

**SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME
THEME 7: Transport (including Aeronautics)**

***D7.5 TRIP data base functionalities
improvement considerations***



Project Acronym:	MESA
Project Full Title:	Maritime Europe Strategy Action
Grant agreement n°:	604857
Work Package	7
Deliverable	D7.5
Responsible Beneficiary	WEGEMT
Other Beneficiaries Involved in the Preparation	CESA, ECSA, GL, ECMAR, ICOMIA
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Release	V1
Date	01/02/2015

Description of the Task:

D7.5 TRIP data base functionalities improvement considerations: Use of TRIP data base, possible expanding of functionalities, benefits to users

The deliverable D.7.5 "TRIP data base functionalities improvement considerations" will be issued by WEGEMT explaining the MESA efforts for the improvement of the links among the clustered research projects and TRIP, considerations and proposal for an easy accessibility and extraction of information (two issues foreseen, at the middle and end of the project activities).



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1) Summary and Task Description

This deliverable, D.7.5, is entitled “TRIP data base functionalities improvement considerations” Use of TRIP data base, possible expanding of functionalities, benefits to users

The focus of this deliverable is to explain the MESA efforts for the improvement of the links among the clustered research projects and TRIP, considerations and proposal for easy accessibility.

Task 7.2 addressed the Database of maritime projects and relied on the existing Transport Research Innovation Portal (TRIP). The actual structure of the TRIP foresees the following main areas:

- Policy (Regulation, Safety and Security, Climate Policy and International Cooperation),
- Technology (Intelligent Transport Systems,
- Transport Management, Innovative Technologies) and
- Evaluation (Impact, Long Term, Decision Support) divided per transport mode.

WEGEMT, responsible of the task:

(1) Will provide for the establishment of a permanent link with the Transport Research Innovation Portal (TRIP) with the aim of technically improving / expanding the functionality of the tool. Efforts will be devoted to encourage the sharing of information about the project calls, to establish a virtuous triangle between the Technology Platforms, TRIP PORTAL and the Public Bodies.

(2) The task will focus also to encourage the project coordinators (of running, or recently completed, research projects) to liaise with TRIP organization with the aim of making available the relevant material from the projects.

(3) In particular the projects - and relevant coordinators - object of the clustering activities of the WP1 to 4 will be taken into consideration for this accomplishment.

(4) In occasion of the MESA conferences and workshops, the information of the TRIP organization, TRIP functionalities and of the benefits to proactively liaise with it will be conveyed. TRIP manager will be invited at the workshops and conferences of this project.

2) Detailed Task Methodology

In order to successfully achieve the outcomes of this deliverable and task, the following methodology was employed:

Part 1: will provide for the establishment of a permanent link with the Transport Research Innovation Portal (TRIP) with the aim of technically improving / expanding the functionality of the tool. Efforts will be devoted to encourage the sharing of information about the project calls, to establish a virtuous triangle between the Technology Platforms, TRIP PORTAL and the Public Bodies.

A permanent web-based link has been established between WEGEMT and the Transport Research Innovation Portal (TRIP). This link encourages the sharing of information between the key bodies within the Transport Research arena.

A feedback template was developed (Appendix 1) to allow users to document their experiences about using the TRIP website and provide a forum for their comments on how the website could be improved. Results of this process are detailed later in this report with recommendations on how the website can be improved technically and functionally.

Part 2: The task will focus also to encourage the project coordinators (of running, or recently completed, research projects) to liaise with TRIP organization with the aim of making available the relevant material from the projects.

Project Coordinators have been encouraged to provide data and information about their project to the TRIP website through several pathways including MESA consortium meetings, a Waterborne Technology Platform event and through the process of collecting data through a questionnaire.

Part 3: In occasion of the MESA conferences and workshops, the information of the TRIP organization, TRIP functionalities and of the benefits to proactively liaise with it will be conveyed. TRIP manager will be invited at the workshops and conferences of this project.

The TRIP Coordinator was invited to the MESA consortium meeting on the 3 June 2014 and presented an overview of the TRIP website (Appendix 2). Extensive discussions during this meeting provided valuable feedback about the site from users. Many of the meeting attendees are also project coordinators for other European/national projects and were encouraged to liaise with TRIP and support the site by providing information and materials relating to their projects.

On 4 June 2014, the SG50 (Support Group and Mirror Group) of the European Technology Platform of the Waterborne Industries was held. The TRIP Coordinator presented the TRIP website to this meeting with more than 30 key attendees and encouraged participants to liaise and share their project information with TRIP.

3) TRIP Website - Feedback Template

A feedback questionnaire was developed which allowed users to respond to specific questions relating to content, accessibility and functionality. The questionnaire also provided users with the opportunity to make individual comments about their experiences using TRIP and potential improvements. The template was circulated by email and responses were requested by a deadline given.

4) TRIP Website - User Feedback Analysis

Feedback was received from a range of sources within the maritime environment including design consultants, research organisations, higher education organisations, trade associations and classification societies. Therefore the response represents a cross section of organisations operating within the maritime sector.

The feedback was reviewed and analysed in order to clearly identify the areas that users responded positively and where improvements could be made.

Specific areas of feedback were common to a number of organisations whereas other feedback was limited to one organisation. Where there is commonality in the comments this is indicated in the table.

The feedback is tabulated below:

Familiarity with TRIP	Most respondents indicated a familiarity with TRIP
Contents – usefulness and location	The majority of respondents found the contents of the website useful and easy to locate. One respondent commented that whilst it was easy to locate information, it was not easy to conduct any analysis across projects. The availability of videos was also positively commented upon.
Contents – completeness	<p>There was a strong trend in the comments regarding the completeness of the website contents. Almost all respondents commented on either/all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not all areas of interest included (e.g. Blue Growth) - Lack of confidence that all European projects were included - Some out of date project information, lack of clarity over who maintains the database, how it is populated and updated - Information about national funding of projects very limited often with no contact details or website. Consequently some respondents commented that TRIP was unable to provide a clear picture across a technology area

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More information expected from projects particularly completed projects which could include final public summary and any public deliverables. - Limited results or exploitable data reduced the benefit of the database for state of the art analysis and potential end users. - Several respondents queried if Thematic publications could be included in one language (English) as well as the original language.
Website functionality – ease of use	<p>Almost all respondents found the website easy to use and navigate, although one respondent commented that there was too much information on the main page and suggested a graphic indicating how all the information on the website was linked.</p>
Website functionality - structure	<p>One respondent commented that the ‘Mode’ and ‘Transport’ themes appeared to be the same and so the inclusion of both in the website was confusing.</p>
Website functionality - outputs	<p>For the subject of this report, outputs of the website would include project search results, exportable project data, links to other websites and other interfaces (e.g. social media).</p> <p>A number of respondents commented on all/some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The option of being able to export search results e.g. into an XL spreadsheet would be very beneficial. - Unable to see the link between TRIP and the relevant European Technology Platforms - Newsletter was issued every month until June 14 and then no updates since that time gives the impression that the website is not being kept up to date. - The Twitter feed associated with the website is not up to date.

Other Comments	One respondent commented that a separate topic category for e-Maritime/e-navigation would be very beneficial and could be included as a sub-category under 'Infrastructure and TEN-T', 'Intelligent Transport Systems' and 'Innovative technologies'.
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5) TRIP Website - Recommendations for the Future

A. Contents

- Consider feasibility of including all European projects (Commission and nationally funded) if possible. Inclusion of national projects with up to date information wherever possible but a valid contact name and email address as a minimum if the database is to be useful from a long term perspective. As an example <http://ukerc.rl.ac.uk> is a Research Atlas for UK energy research which includes information on all UK research funding but also European Commission funding.
- Encourage Project Coordinators to provide detailed information about projects including publishable exploitable data or final results in order to maximise project dissemination to end users.
- Consider if links on the website to all publishable reports for completed projects is achievable.
- Include a FAQs section on the website. This could include a description of how the database is structured, how the process of updating the data operates and who is responsible for maintaining the database.
- Consider the inclusion of Thematic documents in several languages (including English).

B. Functionality

- Consider if an export function could be added to the database to allow data to be exported, searched and analysed by website users.
- Provide clear and up to date links to other relevant websites (e.g. European Technology Platforms), social media (e.g. Twitter) and website outputs (e.g. newsletter)

C. Other Comments

Review structure of website to see if other areas of interest such as e-Maritime or Blue Growth could be accommodated.

Appendix 1: TRIP Website – Feedback Form

TRIP website

Feedback Form



Background:

The MESA project is designed to establish a collaboration between MESA and the Transport Research and Innovation Portal (TRIP). Deliverable D.7.5 of the MESA project is aimed at providing suggestions for improvement of the TRIP database functionalities and the related website. To support this process you are kindly invited to visit the TRIP website (<http://www.transport-research.info/web/>) and provide feedback on the issues mentioned below.

Please return the feedback form to: george.smyrnakis@ncl.ac.uk

Question 1: Are you familiar with TRIP?

Question 2: Do you find the website useful in terms of contents, based on the sub-questions below?

Can you find relevant projects (or are you missing important projects)*?

Do you find additional information on the website useful (publications, news, events)?

Do you have other remarks or suggestions related to contents?

**Please note that we have focussed on FP6-FP7 projects to be included in the TRIP database*



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Question 3: Do you find the website easy to use and is information accessible?

Yes:

No:

Please elaborate:

Question 4: Do you have additional suggestions for TRIP?

OPTIONAL:

Name:

Organisation:

Date:



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Appendix 2: TRIP General Presentation

TRIP

Transport Research & Innovation Portal

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GENERAL PRESENTATION



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Contents

- TRIP: a quick intro
- Key processes
- Looking back at first half
- A TRIP to the future



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What is TRIP?

Transport
Research &
Innovation
Portal

TRIP is the **one single portal** for all **transport research** conducted on European and national levels.



Previously **TRKC**, **TRIP** has been a strong contributor to dissemination and promotion of transport research and innovation since the initiative was created in 1997.



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History of TRIP

Transport
Research &
Innovation
Portal

- 1997: EXTRA, FP5
- 2002: EXTR@Web, FP6
- 2007: TRKC (Transport Research Knowledge Centre), FP6 – FP7
- 2012: TRIP (Transport Research & Innovation Portal), FP7!



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People behind TRIP

Transport Research & Innovation Portal

Consortium of 7 partners

- Research and Consulting Institutions
- Information & Communication Companies
- Netherlands, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Italy

Supported by a network of external experts

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Key processes

Transport Research & Innovation Portal

Increase awareness of EU, national and international transport research activities and results

TRIP is reaching out for TRIP users by actively communicating transport research and innovation and building partnerships

Enhance access to transport research projects activities and results

TRIP offers easy access to the most up-to-date information on one single website

Strengthen the contents basis by providing relevant results of transport research

TRIP constantly expands its database by adding information on projects, programmes and countries

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TRIP activities so far - awareness

- Fresh new name, logo, visual identity
- New website 2.0 and 2.1
- Events
- Publications
- Communication
- Partnerships

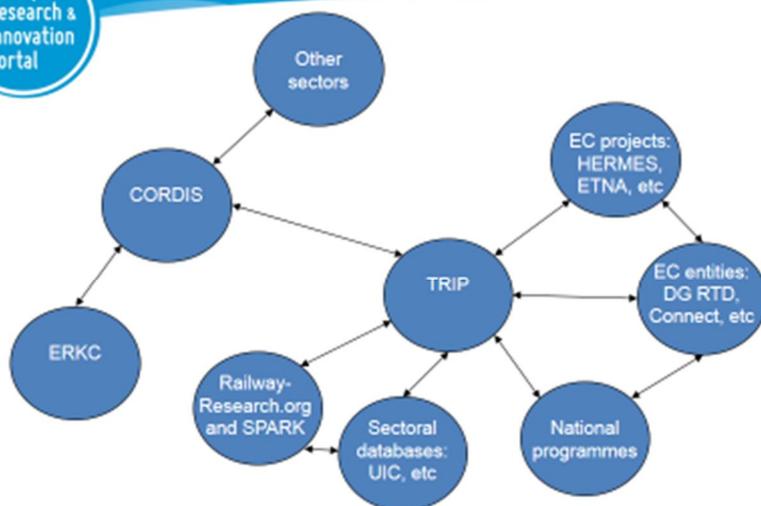


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Positioning TRIP



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TRIP activities so far - contents

- EU funded projects – largely covered
- National projects – limited
- Country profiles and programmes
- Publications



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Publications – policy brochures

The Policy Brochures present the contribution of Research & Innovation to meet relevant policy challenges in the transport field.

4 Policy Brochures per year are released, accompanied by Videos, presenting the key elements of each publication.



Policy Brochures are sent by post to **300** contacts selected from the TRIP dissemination database of **3048** addresses.

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Publications - videos

Innovating for a competitive and resource-efficient transport system



Innovating for a competitive and resource-efficient transport system highlights the contribution of transport research, development, and innovation to the economic prosperity and social integration of Europe. It is narrated by Matthias Ruete, Director General at DG MOVE, European Commission.

Towards low carbon transport in Europe



Towards low carbon transport in Europe demonstrates the role transport research and innovation can play in helping to meet the EU targets on CO2 emission reduction.



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Publications - Thematic Research Summaries

Thematic Research Summaries provide a structured guide to the results of research projects carried out mainly at EU level, either as part of a framework programme or as a study commissioned by the European Commission.

24 Thematic Research Summaries
according to the 24 TRIP Themes



All publications are produced in electronic format and are downloadable from the TRIP website. Only policy brochures and compendia have a paper version.



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A TRIP to the future....

- Continue to strengthen the contents basis
- Further build partnerships – exchange data
- Continue to raise awareness



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