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WP1 DIALOGUE AND PARTICIPATION

SCIENTIFIC COORDINATION REPORT 2

ASSET Project • Grant Agreement N°612236

ASSET

Action plan on SiS related issues in Epidemics And Total Pandemics

7th RTD framework programme

Theme: [SiS.2013.1.2-1 Sis.2013.1.2-1]

Responsible partner: **Istituto Superiore di Sanità (P8 ISS)**

Contributing partners: **All Consortium Members**

Nature: **Report**

Dissemination: **PU**

Contractual delivery date: **2016-12-31 (m36)**

Submission Date: **2017-02-27 (m38)**

This project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 612236



co-funded by the EU. GA: 612236

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DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

PROJECT FULL TITLE	Action plan on SiS related issues in Epidemics And Total Pandemics
PROJECT ACRONYM	ASSET
	Coordination and Support Action: project funded under Theme SiS.2013.1.2 “Mobilisation and Mutual Learning (MML) Action Plans”
GRANT AGREEMENT	612236
STARTING DATE	01/01/2014
DURATION	48 months

D1.7 Scientific Coordination Report 2

Task: T1.4 Scientific Coordination

Leader: Istituto Superiore di Sanità (P8 ISS) – Other contributors: All Consortium Members

History of changes:

Vn	Status	Date	Organisation / Person responsible	Reason for Change
V1	Draft	18/02/2017	P8 ISS	% advancement per WP and Task to be updated
V2	Revised Draft	27/02/2017	P8 ISS	Version with and without % advancement per WP and Task



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The present scientific coordination report provides an in-depth assessment of the whole project according to its own progress and achievements developed within the timeframe M19-M36.

In particular, all Work Packages (WP) and Tasks (T) that have been active in the reference period are described in the way as follows:

- 1) Actors involved, start and end month, % of advancement;
- 2) at Project and WP levels:
 - Work progress and achievements overall;
- 3) at Task level:
 - Progress made towards the objectives,
 - Significant results obtained and Key findings.



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INTRODUCTION

This document is the second scientific coordination report covering the second 18 months of the project. In the ASSET framework, scientific coordination is thought as basing on participatory methods and inclusive dialogue among all the project partners. In this perspective, the D1.7 results from the constructive and constant cooperation intra-consortium, primarily between scientific coordinator, WP leaders and project manager.

Work progress and major achievements during the period M19-M36

Work progress and overall achievements for the project

Actually it can be stated that the initial six-month delay impacted mostly on the first year and a half of the ASSET lifecycle and only some tasks were further delayed as than expected (it is the case of WP3 actions, e.g. the Strategic Plan supposed to be delivered at month 18 and then effectively released in September 2015). Given the ‘communication’ nature of the ASSET project, a relevant issue is the maximisation, in terms of efficiency and effectiveness, of internal communication among the partners that is fully supported by a web based Community of Practice (CoP). It is revealing to be a reliable tool ensuring a good circulation and sharing of information, data, documents, etc. on general and specific topics –per WP and even per single task– as well as guaranteeing long discussions and articulated interactions among consortium members, which are daily reported in messages which all partners receive in their private mailbox. To complete this toolbox that serves as forging a partnership and promoting the consortium capacity building, beside the ‘Glossary of terms’ built for a common language to be used, the ‘Virtual Cluster for MMLAP’ is also hosted on the same web platform, that includes other groups’ spaces, like the ‘External Advisory Board’ place could be an example.

After the broad recognition on the existing research and studies about pandemics that has been carried out within the second WP according to the 6 main components of RRI (governance, unsolved scientific questions; crisis participatory governance; ethical, legal and societal implications; gender pattern; risk of intentionally caused outbreaks), the main critical aspects that emerged have been considered as priority starting points for the Strategic Plan and the RRI Roadmap as well as for other prominent MML activities’ milestones (Action Plan and Toolkit).

The core of the time interval July 2015-December 2016 was represented by the citizen consultation that was carried out in eight countries to gather opinions, feelings and thoughts of lay public on five selected questions of interest to the ASSET project. Beside this key action, other highly characterizing activities started: mobilizing people and fostering mutual learning accordingly. They are made of three fundamental vectors: social media coverage, implementation of a best/promising practices platform and a related stakeholders’ portal, development of twelve local initiatives in just as many cities.

In terms of policy watch, the High Level Policy Forum promoted its second physical meeting in Copenhagen and planned the third one in Brussels bringing together European policy and decision makers and letting them reasoning on EU strategic priorities about pandemics. Furthermore, the Pandemic Preparedness and



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Response Bulletin is being periodically sent out to the ASSET wider stakeholder community and to relevant public health authorities, and published on the website.

The ASSET web portal, a multilayer open web infrastructure, hosts several ‘soft’ materials (beside the mentioned Bulletin, also the Research and Innovation Newsletter, scientific papers, interviews, science pillows, data visualisation and other more) and ‘hard’ structures such as results from the public consultations, the practice platform and stakeholder portal, the sex & gender platform, press releases and review, the pages on Summer School editions.

After 36 months of activities, the ASSET actors mainly focused on three out of the four foreseen objectives: 1) run a participatory and inclusive strategy to improve dialogical communication to succeed with crisis management, 2) recognise SiS-related issues in global emergencies, 3) once identified critical aspects, propose and bring them to the attention of stakeholders, scientific community, decision makers and citizens for improving preparedness and response in pandemics or public health crisis emergencies.

ASSET is further developing a pathway to incorporate SiS issues and to make aware European citizens of those both by creating channels to enable them to realise concepts correctly and accredited sources and by opening discussions with the scientific community and main stakeholders at different levels to highlight the best options that can support such processes.

A large amount of tools and products are being created and made available progressively on the web portal to witness and substantiate societal implications, research and innovation related to pandemics. As well as the Action Plan and public consultations’ packages have been developed, all MML actions (social networks’ monitoring and analysis, practices and stakeholders’ portals, local initiatives) are going on.

Beyond specific tasks’ implementation, much effort has been dedicated to identify and categorise a wide mailing list of over 7,000 international stakeholders who are considered relevant in the field of interest. For the sake of an improved effectiveness, a tailored activity is addressed to share specific communication outputs according to the role of recipients.



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WP1: DIALOGUE & PARTICIPATION

WP Leader: NCIPD

Start month: m1 (January 2014)

End month: m48 (December 2017)

Efforts reported: xx p*m – **Actual Progress:** 88%

Work progress and overall achievements for the WP

In the project timeslot 19M-36M, WP1 constantly developed the work on the virtual MMLAP cluster, the support ensured to the CoP in general plus all the effort on Scientific Coordination of the project overall. Participatory methods and an open dialogue among Partners, as well as between the scientific coordinator and all WP leaders, have been carried on. Feedback and suggestions to task leaders and task contributors were provided as necessary. Generally speaking, careful and comprehensive overlooking of workflow on all tasks has been provided.

It has been followed an inclusive approach, involving open discussion on the CoP platform and its own forums and, where it was more appropriate, per e-mail. Anyway, the privileged approach goes in the direction of sharing all ideas and input on the internal web portal so that a transparent and really enriching conversation can be sustained. The Scientific Coordinator has worked in strict and continuous contact with the Project Coordinator and Manager. During the second half of 2016, particular attention has also been paid to focus on the transition from FP7 to H2020, working on designing a new proposal for applying in 2017.

A separate work Package Leaders/Project Executive Board area on the CoP platform has been established and an open discussion among WP leaders for suggestions of External Advisory Board members has been initiated. EAB meetings have been arranged but it is very difficult to make busy people participate in physical reunions, so that a reinforcing strategy has been thought for 2017.

In spite of some difficulties occurring in some specific tasks' implementation not depending on partners' actions but for external causes, a good flow of the project can be reported due to a constant and effective overlooking and invitation to contribute and collaborate. In December 2016, the scientific coordinator changed but this issue did not impact on the task evolution (SC).

More details are provided below with regards to the progress made towards the objectives, significant outcomes and major achievements, separately for each task in WP1.

T1.3 Project Infrastructure

Task leader: ZADIG

Contributors: ABSISKEY, ISS

Start: m2 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 66%

Progress towards objectives

The ASSET Community of Practice (CoP) The web platform for the ASSET Community of Practice (CoP; **Figure 1. Home page of the ASSET Community of Practice web platform**, <http://community.asset-scienceinsociety.eu/>) has strengthened its crucial role in supporting internal communication flows among the several project partners: new areas, folders and tools have been created to facilitate a better and more efficient exchange among participants, and discussion have been very useful and productive for the implementation of some project activities. The presence and



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the work of a dedicated tutor revealed to be crucial in helping participants to use tools: discussion threads and documents are made available in a more efficient manner in order to be easily retrieved. As shown by statistics generated, the CoP use by partners is mainly focused on exchange ideas and insights as well as documents and information on discussion forums (both general and specific per/WP).

The MMLAP virtual cluster Besides this main role internally the Consortium, the CoP has widened its function since access to the platform has been extended to selected external stakeholders. As it is also shown in the Figure 3, three bottoms – last row – have been added: a MMLAP virtual cluster, the High Level Policy Forum (HLFP) area and the External Advisory Board (EAB) space.

MMLAP area was activated in October 2015 (two webinars for MMLAP projects there organised on 3rd June and on 7th July 2015). The MMLAP Area contains a Forum for the exchange and discussion of best practice about the involvement of stakeholders in the scientific issues, and a Database for gathering useful documents (reference documents and outputs of the involved projects). Except for ASSET, 8 projects agreed to be part of the Platform: GAP2 (<http://gap2.eu>), PERARES (<http://www.livingknowledge.org/livingknowledge/perares>), BEWATER (<http://www.bewaterproject.eu/>), R&Dialogue (<http://www.rndialogue.eu/>), Siforage (<http://www.siforage.eu/>), Syn-Energene (<http://www.synenergene.eu/>), Satori (<http://satoriproject.eu/>), RRI-Tools (<http://www.rri-tools.eu/>).

Significant results / Key findings

The web based Community of Practice

It has been demonstrated that the CoP is very useful, indeed, in sharing deadlines for highly cooperative tasks and on complex issues which, for instance, require creation of boards and committees, portals or platforms. The CoP activities got a general good trend in Months 19-36 gaining an average of 100 posts each quarter, a little decrease is observable during summer months as well. The CoP was also pretty effective in supporting some actions' implementation: for instance, development of Action Plan and its elements (WP3 tools) or planning and coordination of such activities as citizen consultations or local initiatives. It is confirmed as a highly effective detail the utility that generates daily digests automatically which are received by all registered members in their own mailbox.

Another important repository is represented by the section "Events" (the second button on the first row in the Figure 3) that gathered and shared materials used for several project occasions –only those encompassed within 19-36M here follow:

- Geneva festival (30 July 2016);
- Summer School editions (21-24 September 2015, 15-17 June 2016);
- Consortium and associated PEB meetings (25 September 2015, 14 June 2016);
- EAB meetings (3 February 2016, 14 June 2016);
- Meetings of High Level Policy Forum (Copenhagen, 15 January 2016)
- Set of workshops to prepare Citizens consultations (Copenhagen, 26-27 November 2015 and 21-23 November 2016);



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Seminar “Lessons learned for public health from the Ebola outbreak in West Africa”, organized by the EC Directorate on General Health (12-14 October 2015).

The MMLAP virtual cluster About the MMLAP virtual cluster, the work done in 2016 was actually dedicated to find other projects to be invited and to let them join in the discussion but it seems that this reference model for projects was abandoned in Horizon 2020. This is the reason why it has been thought to finalise a different strategic positioning, and to extend the invitation to all programs which can share issues or methods relevant to be shared with ASSET project.

When the MMLAP Area was activated 8 projects joined in the Forum and started the discussion on MMLAP strategies basically. In light of the mentioned attempt of repositioning the strategy overall, task leaders want to stimulate the Forum by sharing documents and inputs on ASSET key issues (an example could be ethical issues or insights raised by citizens consultations delivered in September 2016).

T1.4 Scientific Coordination

Task leader: ISS

Contributors: NCIPD, HU, TIEMS, DBT, ZADIG, VITAMIB

Start: m1 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 76%

Progress towards objectives

The Scientific Coordination (SC) is a complex task that the Scientific Coordinator is in charge of delivering in collaboration with WP Leaders Board and the External Advisory Board (EAB). Additionally, the SC is exploited in constant cooperation with the Quality Manager (officer from ZADIG) and the Project Manager (representative of ABSISKEY).

In relation to the Figure 3 shown here above, a dedicated area for work package leaders has been reserved on the CoP platform. In that way, communication to and from the Scientific Coordinator have been facilitated and improved in terms of efficiency and effectiveness.

It has been previously documented at results achieved on T1.3 that Consortium and associated PEB meetings (25 September 2015, 14 June 2016) and EAB meetings (3 February 2016, 14 June 2016) were held as well as virtual conferences, where appropriate, according to –either plenary or partial– necessity due to the implementation of ongoing activities.

Significant results / Key findings

The four WP3 tasks were still slightly affected by the initial six-month delay: it was decided in fact to postpone D3.1, D3.2 and D3.3 three months (the first two deliverables from M18 to M21 and the third one from M21 to M24). D3.4 – instead of M24 – was initially supposed to be finalised at M27 and finally M33. Anyway, even in this changing scenario it was evident the key role played by the huge communication exchange supported on the web-based Community of Practice and under the supervision of the Scientific Coordinator. As it has been reported in Table 2, 18 deliverables were produced in the project timeframe M19-M36.



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Table 1. List of Deliverables due within M19-M36 interval

N of deliverable	Title of deliverable	Issuer	M of delivery
D1.4	Project Infrastructure Report 2	ZADIG	36
D1.7	Scientific Coordination Report 2	ISS	36
D3.1	Strategic Plan	ISS	21
D3.2	Roadmap to Open and Responsible Research and Innovation in Pandemics	BYOPOLE	21
D3.3	Action Plan Handbook	ZADIG	24
D3.4	ASSET Tool Box	TIEMS	33 (27)
D4.1	Citizens Meeting Preparatory Materials	DBT	30
D4.2	Citizens Meeting National Materials	DBT	32
D4.3	Policy Report on Pandemic Consultation	DBT	38 (36)
D6.2	High Level Policy Forum Report 2	TIEMS	36
D6.5	Pandemic Preparedness and Response Bulletin Report 2	ISS	36
D7.3	Web Portal Report 1	ZADIG	24
D7.5	Media Report 1	ZADIG	24
D7.7	Science Communication Report 1	PROLEPSIS	24
D7.9	Summer School Report 1	ISS	24
D7.15	Geneva Music & Science Festival Report	DMI	36
D8.2	Project Quality Report 2	ZADIG	36
D8.6	Ex Post Evaluation Report 2	ABYSISKEY	36

A Logical Framework was set up to provide the project with a strong evidence based indicators dashboard data from WP Leaders have been collected to produce the final version of the project Logical Framework document. All the recommendations coming from the first Independent External Evaluators (IEE) have been analysed in a participated (EAB, WP leaders) way and then implemented to strengthen the project activities.



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WP3 ACTION PLAN DEFINITION

WP Leader: TIEMS

Start month: m13 (January 2015)

End month: originally - m27 (March 2016); lately – m33 (September 2016)

Efforts reported: xxxp*m – **Actual Progress:** 100%

Work progress and overall achievements for the WP

The third WP started in the last two months of the first reporting period. This part of project aimed to define the overall architecture of the Action Plan, a roadmap towards the incorporation of user-driven open innovation in the area of pandemic preparedness and response, a handbook of the action including also detailed timetable and a collection of tools for its implementation. Being ASSET a MMLAP, it can be stated that the present WP (on Action Plan definition) and the fifth one (about MML) are the real core of the whole project. As it is shown in Table 1, the four WP3 deliverables were postponed in comparison with original deadlines and completed within the M21-M33.

The ASSET Strategic Plan focuses several types of activities (face-to-face interactions, online forums, and media/social media) on six lines of action to (1) improve trust in authorities, (2) engage the public with the research community, (3) increase pandemic awareness among health care workers and the public, (4) engage all stakeholders in discussion of ethical best practices, (5) improve vaccination rates among women, and better representation in clinical trials, and (6) develop standardized policies for preparedness and response to intentionally caused outbreaks.

The Roadmap suggests activities within and after the ASSET project to rethink the research process, better include key players, improve communication and education, and neutralize negative side effects of Patient and Public Involvement (PPI).

The other two WP3 deliverables, D3.3 Handbook and D3.4 Tool Box, were developed both to (1) support implementation of the Strategic Plan and Roadmap and (2) to take advantage, as much as possible, of tools which have previously been developed, for example in the TELL ME and ECOM projects. These Handbook and Toolbox have been strongly considered in consultation with their intended users, with the policymakers and other stakeholders who are possible to be involved and engaged in by their use.

More details are provided below with regards to the progress made towards the objectives, significant outcomes and major achievements, separately for each task in WP3.

T3.1 Strategic Plan

Task leader: ISS

Contributors: LYON, PROLEPSIS, EIWH, DBT, FFI, IPRI, NCIPD, TIEMS, DMI, UMFCD, HU, ZADIG

Start: m13 – **End:** m21

Actual progress: 100%

Progress towards objectives

The ASSET Strategic Plan (SP) is a high-level plan that aims at providing a framework for MML strategy and, consequently, for the actions and activities to be included in the MML Action Plan. The SP plays the crucial role in defining a clear focus not only for the actions to be carried out by ASSET members but also for relevant stakeholders, to engage societal actors in the research and innovation process, and to create equal conditions for citizen's engagement, possibly also including specific strategies into pandemic policies in the European members states. The SP offers a model



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of change so as to make it easier to acquire the mastery in terms of knowledge, attitudes and behaviors in case of a threat like a pandemic, to build a more resilient society. Consequently, the ASSET SP has at its core the development of citizens' awareness, empowerment and action on the responsible research and innovation (RRI) mainstreams (Governance, Unsolved Scientific Questions and Open Access to Scientific Outcome, Participatory Governance and Science Education, Ethics, Law and Fundamental Rights, Gender Issues, Intentionally Caused Outbreaks), by implementing instruments and tools of the mobilization and mutual learning approach.

As it has been stated within the general WP3 description, the completion of the Strategic Plan (SP) is particularly relevant for the tasks T3.2 (Roadmap to Open and Responsible Research and Innovation in Pandemics), T3.3 and T3.4 (Action Plan Handbook and Tool box) and for the entire WP4, concerning the citizens consultation.

Significant results / Key findings

The SP was issued in September 2015 (M21). According to the six RRI components, the SP enlisted priority topics for each strategic line identified. *Governance*: - Increasing the public's trust in policy makers regarding decisions on drugs and medicines, - Fostering the trust between policy makers, the media and the public by offering several opportunities to enhance two-way communication; *Unsolved Scientific Questions and Open Access to Scientific Outcome*: -Due to the many and very different issues it is not possible to design a unique and consistent strategy for the project ASSET to carry out for the unsolved question that will be tackled prospectively from the point of view of the different MMLAP instruments available (see the Strategic Plan); *Participatory Governance and Science Education*: - Developing capacity and increasing health-care workers influenza pandemic awareness, - Conducting information campaigns in the population, especially among high-risk groups, - Promoting a wide platform to mobilize and promote mutual learning of different stakeholders about the priority themes selected by the project; *Ethics, Law and Fundamental Rights*: - Promoting ethical best practices in the event of public health emergencies to be considered in addressing fundamental rights (e.g. restriction of personal freedoms), ethical issues (e.g. duty to provide care), societal issues (e.g. priority-setting) and political issues (e.g. international cooperation) in pandemic, - Defining strategies for involvement of civil society to contrast the actual one-way decision processes, particularly fostering the role of social networks to understand public perceptions and to disseminate information; *Gender Issues*: - Promoting population (and especially women's) and stakeholders knowledge and interest namely on the vaccine, for example in sex-specific effects in vaccine efficacy, and preparedness measures, - Mobilizing the research community to carry out specific and multidisciplinary studies on gender issues, such as women's experiences and attitudes to vaccinations uptake of vaccination; *Intentionally Caused Outbreaks*: - Promoting European Members Countries to endow themselves with policy documents regarding intentionally caused outbreaks to be handled under regular frameworks for outbreaks in the health sector, and law enforcement to be involved on an ad-hoc basis if necessary, - Ensuring the necessary freedom of research despite the potential two-edged sword, contributing to the publications and release of material that can aid malicious actors to obtain or produce agents suitable for ICOs can be a threat to societies.

T3.2 Roadmap to Open and Responsible Research and Innovation in Pandemics

Task leader: LYONBIOPOLE

Contributors: IPRI

Start: m13 – **End:** m21

Actual progress: 100%

Progress towards objectives

T3.2 was about designing a Roadmap towards responsible and open, citizens-driven, research and innovation on vaccines and antiviral drugs. The Roadmap complements the SP developed in T3.1 and was issued in coherence with the



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findings of the WP2 Deliverables, EU sources, patients' organisations and documents about SiS and RRI. It is supposed to answer the question to what extent, and according to which conditions, user innovation is possible in the field of research and innovation on epidemic infectious diseases prevention and response.

Significant results / Key findings

The main conclusions of the Roadmap towards best practices for the Patient and Public Involvement (PPI; patients, care givers, health researchers and patients' organizations) in biomedical research concerning pandemics take off from recognising an increased number of research programs involving patients, but a robust evidence on the PPI outcome is yet desirable. PPI could impact a research study at different levels, ranging from shaping research question to the choice of control arm, ethical issues and communication of the results.

The public collaboration in research should be systematic, start at the very beginning and last throughout all the research process, according to a modulated degree of involvement. Thus, appropriate actions need to be implemented, by sensitising stakeholders of public and private health research. Users involved in a research project should feel as independent intellectual co-owners so much that civil society representative should be active in the extraction of key points after general data collection, as well as in the interpretation of research results, especially those that have more impact on their daily life. A universal consensus terminology is needed both to clearly define levels and extent of patient's participation in a health-related research as well as to help in evaluating the impact of that.

To really implement PPI, a range of associations is crucial to be involved. First, general practitioners (GPs) can provide a unique expertise in some domain and that can also perform as an interface between professional researchers and civil society representatives, to such an extent that, in the field of pandemic prevention, new research network of GPs should be an integral part of projects. Other important key players are European and national associations of consumers: they have to be sensitised on risks of hypothetical influenza pandemics and relevance of their direct involvement in the related scientific and technological health research.

Mutual understanding between research and public health professional and civil society representative is fundamental for PPI: all participants should take a training course in this field preliminary to a PPI project and, as far as the set-up of validated and official internet sites should be encouraged, citizens have to be addressed in referring preferentially to these sources. Actions should be enacted to foster the internet-based dialogue between biomedical scientists and patients as well as general public, thus making internet and its social networks both the first stage of the PPI and a tool to develop it.

Development of collaborative structures should start with a research effort (of course in collaboration with civil society) on how to implement two-way public health decisions: another crux for PPI implementation is the civil society making aware scientists of problems, even "orphans", to be investigated. An action in this sense could be represented by introducing patients-reviewers for project design, scientific articles, grant applications. PPI projects should be evaluated in order to assess the value and impact of such partnerships, that implying availability both of validated specific measurement tools and of information to enrich methodological research on PPI.

T3.3 Action Plan Handbook

Task leader: ZADIG

Contributors: LYON, PROLEPSIS, EIWH, DBT, IPRI, NCIPD, TIEMS

Start: m19 – **End:** m24

Actual progress: 100%



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Progress towards objectives

The ASSET Action Plan Handbook is a concise and practical executive manual, which includes detailed description of MML actions and related responsibilities which several stakeholders have to be assigned. In this handbook, it is clearly and practically explained the contribution coming from ASSET to bring some SiS themes (e.g. ethical and gender issues, or transparency) into the public debate on pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response. First of all, the manual was designed grounding on objectives and strategies outlined by the D3.1 (Strategic Plan) and the D3.2 (Roadmap towards responsible and open, citizens-driven research and innovation on vaccines and antiviral drugs). Furthermore, the process of the Handbook contents planning and writing also considered reflections and discussions that took place in the ASSET consortium. Inputs and insights were required to the task contributors and generally to all partners, both on the CoP web platform, either by remote meetings and emails exchange. After a share path, the document was structured in a such way to be easily used more generally by interested stakeholders. The Handbook is a project milestone, then special attention was also devoted to the layout and pagination, not only to respond to aesthetic criteria, but above all to make it readable and easy to consulting.

Significant results / Key findings

The structure of the Action Plan Handbook is focused on the different targets of action. This choice aims at making it a practical and usable tool for stakeholders and other possible users, and could represent a model for future action plans, as well. The document is therefore made of 5 sections:

- in the first one, the 6 main themes of RRI that the project deals with (as well as its own SP) are presented;
- in the second, the 6 main targets of action are indicated. Some of the main challenges for them in the field of pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response are suggested, too;
- the third section does list concrete actions and activities to mobilise 6 main targets on the previous 6 themes;
- the fourth section includes a graphical synthesis of ASSET Action Plan by target, along with a more detailed timetable;

the fifth section specifies what the legacy of ASSET project can be, that is how this experience, its activities and tools could turn out to be useful for stakeholders after the project completion and which other actions could be finalised in another future H2020 project, which could benefit from the work done in ASSET.

T3.4 Toolbox

Task leader: TIEMS

Contributors: PROLEPSIS, EIWH, DBT, IPRI, NCIPD, ZADIG

Start: m22 – **End:** originally - m27 (March 2016); lately – m33 (September 2016)

Actual progress: 100%

Progress towards objectives

The Toolbox details the processes described in the D3.3 Action Plan Handbook. Preliminary research, study, thinking, and identification of Tools were done. Head start introductory message was delivered in August 2014. Then, a preliminary mapping was released in November 2015 and a preliminary plan was finalized in December 2015. In March 2016, Tools Development Plan was circulated on the CoP web platform.

The preliminary plan was further elaborated in Tools Development Plan including activities, all responsible partners, and related timing. A Tool Box Group was created with mailing list of relevant colleagues. A teleconference with Handbook and Tool Box partners was held in January 2016 to improve understanding of task among partners. Tools were assigned



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for development to the partners by mutual agreement. Guidance was provided to the partners for development of Tools, their quires replied, and doubts cleared. During Consortium Meeting and Summer Scholl in Rome in June 2016 face-to-face discussions were held to sort out problems. A clarification was obtained from the Project Officer of EC for utilizing Tools developed in other EC funded projects as ASSET Tools.

The only deviation to be reported is in the start of task after receipt of Handbook (although preparatory work was started as early as in August 2014 as stated above) due to late start of the project and late receipt of the Handbook in M28 (April 2016). It was not possible to deliver the tool Box in M27, when the previous activity Handbook was completed in M28. D3.4 ASSET Tool Box was completed in M33. This is not expected to impact other tasks and on available resources and planning as well.

Significant results / Key findings

The task was completed with posting the Deliverable D3.4 Tool Box on the ASSET website in August 2016. The Tool Box consists of eight Tools. These are:

1. Checklist - Awareness of Healthcare Workers for Influenza Vaccination
2. Glossary - Epidemics, Including Zika and other Emerging Virus Infections
3. Infectious Outbreaks Continuing Medical Education Online Interactive Course
4. Data Visualization
5. Citizen Participatory Meetings
6. Reporting Health Issues by Journalists
7. Response to Radiological, Biological, and Chemical Threats by Healthcare Professionals
8. Checklists for Researchers.



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WP4 CITIZEN CONSULTATION

WP Leader: DBT

Start month: m19 (July 2015)

End month: originally - m36 (December 2016); lately – m38 (February 2017)

Efforts reported: **xxxp*m** – **Actual Progress:** 100%

Work progress and overall achievements for the WP

The fourth WP was completely interested by the reference period of the present report. It has developed all actions related to instruct, deliver and evaluate public consultations in eight ASSET partner countries. The time plan of activities has been reported in the table that follows.

Project Month	WP/T	Activity	Partners involved	WP/T Link
25	T3.4	1st draft of citizen consultation manual to be circulated on the CoP	All	WP4
25	T6.1	High Level Policy Forum in Copenhagen	TIMES, EIWH, DBT, Zadig, ISS	T4.1
26	T4.2	1st Webinar: Citizen Recruitment	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
27	T4.2	1st draft of citizen recruitment plans	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
27	T4.1	Information material	All	WP4
27	T4.2	Training seminar of local project managers	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
28	T4.2	2nd Webinar: citizen recruitment plan revisited	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
29	T4.2	1st draft of dissemination plans	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
29	T4.2	3rd Webinar: Dissemination plans	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
29	WP4	Social Media mobilization	All	T5.1
30	T4.1	Translation of information material	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
30	T4.2	4th Webinar: Staff on the ASSET Day	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
31	T4.2	5th Webinar: Vote reporting and practicalities	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
32	T4.2	6th Webinar: TBD	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
32	T4.3	Distribution of information material to citizens	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
32	T4.4	Test and translation of Webtool	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
33	T4.2	7th Webinar: TBD	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
33	T4.3	Citizen consultations	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
34	T4.3	Policy Workshop	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4
38 (35)	T4.3	Policy Report	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	T5.3
38 (36)	T4.3	Policy conference with the EU-Parliament	DBT, LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD	WP4



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Most notable activity has been an inter-organizational workshop with the ASSET partners discussing which themes citizens should have asked and discussed about during the consultations. The training seminar has been moved from M25 to M27 for creating better synergies between the workshop and the consultations, because the suggested gap of 9 months from the DoW would have been too long. In addition to obligation in WP4, a Webinar-series with nine Webinars were added so that a smooth WP4 implementation was secured. The reschedule in fact enhanced impact and secured a really better implementation:

- Training seminar
- Citizen recruitment
- Webinars with local partners
- Test of underlying software with implementing partners
- Organizing policy workshop based the results of the consultations
- Finalizing and presenting the policy report.

More details are provided below with regards to the progress made towards the objectives, significant outcomes and major achievements, separately for each task in WP4.

T4.1 Background Production

Task leader: DBT

Contributors: LYON, PROLEPSIS, EIWH, FFI, IPRI, ISS, NCIPD, TIEMS, DMI, UMFCD, HU, ZADIG

Start: m19 – **End:** m30

Actual progress: 100%

Progress towards objectives

The entire WP4 is concentrated on the eight citizen consultations, to be delivered across Europe according to a standardised method. The ASSET Citizen Consultations is based on the World Wide Views method, which combines simultaneous national face-to-face citizen consultations worldwide with a web-based transnational comparison of national results. The overall objective of the method is to strengthen the engagement of citizens in political decision-making processes. Citizens have to live with the consequences of policies: this is the reason why their views should be taken into consideration. To ensure a high quality and a uniform introduction to the themes of the consultation in all countries, information videos for each of the four debate session are planned to be produced and to be translated by national partners into their national language.

Each thematic session at the Citizen Consultations are then introduced by the head facilitator and an information video. After this introduction, the participants engage in moderated group discussions with the purpose of giving all participants time to reflect and listen to other opinions. Each thematic session is namely ended with a voting session, where citizens individually vote on alternative answers to a different number of questions. The voting results are instantly reported on this website, so that anyone with Internet access can compare answers to the various questions across countries.

Significant results / Key findings

The task leader has performed all the materials to be used by the eight partners in delivering the public consultation in their own country.



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This package has been included in a manual that aims 1) to set the scene for the question of pandemics and how to deal with them in terms of governance, public communication and inclusion; and 2) to outline everything that needs to be done before, during, and after the specific citizens' consultation process.

The manual is foremost a guide for ASSET project managers and staff (including group facilitators) responsible for organising and carrying out the citizen consultations; it is made of four parts:

- training material for project managers on execution of the citizens' meetings;
- pre-defined questions for citizens;
- English version information booklet for pre-meeting information;
- English version information videos for thematic introductions.

T4.2 Citizens Meeting National Preparation

Task leader: DBT

Contributors: LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD

Start: m25 – **End:** m33

Actual progress: 100%

Progress towards objectives

The objective of the citizens' meetings was to identify the best way to communicate on epidemics and the best governance adapted to the related crisis management. Participating citizens expressed their opinion on four subjects which were screened and selected by consortium partners:

1. *Personal freedom and public health safety* This theme addresses the inevitable conflict between public health safety and personal freedom and to what extent citizens think each concern is relevant and at a greater priority degree.
2. *Communication between citizens and public health authorities* Risk and crisis communication channels and conflicts are considered to be an integral part of any public health emergency response as a dynamic process of sharing and responding to information about a public health threat.
3. *Transparency in public health* Citizens have been asked to reflect on need for transparency in public health policy and the need for public health authorities to work in peace during an outbreak.
4. *Access to knowledge* Within this fourth issue, people are invited to debate on various sources to acquire knowledge and how to deal with the frontiers of research in public health communication.

Furthermore, a last open session was organised in the end of public consultations where participants were asked the question: "*Considering the issues debated today, what is your most important recommendation to national and international policy-makers?*" and to give recommendations from their own personal point of view accordingly.

Significant results / Key findings

In each country, ASSET partners delivered the set of actions presented by DBT in order to organise effective and standardised public consultations. The method applied has been the same all over the eight European participating countries (Denmark, France, Switzerland, Ireland, Norway, Italy, Bulgaria, Romania) along the whole process since the population sampling and recruitment to the identification of different roles on the consultation delivery (head facilitators, round-table facilitators, technicians, and so on).



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It was performed the training as foreseen in the handbook that DBT circulated. On the consultation day (24 September 2016), participants were presented the ASSET project and its main objectives in general as well as the specific context for organising citizens' consultations and more in details what it was expected from them. All consultations' activities were carried out as planned.

The consultation was successful overall because participants (a total of 425 people) demonstrated to be very satisfied both about the entire process of involvement and by the practical organisation and ending outcomes.

T4.3 Citizen Meetings and Follow Up

Task leader: DBT

Contributors: LYON, DMI, EIWH, FFI, ISS, NCIPD, UMFCD

Start: m30 – **End:** originally - m36 (December 2016); lately – m38 (February 2017)

Actual progress: 100%

Progress towards objectives

A debriefing workshop was organized in Denmark on 21 and 22 November 2016 to analyse the results of the consultations delivered in eight cities and to define the content of the Policy report (D4.3).

Besides, it was also discussed the best strategy to sensitise the Members of Parliament for the Brussels meeting, planned on 26th April 2017.

After the two-day seminar, each participating partner in citizens' consultation got the responsibility to write the part related to outcomes for the own country.

Significant results / Key findings

It has been taken stock of the conclusive WP4 workshop as a set of conclusions/recommendations has been summarised, in form of brief statements, under a thematic item:

- ‘Trust in information’ general practitioners should be trained to adapt to the changing society, and decision makers should be urged to be visible and present at the internet, as the use of the internet is increasing;
- ‘Risk Communication’ a transparent and clear risk communication has to be built to restore trust towards society;
- ‘Pregnancy and vaccination’ influenza vaccination advice materials for pregnant women shall be update, clarify and standardize;
- ‘Ethics’ In emergency situation, public health interest should infringe upon the individual freedom;
- ‘Citizens voice’ citizens believe that honesty and transparency can increase the public trust (no matter how bad the situation is), and that it is their right to know and understand the accurate situation;
- ‘Lessons learned and Citizen Participation’ public health authorities should devote more resources to collect citizen input to policies on epidemic preparedness and response.



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WP5 MUTUAL LEARNING AND MOBILIZATION

WP Leader: ISS

Start month: m25 (January 2016)

End month: m48 (December 2017)

Efforts reported: xxxp*m – **Actual Progress:** 45%

Work progress and overall achievements for the WP

The fifth WP in ASSET aims to carry out mobilization and mutual learning (MML) actions at European, national, and local levels on the basis both of previous WPs (particularly the third and the fourth WPs) and of the WPS simultaneously developed (the sixth WP on Policy Watch and the seventh WP on Communication). Notably WP5 is working on three main axis which are: **T5.1**- exploiting social media potentiality for citizens' and stakeholders' mobilization in pandemic emergencies and promote social media mobilization; **T5.2**- establishing a Best Practice Platform (BPP) and Stakeholder Portal (SP) that may support mutual learning activities; **T5.3**- creating a web of local initiatives to promote mobilization and mutual learning at local level and to enhance the transferability of the most effective policies and practice. In general, within the ASSET Strategic Plan some cues for WP5 action are outlined:

- ASSET project disposes of different and articulated tools to promote mobilization and to foster mutual understanding and learning about the many issues concerning pandemics response and preparedness. A pool of them are studied by the Consortium partners and addressed to large layers of population, as well as included within the Media Office (5.1, 7.4).
- A set of instruments has been elaborated to communicate effectively to specific stakeholders on a limited scale. A strong opportunity to connect local contexts and national/international is constituted by a series of local initiatives (5.3). Fed by the results of the citizen consultations previously carried out by the project, the local initiatives are intended to capture the "spirit of the place" about large crisis emergency, the specific way(s) in which people living in a given city or region perceive, and react to the pandemic threat. In each city, selected stakeholders will be health professionals, police/army/law enforcement officers, media, and pharmaceutical industry.
- A particular instrument to promote mutual understanding and potential mobilization among selected group of specialists is the Best Practice Platform (BPP; 5.2), essentially constituted by a web-based, ongoing collection of best practices on SiS related issues in scientific and clinical research on pandemics, coupled with a Stakeholder Portal (5.2), which provides a gateway for interested stakeholders to register their interest in becoming involved.

Furthermore, given that the Strategic Plan is based on six action lines connected to the main RRI key-themes, indications for action in WP5 are even retrievable per single strategic line:

- GOVERNANCE- For increasing the trust between policy makers, the media and the public, and by a coordinated presence on social media, such as Facebook Pages, Twitter Handles, YouTube Channels T5.1 widens the participation space of single citizen and organized stakeholders groups;
- UNSOLVED QUESTIONS- Existing initiatives and projects related to the involvement of "users" in epidemic infectious diseases prevention and response are mapped and referenced by T5.2, that is naturally linked to T2.2 and T3.2;
- PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE- In the local initiatives (5.3) and by social media mobilization (5.1) key messages are targeted at specific risk groups. The BPP (5.2) deeply promotes case-studies relevant on the same theme



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Local initiatives (5.3) help understanding ways to disseminate at local level such an approach notably to prevent rumours;

- ETHICS- through social media mobilization (5.1) ethical issues are raised and discussed. In 5.2 activities, noteworthy practices are identified and ethical implication and feasibility in other contexts are then discussed. Local initiatives (5.3) are expected to be an effective approach to convey inputs coming from citizens' consultation and the stakeholders' platform aiming to promote MML at local level and to enhance the transferability of the most effective policies and practice;
- GENDER- the low vaccination coverage in women and scarce interest of healthcare/science in gender pattern are issues under study in all the three WP5 tasks;
- ICOs- toward a law enforcement are addressed by social networks (5.1) as well as in the project stakeholders portal (5.2).

More details are provided below with regards to the progress made towards the objectives, significant outcomes and major achievements, separately for each task in WP5.

T5.1 Social media Mobilization

Task leader: ZADIG

Contributors: ISS, PROLEPSIS, EIWH

Start: m25 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 45%

Progress towards objectives

This task aims to exploit social media potentiality for citizens' and stakeholders' mobilization in pandemic emergencies. In order to involve stakeholder and general public the social media activity is focus on Facebook and Twitter. According to the DoW, social media activity officially starts on M25 (indeed, social media accounts have been launched since January 2015 to enforce and strategically support the website's activity). The task leader worked on one hand for the overall objective (involving stakeholders and general public) and on the other hand on a day-after-day approach to the main conversations among social media, in order to become actually integral and active part of those conversations.

Significant results / Key findings

In order to monitor social conversations developed an application to identify the most influential Twitter users on specific topics, according to a list of hashtag we have provided, was finalised. Being based on mentions and retweets, such an approach is also effective in discovering influential users on the short period. Every day, the app extrapolates the most popular accounts according to our key words. A daily analysis of the firsts 20 accounts allowed us to identify some main categories: Institutions, Media, Firms, Researchers, University, organizations, and charities.

For example, during February 2016, over 500 accounts related to a list of hashtags focused on Zika virus and vaccines were analysed: it was found out that 13 belong to public institutions (i.e. United Nations or House Foreign Affairs Committee), 94 to public health institutions (i.e. CDC and WHO) and 66 to employees of public institutions (i.e. Gregory Härtl – Head of Public Relations/Social Media for the WHO – or Tom Frieden – CDC Director). Six accounts belong to politicians (mostly in US). Furthermore, the study underlined a strong prevalence of media related accounts. Among 100 accounts, it was shown that 16 belong to medical or scientific journals (as The Lancet or PLoS), 80 belong to newspapers (as Forbes) and 120 to journalists. 18 of the most popular accounts belong to researchers; universities, charities and organizations were included in a single group of 40 accounts. The task leader already supported the core message of this project sharing pictures with important slogan related to the project, sharing videopills in which stakeholders talk



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about some issues related to the project (as epidemic/pandemic/preparedness), sharing all the news from the website (articles, events, and so on) and supporting project activity such as Summer School and Citizen Consultation.

T5.2 Best practice platform and stakeholder portal

Task leader: IPRI

Contributors: NCIPD, TIEMS, UMFCD, HU, ZADIG

Start: m25 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 45%

Progress towards objectives

This task includes both a web-based Best Practice Platform (BPP) collecting best practices on SiS related issues in scientific and clinical research on pandemics and a Stakeholder Portal (SP), in order to: 1) provide a gateway for interested stakeholders to register their interest in becoming involved; 2) be organised for specific campaigns or consultations. Both the BPP and the Stakeholder Portal are hosted by the ASSET web site.

BPP is a place where to: 1) Collect established best practices on SiS related issues in research on pandemics; 2) Seek out/promote already best practices solutions but that are not yet been widely adopted; 3) Transfer knowledge of best practices among researchers, practitioners, institutions, organizations; 3) Develop and 4) Validate best practice guidelines; 5) Disseminate and encourage best practice adoption.

SP is devoted to many professional categories, notably: health workers; police/army/law enforcement officers; media; pharmaceutical industry. Designing a Stakeholder Portal that allows to spot new patterns, encourages the evolution of new ideas, and helps new ideas scale to the point where they have impact, so establishing a “learning by making” strategy for innovation. Actions to be run here are: making accessible selected and validated information in different sections according to the diverse thematic areas; prompting structured discussion by project partners Inviting participants to contribute; presenting innovative solutions online and in showcase exhibitions organised locally by project partners.

Significant results / Key findings

The BPP has been actually set an interactive social database to involve relevant stakeholders. From the evidence available in literature, Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) is encompassed and fits with other public health areas and few existing good/best practices cannot be generally here adapted. WP 3, and in particular T3.2, evidenced instead a remarkable theoretical work, whose transition in Practices is “in progress”, that implied a partial repositioning of aims and scope of T5.2 and in particular it was decided to shift from the general aim of collecting and promoting (via the specialized Portal) existing Best Practices to the discovering, collecting and promoting future best practices, which are good or promising ones, candidate best practices, at the moment. Finally, an advanced phase will concern conceiving “Best Practices Guidelines” (BPG; to be used mainly after the project completion), but the first step is to understand where to focus on. It has been also considered that such these guidelines constitute an important part of the ASSET “heritage”, i.e. they should have an effective societal impact in future.

It has been listed a “risk map” of possible critical problems affecting T5.2, key points are:

- reach a consensus on defining criteria of good/promising practices;
- insufficient number of good/promising practices to be included;
- amount of resources dedicated to developing best practice guidelines (BPGs);
- stakeholders to be effectively activated for participating on these portals according to a strategy;



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- achieve recognizing ASSET accreditation to awarded entries on the platforms and giving an additional recognition to whom identifies and spreads practices early on.

Talking about “good/promising practice” means projects that are aligned to previously identified issues described in the Tasks of WP2 and in the T3.2. on each practice, materials are developed as follows: synthetic factsheet, broader description, endowment web and link references, more additional interviews.

Identified key themes on which searching good practices examples is focused are:

- Vaccination: trust rebuilding, trust monitoring, propensity to vaccinate
- Non-pharmaceutical steps: decreasing behaviours at risk and/or increasing risk-reducing behaviours (hand-washing, mask wearing, social distancing, school closures, travel restrictions)
- Health care workers: GPs involvement in prevention of infectious diseases, increasing the propensity of HCWs to get vaccinated and to adopt non-pharmacological preventive steps
- Gender issues: pregnant women, vaccination in women (including pregnant women)
- Low income or ethnic minorities (e.g. migrants, Roma communities)
- Communication and public health decision and in particular two-way communication/decision in public health (feedback): risk/ uncertainty/ outbreak communication, public involvement in counteracting/dispelling rumours and conspiracy theories
- Didactic Projects concerning the role of SiS in Pandemics and Epidemics
- SiS projects actively involving special sectors of Civil Society

A first set of search engines was performed and it emerged that: potential good/promising practices to feed the BPP are numerically limited, although sufficient to run it; the vast majority of practices are National, and not documented in English or only indirectly documented in English, thus all consortium partners have been requested to identify and signal practices country-specific.

BPP has been also mirrored on the ASSET Facebook page as well as on the Twitter account. Moreover, during designing the Stakeholders portal (SP) it has been evidenced that the BPP has to archive and divulgate Best/Good Practices both in the international civil society, and among public health professionals not directly involved in ASSET, and it has to be conceived as a source of informed debate for the SP. For this reason the Good/Best Practices retrieved have to be not only informative, but also engaging enough for stakeholders.

T5.3 Local initiatives

Task leader: ISS

Contributors: LYON, PROLEPSIS, EIWH, FFI, IPRI, NCIPD, TIEMS, DMI, UMFCD, HU, ZADIG

Start: m25 – **End:** m45

Actual progress: 45%

Progress towards objectives

Local Initiatives are based on a fourfold strategic approach: valid information and share all relevant information; combine advocacy with scientific inquiry and innovation processes; jointly design ways to test disagreements between stakeholders; always promote reflective practices to enlarge the portfolio of ideas. The planned Local Initiatives (to be developed in: Rome, Milan, Paris, Lyon, Dublin, Athens, Brussels, Oslo, Sofia, Bucharest, Geneva, Haifa) aims to promote MML at local level and to enhance the transferability of the most effective policies and practice. The overall goal of this investigation is then double: try capturing the “spirit of the place” about infectious outbreaks, say, the specific way(s) in



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which people living in a given city or region perceive, and react to, the pandemic threat; involve local stakeholders to share information, decisions and policies/practice.

A participatory communication approach is developed both in carrying out local initiatives and in delivering Project mandatory outputs: many information sharing methods will be developed—published materials, etc. to communicate with a plurality of targets (family doctors, nurses, educators, housewives, health care providers, public health officers, communicators, consumers, etc.). These experiences have in fact to be described “to understand from inside”, local initiatives are intended to capture the “spirit of the place” about large crisis emergency, the specific way(s) in which people living in a given city or region perceive, and react to the pandemic threat. In each city, selected stakeholders are represented by health professionals, police/army/law enforcement officers, media, and pharmaceutical industry.

According to the six specific action lines of the ASSET Strategic Plan indications for action in task 5.3 are collected and resumed as follow per single strategic line of interest:

- GOVERNANCE local initiatives explore different categories of stakeholders, including public representatives and particularly marginalized social groups, to understand to what extent citizens are willing to participate and whether it is appropriate to encourage them to have a voice in the policy decision-making processes regarding vaccination policies;
- PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE To be tested in the local initiatives where the project will work out key messages targeted at specific risk groups (patients with cardiovascular disease, with lung diseases, mothers, healthcare workers) on the benefits of influenza vaccination. Local initiatives will help understanding ways to disseminate at local level such an approach notably to prevent rumours;
- ETHICS Local initiatives are expected to be an effective approach to convey inputs coming from citizens' consultation and the stakeholders' platform aiming to promote mobilization and mutual learning at local level and to enhance the transferability of the most effective policies and practice;
- GENDER involving local Civil Society Organizations on debate about attitudes toward vaccination will be actions to develop. The common understanding of this lack in the health care structure among people is also a field for investigation and mobilization, too. Perceptions, ideas and opinions can be gathered by physical meetings.

Significant results / Key findings

After an overview of local initiatives developed in other EU MMLAPs by checking official websites or directly discussing with programs' partners, ISS ran an initial Timetable of activities also implying Responsible ASSET partner(s): Identifying the profile of the initiatives to carry out (including a variety of actors and intermediaries, showcase exhibitions, ethical and gender issues with particular concerning to vaccination and pregnancy) and related template to be filled by each Partner; Coordinating the mapping of relevant stakeholders (and related events) the single partner will contact and engage people into a conversation about flu pandemics and related template to be filled by each Partner; Defining and releasing contents basing on WP4 results (public consultations run on September 2016, 24th); Outlining evaluation methods and tools.

Given the timetable that follows here below, at month 36 all Partners have identified the type of local initiative to be carried out and filled in the related template provided by the task leader. Then, since 2017 the task (local initiatives) implementation phase starts. The detailed timing shared with the consortium is as follows: by the end of 2016 all 12 local initiatives have been generally described in terms of issues covered, target interested, setting chosen and so on; from February to June 2017 all 12 partners implement local initiatives in the identified cities; by September 2017 all 12 local initiatives' issuers evaluate them filling in the report template provided by ISS as task leader; by December 2017 ISS release the Final deliverable (comprehensive report) on T5.3, made of assembling single reports.



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WP6 POLICY WATCH

WP Leader: ISS

Start month: m6 (June 2014)

End month: m48 (December 2017)

Efforts reported: xxx p*m – **Actual Progress:** 65%

Work progress and overall achievements for the WP

The WP6 moves forward on two axis: the High level Policy Forum (HLPF) and the Pandemic Preparedness and Response Bulletin (PPRB). This WP on Policy Watch is in fact being developed according to a methodological approach that is fully in line with the overall ASSET MMLAP strategy particularly based on three main vectors that are: Connecting (referring to the relation “Science and Society”), Communicating (meaning an open and active listening, and common understanding), Democratising (advocacy building).

Beside contents shared according to a participatory approach among the consortium partners (mainly witnessed by the many interactions on WP6 Forum of the CoP web platform), the main characters of the work on Policy Watch are relevant stakeholders in the field of interest: in this way, either project partners overall or WP6 actors in particular are engaging with this broad range of influential people about pandemic and major epidemic occurrences.

T6.1 High Level Policy Forum

Task leader: TIEMS

Contributors: ISS, DBT, FFI, NCIPD, EIWH

Start: m6 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 60%

Progress towards objectives

Fourteen members are currently recruited into the ASSET HLPF and two Forum meetings have been arranged, 12 March 2015 in Brussels (*referring to the first reporting period*), and 15 January 2016 in Copenhagen. While the basic vision of the HLPF was clear at the first HLPF meeting, and the value of the forum evident, there was a question at that time of how best to focus the activities of the HLPF. This relates to the wide range of issues associated with pandemic preparedness, and the large number of organizations and projects in Europe that are working in this area. In the period prior to the second HLPF meeting, the ASSET program produced new results that provide a focus for the activities of the HLPF, including a Strategic Plan and a Roadmap for research and innovation. These two documents identify requirements for specific HLPF activities, including consultation, review, and endorsement of ASSET results and plans. These requirements have also been reflected in the HLPF Terms of Reference, which was approved by the HLPF members, during the approval of the minutes for the second ASSET HLPF meeting.

Significant results / Key findings

In this reference period, further pressure has been put on all ASSET partners to be engaged and recruit members to ASSET HLPF as well as on proposing content insights to better address the work on HLPF. The third physical meeting of the ASSET HLPF is agreed to take place in Brussels 28 April 2017, in conjunction with the ASSET Consortium meeting and the feedback on consultations at the EU Parliament, 26 – 27 April, and this will assure a satisfactory attendance at the third ASSET HLPF meeting on 28 because it is expected representatives from all partners in ASSET to be participating in the meeting.



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The ASSET HLPF members and their substitutes are invited to the meeting, and electronic communication has been already started on the CoP web platform in order to get members prepared for the third HLPF meeting on three topics selected: 1. Participatory Governance Policy in European Public Health 2. How to improve considerations of ethical issues in the influenza pandemic plans that every EU country needs to prepare and update 3. Vaccination hesitancy and the possible option of compulsory immunization. The three topics have been introduced to the ASSET HLPF members, by brief documents/articles and questions to be answered. The ending outcome should be achieving a comprehensive policy recommendation including the three issues identified.

T6.2 Pandemic Preparedness and Response Bulletin

Task leader: ISS

Contributors: NCIPD, UMFCD, HU

Start: m6 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 70%

Progress towards objectives

Share and move (the ASSET Pandemic Preparedness and Response Bulletin, PPRB) is an updating tool on policy initiatives concerning pandemics and international public health crisis management, developed at local, national and international levels. This Bulletin – a total of seven editions to be issued by December 2017 – deals with the latest key health data, information and indicators in matter of Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP), Emergent Communicable Diseases, revisions of national pandemic plans and/or strategies, as well as of relevant statements and recommendations in the field. Share and move wants to address effectively scientific and societal challenges raised by pandemics and more generally by what the WHO has recently defined public health emergencies of international concern (PHEIC). The PPRB can be read by the six RRI key elements (governance, open access, engagement, gender equity, ethics, and science education) and is addressed to international stakeholders who are relevant in the field of pandemic preparedness, including risk communication strategies and other responses.

First, an Editorial Committee was established and is formed that is the main responsible for what is published in each issue, but also other ASSET Partners and external experts in the field contribute actively. Once the Bulletin is edited, it is spread out to a mailing list of relevant stakeholders at national and international levels, but also website users can subscribe by a bottom banner available on the ASSET homepage and receive the bulletin by email.

To better understand which columns have been decided to run and the sort of contents that is selected, the “What’s new” perspective has been adopted and implemented. It means news from the world of pandemic and more in general emergency, such as an epidemic, preparedness and response are firstly reported. This main section is a sort of folder “case” including core issues such as PHEP, risk communication, laws. Major achievements by the most important international public health institutions are described as well as highlights and insights circulated by the most used social media. The Bulletin includes also a relevant website in the field, recent update from the ASSET project and a “snapshot”, standing for an innovative concept represented by a graphic item.

Significant results / Key findings

After the first issue, that is quite generic, the Bulletin has been shaped as a tool that is more specifically tailored according to the peculiarities of this challenging MMLAP project. As it has been explained above, ASSET is in fact aimed to bridge the gap between the scientific community and society in the field of epidemics and pandemics management. And the European Commission recalled the aim to foster public engagement and a sustained two-way dialogue between



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science and civil society by encompassing key strategic areas (engagement, gender equity, science education, open access, ethics and governance) within the main SiS action plan launched in 2001.

Since its second issue, then each ASSET Pandemic Preparedness and Response Bulletin, Share and move, is mainly focused on one of the six SiS topics that were highlighted within the project “Study and Analysis” phase: governance of pandemics and epidemics; unsolved scientific questions; crisis participatory governance; ethical, legal and societal implications; gender pattern – vulnerability; intentionally caused outbreaks. The second Bulletin focused on governance of pandemics and epidemics, the third issue concentrated on unsolved scientific questions. Proposing the same structure than in the others, the fourth number (published during the summer 2016) deals with intentionally caused outbreaks, even with regard to the steps of preparedness and response, and to relevant information shared on the web and by the most used social networks. It has been decided that the fifth Bulletin will be on the participatory governance (February 2017), the sixth issue on ethics (July 2017), and the last edition (n. 7) on gender pattern (December 2017).



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WP7 COMMUNICATION

WP Leader: ZADIG

Start month: m1 (January 2014)

End month: m48 (December 2017)

Efforts reported: xxxp*m – **Actual Progress:** 75%

Work progress and overall achievements for the WP

The WP7 major achievements are here briefly summarised, thus more details are provided in the paragraphs below, which deal with each task in WP7 separately, with regards to progresses made towards the objectives, significant outcomes and specific accomplishments.

WP7 is crucial in ASSET because it is about communication that actually is not only the formal aspect to disseminate project activities but is the ‘soul’ of such a collaborative program. At the end of the third project year, all the objectives have already born tangible fruits, or are in a good position to finalise them shortly.

In terms of internal communication the main infrastructure in use is the CoP web platform (see T1.3) and the most external communication tool is the website (T7.3). In both these two elements, the philosophy of the project and principles of the cultural framework are mirrored, and the great communication effort that can be mostly highlighted is about a big recognition of all relevant stakeholders to be further involved and engaged in the project (more than 7 thousands at M36).

WP7 covers a wide range of pretty different communication tasks, from web contents and social networks to training and scientific publications:

- the presence on the web is constantly fed up both with production/publishing of articles, interviews, videos, banners and infographics, delivering platforms and portals on the site, and by the work on social media;
- tailored activities to specific target groups have been started/carried out such as summer school for interested professionals and awarding recognizable GPs or the liaison activated with the Erasmus Plus Program to students, scientific paper series has been started and the RRI Newsletter issues are addressed to reaserchers;
- the Geneva Festival was organized and hosted in the broader Verbier event in July 2016 foreseeing a bond between music and science.

Task Leader (P15 ZADIG) has developed an algorithm for the analysis of the contents of Twitter that was firstly interroduced at the first edition of the summer school (M21) and was used as of autumn 2015. This utility has revealed to be crucial also in the economy of T5.1 that is about social media content analysis and monitoring.



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T7.3 Web Portal

Task leader: ZADIG

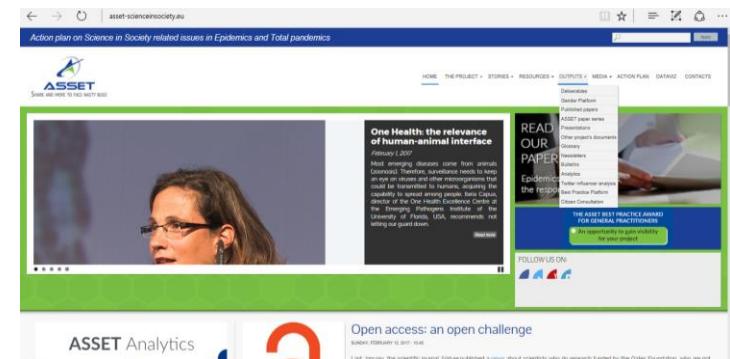
Contributors: ISS, ABSISKEY

Start: m1 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 75%

Progress towards objectives

The ASSET website (<http://www.asset-scienceinsociety.eu/>; **Figure 2. Home page of the ASSET website**) is the showcase of the project and one of the main tools by which ASSET itself can become authoritative voice in the field of pandemic/epidemic preparedness and response; currently, it is fully operative, and its contents are regularly updated. The requests of D7.1 Communication strategy have been fulfilled, following current guidelines (clarity of language, addressing both experts and the general public, transparency, interaction with different parts of society, plenty of pictures, videos, infographs, ...) and being “completely open access”. Notably, advancements can be reported as here described by task leader who: improved newsletter management and dispatch through the development of a new web tool and a new online database for the project’s contacts; implemented an Analytics page that shows the trend in the number, type and geolocalisation of visitors to the website, and statistics on the main social media manned by the project. The page is directly linked to the website homepage through a dedicated banner; coordinated the development of the gender platform with ISS and EIWH; improved graphic layout of homepage banners linking to Newsletter and Bulletin; installed Google Analytics in order to better monitor the whole website activity.



Significant results / Key findings

Compared to data shown at mid-2015, in 2016 the ASSET website had a constant relevant number of visits: a peak was registered in November 2016 with 32.033 pages visited by 5792 visitors of which 4134 unique visitors. The USA provided the highest number of visitors followed by Italy and the rest of Europe. The ASSET Facebook site peaked in November 2016, too reaching 1514 fans and in the full 2016 3531 new profiles were registered. Also the Twitter ASSET profile peaked in November 2016 to 147 new engagements producing 14300 impressions. The website’s mailing list has been expanded and now includes more than 7000 international addresses.

T7.4 Media office

Task leader: ZADIG

Contributors: ISS, ABSISKEY

Start: m1 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 75%

Progress towards objectives

Following the indications contained in the D7.1 - Communication Strategy, the media office works in synergy with the website, social media and the set of initiatives involving citizens and stakeholders in order to build a good visibility to the project. The efforts of the Media Office have been focused on establishing relationships with a wide network of journalists and other stakeholders all over the world, also by participating in international events and congresses and



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circulating as much as possible the ASSET identity. A special relationship has been established with the World Federation of Science Journalists and an agreement about possible cooperation has been reached.

Thanks to the collaboration of all the partners, the media office gathered many contacts to be used within the work on major social media, mainly Facebook and Twitter. A press kit with videopills addressed to journalists is being prepared.

Significant results / Key findings

Achieving and increasing the mailing list in use, press releases and other some relevant networking activities by participating at national and international events are the core of the task. Zadig produced a Digital Strategy focused on Facebook and Twitter also in connection with T5.1. As for Facebook, Zadig tested the efficacy of a promotion campaign by paying an insertion fee for 2 posts firstly, and for the whole ASSET page secondly: thanks to that, 854 new followers were added. The ASSET project is also present on Youtube, and on Linkedin (not yet active). The following dissemination tools have been produced: a brochure for public health officers; an algorithm for Twitter analysis; a data visualization; a video presenting the project. Contacts and meetings have been activated with PANDEM, RRI tools and SMART projects

T7.5 Science Communication

Task leader: PROLEPSIS

Contributors: LYON, DBT, IPRI, NCIPD, DMI, UMFCD, HU, ZADIG

Start: m12 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 50%

Progress towards objectives

The task includes the start of a research paper series holding an ISSN number, available on the project's website, and feature the main outputs from the project in the form of research papers. The research and innovation community is targeted by this paper series as well as by academic papers published in peer reviewed open journals. At the project completion the book of the project shall be submitted for publication to a major international publishing house. The research and innovation community has already been targeted by hosting on the international science web portal "Scienceontheweb" (www.scienzainrete.it/en) a series of articles, videos, data-visualizations and news related to ASSET and its main topics. The journal is titled: "Epidemics and Pandemics, the response of society - ASSET Scientific Updates". The ISSN number will be given after publishing the first paper series issues, where three articles have been included. An Editorial Board reviews articles after which they are published in the paper series available on the ASSET website.

Significant results / Key findings

- After the full name series (*Epidemics and Pandemics, the response of society: ASSET paper series*) have been decided, an Editorial Board is being set up to review the articles.
- The first two issues have been published on the ASSET website (at the dedicated page: <http://www.asset-scienceinsociety.eu/outputs/asset-paper-series>).
- The second and the third paper series have been completed.
- The paper series planning has been finalized till the sixth issues.



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T7.6 Summer School on SiS related issues in Pandemics

Task leader: ISS

Contributors: LYON, PROLEPSIS, EIWH, DBT, FFI, IPRI, NCIPD, TIEMS, DMI, UMFCD, HU, ZADIG

Start: m12 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 66%

Progress towards objectives

The ASSET Summer School is thought as a three-edition appointment for better addressing, analysing and discussing on “Science in Society” issues occurring with pandemics in particular and also related crisis management, including communication and other responses.

This yearly training course aims at establishing an interactive learning space for researchers and practitioners in the field of Science in Society (SiS) related issues in Pandemics as well as major epidemics. It focuses on sharing and exchanging issues related to conducting and communicating research in SiS according to a multidisciplinary perspective, ranging from public health to social science and communication.

The transdisciplinary and highly interactive perspective that bases the School is retrievable both in topics to be covered and in the potential applicants’ profiling (with regard to education and work experience). Several thematic areas are in fact covered: social sciences, science communication, public health, vaccinology, bioethics, gender issues, clinical ethics, political science. It is addressed to differently grounded people: public health, medicine, philosophy, social science, media, health care administration. The ASSET Summer School is conceived within the WP7 (Communication) so it is supposed to further disseminate scientific achievements in the field of SiS related issues in Pandemics. More in detail, the three school editions are concentrated on the six WP2 study issues which correspond with the Strategic Plan’s action lines: Governance of pandemics; Unsolved scientific questions about epidemics and pandemics; Crisis participatory Governance; Ethical, legal and societal implications of pandemics; Gender pattern – vulnerability; (Issues related to) intentionally caused outbreaks.

First, specific branding and dissemination activities for the ASSET Summer School are developed in order to broaden the echo of this learning initiative among potentially interested targets. After first announcements on the website (“Save the date” webpage) are finalized, the macroplanning phase starts: a storyboard (complete with a rationale, tentative programme, an opinion survey among Partners and a detailed timetable) is shared by task leader with contributors on the dedicated discussion threads on WP7 forum of the Community of Practice (CoP) web platform. Then, a microplanning phase follows implying the compilation of single Learning Units Forms by each teacher(s) assigned describing all activities to be run.

At that stage, all Consortium members discuss about learning units to be carried out, methods to be used and approaches to follow, contents to be presented, internal and external teachers and/or lecturers to be invited. Partners are in fact constantly solicited to be actively involved giving lessons and engaging in discussions with other prominent international experts. The three ASSET Summer School editions are held in Rome at the National Centre for Epidemiology, Surveillance and Health Promotion, that is the National Centre for Diseases Prevention and Health Promotion (CNaPPS) of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità since January 2017. The calendar is as follows:

1. from September 2015, 21 to 24;
2. from June 2016, 15 to 17;
3. from May 2017, 30 to June 1.



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Significant results / Key findings

Both in the first and the second school editions participants were selected based on evaluation of CVs and motivation letters, and followed a strategically planned series of lectures, group work exercises and case studies. The daily programme ran from 9 am to 5 pm (four days in 2015, three days in 2016) and the lessons were given by lectures from prominent international experts on several topics, ranging from crisis management to issues related to social and health inequalities, and participate to group work exercises and case studies. Lecturers discussed the ethical, legal and societal implications of pandemics, the unsolved scientific questions about them, the main problems about outbreaks governance and gender-related issues.

The background and rationale of activity encompassed within the ASSET Summer School denote all essential project elements: the fundamental reason basing this EU research program (need to re-establish trust between research/policy making and citizens), the strategy (improving efficiency and efficacy of communication between these two “worlds”, according to the scenario of the Science in Society and, to do that, the European approach of the Responsible Research and Innovation, RRI) and finally the outcome (getting the citizens not only beneficiaries of an improved communication, but also promoters within the policy cycle of a new deal in preparedness and response against epidemics and pandemics).

Given all these features characterizing ASSET, the delivery of T7.6 takes on even more challenging hints because it is a training to adults, in particular addressed to professionals involved on the field. Then, a huge attention has been paid to the methodological aspect and the planning phase in order to make all teachers and facilitators converge on a homogenous learning approach to be developed. Furthermore, the intended peculiar multi-disciplinarity to face epidemics and pandemics enlarges potential target of interest but does not find specific addresses as well.

The first edition can be seen as a test for retrieving contents to be proposed within the ASSET Summer School. Since the second edition it has been given to participants the opportunity to present their own projects, activities or experience developed in the field of interest. This aspect made students’ applications improve so that 8 trainees participated in the 2015 edition and 17 partook in School run in 2016.

T7.7 SiS in Pandemic Best Practice Award for GPs

Task leader: PROLEPSIS

Contributors: LYON, EIWH, IPRI, ISS, NCIPD, TIEMS, DMI, UMFCD, HU, ZADIG

Start: m12 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: **50%**

Progress towards objectives

The task aims to raise awareness of SiS themes among general practitioners in Europe. With this task, the project offers a prize to give recognition to individuals or groups of general practitioners who have best included SiS aspects in pandemic preparedness in order to improve the quality of communication with their patients and the local community active participation. Each edition three 3.000€ prizes are given, and because they had to serve as educational grants winners will be awarded with the participation in the ASSET Summer School. The context is open to GPs working in any MS and, starting from basis documents delivered by Task leader, is advertised through GP European societies and national medical associations by country partners nationwide. The process of the first best practice award got a quite long discussion about the objectives and coverage of the award. There was delay due to several discussions among partners in terms of focus of the award (GPs or others also, as well as not exclusively pandemics, etc.), until the current



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format was finally agreed. In particular, it was decided that the first award covered 2014-2015 and was effectively launched and recalled in late 2015.

Significant results / Key findings

- For the first edition 3 applications were received and the jury decided the winner.
- At the end of 2016 (M36), applications for the second edition were still being received.
- The third edition will take place and be completed by the end of 2017.

T7.8 Liaison with the Comenius Programme

Task leader: EIWH

Contributors: ISS

Start: m12 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 40%

Progress towards objectives

The Comenius programme focuses on the first phase of education, from pre-school and primary to secondary schools. It is relevant for all members of the education community: pupils, teachers, public authorities, parents' associations, non-government organisations, teacher training institutes, universities and all other educational staff. Part of the Lifelong Learning Programme, Comenius seeks to develop knowledge and understanding among young people and educational staff of the diversity of European cultures, languages and values. It helps young people acquire the basic life skills and competences necessary for their personal development, for future employment and for active citizenship. Comenius Multilateral Projects are undertaken by partnerships working to improve the initial or in-service training of teachers and other categories of personnel working in the school education sector. Their aim is to develop strategies or exchange experiences to give rise to an identifiable outcome--e.g. new curriculum, training course, methodology, teaching strategy, teaching material--which meets the needs of a defined group of educational staff.

Significant results / Key findings

Initially, Task Leader encountered difficulties in identifying schools connected to the Comenius programme. The DoW outlines this task as collaborating with schools which were awarded a Comenius grant as a multilateral consortia under the heading "Support to make science more attractive" in 2011, 2012 and 2013. A number of these projects were identified, however the grant recipients have all been universities, rather than schools, who have used the grant to apply their project to schools in their countries. So far Task Leader contacted the only English-speaking country that was awarded a grant, Scotland, where the University of the West of Scotland were the grant recipients. They unfortunately did not conduct any of their work in schools in Scotland, but rather in schools across Europe. Then, a project in Greece that would be suitable was identified, and ASSET partner Prolepsis kindly agreed to help and tried to track down the project to see what schools were involved. Unfortunately, since the DoW specifies that the projects must have been awarded the grant between 2011-2013, the project group was no longer in operation and Prolepsis, despite spending a great deal of time and effort helping for task achievement, eventually reached a dead end.

After the significant problems in identifying Comenius schools, it was decided together with the ASSET partners that we would instead contact schools that were awarded the Erasmus Plus grant. Erasmus Plus is the new programme that replaced the Comenius programme – it commenced in January 2014, and combines all the EU's current schemes for education, training, youth and sport. Six schools have been identified in Ireland that were awarded the Erasmus Plus grant. All schools were contacted via telephone at the start of the school year, and got a positive response, with all



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schools expressing interest and enthusiasm for the project, and were happy to work with ASSET. However, there was a delay in the collaboration as the main secondary school teachers union in Ireland called a number of strike days during the first term of the school year 2016/2017. The teachers are striking for a reform in their contracts, which during austerity saw newly qualified teachers getting a different contract with less protection and much lower starting wages. Also, they are protesting a proposed change to the curriculum in the Junior Certificate, which is the exam taken to enter upper secondary school. Because of the strike, the schools advised that they would not be in a position to organise anything concrete until the strike is over. An agreement between the Irish government and the union was reached in November 2016, and the schools asked task Leader to contact them again in early 2017, to begin the process in earnest.

T7.9 Gender Issue Platform

Task leader: EIWH

Contributors: ISS

Start: m12 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 30%

Progress towards objectives

The Gender Issue Platform is an area of ASSET website dedicated to disseminating and promoting gender-specific and women-centred research on pandemics. In particular, it aims to disseminate information on influenza pandemic related risks, notably for pregnant women and infants; preventive measures; antiviral drugs; vaccines and vaccination; and make information available to women to enable them to make informed and responsible decisions for themselves and also as carers of children and ageing relatives. Central to the task as well is the issue of promoting gender awareness in pandemic related research and pandemic preparedness. The Gender Issue Platform will also advocate for increasing European support for preventive and appropriate biomedical, behavioural, epidemiological, public health and health service research, and policy on women's issues in pandemics and the impact of gender and age inequalities with respect to infectious outbreaks.

Significant results / Key findings

Through discussions with ASSET partners ISS and Zadig, a joint decision was made to call the platform 'Sex, Gender & Vaccination', rather than the more vague Gender Issue Platform. EIWH also created a logo for the platform, to increase the branding. The Gender Platform is now live on the ASSET webpage, with articles being posted by Zadig and contributions being made by EIWH. There is not yet a social media presence, although Facebook has been chosen as the most suitable social media type. The Facebook page will link into the website, so that anything posted there will show on the FB page and discussion will be encouraged. The EIWH will monitor the page once it is up and running.

A number of themes have been identified, as well as post corresponding articles/interviews/points of interest. Themes selected are: Pregnancy, Ageing/older people, Co-morbidity, Chronic diseases, Vulnerable groups (ethnic minorities, lower socioeconomic status, and so on), Women as caregivers, Women in the workplace/women at home, Health care workers, Biological issues, Women in clinical trials. EIWH also plan to conduct interviews with relevant stakeholders and policy makers that can be released as podcasts with stakeholders in connection with each theme.



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T7.10 Research and Innovation Newsletter

Task leader: LYONBIOPOLE

Contributors: ISS, IPRI, HU, ZADIG

Start: m12 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 60%

Progress towards objectives

The format and the main points the newsletter were discussed and agreed at M17, taking into account the targets (industrial and academic researchers). A particular attention was given to the links with other current ASSET activities, such as the following tasks T1.2 “Glossary of terms”, T2.2 “Reference guide of unsolved scientific questions”, T2.5 “Report on gender issues in pandemics and epidemics”, T3.2 “Roadmap to open and responsible research and innovation in pandemics”, T7.4 “Media office”, T7.5 “Science communication, research paper series”, T7.9 “Gender issue platform”, WP4 “Citizen consultation”. It was then decided to create this newsletter, setting up a routine watch on news published on responsible research and innovation in drugs and vaccines. This implies defining key words and sources to regularly gather news on the subject.

Significant results / Key findings

The third Newsletter consisted in linking the ASSET activities and results to present to the researchers of academia and industry how ASSET answers the RRI issues. So, this one concentrated on industry in the process of preparedness and response to epidemics and pandemics. Besides, we insisted on the Strategic plan which delivers RRI concrete tools and we also announced the presentation of the Toolbox in the newsletter 4 as well as the citizens' consultations. Thus, the newsletter n. 4 that is in preparation will put light on the Toolbox and of course on the citizens' consultations and their results. More generally the newsletter refers also to other RRI activities and events in Europe to give a more efficient insight of this subject.

T7.11 Geneva Music & Science Festival Report

Task leader: DMI

Contributors: ISS

Start: m25 – **End:** m36

Actual progress: 100%

Progress towards objectives

Popular events such as Music Festivals have been proposed as tools for MML purpose. A music festival can be considered in fact as one mechanism for effectively attracting citizens, getting their full attention, and tackling scientific related challenges by presenting perspectives, knowledge and experiences. By this mean, SiS expressions of dialogue and cooperation can be developed for an effective communication of key messages and for leveraging public engagement, science education, and scientific dissemination. The Geneva Music Festival aimed to propose commonly defined assessment framework/methodologies and management of multi-disciplinary solutions, which take into account general public concerns and SiS related issues (participation, inclusiveness, ethics, gender, communication, etc.). It dealt with ‘hot’ topics for ASSET: individual and collective health, interest of music education in health, epidemic and pandemic threats. Indeed, classical music has been selected to be a potential important cultural activity to support scientific dissemination actions. This task proposed a unique way of integrating classical music in the promotion of education and public health by organising a piano concert where the classical piano pieces were accompanied by the presentations of six international scientific experts. Entitled "Concerto for Piano and Sciences" the event was the first



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scientific conference of this kind organised in partnership with the famous Verbier Festival near Geneva (Switzerland). This original joint event created a unique opportunity for the public to attend to the combination of classical piano music and extremely informative public health interventions proposed by international experts.

Significant results / Key findings

Organised on 30 July 2016, each scientific talks were followed by a piano classical sequence played by an international virtuoso pianist. Andrey Gugnin, a Russian pianist and laureate of several prestigious international piano competitions has been invited with the agreement of Verbier Festival governance to perform a classical concert divided in 6 sequences. The topics presented by the public health experts during the concert-conference will touch more particularly on the aspects of individual and collective health (Dr Ariel Beresniak, DMI), the music's impact on the brain (Dr Pierre Lemarquis), the cognitive effects of the early music education (Hélène Varella), the human epidemics of animal origin (Dr Donato Greco, ZADIG), the epidemics response strategies (Dr Sylvie Briand) as well as various defence mechanisms that the communities can employ against future pandemics (Dr Alberto Perra, ISS). The organisation of the Science Music Festival event was an important opportunity to communicate not only on front of a general public audience attending to the event, but also to the public audience worldwide afterward thanks to high quality videos posted in the ASSET dedicated YouTube channel. Key actions to be implemented during a pandemic has been presented such as improving citizen responsibilities, improving official communication transparency and credibility, and improving inter-sectorial collaboration. Of particular importance, the Geneva Science Music Festival was a pivotal task to invite external expert with the aim to enrich the topics investigated in the frame of ASSET such as fighting against epidemics and pandemics.



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WP8 EVALUATION

WP Leader: ABSISKEY

Start month: m3 (March 2014)

End month: m48 (December 2017)

Efforts reported: xxxx p*m – **Actual Progress:** 63%

Work progress and overall achievements for the WP

With its 10 WPs and 59 deliverables expected from 14 beneficiaries placed in 11 countries, the ASSET project looks like to be quite challenging in matter of coordination and monitoring. WP8 secures a good workflow that is assessed either internally (T8.1) or from an external viewpoint (T8.2). Also concerning this evaluation activity, the web-based CoP is crucial to develop an efficient and effective sharing of templates/Forms to be completed by the partners. Namely, to this scope three different Forms have been elaborated: 1) general planning; 2) selfassessment; 3) recap on main achievements gained. The F1 was completed in the late 2015 and served to better understand the logical framework of the entire project, F2 was not used very much and F3 is constantly requested by the internal quality officer. All such this material serves for informing the broader reporting duties as well as the independent external evaluation foreseen in the T8.2, assignewd to the Crossculture Consulting.

The project monitoring is progressing sharply: new rounds of quality plan are constantly circulated among project participants and available indicators that are compiled accordingly are sent to the project manager then to the external reviewers. More details are provided below with regards to the progress made towards the objectives, significant outcomes and major achievements, separately for each task in WP8.

T8.1 Project Monitoring and ongoing evaluation

Task leader: ZADIG

Contributors: LYON, PROLEPSIS, EIWH, DBT, FFI, IPRI, ISS, NCIPD, TIEMS, DMI, UMFCD, HU, ABSISKEY

Start: m4 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 62%

Progress towards objectives

Beside the three different questionnaires to help the internal evaluation, utilities supplied by the Moodle web-based platform have facilitated the monitoring by offering a quantitative dimension of the relevant activities. Generally speaking, the activities are carried out following the DoW indications, and the consortium is strengthening more and more the internal cohesion thanks to a lively debate on the CoP platform and to the exchange of ideas among members around all the project products. The Internal evaluation was mainly developed by gathering on the CoP and analyzing the F3 related to the active tasks within the considered period M19-M36.

Significant results / Key findings

In terms of formal monitoring, all the deliverables but 4 (D1.4, D1.7, D4.3,D8.6) were received in due time. The delayed deliverable are in the final editing stage as demonstrated by the update F3 forms received. From a substantial point of view (actions implementation), the strategic and action plans plus related tools were completed as well as the citizen consultation was performed in 8 countries involving 540 participants. Communication and dissemination of the project results and activities have been increased since the website have become fully operative and the efforts on social media have been set up in view of the dedicated tasks, starting in the next months. Two Interim quality reports were produced between the first and the second evaluation reports due in T8.1.



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T8.2 Ex-post Evaluation

Task leader: ABSISKEY

Contributors: External Independent Evaluator (subcontracted)

Start: m5 – **End:** m48

Actual progress: 45%

Progress towards objectives

At the end of March 2015 (M15), an Inception Report has been prepared and submitted by the Crossxculture Consultant Company's evaluator (Independent External Evaluator – IEE). The report has been discussed in the CoP platform and the evaluation activities have started. To facilitate the work of the evaluators, they have been invited to partake to the ASSET consortium meeting in Geneva (Transdisciplinary Workshop - February 2015 – M14) and follow all the exchanges in the CoP platform, where they have been granted total access authorization.

Significant results / Key findings

Data collection (documents, interviews, posts, resources and deliverable analysis) have been collected to produce the final version of the 1st External Evaluation Report at M22. Conclusions of this report have been discussed during the Consortium Meeting in Rome at M21 so that partners could implement the external evaluator's suggestions.

From this date to M25, an extensive work has been carried out by the Scientific Coordinator, the Quality Manager and WP Leaders based on the evaluator recommendation on building the project Logical Framework. Several versions have been proposed by all actors until the final version has been approved beginning of M26. This work has been followed-up through conference call meetings organized between the Scientific Coordinator, the project manager and the evaluator. Logical Framework data from WP Leaders have been collected to produce the final version of the project Logical Framework document. The external evaluator has produced a logical framework regarding the evaluation aspect of the project implementation.

End of February 2016 (M26), several interviews have been launched with the IEE in order to produce the ex-post evaluation n°2. AK received from the External evaluators the ER2 in March 2016 based on the following deliverables evaluation: D1.3 Project Infrastructure Report 1, D1.6: Scientific Coordination Report 1, D2.7 Transdisciplinary Workshop report, D3.1 Strategic Plan, D3.2 Roadmap to Open and Responsible Research and Innovation in Pandemics, D6.4 Pandemic Preparedness and Response Bulletin Report 1, D7.3 Web Portal Report 1, D7.5 Media Report 1, and D7.9 Summer School Report 1.

Several exchanges and conference call have been launched during this period with the Scientific Coordinator on the evaluation. After request for review from Absiskey and Alberto Perra, we received a new version in June 2016. Within this revised version Alberto Perra and AK have proposed to our Project Officer to add an extra section with our comments which he accepted on the 23rd of August. The ER2 will be merged with the ER3 planned for February 2017 and will be submitted to the EC under this format at this time if necessary.

The initial planned schedule of the next evaluation report is:

ER3 is started end of January 2017 (M37) by the IEE and delivered to the consortium by the end of February 2017 (M38). One last External Evaluation Report (ER4) is scheduled between month 45 and 48. The exact date remains to be defined;

The calendar will be reorganized based on the partners and scientific needs to finish the deliverables in a qualitative ways. A new calendar has been proposed to the IEE at M36 and will be shared with the consortium once approved.