



NETWORK MANAGEMENT

In order to bring ForSEAdiscovery Project to fruition, this first year of the ITN has required a great deal of coordination and management. The ITN coordinator, Ana Crespo Solana, is being assisted in the management tasks and website maintenance by a personal secretary and project manager hired part-time by the coordinating institution (CSIC) since 1 April 2014. The CSIC European Project Manager also provides assistance in the implementation of the project. In addition to this, several human resources management activities have been hired.

Both the scientific and management coordination (i.e. recruitment process, project implementation, financial supervision) have been performed by email, phone, Skype, in-person meetings and electronic media. All members of the Consortium, Full Partners and Associated Partners are strongly interlinked and close collaboration is guaranteed through this coordination. Associated Partners are strongly involved in both scientific and training activities.

Furthermore, a well-designed web page (<http://forseadiscovery.eu/>) provides quick and helpful access to information and communication. Spaces in professional and social networks (LinkedIn and Facebook) also facilitate good communication between partners and fellows, and dissemination information to a wider audience.

In-person meetings among the partners have also been crucial in the development of the project. Several meetings took place during 2014 in order to coordinate the project and to proceed with recruitment: the Kick-off-meeting (Madrid, April 8-10, 2014), various recruitment interview meetings (Madrid, Lisbon, Leiden, Lampeter, Groningen, Wageningen, Santiago de Compostela, and Lorraine) both in-person interview and by skype, three Work Package coordination meetings (Madrid, Lisbon, Lugo-Santiago de Compostela) and Supervisory Board meetings conducted during the Kick-off meeting and the first Network Meeting and Training Course held in Madrid on January 13, 2015.



RECRUITMENT

The recruitment process has been developed in full agreement with the *European Code of Conduct for Recruitment of Researchers* and Marie Curie guidance on best practice, assuring that the recruitment and selection process has been open, supportive and transparent.

The recruitment of ESRs and ERs has been organized by setting up a committee composed of the Network Coordinator, the Training Coordinator, the PI of the specific individual project and an independent observer (e.g. member of human resources/personnel office of employing institution) to ensure transparency and candidate eligibility, both in terms of institutional requirements and Marie Curie rules.

The project formally started on February 1, 2014, and the Open Call for Early Stage Researchers (12 positions available) was opened from March 1, 2014 to April 4, 2014. During the Kick-off Meeting, celebrated in April 8-10, 2014 in Madrid, the full Supervisory Board took advantage to study the applications already submitted.

The ForSEAdiscovery Consortium has encountered some problems during the recruitment process. Due to eligibility problems for candidates who applied for positions in the universities of Groningen, Leiden and Lorraine, further calls were opened in these places. Leiden opened two new calls (with deadlines May 15 and October 3, 2014), Lorraine opened a single new call. Both positions were successfully filled. Groningen opened a new call (with deadline October 30, 2014) in which one new fellow was recruited. The other applicant, who was offered a fellowship, rejected the position. So, currently, there is a new call opened (with deadline June 1, 2015). In this new call two persons are going to be hired for 18 months instead of one person for 36 months, in order to maintain adherence to project deadlines.

Each Research Coordinator involved in the process of recruitment completed a template to assist in the identification of eligible applicants, and facilitate transparent shortlisting of candidates. Although not detailed in the Annex 1 of the GA, the Consortium has encouraged use of a "Fellow Specification" document to ensure the role of each researcher, and their lines of responsibility are clearly defined. All these documents were overseen by Nigel Nayling as Training Coordinator and Ana Crespo Solana as ITN Coordinator. These documents helped to determine the eligibility of the candidates and their suitability for the position according to the Marie Curie Program criteria. The IP, the Training Coordinator and the ITN Coordinator agreed to shortlist candidates for the interview. Invitation letters were sent to those who were shortlisted. Interviews were carried out in Leiden, Lisbon, Groningen, Lampeter, Santiago de Compostela and Southampton. Some of the interviews were made by skype.

Seventy –three candidates have so far applied for ESR positions. At this moment there is a vacancy for ESR3 and ESR13 (Groningen University), ESR3 having been divided into two positions of 18 months each.

Calls for ESRs were disseminated via the website of ForSEAdiscovery (<http://forseadiscovery.eu/>), the websites of the institutions of the Consortium, EURAXESS, and the websites of other research centres and universities. They were also advertised through associations of History and Archaeology, and networks of specialist and colleagues, including a range of internet fora. ESRs of WP3 were also announced during the COST FP 1106 STREeSS Meeting in Hyytiälä (Finland) and were posted several times to the ITRDB Forum, in which most researchers in dendrochronology participate.

The call for Experienced Researchers (three positions available) was opened in May 2014 following the same protocols defined in the GA. There were different results: many qualified candidates, unfortunately, did not meet the very specific requirements of the Marie Curie eligibility criteria.

Twenty candidates applied for ER positions. In the case of ER2, a highly suitable, and eligible, candidate applied and was recruited successfully. We opened new calls for ER1 and ER3 (from May to June 2014). In the case of ER1 we recruited an eligible candidate. An eligible candidate

for the ER3 position was interviewed and offered the position but has refused the position. At present, this position is still vacant but we expect to fill this post before 1 April, 2015.

Most of the Early Stage Researchers started to work in August and September 2014, some of them in October 2014 and the two recruited Established Researchers in December 2014.



FELLOWS SUPERVISION AND TRAINING

The ForSEAdiscovery Consortium has a Work Package dedicated to Training. This program aims to deliver researchers with interdisciplinary and intersectorial expertise and with strong research, communication and leadership skills. According to the Grant Agreement (PITN-GA-2013-607545), Nigel Nayling (UWTSD) has been appointed Training Coordinator and is responsible for oversight of the Training Program objectives supported by all members of the Consortium. The Training Coordinator acts as the liaison between the Supervisory Board and the Fellows. Associated partners and private sector full partner MA Ltd have also an important role in Training.

Each ESR has a supervisor who is a member of the project. Supervision of his/her work is the responsibility of this supervisor on a day-to-day basis. In case of co-direction with a PhD supervisor from outside the Network (from the same institution or from another one) the ForSEAdiscovery senior members strive to establish the closest coordination with this supervisor in order to assure the best possible outcome from the work of the ESR. The ForSEAdiscovery supervisors within the Supervisory Board have setting up a system to support and monitor fellows' progress via individual PDPs (Personal Development Plans), or CDPs (Career Development Plans), and research reports.

On 12-17 January 2015, the CCHS-CSIC hosted the opening workshop of the ForSEAdiscovery ITN. Full and Associated Partners and ESRs and ERs fellows met for training courses on *History of Wooden Shipbuilding* (C1) and *Books and treatises on Shipbuilding* (C2). During the Network Meeting, ESRs and ERs presented their individual research projects. This permitted all the Consortium members to discuss evaluations of recruited fellows and other project-related issues. The Courses C1 and C2 were imparted by Filipe Castro (Texas A&M University) as Associated Partner and visiting researcher. Other Associated Partners (Aoife Daly from DendroDK; Miguel San Claudio Santa Cruz, from Archaeonauta S.L and Malcolm Dixelius from Dixit International) also participated in the discussions that followed the courses. Collaborative working methods were developed amongst the participants in the project. An important collaboration from outside the Network was the presentation of Silvia López-Werhli (*Archivo General de la Marina Alvaro de Bazán*) who imparted lessons about sources for shipbuilding and forest management in the Hispanic Monarchy. The ForSEAdiscovery team visited the *Archivo General de la Marina Alvaro de Bazán* at the end of the Conference.



RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

The ITN coordinator, Ana Crespo Solana (head of WP1), together with the other heads of the Work Packages, Nigel Nayling (WP2) and Ignacio García-González (WP3) are responsible for ensuring effective outreach and dissemination of the research. Nigel Nayling is the Training Coordinator and Ignacio García-González is the Scientific Coordinator.

An intensive program of academic interaction and dissemination has taken place during the first year of the ForSEAdiscovery project in addition to the the First Intensive Training Courses of the team (Partners and Fellows):

- a) EURODENDRO 2014, Lugo (Spain), 8-12 September, 2014. This is the first time this international dendrochronology conference has been held in the Iberian peninsula and provided an opportunity to inform delegates of the ForSEAdiscovery project's objectives. Numerous partners and ESRs participated.
- b) IKUWA V: *Un patrimonio para la Humanidad*, Cartagena (Spain), 15-18 October 2014. This is the first time this international underwater archaeology conference has been held in the Iberian peninsula and provided an opportunity to inform delegates of the ForSEAdiscovery project's objectives. Numerous partners and ESRs participated. Publication through peer-reviewed conference proceedings is planned.
- c) *A gestão dos recursos florestais Ibéricos na construção naval da Moderna: História e Arqueologia*, Lisbon (Portugal), 26-27 November 2014. Presentations were made by Work Package 2 and Work Package 1 Research Coordinator and ESRs and publication of the proceedings is planned.
- d) Participation in local outreach activities by individual Fellows and in documentaries and news items, in Barcelona (February 2014); Madrid (March 2014); Lisbon (May 2014); Lugo (8 September 2014) and Finisterre, Galicia (September 2014).
- e) Workshop *Change point modelling*, Department of Geological Sciences and the Bolin Centre for Climate Research, University of Stockholm (Sweden), 10-12 November 2014.
- f) Participation N.W. Posthumus-Graduate Training Session 1, Brussels (Belgium), December 2014.
- g) Outreach activity in Lugo: A stand was set up in the Plaza Mayor in Lugo to inform the citizens about dendrochronology and different application of this Science. Some samples were displayed from timber elements of the Ribadeo shipwrecks, collected by Miguel San Claudio, Archaeonauta SL. (7 September 2014, Lugo, Spain).
- h) Participation in a meeting at the American Historical Association, New York (USA), January 2015.
- i) Outreach activity in Wageningen: *Wood in the SPOTlight*, an evening with six ten minutes lectures presenting different application of dendrochronology in different parts of the world and a wood market where the invited speakers showed posters and samples related to their research (17 February 2015).

Contribution from outside the network: members of ForSEAdiscovery Consortium have also their own networks, which include contacts with the public sector and with private companies. Some members of the network have visited and organized a meeting in the *Centro de Arqueología Subacuática* de la Junta de Andalucía (CAS-IAPS) (Cádiz, 5-7 February 2015); and established a relation with the *Fundación Arkeolan* (Irún, Spain) for wood sampling.



FIRST RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH: HISTORY, WOOD SAMPLING AND MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY EXPEDITION

a) Underwater Archaeological Intervention Project in Finisterre (Galicia- Spain):

In September 2014, from 14 to 17 and within the framework of ForSEAdiscovery Project, some prospecting were conducted on shipwrecks off the west coast of Galicia in order to know the status of the archaeological sites previously located and shedding new light on shipbuilding techniques, ship outfitting and life onboard these vessels. Most interventions were made on wrecks located around Finisterre (Coruña), considered one of the most important areas in the world for survival of accessible, historic Iberian shipwrecks. Of particular interest are a number of shipwrecks from the AD 1596 Armada lost on the Finisterre coast during a ferocious storm.

The team comprised mainly researchers from Work Package 2 (Underwater Archaeologist and their fellows), led by WP2 Research Coordinator Nigel Nayling (UWTSD), Associated Partner Miguel San Claudio Santa Cruz (director of Archaeonauta SL), and the full partner (private sector) Garry Momber (Maritime Archaeology Ltd.). Research focused on assessment of shipwrecks of this area in terms of their potential for dendrochronological sampling of hull remains to provide material for study by Work Package 3. An essential goal of this activity was to assess the scientific diving competence of participating ESRs, influencing future decisions on their diver training provision prior to planned diving operations in 2015. Significant benefits also included team building within the group, identification of shipwreck sites for further work, and initial development appropriate procedures for scientific diving and data collection. Ana Crespo, ITN Network Coordinator and Research Coordinator of Work Package 1, took part in the activities of underwater archaeology as a diver and, at the same time, carried out an important task of compilation of historical documentation for a future publication. During our stay in Galicia the activities developed had a significant impact in the media and interviews were attended in press, radio and television.

b) Sampling Campaign:

- a. Sampling action involving pines in Andalucía (Spain) (12-17 November 2015). Dendrochronologist of ForSEAdiscovery Project and colleagues from the University of Huelva (collaboration from outside the network) carried out sampling of historical buildings, living trees and soil. The samples collected will be used to perform all analysis included in WP3.

- b. Sampling Campaign Shipwrecks: Cádiz (Spain) (5-12 February 2015). Some members of WP1 and WP3 carried out the inspection, selection and sampling of timbers of Delta I, Delta II shipwrecks at the *Centro de Arqueología Subacuática* (CAS). Preliminary inspection and dendrochronological results point to a potential Cantabrian origin of the Delta I ship and possibilities for a collaborative sampling action among CAS, TANIT (private sector from outside the Networks), *Fundación Arkeolán* and ForSEAdiscovery members.



ETHICAL ASPECTS

The ForSEAdiscovery project has made a commitment to follow the spirit and text of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage especially in the matters detailed in its Annex.

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/underwater-cultural-heritage/2001-convention/>

Also, the ForSEAdiscovery Consortium confirms their responsibility to ensure approvals are negotiated with appropriate local and/or national authorities in relation to underwater archaeology. We have received permissions from the *Xunta de Galicia* for underwater archaeology operations and copies have been forwarded to the European Commission.