ASSEMBLE+

ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES EXPANDED

Acronym: ASSEMBLE Plus

Title: Association of European Marine Biological Laboratories Expanded

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Deliverable D32.8

Final year assessment report on VA users by international review panel
November 2022

Lead parties for Deliverable: VLIZ
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GENERAL DATA

Acronym: **ASSEMBLE Plus**

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WP Lead Beneficiary	VLIZ
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Dissemination Type

Report	☒
Websites, patent filling, etc.	☐
Ethics	☐
Open Research Data Pilot (ORDP)	☐
Demonstrator	☐
Other	☐

Dissemination Level

Public	☒
Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	☐

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Document properties

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Version	1

Abstract

This is the final assessment of the international panel on the Virtual Access provision of ASSEMBLE Plus (from the beginning of the project to the end of the project). The deliverable D32.4 forms the main input to this panel.

1. Introduction

This deliverable is an assessment of the Virtual Access provided within the ASSEMBLE Plus project, which is available via the website of the project at www.assembleplus.eu. The first report on virtual access and its subsequent assessment report were submitted as the deliverables D32.3 (*3rd year access report on VA-users*) and D32.7 (*3rd-year assessment report by international review panel*), respectively, these covering the first half of the ASSEMBLE Plus project. The virtual access report for the second half of the project is described in the deliverable D32.4 (*Final year access report on VA-users*) and it is to that report which this one (D32.8) is responding.

For the purposes of the final evaluation of the provision of Virtual Access, a panel of reviewers (internal and external to the consortium) and experts has been created. The panel consist of the following members:

- From ASSEMBLE Plus, as a work-package participant or from one of the partners:
    - Cymon J. Cox (ASSEMBLE Plus partner), Centro de Ciências do Mar (CCMAR)
    - Dan Lear (ASSEMBLE Plus partner), Marine Biological Association (MBA)
    - Davide Di Cioccio (ASSEMBLE Plus WP2 participant, EMBRC-ERIC)
- From outside of ASSEMBLE Plus:
    - Erwan Corre (EMBRC partner), Station Biologique de Roscoff (SBR)
    - Juan Miguel González-Aranda (LifeWatch ERIC), LifeWatch HQ, Seville, Spain
    - Mark Hoebeke (EMBRC partner), Station Biologique de Roscoff (SBR)

The comments from the panel on the first virtual access report (D32.3) were responded to in the second virtual access report (D32.4).

2. Evaluation of Virtual Access to ASSEMBLE Plus outputs

A question was raised about the schemas and formats that metadata for data records are exported: EML, which is a set of XML schemata and not a schema of its own, was mentioned but not other formats. Neither information about how to access these webservices of IMIS was mentioned. This issue was then addressed by Katrina Exter and incorporated in an updated version of D32.4.

3. Evaluation of Virtual Access to scientific data tools, aka Virtual Research Environments (VREs)

The tools included in the Marine VRE are not part of a Virtual Research Environment (for example, they need to be accessed individually or downloaded to a user's own environment). The Marine VRE is therefore not strictly speaking a "VRE". This issue was addressed by Katrina Exter and incorporated in an updated version of D32.4: the comment is a valid one, but fortunately the other initiatives mentioned – the LifeWatch Internal Joint Initiative and MetaGoflow – are both closer to being true VREs.

4. Evaluation of the response to the comments from D32.7

The response to the comments made by the panellists in the review D32.7 and incorporated in D32.4 are all accepted.