



Progress Report

Most Recent Engagements

European Union Updates

Centre for Factories of the Future have been liaising with the Government with regards to their future plans. The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs have written explaining about the Government 'Road to Zero' strategy which is an approach to reduce emissions of road vehicles. It is reassuring to read, that this department has identified mechanisms, such as, a Multi-Day Air Quality Forecast Service and Daily Air Quality Index, to advise the public of strategies to support any potential health concerns potentially related to air quality. The Department for Exiting the European Union have also written to confirm that the Government envisages that international exchange and collaboration in education training is of value and have devised a framework for cooperation including education. Although, these details are not definitive until the new government is in place after the election, C4FF feel this is a positive start to the Government developments.

Year of Efficient Ship

MariFuture is continuing with the publication of a Development Paper on efficient ship each month throughout 2019 in support of the 'Year of Efficient Ship' due to the importance of the subject in order to make our members and partners aware of the impact of toxic pollutants from shipping; and the means available to us to reduce the level and amounts of the emissions from ships to a minimum level. In parallel, we will publish the results of our air quality research carried out to investigate the air quality in several cities and towns, focusing mainly in the UK.

New accepted EU funded Projects

PROMETHEUS - This proposal was accepted in mid- August 2019 and concerns the mental well being of ship crew. The project was expected to start in October 2019. The first meeting of the partners was on the 18-19 November 2019 in Athens. It was attended by Professor Reza Ziarati and Katie Parker (Research Officer) who received a warm welcome by Aris, our Greek partner in this project. This month, C4FF Research Officer has been carrying out some desk research to initiate the content of the project.





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GreenShip - This is a continuation of MariEMS initiative. The presentation at IMO at the HTW6 on 29th April 2019 by Capt. Zak (Solent University) and Professor Ziarati (C4FF, General Coordinator of MariFuture) describing how the MariEMS e-learning training courses can be accessed and used online, created a great deal of interest from several countries. This led to a review of a recently submitted proposal viz., GreenShip, to EU's Erasmus+ programme with a view to incorporate several countries as associated members.

This project started in October 2019 when the details were published in MariFuture. The visit kick-off meeting took place in Barcelona on 9-11 December 2019. Please see the photos of the meeting in action below:



PolyUniBus – This project concerns the policy making at the highest levels in bringing the two worlds of academia and industry together. This project was expected to start in October 2019. The first workshop of the project was held on 21st and 22nd November 2019 at the University of Liverpool based in London. The aims of the project and the outputs were clarified. There were also discussions about the plan moving forward on the first few outputs.



Mentor – The Mentor project partner meeting took place in Kenilworth on 10-11th April 2019. The first workshop of the project was held on 10th April 2019 at Warwick University. C4FF coordinated the meetings during the two-day event and took the lead in the workshop activities. More information about the project and the meeting are provided in the Mentor project section below.

The third meeting of this project took place on 26-27 September 2019 in Switzerland.



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ACTS Plus

The project assessment concluded in July 2019. The project received a grade of 8.1 which is considered a high grade. C4FF took a lead in preparing the final report. The project has commenced its post funding period in April 2019. The new simulator facilities the Solent University which was reported to be one of the best in the world and the ACTS Plus Advanced eCOLREGS (www.advanced.ecolregs.com) will be implemented at the university when the new simulator system centre is fully operational.

Daytime Project

C4FF have been involved in the meetings for the Daytime Project which concerns innovative mechanisms to support the distribution of health services. Although the meetings were held in Istanbul, C4FF sat in on these discussions via Skype in order to offer some assistance. The meetings were held on the 17th-18th December 2019.

New Papers for major International conferences

Two new papers were prepared and submitted to the International Maritime Lecturers Association Conference in Georgia which took place in October 2019. One concerns Maritime English reporting on the work carried out in MariLANG project and the second is on the outcomes of the ACTS Plus project. As reported earlier Capt. Zakirul (Solent University) and Professor Ziarati (C4FF, General Coordinator of MariFuture) jointly presented the MariEMS Project and Courses for 'ship energy management trainees and trainers' to the participant at the IMO HTW6 meeting. The presentation was organised and authorised by the UK Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA). Both Capt. Zakirul and Professor Reza attended the HTW6 as a member of UK delegation. The project partners would wish to thank MCA and IMO for this opportunity. The following are several photos from the event. Other MariFuture projects and new proposals were discussed during the visit to IMO with interested parties. A third paper is being prepared on RZ Multiple-choice which relates to the confidence assessment which removes the guessing dilemma in answering these types of questions in tests and examinations. The technique has played a major role in re-introduction of multiple-choice questions in e-learning applications.

Cyber Security

New projects are being developed and a meeting with leading IT specialists have been arranged for July 2019 at C4FF. There will be an announcement on the formation of a Cyber Security team in the near future.

Air Quality Group and Conference

C4FF has been supporting the Air Quality Group on the region and helped to organised its first meeting at Coventry University on 21 June 2019. To mark the UNICEF Air Quality Day, C4FF organised a reception at Berkeley House on 20th June 2019. The conference observation report is published as the Article in MariFuture's June 2019 issue and the conference summary report is published as MariFuture June 2019 Paper.



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C4FF has also presented at the 'Air Quality Summit' chaired by Warwick and Leamington's MP Matt Western, held at Leamington town hall on Friday 11th October 2019. Please see the website attached below for further details published in the local newspaper, The Courier.

https://www.leamingtoncourier.co.uk/news/people/transport-hub-and-clean-air-zone-among-ideas-shared-at-summit-to-tackle-pollution-problems-in-leamington-and-warwick-1-9109401?fbclid=IwAR1SsAk-jgra3tGKO1YmCzEKshEk27OwiGDdmcVwTLfM_OESnEIWxl6vEQ8

An Air Quality Steering Committee meeting was held at Berkeley House on the 3rd December 2019 and plans were discussed with regards to potential proposals and current developments going on within the local and global areas.

Following this, C4FF have been looking into what other countries are doing about this Global Climate Emergency. In order to understand this, the Professor Reza attended 'The UN Climate Change Conference – COP 25.' It took place in Madrid, Spain from 2 to 13 December 2019 and considered countries negotiations on ambitious plans to limit global warming to 1.5°C, in line with the Paris Agreement. This is important because the next 14 months are critical for global efforts to control greenhouse gas emissions, which hit a record high in 2018. Under the Paris Agreement, governments agreed to update their climate plans by 2020. COP 25 will bring together heads of state, climate officials, non-governmental organizations, youth groups and local movements and other non-state actors to respond to the climate emergency. The next step is for the countries to update their climate plans and boost their ambition by 2020 in line with the Paris Agreement. COP 25 is a moment to ensure they are aware of the 2020 calendar and start doing their homework. Below is figure 2 which shows some photos of the inside and outside of the conference and figure 1 is the Secretary-General expressing his views on the matter.



Figure 1: The Secretary General



Figure 2: The Conference Setting



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Lottery Fund Proposal

This month C4FF have also been in attendance to some meetings based at Coventry City Council. This led to a proposal being submitted to the Lottery Fund concerning Air Quality in the Coventry area. An initial planning meeting took place at Berkeley House on Friday the 13th December and then subsequent meetings have been attended on the 9th and 16th December at Coventry City Council whereby discussion of the proposal to put forward a project to develop the communities awareness of air quality was discussed. Since then, there has been a Coventry and Warwickshire Air Quality website created to support the developments of this new proposal.

Mentor Project

The last partner meeting took place in Lausanne, Switzerland on 25-26 September 2019.

The #Mentor4WBL@EU Project was designed after the European Council prompted the EU Member States to increase "substantially the number of apprenticeships and traineeships to ensure that they represent real opportunities for young people, in cooperation with social partners and where possible integrated into education programmes". In addition, according to the newly adopted "European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships" (October 2017), European Commission identifies 14 key criteria that Member States and stakeholders should use to develop quality and effective apprenticeships. Among the specific criteria, is made a concrete reference on the necessity to exist a specific procedure for teachers, trainers and in company mentors to "update their skills and competences in order to train apprentices according to the latest teaching and training methods and labour market needs". In-company WBL mentors are in the core of quality WBL. However, in most European countries, they lack standardized support and guidance which will set the expectations and boundaries clarifying and ensuring their successful contribution in the learning process. Based on the above and the identification of the WBL needs and gaps by NetWBL, there is a significant need for the development of standards and qualifications that would identify certain knowledge, skills and competences. They should also provide adequate assessment that will lead to valid certification and August 2019 marifuture.org News ensure quality in-company WBL mentorship in enterprises providing apprenticeships and internships. More information about the project will be available on the project website when it is published. The project meeting of Mentor took place in Kenilworth, 10-11th April 2019. The first workshop of the project was held on 10th April 2019 at Warwick University. C4FF coordinated the meetings during the two-day event and take a lead in the workshop.

More recently, meetings have occurred on the 22nd November and 20th December via Skype to discuss the most recent updates to the intellectual outcomes.