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RFS D4.1 Common strategy pooling digital scientific resources (Feasibility Study)

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PPT prepared by Dragoș GĂITĂNARU and Florin BĂLTĂREȚU, UTCB

Presented by Florin BĂLTĂREȚU, UTCB

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La Rochelle Université

ΓΕΩΠΟΝΙΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

UTCB
Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest

Klaipeda University

Universidad Católica de Valencia
San Vicente Mártir

Sveučilište u Zadru
Universitas Studiorum Jadertina | 1396 | 2002 |

Universität Rostock
Traditio et Innovatio

Waterford Institute of Technology
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA PHORT LÁIRGE

FREDERICK UNIVERSITY

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Content

Preamble
Questionary development
Analysis of questionary responses
SWOT analysis
Step-by-step pooling strategy

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Preamble

> *pooling: the act of sharing or combining two or more things (e.g. the pooling of resources). The pooling of interests is a method of accounting used when two companies merge (= join together), in which their assets, debts etc. are combined. Under the pooling of interests method, a business combination is regarded as the uniting of the ownership interests of two companies, not as the acquisition of one company by another.*

digital scientific resources: databases, journals, books, software etc.

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Preamble

The current deliverable regarding the common strategy pooling digital scientific resources is a collaborative deliverable based on the input of all partners within the consortium.

The methodological approach involved a step-by-step analysis based on the following stages:

1. Development of a questionary to screen the actual information's regarding the scientific resource's availability within the consortium.

2. Processing and analysis of the input data.

3. Building up the strategy starting from the analysis data.

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Questionary development

The dissemination of the questionary was made through Google Forms platform and all the answers were collected and analyzed.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJF1cn9oJsahPB5KXxsiirqGRrUxIqu3d14bJ613tjedPPPQ/viewform

Time: November – January 2021 – 3 months.

The questionary was built divided for two types of respondents:

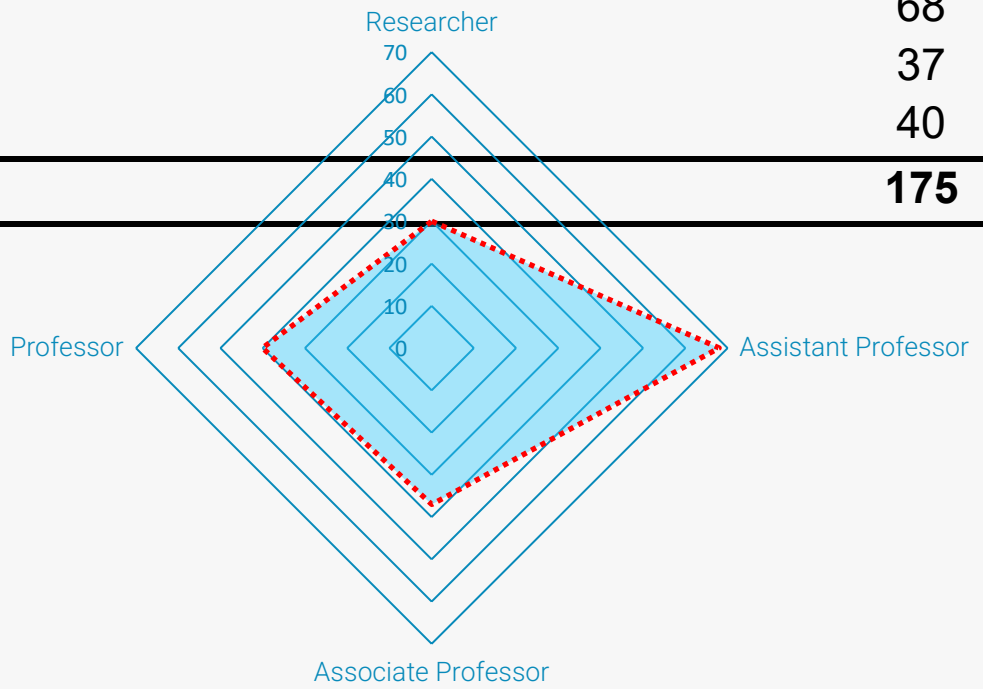
[1] Researcher level (individuals),
[2] Institutional level (persons in charge with R&D department from each university).

The research level questionary was composed by 20 questions (11 closed questions, 8 open questions and 1 scale appreciation question).

For the institutional level, there were 9 questions.

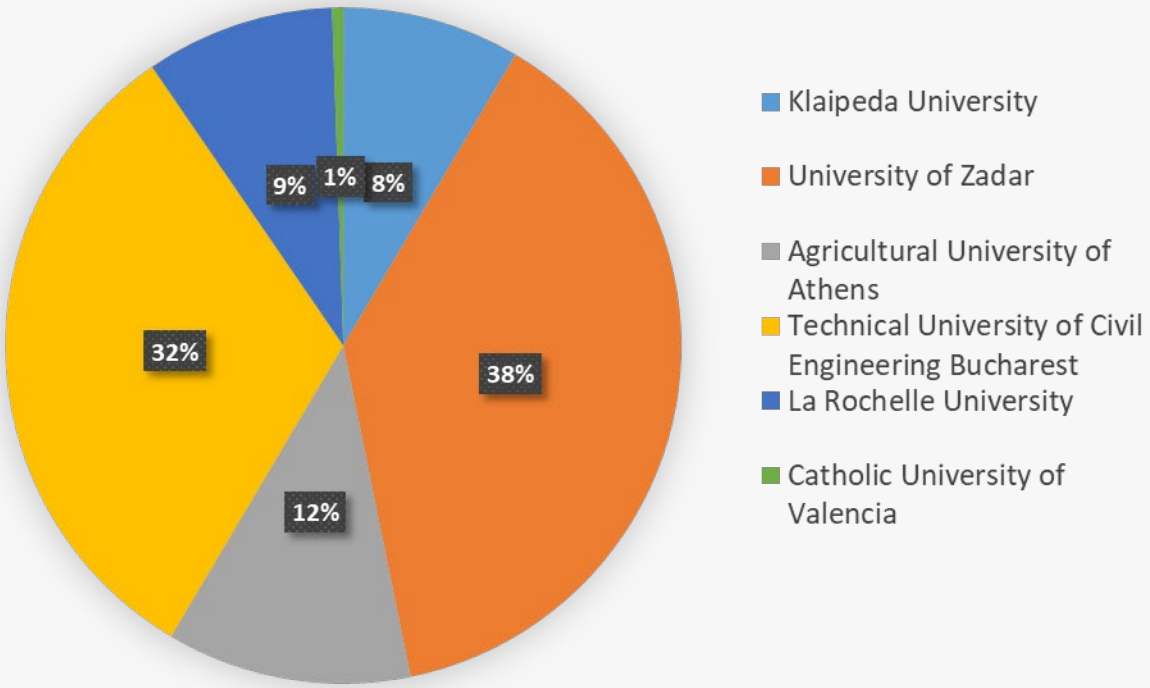
Questionary respondents by position

Position	No. of respondents	%
Researcher	30	17.1
Assistant Professor	68	38.9
Associate Professor	37	21.1
Professor	40	22.9
Total	**175**	**100**



Analysis of questionary responses

University	Country	No. of resp.
Klaipeda University (KU)	Lithuania	16
University of Zadar (UniZd)	Croatia	72
Agricultural University of Athens (AUA)	Greece	22
Technical University of Civil Engineering (UTCB)	Romania	60
Universidad Catolica de Valencia (UCV)	Spain	1
La Rochelle University (LRUniv)	France	17
Total		188



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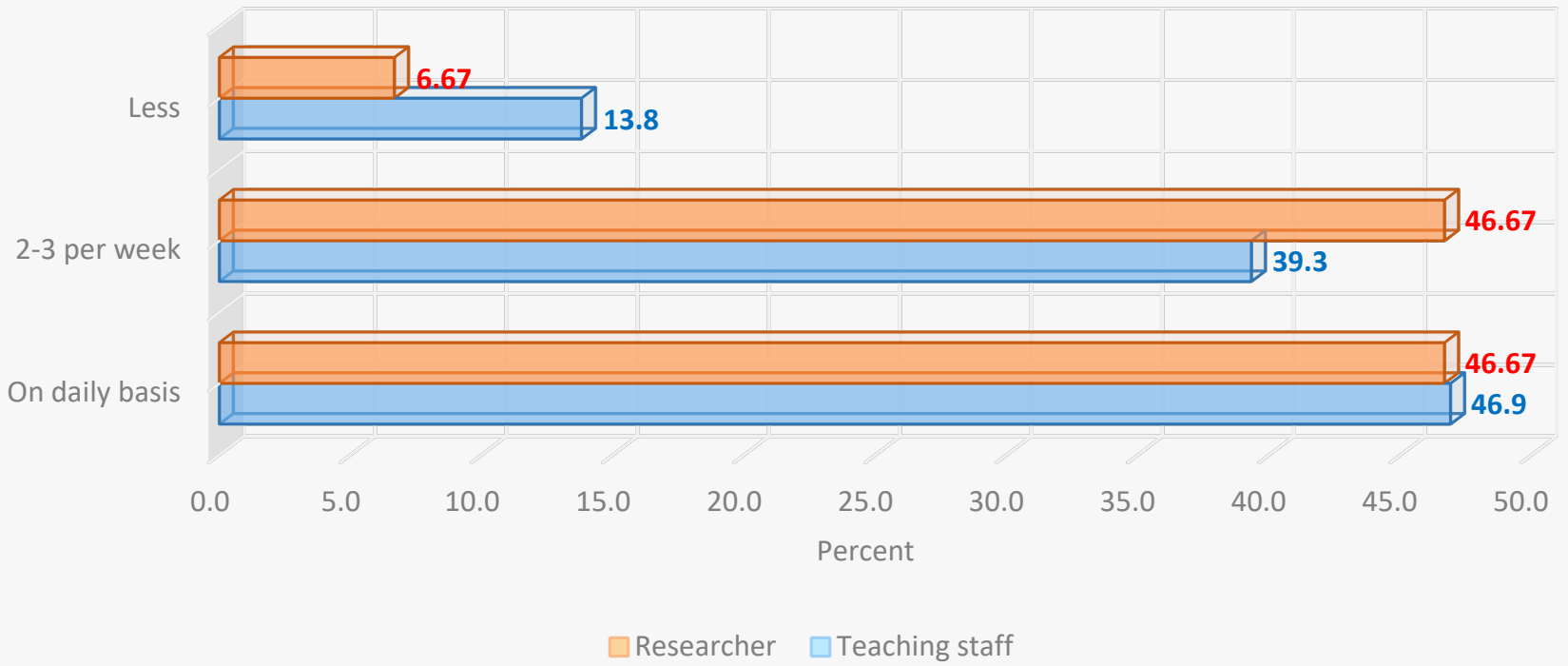
Analysis of questionary responses

Frequency accessing scientific resources



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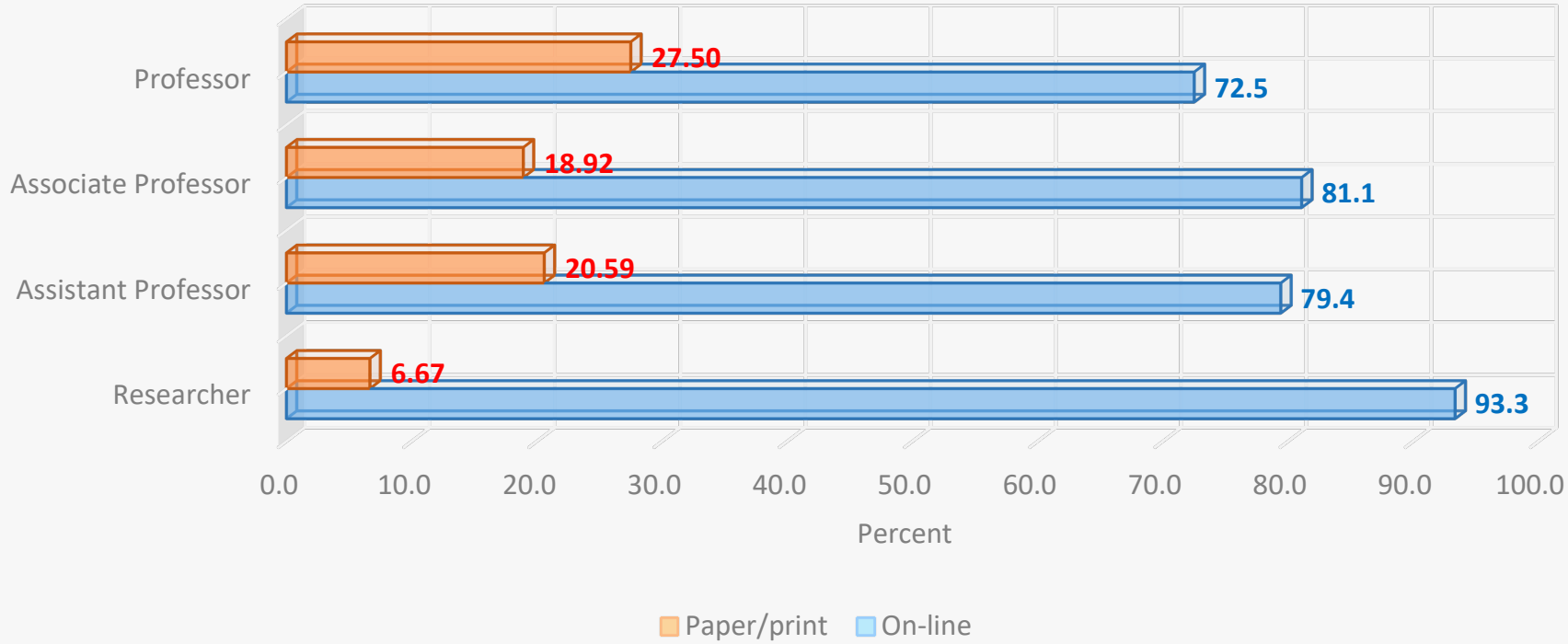
Analysis of questionary responses

Frequency accessing scientific resources



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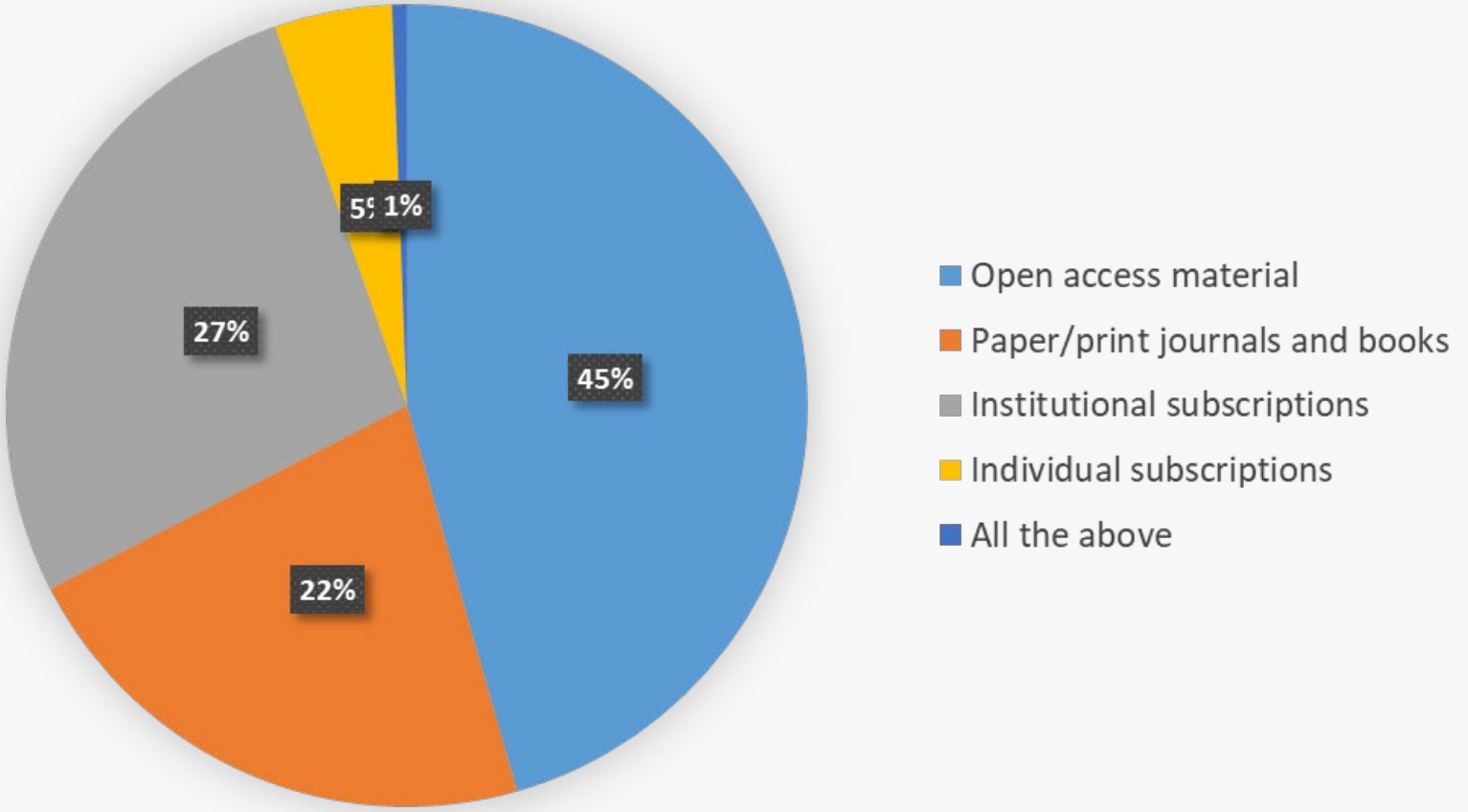
Analysis of questionary responses

Scientific resource



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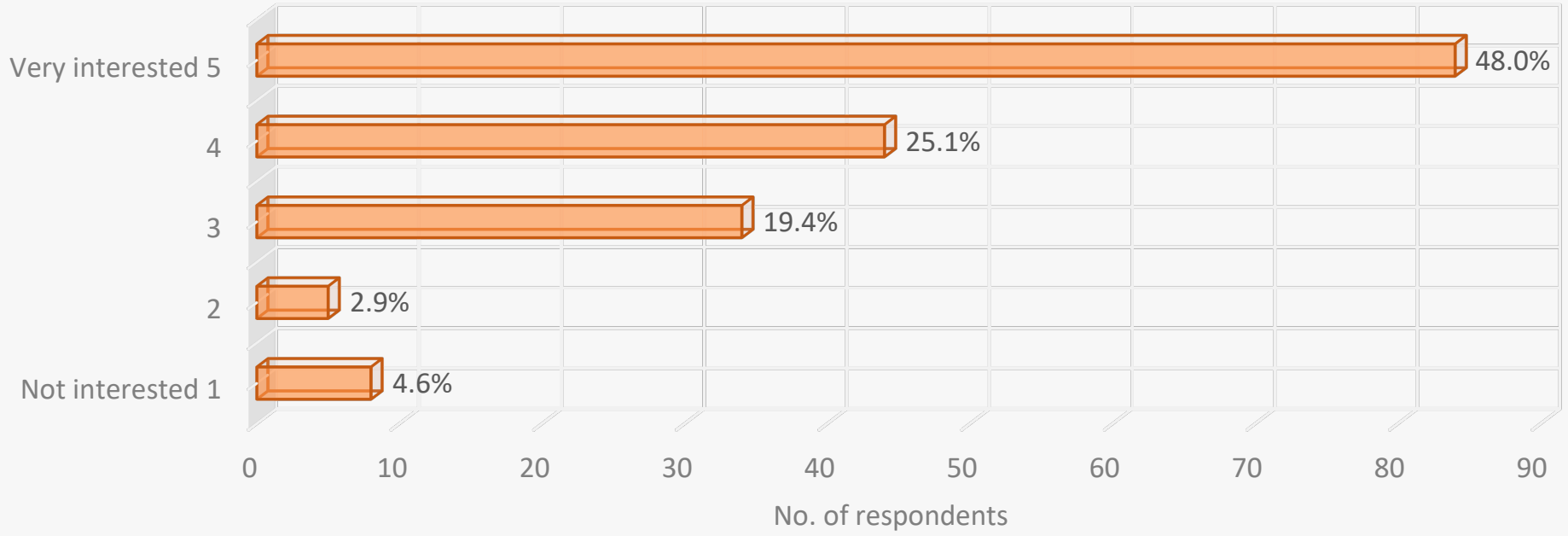
Analysis of questionary responses

Joint open access publication on Coastal Development



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SWOT analysis
on pooling digital scientific resources

Strenghts

- *Communication between EU-Conexus partners*
- *Research field diversity*
- *Inter and trans disciplinarity*

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SWOT analysis

Weaknesses

- *Research awareness*
- *Legislative barriers (e.g. national sharing policies, EU legislation on funded projects)*
- *Funding sustainability*
- *Lack of knowledge regarding legal and policy framework*
- *Lack of knowledge concerning funding and fees system of scientific databases*

SWOT analysis

Opportunities

- *Open access policies*
- *EU Projects (Digital Europe), Open Research Europe*
- *Sharing the fees and access to scientific databases*
- *Coastal development joint journal*
- *Promote open science at EU-CONEXUS level by a common portal*

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SWOT analysis

Threats

- *Lost in web platforms*
- *Low accessibility - degree of interest / researcher's implication*
- *Potential conflicts - research infrastructure access policy / interchange of publication access*
- *Different funding strategies*
- *Copyright policy gaps*

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Step-by-step pooling strategy

Awareness

- *A better understanding of the available resources must be made at department and faculty level for each university*
- *A common measuring system could be implemented to quantify the involvement and access for the research and teaching staff*

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Step-by-step pooling strategy

Identifying and pooling the real scientific resources needs for each university

- *At department and faculty level a comprehensive list of scientific resources should be available.*
- *Assessment of a proper distribution of the work and cost corroborated with data sharing needs to be developed among researchers, institutions etc.*

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Step-by-step pooling strategy

- *Extending the concept of digital scientific resources:*
  1. *Commercial software licences / use of a common data center*
  2. *In-house programming codes*
  3. *Internal scientific/research databases, internal procedures etc.*

- *Links with RIIS and other WP/WG results*

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Step-by-step pooling strategy

Direct consortium communication with major editors

- *Identify the publishers and target scientific journals.*
- *Create an adaptive and tailored subscription plan considering the needs of the consortium researchers. (e.g. walk in access, individual titles, pre-paid).*
- *Identify the international professional organizations that provide access to scientific publication and establish the relation with individual research from each university.*
- *Built up a financial scheme to ensure sustainability of the subscriptions.*

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Step-by-step pooling strategy

Funding opportunities

- *funding and tenders portal for beginners;*
- *finding loans, grants and financial instruments to enhance your digital skills level and get access to funding for projects;*
- *how to prepare a successful proposal in Horizon Europe and Digital Europe; performance highlights, key performance indicators, performance framework and assessment.*
- *scientific-technical excellence and other aspects for a successful proposal.*

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Step-by-step pooling strategy

Research projects metadata and data sharing

Making data and metadata available is a difficult process also considering the university autonomy, the copyright and confidentiality. This repository/platform requires several actions:

- *Assure the consistency of data in a standardize format.*
- *Control and review of the data.*
- *Repositories for long-term archiving*
- *Procedures for providing data access*

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Step-by-step pooling strategy

Boosting academic excellence

The academic excellence in advanced digital skills can be boosted by increasing the education offer and training in key digital technologies.

In the context of EU-CONEXUS (Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability), the artificial intelligence-based solutions can be emphasized, as well as the integration of a Digital Innovation Hub. Key societal challenges (e.g. environment and climate change) can be addressed via high impact digital deployments.

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Let’s improve our EU-CONEXUS common strategy!

Presented by Florin BĂLTĂREȚU, UTCB

info@conexus.com

www.conexus.com