

SPILLESS NEWSLETTER

SPILLESS | Issue 1 | Date: 26th February 2018

WELCOMING

Welcome to the **SPILLESS!** This is our first Newsletter, a publication where you can find information about **SPILLESS** project.

SPILLESS is a Blue Lab project that aims to develop an innovative and environment-friendly solution to tackle with one of the most damaging sources of maritime pollution: oil spills.

The novel approach links bioremediation tools with robotics, by using native microorganisms with the capacity to degrade hydrocarbons, and the adaptation of unmanned autonomous vehicles for in-situ contamination combat. This novel approach can be used as a first line response to pollution incidents in a fast, efficient and low cost way.

STAKEHOLDERS

SPILLESS joined the Business2Sea event on last June 2017 to organized the 1st stakeholders workshop counting with the presence of more than 60 participants.

Stakeholders from different areas, including Portuguese navy, oil refineries, maritime transport companies, ports authorities, commercial harbor companies and research institutions had the opportunity to discuss how SPILLESS innovative idea can be used as an alternative and complementary approach to clean oil spills.

OUTREACH

SPILLESS BlueLab team has participated in several outreach activities to disseminate SPILLESS, namely at CIIMAR's annual open-day, at the *Europe In My Region Initiative* open-day, as well as in other outreach activities targeting different audiences, from students to researchers.



KEY DATES

March 2017: Kick-off Meeting

SPILLESS Kick-off meeting took place at CIIMAR on the 13th March 2017.

May 2017: European Maritime Day

SPILLESS participated in the European Maritime Day 2017 in Poole, UK.

June 2017: Stakeholders workshop

SPILLESS joined the Business2Sea event and hosted a Stakeholders workshop.

September 2017: CIIMAR Open Day

BlueLab team presented SPILLESS to general public through hands on experiments.



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WELCOMING

SPILLESS is being developed by a team of young scientists (Blue Lab Team), and supported by senior researchers from three research institutions (CIIMAR (Portugal), INESC TEC (Portugal) and the University of Vigo (Spain)) and experienced business tutors from three private companies (ACSM (Spain), Biotrend (Portugal) and MARLO (Norway)).

SPILLESS activities are proceeding as planned and by now all Workpackages are on time and some already have promising results.

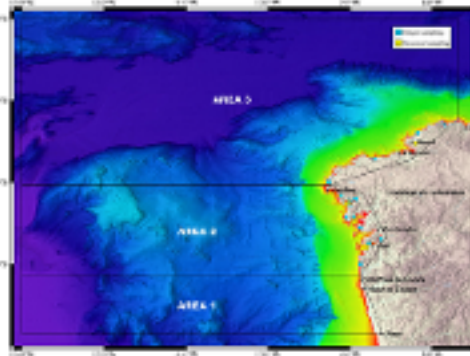
The collection of field samples to the construction of the georeferenced library of native microbial consortium has started in July 2017 and samples are now being processed in the laboratory.

The autonomous aerial vehicle UAV STORK - Bioremediation Release System is being developed and the first tests showed great results.

The first workshop with stakeholders was a success, joining more than 60 participants from different backgrounds.

BlueLab team has been involved in all **SPILLESS** activities, with great enthusiasm and initiative. Some members participated in the Business Ignition Program, a business model iteration program for technologies developed in the University of Porto.

SAMPLING



A set of ca. 40 sampling locations were established in the NW coast of the Iberian Peninsula. Sampling started in July 2017 and so far included both coastal and offshore waters. An extra location in Peniche, PT, was included to collect water samples just after an oil spill incident.

Once in the lab, collected marine water samples are being exposed to petroleum (with optimal tested conditions) to obtain enriched cultures of autochthonous microorganisms with capacity to grow and degrade petroleum compounds. These microorganisms are being characterized and preserved at -80°C to create the planned georeferenced library.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement 1

Check out SPILLESS website
<http://spilless.ciimar.up.pt/>

Announcement 2

SPILLESS participated in the Marinetechnology 2017 workshop.

Announcement 3

Follow us on Facebook and
Twitter @SpillessProject

Announcement 4

SPILLESS Newsletter no. 2 is coming!