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QUIETMED2 – Joint programme for GES assessment on D11- noise in the Mediterranean Marine Region.

quietMED2

DELIVERABLE

D2.2. Final report on communication and dissemination

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5	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research	HCMR	Greece
6	Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	IOF	Croatia
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10	Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre	SPA/RAC	Tunisia
11	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea	ICES	Denmark

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Abstract

This document is the Deliverable “D2.2. Final report on communication and dissemination (January 2021)” of the QUIETMED2 project funded by the DG Environment of the European Commission within the call “DG ENV/MSFD 2018 call”. This call funds projects to support the implementation of the second cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC) (hereinafter referred to as MSFD), in particular to implement the new GES Decision (Commission Decision (EU) 2017/848 of 17 May 2017 laying down criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised methods for monitoring and assessment, and repealing Decision 2010/477/EU) and Programmes of Measures according Article 13 of the MSFD. The QUIETMED2 project aims to support Member States Competent Authorities in the Assessment of the extent to which GES on Descriptor 11- Underwater noise has been achieved in the Mediterranean Region by providing practical outcomes to implement the new GES Decision through: i) a joint proposal of a candidate for an impulsive noise indicator in the Mediterranean Region ii) a common methodology for Competent Authorities to establish thresholds values, together with associated lists of elements and integration rules, iii) a data and information tool to support the implementation of the monitoring programmes of impact of impulsive noise based on the current ACCOBAMS joint register which will be demonstrated on iv) an operational pilot of the tool and v) several activities to boost current regional cooperation efforts of Barcelona Convention developing new Mediterranean Region cooperation measures.

This public document is a final report on the results of the communication plan, the dissemination activities carried out during the QUIETMED2 project and the resources and communication materials employed to spread it to the specific target.

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List of Abbreviations

CTN	Centro Tecnológico Naval y del Mar
ACCOBAMS	Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area
DFMR	Department of Fisheries and Marine Research
IZVRS	Inštitut za vode Republike Slovenije/Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia
HCMR	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research
IOF	Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries
UM	University of Malta -The Conservation Biology Research Group
POLIMI-DICA	Politecnico di Milano-Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
SSW	Special Secretariat for Water-Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy
SPA/RAC	Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
GES	Good Environmental Status
MS	Member States
MED	Mediterranean Sea Region
DG ENV	Directorate-General - Environment -
EU	European Commission
D11	Descriptor 11 (Introduction of energy, including underwater noise, is at levels that do not adversely affect the marine environment)
D11C1	Descriptor 11 Criteria 1 (Anthropogenic impulsive sound in water)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
IQOE	International Quiet Ocean Experiment

1. Introduction

The QUIETMED2 Project is funded by DG Environment of the European Commission within the call “DG ENV/MSFD Second Cycle/2018”. This call funds the next phase of MSFD implementation, in particular, to implement the new GES Decision (Commission Decision (EU) 2017/848 of 17 May 2017 laying down criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised methods for monitoring and assessment, and repealing Decision 2010/477/EU) and Programmes of Measures according to Article 13 of the MSFD.

The QUIETMED2 project aims to enhance cooperation among Member States (MS) in the Mediterranean Sea Region (MED) to implement the Second Cycle of the Marine Directive and in particular to assist them in the preparation of their MSFD reports through the following specific objectives:

- Develop and implement a candidate impact indicator in the Mediterranean Region for D11C1 Criteria.
- Make a joint proposal of a methodology to establish threshold values, list of elements and integration rules to implement the GES decision in reference to D11 in the Mediterranean Region.
- Build an efficient data and information tool to support the implementation of the D11C1 Criteria and the update of the monitoring programmes of Impulsive Noise according to the new GES Decision.
- Perform an operational pilot of an impulsive noise impact monitoring programme implemented with the updated Joint register to demonstrate its feasibility.
- Promote Mediterranean Region Coordination by i) boosting current regional cooperation efforts of Barcelona Convention and others and ii) developing new cooperation measures.
- Enhance collaboration among a wide network of stakeholders through the dissemination of the project results, knowledge share and networking.

To achieve its objectives, the project is divided in 3 work packages around 3 priorities and 10 activities whose relationships are shown in Figure 1.

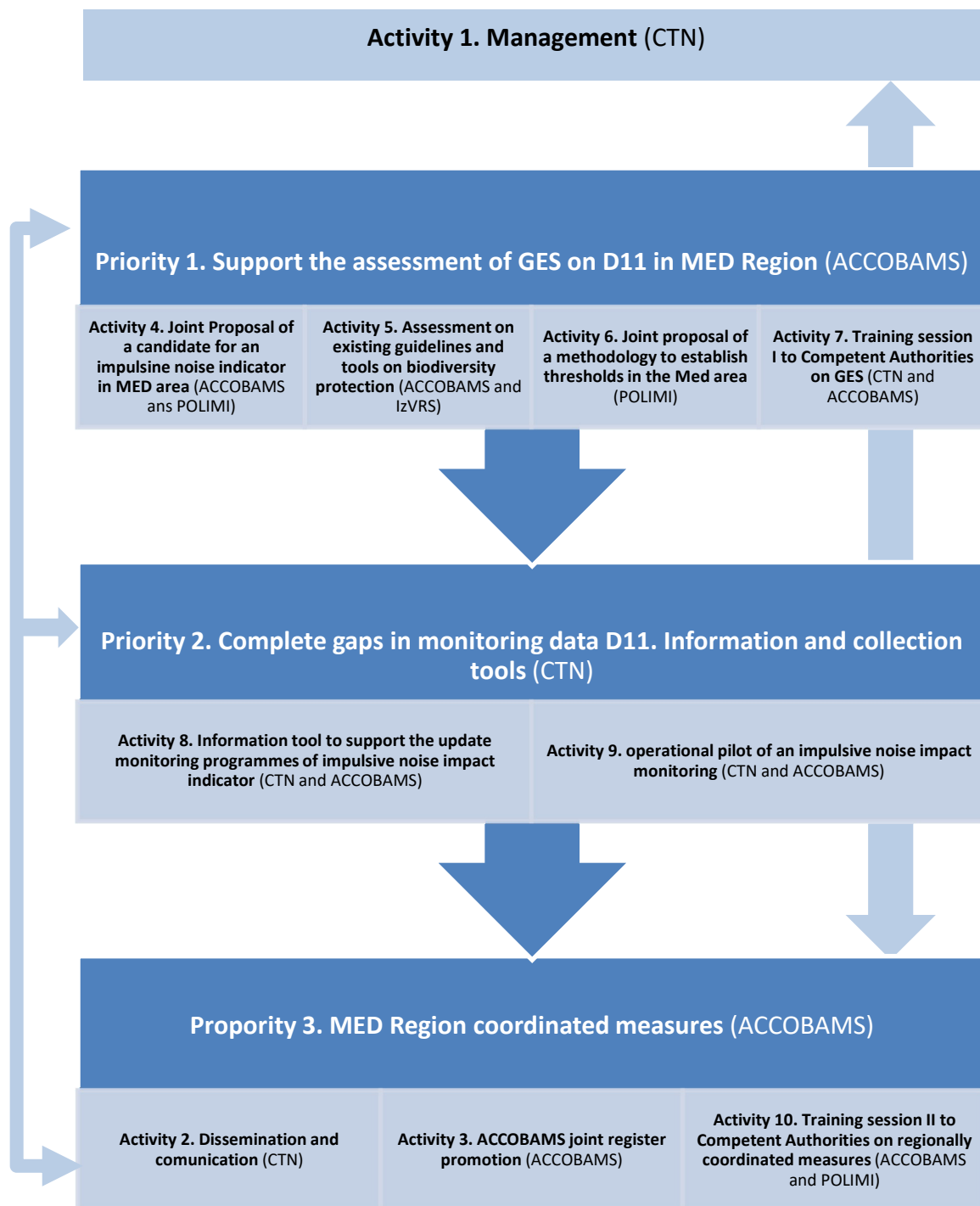


Figure 1. Work Plan Structure

The project is developed by a consortium made up of 11 entities coordinated by CTN and it has a duration of 24 months starting on February 2019.

This document is a report about:

- The results of the dissemination activities carried out during the project.
- The statistics from the different communication tools employed to spread the project.

- The different media and channels in which QUIETMED2 project has appeared during this time.
- Networking activities attended such as events, conferences and workshops.
- Other activities related to dissemination such as the workshops and training sessions developed with partners and EU & non-EU countries.

2. Project communication objectives

QUIETMED2 Project has 4 specific communication objectives established in the Grant Application form:

- **Raise awareness** among public and private stakeholders on the noise issue.
- **Disseminate the recommendations** to Member States to set up national registers of impulsive noise developed under QUIETMED project¹.
- **Promote the use of the project results** by Competent Authorities.
- **Networking and collaboration** with other initiatives.

The accomplishment of these objectives has been conditioned to the development of the different phases of the project.

The methodology and degree of development reached at the end of the project are presented in the following sections.

¹ Project funded by DG Environment, European Commission (January 2017-December 2018). More information: <http://www.quietmed-project.eu/>

3. Communication and dissemination results

3.1. Communication tools. Web page

The QUIETMED2 project webpage (<https://quietmed2.eu/>) was created with the aim to disseminate all progress and the latest updates of the project. The different sections of the website have been active throughout the duration of the project providing new information about it.

The project website was structured in different parts which contain static and dynamic content since some of them include general information about the project and in others like News and Material, in the Communication section, present the most updated project information.

In the News section, latest updates have been published for a deep understanding of QUIETMED2 project as the posts of Meetings and Workshops organised in the context of the project.

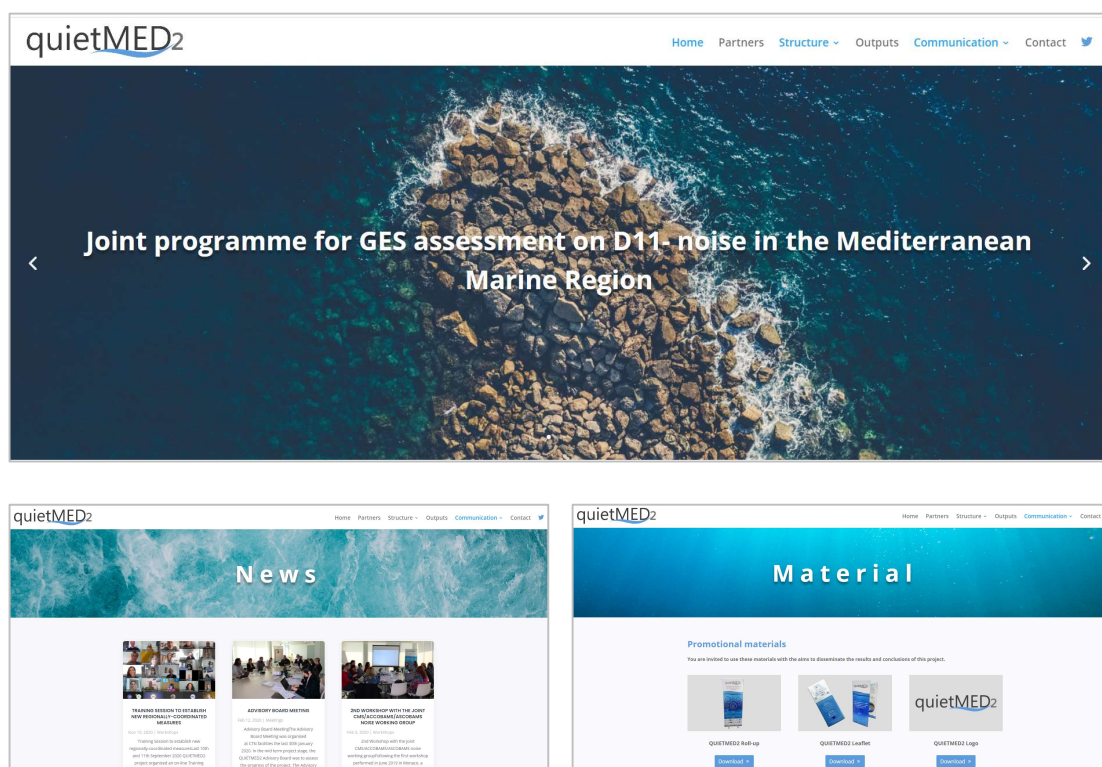


Figure 2. QUIETMED2 Project web site. Home, News and Material (Communication)

3.1.1. Statistics from the webpage

The growth indicators of the website have evolved from June 2019 to December 2020 with important peaks as a result of featured publications about the meetings and workshops celebrated.

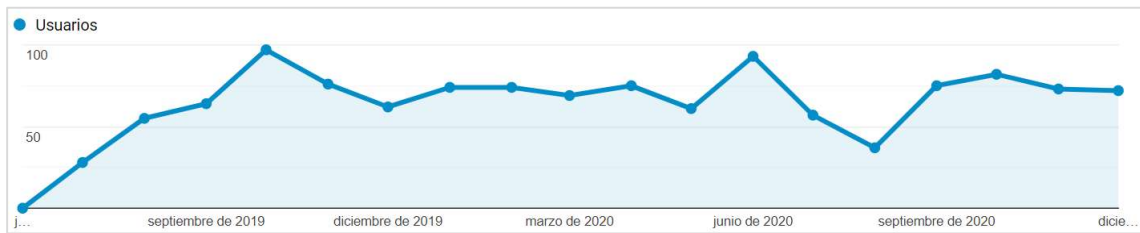


Figure 3. Evolution of visits to the website

From June 2019 until December 2020 the QUIETMED2 project webpage has obtained the following results:

- 1.062 users have visited the QUIETMED2 project webpage.
- 1.067 are new users.
- 1.698 sessions in which the user is actively engaged with the website, app, etc.
- 1.60 sessions per user.
- 4.115 visits.
- 2.42 pages viewed during a session.
- 00:02:08 of average session duration.
- 59.84% of Bounce Rate (there was no interaction with the page).



Figure 4. Results of webpage

The users who visited the QUIETMED2 project webpage are from different countries around the world like France, Italy, China and United Kingdom, but most of the visitors are from Spain (175) and United States (159).


















País	Usuarios	% Usuarios
1.  Spain	175	 16,37 %
2.  United States	159	 14,87 %
3.  France	99	 9,26 %
4.  Italy	92	 8,61 %
5.  China	57	 5,33 %
6.  United Kingdom	56	 5,24 %
7.  Netherlands	38	 3,55 %
8.  Greece	36	 3,37 %
9.  Slovenia	36	 3,37 %
10.  Belgium	30	 2,81 %

Figure 5. Origin of users

3.2. Communication tools. Social media

Social Media is an inevitable part of communication in European projects, enabling the latest news and the main results of the project to spread through the net.

A profile for QUIETMED2 project has been created on the main social media with the aim to reach the specific audience and target of the project. Social networks require the implementation of a communication strategy to send the correct message to each public.

Social networks are an essential tool to disseminate all the information related to a project such as its progress, the main results, and the events organised during the project. For this project, Twitter was the social network chosen for its dissemination.

The publications in this social network have included mentions to partners and to the DG Environment to increase the impact of the dissemination activities. Some Hashtags have been created and added in the publications of social network profile. The Hashtags have been used are: #underwaternoise #D11 #Descriptor11 #MSFD #MediterraneanSea #GIS #calibration #noisemonitoring #GES #MarineStrategies #noisepollution #cetaceans #underwaternoise #pollution #MemberStates.

3.2.1. Twitter

This profile was opened for the QUIETMED Project and now it has been used for the QUIETMED2 Project due to its high popularity and interest shown in underwater noise.

It has been used to disseminate all the information related to the project as well as its progress and the events organized during the project. This media has also been used to disseminate the main results of the project.

The content of this social network is very active and the publications must be related with activities that happen at the moment.

Link to Twitter profile: <https://twitter.com/quietMED>



Figure 6. QUIETMED2 Twitter profile

The username of the QUIETMED2 project Twitter profile is “@quietMED” and it has been used to:

- Show information of the project.
- Advertise the events related to the project and the participation in other events organised by similar projects.
- Communicate the latest posts published at webpage.
- The consortium of the project.
- Disseminate main results of the project.
- Spread the articles published in local, national and international press.
- Interact with other profiles related to the project, mainly to MSFD, Descriptor 11 and Descriptor D1.

Some examples of the published information are in the following tweets:





Retweeteaste

JONAS @jonas_project · 5 nov. 2020

The International Quiet Oceans Experiment just released their 6th newsletter, including updates from @jonas_project, @jomopans, & @quietMED, w/news on their analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on #underwaternoise through a global network of hydrophones.

scor-int.org/wp-content/upl...

Hydrophones
● Autonomous
● Cabled

IQOE Hydrophones Network, 13 OCT 2020

IQOE Hydrophone Network as of 13 Oct. 2020 (n = 216; some sites overlap and show as a single dot at this scale).

quietMED2 @quietMED · 24 ene. 2020

Prof Adriana Vella and Dr Joseph Vella from @uniofmalta presented the first experience on #underwaternoise #monitoring in #Malta at the World Marine Mammal Conference @wmmc2019 in #Barcelona, #Spain 🇪🇺 #MSFD #EcAp #D11 #MediterraneanSea #GES #GIS 🇬🇧 🇮🇹 🇪🇸

BUT THE WORLD THAT THESE CREATURES INHABIT

University of Malta academics present latest marine research at Barcelo...
University of Malta academics, Prof Adriana Vella and Dr Joseph Vella, have presented research at the World Marine Mammal Conference ...
independent.com.mt

quietMED2 @quietMED · 28 ene. 2020

Today #QUIETMED2 Project is celebrating at @CTNinnova facilities the 2nd Workshop with project partners to discuss regarding a joint proposal of a candidate for an #impulsive noise indicator in #MediterraneanSea Region 🇪🇺 #underwaternoise #monitoring #D11 #MSFD #GES 🇬🇧 🇮🇹 🇪🇸

CTNinnova y 9 más

quietMED2 @quietMED · 9 abr. 2019

The project manager has presented @quietMED2 "Joint programme for #GES assessment on #D11- noise in the #MediterraneanSea Region" at the TG Noise Meeting in #Crete #underwaternoise #MSFD #GES 🇬🇧 🇮🇹 🇪🇸

Project funded by @EU_ENV 🇪🇺

CTNinnova y 6 más

quietMED2 @quietMED · 29 ene. 2020

The #QUIETMED2 Project partners continue working today in the 2nd Workshop, organised with the kind support from the @PuertodeCtg 🇬🇧 Thanks a lot! 🇪🇺 It is a pleasure working on this project together with excellent partners from all over #MediterraneanSea Region! #underwaternoise

CTNinnova y 9 más

quietMED2 @quietMED · 30 ene. 2020

The #AdvisoryBoard members of #QUIETMED2 Project are attending the progress meeting hosted at @CTNinnova facilities to give advice and suggestions to improve final results of the project 🇬🇧 #underwaternoise #MSFD #GES 🇬🇧 🇮🇹 🇪🇸 Discover who is who in the #AB 🇬🇧 quietmed2.eu/advisory-board/

CTNinnova y 9 más





Figure 7. Tweets published



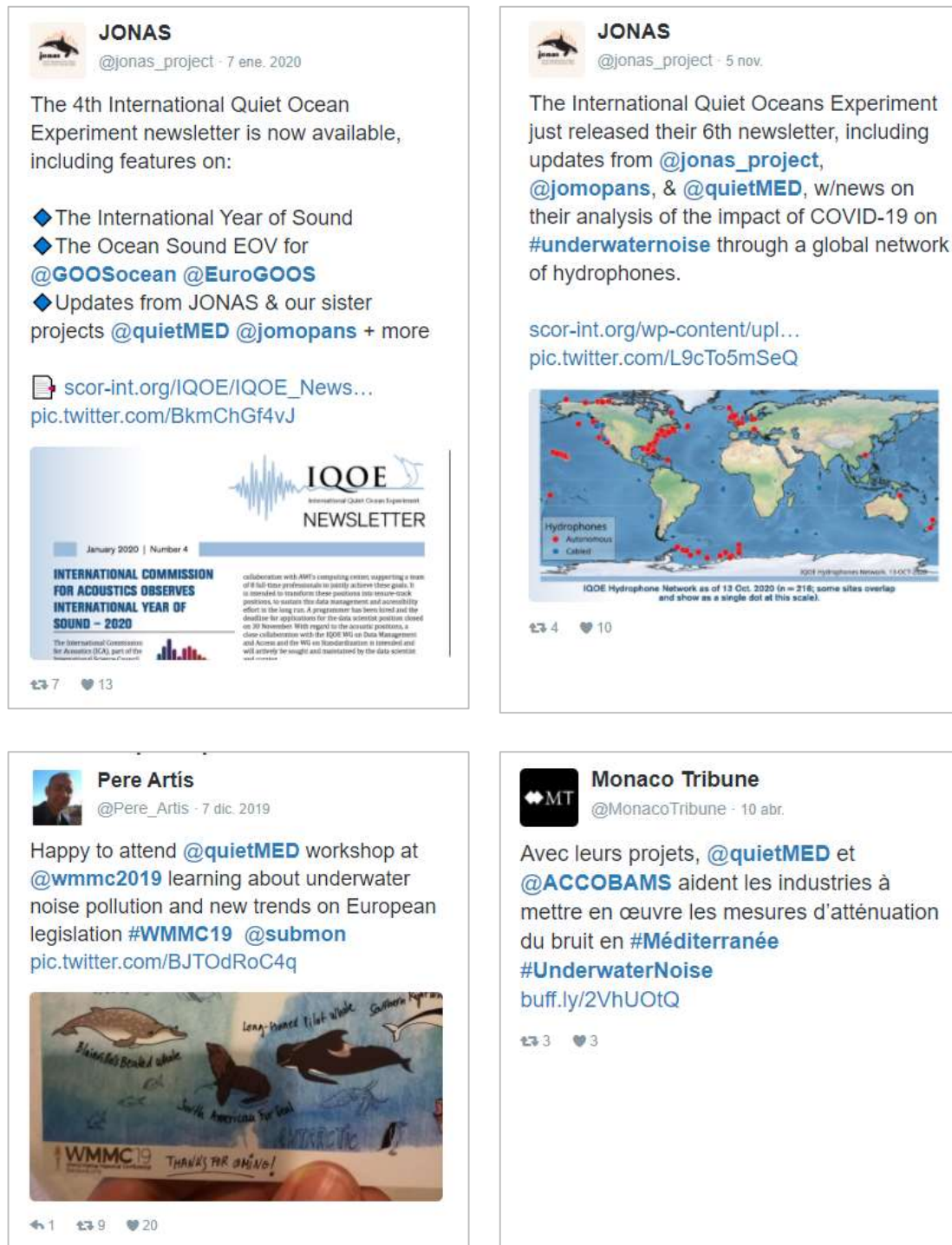


Figure 8. Top mentions

3.2.1.1. Statistics from the Twitter profile

This Twitter profile was created on March 2017 for the QUIETMED Project and it has been used again for QUIETMED2 Project since February 2019 -when the publications began to be released - until January 2021. The followers have increased every week and currently the profile has **630 followers**.

Twitter offers an overview of the statistics from the last 28 days about Tweets, Tweets' impressions, profile visits and followers. Tweets' impressions, profile visits and followers have

increased in the last month. Also Tweets from QUIETMED2 profile have achieved **2.855** impressions during the last 28 days.

January 2021



Figure 9. Statistics of Twitter

The two most popular weets of all published are the following:



Figure 10. Tweet 1

This tweet has been viewed **5,642** times, it has **17** likes and **8** retweets.



Figure 11. Tweet 2

This tweet has been viewed **4,548** times, it has **11** likes and **5** retweets.

Twitter Analytics also offer statistics of each month such as Tweets, Tweet impressions, profile visits, mentions and new followers. Also, it shows the main Tweet, main mention and the main

follower of the month. The figures below show the evolution of the activity during different months of the QUIETMED2 project:

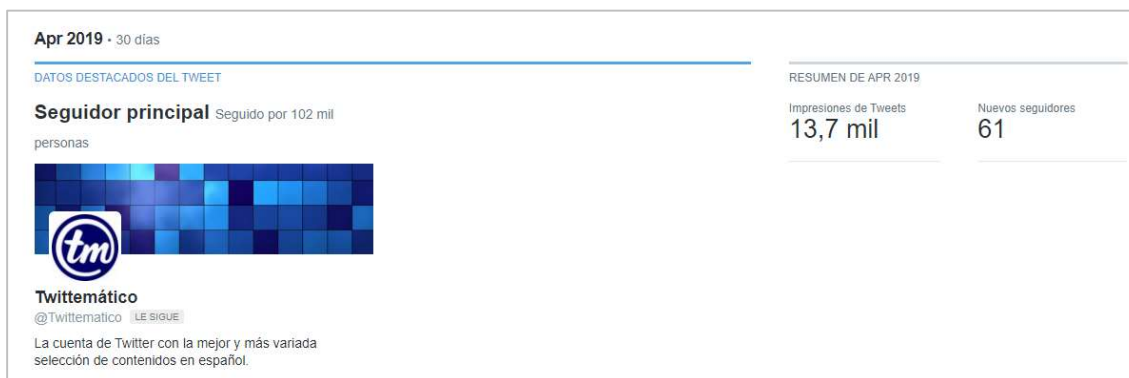


Figure 12. Statistics April 2019

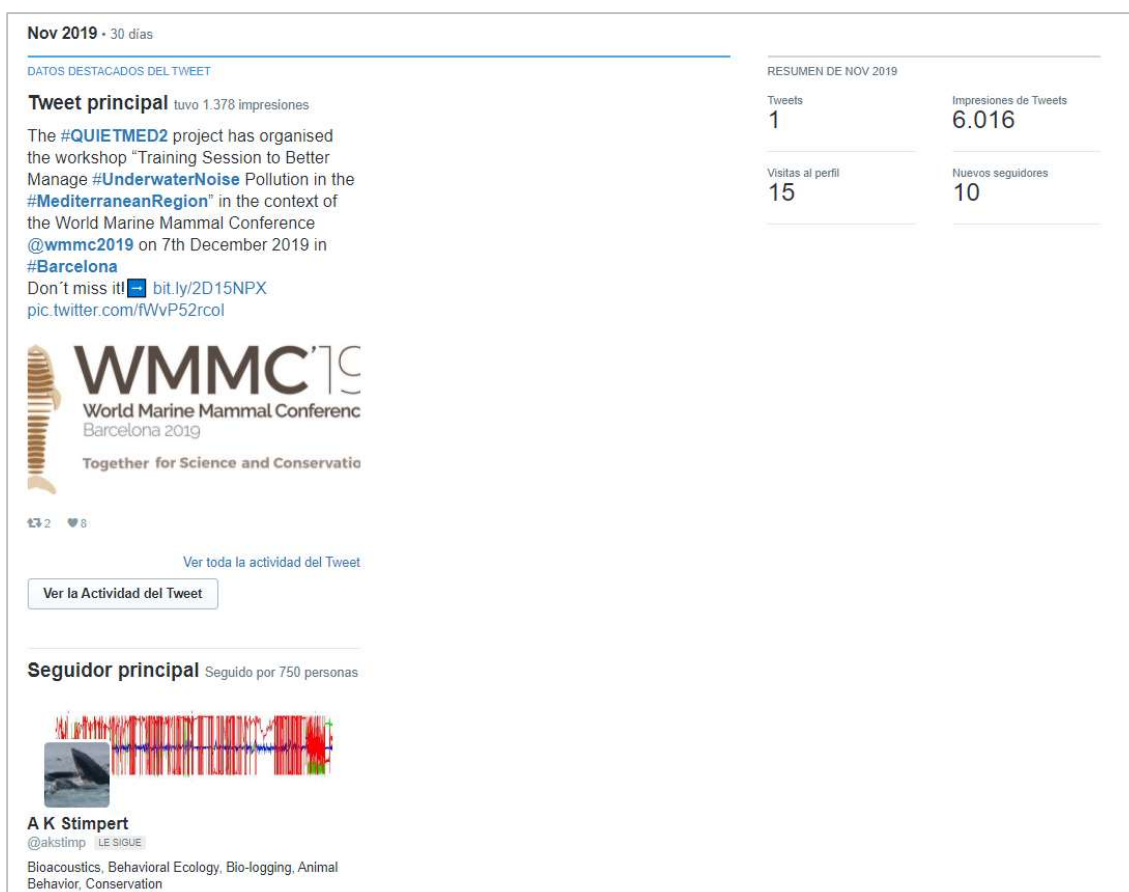


Figure 13. Statistics November 2019

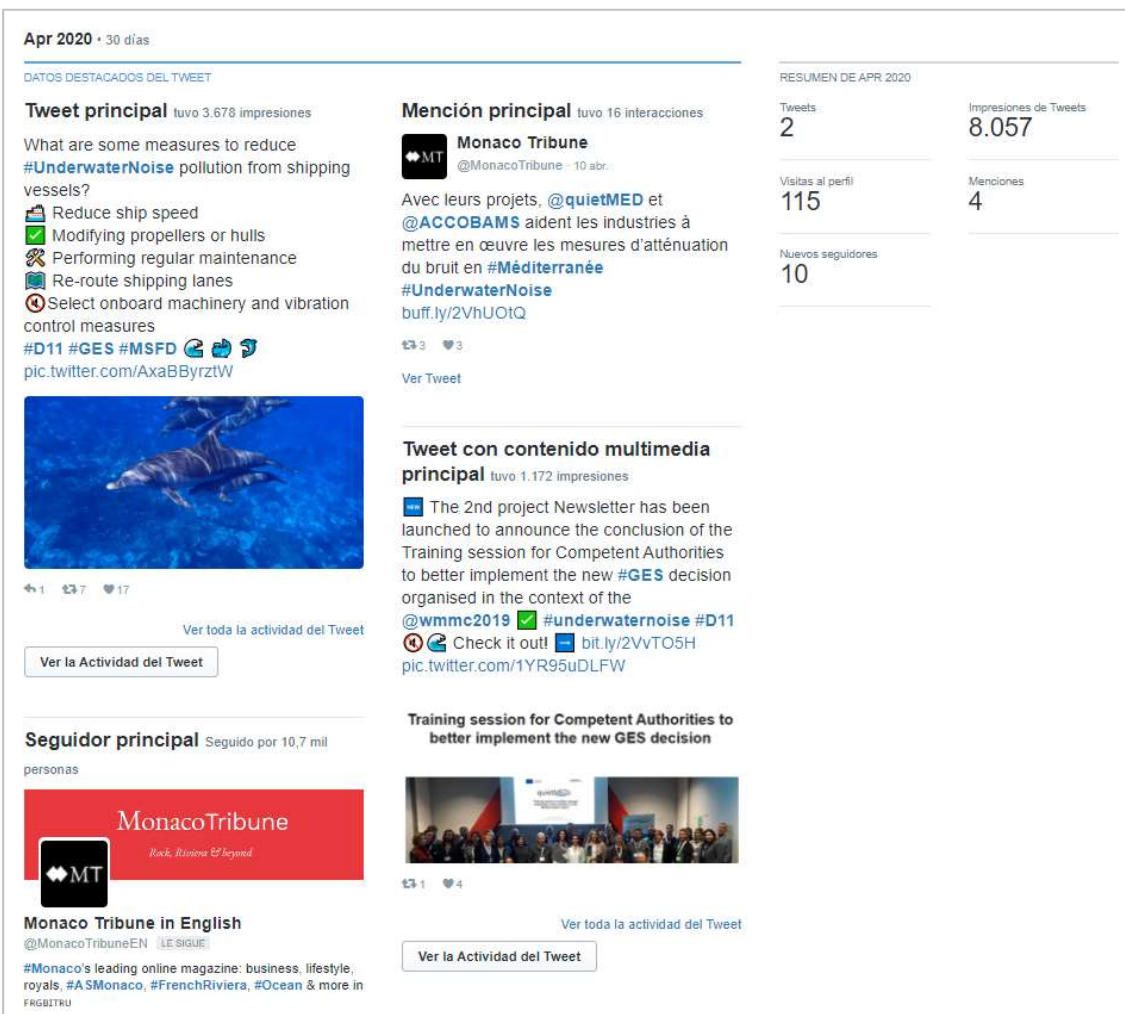


Figure 14. Statistics April 2020

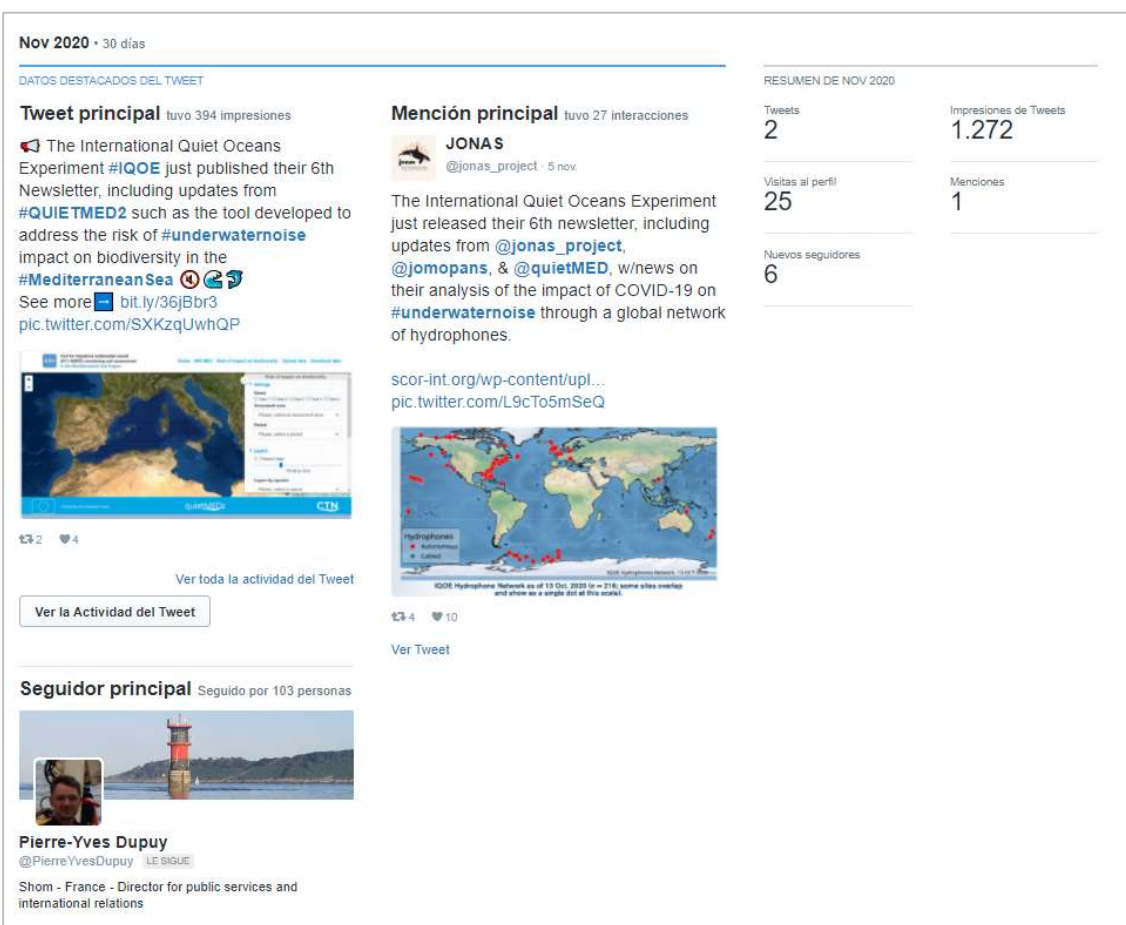


Figure 15. Statistics April 2020

3.3. Communication tools. Email Marketing

3.3.1. Newsletter

Email Marketing has been another dissemination tool used to disseminate the QUIETMED2 project. During the whole project development, three Newsletters have been created to spread important information about the advances of the project.

Newsletters with the latest news about the QUIETMED2 project have been sent to the users included in the distribution list. These Newsletters have been also published on the project webpage: <https://quietmed2.eu/material/>

The Newsletter number four will be sent after the Final meeting to spread the main results of the project.

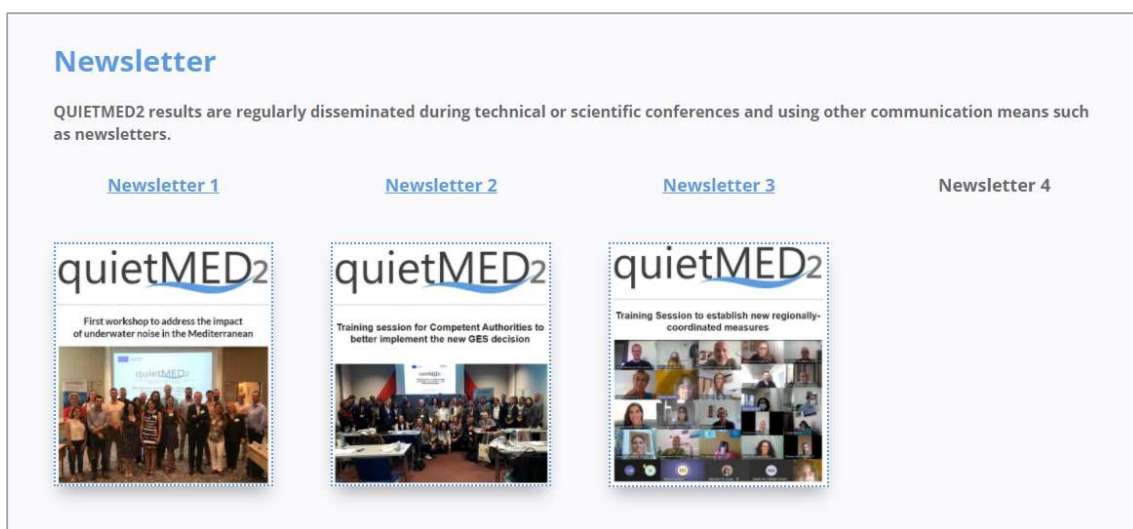


Figure 16. Newsletter section on the webpage

Newsletter 1- First workshop to address the impact of underwater noise in the Mediterranean Sea: <https://bit.ly/2KrIWEm>

The first Newsletter of the project spread the first workshop with the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS Noise Working Group performed in Monaco on June 25th and 26th 2019 to discuss about the definition of a risk of impact indicator of impulsive noise in the Mediterranean Sea Region.



Figure 17. Newsletter 1

Newsletter 2- Training session for Competent Authorities to better implement the new GES decision: <https://bit.ly/2LZbENk>

The second Newsletter of the project was based on the 2 Days “Training session to better manage underwater noise pollution in the Mediterranean Region” organised in Barcelona on December 7th and 8th 2019. The first day of this training workshop was developed as an affiliated workshop in the World Marine Mammal Conference 2019 (WMMC’19).

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Training session for Competent Authorities to better implement the new GES decision



QUIETMED2 project
Joint programme for GES assessment on D11- noise in the Mediterranean Marine Region

The 2 Days “Training session to better manage underwater noise pollution in the Mediterranean Region” was performed in Barcelona on 7th and 8th December 2019. The first day of this training workshop was developed as an affiliated workshop in the [World Marine Mammal Conference 2019 \(WMMC’19\)](#).

The QUIETMED2 project raised an exercise of knowledge transfer and technical advice from the scientist community to the competent authorities to train them, on one hand, on the ACCOBAMS International Impulsive Noise Register for the Mediterranean Sea Region; and on the other hand, to provide technical advice on the GES assessment and present existing approaches and solutions for the management of underwater noise pollution impacting marine biodiversity.

Figure 18. Newsletter 2

Newsletter 3- Training Session to establish new regionally-coordinated measures:
<https://bit.ly/3bSRnng>

The third Newsletter was sent to announce the conclusions of the on-line Training session for Competent Authorities from Member States to support the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) to establish new regionally-coordinated measures related to underwater noise pollution in the Mediterranean Sea Region. All QUIETMED2 project partners and EU & non-EU representatives participated in this workshop. Participants had the opportunity to test the applicability of this methodology by using the management tool being developed by the project, designed to address the risk of impact on biodiversity in the Mediterranean Sea: <http://quietmed2.ctninnova.com/>

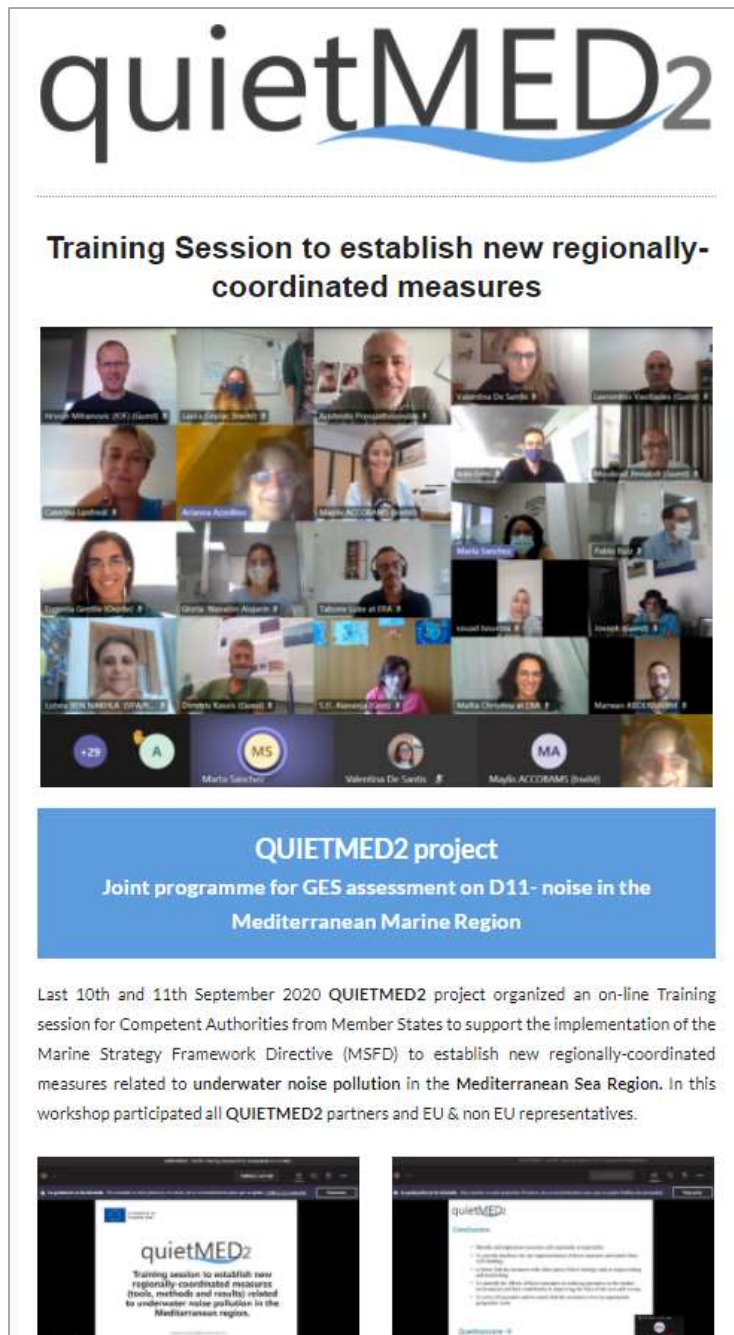


Figure 19. Newsletter 3

Newsletter 4- Project closure and presentations of the main results: [Scheduled](#)

The last Newsletter of the QUIETMED2 project will be sent to disseminate the conclusions presented at the Final meeting organised by CTN together with project partners to conclude the QUIETMED2 Project and present the main results.

To be submitted after the end of the project

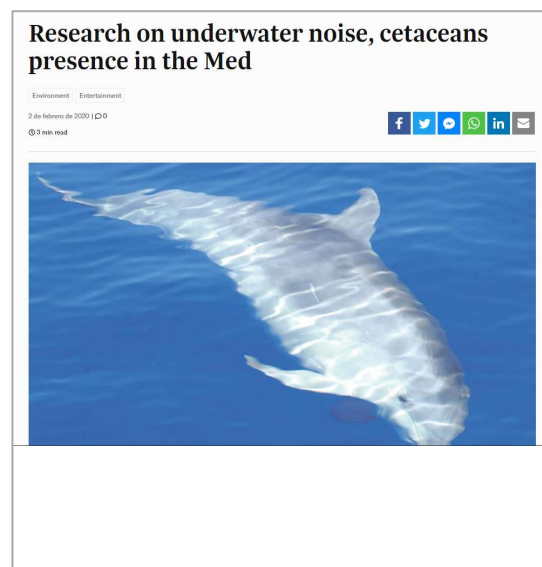
3.4. Communication and Dissemination actions

QUIETMED2 project has appeared in different international press articles to spread the main results of the project and the benefits for the marine environment.

In summary, QUIETMED2 has become a very interesting project for media and society. Through these channels, the issue of underwater marine noise pollution has been spread to a large audience.

3.4.1. Press articles

QUIETMED2 has become a very interesting project for media and people. It has achieved to raise awareness about the problem of underwater marine noise pollution for a lot of people. Thus, it has appeared in different digital newspapers around the world in countries like Spain, Malta, Monaco and Netherlands.



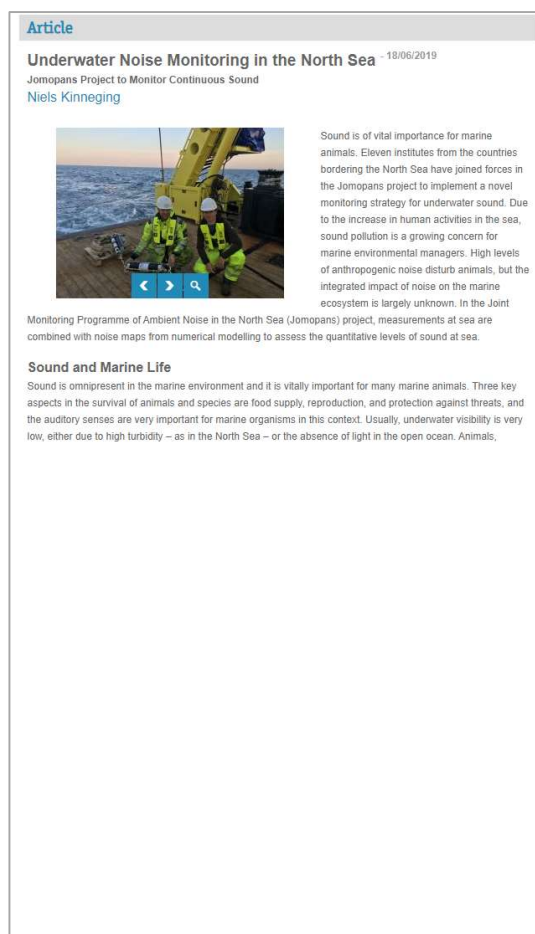


Figure 20. Press articles

The links of the articles published on Digital Press are the following:

<https://www.hydro-international.com/content/article/underwater-noise-monitoring-in-the-north-sea>

<https://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2020-01-16/newspaper-lifestyleculture/University-of-Malta-academics-present-latest-marine-research-at-Barcelona-conference-6736218474>

<https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/research-on-underwater-noise-cetaceans-presence-in-the-med.767728>

<https://www.monaco-tribune.com/en/2020/04/mediterranean-sea-saving-marine-life-from-man-made-noise/>

<https://www.agrodiario.com/texto-diario/mostrar/2021598/sanchez-ct-naval->

<https://www.monaco-tribune.com/2020/04/mediterranee-quand-le-bruit-humain-met-en-danger-la-faune-marine/>

<https://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2020-05-03/local-news/COVID-19-may-help-us-understand-what-it-means-for-marine-life-to-suffer-from-their-own-pandemics-6736222700>

<https://www.elclickverde.com/reportajes/ecos-submarinos-en-la-reserva-marina-de-cabo-de-palos-islas-hormigas-el-impacto-sonoro>

3.4.2. Partners' dissemination actions

- Project page on CTN (coordinator) website:
<https://www.ctnaval.com/en/proyectos/quietmed-2/>

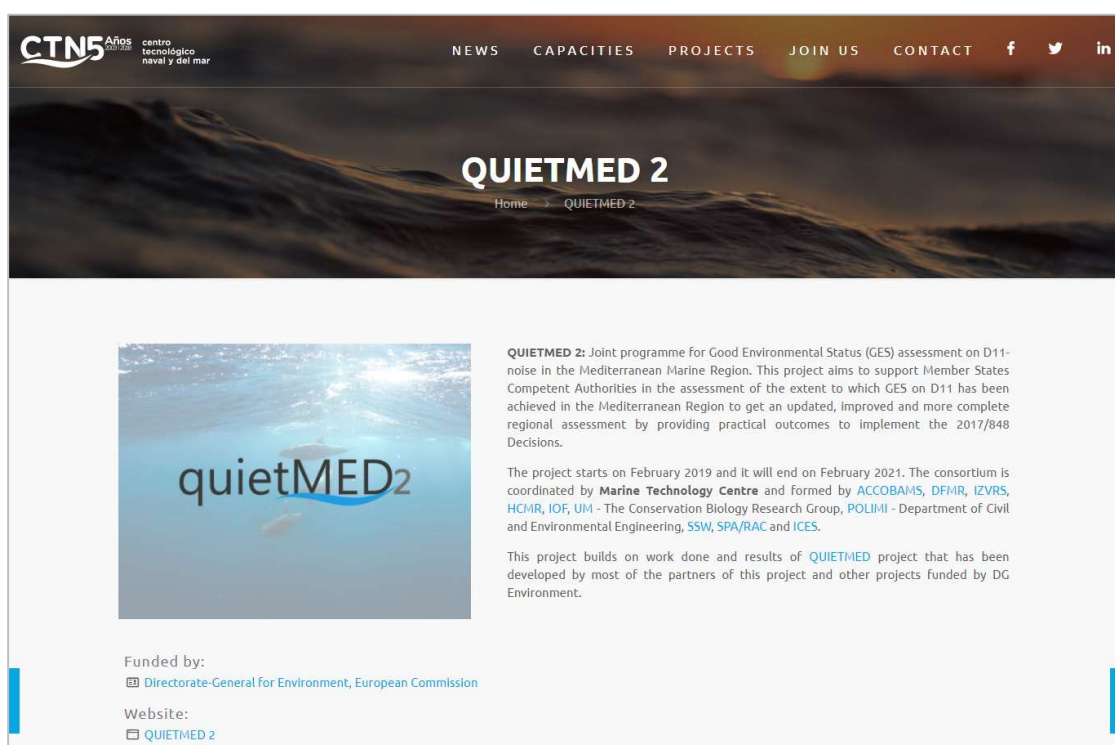


Figure 21. CTN website

- Project page on SPA/RAC website: <https://www.rac-spa.org/node/1798>

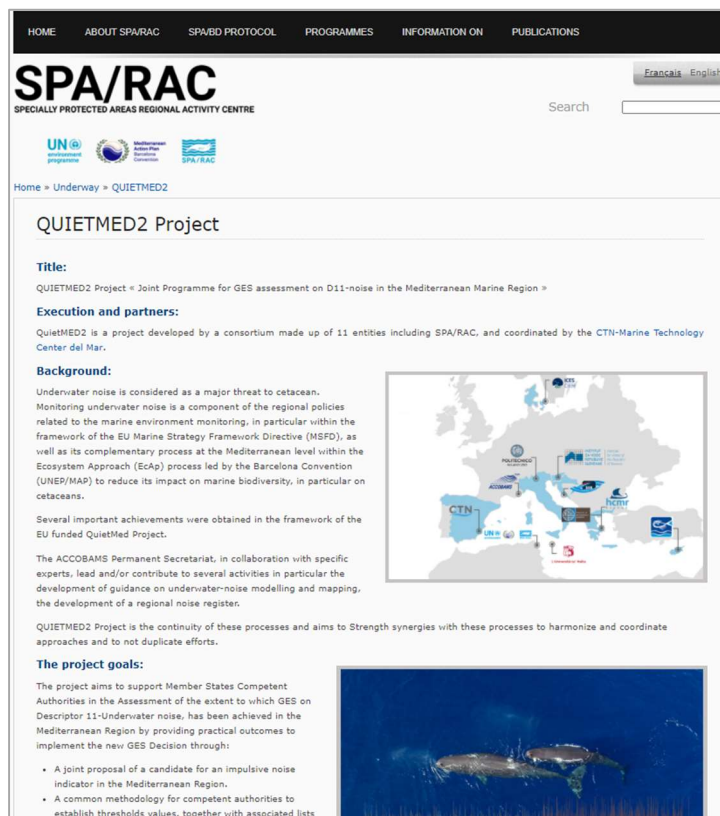


Figure 22. SPA/RAC website

- Project page on ICES website: <https://www.ices.dk/about-ICES/projects/Pages/QUIETMED2.aspx>

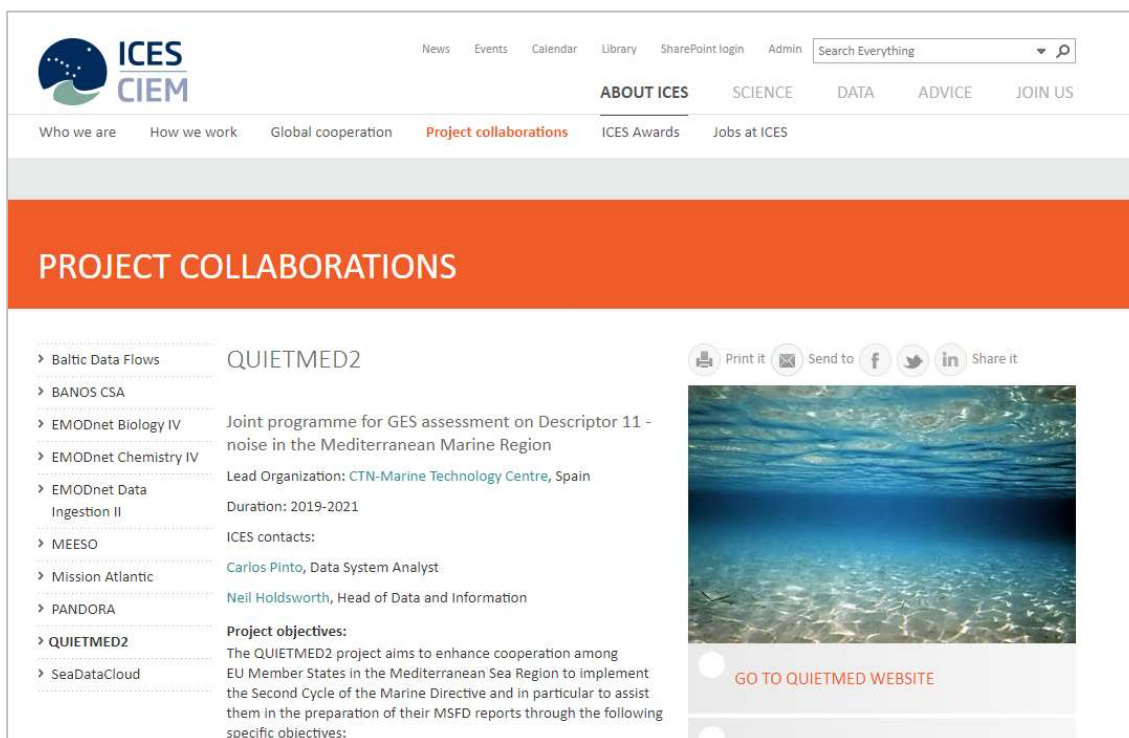


Figure 23. ICES website

- Project post on ACCOBAMS website: <https://accobams.org/24968/>

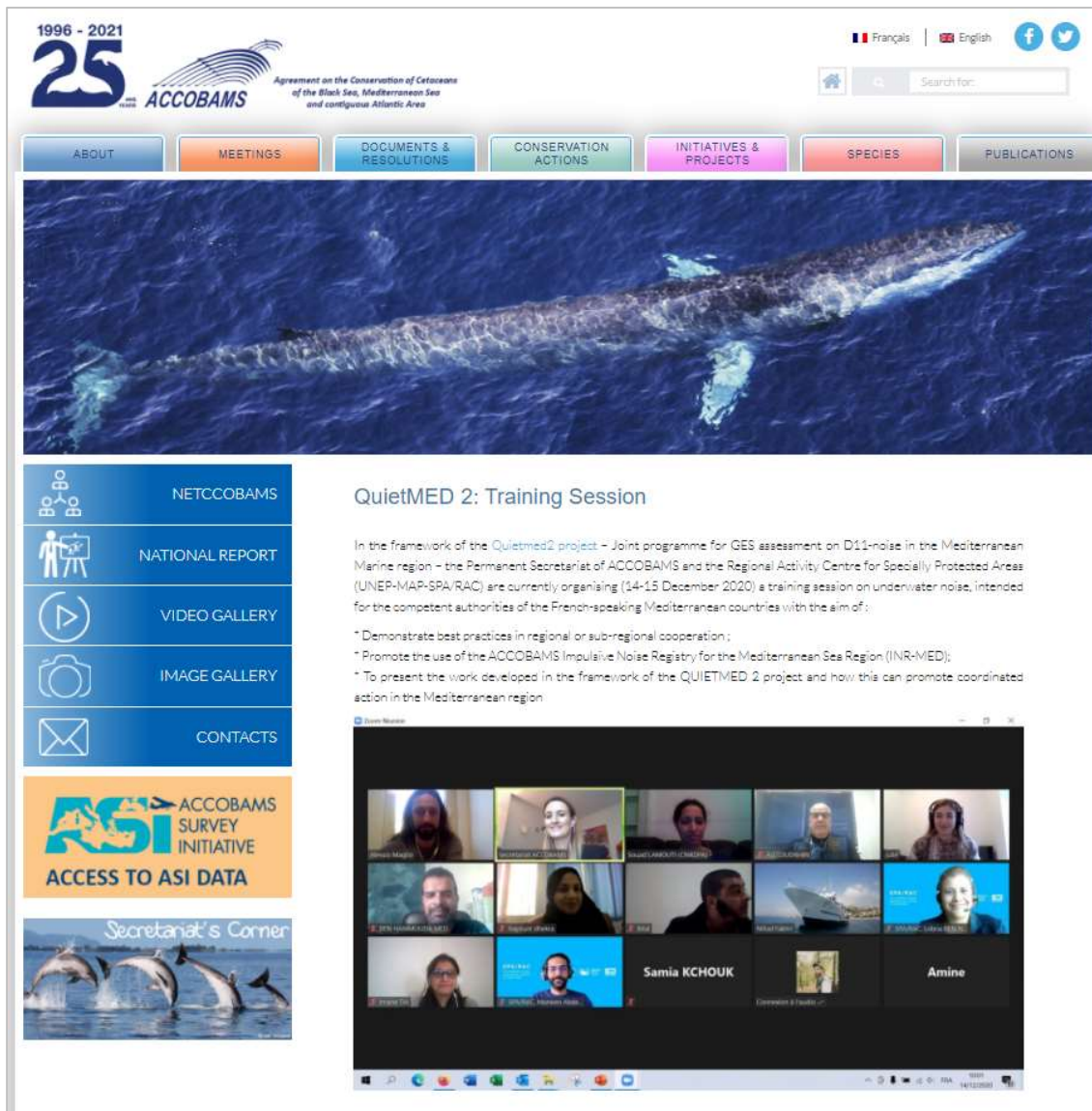


Figure 24. ACCOBAMS website publication

- Factsheets for National Focal Points



Figure 25. Factsheets

3.4.3. Other dissemination actions

- IQOE Science Committee endorsed QUIETMED2 Project.

The IQOE (International Quiet Ocean Experiment) Science Committee endorsed the QUIETMED2 Project in May 2019. Endorsed projects will be expected to help develop and follow standards for research and observations, to help develop and follow the IQOE data policy, and to work together with other projects with shared goals: <https://www.iqoe.org/projects/quietmed2-joint-programme-ges-assessment-d11-noise-mediterranean-marine-region>

QUIETMED2: Joint programme for GES assessment on D11-noise in the Mediterranean Marine Region

International Quiet Ocean Experiment

HOME

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS

THEMES

PRODUCTS

WORKSHOPS

WORKING GROUPS

ENDORSED PROJECTS

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The IQOE Science Committee approved QUIETMED2 in May 2019. This project will support the implementation of the second cycle of the European Union's Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). QUIETMED2 aims to support EU Member States' Competent Authorities to assess the extent to which GES on Descriptor 11-Underwater noise has been achieved in the Mediterranean Region by providing practical outcomes to implement the new GES Decision through

1. a joint proposal of a candidate for an impulsive noise indicator in the Mediterranean Region;
2. a common methodology for Competent Authorities to establish threshold values on impulsive noise in the Mediterranean region;
3. a data and information tool to support the implementation of the monitoring programmes of impact of impulsive noise based on the current joint impulsive noise register developed under QUIETMED project which will be demonstrated on;
4. an operational pilot of the tool; and
5. several activities to boost current regional cooperation efforts of the Barcelona Convention developing new Mediterranean Region cooperation measures.

The QUIETMED2 consortium is made up of 11 entities (including two National Authorities) from 8 EU Member States (Spain, Italy, Malta, Greece, Cyprus, Croatia, Slovenia and Denmark). The consortium is linked to the Barcelona Convention (UNEP/MAP) and to other Conventions as OSPAR and HELCOM. This project supports the cooperation needs of all EU Member States' competent authorities in the Mediterranean Marine Region in their implementation of the next 6-year cycle of MSFD to address it together in a coherent manner.

See <http://quietmed2.eu/>.

ACoustic OBSERVING SYSTEMS

ACoustic DATA PORTAL

LITERATURE LIBRARY

MARINE ANIMAL SOUNDS

IQOE EMAIL LIST SIGN-UP

PARTICIPANTS

USEFUL LINKS

Science Committee

Individuals & Organizations

Websites & Projects

Reports & Articles

Figure 26. IQOE website

- IQOE has included updates from QUIETMED2 in their Newsletters.

The second year of Jonopans is crucial for the project. All activities are now in full swing and Jonopans scientists are enthusiastically working on the results. Most of the 14 measurement stations around the North Sea are now operational and data will be gathered for all seasons in 2019. In addition, the first soundscapes maps are being produced through propagation modelling.

In the first half of 2019, the development of the GES tool resulted in great progress. Michael Gerdler Ltd. was contracted to build the tool and in a very animated workshop the functionality of the tool was further detailed. After a short delay in 2018, the tool is now on track again.

Apart from the technical developments, the future use of Jonopans results is being discussed with the marine managers of all participating countries. In this way, the results can be adapted to the needs of the marine managers and the system can be made operational shortly after the project's end.

Jonopans participated in the Aquatic Noise conference in The Hague from 7 to 12 July and organized (in co-operation with IQOE) two workshops on monitoring underwater sound on 13 July also in The Hague.

On 8 October, the Jonopans Midterm event will be held in London. This will be an opportunity to meet the Jonopans team, discuss the progress of Jonopans, the connection with other projects and learn more about sound in the sea. More information can be found shortly in our newsletter and on the Jonopans website (www.aquaticnoise.eu/jonopans).

PHYSIC: PORTS, HUMPBACKS, Y SOUNDSCAPES IN COLOMBIA

Contributed by Kerri Seger: "During the month of May, two students at Javeriana University in Bogotá continued data analysis to assemble time series of sound sources at the Muro Mico site. These students also submitted an abstract to the Sentinel conference in Barranquilla, Colombia, in October to practice their presentation skills and take ownership over processing cyclical sound comparisons in the dataset. Also during the month of May, Dr. Kerri Seger (PHYSIC PI) processed the Ecological Acoustic Recorder (EAR) sound samples as power spectral density percentiles. A diel cycle in humpback whale singing activity, with nighttime peaks, was easily discernible. Boat passes were only detectable in the 99th percentile, confirming expectations that this environment is relatively pristine compared with many other passive acoustic monitoring sites in more disturbed areas of the world, where boat engine noise occurs in lower percentiles more often. These results have been requested by numerous local councils and university groups writing a manifesto to petition the Colombian government not to proceed with port construction. These results were also disseminated at the Acoustical Society of America conference in Louisville, Kentucky, with Dr. Chris Verlinden presenting on the behalf of Dr. Seger, who was unable to attend. Journalists and filming agencies from the UK and Colombia have asked for statements about the soundscapes of the Gulf of Tribuigi during the last few weeks. Planning for the 2019 season began in May 2019."

quietMED2

QUIETMED2: JOINT PROGRAMME FOR GES ASSESSMENT ON DESCRIPTOR 11-NOISE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN MARINE REGION (2019-2021)

The IQOE Science Committee approved endorsement of QUIETMED2 in May 2019. This project will support implementation of the second cycle of the European Union's Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). QUIETMED2 will assess the extent to which Good Environmental Status (GES) on underwater noise has been achieved in the Mediterranean Region. "The project will help implement this GES standard through

- i) a joint proposal of a candidate for an impulsive noise indicator in the Mediterranean Region;
- ii) a common methodology for Competent Authorities to establish threshold values on impulsive noise in the Mediterranean region;
- iii) a data and information tool to support the implementation of the monitoring programs of impact of impulsive noise based on the current joint impulsive noise register developed under QUIETMED project, which will be demonstrated on
- iv) an operational pilot of the tool; and
- v) several activities to boost regional cooperation efforts of the Barcelona Convention. (from endorsement proposal)"

The QUIETMED2 consortium is made up of 11 entities from 8 EU Member States (Spain, Italy, Malta, Greece, Cyprus, Croatia, Slovenia and Denmark) and is linked to the Barcelona Convention (UNEP/MAP) and to other Conventions as OSPAR and HELCOM. This project will help all EU Member States cooperate in the Mediterranean Marine Region to implement the next 6-year cycle of MSFD requirements. See <http://quietmed2.eu/>.

University (Daniel Moreno) did field work this year to record dolphins, to make the first wildlife catalogue of the Gulf of Tribuigi for his undergrad thesis. Moving to professional members of the PHYSIC collaboration, Dr. Natalia Botero, who runs the field site, hosted scientists from the Southern Ocean Persistent Organic Pollutants Program (SOPPOP) lab at Griffith University (Australia) for a month of drone and biopsy work. Natalia is in the final phases of securing a Fulbright scholarship to work at the University of California at Santa Cruz to learn to process biopsies from whales for stress hormones.

After triple and quadruple checking the PSD percentiles and calibrations of the hydrophones deployed on the Ecological Acoustic Recorders (EARs) from Morro Mico, it was concluded that the noise floor at this location is down around 52 dB, due to the protected location of the hydrophones, and the surrounding bathymetry and substrate type. Data from the Naquis site (immediately outside the town where boat traffic is concentrated) remain to be processed to characterize the variability in sound levels in the Gulf of Tribuigi."

- QUIETMED2 (<http://quietmed2.eu/>)—From Marta Sanchez: "The first of two workshops planned with the joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS Noise Working Group was convened on 25-26 June 2019 in Monaco with QUIETMED2 partners to discuss a proposal for an impulsive noise indicator for the Mediterranean Sea region. This indicator will provide quantitative metrics for the risk of impact from impulsive noise to assess the effect of the noise pressure. On the basis of the work developed at European Commission level by the Technical Group on Noise (TG Noise) and the OSPAR Convention, several sessions were devoted to define technical aspects such as the indicator metric, assessment approaches, baseline and reference levels, and assessment criteria. Furthermore, the applicability in the Mediterranean Sea Region and the difficulties and barriers at national and regional levels were tackled. After this first joint exercise to develop the indicator, a second workshop with the joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS Noise Working Group will be held in January 2020, in the Marine Technology Centre (CTM), in Spain.

In addition, one of the main objectives of the project is to liaise with National Authorities to support them in the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. With this aim, the QUIETMED2 project has organized the workshop "Training Session to Better Manage Underwater Noise Pollution in the Mediterranean Region" during the World Marine Mammal Conference on 7 December 2019 in Barcelona, Spain. The aim of this training workshop is to support the assessment of Good Environmental Status (GES)

with regard to underwater noise pollution [Descriptor 11 of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive] in the Mediterranean Region. The main activities during this workshop will be to provide training on the ACCOBAMS International Impulsive Noise Register for the Mediterranean Sea Region and review the GES assessment and presentation of existing approaches and solutions for the management of underwater noise pollution impacting marine biodiversity. This training session is intended not only for European competent authorities, but also for non-European authorities to boost cooperation at Mediterranean level."

- SanctSound (<https://sanctsound.noaa.gov/science/monitoring/sound/>)—From Leila Hatch: "SanctSound is a multi-year effort, co-managed by the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Navy, to monitor underwater sound within the U.S. National Marine Sanctuary System. In late 2018 to early 2019, recorders were placed at 28 of the project's 30 monitoring locations within seven national marine sanctuaries and one marine national monument. Twenty-six of these locations are serviced about 3 times/year, while 4 locations in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument are serviced annually. Additional data collection efforts are underway/planned for fall-winter 2019, including listening glider surveys in Gray's Reef and Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuaries off the U.S. east coast, and in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Pacific Ocean. Several sites are integrating recording efforts with telemetry infrastructure, and supplementary tagging of seabird species as well as receiver maintenance was underway in summer-fall 2019. The first six months of

Locations of SanctSound observations (from <https://sanctsound.noaa.gov/science/monitoring/sound/>)



Newsletter 6: https://scor-int.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/6_IQOE_Newsletter_FINAL.pdf

4. Communication and dissemination materials

4.1. Templates

The templates that have been prepared to disseminate the results of the project are listed in the following sections:

4.1.1. Agenda

Format to systematize the agenda of the project events.

Co-funded by the European Union

QUIETMED2 – Joint programme for GES assessment on D11- noise in the Mediterranean Marine Region.

quietMED₂

Agenda

Title, Location
Month Dayth, Year

Call: DG ENV/MSFD 201
Grant Agreement: No. 11.0661/2016/748066/SUB/ENV.C2

List of participants:

No	Participant organization name	Participant short name	Country
1	Centro Tecnológico Naval y del Mar	CTN	Spain
2	Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area	ACCOBAMS	Monaco
3	Department of Fisheries and Marine Research	DFMR	Cyprus
4	Ustanova za vodne inšpekcije Slovenije /Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia	IZVRS	Slovenia
5	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research	HCMR	Greece
6	Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	IOF	Croatia
7	University of Malta -The Conservation Biology Research Group	UM	Malta
8	Politecnico di Milano-Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering	POLIMI-DICA	Italy
9	Special Secretariat for Water-Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy	SSW	Greece
10	Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre	SFA/RAC	Tunisia
11	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea	ICES	Denmark

Agenda Title, Location: 1/3 DG ENV/MSFD 2018

quietMED₂

Agenda

Item	Starting time	Issue	Speaker

Pre-attendance list

Name	Company	E-mail Address
Noelia Ortega	CTN	nortega@ctnaval.com

Agenda Month Dayth, Year: 2/3 DG ENV/MSFD 2018

Figure 28. Template for events agenda

4.1.2. Deliverable

In addition to the standardized format, it includes the usual sections that are part of this type of documents.

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**QUIETMED2 – Joint programme for GES assessment on D11-
noise in the Mediterranean Marine Region.**

quietMED2

DELIVERABLE

D X.X. Name of deliverable

Deliverable:	Name of deliverable
Document Number:	QUIETMED2 – D.X.X
Delivery date:	DDth Month YYYY
Call:	DG ENV/MSFD 2018
Grant Agreement:	No. 110661/2018/794481/SUB/ENV.C2

List of participants:

No	Participant organization name	Participant short name	Country
1	Centro Tecnológico Naval y del Mar	CTN	Spain
2	Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area	ACCOBAMS	Monaco
3	Department of Fisheries and Marine Research	DFMR	Cyprus
4	Institut za vodo Republike Slovenije/Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia	IZVRS	Slovenia
5	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research	HCMR	Greece
6	Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	IOF	Croatia
7	University of Malta -The Conservation Biology Research Group	UM	Malta
8	Politecnico di Milano-Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering	POLIMI-DICA	Italy
9	Special Secretariat for Water-Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy	SSW	Greece
10	Specialty Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre	SPA/RAC	Tunisia
11	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea	ICES	Denmark

D.X.X. Name of deliverable: _____ / SUB / _____ DG ENV/MSFD 2018

quietMED2

DISSEMINATION LEVEL

PU: Public

PP: Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)

RE: Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)

CO Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)

x

Date	Revision version	Company/Organization	Name and Surname
	Draft0	CTN	Noelia Ortega
	Draft0	CTN	Marta Sánchez

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D.X.X. Name of deliverable: _____ / SUB / _____ DG ENV/MSFD 2018

Figure 29. Deliverable Template (I)

quietMED2

Abstract

This document is the Deliverable "D.X.X. Name of deliverable (date of deliverable)" of the QUIETMED2 project funded by the DG Environment of the European Commission within the call "DG ENV/MSFD 2018 call". This call funds projects to support the implementation of the second cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC) (hereinafter referred to as MSFD), in particular to implement the new GES Decision (Commission Decision (EU) 2017/848 of 17 May 2017 laying down criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised methods for monitoring and assessment, and repealing Decision 2010/477/EU) and Programmes of Measures according Article 13 of the MSFD. The QUIETMED2 project aims to support Member States Competent Authorities in the Assessment of the extent to which GES on Descriptor 11-Underwater noise has been achieved in the Mediterranean Region by providing practical outcomes to implement the new GES Decision through: i) a joint proposal of a candidate for an impulsive noise indicator in the Mediterranean Region ii) a common methodology for Competent Authorities to establish thresholds values, together with associated lists of elements and integration rules, iii) a data and information tool to support the implementation of the monitoring programmes of impact of impulsive noise based on the current ACCOBAMS joint register which will be demonstrated on iv) an operational pilot of the tool and v) several activities to boost current regional cooperation efforts of Barcelona Convention developing new Mediterranean Region cooperation measures.

This confidential document reports **XXX**.

D.X.X. Name of deliverable: _____ / SUB / _____ DG ENV/MSFD 2018

quietMED2

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Table 3. Table with column and row headings 8

D.X.X. Name of deliverable: _____ / SUB / _____ DG ENV/MSFD 2018

Figure 30. Deliverable Template (II)

4.1.3. Minutes

Format to standardize meeting minutes.

Co-funded by the
European Union

**QUIETMED2 – Joint programme for GES assessment on D11-
noise in the Mediterranean Marine Region.**

MINUTES

Title, Location
Month Dayth, Year

Title:	Title, Location on Date
Document Number:	WPX_NIN_LOCATION_DDMMYYYY
Delivery date:	DD/MM/YYYY
Call:	DG ENV/MSFD 2018
Grant Agreement:	No. 110661/2018/794481/SUB/ENV.C2

List of participants:

No	Participant organization name	Participant short name	Country
1	Centro Tecnológico Naval y del Mar	CTN	Spain
2	Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area	ACCOBAMS	Monaco
3	Department of Fisheries and Marine Research	DFMR	Cyprus
4	Inštitut za vodne Republika Slovenija /Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia	IZVRS	Slovenia
5	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research	HCMR	Greece
6	Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	IOF	Croatia
7	University of Malta-The Conservation Biology Research Group	UM	Malta
8	PoliM-DICA Milano-Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering	POLIMI-DICA	Italy
9	Special Secretariat for Water-Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy	SSW	Greece
10	Specialty Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre	SPA/RAC	Tunisia
11	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea	ICES	Denmark

Title, Location: / X/YB / DG ENV/MSFD 2018

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Title, Location: / X/YB / DG ENV/MSFD 2018

Figure 31. Minutes template

4.1.4. Meeting invitation

Available template for partners to invite other agents to project meetings.


			
<hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/> <p>INVITATION TO THE MEETINGS OF THE QUIETMED2 PROJECT</p> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>			
<p>You are cordially invited to attend the meeting of the QUIETMED2 - Joint programme for GES assessment on D11- noise in the Mediterranean Marine Region. The overall activities concerning QUIETMED2 will be discussed and outlined. This meeting will also be a good opportunity to get to know each other and to engage in deeper conversation with the team.</p> <p>The meeting will be held on Xth of X at XX:XX. Please see the attached agenda for further information.</p> <p>Your interest and contribution to this important issue will be highly appreciated!</p> <p>Please confirm your attendance by e-mail celiamurcia@ctnaval.com or on the following phone number +34968197521 no later than DATE. If you need further information of assistance do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>We hope to see you there!</p> <p>Kind regards, XXXXXXXXXX</p>			
<table style="width: 100%; border-top: 1px dashed black;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border-right: 1px dashed black; padding-top: 5px;">MEETING INVITATION</td> <td style="padding-top: 5px;">DG ENV/MSFD.2018</td> </tr> </table>		MEETING INVITATION	DG ENV/MSFD.2018
MEETING INVITATION	DG ENV/MSFD.2018		

Figure 32. Meeting invitation template

4.1.5. Guide of use for the templates



Figure 33. Guide of use for the templates

4.1.6. Policy brief



Figure 34. Policy brief template

4.2. Promotional materials

The promotional materials have been designed to be used by project partners to disseminate the project information and expected results. Furthermore, this material is available to be downloaded on the project website: <https://quietmed2.eu/material/>

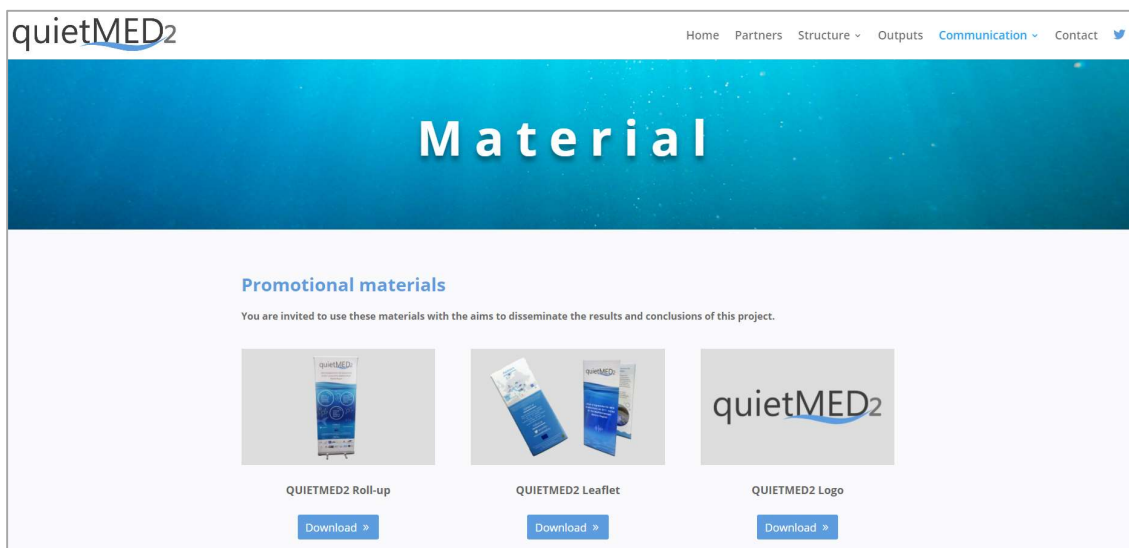


Figure 35. Material section on the Project website

4.2.1. Roll-up

Two roll-ups with the project summary have been prepared to be used during internal and external events (project meetings, workshops, participation in conferences, etc.). At the beginning of the project, one of them was sent to ACCOBAMS to be used in their local events.



Figure 36. QUIETMED2 Roll-up

4.2.2. Leaflet

The leaflet with key information about the QUIETMED2 project has been prepared to be distributed during partners' participation in external events. Moreover, some copies of this printed material were sent to partners to be distributed during the celebration of their local meetings in the framework of the QUIETMED2 Project.



Figure 37. QUIETMED2 Leaflet

5. Networking

The consortium of QUIETMED2 project has attended 13 conferences, events, and workshops.

- EU project CeNOBS - Work Package 3: Assessing and supporting the development of D11 monitoring in the Black Sea. Kick off meeting: Brussels, 12th February 2019.
- Workshop “Joint GFCM/OceanCare workshop on Anthropogenic Underwater Noise and impacts on fish, invertebrates and fish resources” Rome, 21st–22nd February 2019.
- Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution of the Barcelona Convention. Podgorica, 2nd-3rd April 2019.
- ACCOBAMS workshop during the 5th International Conference on Marine Mammal Protected Areas. Messina, 9th April 2019.
- 13th TG Noise meeting & workshop on thresholds. Heraklion, 9th-10th April 2019.
- MEDREGION- Kick off meeting and Stakeholders. Athens, 11th April 2019.
- OCEANS 2019. Marseille, 20th June 2019.
- JOMOPANS project Midterm Event. London, 8th October 2019.
- 14th TG Noise meeting & workshop. Brussels, 15th-16th October 2019.
- JPI Oceans Workshop “Underwater noise in the marine environment”. Rome, 13th-14th January 2020.
- INDICIT-II project. Midterm meeting. On-line, 15th January 2020.
- JONAS project. Underwater Noise Workshop. On-line, 12th-13th March 2020.
- TG Noise meeting. On-line, 6th October 2020.



Figure 38. Events attended

6. Workshops and Training sessions

The workshops and training sessions have been another communication activity with the goal of increasing regional synergies and coordination with EU & non-EU countries.

Two workshops, two training sessions and an on-line meeting have been organised during the whole development of the project:

1st Workshop with the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS noise working group. Monaco, 25th and 26th June 2019.

The partners of QUIETMED2 project were celebrating a 2 days' Workshop with the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS noise working group to discuss a joint proposal of a candidate for an impulsive noise indicator in the Mediterranean Sea Region. At the first day, Nathan Merchant from Cefas Noise presented the background and latest news from OSPAR process on candidate impact indicator.

This workshop was attended by **20 participants**, including the project partners, the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS noise working group members and the representative of Cefas Noise.



Figure 39. 1st Workshop with the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS noise working group

Training session for Competent Authorities to better implement the new GES decision. Barcelona, 7th and 8th December 2019.

QUIETMED2 project organised the workshop “Training Session to Better Manage Underwater Noise Pollution in the Mediterranean Region” in the context of the World Marine Mammal Conference (WMMC19). The aim of this training session was to support the assessment of Good Environmental Status (GES) with regards to underwater noise pollution (Descriptor 11 of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive) in the Mediterranean Region.

In all, **41 participants** attended this training-workshop, including 18 competent authorities and/or national representatives from **8 EU Countries and 9 no EU countries**.



Figure 40. Training session for Competent Authorities

2nd Workshop with the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS noise working group. Murcia, 28th and 29th January 2020.

Following the first workshop performed in June 2019 in Monaco, a second workshop with the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS noise working group was organised at CTN facilities with all project partners to discuss a joint proposal of a candidate for an impulsive noise indicator in the Mediterranean Sea Region.

The second day of workshop was led by the Authority Port of Cartagena. During this session, the main topic of discussion was the presentation of the proposal of a methodology to establish thresholds in the Mediterranean Sea Region and the alignment with the work developed by the TG Noise.

QUIETMED2 project partners and some of the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS noise working group members attended this second workshop, making a total of **19 participants**.



Figure 41. 2nd Workshop with the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAMS noise working group

Training session for Competent Authorities from Member States to support the implementation of the marine Strategy Framework New regionally coordinated measures. On-line, 10th and 11th September 2020

QUIETMED2 project organised an on-line training session for Competent Authorities from Member States to support the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) to establish new regionally-coordinated measures related to underwater noise pollution in the Mediterranean Sea Region. All QUIETMED2 partners and EU & non-EU representatives participated in this workshop. The aim of this workshop was to provide specific guidance for EU Member States to establish new measures concerning the risk of impact caused by underwater noise on marine mammals and collect feedback from Competent Authorities.

Participants represented:

- Competent Authorities from 11 countries
- TG Noise
- UNEP-MAP (SPA/RAC, MedPOL focal point, MAP focal point).
- Intergovernmental Agreement (ACCOBAMS).
- Entities to support the implementation (Research centres, universities...)



Figure 42. Training Session to establish new regionally-coordinated measures

Workshop to present the main results of the QUIETMED2 Project. On-line, 14th and 15th January 2021.

QUIETMED2 project organised an on-line meeting to share and explain the main results of the project. The different items presented during the workshop are listed below:

- Recommendations for Member States to better implement the new GES decision.
- Recommendations for Member States to establish new regionally and coordinated measures.
- Proposal framework for a risk-based assessment of impulsive noise.
- Tool for impulsive underwater noise monitoring and assessment.
- Competent Authorities engagement.
- Methodology to establish thresholds in the Mediterranean Sea Region.
- Set of cetacean species representative at national, subregional and regional level in the Mediterranean Region.
- Boosting the use of the impulsive noise register in the Mediterranean Sea Region.



Figure 43. Presentation of main results

7. Indicators

For the evaluation of communication activities and actions, different indicators were established at the beginning of the project. Expected indicators during the whole development of the project and the obtained results are listed in the tables below:

Statistics of the webpage	Number proposed	Number achieved
Visits	2.000	4.115
Users	1.000	1.062
Pages viewed per session	1.6	2.42
Sessions	900	1.698
Session duration	00:01:30	00:02:08

Table 1. Statistics of the webpage

Statistics of the Social Network (Twitter)	Number proposed	Number achieved
Followers	900	630
Tweets	800	497
Mentions	100	not available
Profile visits	1000	not available
Likes	950	not available

Table 2. Statistics of the Social Network

Statistics of other actions	Number proposed	Number achieved
Mass Media (Press)	8	8
Newsletter	4	3
Events and Workshops	10	18

Table 3. Statistics of other actions

In short, the statistics of the webpage have overcome the targets proposed in the Dissemination and Communication Plan with ideal results. The Project webpage has been the main communication tool to spread the advances and main results of the Project to the different target groups.

The indicators established to measure Twitter impact have been more difficult to achieve because in last months the Project has participated in fewer events and workshops due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This situation has affected the number of publications and Twitter activity has decreased. Furthermore, the Project has not reached the indicators proposed in the beginning. Also, statistics like mentions, profile visits and likes could not be measured.

Finally, the indicators proposed at the beginning of the Project for other dissemination actions have been also achieved. As commented in the Newsletter part of the Deliverable, Newsletter four is scheduled to be sent after the Final Meeting to announce the closure of the QUIETMED2 Project.