



D 3.6 Report: First activity report of Activity 3.8



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1. INTRODUCTION

The deliverable 3.6 was planned to be released within the framework of the ITINERIS project and it is part of the activities of the Work Package (WP)3 concerning the activities organized in the first year of the project by all the OUs involved in Activity 3.8.

This deliverable was expected to be released in Bimester 6 and to be included into the Intermediate Objective 3.3 of bimester 6; it is produced under the responsibility of the Operative Unit (OU) of the National Research Council, Research Institute on Terrestrial Ecosystems (CNR-IRET).

The main aim of the deliverable 3.6 is to provide a general overview of the training program as planned in Activity 3.8 designed by the Operative Units of WP3 in the first year of the project.

The document is structured in 3 chapters, including this chapter. Chapter 2 describes all the activities carried out and the description of the courses proposed for the Activity 3.8. At the end, Chapter 4 presents the list of acronyms used in the report.

2. TRAINING PROGRAMME DEVELOPED IN THE FIRST YEAR

During the first year of the project, temporary personnel with a level III Technologist profile hired in Activities 3.1-3.5 have been developed, under the supervision of OU CNR-IRET, the relative WP coordinators and the WP3 PhD programmes coordinators or University responsible for ITINERIS, a detailed training programme identifying for each course proposes a complete list of details such as course descriptions with learning objectives, course location, lesson duration, training modules, assigned teachers, Syllabus.

To facilitate communication and collaboration within WP 3, the CNR-IRETLE Operational Unit (OU) has created, within the LifeWatch Italy Community platform, a digital space dedicating a Working Group folder. This folder was used as a central hub for information sharing and discussion among key personnel of WP3, i.e. RTD and WP co-ordinators, the WP3 PhD programmes coordinators or University responsible for ITINERIS using the facilities included in the platform such as calendar, Repository area, Wiki, Forum a brainstorming area (Mural) are available to all the WG members.

Despite the commitment of the units of personnel involved, the training courses and resources for Activity 3.8 scheduled have not yet been released due to the delays in the recruitment process of the fixed-term personnel responsible of the training activities in WP3 and the personnel that shall be subject to the training; besides the duration of the selections, in many cases the lack of candidates suitable for the specifications required by the calls led to the need to re-publish the procedures. However, these delays will not affect the quantity and quality of the training courses that will be delivered to the trainees in ITINERIS and to the organization of the courses and the selection of highly qualified trainers. The training programme will be compressed in the second half of ITINERIS workplan with a total of 6 courses that will be delivered starting from December 2024 or January 2025. It will be needed to extend the project timeline to ensure an execution of all planned activities, i.e. the remaining 2 summer/winter schools.

The courses scheduled are listed and described in the following paragraphs meanwhile the course calendar is already described in “Deliverable 3.2 - Report Training Executive Working Plan for the second year”, and the complete and updated list of courses, with precise details of dates, times, and delivery methods, it will be available in the dedicated sections of the ITINERIS training platform. Please note that the training program may be subject to modifications based on a reassessment of the training needs of the participating research infrastructures and personnel. This could involve changes to the course structure, content, period or the composition of participants and tutors.

The delivery of Reports and Deliverables planned are released on time, reporting the motivation of the absence of courses in the first year of the project and reporting the list of the courses that were planned and that will be delivered to the trainees during the second year / beginning of third year of the project.

2.1 Training activities for Activity 3.8

The OU responsible for Activity 3.8 has developed the training program dedicated to RIs employees to communication science. The program consists of six courses to provide the participants with skills necessary to effectively communicate scientific research results to different types of audiences using poster, graphs, oral communication and other innovative services and devices. The courses have been developed considering the importance of being able to communicate science in an effective way, adapting the content according to the different levels of education and skills of the target communities. Furthermore, the courses have the characteristic of having a more transversal approach with respect to the scientific Domains compared to what was previously planned in the first draft of the training programme.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

Course N.1

Title: Communicating science in a fun way: principles and foundations

Description: This course will allow the staff of the research infrastructures to use communication tools more effectively, enabling them to communicate their research lines in a clear and engaging way, reaching a wide and diverse audience. Among the main topics of the course, the main storytelling techniques will be provided to keep the public's attention high.

Course N.2

Title: Multidisciplinary science communication: a bridge to bring science to people

Description: This course focuses on the defining of target audience, giving and improving the skills to identify and use the best communication strategy based on the audience you have in front of you. Furthermore, it will be discussed how to develop a communication plan that presents information and updates on the research lines of the RIs in the most suitable way to the target stakeholders.

Course N.3

Title: Scientific journalism and narrative

Description: This course concerns the fundamental principles for creating engaging stories to be included in magazines, newspaper articles, as well as in the communication areas of RI websites. Furthermore, another objective of the course is to improve the ability to manage an interview both as a guest and as an interviewer in order to produce interesting scientific content with a high communicative impact.

Course N.4

Title: The art of presentation design: A guide for creating effective communication and presentation events

Description: The course aims to illustrate the principles and good practices in visual and oral communication. The course will cover fundamental topics of visual design, composition rules and visual hierarchy. You will use graphic design software and learn to design components for presentations, posters and web services. The course will also focus on innovative engagement techniques specifically designed to capture the audience's attention in exhibition settings.

Course N.5

Title: Science communication in the Digital Era: Podcasting

Short Description: Learn to craft engaging narratives, master audio production, and effectively communicate complex ideas to diverse audiences. As a scientist, discover how to leverage podcasting to bridge the gap between science and society in the digital age. Course that will allow the participants to explore and learn some of the best-known software for creating linear and non-linear online presentations. During the educational path, after sessions in which the characteristics of the software and some implementation strategies will be introduced and illustrated, it will be up to the participants, through individual and group work, to create presentations that are captivating and that can keep the public's attention high.

Course N.6

Title: Science communication in the Digital Era: Social Media

Description: Course that allows to gain a deeper understanding of how communicating research activity is a fundamental skill for anyone who works in the scientific field. The course focuses on specific aspects of science communication including digital social communication through the most popular social networks (YouTube, Instagram, Tik Tok, Facebook, X) and the creation of digital communication contents.

Course N.7

Title: Scientific communication toward stakeholders and public

Description: This intensive course offers an important opportunity for personnel of RIs who have participated to some of the previous courses (N1-N6) to test their acquired skills in science communication. Participants will be called upon to give lectures on their research lines, addressing an audience of stakeholders chosen between teachers and students of primary and secondary schools.

Course N.8

Title: Citizens in science for a healthier and more sustainable global Earth system

Description: This intensive course allows the personnel of RIs to utilize the principles and practices of effective science communication learned in courses (N1-N6) in the context of lessons on global health and sustainability to a target public composed by teachers and students of primary and secondary schools and citizens interested in the themes. Participants will explain the key concepts of environmental research lines and their relevance respect to global health and sustainability translating complex scientific concepts into clear and engaging messages for the audiences.

2.2 ITINERIS Semantic training platform

Activity 3.8 included also a component dedicated to the finalization of the terms of reference for the development of the ITINERIS Semantic training platform and the semantic contents dedicated

to the transfer of knowledge to the stakeholders. This development included the acquisition resources in terms of software, licenses and hardware to facilitate the RIs employees on communication science, who were trained during the advanced courses planned, to engage the stakeholders, such as schools' students and teachers, by promoting collaborative activities with new technological approaches

Due to the difficulties listed in Chapter 1, the development and launch of the tender for ITINERIS Semantic training platform was still not possible.

3. LIST OF ACRONYMS

FAIR: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable

OU: Operative Unit

RI: Research Infrastructure

WP: Work Package