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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The JERICO-S3 Transnational Access (TA) activity is built on the successful experience of the previous JERICO-FP7 project (Sparnocchia et al., 2015a, 2015) and JERICO NEXT (Sparnocchia et al., 2018, 2019). JERICO-S3 has coordinated four calls through the transnational access (TA) programme, offering free of charge access to coastal researchers. Through the TA, 42 facilities offered access (Gaughan, et al., 2021) and services to their infrastructure for testing and validation for marine research. Users were required to apply for physical and/or remote access to an infrastructure. Applications were then evaluated by an external selection panel before being selected for funding support. Final project reports and results were compiled in the JERICO-S3 D8.2 (Loughlin et al., 2024).

Additionally, JERICO-S3 provided Virtual Access (VA) to 22 infrastructures. This service varies in formats such as a website, an API, a repository on github and can contribute to different types of resources like datasets, added-value products, software, documents, etc. (Rita et al., 2022). As this access was provided as *wide access mode*, any and all users were able to access this service through the JERICO website, www.JERICO.eu. While the VA is a valuable service to JERICO, there ultimately was not a focus on integrating the TA and VA infrastructures together during the JERICO-S3 project. A detailed deliverable on the work explored in WP11 can be found in JERICO-S3 Deliverable 11.2 (Rita et al., 2022). This deliverable D8.3 will comment on how a future JERICO Transnational Access can be integrated into the JERICO-CORE system (Ramus et al., 2024) developed in JERICO-S3.

1. Transnational Access

1.1. Introduction

Physical and remote access was provided by JERICO-S3 to coastal researchers for scientific investigations and testing/ validation of marine instruments. Users applied for access to a specific infrastructure using the application form found on the JERICO website. Along with the application form, users had access to the guidance notes that listed all the infrastructures and units of access available, where Table 1 is a geographical display of these facilities (see Deliverable 13.3 for the application and guidance notes). A webpage for the TA facilities, <https://www.JERICO.eu/ta/jerico-facilities-in-ta/>, also detailed each infrastructure's specifications for further information.

Deliverable 8.1 (Gaughan, et al., 2021) describes in detail all the available JERICO-S3 infrastructure offered in the TA, which are geographically displayed in Figure 1. The infrastructure types include cabled observatories (CO), ferryboxes (FB), gliders and AUVs (GL), and fixed platforms (FP). Three multi-platform facilities (MPF) include a mixture of the four main infrastructure types. Additionally, calibration labs were offered as supporting facilities (SF) as well as a special equipment sediment profiler. The supporting facilities were not required to apply separately for.

Table 1: The infrastructure catalogue for JERICO-S3 with the units of access allocated for each infrastructure.

Cabled observatories					
Access provider	Country	Name of infrastructure	Short name	Unit of access (UA)	Access in UA
AWI	DE	COSYNA	AWIPEV_UN	6 month	1
AWI	DE	COSYNA	UNH	6 month	2
FMI	FI	Uto	Uto	Day	64
MI	IE	SmartBay	Observatory	Day (per port)	291
UPC	ES	OBSEA	OBSEA	Day	108

Ferryboxes					
Access provider	Installation country code	Name of infrastructure	Short name	Unit of access (UA)	Access in UA
CEFAS	GB	FerryBox	FerryBox	Day	144
HZG	DE	COSYNA	SFB	Day	60
HZG	DE	COSYNA	FB	Day	45
NIVA	NO	NorFerry/NorSoop	TF, FA, NO	Day	133
NIVA	NO	NorFerry/NorSoop	NRS	Week	15
SMHI	SE	FerryBox	FerryBox	Day	53
SYKE	FI	ALG@LINE	ALG@LINE	Day	80
TALTECH	EE	CGoFAOS	CGoFAOS	Day	72

Fixed Platforms					
Access provider	country	Name of infrastructure	Short name	Unit of access(UA)	Access in UA
IFREMER	FR	COAST-HF MAREL	MAREL	Day	40
IFREMER	FR	COAST-HF SCENES	SCENES	Day	33
IFREMER	FR	COAST-HF SMILE	SMILE	Day	33
AZTI	ES	EUSKOOS	Donostia buoy	Day	29
CEFAS	GB	CEFAS SMARTBUOYS	SmartBuoy	Day	144
CNR	IT	SICO	MPLS	6 months	1
CNR	IT	S1-GB	S1-GB	6 months	192
CNR	IT	ACQUA ALTA	AAOT	8 weeks	107
CNR	IT	CoCM	CoCM	6 month	1
CNRS	FR	EOL BUOY	EOL buoy	8 week	8
CNRS	FR	SSL@MM	SSL@MM	Day	45
HZG	DE	COSYNA	MUO	2 weeks	2
IH	PT	MONIZEE	MONIZEE_MPB	Day	333
MI	IE	SMARTBAY	SBDatabuoy	Day	84
OGS	IT	MAMBO	Miramare	Day	144
RBINS	BE	MOW1-WO5-WO8	MOW1	Day	32

Gliders and AUVS

Access provider	Country	Name of infrastructure	Short name	Unit of access (UA)	Access in UA
AZTI	ES	EUSKOOS	ITSADRONE	Day	360
FMI	FI	Baltic Sea Glider	FMI Glider	Day	12
HZG	DE	COSYNA	GL	30 days	2
MI	IE	SmartBay	Glider	Day	12
SOCIB	ES	SOCIB	GLIDER	Day	88
TALTECH	EE	Glider Mia +profiler	Glider Mia +profiler	Day	9

Multi Platform Facilities

Access provider	Country	Name of infrastructure	Short name	Unit of access (UA)	Access in UA
HCMR	GR	POSEIDON	POSEIDON	6 months	1
PLOCAN	ES	PLOCAN	PLOCAN	Day	40
VLIZ	BE	VLIZ Coastal Observatory	VLIZ Coastal Observatory	Day	160

Supporting Facilities

Access provider	Country	Name of infrastructure	Short name	Unit of access (UA)	Access in UA
IFREMER	FR	METLAB	METLAB	Week (7 days)	1
HCMR	GR	POSEIDON	Cal Lab	Week	2
SYKE	FI	MRC-LAB	MRC_LAB	Day	21

Special Equipment

Access provider	Country	Name of infrastructure	Short name	Unit of access (UA)	Access in UA
CNRS	France	Sediment Profile Imager	SPI-H	week	4

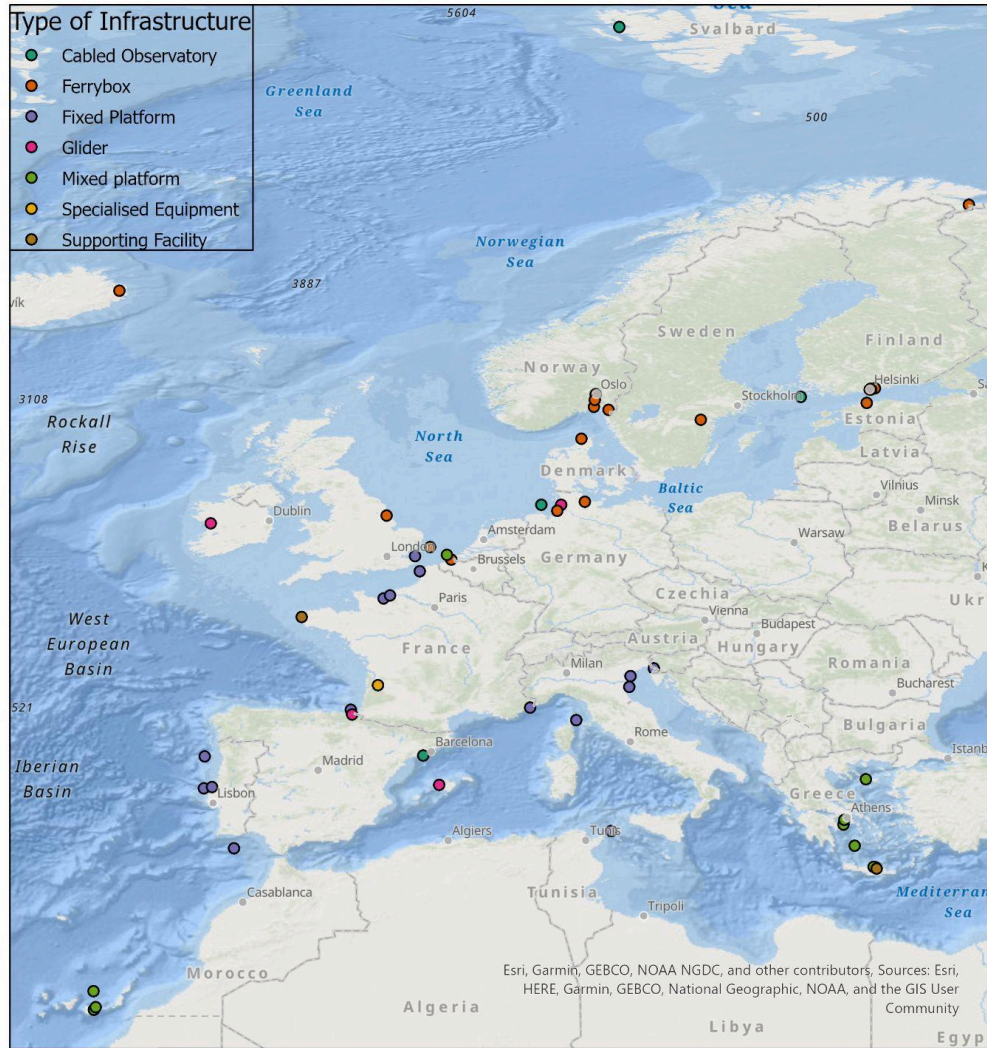


Figure 1: A map showing the location of the JERICO-S3 TA infrastructures offered.

1.2. Access Provisions

Access to infrastructure was granted to 47 application proposals which were selected for funding support by the selection committee. In total, 39 projects were fully supported and all project reports and call details are detailed in Deliverable 8.2 (Loughlin, et al., 2024). Unfortunately, 8 projects were cancelled for unforeseen technical issues, see Deliverable 8.2 Section 9 (Loughlin, et al., 2024) for a detailed explanation. The facilities and infrastructure that supported projects are listed below in Table 2 with the units of access provided (UA) for each project. It should be noted that the project AMBO is not included in Table 2 because CNRS GNF was no longer available for TA access after publishing the access table (Table 1). AMBO used the ALSEAMAR glider, where CNRS coordinated the provision of this glider. Of the projects that were supported, 13 facilities hosted projects in 8 different countries with a total of 20 infrastructure being used.

Due to the nature of JERICO-S3 supporting multi infrastructure types in the TA, many of the infrastructure have different systems for recognising the units of access. However, it would be beneficial moving forward for a future JERICO to have a more standardised approach to

units of access for when the claims are submitted. During the running of the TA, the units of access were converted to “days” for ease of reporting. This is reflected in the partial unit access listed in Table 2.

Table 2: Infrastructure access provided in JERICO-S3 and the projects associated with each.

Facility Provider	Country	Infrastructure	Short Name of Infrastructure	Type of Infrastructure	Project Acronym	Access Provided
AWI	DE	COSYNA	UNH	CO	RADCONNECT	54
CNR	IT	ACQUA ALTA	AAOT	FP	SEASAM	20
		SICO	SICO	FP	DeepDeg Sicily	5.76
		S1-GB	S1-GB	FP	PoGo	91
		CoCM	CoCO	FP	DeepDeg Corsica	5.76
FMI	FI	Uto	Uto	CO	AQUA-ACTION 2	5
		FMI Glider	Glider	GL	GliderBloom	20
					GOOM	20
HCMR	GR	POSEIDON - PCL	PCL	SF	IMAPOCEAN Greece	1
					EuroFluoro C	2.6
					S1100-HTHSal	1
		POSEIDON	HCB-SB- E1M3A-PFB-PG	MPF	IMAPOCEAN Greece	0.18
					LASE-NOPAH	1.14
					S1100-HTHSal	1
HZG	DE	COSYNA	FB	FB	CABS	5
MI	IE	SmartBay	Observatory	CO	FISHES B	17
					YUCO-CTD	4
					EuroFLuoro B	91
					IMAPOCEAN Ireland	40
					ACMAREMAS	5
		SmartBay	Glider	GL	ACMAREMAS	20
SmartBay	SmartBuoy	FP	OpenLevo	68		
NIVA	NO	NorFerry/ NorSOOP	TF-FA-NO	FB	APHYMOSO	7.5
PLOCAN	ES	PLOCAN Coastal Observatory	PLOCAN	MPF	CBONDEX	28
SOCIB	ES	SOCIB	GLIDER	GL	FRONTIERS	17
					FRIPP-Spring	15
					ABACUS 2021	64
					ABACUS 2023	67
					FRIPP-CEE	20
					SMART	13

SYKE	FI	ALGALINE	ALGALINE	FB	BalHObEx	8
		MRC-LAB	MRC-LAB	SF	BalHObEx	17
					AQUA-Action 1	13
					OBS-EXP-Bridge	16
TalTech	EE	Glider Mia + Profiler	Glider Mia + Profiler	GL	EMPORIA	28
UPC	ES	OBSEA	OBSEA	CO	LISTEN	67
					V-RUNAS	64
					MultiNuD	
					FISHES A	50
					ATLAS	76
					S100-Bio	205
MultiNuD 2	49					

As seen in Figure 2, the cabled observatories (31%) and glider (26%) make up over half of the infrastructure types used by completed projects. This suggests that, as the most popular types of infrastructure, these should be supported as a significant service of the JERICO. The supporting facilities (calibration laboratories) were commonly used in conjunction with another infrastructure type (most notably, multi-platform infrastructures). The other infrastructure types should be promoted more widely during the JERICO TA calls to draw awareness to them whether that's on social media, JERICO website, outreach events, or through JERICO members.

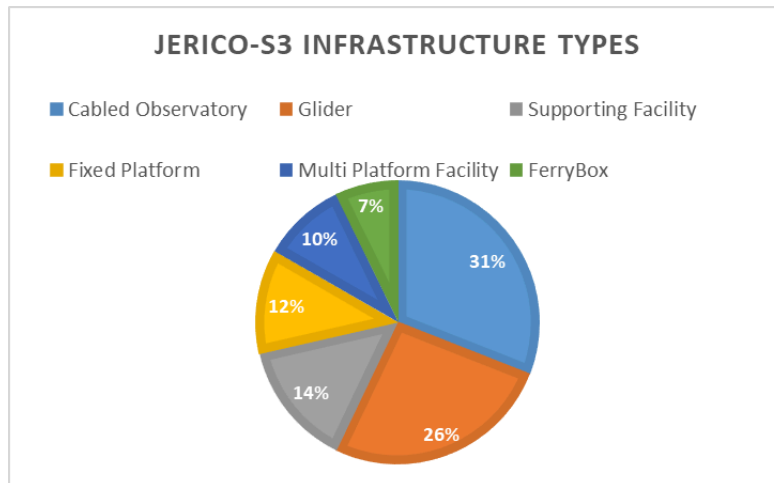


Figure 2: The breakdown of JERICO-S3 infrastructure used.

Throughout the active TA years of 2020-2024, JERICO-S3 encountered and overcame unforeseen issues. During 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions caused a major unforeseen delay in the kick-off of the TA call 1. The TA coordination team were required to be flexible at the start of JERICO-S3, resulting in Call 1 being open for an extended period from 2 June to 16 November 2020. While restrictions did not have any further impacts on Call openings, there have been long lasting delayed impacts on accepted projects. Restrictions from COVID led to delays in experiments being able to start due to staffing

issues, shipping issues, travel restrictions, and environmental time frames being missed among other reasons. In some cases, these delays made the experiment not viable to complete and ultimately cancelling projects even after the End User, Host Facility, and TA coordination team worked to amend the work schedules.

Another unforeseen issue that occurred during the course of the TA was BREXIT. BREXIT resulted in unforeseen customs and shipping charges from the UK to host facilities for projects MultiNud and FISHER C. Due to these issues MultiNud was able to apply for a second project in the fourth call to continue the already started project and receive funding to finish the project. In the case of FISHER C, there were major issues in shipping charges and the equipment was lost en-route.

1.3. User Statistics

This section intends to explore the statistics of the TA user community for JERICO-S3.

JERICO-S3 saw a total of 126 users with 30% being female (Figure 3). This is an increase from JERICO-NEXT TA, which had 102 users and 28% women. The representation of women users is a statistic that has been highlighted since JERICO-FP7, and shows a representation of the gender balance in the user dynamics. This was also a statistic that the JERICO-S3 coordination team focused on promoting during the Calls and encouraged more women users by featuring women Principal Investigators during the Women In STEM campaign, explored more in D8.2 (Loughlin et al., 2024)

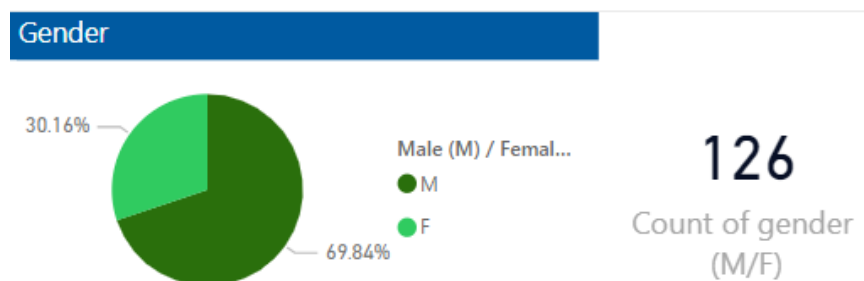


Figure 3: Of 126 JERICO-S3 users, 30% of were female.

The flowchart below (Figure 4) shows the movement of users from their home institutions to the host facilities country. The example selected shows Ireland has 4 projects, one from each call, with the project name listed. In total, there were 25 nationalities represented by group members across all 4 calls. The nationalities are shown in Figure 5 with the number of the people identifying with each nationality. Figure 5 shows that call one had a large number of members from Italy, this is partially due to two projects (ATLAS, ABACUS 2021) having many group members with majority from Italy. A more diverse spread of nationalities can be seen in subsequent calls.

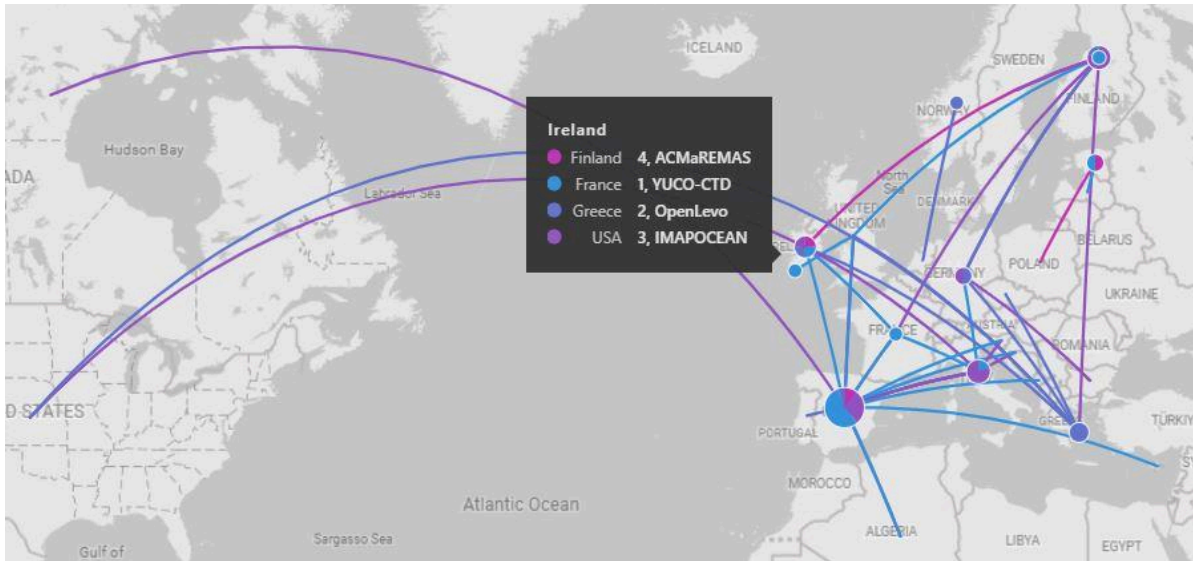


Figure 4: The flow chart shows the movement of users from home institution to the host facility (indicated by the circle). The colours represent the different calls: Blue=Call 1; Light purple= Call 2; Dark Purple= Call 3; Pink= Call 4. This chart is interactive on the platform it was created on, which shows the project names and country origin when the lines are selected.

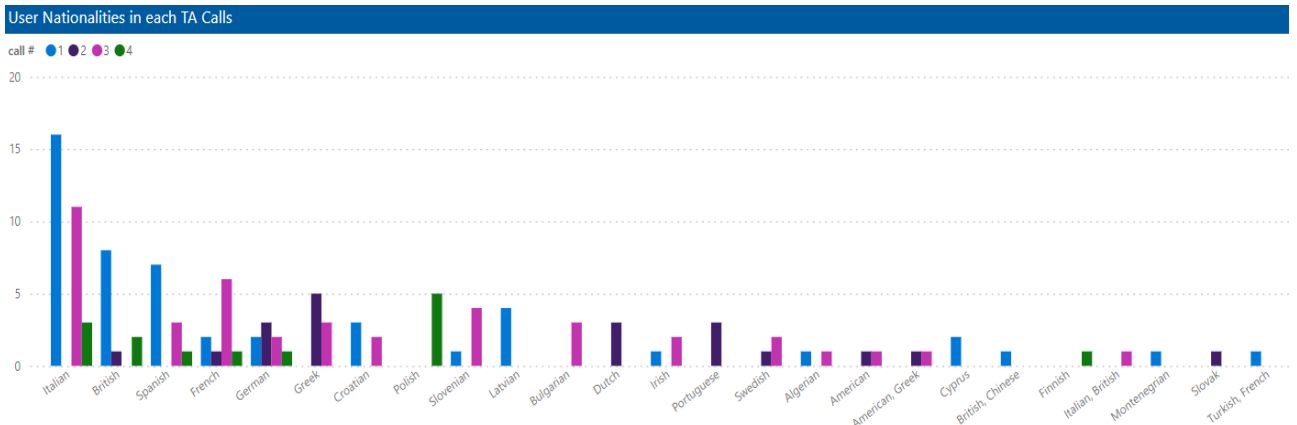


Figure 5: The nationalities represented by all group members broken down by call number. Call 1= blue; Call 2= purple; Call 3= pink; Call 4= green.

When examining the user sectors in Figure 6, the majority of JERICO-S3 projects (Shown in blue) were led by research institutions at 60%, with industry based projects (Small-Medium Enterprises and private) at 28%. While the research sector is the main user type of JERICO-S3, Figure 6 shows a steady increase in industry users when compared to the two previous JERICO projects. The same classification system was used in JERICO NEXT (Sparnocchia et al., 2018, 2019) and applied to the JERICO-FP7 projects (Sparnocchia et al., 2015a, 2015) for this statistic .

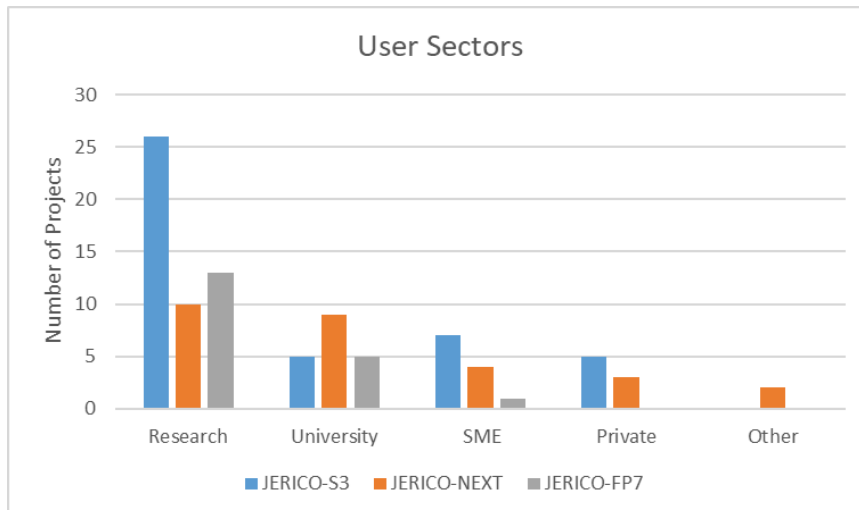


Figure 6: The number of projects per user sector in all three JERICO projects, as described by the legal status of the home institution follows the classification of the European Commission:

RES = Public research organisation;

UNI = University and other higher education organisations;

SME = Small Medium Enterprise;

PRV = Other Industrial and/or profit Private organisation;

OTH = Other

1.4. Feedback Surveys

1.4.1. User and Facility Feedback Survey

Feedback from the users was obtained by the European Commission's survey (<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RIsurveyUSERS>) (ANNEX A), however this survey was difficult to gather results as we did not have access to submitted results and required the Principal Investigator (PI) to send a screenshot of their answers to the TA coordination team. Only 19 confirmed they completed the survey, with only 84% of these responses available for analysis by the JERICO-TA Coordination team.

A Google form survey, ANNEX B (<https://forms.gle/8U13PavGmewSbQ8F6>), was created and distributed to all PI's of the JERICO-S3 TA projects and two known project administrator contacts. There were 14 responses from TA users of 32 users contacted. Some users were the same PI's on multiple projects, therefore there are less contacts as there are projects.

A Google form survey, ANNEX C (<https://forms.gle/6NZX8WVzQDgscFU57>), was created and distributed to all facility operators that have facilities available for TA Access listed in Table 1. At the time of this writing, there were 14 responses from facility operators of all JERICO-S3 facilities that offered access in the TA programme.

1.4.2. Survey Results- TA process

This section explores the results from the user feedback and facility operator surveys within the context of the Transnational Access itself and the administration process.

Results from the User Feedback Survey show that the majority of respondents (57%) learned about JERICO from a contact in the JERICO community (Figure 7). This indicates that facility managers and operators play a key role in communicating JERICO-S3 TA activities and open calls. As a direct response to this information, we asked in the Facility Operator questionnaire how/if they promoted their facility. Multiple answers could be chosen for this question, however the noteworthy responses were 64% contacted past users and 50% through attending meetings. These two responses indicate that facility operators are interacting with the users and further demonstrates that they are a key communicator or transnational activity opportunities.

How did you hear about JERICO-S3 Transnational Access (TA)?

14 responses

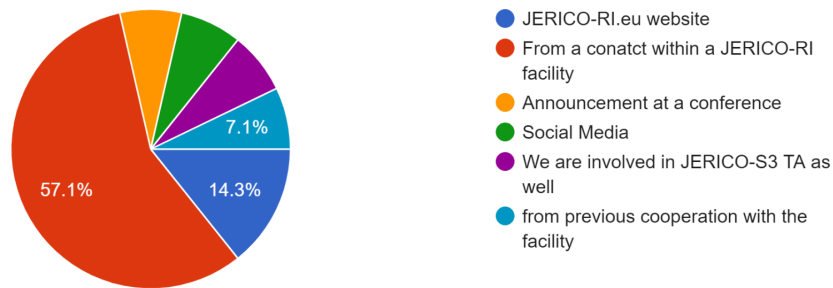


Figure 7: User feedback results show 57% of users heard about JERICO TA from a JERICO contact.

The main use of access to JERICO facilities was through partial remote access at 43% (Figure 8), showing that many experiments required users to be present for a specific period of time but that the experiment was able to be run without them there for the entirety. This indicates the importance of both the presence of the user at some stage during the experiment, but also in the reliance of the expertise offered by the facilities.

What type of access did you use?

14 responses

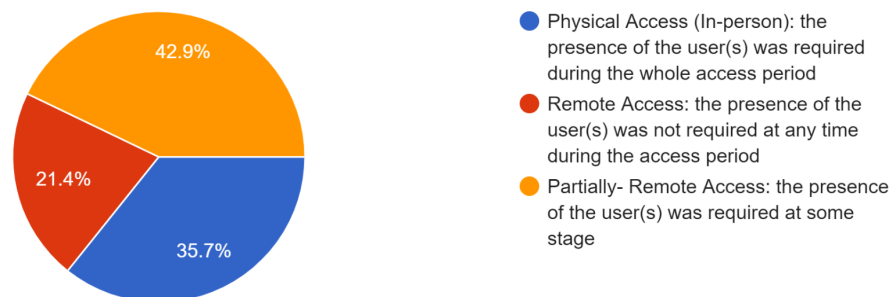


Figure 8: The three modes of TA access for JERICO-S3.

Other key results from the surveys were that 69% of users rated the application process between a 4-5 (good/ very good). While largely positive feedback, comments for improvements were provided by both users and operators for:

- a) long, complex contracts had impacts that affected both users and facility operators;
- b) Reimbursement for T&S was long and complicated;
- c) user feedback recommendation for an online applications form;
- d) Online training for Admin procedures to facility operators and provide clear protocols for hosting TA projects (Facility feedback comment).

The Transnational Access Coordination Team would recommend that these legal issues would be better handled in a JERICO Central Management Office as outlined in the JERICO-DS D4.3 Comprehensive Business Plan (Gaughan, et al., 2024). These issues may also be further addressed through an integration of the TA into JERICO-CORE, see Section 3 for more details. Additionally, over 90% of respondents would not be able to carry out their project without the support of JERICO-S3 due to the following reasons:

- a) Unable to pay for T&S;
- b) Unable to pay user fee;
- c) Not eligible to apply for access to infrastructure;
- d) Difficult to obtain access by applying directly.

All user respondents were very satisfied with the support and infrastructure provided by facilities and responded that they would use the infrastructure again. This highlights that the infrastructures on offer are desirable by the community. Logistic issues were faced by at least 50% of respondents. While these are unavoidable, it is helpful to note what the common issues are to anticipate these in the future. These issues mainly were

- a) technical issues with instruments either failing or unavailable for testing;
- b) weather related delays that impacted sampling windows
- c) contract related delays impacting start times.

Further to this point, users left positive feedback complimenting the flexible management structure of the JERICO-TA coordination team and Facility Operators. They felt the teams adapted quickly to changes in work plans due to unforeseen issues.

Overall, the JERICO-S3 TA process received positive feedback results from both surveys and the results give us valuable information to strengthen the administration process and where to focus our efforts for a future JERICO.

1.4.3. Survey Results- Scientific Based

Questions were asked in both surveys that explored topics based on the scientific aspect of the supported projects. This was to enable the coordination team to understand the scientific outputs and impacts the TA programme has had in the coastal community.

Users were asked to specify the scientific field their project relates to with the results shown in Figure 9. These fields were chosen based on the broad categories included on the JERICO-FP7 application (Sparnocchia, et al., 2015b) and more specific categories based on the common scientific themes from the supported projects in JERICO-FP7 and JERICO-NEXT. Major scientific themes explored by the JERICO-S3 support projects were

sensor technology testing and validation and projects relating to researching climate change and marine ecosystems. JERICO-S3 Deliverable 1.3 (Rubio, et al., 2024) explores the contributions to integrated observations of these scientific themes in more detail within the TA context.

Select the scientific field(s) the project relates to (select all that apply)



14 responses

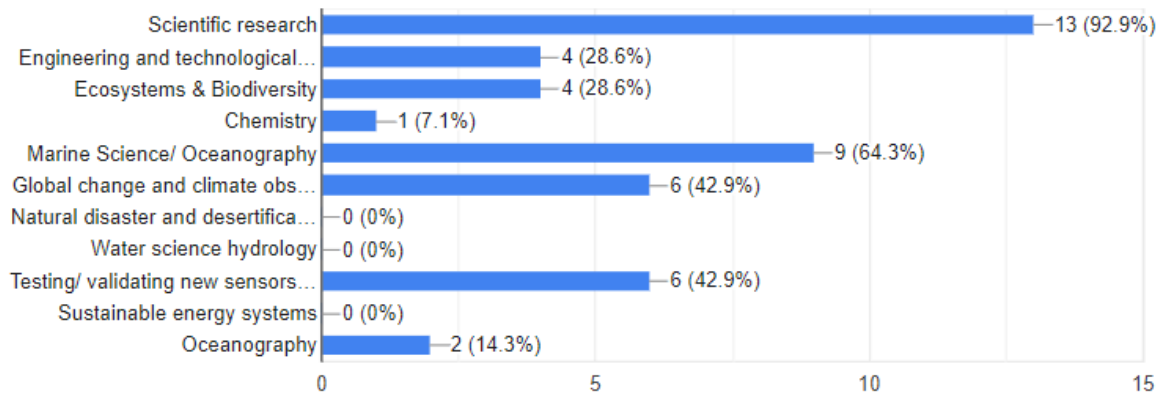


Figure 9: User responses for scientific fields that their project relates to.

As the value of best practices is one of JERICO's main values, users were asked if they used Ocean Best Practices during their project, which was only answered by 4 respondents and all said no. When asked would the research outputs lead to Ocean Best Practices, 36% of users and 57% of Facility Operators said they would. These results indicate this is an area to build upon for opportunities to collaborate between Facility Operators and Users. JERICO recognises the value of the harmonisation of common methods and would encourage TA project outcomes to contribute to Ocean Best Practices where possible.

Finally, one of the major scientific impacts from the TA programme is the collaborations the TA projects have fostered between users and facility operators. Responses showed that 86% of Facility Operators said there were further collaborations from the JERICO-S3 projects hosted which have led to:

- a) to project proposals and new future projects including long term monitoring projects (eg. POGO, FISHES) development of relationships with new users and new countries (eg. Finland and Sweden glider cooperation with GOOM project)
- b) Knowledge sharing (eg. CBONDEX, ACMAREMAS, CABS, AQUACOSOM projects)
- c) Continued collaboration with users for further deployments (eg. POGO, ABACUS, S-1100 BIO/ ANB Sensors).

These positive outcomes reinforce the TA programme as a key service of a future JERICO which would be able to further facilitate these collaborations as a service of the access programme.

2. Development of future links with TA & JERICO-CORE

The JERICO-CORE (Ramus et al., 2024) was being developed during JERICO-S3. The TA programme would benefit by integrating into the JERICO-CORE, improving the running and coordination of the service. Feedback provided by the users and facility operators (see section 2.4) were largely based around the complex administration procedures (eg. contracts and reimbursements). These comments can be addressed by creating a portal in the JERICO-CORE for the TA programme where the coordination team, facility operators, and users can log in and monitor the progress of each stage in the process. The portal will also hold all the necessary documents for each accepted project- the project application, acceptance letter, the contract, templates for final project report and confirmation of visit, the final project report. Additionally, JERICO-CORE would ideally have the capability to track the progress of the contact signatures and status of reimbursements, as well as allowing the facility operators to log how many access units per project to claim.

The JERICO-CORE will also be able to host the datasets in a repository on the main website as JERICO's commitment to providing publicly accessible data from supported projects. The main page will also feature an infrastructures library similar to the already existing library on the JERICO.eu page (<https://www.JERICO.eu/ta/jerico-facilities-in-ta/>). This library will be able to be queried for projects or datasets that have used specific infrastructure. By integrating the TA closely into the JERICO-CORE, the two key services of JERICO will work together in building a strong future for JERICO-RI.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Throughout three Transnational Access programmes (JERICO-FP7, JERICO-NEXT, JERICO-S3), JERICO built upon and enhanced a strong demand from the coastal marine research community for efficient physical and remote access to marine research infrastructures, enabling better research outcomes through well-managed access practices. Access to the JERICO coastal observation infrastructures has proven to be a key service provided, where Table 3 shows the development of the programme since the inception of JERICO-FP7.

Given an even larger budget than JERICO-NEXT, JERICO-S3 was able to offer access to more infrastructures to the scientific community, with a 20% increase in available infrastructures. JERICO-S3 saw a 28% increase in international users that were given access free of charge to these state of the art coast research infrastructures to conduct novel science (Table 3).

Continuing on the work from JERICO-FP7 (Sparnocchia et al., 2015b) and JERICO-NEXT (Sparnocchia et al., 2019), the JERICO-S3 project focused on encouraging users to engage in multi-facility projects and to connect with other Research Infrastructure (RI) entities. These efforts saw 4 projects use multiple facilities, and 4 projects connect with other RIs (eg. AQUACOSOM-plus, EuroFleets). Similar to the previous two projects, JERICO-S3 opened 3 calls for users; however, there was a further demand for access and where the budget allowed, an additional shorter fourth call was added to JERICO-S3.

When interrogating all three TA programmes, the gliders (22%), fixed platforms (21%) and coastal observatories (19%) were the facility types that supported the majority of projects (Figure 10). Similar to JERICO-NEXT (Sparnocchia et al., 2019), JERICO-S3 saw a similar trend where some facilities were more successful in attracting and hosting more than one project despite the coordination team's efforts to increase the opportunities for the lesser targeted facilities (eg. Facility of the week, facilities with projects using all allocated time were not offered during the second call). This further supports the point made in the JERICO-NEXT final TA deliverable (Sparnocchia et al., 2019) where JERICO's future path, to focus on the facilities that have demonstrated the ability to attract users and to learn what has made them successful. For example, are there improvements other facilities can make to attract the user if they are not one of the more targeted facility types.

Table 3: The decadal development of JERICO TA programmes.

	JERICO-S3 (2020-2024)	JERICO-NEXT (2015-2019)	JERICO-FP7 (2011-2015)
Infrastructures on Offer	42	35	14
Targeted facilities (% vs offered facilities)	23 (55%)	24 (69%)	13 (93%)
Submitted TA projects	49	40	24
Supported TA projects (% vs submitted projects)	41 (84%)	28 (70%)	19 (79%)
Days of Access Offered	4466	4128	1385
Number of users (Women, %)	131 (39, 30%)	102 (29, 28%)	55 (14, 34%)

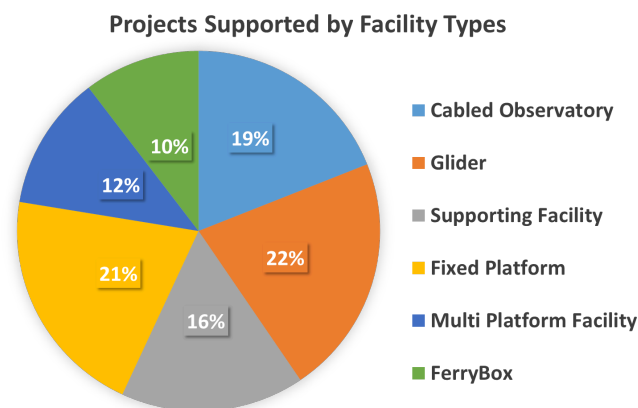


Figure 10: The facility types used by projects in all three JERICO projects.

In conclusion, JERICO-S3 transnational access programme successfully supported 39 projects and further solidified the infrastructure access as a key service provided by JERICO. The key outcomes and impacts from the TA programme is summarised in the graphic recording below (Figure 11) which was drawn during the final work Package

presentation at the JERICO Final General Assembly. The TA programme facilitated 126 international users to conduct innovative coastal research in 8 host countries.

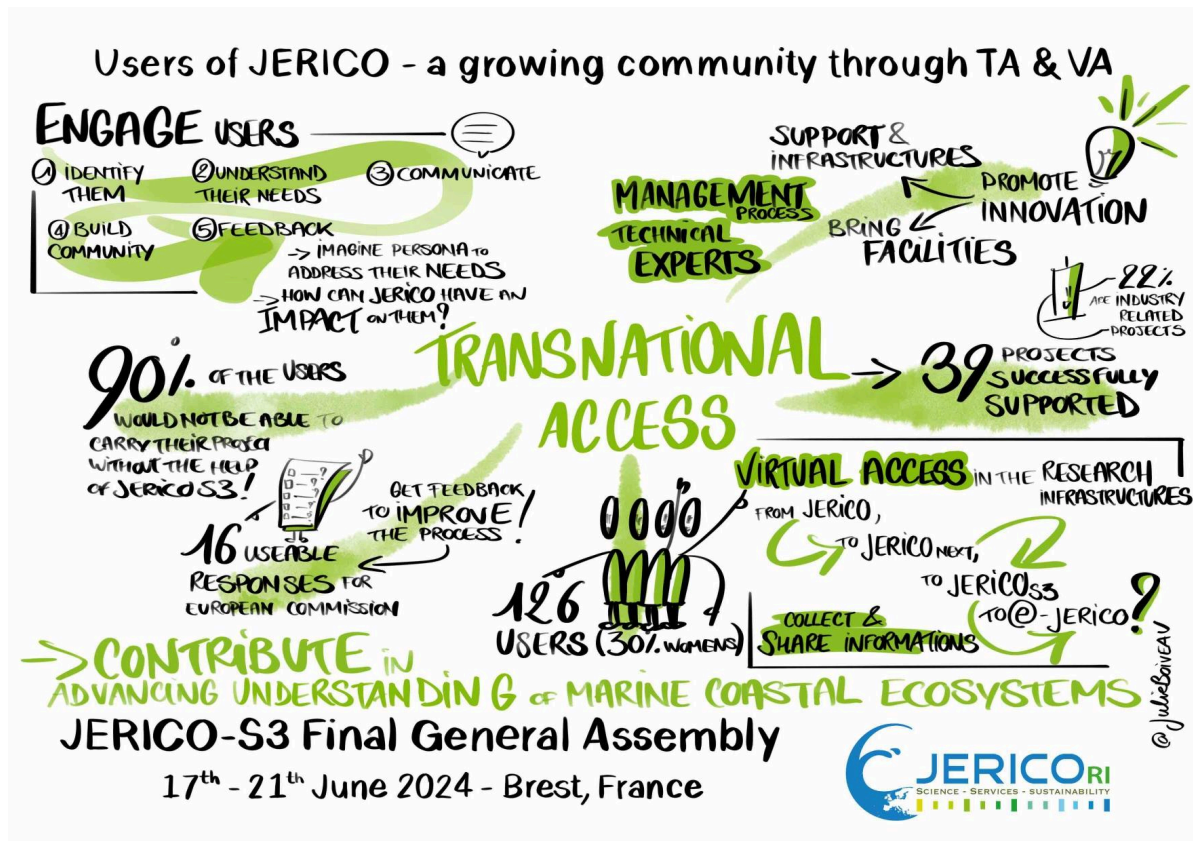


Figure 11: A graphic recording of the TA results and impacts from the JERICO-S3 TA programme. Drawing by Julie Boiveau for JERICO Final General Assembly.

Considering the decadal increase in the TA programme and the invaluable user feedback gathered during JERICO-S3, JERICO has a strong future in continuing to develop a key access service to coastal infrastructure. Some of the major feedback encountered in the surveys can be addressed with the integration of the TA access into JERICO-CORE as discussed in section 3. Additionally, the advice provided by the JERICO Transnational Access Coordination team for addressing the feedback comments of the complex legal procedures (eg. contract signing and reimbursements) would be a Central Management Office where these procedures would be handled by one administration team. This would lead to much greater efficiency in approving access to JERICO infrastructures. Many of the scientific projects are time sensitive and may need to occur at specific periods of the year particularly in the case of biological observations. It is important the administrative requirements do not impact scientific excellence.

Throughout three projects (JERICO-FP7, JERICO-NEXT, JERICO-S3), JERICO built upon and enhanced a strong demand from the coastal marine research community for efficient physical and remote access to marine research infrastructures, enabling better research outcomes through well-managed access practices. Access to the JERICO coastal observation infrastructures has proven to be a key service provided. The success and experience gained through the TA programme is a key driver in the development of a dedicated “Access Service” being included in the design of the Business plan J-DS WP4

“Comprehensive Business Plan for JERICO” and the governance structure of a future JERICO J-DS D5.3 “JERICO Conceptual Design Report”.

The JERICO-S3 project has proven its capability in attracting and hosting international users for coastal observation at state of the art infrastructures. The JERICO TA programme has contributed largely to the European Research area by supporting research that has societal and economic value, through the transfer of knowledge by connecting science users and experts, and fostering new collaborations.

4. ANNEXES AND REFERENCES

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ANNEX A- European Commission Survey


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EUSurvey - Survey



European Commission
Title of the site

[Home \(/eusurvey/home/welcome\)](#)
[Menu](#)
[Go to content](#)



Research Infrastructures: User group questionnaire

Fields marked with * are mandatory.
✕

Research Infrastructures: User group questionnaire

One of the aims of the [European Commission Research Infrastructures Action](http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/index_en.cfm) (http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/index_en.cfm) is to provide scientists from anywhere within the Union with easy access to Europe's major research infrastructures. The Action is implemented through grant agreements between the European Commission and network of key European research infrastructures. These grant agreements serve to support, among others, the mobility costs of visiting scientists and their costs of using the infrastructure.

To enable the Commission to evaluate the Research Infrastructures Action, to monitor the individual grant agreements, and to improve the services provided to the scientific community, each Group Leader of a user-project supported under an EU Research Infrastructure grant agreement is requested to complete the present "User Group Questionnaire". The questionnaire must be submitted once by each user group as soon as the experiments on the infrastructure come to end.

All replies will be treated in strictest confidence. The information given will only be used for monitoring and assessment purposes.

User group questionnaire

*
1. Number and Acronym of the EC Grant Agreement that supported the user group's access to the research infrastructure(s) (please check [here \(https://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/pdf/list_of_fp7_grant_agreements.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none\)](https://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/pdf/list_of_fp7_grant_agreements.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none))

*
2. User Project Acronym (*Please indicate the acronym of the user's project you are involved in, as assigned by your host infrastructure*)

*
3. Person filling in the questionnaire (normally the User Group Leader)
Family name

*
First name(s)

*
4. Where did you first find out about the possibilities of access supported through the EC grant agreement?

EC Research Infrastructures Action web-site
 Grant Agreement web-site
 Infrastructure web-site
 Announcement in journal

View:
Standa

Lang:
Englist

Cont:
[RTD-RI](#)
[\(mailto](#)

[Save](#)

[Report](#)
[\(/eusur](#)
[survey:](#)

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RIsurveyUSERS>

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EUSurvey - Survey

- Announcement at conference
- Direct mailing from infrastructure
- National Contact Point (NCP)
- Personal contact

If by personal contact (*please specify*)

*

5. Without the support of this EC grant agreement would you still have been able to carry out your work at this research infrastructure?

- Yes
- No

If no, please indicate the reason (*you may indicate more than one choice*)

- Not otherwise eligible to apply for access to the infrastructure(s)
- Too difficult to obtain access by applying directly
- Unable to pay the user fee
- Unable to pay travel & subsistence for one or more of the group members
- Other

If other (*please specify*)

6. Assess the services provided by the grant agreement with respect to the following points rating them on a scale from 'very poor' to 'very good'. (*Please provide at least 4 ratings . Leave blank when the point is not applicable*)

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good
Publicity, made by the infrastructure, concerning the access supported by the EC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Practical information provided on how to apply for access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If needed, advice to use the most appropriate installation or infrastructure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information provided, once your project was accepted, on how to use the facility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Scientific and technical support to set up your experiments and interpret the results	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Logistic support at the facility (office space, computing, libraries, accommodation)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Administrative support (including the reimbursement of travel & subsistence expenses)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*Overall appreciation of the services provided	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate any comments you would like to make on the services provided (*here you can also differentiate your appreciation with respect to the different installations or infrastructures*)

7. Please indicate any further comments or suggestions you would like to make concerning your access to the infrastructure

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/RIsurveyUSERS>

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ANNEX B - User Feedback Survey

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JERICO-S3 TA User Feedback Survey

JERICO-S3 TA User Feedback Survey

Thank you for participating in this survey. This survey is intended for feedback on the user experience of the JERICO-S3 Transnational Access Programme. The survey results will be used in the final JERICO-S3 deliverable and report. For more information about JERICO-S3 and for completed project reports, please visit: <https://www.jerico-s3.eu/ta-call-program>.

* Indicates required question

1. Name of the JERICO-S3 user filling in the questionnaire *

2. User project acronym *

3. Select the scientific field(s) the project relates to (select all that apply) *

Check all that apply:

- Scientific research
- Engineering and technological applications
- Ecosystems & Biodiversity
- Chemistry
- Marine Science/ Oceanography
- Global change and climate observation
- Natural disaster and desertification
- Water science/hydrology
- Testing/validating new sensors/sampling methods
- Sustainable energy systems
- Other: _____

4. Name of your institution *

5. Which user category best applies to your institution? (Select all that apply) *

Check all that apply:

- Public research organisation
- University and other higher education organisations
- Small-Medium Enterprise
- Other industrial and/or profit private organisation

6. Name of the JERICO-S3 facility used. *

7. How did you hear about JERICO-S3 Transnational Access (TA)? *

Mark only one oval.

- JERICO-S3 website
- From a contact within a JERICO-S3 facility
- Announcement at a conference
- Social Media
- Other: _____

8. What type of access did you use? *

Mark only one oval.

- Physical Access (In-person): the presence of the user(s) was required during the whole access period
- Remote Access: the presence of the user(s) was not required at any time during the access period
- Partially-Remote Access: the presence of the user(s) was required at some stage

9. How would you rate the ease of application process for the transnational access program? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Too Clear and easy to use

10. How would you rate your experience with the administration of the transnational access coordination (eg. application feedback, contract, contact on project timelines, answering questions)? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Not Very satisfied

11. Do you have any suggestions on what could improve your experience in regards to the support from the TA coordination team, or what other services the administration team could provide to improve your experience with the TA programme?



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JERICO-S3 TA User Feedback Survey

12. Were you satisfied with the facilities and equipment provided by the host facility? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Not Very satisfied

13. Were you satisfied with the support you received from the host facility? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Not Very Satisfied

14. Would you use a JERICO-RI infrastructure again for your research needs?

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

15. If no, please explain why.

16. Did you encounter any logistical challenges during your access period? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

17. If yes, please briefly explain the challenges.

18. Did you collaborate with another Research Infrastructure (eg. AQUACOSM, DANUBIUS, EURO FLEETS, etc...) for your project? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

19. If yes, which Research Infrastructure did you collaborate with?

20. Without the support from JERICO-S3 Transnational Access, would you have been able to carry out your project at the facility you used? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

21. If no, please indicate the reason why (tick all that apply)

Check all that apply:

Unable to pay user fee

Unable to pay for travel and subsistence

Not eligible to apply for access to the infrastructure

22. Did you use any existing Ocean Best Practices as part of this project? If yes, please elaborate.

23. Would any research outputs lead to the development of new ocean best practices? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

24. Please rate your overall experience using the JERICO-S3 Transnational Access Programme. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Poor Excellent



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JERICO-S3 TA User Feedback Survey

25. Please detail the dissemination of your results (e.g. public link for metadata, data, publications, conference proceedings, poster presentations, reports, etc...) associated with the JERICO-S3 funded project. *

26. Would you, or a group member of the project team, be willing to participate in a Transnational Access Review session (in person or remote) in the JERICO-S3 final general assembly June 2024 to present the project results and experience with JERICO-S3? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
 No

27. If interested, we will be in touch with more detail. Please indicate the email and the name of the contact if different from who is filling out this survey.

28. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for improving the transnational access program?

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ANNEX C - Facility Feedback Survey

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JERICO-S3 TA Facility Feedback Survey

JERICO-S3 TA Facility Feedback Survey

Thank you for participating in this survey. This survey is intended for feedback from each facility on their experience in the JERICO-S3 Transnational Access Programme, either providing access or providing availability to infrastructure. The survey results will be used in the final JERICO-S3 deliverable and report.

For more information about JERICO-RI completed project reports, please visit: <https://www.jerico-ri.eu/ta/call-program/>

* Indicates required question

1. Name of the JERICO-RI facility operator filling in the questionnaire *

2. Name of the facility or infrastructure you manage/ operate *

3. Country of your facility *

4. What type of infrastructure(s) does your facility operate? *

Check all that apply:

- Cabled Observatories
- Ferryboxes
- Fixed platforms
- Gliders and other AUVs
- Multi-Platform Facilities
- Supporting Facilities
- Special Equipment

5. Did you promote access to your facility, and if so, how? *

Check all that apply:

- Attending conferences/ meeting and promoting JERICO-RI access to your facility
- Contacts from past projects
- Social Media Posts
- Not Applicable
- Other:

6. What type of access did you provide? Check all that apply. *

Check all that apply:

- Physical Access (In-person): the presence of the user(s) was required during the whole access period
- Remote Access: the presence of the user(s) was not required at any time during the access period
- Partially- Remote Access: the presence of the user(s) was required at some stage
- None

7. If none, please explain any reasons why you think this facility or infrastructure was not utilised (eg. not operational, no available equipment, not enough resources to support projects, etc)

8. If yes, how many projects did you support at your facility?

Check all that apply:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- Other:

9. Can you describe the typical duration of the project(s) supported at your infrastructure?

10. How would you rate the overall experience of hosting a transnational access project at your facility?

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Cor: Easy

11. Are there any specific equipment, facilities, or expertise that visiting researchers commonly use during their projects? *



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JERICO-S3 TA Facility Feedback Survey

12. What were the main challenges your facility encountered in hosting transnational access projects? *

13. Were there any key benefits or opportunities as a result of participating in the transnational access programme? *

14. Would any research outputs lead to the development of new ocean best practices? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

15. Would your facility participate in the Transnational Access Programme again? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
 No

16. Have any collaborations or partnerships been initiated as a result of hosting a Transnational Access project? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
 No

17. If yes, please provide more detail (eg. future plans for other projects, introduced to new working partners, business collaborations, etc.)

18. How would you rate your experience with the administration of the transnational access coordination (eg. contracts, contact on project timelines, answering questions). *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Not Very satisfied

19. Were there any administrative issues you encountered during the TA process? If so, please briefly explain.

20. Has your facility/ relevant authors been recognised in any publications resulting from any Transnational Access projects hosted at this facility? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

21. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for improving the transnational access program?

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JERICO-S3 TA Facility Feedback Survey