Interreg - IPA CBC

PhaRem

Kick off meeting minutes

PhaRem

Development and application of a system based on advanced oxidation processes for the treatment of hospital wastewaters in order to remove pharmaceutical compounds with high persistence in aquatic environment.

Subsidy contract number: A2–1.1-	Start date: 1 st September 2018
10	 Duration 24 months
Project coordinator: UOI	

Meeting identification Meeting purpose: Project kick off meeting Meeting date: 08/10/2018

Meeting venue: Research Committee, University of Ioannina, Greece

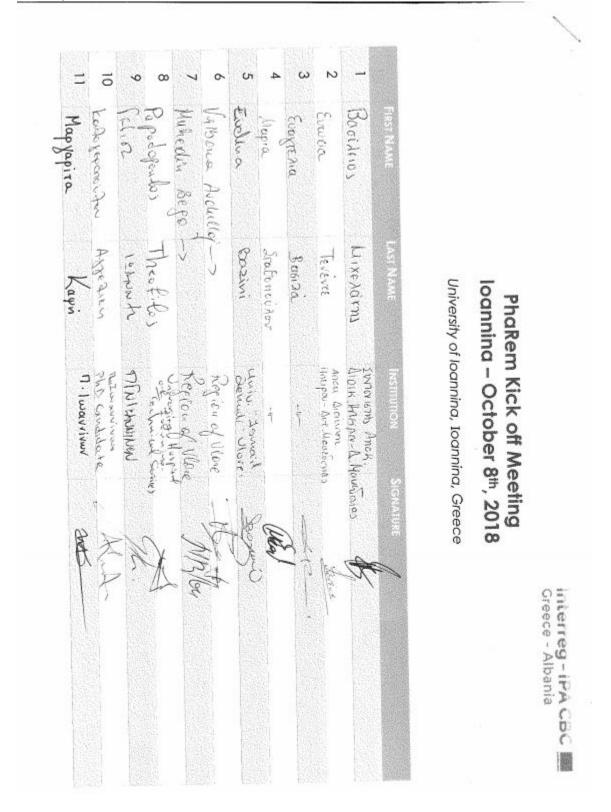
PART. NO *	PARTICIPANT ORGANISATION NAME	PARTICIPANT SHORT NAME	COUNTRY
1	University of Ioannina - Research Committee / Dept of Chemistry	UOI	EL
2	Decentralized Administration of Epirus and West Macedonia	DAEWM	EL
3	UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL OF IOANNINA	UHI	EL
4	UNIVERSITY "ISMAIL QEMALI" VLORE	UNIVLORA	AL
5	Regional Council of Vlora	Qarku Vlore	AL
6	Regional Hospital of Vlore	Spitali Vlore	AL



Agenda

Time	Торіс	Speaker		
11:00 - 11:30	Welcome coffee			
11:30 - 11:40	Welcome speech	UOI		
11:40 - 12:10	Partners presentation	All partners (5 minutes each)		
12:10 - 12:20	PhaRem general presentation	UOI		
12:20 - 12:50	 Management and coordination (WP1) Subsidy contract and partnership agreement Work plan Reporting and financial management Estimated budget consumption rates per partner Communication between partners and the MA/JTS 	UOI		
12:50 - 13:10	 Information and publicity (WP2) D2.1: Communication plan D2.2: Project website D2.3: Info / Publicity days D2.4: Final event 	UOI		
13:10 - 13:40	 Designing and procurement of a pilot plant photocatalytic reactor (WP3) D3.1: Determination of the design technical specifications and requirements of the photocatalytic pilot scale plant D3.2: Equipment procurement and establishment Optimization of the operating conditions, final validation of the photocatalytic pilot plant reactors and transferability of results (WP5) D5.1: Long term operation through different conditions (catalyst mass, flow rates, reaction times etc) to obtain valuable operational and scale-up knowledge for achieving optimum removal rates, and for producing treated water of suitable quality D5.2. Final validation and assessment of pilot system operation for the removal of pharmaceuticals from hospital wastewaters 	UOI		

Targeting emerging pharmaceuticalsUOIcompounds and monitoring the concentrationlevels and removal efficiencies before and after the establishment of the photocatalytic treatment plant (WP4)UOI• D4.1: Monitoring of pharmaceutical compounds in the effluents of wastewater treatment plants (University Hospital of Ioannina and Hospital of Vlore) as well as in receiving water bodies and risk assessment for the concentration levels detected on the aquatic food chain• D4.2: Determination of the removal efficiencies before and after the establishment of the photocatalytic treatment plant• D4.2: Determination of the removal efficiencies before and after the establishment of the photocatalytic treatment plant• Optimization of the operating conditions, final validation of the photocatalytic pilot plant reactors and transferability of results (WP5) • D5.3: Environmental Risk Assessment study14:10 - 15:00Discussion – Next steps		Dr. /. Suctainability plan	
14:10 – 15:00 Discussion – Next steps All partners	13:40 - 14:10	 compounds and monitoring the concentration levels and removal efficiencies before and after the establishment of the photocatalytic treatment plant (WP4) D4.1: Monitoring of pharmaceutical compounds in the effluents of wastewater treatment plants (University Hospital of Ioannina and Hospital of Vlore) as well as in receiving water bodies and risk assessment for the concentration levels detected on the aquatic food chain D4.2: Determination of the removal efficiencies before and after the establishment of the photocatalytic treatment plant Optimization of the operating conditions, final validation of the photocatalytic pilot plant reactors and transferability of results (WP5) D5.3: Environmental Risk Assessment 	UOI
	14:10 - 15:00		All partners
	15:00 - 16:30	Lunch	



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Prof. Triantafyllos Almpanis, Rector of University of Ioannina and scientific manager of PhaRem welcomed all partners to the meeting and expressed his trust on a productive collaboration between partners and a smooth project implementation.

Then, Mr. Pervin Gjikuria Counselor of Albania in Ioannina and Mr. Vasilios Mixelakis the Coordinator of Decentralized Administration of Epirus and West Macedonia provided a short greeting to all meeting participants. They both underlined the importance of collaborations like the one in PhaRem between institutes and authorities of the two countries targeting at the improvement of fundamental factors in social life like water quality.

The meeting continued with a round up presentation of all participants. One representative of each partner gave an introductory presentation of the corresponding beneficiary, focusing on the relevant with the project expertise, previous experience and infrastructure.

The remaining part of the meeting was devoted to the presentations of the Work packages (WPs 1-4) according to the agenda. WP5 initial planning was discussed in two parts, during WP3 and WP4 presentations. UOI coordinated these sessions and all partners contributed to the discussion.

In WP1, the management procedures and the corresponding obligations were thoroughly presented. Preparatory activities, work plan and budget breakdown were summarized and details were provided on national counterpart contributions and pre-financing distributions per participating country.

AP1.1: Regarding the pre-financing procedure, Albanian partners expressed their concerns on the delays that occur in the opening of dedicated bank accounts and the consequences that this delay will have in the expenses incurred during the first reporting period. UOI contacted the JS and confirmed that this delay is acknowledged, however Albanian partners should proceed with the allocation of resources, follow the relevant procedures (i.e. personnel timesheets for the period October - January) and incur the corresponding payments later according to funds availability.

Reporting procedures were analyzed with an emphasis on the distinction of responsibilities between LB and PBs in terms of progress reports submission and expenditure verifications. LB provided a tentative estimation on budget consumption per WP according to the approved SoB as well as the first progress report (due 31/01/2019) timeline. The latter includes:

- LB requests technical description contribution 15/12/2018
- Partners send technical description contribution 15/01/2019
- Partners send financial reports 15/01/2019
- Partners send Table of expenditures 22/01/2019

Project meetings plans schedule was presented with an emphasis on the documentation needed to be maintained (i.e. agenda, participant list, minutes and photos from the physical meetings). The following comments were provided as final remarks:

- Verified expenditures MUST be at least 20% at M20.
- Average monthly currency rates (EU official gazette) for Albanian partners calculations.
- Respect public procurement rules.
- Communication with MA/JTS is made ONLY through LB.

AP1.2: Albanian partners asked for a clarification on procurement procedures, in particular on whether Prague rules prevail over Albanian national rules. UOI has contacted JS on this and will inform partners as soon as information is available.

In WP2, the overall Information and Publicity strategy was presented, as described in the approved AF. Moreover, WP2 work plan was discussed. A communication plan will be drafted and maintained. LB will circulate the template by the end of October and all partners will contribute **(AP2.1)**. Regarding the project's web presence, LB is responsible for content curation in the corresponding domain provided by JS. PBs will provide contributions upon request from the LB, further instructions should be expected by end of October **(AP2.2)**. Regarding the Publicity Days planned, LB will discuss event requirements with host partners (PB2 and PB5 – **AP2.3**). Finally, an initial discussion on the final workshop organized by PB4 on M24 was made, focusing on the need to perform an in-time organization of the event in order to achieve its targets as those are described in the AF.

In WP3, LB presented the basic concept on photocatalytic treatment and some basic requirements, some more details on solar concentrated parabolic collectors, existing plants and desired characteristics. Moreover, LB presented an initial market search on the photocatalytic reactor procurement. Specifications are going to be drafted based on current effluents rates on both pilot sites and cost effectiveness considerations in relation to the approved budget. LB will contact PB3 and PB6 in order to retrieve more details on the existing infrastructure **(AP3.1)**.

In WP4 presentation, LB summarized the importance of determination of pharmaceuticals (PhACs) in the environment and especially in water waste treatment plants (WWTPs) and the analytical challenges that PhaRem has to address. Previous results from field studies performed by LB were presented. Next steps include the selection of the target compounds according to the aforementioned previous studies results and existing literature (AP4.1). Moreover, samplings will take place in both pilot sites. LB will support PB4 in analytical methodologies development (AP4.2).