Superior Técnico for Research and Development



University of Limerick (UL)

Institut Français de Recherche pour l'exploitation de la Mer



Marine Institute Foras na Mara



Natural Environment Research Council



Universidade de Lisboa (ULisboa)



University of Porto

Integrated Systems for Marine Environment



Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)



The Oceanic Platform of the Canary Islands



University of Girona (UdG)

BREAKING THE SURFACE ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

Committees Chairs



Prof. Zoran Vukić, PhD

General Chair



Prof. Dr. Sc. Nikola Mišković

Programme Committee Chair



Ana Golec

Organizing Committee Chair



Igor Kvasić

Technical Committee Chair

Programme Committee



Prof. João Sousa

University of Porto

Portugal



Roeë Diamant

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Italy



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Fausto Ferreira

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Irena Radić Rossi

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Anja Babić

UNIZG FER

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UNIZG FER

Croatia



Nikica Kokir

UNIZG FER

Croatia



Ivan Lončar

UNIZG FER

Croatia



Igor Kvasić

UNIZG FER

Croatia



Đula Nađ, PhD

UNIZG FER

Croatia

Supporters / Financed by:



Financed in the scope of the project **EUMarineRobots – Marine robotics research Infrastructure network (GA 731103)** which has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.

IEEE OES – Oceanic Engineering Society

Interreg Italy-Croatia
Innovamare project financed by the European Regional Development Fund

REPORT ON THE OUTCOMES

Given the global pandemic situation, the outcome of BtS 2021 edition can be considered a great success. Once again the BTS event is a confirmation of the recognizability of BTS as an event that encourage interaction and exchange of knowledge and experiences in the field of marine robotics and its applications, and is also one of the most important events and activities in the InnovaMare project.

Over 130 participants took specifically part in the project activities in BtS, namely two talks, one demo, one side event with end-users, one press visit and one steering committee.

BTS also hosted several side events, such as IEEE OES UNIZG Student Branch Chapter presentation, Women in Blue, social events.

Great lectures, international panel discussions, robotics demos and tutorials took place over the workshop, which has been widely attended, by Croatians and Italians researchers, as well as experts from all over the world willing at combining exploratory work and innovative experiences to strengthen the fight against pollution in the sea.

On September 27 the InnovaMare stakeholder Croatian Statim Company held the demo “Plurato Sailfin – Electric Hydrofoil Surf Board” focused on development of electric hydrofoil board. It has been followed by a talk, on September 28, about “Multidisciplinary applications of robotic solutions in shallow coastal

environments” held by CNR-ISMAR researchers Francesca De Pascalis and Fantina Madricardo, aiming at highlighting how today’s challenge to have clean seas can be encountered by robotic solutions.

On 30 September, a presentation of the InnovaMare innovative solutions in underwater robotics and sensors took place, a side event addressed to public institutions and other institutions, for whom those solutions and technologies enable growth, development, competitiveness and technological leadership in the field of blue economy and innovative blue technologies.

On October 1, the important demonstration session "Citizen Engagement: learning by imitation in marine robotics" took place focusing on how the newly implemented “SWAMP Robot” might learn from human beings. BTS participants have been concretely involved in a maritime experience and asked to “teach” Swamp, an autonomous light surface vehicle, to navigate autonomously by performing tasks at their place.

INNOVAMARE PRESENTATION OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS IN UNDERWATER ROBOTICS AND SENSORS

The Bts 7-day initiative is a totally unique event that enables InnovaMare partners and stakeholders to internationally showcase their achievements while engaging in a productive, on the field, exchange of knowledge.

The InnovaMare project is designed to develop and establish a model of innovation ecosystem in the field of underwater robotics and sensors for the control and monitoring of pollution in the Adriatic Sea. The project is co-financed by the EU Regional Development Fund under the Italy-Croatia cross-border cooperation program 2014-2020. One of the main challenges of the InnovaMare project is to increase the efficiency of innovation activities in relevant areas of the blue economy - by increasing knowledge transfer within cooperation.

This event is intended for public institutions and other institutions to which new innovative solutions and technologies enable growth, development, competitiveness and technological leadership in the field of blue economy and innovative blue technologies.

After the presentation of the strategic InnovaMare Project, on September 29, made by the project coordinator, Mateo Ivanac, from the Croatian Chamber of the Economy, the leading project partner, a general overview of the project results in terms of underwater robots innovations and high-tech sensors has been given by CNR (Italian National Research Council) researcher Angelo Odetti and Massimo Caccia and Nikola Mišković and Fausto Ferreira from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb.

On the same day, in the afternoon the Croatian Chamber of Economy organized a press visit aimed at promoting and showcasing to enlarged public some of the most promising technological solutions to detect, monitor and counter maritime pollution.

EVENT MATERIALS

Complete information regarding the agenda, talks, participants and communication materials follows below.

Agenda and speakers

The complete schedule is summarized in the following table and is available on the website together with abstracts and biographies of all speakers.

The daily programme follows can be found on the link <https://bts.fer.hr/schedule-2021/>

DAY 1	
16:30 - 18:00	REGISTRATION

DAY 2	
09:00 - 09:15	OPENING SESSION
09:15 - 10:00	ROBOTS FOR KARSTIC EXPLORATION
10:00 - 10:45	LEVERAGING OCEAN DATA HARVESTING BY HETEROGENOUS ROBOTIC ORGANIZATIONS AND AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES AS SENSOR CARRYING PLATFORMS
11:00 - 11:45	LOW COST DOES NOT COME CHEAP: WORKING TOWARDS A LOW COST DEEP-SEA AUTONOMOUS OBSERVATION SYSTEM
11:45 - 12:30	TITANIC REVISITED
12:30 - 13:15	PRESENT STATUS AND ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE SWEDISH MARITIME ROBOTICS CENTRE SMARC – AN INVITATION TO COLLABORATE
14:30 - 15:00	H2ROBOTICS PRODUCTS

15:00 - 15:30	TUTORIAL 1 INTRO – KTH: USING PHYSICS-INFORMED LEARNING FOR NONLINEAR SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION OF UNDERWATER ROBOTS
15:30 - 18:30	DEMO: H2OROBOTICS PRODUCTS
15:30 - 18:30	TUTORIAL 1 HANDS-ON: KTH
15:30 - 18:30	DEMO: PLURATO SAILFIN – ELECTRIC HYDROFOIL SURF BOARD

DAY 3	
09:00 - 09:45	WHALING IN THE EUROPEAN ARCTIC 1600-1900 – TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION AND ADAPTATION
09:45 - 10:30	MAKING SENSE OF MARINE AND MARITIME PROCESSES THROUGH INTELLIGENT INFORMATION ACQUISITION AND SHARING
10:45 - 11:30	MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPLICATIONS OF ROBOTIC SOLUTIONS IN SHALLOW COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS
11:30 - 12:15	FORMAL AND RISK-BASED METHODS FOR DESIGNING, TESTING AND VERIFYING AUTONOMOUS MARINE CONTROL SYSTEMS
12:15 - 13:00	UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY AT BTS: A DECADE OF INNOVATION
14:30 - 15:00	TUTORIAL 2 INTRO – AI ZERO CALIBER: EDGE COMPUTING FOR MARITIME IOT
15:00 - 15:30	TUTORIAL 3 INTRO: MARINE UNITY SIMULATOR
15:30 - 18:30	DEMO: PROJECT HEKTOR – KORKYRA
15:30 - 18:30	TUTORIAL 2 HANDS-ON: ZERO CALIBER
15:30 - 18:30	TUTORIAL 3 HANDS-ON: MARINE UNITY SIMULATOR

DAY 4	
09:00 - 09:45	INNOVAMARE PROJECT
09:45 - 10:30	ADRIATIC
10:45 - 11:30	UNDERWATER HUMAN ROBOT INTERACTION (U-HRI): AN OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORY, CHALLENGES, AND METHODS

11:30 - 12:15	INFORMATIVE SPATIAL SAMPLING WITH AUTONOMOUS UNDERWATER VEHICLES
12:15 - 13:00	EXPLORATIONS IN AI FOR MARINE ROBOTICS
14:30 - 15:00	TUTORIAL 4 INTRO – LSTS TOOLCHAIN: OVERVIEW AND E-INFRASTRUCTURE ACCESS
15:00 - 15:30	HYDROMEIA – THE LUMA FAMILY OF COMPACT, FAST OPTICAL UNDERWATER MODEMS
15:30 - 18:30	DEMO: HYDROMEIA
15:30 - 18:30	TUTORIAL 4 HANDS-ON: LSTS

DAY 5	
09:00 - 09:15	WORKSHOP: INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP – THE CHALLENGE OF DATA PROCESSING FROM MARINE OBSERVATORIES
09:15 - 09:30	WORKSHOP: INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP – THE NEED FOR STANDARDIZATION IN MARINE OBSERVATORIES
09:30 - 10:15	WORKSHOP: MANAGEMENT AND PROCESSING OF GEOPHYSICAL DATA FROM CONTINUOUS MONITORING ONBOARD THE SHIP NRP SAGRES
10:15 - 10:30	WORKSHOP: OPEN DISCUSSION ON DISSEMINATION OF DATA
11:00 - 11:45	WORKSHOP: QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR DATA FROM THE THEMO MARINE OBSERVATORY
11:45 - 12:30	WORKSHOP: USING AUVS FOR IN-SITU CALIBRATION OF SENSORS ONBOARD MARINE OBSERVATORIES
12:30 - 13:00	WORKSHOP: OPEN DISCUSSION ON STANDARDIZATION OF DATA FROM OBSERVATORIES
14:30 - 15:00	WORKSHOP: ODYSSEA – OPERATING A NETWORK OF INTEGRATED OBSERVATORY SYSTEMS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA
15:00 - 15:30	WORKSHOP: NEW FINDINGS FROM THE DEEPLV DEEPWATER MARINE OBSERVATORY
15:30 - 16:00	WORKSHOP: THEMO – SCIENCE DISCOVERIES FROM THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF OBSERVATIONS

16:00 - 16:15	WORKSHOP: PANEL DISCUSSION ON CHALLENGES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN MARINE OBSERVATORIES
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DAY 6	
09:00 - 09:45	UNDERWATER HYPERSPECTRAL IMAGING AS A TOOL FOR BENTHIC HABITAT MAPPING
09:45 - 10:30	DATA DRIVEN METHODS FOR DERIVING BATHYMETRIC MAPS FROM SIDE-SCAN SONARS
10:45 - 11:30	AN ROV REVOLUTION? USING THE NEW GENERATION OF LOW-COST BATTERY POWERED ROVS FOR SUBSEA ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK
11:30 - 12:15	ROBOTIC SYSTEMS IN MARICULTURE
12:15 - 13:00	ACCURATE QLBL ACOUSTIC POSITIONING OF MULTIPLE, FAST MOVING UNDERWATER TARGETS IN CONFINED WATERS
14:30 - 15:00	TUTORIAL 5 INTRO: CNR-INM – CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT: LEARNING BY IMITATION IN MARINE ROBOTICS
15:00 - 15:30	TUTORIAL 6 INTRO – CYPRUS SUBSEA: EFFICIENT AND SCALABLE SENSOR-PLATFORM INTEGRATION
15:30 - 18:30	DEMO: EVOLOGICS
15:30 - 18:30	TUTORIAL 5 HANDS-ON: CNR-INM
15:30 - 18:30	TUTORIAL 6 HANDS-ON: CYPRUS SUBSEA
	CLOSING CEREMONY

DAY 7	
	FIELD TRIP

Information on participants

Over 130 participants amongst experts, public administrations and private investors gathered in Biograd na Moru (Croatia) - from September 26th to Oct 3rd - for a first, successful, post-pandemic edition of Breaking the Surface (Bts), the international interdisciplinary workshop on robotics and maritime innovations organized by the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering (FER) of the University of Zagreb.

Pictures and videos





Pictures of the opening session, tutorials and demos



Deliverables 01.07.2021.-30.9.2021.

Work Package	List of Deliverables /Outputs achieved	Partner in charge	Month
WP1	D1.1.1.Activities progress reports 2 D1.1.2.Monitoring report 4 D1.4.2. Financial Reports (FR) & Payment Claims (PC) 2	CCE CCE CCE	July
WP2	D2.2.3. Social Media Marketing reports 4	ARTI	July
WP3	D3.1.2. Map of excellence at cross-border level (update)	UNITS	September
WP5	D5.1.2. Report on Training in Bari of FP on LL D5.2.1. Preliminary conceptual design of multifunctional robotic and sensor solutions	CCE FER, CNR ISMAR	Agost July



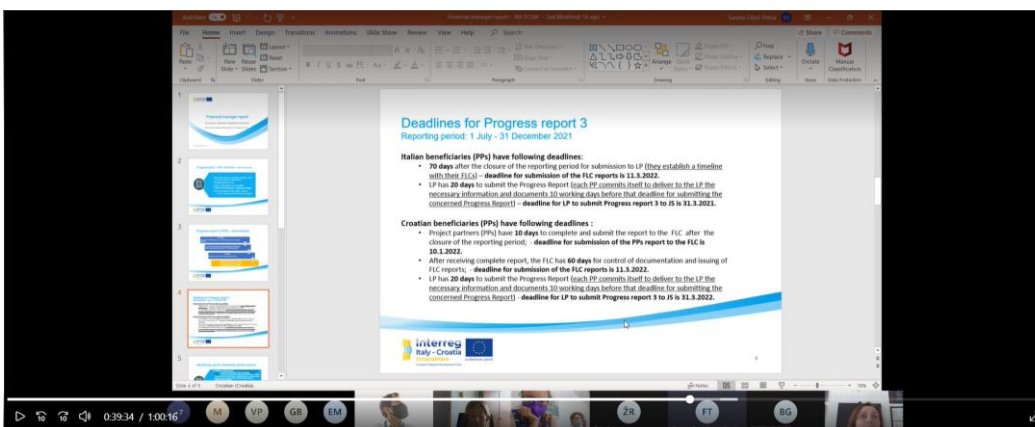

Deadlines for Progress report 3
Reporting period: 1 July - 31 December 2021

Italian beneficiaries (PPs) have following deadlines:

- 20 days after the closure of the reporting period for submission to LP (they establish a timeline with their LGA) - deadline for submission of the FLC reports is 11.3.2022.
- LP has 20 days to submit the Progress Report (each PP commits itself to deliver to the LP the necessary information and documents, 30 working days before that deadline for submitting the concerned Progress Report) - deadline for LP to submit Progress report 3 to IS is 31.3.2022.

Croatian beneficiaries (PPs) have following deadlines:

- Project partners (PPs) have 30 days to complete and submit the report to the FLC after the closure of the reporting period. - deadline for submission of the PP's report to the FLC is 30.3.2022.
- after receiving complete report, the FLC has 60 days for control of documentation and issuing of FLC reports. - deadline for submission of the FLC reports is 11.3.2022.
- LP has 20 days to submit the Progress Report (each PP commits itself to deliver to the LP the necessary information and documents, 30 working days before that deadline for submitting the concerned Progress Report) - deadline for LP to submit Progress report 3 to IS is 31.3.2022.



INNOVAMARE PROJECT

Wednesday 29th September

09:00 - 09:45 Presentation of the InnovaMare project

15:00 - 16:00 Press visit

Thursday 30th September

10:00 - 12:00 Side event

Agenda:

60 min FER + CNR presenting WP5

30 min open discussion with end-users

30 min defining new challenges for the WP5 prototypes for future projects

On September 29, Croatian Chamber of Economy organized a press visit aimed at promoting and displaying to enlarged public some of the most promising technological solutions to detect, monitor and counter maritime pollution where the Croatian national radio and television reported about the project activities and results.

InnovaMare project was presented during the BTS 2021 at the Side event with a discussion on deliverable 2.5.1 with end users. Side event was held on September 30th. At the event, project partners CNR, FER and CCE have presented solutions and possible applications of the robotic and sensoric solution that will be developed within project. The possible end users have discussed the prices and advantages of use of the solutions.

End users have expressed their interest in owning this kind of solution but also to participate with their need in further development. The participants were invited via email and all the data were available on the project official site www.italy-croatia.eu/innovamare

We have invited them to join us and participate in the presentation of innovative solutions in underwater robotics and sensors organized by the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb and the Croatian Chamber of Economy within the strategic project InnovaMare. The presentation was held

on September 30, 2021 from 10.00 to 12.00 as part of the conference / workshop Breaking the Surface (BtS) in Biograd na Moru (Hotel Ilirija).

Participation was free, and the application link is: <https://hgk.hr/prezentacija-inovativnih-rjesenja-u-podvodnoj-robotici-i-senzorici-najava> . Applications were opened until September 22, 2021.

This event was intended for public institutions and other institutions to which new innovative solutions and technologies enable growth, development, competitiveness and technological leadership in the field of blue economy and innovative blue technologies.

The presentation was a two-hour event for Italian and Croatian project and business partners and stakeholders.

Everyone participating at the event have agreed that is needed to address as many institutions as possible to inform the participants about existing and future solutions and how they can use them. In this way, possible users will be more involved and there where many opportunities for cooperation and some new projects.

Promotional materials developed for the event

Promotional materials used for the event were the brochures, pens, writing blocks, USB sticks and roll up of the project InnovaMare. The dissemination of information for the (virtual) attendees regarding regular update on the development of the situation prior to the event was done via newsletters: Save the Date, Important Notice, Preliminary Programme, and Final Programme.

News and posts on social media

Posts on BtS official FB page were published along the year and especially during the event. In particular, several posts with info and pictures of previous years were published in the first half of the year for marketing purposes. The preliminary programme talks were presented throughout August (before updating the programme). In September, the final programme and schedule was announced. Daily posts during the event included photo albums for the lectures, tutorials, and demos.

Press office activities

The communication focused more on social media (Facebook posts) and newsletters sent by e-mail to the subscribed audience, to ensure quick updates on the development of the situation. The press was also included in the dissemination activities as well.

CONCLUSIONS

Over 130 participants amongst experts, public administrations and private investors gathered in Biograd na Moru (Croatia) - from September 26th to Oct 3rd - for a first, successful, post-pandemic edition of Breaking the Surface (Bts), the international interdisciplinary workshop on robotics and maritime innovations organized by the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering (FER) of the University of Zagreb, where also the Interreg Italy-Croatia strategic project InnovaMare Project took part with its activities.

The Bts 7-day initiative is a totally unique event that enables InnovaMare partners and stakeholders to internationally showcase their achievements while engaging in a productive, on the field, exchange of knowledge.

Great lectures, international panel discussions, robotics demos and tutorials took place over the workshop which has been widely attended by Croatians and Italians researchers, as well as experts from all over the world willing at combining exploratory work and innovative experiences to strengthen the fight against pollution in the Adriatic Sea.

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On the same day, in the afternoon the Croatian Chamber of Economy organized a press visit aimed at promoting and showcasing to enlarged public some of the most promising technological solutions to detect, monitor and counter maritime pollution.

Amongst the BtS scheduled events, over 20 in depth lectures, 7 tutorials maritime innovations related (in marine robotics, maritime archeology, marine biology), 5 demos and 1 workshop on Analysis Of Data From Marine Observatories including talks and demos by partners and stakeholders to allow participants to get a first-hand knowledge on the latest in scientific results, on technological achievements, as well as hands-on experience in working with complex and modern underwater systems, such as in the case of the 6 vehicles demonstrated.

In particular, on September 27 Croatian Statim Company held the demo “Plurato Sailfin – Electric Hydrofoil Surf Board” focused on development of electric hydrofoil board. It has been followed by a talk, on September 28, about “Multidisciplinary applications of robotic solutions in shallow coastal environments” held by CNR-ISMAR researchers Francesca De Pascalis and Fantina Madricardo, aiming at highlighting how today’s challenge to have clean seas can be encountered by robotic solutions.

On 30 September, a presentation of innovative solutions in underwater robotics and sensors took place, a side event addressed to public institutions and other institutions, for whom those solutions and technologies enable growth, development, competitiveness and technological leadership in the field of blue economy and innovative blue technologies.

On October 1, the important demonstration session "Citizen engagement: learning by imitation in marine robotics" took place focusing on how the newly implemented “SWAMP Robot” might learn from human beings. BTS participants have been concretely involved in a maritime experience and asked to “teach” Swamp, an autonomous light surface vehicle, to navigate autonomously by performing tasks at their place.

Over 70 participants took specifically part in the project activities in Bts, namely two talks, one demo, one side event with end-users, one press visit and one steering committee.

BTS also hosted several side events, such as IEEE OES UNIZG Student Branch Chapter presentation, Women in Blue, social events.

More information available on the BTS website <https://bts.fer.hr/> and at the project website at <https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/innovamare>.