

D.2.4.1. INTERNATIONAL INNOVATION SUMMIT REPORT

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.2.4.1. International innovation summit report

Expected date: M6

Deliverable description: D.2.4.1 The report from online Innovations international summit Trieste where there be presentation of how innovation system is raising innovation capacities shall contain all the gathered information and conclusion from this event.

Partner responsible for the deliverable: University of Trieste

Dissemination level: CO - Confidential

Status: Final

Version: V1

Date: 31st December 2020

Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
VISUAL INTRODUCTION TO DAY 1: UNDERWATER ROBOTICS AND SENSORS	4
Day 1: Underwater robotics and sensors - TECH MEETING	4
Day 1: Underwater robotics and sensors - POP MEETING	5
VISUAL INTRODUCTION TO DAY 2: SEA POLLUTION	6
Day 2: Sea pollution - TECH MEETING	6
Day 2: Sea pollution - POP MEETING	7
VISUAL INTRODUCTION TO DAY 3: INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS	8
Day 3: Innovation ecosystems - TECH MEETING.....	8
Day 3: Innovation ecosystems - POP MEETING	9
CONCLUSIONS	10

INTRODUCTION

The International Innovation Summit (IIS) is a public event that should have been organized live in Trieste by PP2-University of Trieste. It consists in a “presentation of how innovation system is raising innovation capacities” (from the Activity Report).

Due to the Covid19 pandemic, the event has been moved online in accordance with the Managing Authority of the Italy-Croatia Program with the intent to try lowering the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic both in Italy and Croatia.

The IIS has taken the shape of a 3-days of on-line events organized by the University of Trieste but with the active support provided by all the project partners. The event was composed by 6 webinars in total, 3 technical (also «TECH» from now on) and 3 popular (also «POP» from now on) focusing on the themes of UNDERWATER ROBOTICS AND SENSORS, SEA POLLUTION and INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS.

Guests interacted with project partners (chairing the events) and were engaged also by the attendees from home that had the possibility to make questions through the chat (in the POP meetings) or by turning on their video and microphones (in the TECH meetings)

A landing page was created in order to allow attendees to book their attendance:

<https://www2.units.it/innovamare/>

In the next pages we provide a short description of each webinar, of the main guests involved and the main topics we dealt with.

VISUAL INTRODUCTION TO DAY 1: UNDERWATER ROBOTICS AND SENSORS

DAY 1: UNDERWATER ROBOTICS AND SENSORS

MORNING – TECH MEETING

Time: 11.00 – 11.50

Chair: Eleonora Di Maria

Theme: underwater drones: what are they? And what can be useful for?

Guests:

SAIPEM – [Diego Lazzarin](#)

WITTED SRL – [Emanuele Rocco](#)

[Nikola Mišković](#) - University of Zagreb



AFTER – POP MEETING

Time: 17.00 – 17.50

Chair: Anna Gregorio and Guido Bortoluzzi

Theme: The sea from above. Research and innovation from the space for the sea.



Guests:

[Umberto](#)

[Guidoni](#)

(Astronaut, Writer)

Day 1: Underwater robotics and sensors - TECH MEETING

During the technical webinar of October 28th we hosted the SAIPEM company in the person of Eng. **Stefano Meggio**, Demand and Development Manager of Saipem Solutions-Innovation and Digital. The presentation by Eng. Meggio made us understand the role that submarine drones can play in the maintenance and safety of submerged oil rigs. Through the use of drones, Saipem aims to be able to increase the quantity and quality of plant maintenance, lowering management costs.

Emanuele Rocco, founder of Witted, a young start-up based in Rovereto (<http://www.witted.it>), presented us the result of their work that combines artificial intelligence and marine robot. This collaboration between software (artificial intelligence) and hardware (robot) makes it possible to map the seabed, check the health of marine flora and fauna and monitor the presence of any waste to be removed (such as abandoned nets).

The webinar was concluded by prof. **Nikola Miskovic** at the head of LABUST - Laboratory for Underwater Systems and Technologies at the University of Zagreb who presented the various experiments they are carrying out on the marine robotics front.

Day 1: Underwater robotics and sensors - POP MEETING

During the popular webinar of October 28th we hosted the astronaut **Umberto Guidoni** and the NASA Oceanographer **Ivona Cetinic**.

Umberto Guidoni told us about the visible changes that the anthropic activity is causing on the globe which is visible also from the International Space Station (ISS), like the change in the changes in the circulation of atmospheric currents and, consequently, in rainfall.

Ivona Cetinic commented first the result of a work of impressive data collection made by NASA that allowed her to depict the biggest changes at the level of the marine flora in just 20 years because of the intensification of the climate change.

VISUAL INTRODUCTION TO DAY 2: SEA POLLUTION

DAY 2: SEA POLLUTION

MORNING – TECH MEETING

Time: 11.00 – 11.50

Chair: Martina Rossi

Theme: Using technology to tackle sea pollution

Guests:

CASTALIA – Maurizio De Pirro

ASSOCIATION EKO KVARNER - Vjieran Piršić,

MARINE REMOTE SENSING
GROUP – Apostolos Papakonstantinou

SEADS – Fabio Dalmonte

"If the sea is blue... is also thanks to the yellow fleet"



AFTER – POP MEETING

Time: 17.00 – 17.50

Chair: Piergiorgio Trevisan and Guido Bortoluzzi

Theme: Sailing among rubbish



Guests:

Margherita Pelaschier

Giovanni Soldini



Day 2: Sea pollution - TECH MEETING

Technologies to combat sea pollution was the theme of the technical webinar of October 29th during which we hosted **Maurizio De Pirro** of the Castalia consortium (<https://lnx.castalia.it/it/>) which is a company active in the protection of the marine environment. We hosted also **Apostolos Papakonstantinou** of Marine Remote Sensing Group (<https://mrsg.aegean.gr/>), which showed real applications of using satellite data for the identification of plastic waste in coastal areas.

Patented solution is the one from the SEADS company (<https://www.seadefencesolutions.com/>) to intercept (and collect) solid waste along the rivers, as specified by **Fabio Dalmonte** "without precluding its navigability,

before it reaches the sea". Finally, **Vjeron Piršić** of the Croatian NGO Eko Kvarner who underlined the importance of robotics solutions where restoration actions can be slowed down by human fragility.

Day 2: Sea pollution - POP MEETING

During the popular webinar on 29 October 2020 we hosted the sailors Margherita Pelaschier and Giovanni Soldini. Margherita Pelaschier is an experienced sailor and is currently involved in many projects that connect sailing with socially impactful initiatives.

Giovanni Soldini, internationally renown for his solo races around the world and for his numerous victories in important regattas. He was awarded with the Navy Gold Medal of Merit by the former President of the Italian Republic Giorgio Napolitano. Both guests spoke extensively about the impact of waste on shipping. Margherita Pelaschier explained how much it is necessary to sensitize young people to the correct recycling of waste, a social operation in which her father Mauro is also involved through live meetings with students in schools.

Giovanni Soldini explained to us that sailing at 25 knots in the middle of an ocean can become very risky due to the massive presence of enormous waste islands, especially big plastic pieces. In the last decade, both have shown us with interesting photographic testimonies, the amount of waste in our seas has multiplied and if no action is taken the problem is destined to increase exponentially, with serious risks for safety - as well as for the environment.

VISUAL INTRODUCTION TO DAY 3: INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

DAY 3: INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

MORNING – TECH MEETING

Time: 11.00 – 11.50

Chair: Domađoj Šarić

Theme: looking for an ecosystem to navigate in the global competition

Guests:

WARTSILA – Giuseppe Saragò

HiNelson – Marcello Labruna

Emir Džanić – Cambridge Innovative System Solutions Ltd



AFTER – POP MEETING

Time: 17.00 – 17.50

Chair: Valentina De Marchi

Theme: Circular Economy for a Circular Society

Guests:

Andrea Illy

Alcine Fortuna

Marco Frey



Day 3: Innovation ecosystems - TECH MEETING

During the Technical webinar of October 30th three companies were invited to talk about their innovation ecosystems. **Giuseppe Saragò** from WARTSILA (wartsila.com) presented the Smart Technology Hub, a new integrated center of research, product development and production.

Despite being a small company, Hinelson is a leader in the on-line sale of boating components and its digital ecosystem was presented by **Raffaele Dayan**.

Finally, FUNIFIER (funifier.com) represented by **Emir Dzanic** showed us new aspects of open innovation and knowledge flow using the gamification concept in the naval sector.

Day 3: Innovation ecosystems - POP MEETING

During the pop webinar of October 30th we hosted Dr. **Andrea Illy**, of the Illy Caffè company, who underlined how sustainability and circularity are becoming increasingly important for business today, giving insights into how businesses and society as a whole can and must move towards a more regenerative model.

Alice Fortuna, sustainability communication manager at three small companies focused on sustainability also took part: Alisea (<https://www.alisea.it/>), WRÅD (<https://www.wradliving.com/>) and Sheep Included (<https://www.sheepinc.com/>) who talked about the importance (and complexity) of communication for sustainable companies with a particular eye towards the new generations.

Prof. **Marco Frey** (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna and president of Global Compact Network Italy), who spoke about the important changes that are taking place in Italy and in the world with respect to sustainability and the ability to achieve the sustainable development goals set by the United Nations and the challenges to come.

CONCLUSIONS

International Innovation Summit is the one of the key four public events that will present project and its activities to the bigger audience but also bring different experts to one place. It was a great opportunity to expand knowledge but also exchange opinions with different stakeholders. InnovaMare project aims at jointly develop and establish innovation ecosystem model in area of underwater robotics and sensors for purposes of monitoring and surveillance sector with a mission oriented on sustainability of the Adriatic Sea. In order to achieve its aim, we are organizing different events with the aim of enhancing our knowledge and experience with various stakeholders and innovation players. This event has been organized with the intention to present how innovation system is raising innovation capacities.

Stakeholders from the different fields have shared their knowledge and experience on how bringing innovations or innovative approach to the business or scientific research has improved their development and ensured them a competitive advantage. By bringing together all of these stakeholder to this event, we had the opportunity to see on how successful innovation ecosystem has been created through presentation of Smart Technology Hub, a new integrated center of research, product development and production but also how sustainability and circularity are becoming increasingly important for business today.

One of the most important outputs of the project InnovaMare is the establishment of the DIH (Digital innovation Hub) for innovative underwater robotics and sensors in the Adriatic Sea. In terms of the sea pollution, we got the opportunity to see how applications of using satellite data can be helpful for the identification of plastic waste in coastal areas. This information was important since project InnovaMare will develop prototype that is innovative robotic solution as a platform for development of solutions for monitoring and prediction of the sea pollution.

This event has given us important insight on what should we pay attention to when creating successful Innovation ecosystem but also has given us an overview of the state of the art in terms of the innovative robotic and sensor solution.

The IIS has reached its intent to attract both specialists in the various fields and the public (see below for detailed attendance for each event) and to spread the attention about themes of strategic importance, like the effects of sea pollution, climate change, technological innovation, for the future of the humanity.

Despite being organized online, the event has been able to stimulate the curiosity of the many attendees and interesting debates among the chairs, the various guests and the attendees.

EVENT	ATTENDEES
DAY 1: UNDERWATER ROBOTICS AND SENSORS - TECH MEETING	130
DAY 1: UNDERWATER ROBOTICS AND SENSORS - POP MEETING	183
DAY 2: SEA POLLUTION - TECH MEETING	119
DAY 2: SEA POLLUTION - POP MEETING	150
DAY 3: INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS - TECH MEETING	104
DAY 3: INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS - POP MEETING	171