



## THE CHALLENGE

European researchers need effective and convenient access to the best research infrastructures in order to conduct research for the advancement of knowledge and technology. To inform policy and contribute to blue growth, we must bring together, integrate on a European scale, and open up key national and regional marine biological *Research Infrastructures* (RIs) to all researchers, from both academia and industry, ensuring their optimal use and joint development.

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## PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Building on the success of its predecessor *ASSEMBLE* (2009-2014), **ASSEMBLE Plus** aims to bring together and integrate highly-diverse key national and regional RIs in Europe. Access to the RIs will be made available to all researchers within the marine biology, biomedical or biotechnology sector, from both academia and industry, ensuring their optimal use and joint development.

## AT A GLANCE

**PROGRAMME:** Horizon 2020  
(INFRAIA-01-2016-2017)

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**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and  
Innovation Action

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**DURATION:** October 2017 – September  
2021 (48 months)

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**CONSORTIUM:** 24 partners from 16  
countries

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**COORDINATOR:** Sorbonne Université  
(SU), France



## TYPES OF RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

**ASSEMBLE Plus** will provide scientists from academia, industry and policy with a quality-assured programme of *Transnational Access* (TA) and *Virtual Access* (VA) to over 30 marine research installations covering:



### ACCESS TO ECOSYSTEMS

research vessels,  
SCUBA diving facilities,  
submersibles



### BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

marine model organisms,  
culture collections, biobanks



### TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS

molecular biology and -omics  
imaging, bioassays, structural  
& chemical analysis



### EXPERIMENTAL FACILITIES

tanks, mesocosms,  
bioreactors, wet & dry  
labs



### E-INFRASTRUCTURE

data sets, data analysis,  
computing, storage

A coherent series of *Networking Activities* (NA) will also strengthen the culture of cooperation within and beyond the consortium, providing benchmarks for refined practices of service provision, disseminating interoperable protocols, engaging with novel user communities, and sharing insights into business strategies. *Joint Research Activities* (JRA) have been included in **ASSEMBLE Plus**, to foster mobility and the sharing of experience, and to implement best practice guidelines across the consortium.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

- Wider and more efficient TA and VA to the best European marine biological research infrastructures
- Strengthened transnational and multi-disciplinary networks
- Creation of public-private partnerships
- Engagement of industry
- Creation of new enabling technologies and increased service offers
- Upskilled researchers with capacity in new areas
- Increased number of excellent science publications
- Improved long-term sustainability of marine biological stations

## CONSORTIUM 24 PARTNERS & >30 ACCESS PROVIDERS

- A** Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ)
- B** University of Helsinki (UH)
- C** Sorbonne Université (SU)
- D** Alfred-Wegener-Institut für Polar-und-Meeresforschung (AWI)
- E** Max Planck Institute (MPIIMM)
- F** Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR)
- G** National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG)
- H** AquaTT UETP CLG
- I** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJI)
- J** Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn di Napoli (SZN)
- K** Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ)
- L** Universitetet i Bergen (UIB)
- M** Institute of Oceanology Polish Academy of Sciences (IOPAN)
- N** University of Gdansk (UG)
- O** Algarve Centre for Marine Sciences (CCMAR)
- P** National Institute of Biology (NIB)
- Q** University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)
- R** Göteborg University (UGOT)
- S** Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS)
- T** The University Court of the University of St Andrews (USTAN)
- U** Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom (MBA)
- V** Natural Environment Research Council, British Antarctic Survey (NERC-BAS)
- W** Marine Scotland - Science (MSS)
- X** Tritonia Scientific Ltd. (TSL)
- Orange dot** Access Providers
- Blue dot** Partners
- Blue/Orange dot** Partners and Access Providers



Find out more:  
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