

## D9.10 Cooperation framework with other projects (v1)

Work Package 9: Dissemination, Exploitation and Standardization



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<b>Abstract</b>	This deliverable will depict the cooperation with other projects in terms of SWARMs promotion and knowledge discussion, including common key interesting points to be shared among other projects and stakeholders.

## Document History

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## 1. Introduction

This document presents the results achieved in the first stage of Task 9.3, as described in the DoW of the SWARMS project. Two main goals were defined for this task: to cooperate in the promotion and motivation of fruitful interaction, as well as knowledge sharing and discussion through the organization of joint events or any other form of dissemination activity; and a cooperative or coordinated approach towards standardization, which would eventually have a higher impact in such entities, giving further strength to any potential initiative or interaction of that nature.

For this first stage, efforts have focused on the cooperation and interaction with other projects in order to promote and spread the project results achieved so far. To describe the cooperation plan defined by the partners participating in this task, a set of cooperation activities organized by partners have been included in the document. In addition, a set of different conferences, workshops and EU hosted events have been identified as interesting to encourage SWARMS project partners to participate in them.

## 2. Shareable key interest points

This section contains the key points within the SWARMS project scope they are willing to share with other external projects. These points have been identified, in a first round, by the partners working within Task 9.3, and in a second round, including the contributions provided by task external partners.

### A) T9.3 Partners

**ACCIONA** aims to reach a great improvement in the construction and maintenance methodologies related to the marine or underwater environments. So far, maintenance and construction processes have been mainly developed with a high percentage of handwork done by human operators and because of that is why the technical tasks that will be developed in SWARMS will serve as the base for future automation of many day-to-day processes done by ACCIONA. Some key interest points to be shared:

- A Standardization of needs and requirements in maritime works.
- A conceptual map of work fluxes, dependences, and ways to carry out processes involved in maritime works.

**UPM** has identified the following key interest points to be shared:

- A middleware architecture, implemented into a middleware solution to be deployed in several robot platforms.
- A context awareness framework has been designed tailored to the SWARMS architecture.
- Map matching methods
- Low bandwidth communication frameworks

The main goal for **PLOCAN** is to find synergies with other ongoing national, European or international projects in order to enrich the projects results. It is also interesting to find new proposals or emerging related projects to collaborate with. These collaboration actions shall be extended during the whole project lifecycle.

As a demonstration centre we are interested mainly in the design and operational methods which can then be applied to other project demonstrations and trials. In this sense, we are also very interested in the validation and verification methodologies. Some of the most interesting points that can be shared with other projects from SWARMS are:

- The know how related to the SWARMS architecture in order to be adapted to other swarms of vehicles such as underwater gliders. These are one of the most used observation vehicles in the projects PLOCAN is involved in, and the high level scheme of operational organization that is present in SWARMS can be used in future projects.
- The design and operational methodologies obtained from WP2, which can be applied to other marine autonomous vehicle projects, and demonstrations.
- All the knowledge obtained from the validation and verification methods of the use cases and scenarios in T2.5, and the use cases in T2.6. The outcomes from these tasks will enrich future real demo situations that will take place in PLOCAN.
- SWARMS RF and underwater communication scheme design. As PLOCAN is also working in some RF and underwater communication related projects and proposals, such as FP7 UNDERWORLD and H2020 ERAKLES, the outcomes related to these aspects can result useful in the future.
- The whole Task 8.3, related to the organization of the SWARMS Early Trials will provide us with a vast knowledge about organizing other similar events like this one. This will be useful in other ongoing projects such as H2020 Atlantos and Nexos FP7, where PLOCAN as an active role in the demonstrational aspect.

**TECNALIA** has identified the following key interest points to be shared:

- best practices for developing planning and re-planning algorithms both for surface and underwater environments
- high level planning and vehicle level planning algorithms
- WP3:SWARMS ontology
- Middleware for low-bandwidth and high-latency environments
- Methods for automatic detection of landmarks in sonar images

**HI Iberia** participates in SWARMS providing the following key work:

- Interfaces from task T2.7 which implement connections from external components to the middleware in WP3. HI Iberia leads the effort.
- Parts of the information model to be produced in T3.2, in the form of an ontology. HI Iberia leads this effort.
- Parts of the middleware to be produced in the task T3.3, specifically related to communications using DDS over RTPS.
- Integration of these efforts in the demonstrators produced in WP8.

The most obvious shareable interest from the project for HI Iberia is the ontology produced in WP3. This is separated in two key areas:

- Domain-specific (underwater and surface vehicles and operations) ontology elements that can be reused in similar projects. This may include innovative aspects such as the incorporation of fuzzy or uncertain values in the ontology for elements that might vary over time or not be fully specified.
- Higher level ontology concepts that can be used cross-domain. This is of particular interest for HI Iberia as the company is active in providing solutions based on semantics (e.g., please see the related projects SAMi2 and ARGOS in Chapter **Error! Reference source not found.**) but is not active as of the start of SWARMS in the domains of implementation in the project. Thus, the reuse of useful cross-domain concepts and sub-ontologies (e.g., a generalization of the management of fuzziness) could be of particular interest to strengthen HI Iberia's offerings in other fields.

In addition to these core shareable results identified at the beginning of the project, other elements that may lead to reusable contents are as follows:

- Implementations of the DDS/RTPS based communications stack with the middleware that might be adapted to other purposes (e.g., IoT deployments with similar characteristics and constraints that are targeted by HI Iberia's business units).
- Tools and additional developments produced for the implementation of demonstrators in WP8 (e.g., testing tools for the ontology of T3.2 or for the interfaces and communications produced in T2.7).

**ITAV** intends to share several SWARMS outcomes with upcoming related European projects where it envisages participating, apart from internal/national ones. Such key outcomes are mainly linked with the following topics:

- Communication Protocols and Network Coding schemes for effective and efficient data transmission over challenging and harsh communication channels, such as the maritime underwater acoustic channels are.
- Context Awareness, associated ontology and inherent processes are also envisaged to be shared with such other upcoming projects where ITAV plans to participate.

**UAVR** plans to apply, extend and share SWARMS major achieved results, not only, but mostly related with:

- Imaging processing, maps/data fusion and object identification, namely under particularly harsh conditions, such as the ones existing in SWARMS scenarios.
- Data communication and networking most promising achieved solutions will also be most likely shared, used and extended in other projects involving communication where UAVR envisages to continue participating.

## B) Other partners

**BOSCH** is coordinating WP7 on autonomous navigation and semi-autonomous manipulation. Within the task 7.2 a simulation environment for model based function and system development is set up. The simulation environment is based on GAZEBO, which is Open Source with permissive license (Apache 2). It is the most popular 3D simulator in ROS eco system and actively maintained by OSRF. It is already used for large simulation campaigns, e.g. DARPA robotics challenge. However is not widely used within the underwater robotics community. Therefore we developed different plug-ins with the goal that GAZEBO can be also wide-spread simulation solution with the subsea robotics community. So our goal is that the simulation environment is distributed and further developed and optimized by the open source community.

**ONERA** plans to apply SWARMS results concerning the Supervisor-Planning-Monitor embedded architecture for autonomous vehicles. Based on preliminary software developments the aim is to provide a ROS-based generic architecture which can be applied to different types of vehicles. Cooperation with projects where this architecture could be reused will be of great interest for ONERA.

**FINMECCANICA**, as WP5 leader, works in the project to build and integrate a “multi-environment” communication network, able to manage missions of underwater vehicles from a remote ashore control station. The aim is to identify a common solution to extend performances and capabilities of “composite” swarms of robotic platforms and, if possible, to become a standard for this type of applications. Thus, any swarm of robotic platforms used to perform activities shall share information using a robust and performing communication network. This is quite easy in air and on the ground, while it is very complicated at sea and in underwater environment, because of physical limits of the acoustic channel (the main useful communication system).

**INVENTAS** is responsible for developing an intuitive and user friendly user interface for the SWARMS projects and intends to share SWARMS outcomes and experiences with upcoming related European projects as well as national projects in order to find possible synergies. Such key outcomes are mainly linked with the following topics:

- Methodology for developing advanced user interfaces and intuitive input devices for controlling multiple actors in close cooperation
- Generic icons and symbols library

**SINTEF** will continue to develop and utilize the methodology developed in SEATONOMY and SWARMS. The methodology is proposed used and adapted to different application areas in proposals for funding. The methodology is today used in SFI EXPOSED whose main objective is to develop knowledge and technologies for exposed aquaculture operations, enabling a sustainable expansion of the fish farming industry.



**ECA** has identified the following key interest points to be shared:

- 3D acoustic maps and images made by interferometric side looking sonar from AUVs
- Experience planning and re-planning AUV missions to optimize quality of such maps and images
- Methods for automatic detection of landmarks in sonar images
- Algorithms for improved AUV navigation using landmarks

**TTI** is responsible for the design and development of the overwater communication subsystem for SWARMS system and intends to share and/or improve the following topics/aspects in other national/international projects:

- Architecture design and deployment of robust, efficiency, highly modular and heterogeneous wideband communication networks based on the integration of different technologies
- Reliability and endurance of communication subsystems for maritime/sea environmental scenarios.
- Integration, interoperability and management of communication networking solutions with other maritime and ground Command, Control and Intelligence Systems, (borders surveillance, monitoring of protected areas, security systems, etc)

## 3. Related Projects

This section presents, for each partner, not only active or finished projects in their own companies, but also external projects that they considered to be interesting and related to SWARMS scope and objectives. The activities to promote the collaboration with the aforementioned projects will be explored in section 4, where the cooperation plan is depicted.

Finished projects identified by **HI Iberia** include:

- DG-HOME project SAMi2 (<http://sami2-project.eu/>) led by HI Iberia in which semantics and natural language processing tools are used to semi-automatically explore social media sources (e.g., Twitter) to detect situations of interest for safety actors such as the police. In this project ontologies and other data models were used to model elements that could benefit from the incorporation of fuzziness and other high level concepts proposed in SWARMS.
- Through its participation in the FI-PPP SafeCity project (final report at <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/netinnovation/deliverables/safecity/safecity-final-report.pdf>), HI Iberia gained significant contacts in the Future Internet Public-Private Partnership (<https://www.fi-ppp.eu/>). This includes a number of use case projects which implemented innovative solutions using the core technology produced by project FI-WARE (<https://www.fiware.org/>). After the ending of the PPP, the work was continued by means of the FI-WARE foundation which intends to follow the technology footsteps of FI-WARE. The contacts by HI Iberia remain relevant and connection to Future Internet initiatives and technology (such as the extensions to ontologies and the communication systems or

incorporation of the results of DDS/RTPS implementation to the catalogue of FI-WARE for IoT solutions) can be explored.

- HI Iberia was a participant in FP7 project ARGOS (<http://www.argos-project.eu/>) in which the security of Critical Infrastructures was provided using modern technologies such as IoT sensors and Data Fusion algorithms provided by HI Iberia. As the SWARMS project may deal with such Critical Infrastructures (e.g. unique oceanic platforms such as PLOCAN), contacts gathered in this project may also be reused in SWARMS.
- HI Iberia participated in ARTEMIS project VARIES (<http://www.varies.eu>) in which the different facets of variability of embedded system design was examined, including aspects such as personalized builds and reconfiguration. This was further conceptualized into a fully working variability-aware build system used in fellow ARTEMIS project PaPP (<http://www.papp-project.eu/>). This approach could be used to produce for example personalized builds of components such as the ontology for devices or vehicles with different levels of processing or other specifications. VARIES established at the end of its execution a Center of Innovation Excellence (VARIES CoIE) to centralize post-project European research on variability which SWARMS could contact to benefit from these technologies.
- In the course of work for SWARMS T3.2 HI Iberia has detected a number of finished related projects:
  - FP7 Pandora (<http://persistentautonomy.com/>) “Persistent Autonomy through learning, adaptation, Observation and Re-planning (PANDORA)” intends to develop and evaluate new computational methods to make human-built robots Persistently Autonomous. The goal was to reduce the frequency of assistance requests significantly and the key to this aim is the ability to recognize failure and respond to it autonomously. The PANDORA project is focused on three underwater tasks, one of them consisting in autonomous grasping and turning a valve with a free floating AUV.
  - FP7 BRICS (<http://www.best-of-robotics.org/home>) “Best practice In robotiCS” main objectives are to significantly promote the interoperability of hardware and software components and to design and implement an integrated robotic development environment including a software repository of best practise robotics algorithms.
- Elements of documents released by PANDORA and BRICS are being considered to be used to model concepts in the SWARMS ontology in T3.2 although the ontologies themselves are confidential project results and cannot be reused as is.

One ongoing project identified by HI Iberia is FP7 SUNRISE (<http://fp7-sunrise.eu/>) which is working on a unique federation of experimental facilities covering the diverse marine environments (seas, ocean, lakes, canals) that allow researchers to experiment with novel paradigms and solutions for the Internet of Underwater Things, associated with the EC FIRE initiative. We are currently considering contacting the project as some of their objectives (e.g., a software-defined open-architecture modem and protocol stack) seem to be very much aligned with SWARMS.

**ITAV** and **UAVR** have participated in the following GREENET project, which although already concluded, there are still possible ways to collaborate with the respective former partners, or exploit its most promising outcomes that are related with SWARMS goals, and also by eventually joining forces, e.g. to influence standardization bodies, with respect to some common base technology shared between this project and SWARMS.

- GREENET

Current 4G vision envisages higher data rates and multi standard radio interfaces to provide all the users with a continuous seamless connection. The large number of foreseen devices coupled with the surge in power requirements for future emerging handsets raises significant challenges in terms of: i) reducing the energy consumption; and ii) reducing the amount of electromagnetic radiations. The state-of-the-art of multi-standard devices has high power requirements for maintaining two or more radio interfaces. It is envisaged that a dramatic increase in the energy consumptions of 4G devices makes active cooling a necessity. Indeed, from the manufacturer's perspective, the issue of power consumptions is a key concern since there is a continuously growing gap between the energy required by emerging radio systems and what can be actually achieved by: i) the evolution on battery technology; ii) the progress on scaling and circuit design; iii) the design of novel system level architectures; and iv) the development of novel thermal and cooling techniques. Therefore, one of the biggest challenges on current wireless systems is the need to limit the energy consumptions of battery-powered devices, with the aim to prolong their operational time and avoid active cooling. Without new approaches for energy saving, there is a significant threat that mobile users will be searching for power outlets rather than for network access, thus being restricted to a single location and losing the ability to roam freely.

- Common lines with SWARMS

- Research on beyond routing via energy efficient network coded wireless architectures

In GREENET, we moved from these preliminary but promising results related to a cross-layer design of source, channel, and network codes for the energy-efficient design of wireless networks. Our main commitment was the design of novel algorithms and codes that can efficiently work over realistic fading channels and can take into account the realistic operation of cooperative networks. In SWARMS, the knowhow on network coding approaches will be used for the underwater acoustic communications, with the main objective of increased the severely limited point to point link throughput.

In GREENET, we designed efficient short-range cooperative MAC and Cooperative-ARQ strategies to meet energy saving requirements. In order to improve the efficiency of cooperation in the whole network, some intelligent and energy efficient mechanisms for relay selection were introduced in the designed protocols. In particular, relay selection mechanisms based on the received SNR (Signal-to-Noise-Ratio), the traffic load of the relays, the battery status, the whole energy consumption, and the requirements of the application were investigated. Also, in GREENET we analyzed the potential threats to the proposed cooperative approach, the potential attacks, the likelihood, and the potential consequences of these attacks. In SWARMS we aim at using our acquired knowledge on cooperative techniques to

provide autonomous modes of operation for the communication framework, including clustering algorithms and their respective security frameworks.

- CATRENE-H2O

The institutions are currently participating in another project, CATRENE-H2O, which should be completed by mid-2018, where some technology related with lightweight cryptography and security mechanisms could be shared with SWARMS towards the same purposes, although in significantly different scenarios and use cases, but still with similar requirements, e.g. significantly limited computational power.

**PLOCAN** has participated in the following projects related to the use of autonomous marine vehicles in different contexts and scenarios:

- PERSEUS (FP-7)

PERSEUS project contributes to Europe's efforts to monitor illegal migration and combat related crime and goods smuggling by proposing a large scale demonstration of a EU Maritime surveillance System of Systems, on the basis of existing national systems and platforms, enhancing them with innovative capabilities and moving beyond EUROSUR's 2013 expectations, addressing key challenges: (1) Supporting the network created by National Contact Centres, FRONTEX and EMSA through increased capabilities, including transnational exchange of useful and available information, and associated procedures and mechanisms, thereby supporting the creation of a common information sharing environment. (2) Generation of a common situational picture. (3) Improved detection and identification of noncollaborative/suspicious small boats and low flying aircraft. (4) Enhanced and increasingly automated detection of abnormal vessel behaviour, identification of threats and tracking of reporting and non-reporting vessels. PLOCAN main role in PERSEUS (that clearly linked with SWARMS project) is to conduct the offshore marine test of an autonomous surface vehicle (ASV) equipped with the innovative tools designed within the project, providing the real operational scenarios and some of the key infrastructures for its successful and safe performance.

- GROOM (FP7)

The objective of the GROOM proposal is the design of a new European research infrastructure to use underwater gliders for the benefit of European citizens, researcher, and industry. GROOM will define the scientific, technological and organizational/legal levels, of a European glider capacity for research and sustained observations of the oceans, in line with the other European and international initiatives for marine in-situ observations. The proposal for this new infrastructure strongly relies on EuroARGO and JERICO infrastructures which are emerging and also considers the relevant international coordinating bodies such as GOOS. The proposed technological infrastructures will be based on several dedicated 'gliderports' to maintain and operate a European fleet of gliders in coordination with US, Canadian, Australian and other similar infrastructures. This new infrastructure would be beneficial for both academic oceanographic research and operational oceanography systems on which a large number of

marine activities and societal applications now rely. PLOCAN gliderport is included in GROOM project as reference infrastructure for the Central-East North Atlantic. Its experience and results in GROOM will represent a great benefit within the scope and objective of SWARM project.

- LEANWIND (FP7)

A new EU 7th Framework Programme project, "LEANWIND" (Logistic Efficiencies And Naval architecture for Wind Installations with Novel Developments) seeks to apply lean principles to the offshore wind farm project lifecycle. The primary LEANWIND objective is to provide cost reductions across the offshore wind farm lifecycle and supply chain through the application of lean principles and the development of state of the art technologies and tools. PLOCAN role in the project related with SWARM is the leadership of the Work Package for Testing and Validation Tools and Technologies (WP7). Within this WP PLOCAN coordinates the work of 15 international partners with the main objective of demonstrate the application of LEANWIND innovative tools in order to effectively reduce the operational costs of Wind Farm lifecycle. EURATHLON (FP7)

This is a new outdoor robotics competition, which will invite teams to test the intelligence and autonomy of their robots in realistic mock emergency-response scenarios. Inspired by the 2011 Fukushima accident the EURATHLON competition will require a team of land, underwater and flying robots to work together to survey the scene, collect environmental data, and identify critical hazards. Leading up to this 'grand challenge' in 2015, will be directly related land and underwater robot competitions in 2013 and 2014, respectively. The EURATHLON competitions will be supported by annual workshops for competitors. In parallel there will be an open process of developing benchmarks to allow comparison of different robots in the EURATHLON competitions. Linked public engagement activities will connect EURATHLON with robotics research, industry and emergency services, as well as the general public. Attendance of spectators will be welcome, and we hope that EURATHLON events will attract considerable press and media attention. By targeting a specific and urgent need - intelligent robots for disaster-response - EURATHLON will provide European robotics with a platform for challenging, extending and showcasing European cognitive robotics technologies.

Some ongoing projects that have been identified by PLOCAN are: The UNDERWORLDS project is co-funded by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (50%) and by the European Regional Development Fund (50%) in the scope of the Research, Development and Innovation program focused on the Society Challenges in the framework of the Scientific, Technic and Innovation Plan 2013-2016, section 1: "Research Challenges", R+D+I Projects, Call 2013.. The objective of the UNDERWORLD project is to reevaluate the electromagnetic communications in underwater sensor networks. This milestone will be carried out as a combination of theoretical contributions, measurement campaigns, modelling, and software and hardware developments. In fact, the main value of this project is the balance between all these aspects to ultimately create an operative Underwater Wireless Sensor Networks (UWSN) to be properly prototyped towards the technological transfer to interested companies. This big challenge is feasible just due to the combination of backgrounds and complementary skills of the three involved institutions: the Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM), as project coordinator and the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC)

and the Oceanic Platform of the Canary Islands as associated partners. The underwater communications explored on this project could be interesting for SWARMS and can be explored as an option or alternative to the existing underwater communication options.

The project SMIS - Subsea Monitoring via Intelligent Swarms is the development of an innovative system for efficient monitoring of large-scale subsea areas using team-/swarm technology. The funding for the development project has been granted with retroactive effect to 01 January 2013 by The Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi). Within SMIS engineers and scientists are working together on a novel concept for autonomous monitoring and investigation of the marine environment based on pressure-neutral technology. Within the project the SMIS-system will comprise of two Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs), one sea bottom station (SBS), and one unmanned surface vehicle (USV), which are operated from a research ship, or where required from a land station, using the principles of swarm intelligence. The most prominent unique feature of the SMIS-fleet is its applicability as intelligent team system for large deep sea areas in water depths up to 6.000 m.

The Adaptive Autonomous Ocean Sampling Networks (AAOSN) is a British technology competition where several ideas to develop new technology solutions for coordinating a suite of marine autonomous systems have been submitted. Some of these projects have been identified from PLOCAN and in the coming days we are studying possible ways of collaboration. One of them is the one that the company Seebyte is carrying out related to underwater gliders and surface vehicles.

**TECNALIA** is participating in R5-COP Project. Reconfigurable ROS-based Resilient Reasoning Robotic Cooperating Systems. <http://www.r5-cop.eu/en/> (02/2014 - 01/2017) (ARTEMIS-JU Call 2013). R5-COP focuses on agile manufacturing paradigms and specifically on modular robotic systems. Based on existing and newly developed methods for a formal modeling of hardware and soft-ware components, R5-COP will support model-based design, engineering, validation, and fast commissioning. Using existing interface and middleware standards R5-COP will strongly facilitate integration of components from various suppliers.

Other interesting projects identified by TECNALIA and WP3 are:

- TRIDENT (<http://www.irs.uji.es/trident/>). This FP7 project proposes a new methodology for multipurpose underwater intervention tasks with diverse potential applications like underwater archaeology, oceanography and offshore industries, and goes beyond present-day methods typically based on manned and / or purpose-built systems. TRIDENT is based on new forms of cooperation between an Autonomous Surface Craft and an Intervention Autonomous Underwater Vehicle. Interesting topics for SWARMS are: methods used for seabed mapping and gathering of optical and / or acoustic data from the seafloor; reliable acoustic underwater communications and precise Ultra Short Base Line positioning.
- MORPH (<http://morph-project.eu/project/about.html>). MORPH (Marine robotic systems of self-organizing, logically linked physical nodes) project (FP 7, 2012-2016) advances the novel concept of an underwater robotic system composed of a number of spatially separated mobile robot-modules, carrying complementary resources. Instead of being physically coupled, the modules are connected via communication links that rely on the flow of information among them, i.e. inter-module interactions are enabled by underwater communication networks at

distant and close ranges and supported by visual perception at very close range. This project is of special interest for SWARMS WP5 communications.

- SUNRISE (<http://fp7-sunrise.eu>): Building the Internet of Underwater Things. SUNRISE addresses FIRE objectives by combining technology with novel paradigms in new, open experimental facilities, integrating physical systems with software development into the Internet of Underwater Things. Interesting topics for SWARMS are: federated underwater communication networks; a software-defined open-architecture modem and protocol stack for open collaborative developments; sensing and monitoring on the underwater world.
- T-REX ([http://wiki.ros.org/trex\\_executive](http://wiki.ros.org/trex_executive)). The aim of T-REX is having a middleware architecture able to take actions whenever the underwater vehicles where it is installed are confronted with changing conditions in their surrounding environments. This architecture works under a paradigm called sense-plan-act, as it is expected to make reaction plans according to what has been sensed in the surrounding environments.

Regarding publish/subscribe communication middlewares used for AUVs using low bandwidth modems, it is worth mentioning:

- SEAWARE is a publish-subscribe middleware [1] used in multi-vehicle networked systems composed of autonomous and semi-autonomous vehicles and systems. Seaware provides a high level interface to network communications and may be deployed with a combination of heterogeneous components within a dynamic network. Seaware supports the RTPS (Real Time Publish Subscribe) protocol, underwater acoustic modems and other forms of network transport. This paper gives an overview of Seaware's implementation and its application to multi-vehicle networked systems.
- IS-MOOS (Intervehicle Secure MOOS) is an extension of MOOS (Mission Oriented Operating Suite). MOOS is a publish/subscribe system [2] for inter-process communication (IPC), which supports dynamic, asynchronous, many-to-many distributed communication. Its basic functioning, usual in all pub/sub systems, relies on a dispatcher, which is responsible for routing messages from publishers to subscribers. Messages are routed based on their topics, which is an information descriptor contained in the messages themselves. Subscribers have to declare their interests in specific topics by issuing subscriptions to the dispatcher, while publishers send their messages to the dispatcher. In the case of MOOS the dispatcher is represented by a central database (MOOSDB).

**ACCIONA** has participated in many project related to SWARMS, such as:

- LEANWIND (FP7).  
A short summary of this project has been presented by PLOCAN in previous paragraphs, so now it will only be said that the ACCIONA's role within the LEANWIND project is the leadership of the work package related with the gravity foundations (deployment, construction and decommissioning). In addition ACCIONA is also participating in the work packages related to logistics, systems integration, demonstration and validation, business model and, dissemination and exploitation of results.

- SEAMAR (ININTERCONECTA ANDALUCIA 2012).  
The main objective of this project is to develop advanced technologies for supporting structures of offshore wind turbines oriented to mass production so as to lay the groundwork regarding logistics requirements, installation and maintenance of future offshore wind farms, demonstrating the technical feasibility and economic of this offshore technology and thus placing Andalusia as the main national leader in the offshore wind sector. SEAMAR project is focused in non-robotic solutions but with the developments of SWARMS, the conclusions reached in SEAMAR could be improved.



## 4. Cooperation plan

This section contains a set of activities identified by the partners in order to enhance the cooperation of SWARMs project with other interesting projects and stakeholders. For each activity, a responsible and the involved partners are included, along with a short description. The goal is to implement these activities in the next steps of the task, and the results will presented in the final document related (D9.11).

In addition, this section also presents a list of activities organized by external partners or public entities identified as interesting to participate (conferences, workshops, EU meetings, individual meetings and new project proposals).

### 4.1. Proposed activities

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
1	Underwater Robots program. Hackaton	UPM	WP3 partners	TBD	TBD	Madrid/Canary Isl.	UPM/Pilot
<b>Description</b>							
The idea is to contact with AUVs manufactures and aside companies to organize a <i>hackaton</i> (programming competition) event with students. This activity has different goals: to attract students to the underwater robotics field, to contact companies and stakeholders involved and to spread the SWARMs project results.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
AUVs Manufactures, universities, research centres, large companies, SMEs							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
New students interested in underwater robotics related technologies. Large companies and SMEs using the SWARMs project results. Project results dissemination.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of students participating. Number of companies attending. Project impacts (media, social, etc.)							
<b>Comments</b>							
None.							

ID	Activity name	Resp.	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
2	Middleware/solutions/services for underwater robots summer course	UPM	ALL	TBD	TBD	Madrid	UPM facilities
<b>Description</b>							
<p>The idea is to organize a specific course about middleware solutions and services in the field of underwater robotics as part of the UPM summer courses program. The Summer Courses of UPM are organized yearly since 2004 and offer a reflection space about the challenges set out by scientific progress and the social transformer role of knowledge. These courses offer a meeting forum with researchers and experts to analyse topical issues and scientific innovation, from a rigorous approach and in a relaxed atmosphere, in fields like space exploration, robotics, industrial heritage recovery, smart cities, transports in the future, technologies to deals with climate change, road safety or structure Internet.</p>							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Students, universities, research centres, large companies and SMEs							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
<p>New students interested in underwater robotics related technologies.            Large companies and SMEs interested in the SWARMS project results.            Project results dissemination.</p>							
<b>Indicators</b>							
<p>Number of students participating.            Number of companies attending.            Project impacts (media, social, etc.)</p>							
<b>Comments</b>							
None							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
3	Demonstrations workshop	ACCIONA	All partners	M36	M36	Trondheim	TBD
<b>Description</b>							
<p>The idea is to organize a workshop in the end of the project in order to show the conclusions and improvements reached on it.</p>							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
All the partners							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Show the reached level of autonomy and cooperation in underwater operations							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Attendants outside the project.							
<b>Comments</b>							
TBD							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
4	Critical Infrastructure's Alignment	HIB	HIB	M12	M12	Online	Online
<b>Description</b>							
<p>The successful FP7 project ARGOS (<a href="http://www.argos-project.eu/">http://www.argos-project.eu/</a>) which participated in the Security Programme of FP7 is looking for a continuation of the activities via a new proposal to be submitted in summer of 2016 (deadline is August 25<sup>th</sup>). The project revolves around the idea of increasing Critical Infrastructure protection by using augmented sensor networks to gather extra intelligence that can be used by operators to increase their situational awareness. This includes, for example, aerial drones. The proposal is being elaborated at the writing of this document.</p>							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
<p>HIB were participating in ARGOS, as well as Thales (a different branch than in SWARMS). HIB would be leading the effort in introducing results from SWARMS in the project (mainly the data model and the DDS communications implementation for constricted environments).</p>							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Technologies from SWARMS reused in another project and possibly on a different domain.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
The number of technology items from SWARMS reused in the resulting proposal.							
<b>Comments</b>							
N/A							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
5	OCEAN BUSINESS	PLOCAN	All interested partners	04/04/17	06/04/17	Southampton	National Oceanography Centre
<b>Description</b>							
<p>PLOCAN has already booked a stand in the well-known Ocean Business event for the SWARMS project. It is an industry oriented event that enables face to face interaction between the most important companies in the marine and maritime industry, final users and customers. It will provide SWARMS the chance to show the results achieved so far and attract the attention of the worldwide attendants. We have also booked a training session where we can give further details about the project course and results.</p>							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Most of the Marine and maritime technology companies, end users, universities, research centres							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Well known industry companies and SMEs interested in the SWARMS project results. Project results dissemination.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of companies contacted. Project impacts (media, social, etc.)							
<b>Comments</b>							
None.							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
6	Local Networking B2B	PLOCAN	All interested partners	29/09/16	29/09/16	Canary Is.	PLOCAN
<b>Description</b>							
In the scope with the Early Trials PLOCAN is organizing a Local Networking B2B in order to foster the interaction of local SMEs and marine business companies with the partners of SWARMS.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Local companies related to the marine and maritime business and SWARMS partners.							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Companies and SMEs interested in the SWARMS project results. Companies-partners interaction. Project results dissemination.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Collaboration between companies and partners.							
<b>Comments</b>							
None.							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
7	Oceanology International	PLOCAN	All interested partners	13/03/18	15/03/18	London	
<b>Description</b>							
The objective is to book a stand in the Oceanology International event that will be held in London in 2018. It offers a worldwide forum where industry, academia and government share knowledge and connect with the marine science and ocean technology communities. It will provide SWARMS the chance to show the results achieved during the project and find possible interesting stakeholders for the project outcomes among the attendants. We have also booked a training session where we can give further details about the project course and results.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Most of the Marine and maritime technology companies, end users, research centres							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Well known industry companies and SMEs interested in the SWARMS project results. Project results dissemination.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of companies contacted. Project impacts (media, social, etc.)							
<b>Comments</b>							
None.							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
8	ICHSA 2017: Conference on algorithms	TECNALIA	Applicable to WP3 and WP6 partners	22/02/17	24/02/17	Bilbao	
<b>Description</b>							
ICHSA 2017: 3rd International Conference on the Harmony Search Algorithm. The 2017 edition of this international event will span beyond the development, design and applications of naive, variants, and hybrid methods of the Harmony Search Algorithm: prospective authors are encouraged to present their latest achievements around Computational Intelligence, with particular emphasis on innovative bio-inspired optimization methods (Evolutionary Computation, Swarm Intelligence) and their applicability to exploratory data analysis, predictive modelling and optimization.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
End users, universities, research centres							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Spread the results of mission and vehicle planning algorithms among other interested actors							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of visits to the project website (during and after 1 month from the conference)							
<b>Comments</b>							
NA							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
9	DDS Middleware press release	TECNALIA	WP3 partners				
<b>Description</b>							
WP3 partners will cooperate with Twin Oaks in issuing a joint press release about the semantic middleware based on Twin Oaks Core DX DDS Solution.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
AUV providers, middleware companies, End users, universities, research centres							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Spread the results of WP3 semantic middleware based on DDS among other interested actors							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of visits to the project website and contacts (after 6 months)							
<b>Comments</b>							
NA							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
10	Planning and replanning best practices	TECNALIA	Applicable to WP3 and WP6 partners	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Description</b>							
TECNALIA plans to apply in SWARMS, best practices learnt from developing planning and replanning algorithms in R5-COP project. As R5-COP project started on February 2014, in SWARMS we want to benefit from the experience gained in this first year in order to speed up the development of our algorithms and minimize the time losses that derivate from wrong initial assumptions or lack of considerations when starting to work on the real use cases. In addition, SWARMS project wants to share with R5-COP the restrictions found concerning underwater environments.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
R5-COP and SWARMS partners							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Sharing of best practices among both consortiums							
<b>Indicators</b>							
NA							
<b>Comments</b>							
NA							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
1 1	TECHDAYS 2017/18 Aveiro	ITAV	UAVR, GSLDA	TBD (est. Sept. 2017/18)	TBD (est. Sept. 2017/18)	Aveiro	Parque de Exposiçõe s de Aveiro
<b>Description</b>							
TECHDAYS Aveiro is the biggest yearly technological event in Aveiro, and is becoming the biggest technological forum in Portugal, namely by fostering the development of synergies between Industry, SMEs, public administration and the general public. It targets accelerating innovation in multiple domains with direct impact on society, such as Energy, Materials, Environment, ICT and Ocean. ITAV intends to have an active participation in 2017 and/or 2018 edition of TECHDAYS Aveiro, showcasing SWARMS project results and taking the opportunity to also initiate or further strengthen synergies with key stakeholders in the offshore/maritime domain.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Maritime exploration Industry and SMEs, other R&D/academic entities,							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Effective promotion of SWARMS and dissemination of project ongoing results; Interaction and development of synergies with stakeholders.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of visits to the booth or stand; Contacts established (up-to 1 month after); Joint activities (up-to 9 months after), including e.g. participation in relevant project proposals.							
<b>Comments</b>							
N/A							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
1 2	Local Networking	UAVR	ITAV, GSLDA	TBD (est. Q4 2016)	TBD (est. Q2 2018)	Aveiro/Porto	
<b>Description</b>							
Pursue interaction based on initiated contacts with several local and national entities, such as LSTS (Underwater Systems and Technology Laboratory of FEUP – University of Porto), which is very active in underwater autonomous systems, as well as participates in relevant European projects, e.g. FP7-SUNRISE. Also, InovaRia ( <a href="http://www.inova-ria.pt/en">http://www.inova-ria.pt/en</a> ), which is a B2B innovation network centred mainly on Onshore and Offshore activities.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Onshore and Offshore Industry/SMEs; Other R&D entities, such as FEUP, IST or INESC-TEC.							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Promotion of SWARMS and its results; Development of new opportunities through joint cooperation.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Joint activities (up-to 12 months after), e.g. organization of joint workshops, and participation in relevant (national or European) project proposals (e.g. P2020, PENTA, ITEA, H2020, etc.)							
<b>Comments</b>							
N/A							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
13	Scientific technical conference	ITAV/UPM	All	TBD (est. Q1 2018)	TBD (est. Q2 2018)	TBD	TBD
<b>Description</b>							
Joint organization of scientific technical conference together with consortia representatives of other relevant projects, under contact and assessment. The co-organization of special sessions within bigger and well known scientific conferences is also to be considered, and SWARMS involvement should be evaluated on a case by case manner throughout the project. Such joint organization would allow to potentially achieve higher visibility and impact.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Industry and SMEs, but also R&D entities, whose core business and focus is directly related to SWARMS topics, or also participating in relevant R&D projects, namely addressing higher TRLs.							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Promotion of SWARMS and other relevant projects, as well as their results, in a higher impact or broader format.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of (external) participants, and established contacts (up-to 1 month after).							
<b>Comments</b>							
N/A							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
14	Integrated exploitation of results	ITAV/ECA	All, namely industrial partners	TBD (est. Q1 2018)	TBD (est. Q2 2018)	TBD	TBD
<b>Description</b>							
<p>Companies and other entities participating in SWARMS and in other relevant projects can consider and evaluate concerted approaches towards the exploitation of the respective project results, namely by developing further elaborated value chains and integrating each participant core contribution. Such potential integrated value chain would be important towards achieving broader results exploitation, with increased dimension and scope, leading to bigger impact in the industry sector, and also in the scientific and research community.</p> <p>Moreover, such kind of coordinated approach can help better exploit the ongoing work by adding further strength and international visibility to the project in order to eventually have some subsequent relevant influence in standardization activities and respective entities.</p>							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Industry, SMEs, and R&D entities participating in SWARMS or in other relevant projects, initiating or participating in relevant business development, as well as relevant standardization bodies.							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Further effective exploitation of results coming out from SWARMS and from other relevant projects, in concerted higher impact approaches, towards further potentiating joint business, and influencing standardization as well.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of common envisaged approaches or strategies to exploit projects' results jointly, up-to 12 months after SWARMS terminus.							
<b>Comments</b>							
N/A							

ID	Activity name	Responsible	Participation of other partners	Start Date	End date	City	Venue
15	UUV Simulator Demonstration	BOSCH	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	EMRA'17
<b>Description</b>							
Workshop on the usage of the UUV Simulation environment for Gazebo developed in the scope of the SWARMS project. Tutorials should include the configuration of new vehicles and scenarios, the setup of a new mission and interfacing with sensors and actuators.							
<b>Involved Stakeholders</b>							
Participants and interested people in EU funded projects on maritime robotics: Marine and maritime technology companies, end users, research centres							
<b>Expected Results</b>							
Promotion of SWARMS and its results, especially the UUV simulator; Development of new opportunities through joint cooperation.							
<b>Indicators</b>							
Number of participants, number of downloads of the package (1-2 months after the event).							
<b>Comments</b>							
EMRA is the annual Workshop on EU funded marine robotics research since 2014. So we expect EMRA to continue in 2017.							



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## 4.2. Conferences and workshops

- The 10th International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC) **Conference on Control Applications in Marine Systems** (CAMS 2016) will take place in Trondheim, Norway, from **September 13-16, 2016**. The conference will provide an excellent opportunity for the presentation and discussion of research results and development in the areas of control applications for surface & underwater vessels, floating & sub-sea structures, and other marine systems.
- The DARS 2016 13th International Symposium on Distributed Autonomous Robotic Systems, provides a forum for scientific advances in the theory and practice of distributed autonomous robotic systems. It will take place in London in November 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. PLOCAN will contribute with a conference paper with the collaboration of TTI, ECA, MAROB, MDH and WASS.
- The next EU Geosciences Union General Assembly 2016 is going to be held on 23–28 April 2017, Vienna, Austria. PLOCAN is intended to be there disseminating SWARMS results.
- PLOCAN has already booked a stand at the **Ocean Business** that will be held in April 2017 in Southampton, UK (<http://www.oceanbusiness.com/>) for the SWARMS project. The Ocean Business is one of the biggest events related to ocean technology held in Europe and worldwide stakeholders will be present.
- PLOCAN has also planned to hold a stand on the next **Oceanology International** (<http://www.oceanologyinternational.com/>) event that will take place in London in 2018.
- In the scope with the Early Trials PLOCAN is organizing a Local Networking B2B in order to foster the interaction of local SMEs and marine business companies with the partners of SWARMS.
- BOSCH is intending to participate in the OCEAN 2016 conference in Monterey, California, in September 2016. We want to present the simulator developed within SWARMS in a talk. Therefore we submitted an abstract End of April with the title “UUV Simulator: A GAZEBO-based package for underwater invention and multi-robot simulation” which was accepted on June, 9<sup>th</sup>.
- TECNALIA plans to prepare a paper with the research results on planning algorithms developed in WP3 and WP6. Possible related conferences identified include:
  - ICHSA 2017: 3rd International Conference on the Harmony Search Algorithm (organized by Tecnalía) <http://www.ichsa2017.com/>
  - IEEE Congress on Evolutionary Computation 2017 (San Sebastian) <http://www.cec2017.org/>
  - Evostar 2017: The Leading European Event on Bio-Inspired Computation (Amsterdam) <http://www.evostar.org/2017/>
  - International Symposium on Intelligent Distributed Computing (IDC 2017)
  - INISTA 2017: International Symposium on INnovations in Intelligent SysTems and Applications.
- "Sensors" a Journal Ranked in JCR (Q1) with SWARMS related topics:  
[http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sensors/special\\_issues/underwater\\_networked\\_robot\\_systems](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sensors/special_issues/underwater_networked_robot_systems)

## 4.3. EU meetings and brokerages

HI Iberia intends to participate in events which are attended by the FI-WARE community such as the continuing event to ICT 2015 (in which HI Iberia and other SWARMS partners participated and met). In these events, we will arrange discussions with the FI-WARE representatives to discuss potential connections to SWARMS.

HI Iberia also intends to participate to the Artemis and ECSEL meetings (such as the past Artemis/ECSEL brokerage event held in January 2016 in Strasbourg, France, and the ECSEL Forum event to be held May 2016 in Brussels, Belgium). In these events, in addition to new proposals, activities with the past ARTEMIS projects such as VARIES and PaPP mentioned in section **Error! Reference source not found.** are conducted. The action plan is to discuss potential collaborations and reuses of technology with these representatives in the events.

PLOCAN will participate in as many EU meetings and brokerage events related to the SWARMS project as possible. PLOCAN is always looking for synergies and collaborations with partners involved in the maritime and marine field, marine autonomous vehicles and oceanic observation. In order to consolidate these collaborations we periodically attend to the main related events. Some of these are the EGO 2017 conference that will take place in Southampton, the DARS 2016 conference that will take place in London in November, the 2016 MARTECH conference that will be held in October in Barcelona, the 2017 Ocean Business, the 2018 Oceanology and the 2018 OCEANs conference.

TECNALIA will participate in the ECSEL Brokerage Event 2017 (January) where new proposals will be presented and collaborations with other partners will be consolidated. TECNALIA also intends to attend The Internet of Things Week 2017 in Geneva in order to join industry and academia representatives from around the world and share synergies.

ITAV plans to participate in ITEA PO Days 2016, in Paris (September), as well as in other relevant brokerage events to be held in 2017 and 2018, such as ARTEMIS-IA Brokerage Event, ECSEL JU Brokerage Event and AENEAS/PENTA events, where many potential relevant collaborations can be initiated or strengthened, namely in the CPS, IoT and Security domains.

UPM has participated and will participate in ECSEL and H2020 meetings and brokerages where relevant topics related with SWARMS project are presented. The goal is to extend the results obtained within this project by participating in new project proposals.

## 4.4. Individual meetings

The semantic middleware developed in WP3 will be based on DDS standard. Therefore, TECNALIA, UPM and HIB have held telephone calls and audio meetings with the 3 main DDS solution providers, i.e.:

- Twin Oaks Core DX DDS:
  - Nina Tucker, Vice President at Twin Oaks Computing, Inc.
  - Marilyn Davison, Market Development, EMEA (Europe Middle East Africa) at Twin Oaks Computing, Inc.
  - Nick Pridham of Hamersham Ltd. He is based in UK and partners with Twin Oaks to expand client support throughout Europe.
- PrismTech OpenSplice:
  - Vincent Rolin. He is based in France and is responsible for commercial-related duties.
  - Ramzi Karoui, the technically proficient person to address technical questions.
- eProxima (supplier of RTI solutions in Spain)
  - Jaime Martin Losa, CEO eProxima.

## 4.5. New project proposals

The projects ARGOS and SAMi2 identified by **HI Iberia** in the section 3 finished in December 2015 and both are currently seeking opportunities for continuation of the activities in European R&D Calls open in 2016. These and SWARMS could cross-benefit in the following manners:

- SAMi2 continuation could benefit from reusing components and approaches of the SWARMS data model, specifically fuzziness in ontologies. Current approach in SAMi2 is to use traditional (crisp) ontologies but the results generated by the system (e.g. inferences of a particular safety event happening gathered from the comments of people in Social Media) are by definition guesses that can be better treated with fuzzy reasoning. Thus, we will monitor the activity in SWARMS and where possible reference it in any new proposal. Since the plan is to continue HI Iberia leading this R&D effort the action plan is simply to cross-pollinate in-house the developments.
- ARGOS continuation, which is likely as the project got an 'Excellent' qualification in the final review, intends to keep the focus on Critical Infrastructures. PLOCAN is an excellent candidate due to its centrality in Spanish R&D plans and easy access through SWARMS. Action plan is to initiate this contact as the proposal develops.

As mentioned before, **PLOCAN** has already identified a potential collaboration with the project UNDERWORLD. The main objective of this project is to re-evaluate the electromagnetic communications in underwater sensor networks in order to create an operative Underwater Wireless Sensor Networks. This project is ending in 2016, but as it has provided successful results, the

proposal ERAKLES has been just submitted to the new national call of societal challenges as a project continuation.

**PLOCAN** is also collaborating with UPM in the proposal COAST-GO, which is aimed is to design and develop a cost effective solution integrating an increasing number of cooperative autonomous devices by means of a multi-use cognitive platform so as to provide relevant information for private and public bodies (coast-guards, customs, emergency services, etc.).

**BOSCH** proposed a new project to the German Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the title “AquaDrive – A modular thruster drive system for the automation of underwater vehicles”. Within the project we want to use the simulation environment set up in SWARMs for the model based thruster system and automation function development. Partner to BOSCH within this project would be the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) in Bremen. Planned runtime is 09.2016 – 08.2019. The sketch was submitted in April 2016.

Following the research areas in SWARMs, **TECNALIA** has presented two proposals which are under evaluation:

- ADROIT: Autonomous Underwater Robot Assistant for Dynamic Co-Manipulation and Tool Exchange Tasks. Topic ICT-25-2016-2017 Call Identifier H2020-ICT-2016-2017 Type of Action RIA Deadline Id H2020-ICT-2016-1.
- Proposal about Unmanned Autonomous Systems to ECSEL 2016 Phase PO (May 2016)

**ITAV** is currently participating in the preparation of a European full project proposal, AFarCloud, to be submitted in late Q3 2016, which shares some common relevant background with SWARMs, namely regarding CPS and autonomous robotic vehicles. Other project proposals are also being initiated, including further collaboration with some SWARMs partners, also in relevant topics.

**UPM** has leaded a new project proposal applied to the last ECSEL-JU call: AFarCloud. The main objective of the AFarCloud project proposal is to provide a framework able to promote precision farming solutions by using not only new robotics platforms but also incorporating legacy systems already deployed in the farms. This project proposal is comprised of 49 organizations from 14 European countries, and it includes industrial companies (large and SMEs), as well as academic partners (research organisations and universities).

## 4.6. Standardization

As part of Task 9.2 within this WP, a comprehensive analysis regarding the standardization outcomes relevant to SWARMs project was performed, as presented in D9.9. Within this task (9.3), the aim is to use the results of D9.9 to identify the most relevant outcomes to be shared among other interested stakeholders. Although that deliverable is closed in line with this (M12), some preliminary process has been identified, as presented below.

One of the main challenges in SWARMS is to manage interaction between vehicles in underwater scenarios where communications involve the transmission of information using acoustic techniques. Acoustic communications are governed by 3 factors: limited bandwidth due to modems restrictions, time-varying multipath propagation and low speed of sound underwater. Together, these factors result in communication channel of poor quality and high latency.

The semantic middleware developed in WP3 will provide the needed mechanisms to handle low-latency and real-time QoS compliant with the Data Distribution Service (DDS) standard in order to guarantee interoperability among robotic vehicles.

WP3 partners will cooperate with Twin Oaks, one of the 3 main leading vendors of DDS solutions. The purpose is to foster the use of DDS and the communication protocol defined in task 2.7 as the interoperability standard for underwater communications among robotic vehicles.

This section will be completed with more relevant standardization outcomes in the next version of the deliverable related to this task (D9.11).

## 5. References

- [1]. Eduardo R. B. Marques; · Gil M. Gonçalves; · João B. Sousa; “*Seaware: A Publish/Subscribe Communications Middleware for Networked Vehicle Systems*”. <https://www.rti.com/docs/UPorto-Seaware.pdf>
- [2]. Andrea Caiti; Vincenzo Calabro; Gianluca Dini; Angelica Lo Duca; Andrea Munaf; “*MOOS Middleware and Node Adaptivity in Underwater Sensor Networks: Results from the UAN11 Sea Trial*”. Proceedings of the 11th European Conference on Underwater Acoustics.