

ASSEMBLE Plus successfully connects marine biologists via access programme

The **ASSEMBLE Plus** consortium rounded off a successful first year of operations at their 2nd General Assembly in Galway, Ireland, this October. Researchers have been provided with access to many of Europe's top marine biological facilities. Plans were presented to introduce access to virtual facilities later in the project.

At the 2nd General Assembly, partners reported that the first and second calls have received over 100 applications for access to over 20 marine stations from both EU and non-EU countries. In the first call, applications had a success rate of 73% to be granted.

“Working alongside EMBRC, we are well-established, so this year we have already seen great progress. We are most excited about engaging more strongly with user communities and bridging the gap to industry by promoting the access programme more widely,” said Davide Di Cioccio, **ASSEMBLE Plus** Access Officer.

While **ASSEMBLE Plus** project partners continue to improve accessibility to data, samples, training and equipment for marine researchers, the next call for access will be open shortly, in January 2019.

For more information on **ASSEMBLE Plus** and its activities, please visit: www.assembleplus.eu.

Notes for Editors

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme under Grant Agreement no. 730984 (ASSEMBLE Plus). The project began in October 2017 and will run until September 2021. Sorbonne Université Association is coordinating the project.

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*Photo Caption: The **ASSEMBLE Plus** partnership at the 2nd General Assembly in Galway, Ireland.*