POLARIN

POLAR
RESEARCH
INFRASTRUCTURE
NETWORK

Deliverable 9.2. Organisation and minutes of the 1st POLARIN General Assembly

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Status date	

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SUMMARY

The Kick-off Meeting of POLARIN took place in Bremerhaven, Germany, from the 17th of April to the 19th of April 2024. Over the three days, the POLARIN partners discussed the project objectives and planned future activities. Ca. 100 participants, among them project partners, invited speakers, members of the Advisory Board and guests, participated in the discussions.

Figure 1: POLARIN KoM participants in Bremerhaven, 17-19 April 2029.

1. Day 1 - 17th April 2024

Four WP meetings were organised to internally discuss the project activities of four main pillars:

- WP1 and WP2 Joint Meeting: Call Priorities and call management
- WP8 Meeting: Outreach, Website
- WP4 and WP5 Joint Meeting: Data management and virtual access
- WP7 Meeting: Training activities

The results of these workshops were integrated in the presentations for the plenary sessions from the 18th and 19th of April.

2. Day 2 – 18th April 2024

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2.1. Opening and Welcome

The POLARIN Coordinator, Nicole Biebow (AWI), welcomes the participants to the Kick-off Meeting in Bremerhaven.

The meeting starts with a short overview of the Alfred Wegener Institute and its infrastructure, the Helmholtz research programme, and the background of POLARIN.

Nicole Biebow highlights the EU funded projects EUROFLEETS, INTERACT, ARICE as predecessors of POLARIN, together with the newly funded project AQUARIUS.

One main difference with the previous projects is that in POLARIN the calls for proposals are challenge driven. Successful teams accessing POLARIN infrastructures will have to contribute to address the main research challenges in polar regions.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

2.2. EU Arctic policy support through research and innovation

Szilvia Nemeth (EC) Vice-Head of the Unit Healthy Oceans, seas, and waters, from the European Commission, highlights the continuous financing of Arctic and Polar projects with ca. 400M€ in Horizon Europe, including research infrastructures and international cooperation. The EC is closely following the progress of EU-PolarNet 2 and the EU Polar Cluster.

Cooperation and policy coherence are key to ensure continuity of research infrastructures, especially for the most expensive to operate.

2.3. Introduction to the Project and its objectives

Verónica Willmott (AWI), Project Manager of POLARIN, gives an introductory presentation of POLARIN.

POLARIN is a Horizon Europe Funded project, coordinated by the Alfred Wegener Institute in Bremerhaven, Germany. The project will be active for 5 years, from 3/2024 to 2/2029 and it has been granted by the EC with 14,6 M€. POLARIN will provide access to 64 RIs and their associated services in the polar regions.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

2.4. Presentations of related projects and initiatives

AQUARIUS

Aodhán Fidzgerald (MI), project coordinator of AQUARIUS, presents the project and its objectives.

AQUARIUS is a Horizon Europe Funded project, coordinated by the Marine Institute in Ireland. The project AQUARIUS will be active from 3/2024 to 2/2028 (4 years). Aquarius has been granted with 14,5 M€, and will provide access to 50+ RIs in support of the Mission Restore our Oceans and Waters by 2030.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

OKEANO: Supporting the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance

Jose Luiz Moutinho (AIR Centre), project partner in OKEANO and coordinator of BlueMission AA, presents the project OKEANO.

OKEANO will provide coordination and support for a wider understanding of the opportunities and need for sustainable management of the Atlantic Ocean through a large-scale basin effort.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

EU Polar Cluster,

Anneli Strobel (AWI), Project Manager of EU-PolarNet 2, presents the EU Polar Cluster, a collaboration of Arctic and Antarctic projects funded by the European Union.

The Polar Cluster is coordinated by the EU-PolarNet 2 project. Under the EU Polar Cluster, the EU projects increase substantially their combined impact and legacy.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO)

Jennifer Mercer (US NSF), previous Chair of FARO, presents the organization to the POLARIN Consortium.

The Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO) is an international organisation initiated in 1998, as a forum for logistics and operational support for scientific research in the Arctic.

FARO has developed to become a platform for friendly exchange of information on operation of research vessels, stations and other infrastructure and over the years FARO has inspired many collaborations between member countries/institutions and organizations. Today FARO counts 21 member countries representing about 40 operators around the world.

FAROis the counterpart of COMNAP in the Antarctic.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programmes (COMNAP)

Antonio Quesada (CPE), Chair of COMNAP, presents the organization to the POLARIN consortium.

With 33 members and 4 observers, COMNAP was implemented to develop and promote best practice in managing the support of scientific research in Antarctica. It provides the Antarctic Treaty System with objective, practical, technical and non-political advice drawn from the National Antarctic Program's pool of expertise.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

2.5. Transnational Access to Research Infrastructures

2.5.1. WP1: Challenge driven access to research infrastructures

Marie Noelle Houssais (CNRS), WP1 Leader, introduces WP1, a Work Package dedicated framing the challenge driven calls for proposals, and that the proposals funded by POLARIN and to ensure that the projects implemented by POLARIN are scientifically excellent

The presentation can be downloaded here.

2.5.2. WP2: Transnational Access Proposal management service

Hannele Savela (UOULU) and Margareta Johansson (Lund University). WP2 leaders, introduce WP2. This WP has the objective to ensure efficient, streamlined and high-quality management of the transnational access (TA) provision in POLARIN.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

2.5.3. WP3 (TA infrastructures)

Verónica Willmott (AWI) presents the research infrastructures that will be offered for TA, both as in person access or remote access.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

2.5.4. Q&A and discussion: Call management, TA in person and remote

A discussion follows on the scientific challenges and the transnational access.

1. **Regarding the scientific process, what mechanisms will be implemented to collaborate with the ICARP process, that will be defining the science priorities.**
   ICARP is a long process, and at least the first call for proposals in POLARIN will be launched before the ICARP process is finalized, which means we will rely on already developed research priorities, e.g. the Integrated European Polar Research Programme developed by EU PolarNet. In successive calls, themes from ICARP will be integrated, and we will be in touch with them along the process.
   Hannele Savela is involved in ICARP, which means that POLARIN is connected to it.
2. **Regarding the Science Liaison Panel, are there any indigenous priorities being considered?**
   POLARIN is such a large project with so many infrastructures involved, that indigenous priorities are important to address. Some research infrastructures have developed protocols or are subject to regulations that ensure that this is considered. Other research infrastructures have not implemented protocols yet- For that reason, information exchange and best practices should be implemented in the project.
   As a reference for contributing to indigenous knowledge POLARIN can use the documents that Canada has produced (National Inuit Council on Research).
3. **Scientific and logistical evaluation: why not do first the logistical evaluation and then the scientific evaluation?**
   There is a reason why we need to perform the scientific evaluation first, and this is because scientific excellency is the first criteria to ensure that all science implemented is excellent. We want to ensure that only outstanding projects are funded by POLARIN.
   Before we open any call, it is important to know the regions where especially the vessels will operate, and/or the time frame reserved for the implementation, if any.
   In the eligibility criteria we could implement a precheck of logistical feasibility, to eliminate the proposals that are not feasible for whatever the reason (geographic area not covered, etc)
4. **Due to the complexity of transnational excellence, there is a need to link the KPIs and risk assessment**
   This will be considered. To monitor the access provision, we will rely on Key Performing Indicators (KPIs) reflecting both the access provision and the quality assurance process, including an evaluation of risks.
   KPIs should also be related to the impact of the action and will be defined in cooperation with WP8 and WP9.
5. **How many members will form the Scientific Liaison Panel, and what do we mean by "external evaluators"?**
   The number of members is not defined yet. It should be a group with sufficient expertise to oversee the evaluation process and the proposal ranking. The evaluation will be done externally by experts selected by the panel and panel members. "External evaluators" means evaluators that do not necessarily belong to the Scientific Liaison Panel or POLARIN beneficiaries, but that they hold the sufficient expertise to evaluate the excellency of a specific proposal.

6. **How is the "Challenge based" access addressed?**
   In POLARIN we will ensure that the proposals selected for implementation contribute to solving the research challenges in the polar regions.
   The research challenges have been already defined for the polar regions (e.g. Integrated European Polar Research Programme developed by EU PolarNet). The calls for proposals to access the research infrastructures will be framed around those priorities, which should be broad enough to allow a broad range of disciplines/research topics. Applicants have the responsibility to explain in their proposals their contribution to address those challenges and this will be evaluated.
   If during the project the Scientific Liaison Panel identifies a specific topic where data collection must be enhanced, proposals addressing this topic will be prioritised.
7. **Is data management plan (DMP) part of the application?**
   Yes, a (brief) data management plan (DMP) should accompany the TA proposals. Applicants should be aware that all data collected should be traceable with sufficient metadata and deposited in public databases (with a moratorium to support publications, if necessary).
   Guidelines should be produced by POLARIN to ensure that the applicants are able to comply with this DMP and submit their data to public databases.
8. **Pierre Quertermont clarifies f**ew constrains on transnational access:
   - Stays in infrastructures can be supported up to a maximum access of 3 months for one single stay.
   - International researchers are welcome to apply for access in POLARIN infrastructures, a maximum of 20% of the units of access can be allocated to scientists based in non-EU or associated countries. POLARIN will monitor the access offered to ensure we comply with the EC rules.
9. **Is it possible to change proposals from one infrastructure to another, depending on availability?**
   We are aiming at giving proposals to all infrastructures in our portfolio, but it could be that some infrastructures are not requested. If this happens, we might recommend another infrastructure depending on availability and if the logistic evaluation recommends this based on availability and budget constraints.

2.6. Data Management and Virtual Access

2.6.1. WP4: Improving of data services and customised data products

Antonio Novellino (ETT) WP4 Co-leader, together with Vito Vitale (CNR), introduces WP4, a Work Package dedicated to facilitating the data discovery and the consumption of data.

This WP will implement strategies to facilitate the access to this data and improve the workflow and machine to machine interoperability. While doing this, WP4 will develop other tools to facilitate the access to the data using artificial intelligence, also for non-experts.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

2.6.2. WP5: Provision of Virtual Access

Ilkka Matero (SIOS) WP5 Co-leader, introduces WP5, a Work Package dedicated to managing and supporting Virtual Access to POLARIN research infrastructures.

This WP will provide a web portal for Virtual Access with machine interfaces and will monitor and evaluate Virtual Access provided by POLARIN RIs.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

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2.6.3. WP6: Infrastructure offered for Virtual Access

Verónica Willmott (AWI) presents the research infrastructures that will be offered for virtual access.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

2.6.4. Q&A and discussion: Data Management and Virtual Access

1. **Data should be made public and must be traceable.**
   Training in data management will be crucial to ensure that applicants are aware of the importance of submitting their research data with sufficient metadata to make it traceable.
   WP4 has already identified this issue and will implement a DMP for POLARIN that will include the information needed on the data that will be produced by TA projects. The DMP will comply with the regulation imposed by the EC (e.g. DOI, findable in trusted repositories, eg. PANGEA, SIOS, or others)
   The call for proposals should inform the PIs of the POLARIN DMP:
   There is the possibility of having restricted data, if necessary, but the process must be transparent.
1. **Must every applicant for transnational access submit a DMP? or they must agree to the pre-arranged DMP from the POLARIN project?**

   Applicants will have to agree with the DMP from POLARIN, but they will have to fill some fields with information on what they will do with their data. This will be done in cooperation with WP2.

2. **Are the Virtual Access portal and the Data portal of POLARIN one of the same, or different?**
   Both portals will be integrated in one single site.
   The aim is to implement federation, to connect data and not to harvest data.
3. **Virtual access to several infrastructures to research vessels has not been shown. Would be possible to request virtual access, for example to a sediment core collected by a vessel or other data?**
4. Virtual access refers to the access to (new) data.
   Virtual access to a sediment core would not be possible, as virtual access refers to the access to (new) data. To request for the collection of a sediment core by one of our vessels would fall into “remote access” within the transnational access mode. Still proposal based.
   Data that is already public in trusted databases will be searchable by the POLARIN portal, once the connection is made to this data repository.
5. **Data as open as possible and as closed as necessary.**
   This is important to consider, because some data can be rejected to be public by security agencies, or other issues. Because of the large scale of POLARIN, we will need to implement solutions in the international realm to address security issues. This will be reflected in the DMP.
   Data can be set as restricted if requested. However, a clear workflow must indicate how to reach the data. Access to the data can then be granted or not by the responsible person.
   The DMP is a fundamental tool, that will help harmonising the protocols to reach the data.
6. **FAIR principles, and FAIR and CARE for indigenous peoples, must be considered, as well as to follow ethical principles.**
7. **A question is posed on the calibration of data. How can data be merged from different infrastructures?**
   Metadata must be included to track the information on sensor accuracy and calibration, among others. It is important to develop tools that help the researcher know the accuracy of the downloaded data.

8. **In WP4 we aim at providing data products. Are those data products to be used only for scientists or also the general public?**
   Data products generated by POLARIN could be used by scientists and the general public. We will approach this with Chat GPT, to allow the human-machine communication.
9. **Trusted repositories: what repositories are trusted?**
   A trusted digital repository is one whose mission is to provide reliable, long-term access to managed digital resources to its designated community, now and in the future. It should be recognised by the international community. Usually those are national data centers. If a user wants to deposit their data in a different data repository system, we need to see how and if we can implement the connection to this repository as it must be accessible.
10. **What organization will get the legacy of POLARIN? What will happen in the long term?**
    Until now, the EU Polar Cluster keeps the legacy of those EU funded projects that have been finalised.
    As a legacy of EU-PolarNet2, a European Polar Coordination Office (EPCO) will be implemented to take over this responsibility. This holds true for e.g. the data portals and the Catalyst platform. The EPCO Office office will be in Umea, Sweden, and it will be hosted by the European Polar Board (EPB).

2.7. WP7: Training for infrastructure users, including discussion

Michele Rebesco (OGS), WP7 Co-leader together with Morten Rasch (University of Copenhagen), introduces WP7, a Work Package dedicated to training the new generations of infrastructure users.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

A discussion follows:

1. **How is connecting the training for Early Career Researchers (ECRs) with the calls for proposals?**
   Online seminars will be held soon after the call results are available.
2. **Can proposal applicants bring ECRs and implement training in the expeditions?**
   This is not a matter of WP7. In addition, the idea is that POLARIN is training the ECS. Of course, the Transnational Access teams can bring ECS as well and train them on their own. But this is not the scope of WP7, not an eligibility or evaluation criteria in the calls.
   Open and online training is an open training, and it will be made openly available.
   The field training (Task 7.3) will involve a selection of PIs from successful proposals.
3. **Is training considered in terms of inclusivity and having a safe environment without sexual harassment?**
   It is definitely an important issue, and it will be addressed in cooperation with APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists).
   In that context it is also important to talk about cultural differences, because working internationally we must respect other cultures that might be represented in the research infrastructures.
   We understand this as one of the safety aspects related to the use of the infrastructure.
   POLARIN will not do training to promote career development, but to use the services offered by the infrastructures.
4. **Successful applicants can follow the training, but can other people access this information?**
   Yes, the e-learning material will be continuously available. What online training platform will be used is something to discuss with WP8.

5. **An important topic is sustainable use of infrastructures of the polar regions. Is training in this respect planned?**
   Yes, this is considered. Training on sustainability of fieldwork in polar regions will be included. There are different challenges in the Arctic and the Antarctic, and both must be observed carefully. In the Antarctic, it will be very important to connect with the Antarctic Programmes (e.g. COMNAP).
   Because the WP7 leaders represent both realms (Arctic, terrestrial) and (Antarctic, marine), this will be well represented.
6. **An important point is to have small/short videos that are easy to digest, instead of a 4-hour training component difficult to follow, and POLARIN will build up the training materials on already existing ones.**
7. **Is the training mandatory to the successful applicants?**
   The training provided by POLARIN is voluntary but recommended, to ensure that the participants are aware of the issues they must consider when accessing the infrastructure. The different infrastructure operators have listed trainings that are mandatory to access their infrastructures. The training provide by POLARIN cannot replace the mandatory training.
   The final responsibility of sending the researchers to the field with appropriate training are the research institutions and the infrastructure operators.
   Training or information on requirements needed (permits, e.g.) to access the infrastructures should be provided, at least to make the infrastructure users aware that must be taken into consideration.
8. **Information is required from all research infrastructures to know what are the requirements (e.g. compulsory training, certificates) to access them.**
   This information must be provided with sufficient time for the successful teams to complete.
   The training should be kept general, to inform about potential requirements, and specific information should come from the operators.
   WP2 is collecting this information to inform the applicants.
9. **Who will pay for this certification needed to access the research infrastructure?**
   In the Polar Code, the specific training is described and should be provided by the operators. POLARIN can't cover these expenses.
10. **Liability: Who is the ultimate responsible for sending scientists to the field?**
    Usually, the responsible person is the employer, but it could also be the research infrastructure operator for example if the operator gives a wrong advice.
    The liability should be considered in the agreement/contract to be sign between operators and users. For liability reasons it is mandatory that the infrastructure users are employed by organisations.
11. **Training to use research equipment available in the research infrastructures should be included in the training.**

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3. Day 3 – 18th April 2024

3.1. WP8: Communication, Engagement and Outreach, including discussion

Eva Horovčáková (EBP), WP8 Leader, introduces the WP dedicated to the communication, engagement and outreach. WP8 will support all WPs to advertise the services offered by POLARIN. The main objectives are:

1. Communication
2. Outreach
3. Engagement of users

The presentation can be downloaded here.

A discussion follows:

1. **The infrastructures will be linked to POLARDEX, however, the cruise schedules are not available there. How do we ensure that the applicants know where/when the vessels will operate?**
   The information on when the vessels are available for the POLARIN calls for proposals will be provided by POLARIN in the call text/associated information. This is because even if a vessel generally operates in one area, it doesn't mean it is available/there is space for an additional team. Vessel operators might offer their infrastructure only for a specific transect/leg for POLARIN, and with a limited berth availability. The information is too specific to publish it in POLARDEX. In POLARDEX we should ensure the vessel and its capacities are well described.
2. **What are the POLARIN Ambassadors stories?**
   TA users become POLARIN Ambassadors. We will ask them to fill in a template for outreach to the wider audience, such as success stories.

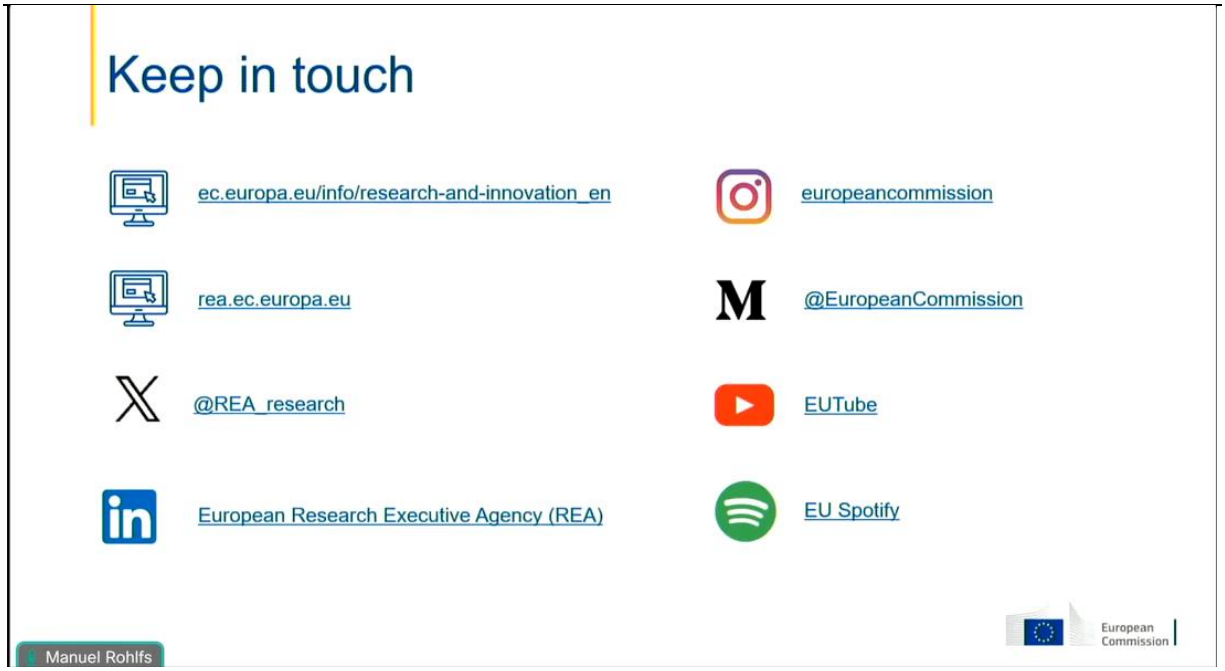
12. **Transnational Access (TA) is a well know term that cannot be changed by other words.**
13. **The project activities are in the news. Can we have a record of all news?**
    Yes, all news posted will be available in the POLARIN website.
14. **The campaign to advertise the TA calls for proposals will be done jointly with WP8 and WP2, to ensure that we reach the audience.**

3.2. Project Management

3.2.1. Project management from EC perspective

Pierre Quertenmont (EC), POLARIN Project Officer from the European Research Executive Agency, presents the project management from the European Commission's perspective, including links to useful resources.

To increase the visibility of POLARIN, we should tag the EC in our social media.



The presentation can be downloaded here.

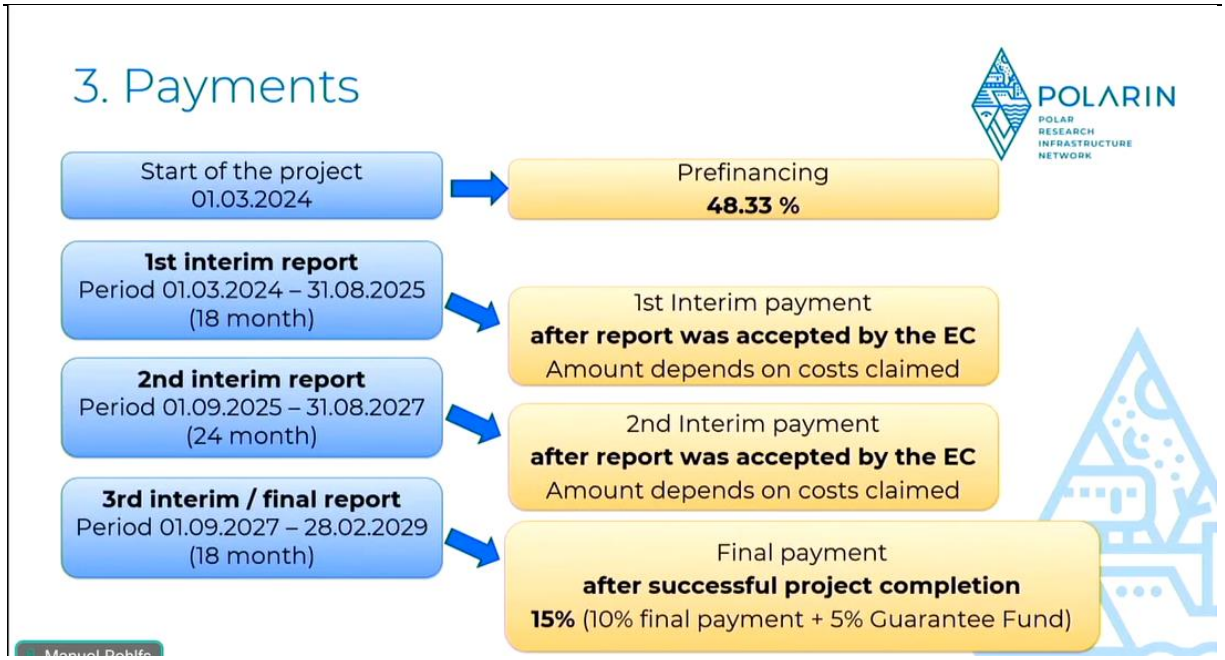
3.2.2. WP9: Project Management

Verónica Willmott, POLARIN Project Manager, presents the WP9, a project dedicated guarantee the effective, smooth, and high-quality performance of the POLARIN project. WP9 addresses the contractual, financial, operational and strategic management of POLARIN.

The presentation can be downloaded here.

3.2.3. Financial key aspects: project budget, advance payment, cost statements

Maria Eden (AWI), Financial Manager of POLARIN together with Martina Schrage, address the key aspects of the financial management, such as important documents (Grant Agreement, Consortium Agreement), budget details, payments and financial reporting.



The presentation can be downloaded here.

3.2.4. Q&A on budget and discussion

1. **Some partners do not receive person months (PMs) from the project but have budget to participate at the meetings. How is the time invested declared as in-kind contribution?**
   Time sheets have only to be filled in only when the person is paid by the project.
2. **Our institute has electronic signature for time sheets, can this be used?**
   If this is a certified system, yes, and with two signatures: by the person performing the job and by the supervisor.
3. **Is there a plan to provide a revised cost calculation for infrastructure access?**
   The infrastructure unit cost can be updated during the project if big changes apply. Whether this needs a project amendment, or it can be declared as a deviation, needs to be evaluated. There is need for an amendment if the infrastructure changes from "actual cost" to "unit cost", or vice versa, because expenses are not reported in the same way.
   But even if the cost of the infrastructure changes, the allocated budget will not change.
4. **Can we discuss the best time to transfer the TA budget to the infrastructures, to support the travel costs?**
   TA budget will be transferred to the infrastructure operators once it is sure that the TA will be implemented (selection of proposal/team), and once the agreements/contracts are signed between the PI and POLARIN and PI and infrastructure operator.
5. **Very often occurs that the time to stay in the infrastructure changes, e.g. due to logistic reasons.**
   In case a team must stay in an infrastructure for a longer time, e.g. due to force majeure, we have a certain flexibility but overspending the budget is generally not possible. As soon as the operator foresees that the TA user cannot leave the infrastructure in time, please let the coordination team know as we need to find a solution.
6. **Some important considerations:**
   a. The Grant Agreement is Legally binding.

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b. Travel incurred for other purposes than representing POLARIN interests, will not be accepted.
c. Cancelled trips cannot be charged to an EU project, these should be charged to your own institutional account.
d. We will insist in a timely submission of deliverables. Let us know if you have any problem delivering, and we will find a solution.
e. We are at your service, but we need to be informed if you foresee any risk that you cannot provide a deliverable, or if your infrastructure can't implement transnational or virtual access. Please let us know as soon as possible to allow us reacting in time.

3.3. Other issues, Next General Assembly, end of meeting

Our 2nd General Assembly (GA) will take place most likely online. Under discussion is to organise a GA on board Le Commandant Charcot (PONANT) while sailing, kindly offered by PONANT. We will keep you informed if this is possible to organise.

In general, we aim at meeting virtually, to reduce costs and CO_2 emissions, but it is important that we have the chance to meet in person.

POLARIN is very demanding but also a very nice project. We strongly hope that all the different communities will get closer to each other, make closer connections, and share best practices. We are sure that this will work well.

POLARIN is going to be a game changer for the polar communities and we are truly excited to see the outcomes of this project.

Acknowledgements

POLARIN is a project that has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 101130949. Please visit www.eu-polarin.eu for more information.

Appendix 1: Agenda

Day 1 - 17th April 2024

Venue: Bremerhaven Building D

Time	Session	Speaker	Venue/room
13:00 – 16:00	*Registration*		
13:30 – 15:30	**WP1 and WP2 Joint Meeting: Call Priorities and call management**		Bremerhaven Building D, Hörsaal
13:30 – 15:30	**WP8 Meeting: Outreach, website**		AWI Building D, room **D2930 (max capacity24 participants)**
15:30 – 16:00	*Coffee break*		
16:00 – 18:00	**WP4 and WP5 Joint Meeting: Data management and virtual access**		Bremerhaven Building D, Hörsaal
16:00 – 18:00	**WP7 Meeting: Training activities**		AWI Building D, room **D2930 (max capacity24 participants)**
19:00 – 22:00	***Icebreaker Reception at Schulschiff Deutschland*** *Lloyd Platz / Neuer Hafen, 27568 Bremerhaven* 		

Day 2 – 18th April 2024

Venue: Klimahaus, Bremerhaven (https://www.klimahaus-bremerhaven.de/), Room Kyoto

Time	Session	Speaker
8:45 – 9:00	*Registration*	
9:00 – 9:15	Opening and Welcome	Nicole Biebow (AWI)
9:15 – 9:30	EU Arctic policy support through research and innovation	Szilvia Nemeth (EC), online
9:30 – 9:45	Introduction to the Project and its objectives	Verónica Willmott (AWI)
9:45 -11:00	Presentations of related projects and initiatives (15 min each) • AQUARIUS • All Atlantic *(online)* • EU Polar Cluster • FARO • COMNAP	Aodhan Fidtzgerald (MI) José Moutinho (Air Centre), online Anneli Strobel (AWI) Jennifer Mercer (NSF) Antonio Quesada (CPE)
11:00 – 11:30	*Coffee break*	

11:30 – 12:15	WP presentations 11:30 – 11:50 WP1 11:50 – 12:10 WP2 12:10 – 12:15 WP3 (TA infrastructures)	 Marie Noelle Houssais (CNRS) Hannele Savela (UOULU) Verónica Willmott (AWI)
12:15 – 13:00	Q&A and discussion: Call management, TA in person and remote	
13:00 – 14:00	*Group photo and Lunch break*	
14:00– 14:45	WP presentations 14:15 – 14:35 WP4 14:35 – 14:55 WP5 14:55 – 15:00 WP6 (VA infrastructures)	 Vito Vitale (CNR) Ilkka Matero (SIOS) Verónica Willmott (AWI)
14:45 – 15:45	Discussion: Data management and Virtual access	
15:45 – 16:15	*Coffee break*	
16:15 –17:30	WP7: Training, including discussion	Michele Rebesco (OGS)
19:00 –	*Dinner -**Deutsche Auswandererhaus*** *Columbusstraße 65, 27568 Bremerhaven* 	

Day 3 – 19th April 2024

Venue: Klimahaus, Bremerhaven (https://www.klimahaus-bremerhaven.de/), Room Kyoto

Time	Session	Speaker
9:00– 10:00	WP8: Communication, Engagement and Outreach, including discussion	Eva Horovčáková (EBP)
10:00 – 10:30	Project management from EC perspective	Pierre Quertenmont (EC)
10:30 – 10:45	WP9: Project Management	Verónica Willmott (AWI)
10:45– 11:15	*Coffee break*	
11:15 – 11:50	Financial key aspects: project budget, advance payment, cost statements	Maria Eden (AWI)
11:50 – 12:45	Q&A on budget and discussion: Reimbursement and management of access costs	
12:45 – 13:00	Other issues, Next GA, end of meeting	Nicole Biebow (AWI)
13:00 – 14:00	*Lunch*	

Appendix 1: Participants

In person

1.	Magdalena	Atria	H.E. Ambassador of Chile
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