

PLANINNG AND ENGAGEMENT ARENAS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY LANDSCAPES PEARLS

Marie Skłodowska -Curie Actions (MSCA)

Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)

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1.0	2018-10-30	Final Version	USE	Web site available http://pearlsproject.org/

Abstract:

This deliverable contains a short description of the PEARLS Project website (PPW), including the construction of the PPW by participants in WP1 PEARLS INTERACTION PLATFORM under the supervision of the coordinator. The website will run throughout the project to present research achievements, staff exchange results, publications and news and events. An On-Line Atlas has been created for fieldwork activities and results. The public section of the PPW will be disseminated to the general public through social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest).

PEARLS D.1.1

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I. Introduction

This deliverable describes the PEARLS Project website (PPW). The PPW's main goal is to strengthen external communication and to develop and implement tools that facilitate participants' day-to-day work on the Project. The PPW is one of the main objectives of Work Package 1 PEARLS INTERACTION PLATFORM. WP1's first task is a data sharing platform, with key information on the project and contact information for all partners. The public section of the project website is for public communication.

The Pearls Project Website provides:

- The project-related information and news.
- A description of work packages and their goals.
- An Online Atlas that displays on screen the main fieldwork results of staff exchange through secondments.
- A repository used to store Deliverables, PEARLS members' publications and other documents.
- A Good-to-Know section with events and other activities.

The following sections of this document present on the tools involved in the WPs.

II. Website implementation

The implementation of the Pearls Project website was completed using Wordpress and Divi Builder system. Wordpress is a world well-known and widely used CMS that allows a faster prototyping in both design and functionality. In addition is highly compatible and works with w3c standards. Divi builder system provides adaptability easy designs while working. It also gives the opportunity to see changes in real time integrated into a production system. This way it is flexible to accommodate changes and future needs. In this combination of Wordpress and Divi Builder every element is placed where we want to make more visual and well organized contents for the visitors. Also Wordpress assures the perfect combination of technology and compatibility with major browsers and the expandability of future needs for the Pearls project website. It's consistent and his periodically updates work well with software changes in the future without affecting functionality.

1. Website standards compliance

Pearls Project website pages have been tested to comply with the HTML5 standard, using the W3C Markup Validator. Even though the PWW comply with both the CSS and CSS3 standards, the situation is more complicated in regards to CSS. We have chosen to use CSS3 for the Pearls Project website because it simplifies the implementation of aesthetic elements such as rounded element corners, element shadows etc...

However, the CSS3 standard is currently and will be a work in progress. So, while we have taken every care for our CSS code, it has been proved impossible to have CSS3 code that both validates on the W3C CSS Validator and works on all popular browsers. This made us take a more pragmatic approach and instead strive to have our pages rendered correctly with the latest versions of all popular web browsers.

2. Hosting

For the Pearls Project website we have chosen Raiola Networks, a Spanish company, which deliver fast and reliable hosting services from their servers in France. It has also proven reliability, secure functioning and fast work with their SSD hostings.

3. Hardware

The Pearls Project website is hosted by Raiola Networks services, their servers are located in France. The hosting server features a total memory of 1024mb ultra fast ram memory. 5GB of solid state drive space, which increases the speed of delivered data. The Raiola servers are based on Linux and provide SSL certified by Let's Encrypt.

The server is protected by firewalls in order to minimize the risk of cyber-threats. As an additional security measure, Raiola Network provides a security copy every day in case of any malfunction.

4. Software

For serving the PEARLS Project website we use this software stack:

- CloudLinux as the operating system
- Apache as the web server
- PHP for dynamic interactive web page support
- MySQL as the database backend
- Wordpress as CMS
- Divi Builder System as Design framework inside Wordpress

All the components of the stack have been built in one server. The server is dedicated to running the MySQL server, the Apache web server and generate the dynamic pages using Wordpress CMS. Wordpress is a generic web framework based in PHP and MySQL. For serving and managing our pages we use Wordpress a Content Management System and for designing we use Divi Builder System, is a modular theme framework. The benefit of the Divi Builder and Wordpress combo is that they provide a clear, well documented Application designing interface. They are much more compact and updated than other solutions, which make tweaking and extending them much easier. This could prove useful in case we need to extend the functionality of the Pearls Project website beyond the initial standards and requirements. An additional benefit of this combo is the existing expertise of the Divi and Wordpress supporters dedicated to maintaining and improving the Wordpress code.

Finally, it should be noticed that all the software components will be regularly updated. This way security vulnerabilities will be kept at a minimum level.

5. Website description and screenshots

The Pearls Project website can be found at http://pearlsproject.org/

The PPW is organised into different user-friendly sections that can be easily navigated and updated. This is due in part to the photographs of renewable energy landscapes provided by PEARLS members.

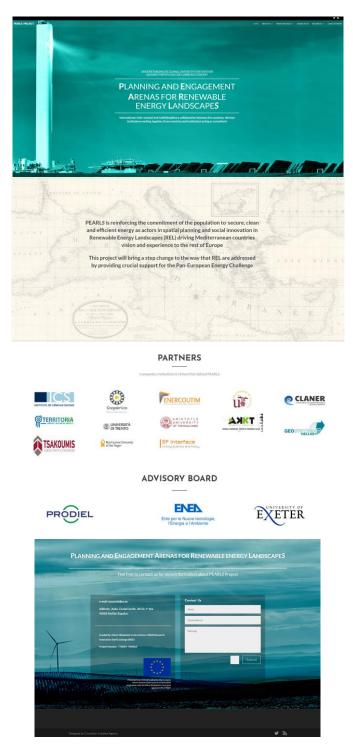
The website is divided into six main sections:

- **≻** HOME
- > ABOUT US
- **➢ WORK PACKAGES**
- > ONLINE ATLAS
- > RESOURCES
- **➢** GOOD TO KNOW

The following gives information about the initial design of the site together with a brief explanation of its aim and contents.

Home

This section provides an overview of the Pearls Project: the scroll feature can be used to read through its mission and headline statement, geographical coverage, cultural diversity, project structure and a 'Contact Us' form. Geographical coverage and cultural diversity are represented through historical maps, interesting images and original texts on or closely-related to renewable energies, provided by the consortium as a whole. The project structure presents the logos of the thirteen participants together with the Advisory Board members' names and logos. Finally, the 'Contact Us' form links to EUSOCLAB at the University of Seville (Spain), which is the body responsible for constructing and maintaining the website.



About us

This section contains information about the research project, partners, the team and secondments.

._ The Project

This sub-section contains detailed information about the research and innovation skills and abilities of the Pearls Project. A variety of layouts with vertical scrolling include the following:

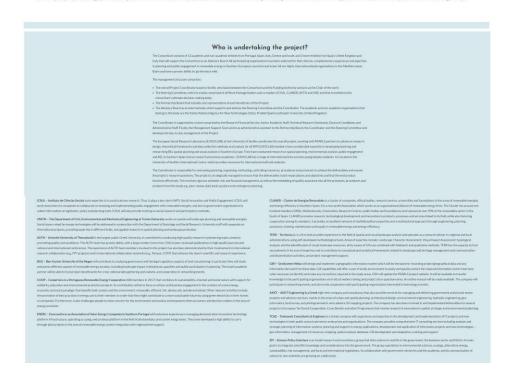
- Summary
- Participants
- Relevance
- Aims and objectives
- Research Questions
- Impact
- Ethics
- Gender Balance



Summary

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WHAT ARE THE AIMS AND

To develop research and innovation skills between early stage and experienced researchers, combining social and technological aspects for the sustainable implementation of REL in Southern European countries and Israel.

To share and integrate multidisciplinary knowledge through international and multisectoral synergies to develop frameworks, processes and operational tools to enhance the spatial planning and social innovation arena for REL and boost relevant policy agendas.

To investigate and compare data, approaches and processes in Southern European countries and straet in order to: (all determine potential commonalities relevant to the subject under investigation (by exchange this knowledge within the consortium via secondments and (c) transfer this

4
To produce outputs within the framework of international and intersectoral activities based on the PEARLS project, such as scientific, management and training activities, and dissemination and

WHAT ARE THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS OF THE PROJECT?

1

What are the policies and strategies for effective, efficient and sustainable REL implementation in partner countries?

.

How do the public accept REL implementation in light of their energy behaviour and aspirations?

What values shape the implementation of spatial planning tools for renewable energy development e.g., economic, social, cultural?

Who are participating in this process? Where are

REL located and why?

5

3

What are the significant dilemmas voiced in public participation e.g., sustainability issues, conflicts, employment opportunities?

6

What networks and practices are developing social innovation tools? What are their best practices?

7

What innovations exist to promote and support extended renewable energy landscapes?

8

What is the best way to export the applied knowledge expertise on REL in Southern European countries and Israel?

Why is this project needed?

The PEARLS research and innovation project is relevant because globalisation is a dominant policy discourse in the transition to a low carbon economy. The Energy Challenge needs to reinforce public engagement in support of renewable energy. This is often presented as a face-off process, with scant attention paid to the way that cultural approaches towards energy behaviour and public participation contribute to the sustainable implementation of renewable energies.

The overarching objective of this Project is to develop an international and intersectoral network of organisations working in a joint research programme to contribute to the Pan-European Energy Challenge through the implementation of renewable energy best practices. Participants will exchange skills and knowledge that lay the groundwork for key advances in spatial planning and social innovation while strengthening collaborative research among different countries and sectors.

PEARLS Project focuses on how principles avoiding climate change and global warming can be applied to European strategies on public engagement to renewable energy. Despite scientific approach on the promotion of renewable energies and public acceptance based on Not in My Back Yard and Landscape Quality, PEARLS project will develop research capacity in the field of spatial planning and social innovation in Southern European countries. These countries are critical examples of natural resources availability underpinning renewable energies but where less attention to public participation into spatial planning processes is paid. To reinforce knowledge and expertise, new approaches such as Please In My Back Yard, Place Attachment and Territorial Heritage will be developed.

PEARLS interrogates and develops planning and public engagement to deploy renewable energy through questions related to: (a) regional differences in renewable energy resource exploitation; (b) people that can be involved in energy policy initiative support; and (c) whether REL should be developed as focus areas for renewable energy in order for the interaction with the landscape to be better understood.

The nature of the PEARLS partnership means that it will develop strategies for planning and public engagement with all actors in support of REL in beneficiary countries. Through spatial planning and social innovation, the consortium will contribute to achieving REL in Southern European countries and Israel while observing the principles of effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability in support of the Energy Challenge.

Low Carbon Economy Transition is one of the main challenges that society is facing nowadays. Thus, enhancing the sensitivity on this process, and promoting the advantages that it has for people as individuals and for society as a whole is becoming urgent. This sensitivity must come as result of a better understanding of the new Energy Paradigm. This means that a great involvement of the educational sector is required. On the other hand, it is very important to ensure equal and inclusive participation of local actors in the managing process.

WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED IMPACT OF THE PROJECT?

1

Generation of stronger awareness that change in the energy model cannot occur without a change in the population's behaviour toward energy.

3

Generation of evidence-based training materials on social innovation and public engagement tools for use in renewable energy development and other research contexts.

5

Stimulation of new trans-methodological approaches to support investigation into social and technological issues by different research and innovation staff.

7

To spark sensitivity to a Low Carbon Economy and the advantages that it has for new life patterns on the individual level and for society.

9

To foster the involvement of young researchers in the dissemination of research results as a complementary way of extending the outreach of their scientific production.

2

Reproduction of public participation schemes to support renewable energy projects developed in countries in Southern Europe and in Israel and to export these to an international audience as good practice.

4

Development of a cadre of researchers, technical staff and policy makers across different sectors and national contexts with in-depth expertise in spatial planning and energy policy.

6

To favour the involvement of the public at large in the Energy Challenge debate (from those who are unfamiliar with it to those who are most in favour of/against renewable energies).

8

To generate new channels of communication between society, researchers and companies by way of everyday formats, such as social networks and Internet video channels

10

To ensure equal and inclusive participation in events promoted by participant organisations in collaboration with local institutions and authorities in their own countries.

Integrity & Ethics

All research potentially raises ethical issues and this Project is no exception. For that, this research applies without exception the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights and its Supplementary Protocols. The nature of our research work means that relatively few ethical issues are raised and these can be addressed in a relatively straightforward way.

All research partners within the consortium agree to comply with all ethical thinking and legislation within respective countries including those reflected in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Moreover, the Project adheres to the guidelines of the national funding agencies. Rather than thinking about research ethics only in the phase of data collection, the consortium undertakes a comprehensive strategy on ethics by considering ethical issues from the very early phase of research planning. Ethical issues are predominantly relevant for case studies, interviews, fieldwork and dissemination. They include the following spheres:

- All partners will be aware of intellectual property and copyright issues. These issues will be examined thoroughly and resolved by contacting directly the relevant parties before using resources in the project.
- All research partners obtain permission to access sites, written/informed consent, debriefing, explaining the right to refuse/omit answers or withdraw, and consent for interview recording.
- Prospective participants (stakeholders, interviewees, workshop participants) will be given full
 information in advance about the research's purpose. They are invited to contribute in a variety of
 ways, dependent on their willingness to be involved.
- All research partners ensure that interview schedules will avoid unnecessarily intrusive questions.
 Before consent is obtained from respondents and before research begins, all researchers agree to inform prospective participants of the following:
 - Which individuals and organisations, if any, will be permitted access to personal data, and under what circumstances such access will be granted.
 - The purpose for which personal information provided is to be used.
- All researchers agree to work in accordance with equal opportunity policies and ensure that there is
 no discrimination on the basis of age, gender disability or ethnicity. Furthermore, the data is
 appropriately used for the purposes of the project and will not be retained for longer than is
 necessary.
- All researchers envisaged by this project is Social Sciences research concerned with adults
 specifically those who are engaged in renewable energy landscapes and whose participation is
 voluntary. As such they should all be able to give their consent for participation informed by a
 relatively sophisticated understanding of the way that research works and what its implications are.
 Nevertheless they will be provided with written documentation explaining the aims and objectives
 of the research and an opportunity to question these.

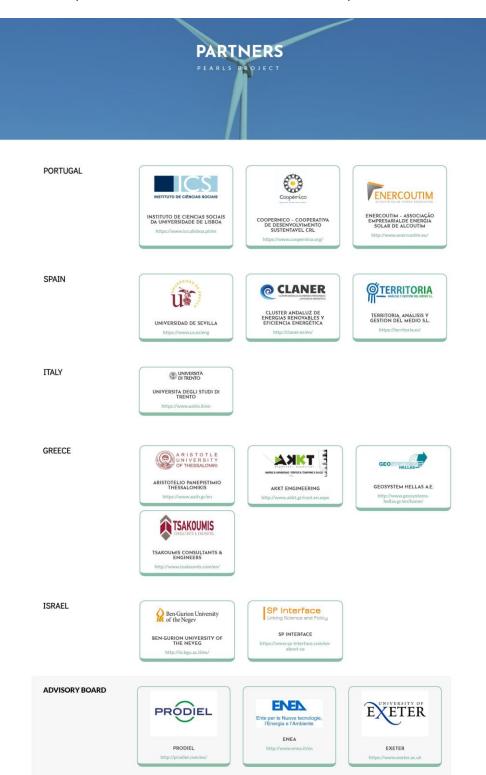
Gender Balance

Gender balance has been a specific input throughout the entire process. EUSOCLAB envisages gender aspects as a quality of researchers that has to be included in and strengthened throughout the construction of the proposal as the best way to ensure that it is put into effect. The project has taken gender into account in relation to the composition of the partnership, i.e., the coordinator at the University of Seville and the leads in Portugal, Greece and Israel are all female. There are also female representatives from non-academic organisations in Spain (Territoria), Greece (ATTK) and Israel (SP Interface), and there is also gender balance among Advisory Board representatives. And last but not least, there are female members of the different participant organisations who will be on secondment, thus providing opportunities for both genders to build their capacity via transnational mobility. Gender will also be taken into consideration in everyday processes and transactions. This means that the project will aim to be gender sensitive in relation to the objectives and deliverables and also in terms of inclusive working practices and procedures in focus groups and the choice of people for interview.

._ Partners

This sub-section contains information about Pearls Project Partners with detailed information by country. Academic and non-academic partners are represented by their logos and titles. Finally, links to their own websites are also included.

A sub-section presents the Advisory Board with information about both the board's organisation and representatives. Links to own websites are also provided.



._ Our team

This sub-section introduces research staff, professionals and technicians to the public. The aim is to showcase the people who support the project. Links to Research Gate and Linkedin are provided in most cases.







Ana Delicado



Ana Horta



Luís Junqueira



Mónica Truninger



Marc Rechter ENERCOUTIM -Associação Empresarial de Energia Solar de Alcoutim



Natalie Samovich ENERCOUTIM -Associação Empresarial de Energia Solar de Alcoutim



João Oliveira Associação Empresarial de Energia Solar de Alcoutim



ENERCOUTIM -

Associação Empresarial de Energia Solar de Alcoutim ENERCOUTIM -



Teresa Bertrand Associação Empresa de Energia Solar de Alcoutim



Ana Rita Antunes COOPERNICO -



Miguel Almeida COOPERNICO – Cooperativa de Desenvolvimento Sustentavel CRL



Susana Fonseca



Professor María-José Prados



Ricardo Iglesias



Arrabal



Michela Ghislanzoni



María Angeles Barral



Miguel Torres García

Territoria, análisis y gestión del medio S.L.



Mariana Giusti



Carlos Rojo

Cluster Andaluz de Energías Renovables y Eficiencia Energética



Juan José González



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Cluster Andaluz de Energias Renovables y Eficiencia Energética



Bruno Zanon

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Rossano Albatici Universita degli Studi di Trento



Loukogeorgaki

Aristotelio Panepistimio Thessalonikis



Dimitra Vagiona

Evangelos

Maltezos



Georgia Pozoukidou

Georgios

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Angelos Grampas

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Christos Kontopoulos



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Daniel Madar SP Interface



Hagit Ulanovsky

SP Interface





Na'ama Teschner Ben-Gurion University of the Negev



Rachelle Alterman

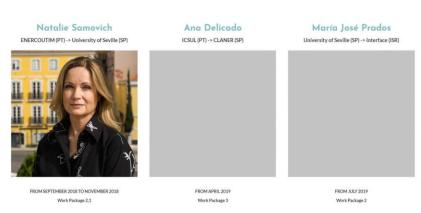
._ Secondments

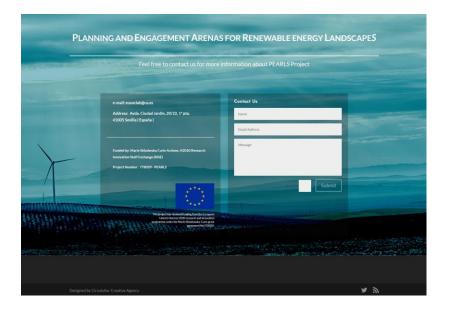
The last sub-section presents staff exchange, which is the basis of any MSC RISE project. Detailed information about each secondment beneficiary and experience will be progressively implemented through the website, including:

- Name and Organisation
- Secondment destination
- Photo
- Secondment period)
- Related Work Package

Brief testimonials will be provided by secondees outlining their secondments and recounting personal experiences.

SECONDED STAFF





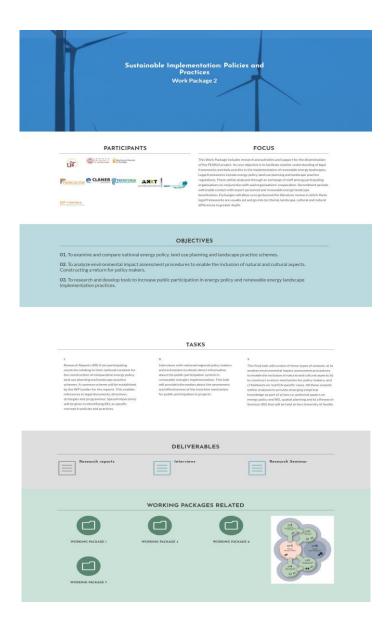
Work Packages

This subsection includes a detailed explanation of the seven Work Packages in the Pearls Project. The first six work packages are structured in the same way, in one or two columns,

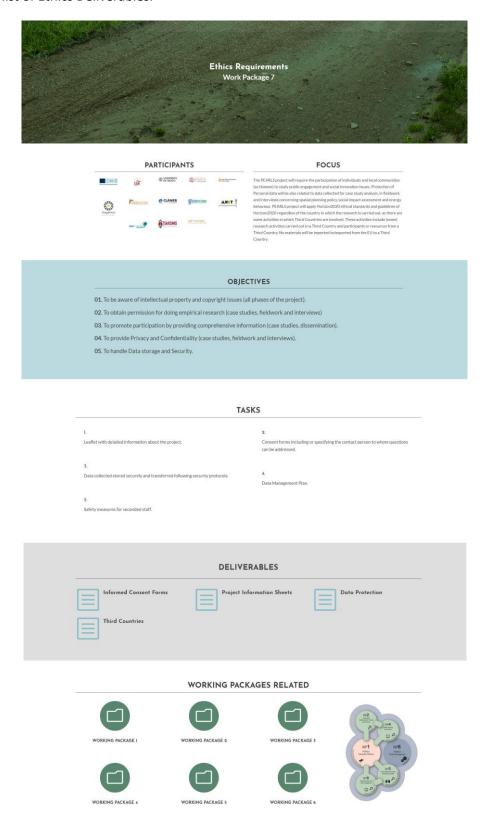
Information is as follows:

- Focus and WP Participants
- Objectives
- Tasks
- Deliverables (also connected to the RESOURCES repository)
- Related Work Packages and a diagram showing WP relationships.

Below is shown the corresponding section of the Work Package 2 as an example of the structures that WP 1 - 6 will follow.



Work Package number 7 is devoted to Ethics Requirements and structured around Ethics relating to Humans, Personal Data Protection and Third Countries. This WP7 sub-section ends with a list of Ethics Deliverables.



Online Atlas

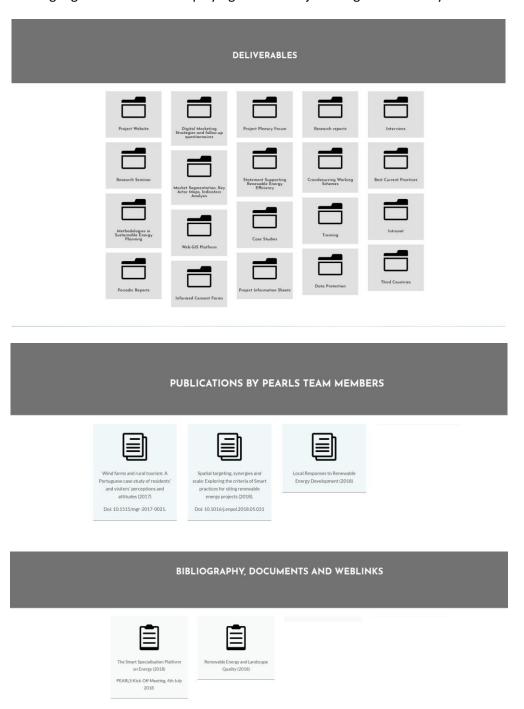
The Online Atlas section is an iterative and participatory tool for PEARLS members. Clicking on markers opens fold-down scrollable worksheets for each case study and reference case that will be available throughout the duration of the project. The purpose of the Online Atlas is to provide an overview of renewable energy landscapes through the regional diversity of participant countries.

The Online Atlas section is still under construction.



Resources

This section includes an information repository. The repository system is based on the Word Press file system. The information contains: Project deliverables; Pearls Project member publications; bibliography; documents and web links. The aim of this repository is to bring project results together in a single place while also hosting them for dissemination and communication. The Project deliverables sub-section provides links to each of the deliverables in their corresponding WPs. Publications include scientific papers, Open Access, Proceedings and other materials produced by Pearls Project members. The last sub-section contains a broad spectrum of working documents based on specific books, working documents in different languages and weblinks displaying PEARLS Project's regional diversity.



Good to Know

The website ends with a final section with a two column layout. Good to Know has a dual purpose. From day one the left-hand column will provide up-to-date information about the project's day-to-day and any activities that involve or affect the consortium as a whole. It is a record of the Project that documents any good practices or dysfunctions that may arise and how to work to correct them. The main column on the right will list all the news and events related to the various activities and main achievements of the Project. The is designed to be the key outcome for disseminating project activities to the scientific and R&I community while also providing information targeted at multiple audiences.

Good to know

The University of Seville welcomes the launch of PEARLS Project

Wednesday, July 4, 201

The Brazilian Pavilion has hosted the launch of the project holding the Kick off Meeting. Academic partners, companies, associations and consultants from Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece and Israel participated in the event. In addition, this Meeting was attended by PhD students, visiting lecturers and research groups from University of Seville, concerned by the links between Social Sciences and Renewable Energy. After the ceremonial introduction addressed by the Vice-rectory for Innovation and Knowledge Transfer, the European Commission's Science and Knowledge Service of Joint Research Centre in Seville was invited to present the Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy. The synergies between this Smart Platform and the PEARLS Project are evident, so it is expected joint collaborations to take place.

The Kick Off Meeting has enabled the exchange information about the Grant Agreement compliance, the conditions of implementation and funding of the project, and familiarisation with SYGMA platform. Above all though, it has been a splendid opportunity to establish the first face to face contacts between all the participants who will keep a close and productive collaboration along the next four years.



W % W

PEARLS Proposal accepted! It's really happening!

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

The PEARLS beneficiaries have received this message. It has been exactly three months since we submitted PEARLS proposal and they have confirmed us that the proposal is accepted. It was Na'ama Teschner from University of Halfa who sounded the alert. At the same time, there were messages about some phishing attempts coming from the Participant Portal. After a few minutes of surprise, the truth is that PEARLS project has secured funding. Let's work!



September 20 July 2018

June 2018

April 2018

January 2018 January 2017

Categories

news secondments

Meta

Log in

Entries RSS Comments RSS

WordPress.org

PEARLS Proposal submitted. Fingers crossed

Thursday, April 5, 2018

This morning we have submitted the last version of PEARLS proposal into SYGMA Platform, only a few hours before the closure of the 2017 MSC RISE call. We entered the first version in late March. Since then, we have updated a new draft almost every week. We have organised ourselves very well thanks to the work and collaboration from all the Consortium partners. Almudena Arrabal's support with SYGMA Platform and Miguel Torres's graphical design of the information have been very remarkable. The proposal consists of 36 secondments that will be held between thirteen entities from five countries that will focus on six complementary Work Packages. The Steering Committee will support the PEARLS Coordinator. The Consortium will also count with an Advisory Board comprised of Essex University; the Agenzia Nazionale per l'energia ENEA; and the Spanish company Prodiel.

The goal is achieved! : ἀνέρριφθω κύβος.

Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) Coordinators' Day

Friday, January 19, 2018

The MSC-RISE Actions Coordinators have attended the general meeting hosted in Brussels by the Research Executive Agency. There have been two intense sessions where we have been informed about how demanding and extremely competitive has the MSCA RISE 2017 call been. Only a 20% of the proposals were successful. The objective of the meeting was to discuss the implementation of the MSCA RISE Grant Agreement and best practices for successful project implementation. Special attention has been given to the requirements of the Grant Agreement; the eligibility conditions for the secondments; and the financial rules.

The meeting provided us with the opportunity of making personal contact with our Project Officer and meeting the other RISE projects coordinators from related fields. The Humanities and Social Sciences Panel are well represented by Southern European countries.

Workshop on Excellent Research Marie Sklodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

Saturday, January 28, 2017



Eva Loukogeorgaki, Bruno Zanon & Ana Delicado in the Courtyard of Geography and History Faculty at University of Sevile (January, 25th 2017).

Finally, earlier this week we have organized the workshop in order to submit a proposal for the forthcoming MSC RISE 2017 call. We have been fortunate enough to meet the academic partners from Lisbon, Trento and Thesaloniki, and to be in contact with Haifa and Esse. On the Spanish side, we are working side by side with Territoria Company. In addition to establish a first contact between the Research Groups on Social Sciences and Architecture at the University of Seville, which work on Renewable Energy.

Until April, 4th we have a lot of work to do: to look for partners from administrative and business environments and NGOs; to refine the structure of a solid proposal; and commit to the Work Packages tasks and secondments if we manage to get the Project's approval.

We have decided our Consortium and Project's name.

 $We are \ calling \ ourselves \ PEARLS: \ Planning \ and \ Engagement \ Arenas \ for \ Renewable \ energy \ Landscape S.$

6. Future sections

The project website will be implemented along the project life span. The first action will be the construction of the intranet platform for internal project communication (D6.1: Internal Communication). This will provide key information on the Project and contact information for all partners. It will include the creation, distribution and updating of the project handbook and the implementation and administration of the online collaboration platform.

The second action will be to put in place an online geographic information system (web-GIS) based on Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) (D.4.3: Web GIS Platform), designed and implemented in connection with WP1 and WP6 (D.4.2; D.4.3). The Web-GIS platform will demonstrate the versatility and efficiency of the methodologies and tools for reference case studies and renewable energy landscapes, irrespective of geographical, spatial and/or social factors.

III. Conclusions

This deliverable has presented the communication, dissemination and collaboration infrastructure used by the PEARLS Project. This infrastructure consists of a multifunctional Project Website that contains project research information and implementation; an Online Atlas; a file repository; a contact link and social media presence. The web page was designed and implemented from the scratch based on open source tools (e.g., Django CMS, OwnCloud) and is hosted by the FORTH datacentre. Both the website and file repository are maintained by FORTH and meet all the requirements of the Pearls Project.

This deliverable will be relevant for the Pearls Project's communication strategy. The project website will be used for external communication once results and information have been secured for publications and IPR. Project vision, mission, aims, progress and outcomes will be publicised through the Pearls Project Website and social media activities. Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest are the outlets chosen for the project's Social media presence to date.

The project website will also include a restricted access internal communication platform for partners and GIS tools for mapping and sharing results. The project website will be linked to the USE website (www.us.es) and cross-linked to other beneficiaries' websites.

IV. PEARLS Consortium

1	STATE RSIDAD ON THE STATE OF TH	USE	Contact:
	U 🎉	C/ S Fernando 4, Sevilla 41004 Spain	María-José Prados
2	2 CLANER CIGSTR ARCALIZAGE TO REGICAL PROPORTIES YDTC ERKA MENGELYA	CLANER	Contact:
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