

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

List of participants:

Partner n.	Acronym	Representative
1	ISMAR	Nevio Zitellini
2	FFCUL	Maria Ana Baptista Luis Matias (observer)
3	CSIC	Juan José Danobeitia
4	AWI	Wolfram Geissler (observer)
5	UBO	Marc André Gutscher
6	INGV	Paolo Favali Laura Beranzoli (observer)
7	TFH	Hans Gerber
8	UGR	José Morales
9	IM	Fernando Carrilho
10	CNRST	Azelarab El Mouraouah
11	XISTOS	/

Assistants: Maria Grazia Zucchini and Alessandra Borgatti (ASTER)

Decision on possible postponement of the end of the project

The Coordinator reported to the PIs that some partners have asked to postpone the end of the project in order to be able to present the results of their workpackages within its duration. The assumed postponement could last for no more than 2 or 3 months. The procedures of the hypothetical amendment (according to the Grant Agreement and to the Consortium Agreement) are presented and the Coordinator focused the attention on the consequences of this decision. The PIs and the Coordinator decided that the final decision will be taken during the spring meeting.

Strategy for publication - dissemination of major nearest outcomes and EGU spring2009 meeting participation

The Coordinator called attention to the plan for the dissemination of the project results for the year 2009. First of all, he suggested that the first results of the refraction campaign could be presented during *EGU (European Geosciences Union) meeting* (the most important geophysics meeting in Europe) whose General Assembly 2009 will take place in Vienna Austria, 19 – 24 April 2009. The Coordinator asked the PIs to share their ideas about the presentations to be scheduled for that meeting. Via e-mail he will collect the suggestions for the topics to be presented and he will define a common strategy avoiding overlapping.

As for the *strategy for the publications*, the Coordinator stressed the importance to have a shared management especially in relation to the refraction experiment's results.

He communicated to the PIs about a contact with an editor for a *volume dedicated on the Gulf of Cadiz* from a geophysical and marine geological point of view. The publication will involve other scientists working on the topic. The PIs agreed on the importance of the publication and to present it during an important meeting. Two options are considered:

- to present it during a special session in the Fall AGU Congress taking place in San Francisco (US)
- to foresee a workshop within ESF (European Science Foundation)

Relations with Topo community

As mentioned during the working session of the previous afternoon, the Nearest partners have relevant contacts with the Topo community. Topo Iberia, Topo Europe and Topo Med are initiatives that connect the researchers dealing with multidisciplinary geoscientific studies.

The Coordinator stressed the importance to inform the Topo Community about the Nearest results and suggested to invite some representatives to participate to the next Nearest meeting. The Iberian partners and José Morales in particular are asked to collect the contact reference of the main representatives of the Topo community.

Logistics organization of a field trip in Morocco to study the neotectonics of the area

During the Marrakech Meeting in October 2007 the partners shared the proposal to organize a field trip in Morocco to study the nature of the activity of the fault and map it. The field trip is planned for the end of January/ beginning of February 2009. The Coordinator suggested to start collecting proposals and arranging logistics. The field trip will be open to every interested partners and their students. The Moroccan partner, Azelarab El Mouraouah, proposed to organise alongside this field trip a meeting open to Moroccan scientists with the presentation of the state of the art in the area and the presentation of Nearest activities. The Coordinator approved the idea. The details will be defined via e-mail among the interested partners.

Organization of next Nearest mid-year meeting

The Nearest Meetings foreseen for year 2009 will be slightly anticipated in order to schedule the final one within the project period. The Coordinator proposed to program the mid-year meeting at the beginning of April. The dates for the next meeting were eventually scheduled for the 2nd and 3rd April. The meeting will take place in Brest and it will be arranged in collaboration with UBO. Some preliminary details are discussed among the partners.

From a reporting point of view, the anticipation of the mid-year meeting implies that the six-monthly reports will therefore cover only 5 months (the period between October 2008 and February 2009). The arrangement could be done because these reports are working documents not to be delivered to the European Commission but useful to the correct management and monitoring of project activities.

The Steering Committee meeting was closed with the reminder that all useful documents are available in the restricted area of Nearest website.