



MariFuture: European Platform for Maritime Education, Research, and Innovation

Foreword

MariFuture is a vehicle for the grass-roots to air their concerns and views about the current arrangements for maritime education, research and innovation. The intention is to make seas safe at source. The platform has been expanding since its launch in June 2010. We are very proud today that MariFuture receives a great deal of attention with new partners and individuals joining it.

We work non-stop to identify the key education and training needs of the maritime industry (known as water transportation by the EU) and responding to these needs by developing innovative and sustainable solutions. We achieve this by contributing to expanding the MariFuture knowledge base through a number of innovative research and development projects hence supporting and integrating education, research, knowledge, and innovation in the maritime sector.

MariFuture has so far achieved the objectives it set for itself at the outset and convinced that it will continue to do what it can to make the seas safer. A review of its papers and articles written on its projects and various aspects of maritime education and training clearly indicates that its achievement to-date has been remarkable.

Professor Reza Ziarati.
Chairman, Centre for Factories of the Future (C4FF), UK;
Vice Rector, Piri Reis University (PRU), TR; Founder, MariFuture Platform.

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Introduction

The following chapters will report the progress made by the MariFuture projects and its partners in March 2013.

SeaTALK (Creation of a Qualification Framework for Effective Communication at Sea)

SeaTALK Project is progressing well.

Arrangements for the 2nd Partner meeting is being made by the project coordinator. The meeting is set to take place alongside European Maritime Day (EMD) 2013¹. Furthermore, a workshop proposal submitted by the project coordinator was accepted by EMD 2013 organising committee. The workshop is entitled “Maritime Education – Maritime Training – Maritime Innovation”.

An interview was conducted by the editor of Fairplay² magazine on the project. Some TRAIN 4Cs III students were present and also joined the interview. It is expected that an article will be published in the forthcoming months in the same magazine.

An article entitled “Project SeaTALK: Developing an Online English Language Course for Seafarers” was submitted to the Turkish Shipping Magazine by the Turkish Partner - Piri Reis University³. The article is expected to be published in their April issue and will be available in MariFuture Article section⁴.

A survey⁵ investigating the detailed Maritime English Training Courses offered by Maritime Universities/Institutions/Training Centres was developed and is now available. If you are a maritime education and training institutions and run Maritime English courses, you may wish to take part in the survey.

A competence grid is still being developed by the lead partner, Nicola Vaptsarov Naval Academy⁶. The grid is detailed Maritime English Training Courses offered by Maritime Universities/Institutions /Training Centres. Since the learning outcomes and the number of credits assigned to Maritime English across Europe differ from country to country, and even among MET institutions of the same country, the intention is try to gather information on some basic common ingredients in the Maritime English learning outcomes that play a significant role in assigning credits to the course, for instance: attendance and continuous assessment and activities during the classes.

¹ European Maritime Day 2013 Malta – See http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/index_en.htm

² Fairplay Magazine – See <http://www.fairplay.co.uk/>

³ Piri Reis University – See <http://www.pirireis.edu.tr/en/>

⁴ MariFuture (European Platform for Maritime Education, Research, and Innovation) – See <http://www.marifuture.org/Publications/Articles.aspx>

⁵ SeaTALK Survey: See <http://www.c4ff.co.uk/limesurvey/index.php?sid=62717&lang=en>

⁶ NICOLA VAPTSAROV NAVAL ACADEMY – See <http://www.naval-acad.bg/>



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A number of video conferencing took place within the partnership to discuss on the critical tasks.

The project website is designed and will be launched in June 2013.

More progress reports will be available in March.

Bridge - BRIDGES OF KNOWLEDGE FOR EU-TR CHAMBERS

The Bridge Project is progressing well.

The EU funded project BRIDGE hosted a monitoring visit on March 2013 in the Turkish Chamber of Shipping premises.

Ms. Pinar Erdem representing Eurochambers reviewed the project work and sought updates in the following months.

During the visits, board member Dr. Basak Akdemir, General Secretary Murat Tuncer, Project Manager Hande Guneykaya Akpınar and Project Coordinator Utku Birkan provided information to the guests.

The project survey is still active to gather the opinion of chamber members to improve the quality standards offered by the chamber in Turkey and across Europe. If you are a member of chamber of shipping, please follow the link provided below to provide your view on the current practices: http://www.jetanket.com/s/dto_ab01

More information can be found about the project from the following link: <http://www.denizticaretodasi.org.tr/Sayfalar/ProjectBridge.aspx#FA>

UniMET (Unification of Marine Training and Education) – www.unimet.pro

The UniMET Project is progressing well.

The UniMET Project funding period officially ended in March 2013 and the Project coordinator is preparing the final report for EACEA with support from partners.

The results of the UniMET project are being maintained at the post funding stage with new improvements and developments, especially, changes to STCW are being closely monitored as there are still more to be finalised by IMO⁷.

TRAIN 4C III students concluded their studies at City of Glasgow College. One UniMET student managed to successfully pass both written and oral exams set by the Maritime Coastguard Agency. This enabled the UniMET project to validate its paths through The TRAIN 4Cs mobility programmes as was the case with Safety On Sea (SOS) programmes⁸. A meeting was also conducted with TRAIN

⁷ IMO (International Maritime Organisation) – See <http://www.imo.org/>

⁸ Safety On Sea (SOS) – See <http://www.maredu.co.uk/>



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4Cs students at Centre for Factories of the Future offices to gather further feedback on their experience.

Two paper abstracts were submitted to IMLA21 Conference paper committee. The conference is set to take place between 9-1st October 2013 in Newfoundland, Canada⁹). The first paper entitled “What is Wrong? A review of National, European and International Efforts in Improving the Standard and Quality of Maritime Education and Training” discusses human factors in accidents and the response of the maritime sector such as IMO. The second paper entitled “Looking into the Future - Development of an Integrated Ship Management System Ensuring Efficient Propulsion and Minimum Emissions of Pollutants” reports on the outcome of research that investigates the key design and operating factors affecting the safety of ship operations, and develops methodologies to optimise navigation and engine control systems for safe operations and efficient performance, in view of the introduction of new International Maritime Organisation (IMO) standards related to energy efficiency, in particular the EEDI (Energy Efficiency Design Index).

The UniMET programmes, which are planned to be fully piloted at Piri Reis University in 2013/2014 Academic year, have been submitted to IMarEST¹⁰ to get accredited. IMarEST is the largest marine organisation of its kind with a worldwide membership based in over 100 countries and provides grades of membership for everyone, from those seeking to become Chartered or gain other Professional Recognition, to those just starting out in their careers or studying in education. The results of the submission will be available in July.

An article was submitted to Turkish Shipping Magazine reporting the outcome of UniMET Final conference which was held in Naples, Italy. The article is expected to be published in the April issue of the magazine and a copy of it will be available in Marifuture articles section.

The UniMET consortium invites new associate partners to join UNIMET. A number of new partners have shown a great deal of interest in joining the UNIMET project, with some acceptances already. Any maritime education and training institutions, industrial stakeholders, and decision makers from across Europe may join the UniMET Partnership as an Associate partner.

In return, UniMET offers Associate Partners a range of benefits:

- Participation in UniMET events (e.g. meetings, workshops, seminars, conferences)
- Access to UniMET reports, evaluations, papers
- Free access and use of UniMET products
- Access to UniMET programmes and constituent elements
- Serving as a member of the UniMET steering committee
- Support in organising UniMET events and activities
- Involvement with European platforms

To become a member of UniMET, please contact the project manager www.unimet.pro/Contact-Us.aspx

IMPACT (Integrated Maritime Promotion ACTION) - www.maritimetraining.pro

IMPACT Platform led to Maritime Training Platform.

⁹ IMLA21 (International Maritime Lecturers Association) Conference – see <http://www.imla2013.com/>

¹⁰ IMarEST (The Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology) – See <http://www.imarest.org/>



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The platform is being maintained at post funding stage with news and updates. There will be new products to be added once they are available.

If you are a project consortium, a MET or an individual and have worked or working on an innovative maritime product based on Information, Communication Technology (ICT) and you want to promote it, you can submit it to IMPACT consortium for evaluation. Visit www.maritimetraining.pro for more information.

MarTEL Plus (Maritime Tests of English Language) – www.plus.martel.pro

The outcome of the MarTEL Plus project is being maintained and valorised at post funding stage. A brand new website is designed, developed and is available – See www.martel.pro

A number of piloting's are taking place across the partnership to give fine tuning to MarTEL tests. This includes enhancements in the platform and marking with the lead of IT partner, SPIN¹¹.

The MarTEL partnership welcomes contact from all interested parties, including seafarers of all ranks, maritime industry experts, professionals and organisations, and those institutions or companies expressing an interest in becoming a test centre. For more information, please visit project website.

CAPTAINS (Communication and Practical Training Applied In Nautical Studies) – www.captains.pro

The project coordinator is being ambitious and wants to keep the results of the project going at post funding stage. A brand new website was designed and is available with the project results. See – www.captains.pro

The materials produced during CAPTAINS project will be consolidated under the SeaTALK project work programme. This is expected to be carried out in 2013/2014.

TRECVET (Transnational Recognition of European Certification in Vocational Education and Training) – www.trecvet.eu

The TRECVET project is progressing well.

Arrangements for the 5th Partner meeting were made by the UK Partner. The meeting will take place at Centre for Factories of the Future¹² on 24/25th May 2013.

A paper abstract was also submitted to IMLA21 Conference. The paper entitled “Removing Barriers to Mobility of Seafarers” reports the problems in Small Commercial Vessels (SCV) sector as well as introducing the response of TRECVET project with its innovative software tool.

The 2nd Press release titled “Great Employment Opportunity across Europe for commercial skippers in the SCV Sector” was produced. Partners contact the potential publishers in their country to get it published.

GETAFIX (Gaining Educational Training Analysis For Identifying Cross Border Systems) – www.getafix.eu

¹¹ Spinaker d.o.o – See <http://www.spinaker.si/>

¹² Centre for Factories of the Future (C4FF) – See www.c4ff.co.uk



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GETAFIX project is progressing well.

Partners are working hard to finalise the comparison of qualifications of Seafarers in small commercial vessels. They will be made available when finalised and can be viewed through the link: <http://www.getafix.eu/compare.html>

The 4th Partner meeting will take place in Poland in April 2013. Arrangements will be finalised by the Polish partner, Danmar Computers.

More progress reports will be available in April progress report.

METPROM (Safe and Secure Ports) – www.metprom.eu

The METPROM project is progressing well.

The main aim of the METPROM Project is to transfer the innovation already developed for the maritime security training and simulation based modules, in order to fill the security gaps created as the result of increased complex operational activities in ports, which are vital for the timely conduct of shipping that more than 90 % of the world trade depend on.

The METPROM kick-off meeting was held on 3-5 December 2012 in Istanbul the participation of staff members from all partner organizations. The next partner meeting will take place on 15-17 April 2013 at World Maritime University Campus.

More information will be available on METPROM project in April progress report.

Pier to Pier

A new proposal entitled “Pier to Pier” has been submitted to European Commission.

The project aims to bridge the worlds of maritime education and on board work, tackling the specific topic of stress on-board, by means of an ICT-based well-being learning pathway that could provide flexible lifelong learning to the staff on-board and work-based/intergenerational learning to the maritime students.

The main objective of the project is the development, assessment and promotion of ICT-based learning pathways to identify and sooth stress on board while informing and training students on classroom matters.

More information on the outcome of the submission will be reported in the forthcoming months.

Forever Shipping (Fulfil Objectives to Reduce Emissions via Vocational Education Related to Shipping)

A proposal was submitted to European Commission in response to 2020 strategic agenda of EU to reduce the O2 Emission. The project aims to:

- Transfer maritime low carbon-energy efficiency training to an e-learning platform to increase accessibility for seafarers in the working environment



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- Transfer maritime low carbon-energy efficiency training exercises to simulator training to increase effectiveness of learning
- Make the maritime low carbon-energy efficiency training transferable around Europe and back to the UK
- Trailing the effectiveness of the delivered vet courses in reducing maritime carbon emissions in practice

More information on the result of FOREVER Shipping proposal will be available in MariFuture platform.

ETOBOK – Booklet for Electro-Technician Officers

One another new proposal submitted to European Commission was titled ETOBOOK – Booklet for Electro- Technician Officers. The aim of the project is to bring about awareness of a Training Record Book for Electro-Technician Officers, fulfilling ECVET requirements. The booklet will be designed to help ensure that ETOs meet the requirements for certification. The function of the Training Record Book (TRB) will be:

- To provide to the Master, to the Head of Section, to the Shipboard Training Officer, a complete outline of the planning and behaviour elements for the training of the apprentice (trainee);
- To illustrate in detail the arguments of the theoretical and practical training to be developed during the training period through instructions on specific activities/duties to be assigned to the trainee;
- To facilitate the certification of the activities performed by the trainee and the evaluation of the achieved results, fulfilling ECVET requirements;
- To certify the progressive acquirement of the competences needed to carry out the role and the function of Electro-technician Officer (ETO), fulfilling ECVET requirements

Furthermore a prototype of distance web-based solution (platform) will be developed as a supporting tool.

Several new proposals are being prepared.

More information on the outcome of the proposal will be available in Marifuture platform.

Report by Officer Ugurcan Acar – C4FF

Edited by Professor Dr Reza Ziarati - PRU