



LASERLAB-EUROPE

The Integrated Initiative of European Laser Research Infrastructures V

Grant Agreement number: 871124

Work package 1 – Management

Deliverable D1.3
3rd Annual Meeting

Lead Beneficiary: 1 – CNRS

Due date: Month 36

Date of delivery: Month 36

Project webpage: www.laserlab-europe.eu

<i>Deliverable Type</i>		
R	Document, report	OTHER
DEM	Demonstrator, pilot, prototype	
DEC	Websites, patent filings, videos, etc.	
OTHER		
ETHICS	Ethics requirement	
ORDP	Open Research Data Pilot	
DATA	data sets, microdata, etc.	
<i>Dissemination Level</i>		
PU	Public, fully open, e.g. web	PU
CO	Confidential, restricted under conditions set out in Model Grant Agreement	



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 871124.

2 Objectives

The objective of WP 1 is to manage the overall project with respect to administrative, contractual, legal, ethical, financial, and technical issues to ensure highest quality of service and completing deliverables according to the time frame and budget foreseen. A particularly important issue is to monitor the progress of the project and the reporting to the project bodies in order to be able to take corrective action if necessary.

The aim of the annual meetings of the General Assembly of the project is to assess the progress of past activities, to decide on implementation plans for the following year and to create common understanding and awareness of the activities among all project participants.

3 Third annual meeting

Laserlab-Europe General Assembly meeting, 4-5 October 2022, Lausanne, Switzerland

For the first time since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, the annual General Assembly meeting was held in person during two consecutive days, hosted by the participant LACUS/EPFL in Lausanne. In total, 51 participants attended the meeting.

On the morning of 4 October, before the start of the General Assembly meeting, a foresight meeting was held providing the participants with the opportunity to discuss topics of interest for future collaborations beyond the scope of the present project and its JRAs. Several participants joined this meeting in hybrid mode.

The Coordinator Sylvie Jacquemot, CNRS-LULI, opened the General Assembly meeting and welcomed the participants. In her Coordinator's report, she presented Laserlab-Europe activities at the management level, including the extension of the duration of the project by one year as well as introducing new board members elected in 2022. A summary of progress during the third year of the project followed this introduction.

Access Activities

Pascal D'Oliveira, the chair of the Access Board, presented the Laserlab-Europe V access programme and the achievements so far.

The access activity has been strongly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions. During the past year, the activities have slightly caught up and the overall delay was reduced. However, at month 33.5, the access programme is still 10.5 months behind schedule (613 days). The number of projects carried out remotely represents 24%, as compared to 61% at the time of the first periodic report (1.5 years ago). This decrease shows that remote access still can be useful but that in-person access is largely preferred, equally by users and host lab.

The Access Board regularly monitors the access activities and prepares a reallocation strategy, based on actual performances and forecasts, to be agreed by the General Assembly in spring 2023.

User feedback

The user feedback questionnaire assesses the users' satisfaction with various components of the access programme, from access publicity, proposal submission and selection procedure to services provided by the host facility. Since the start of the project, 48 questionnaires on completed projects have been received and analysed. The services of Laserlab-Europe are considered "good" or "very good" by a very large majority of our users. As compared to previous Laserlab-Europe projects, the user satisfaction for Laserlab-Europe V is at its highest.



Joint Research Activities

Joachim Hein and Lucia Gardini, the latter replacing the Coordinator of the ALTIS JRA, gave summaries of the scientific progress and highlights of the two JRAs:

- Primary and Secondary Sources – PRISES (Coordinator: Joachim Hein HIJ)
- Advanced Laser-based Techniques for Imaging and Spectroscopy in material science and biomedicine – ALTIS (Coordinator: Francesco Pavone LENS)

Both JRAs had faced delays due to the Covid-19 restrictions, and deliverables had to be postponed. Meanwhile, scientific progress has caught up and the JRA participants met at the Joint JRA Meeting in June 2022, either in person or online, to discuss about task achievements and increasing collaboration. Task presentations are available in the Laserlab-Europe cloud.

Networking

The chair of the Networking Board, Dusan Chorvat, reported on a recent Networking Board meeting. Together with several leaders of networking work packages, he presented the progress to date of each work package. A few examples are given below.

- Following the successful experience with online formats, several activities have continued and expanded using this option. A new series of Laserlab-Europe talks has been started in early 2022 with regular public online talks held by Laserlab-Europe scientists. The talks are widely announced within the community and recordings are put on the Laserlab-Europe YouTube channel.
- Social media usage has been extended with accounts on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.
- The collaboration with neighbouring scientific communities has continued, in particular through the joint organisation of the Science@FELs conference 2022, for which Laserlab-Europe is participating in the programme committee.
- Following the online workshop of the *Network on Extreme Intensity Laser Systems* (NEILS) held in November 2021, that addressed operation in times of a pandemic and provided an opportunity for new facilities to present themselves, an in-person meeting is under preparation for spring 2023. It will allow for active participation and in-depth discussion of practical operational problems and possible solutions, which is the main benefit of the NEILS network meetings.
- The *Network on Data Analysis in Imaging and Spectroscopy* (NAIS) held online meetings and jointly organised a second online hands-on user training event, this time addressing “Data Analysis for Charged Particle Imaging and Spectroscopy”.
- The *Network on Data Management* (NEDA) has drafted a Laserlab-Europe Data Policy template that partners who do not yet have an institutional data policy can use. The template was iterated within Laserlab-Europe and is now available on the webpage. In addition, an online workshop on electronic lab books is under preparation for early 2023.
- Within the foresight and sustainability activities, a laser landscape analysis and roadmap is under preparation as a joint activity between Laserlab-Europe and ELI. Two surveys have been launched to identify the user needs and to understand the laser RI landscape in Europe. A first draft of the landscape analysis has been presented at a side-event to the International Conference on Research Infrastructures (ICRI2022) in Brno, Czech Republic, in October 2022. The final roadmap document will be prepared for spring 2023.
- In the work package on Innovation Management and Industry Relations, Laserlab-Europe acts mainly as a facilitator for promoting local and/or national access opportunities for industrial users. Following up on the successful online workshop “Lasers Fighting Cancer” in 2021, an online event within the series of Laserlab-Europe talks was organised focussing on “Next generation imaging and image-guided diagnosis and therapy for cancer” with speakers from Laserlab-Europe, from a



company and from an international medical institution. Another Laserlab-Europe online event targeting industrial partners addressed “Lasers and batteries”.

Administrative issues

In order to fulfil the new requirement of submitting an annual estimate of the cumulative expenses, which was introduced with the extension of the project by one year, financial estimates have been collected from the participants. The budget forecast for month 36, corresponding to 60% of the project’s duration, shows expenses amounting to 49% of the project budget. Presumably, the amount is slightly underestimated as not all partners included forecasts as requested.

The second periodic report, covering 18 months from June 2021 until November 2022, will be due at the end of January 2023. Templates for the financial statements and the different parts of the report have been provided and inputs will be collected and compiled through the well-established procedures and management structures.

By month 34, twelve deliverables for networking activities, eleven deliverables for JRA tasks and six deliverables on ethical aspects have been submitted. The next deadline for deliverables is month 36 (end of November), when two networking deliverables and nine JRA deliverables will be due. Templates have been provided.

4 Summary

The Laserlab-Europe Annual Meeting 2022 was the first annual meeting held in person since the start of the pandemic. This allowed for many discussions and personal interactions and triggered much more exchange between the participants in the project as compared to the online meetings held during the past two years. The Annual Meeting was also an important opportunity for the participants to discuss in detail about future joint activities and learn about tasks in which they are not personally involved.



Group picture



5 Agenda

1. **Welcome and formalities**
Attendance, rules of procedure, agenda
2. **Status of Laserlab-Europe V - Coordinator's report**
3. **Report on Access Activities**
4. **Report on JRA**
5. **Report on Networking**
 - 5.1 WP2 Publicity, Dissemination and Community Support
 - 5.2 WP3 Scientific and Technological Exchanges
 - 5.3 WP4 Training and Development of User Communities
 - 5.4 WP5 Access Management and Monitoring Infrastructure-Users Connections
 - 5.5 WP6 Foresight and Sustainability Activities
 - 5.6 WP7 International Relations
 - 5.7 WP8 Innovation Management and Industry Relations
6. **Administrative issues**
 - 6.1 Financial status of the project
 - 6.2 Second periodic report
7. **AOB, date and location of next meeting**

