



## I.FAST Governing Board – meeting #3

21 April 2023

*NH Hotel – Trieste, Italy*

I.FAST beneficiaries and partner organizations present or represented:

See attendance list at the end of the document (present in person or online, and proxies).

Agenda and presentations available on Indico:

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1257964/>

### **1. Welcome, verification of the quorum and approval of agenda**

The Chair of the Governing Board (GB), J.M. Perez, opens the meeting and welcomes the participants.

The Project Coordinator, M. Vretenar, checks the presence of beneficiaries and partner organizations. As the 2/3 quorum of the GB is confirmed and the agenda approved, the meeting can begin.

### **2. Report from the Coordinator and feedback from the 1<sup>st</sup> Period Review**

M. Vretenar presents the status of the project at end of April 2023 (M24): the second year is completed, halfway through the project.

- The Periodic Report #1 (18 months) was prepared in October-December 2022 and submitted in January 2023,

- A Scientific Review was organized on 9 February 2023,

- The acceptance letter from EC for P1 payments was received on 12 April 2023.

Next Periodic Report (P2) will cover M18-M36 and has to be submitted in June 2024, preparation will start in March-April 2024.

M. Vretenar presents the overall assessment for P1 and the recommendations concerning the future work. Some graphics presenting the status of Deliverables and Milestones are shown including some delays mostly due to personnel issues and to impact of the recent increase in



inflation and material prices. The problems related to the increase of material and energy costs have a strong impact on a prototyping project like I.FAST and have required some redistribution of work between partners to reduce costs, increasing however the risk level.

The Project Coordinators presents 4 selected highlights of the first two I.FAST years:

- Additive-Manufactured RFQ
- Challenge Based Innovation
- I.FAST Innovation Fund
- Industry participation

### **3. Report from the Scientific Advisory Committee**

C. Welsh on behalf of the SAC members gives feedback on the I.FAST Annual Meeting regarding subjects like Industry Innovations, Advanced Accelerators, Sustainability, Applied Science and Society, Outreach and Communications, Training and Support.

The conclusions are positive, and some suggestions are given to improve diversity, connection, and visibility of the project. Initiatives to ensure the continuity of the project are encouraged.

### **4. Report on the Innovation Fund, outcome of the electronic votes, updates**

C. Levointurier-Vajda (on behalf of M. Losasso, I.FAST WP4 Coordinator) presents the IFF, Innovation Fund overview:

- 8 projects selected
- 1,235M euros of funding
- 10 beneficiaries including 4 industrial beneficiaries
- 4 new partners organisations including 2 industrial partners

The results of the electronic vote organized in Jan-Feb 2023 are reminded:

- Redistribution of EC Funding from CERN to the 10 I.FAST Beneficiaries (9+CERN) that will execute the Project is approved.
- Accession of 4 new Partners Organisations: CSIC, Ceraco, HZDR, SBI is approved.

A few changes and updates since the electronic vote are presented, as well as the detailed budget distribution for the different projects. The changes should be approved through a vote.

**Vote/Decision:**

- **Change of Partner joining for Project 2 from Ceraco to KCT.**
- **Budget redistribution for Project 3: 90Keuros from VDL-ETG to PSI.**
- **Inclusion of Ecole Polytechnique (EP) as Linked Third Party of CNRS and budget redistribution (Amendment of the GA, Art.14 and Annex2) for Project 4: 92Keuros transferred from CNRS to EP (CNRS LTP).**

**The package is approved.**

The next steps to be done by Project leaders are presented:

- An Interim Technical Reporting which will be needed at M35 (March 2024): 1 interim report for each project summarizing the progress of the project, the achieved Milestones and Deliverables and the foreseen activities.
- A Final Technical Reporting will be needed at M47 (March 2025) with the same requests regarding the entire duration of the projects, and a focus on achieved results and technical breakthroughs, wide impact of the project, including commercial/industrial exploitation if any and contribution to accelerator sustainability.

Financial reporting and payment schedule will differ between Beneficiaries and Partners:

- For Beneficiaries:
  - o Reporting: aligned with periodic reporting P2 and P3 (financial statements)
  - o Payment: pre-financing Spring/Summer 2023, then aligned with periodic reporting P2 and P3 timeline
- For Partners:
  - o Reporting: yearly reporting Y3 and Y4 (IRUS).
  - o Payment: pre-financing Spring/Summer 2023 subject to accession document and letter of commitment signatures, then aligned with yearly reporting Y3 and Y4 timeline.

The interim and final payments for Partners are listed and have to be approved:

**Vote/Decision:**

- **The interim (20%) and final payment (30%) for Partner organisations to be done based on financial and technical reporting is approved.**



## 5. Financial Report at end of Period 1

C. Levointurier-Vajda presents:

- the current contractual situation including the voted modifications
- the P1 reporting timeline
- the status of use of resources in P1 per WP
- the status of resources in P1 per Beneficiary
- the timeline of EC payments in I.FAST
- the P1 interim payment calculation and vote on methodology
- the next steps including Y2 reporting for Partners

### **Vote/Decision:**

- **The P1 interim payment calculation as presented is approved.**

## 6. Proposal for redistribution of work and EC contribution in WP8 following the withdrawal of two partners

E. De Matteis, WP8 Coordinator presents the status of WP8 especially in Task 8.4 and 8.5. He announces the withdrawal of two companies (BNG and Scanditronix) in Task 8.4 due to increase of costs and lack of matching funds. After investigations CIEMAT is ready to take care of the task 8.4 at the same conditions. In Task 8.5 ELYTT is going to take of 100% of the task following the withdrawal of BNG.

Some delays in Deliverables and Milestones are expected due to these changes and the workplan of the tasks has to be modified. The budget should also be reassigned according to the new workplan.

The names of the new Task Leaders are presented.

### **Vote/Decision:**

- **The GB is requested to vote on the change of responsible beneficiary for Taks 8.4 and 8.5 and to approve the reassignment of budget from BNG and Scanditronix to CIEMAT and ELYTT. The requests are approved.**



## **7. Proposal for budget reallocations relative to Industrial Training grants**

T. Ekelöf, Task Leader of Task 2.4, present the situation of the Industrial Training Grants. Three I.FAST Academia-Industry exchanges applications are granted until March 2023.

The Programme has been now modified, to offer the opportunity for both a company to send an engineer or technician for one or several visits to one of the I.FAST institutes, or for an I.FAST laboratory to send a scientist, engineer or technician to a company. A grant can be requested for financing the exchange which should help on transfer between the two parties in term of knowledge, expertise and working practices. The selected participants for the three initial grants are:

- FREIA / Uppsala, Sweden and Leijenaar Electronics from Netherlands
- CERN, Switzerland and THALES AVS, France
- CERN, Switzerland and Percy Roc, Uppsala, Sweden

The relative funds have to be reallocated from CERN, which is the depository of Task 2.4 budget, to the selected institutions. A detailed list is presented.

### **Vote/Decision:**

- **A proposal for budget reallocation relative to these grants and between the participants is proposed. The request is approved.**

## **8. Election of the Governing Board Chair for the period 01.05.2023-30.04.2025**

M. Vretenar the Project Coordinator reminds that the actual GB Chair José Manuel Perez was elected for 2 years. It is now time to elect a Chair for the remaining part of the project. José Manuel Perez is candidate for another mandate and other propositions were not received.

The Chair of the GB announces his abstention (as representative of CIEMAT) and leaves the room during the vote.

### **Vote/Decision:**

- **Since there are no negative votes and only one abstention, José Manuel Perez is elected for the next 2 years as I.FAST Governing Board Chairperson.**



## 9. AOB

M. Vretenar informs the audience that a meeting of the Programme Committee for the Research Infrastructures Work Programme of Horizon Europe is foreseen in early May. S. Leray has suggested that a statement on the importance of an I.FAST follow-up is shared with some national representatives, to trigger a discussion that could lead to the inclusion of an innovation call during finalization of the 2025-27 Work Programme in 2024. To give more weight to the statement, it proposed to discuss it in the I.FAST GB and to approve it at the meeting. A draft statement recently discussed within the TIARA Committee is presented.

T. Torims thinks that it is an excellent idea and suggests referring to projects, not only one project.

T. Ekelof and R. Geometrante wonder if the endorsement from Industry is relevant or not.

R. Ruprecht suggests distributing the statement to a higher level (Institute Directors) for comments.

A few comments are added. The final statement taking corrections into account is as follows:

“The more than 50 European research institutions and companies contributing to R&D on particle accelerator technologies strongly support the establishment of Pilot INFRA-TECH calls for the 2025/27 Research Infrastructure Work Programme, oriented towards low-TRL exploratory technology developments with strong co-innovation content with industry. A call in this direction will lay the basis for an evolution of accelerator-based Research Infrastructures towards supporting and enlarging their wide user community in a sustainable way, enhancing at the same time their impact on society and on industrial production technologies at the global level, contributing to policies and strategic priorities of the European Union.

On a longer term, the ambition of the accelerator community is to launch a co-funded partnership for accelerator technology, with goals and operation modalities to be coordinated with the priorities of the Commission, directed towards addressing sustainable development goals.”

### **Vote/Decision:**

- **The statement is unanimously approved.**

Before closing the meeting, M. Vretenar reminds that candidate sites for the next Annual Meeting in 2024 should be proposed to him before the end of May 2023. If there are several propositions, a vote will be organized through the Steering Committee to choose location and dates, likely Mid-April 2024 after Easter.

Minutes written by V. Brunner and M. Vretenar

17/05/2023



## Appendix

Attendance list:

1	CERN	LAMONT, Mike	OK
2	ESS	SHEA, Thomas	OK
3	RHP	KITZMANTEL Michael	OK
4	TalTech	OTTO, Tauno	OK
5	BI (BERGOZ)	TOUZAIN Etienne	NO
6	CEA	VEDRINE, Pierre	OK
7	CNRS	KAABI, Walid + LUCOTTE, Arnaud	Proxy
8	SOLEIL	NAGAOKA, Ryutaro	OK
9	THALES	BETHUYS, Stephane	NO
10	BNG (Bilfinger)	Wolfgang Walter	OK
11	BT (BARTHEL)	BARTHEL Matthias	NO
12	DESY	AGAPOV, Ilya	OK
13	GSI	SPILLER, Peter + STADLMANN, Jens	OK
14	HIT	PETERS, Andreas	OK
15	HELMHOLTZ (HZB)	KUGELER, Oliver	NO
16	ILK	SCHNEIDER, Matthias	OK
17	KIT	RUPRECHT, Robert	Proxy
18	UNI SIEGEN	VOGEL, Michael	NO
19	WWU (Munster)	TOMUT Marilena	OK
20	Wigner RCP	BARNA Daniel	OK
21	CNR	GIZZI Leonida	OK
22	COMEB	MACHADO Maria	OK
23	ELETTRA	D'AURIA, Gerardo	OK
24	INFN	DE MATTEIS, Ernesto	OK
24	INFN	BIAGINI Marica	OK
25	KYMA	GEOMETRANTE, Raffaella	OK
26	PICCOLI	PICCOLI Davide	NO
27	POLIMI	VEDANI Maurizio	OK
28	RTU	TORIMS, Toms	Proxy
29	UT (Twente)	DHALLÉ, Marc	NO
30	VDL-ETG	VAN DEN BERG, Miranda	Proxy
31	INCT	CHMIELEWSKI, Andrzej G	OK
32	IEE	MALYSHEV, Oleg	Proxy
33	STU	SAGATOVA, Andrea	OK



34	CIEMAT	PEREZ, Jose M	OK
35	CYCLOMED	PEREZ, Jose M	OK
36	ELYTT	ECHEANDIA, Aitor	NO
37	NNK (NANOKER)	RIVERA, Sergio	OK
38	GE (General Electric)	ERIKSSON, Tomas	OK
39	SCX (Scanditronix)	VIEWEG Mikael	NO
40	UU (Uppsala)	EKELOF, Tord	OK
41	PSI	SEIDEL, Mike	OK
42	DLS (Diamond)	COX, Matthew	OK
43	HUD	VRETENAR, Maurizio	Proxy
44	RHUL	GIBSON, Stephen	OK
45	TMD	RICHARD, Patrick	OK
46	UKRI	MCINTOSH, Peter	OK
47	ULANC	MALYSHEV, Oleg	Proxy
48	UOXF	BURROWS, Philip	OK
49	MEDAUSTRON	KURFUERST, Christoph	OK
50	AMPLITUDE	NEACSU, Catalin	Proxy
51	THALES	SIMONBOISSON, Christophe	OK
52	JGU Mainz	HUG, Florian	NO
53	MIT	ZINK, Klemens	NO
54	CNAO	PULLIA, Marco	OK
55	FTMC	TOMKUS, Vidmantas	OK
56	VMU	PADGURSKAS, Juozas	NO
57	CDTI	PEREZ, Jose Manuel	Proxy
58	UNIGE	SENATORE, Carmine	OK
59	SEIIST	DAMJANOVIC, Sanja	OK
60	HNINP-IFJ-PAN	LESIAK Tadeusz	OK
61	ESI Archamps	RINOLFI, Louis	OK
62	INEUSTAR	FERNANDEZ, Eric	NO
63	FEP fraunhofer	ROEGNER, Frank-Holm	NO