M. Vretenar, CERN, Project Coordinator

14 December 2023

Goals of this Meeting

❑ Give you the latest **information** on the status of I.FAST and the programme for 2024: **Annual Meeting** (April) and **Periodic Report 2** (June).

❑ Report on our **contacts with EC** and on the perspectives for future Accelerator Innovation projects (**beyond I.FAST**).

❑ Take your **feedback** on the status of the work, to identify early potential problems and delays and to give the opportunity to **inform** the I.FAST community on what you are doing.
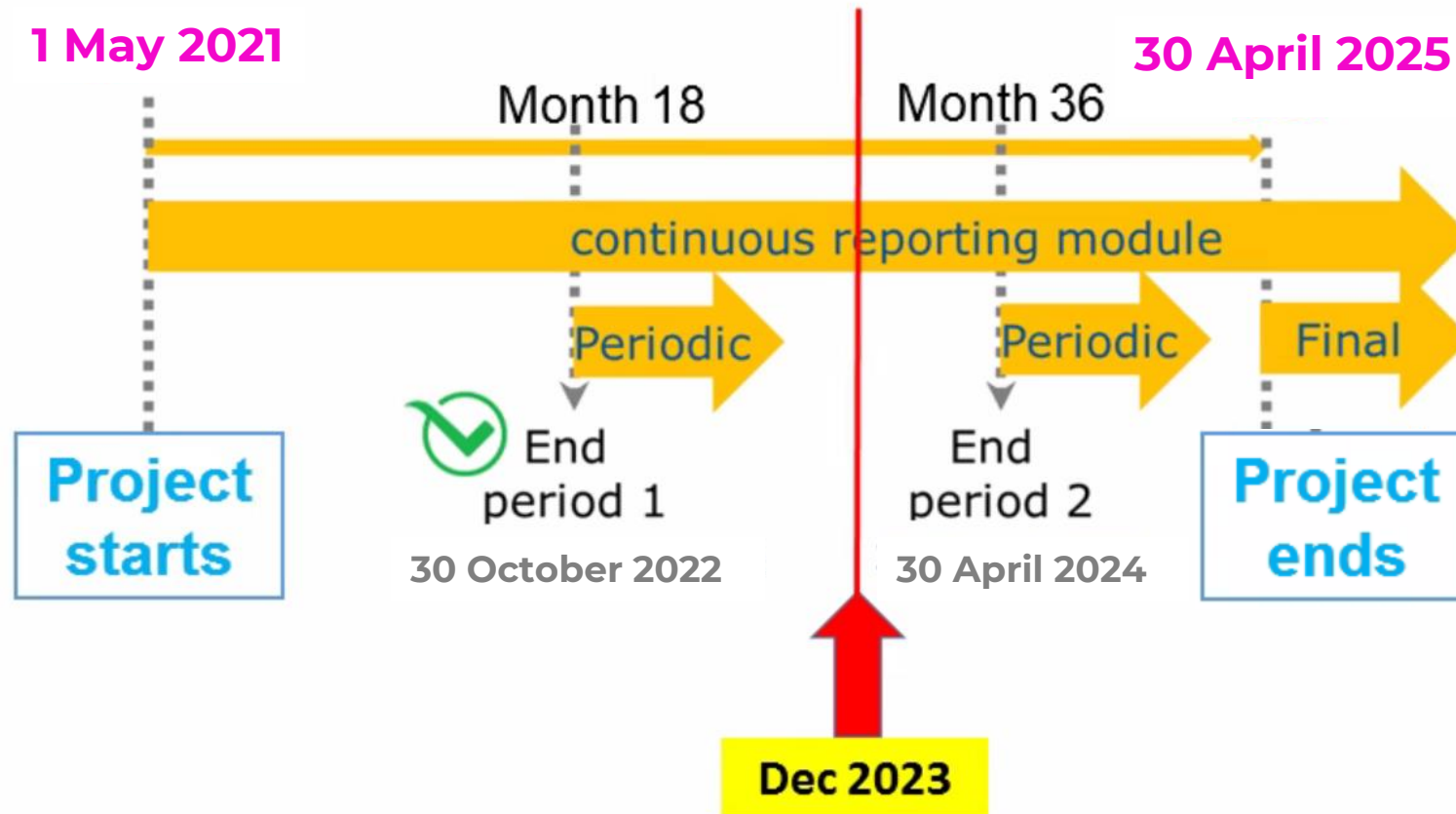
2024 Annual Meeting in Paris (Cité Internationale Universitaire) from Wednesday 17 April to Friday 19 April

Meetings in 2023/24

❑ December 2023: Open Steering Committee meeting with the Task Leaders.

❑ February 2024: Steering Committee meeting for WP Coordinators to finalise programme of Annual Meeting.

❑ April 2024: Annual Meeting (technical progress, SAC, Governing Board, etc.).

❑ June or September 2024: Steering Committee meeting for WP Coordinators: general progress, organisational issues.

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Where are we

We are at M32, 2/3 of the project – approaching the end!

Project status

- Good **progress,** visible in the (delayed…) Deliverables, a bit less in the Milestones.

- Ready for the next challenges: **Annual Meeting** of April 2024 and **2nd periodic Report** with deadline June 2024.

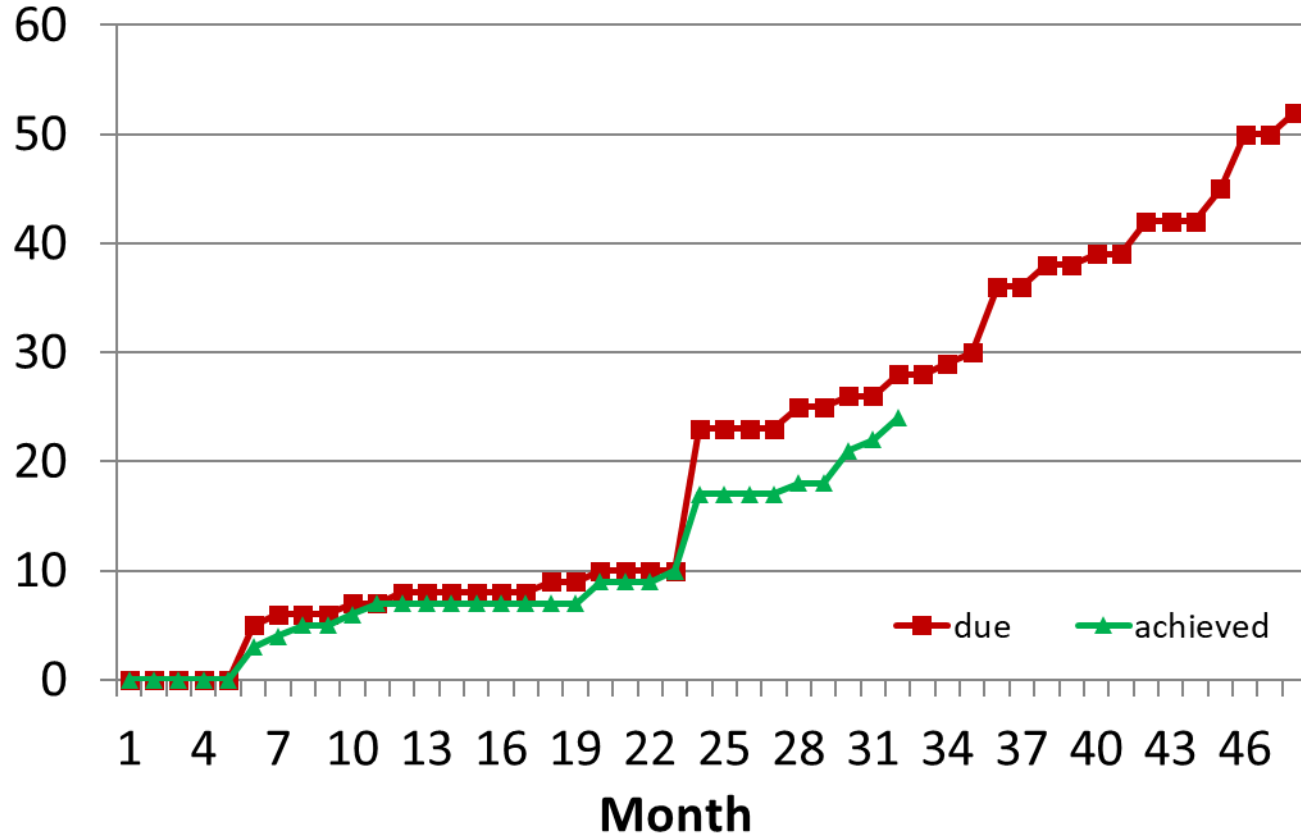**Changes in the I.FAST Coordination**

➢ Ralph Assmann, Coordinator of WP6 (Novel accelerators), has moved from DESY to GSI. Since GSI is not active in the WP, his Deputy Massimo Ferrario (INFN) becomes Coordinator.

➢ Marcello Losasso, Coordinator of WP4 (Managing innovation and new materials) and Deputy, takes an early retirement at the end of 2024. His replacement is under discussion.

To both Ralph and Marcello go our thanks for their successful management of the work packages, and our wishes for the future!

New EC Project Officer (from REA): Sotirios Kakarantzas replaces António Ventura.
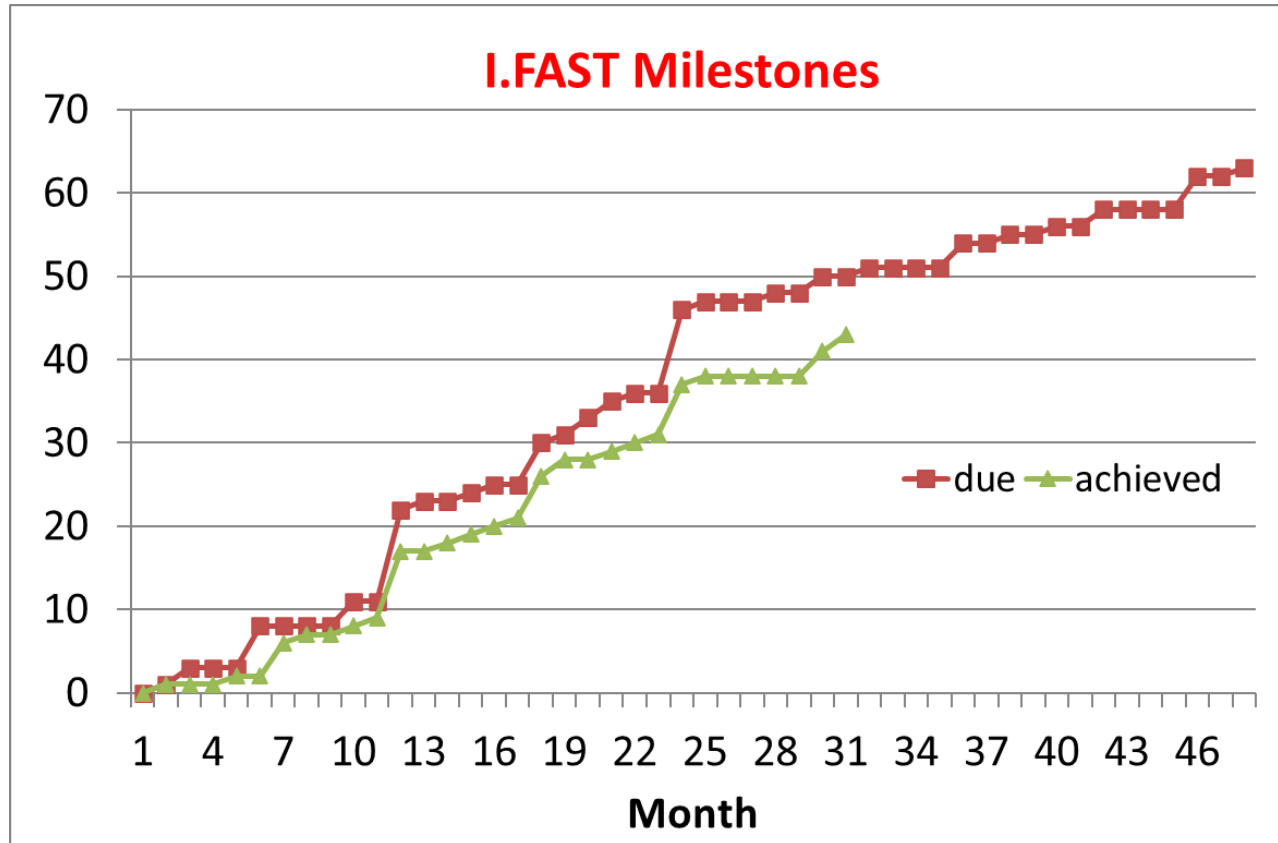
Status of Deliverables

I.FAST Deliverables

(chart showing "due" in red and "achieved" in green, x-axis Month 1–46, y-axis 0–60)

- 4 Deliverables are late. (D2.3, D7.5, D11.3, D4.3). Delays accepted by Project Officer.

- Some additional delays are being announced, please inform us as soon as possible in case you expect a delay.

- Next Deliverables (revised date): D10.5 (Machine learning at ESS) to be delayed to M46, D9.1 (Thin-Film SRF roadmap) in March 24.

- 8 more expected for April 2024: D3.2, D3.3, D6.4, D7.6 (delayed), D10.4, D11.2 (to be confirmed).

Status of Milestones

I.FAST Milestones

7 Milestones late

- MS46 (SC/AM, Pepato) delayed to M30 **no news.**

- MS5 (ACO Workshop), for March?

- MS30 (CompactLight) delayed to M48.

- MS52 (Workshop efficient magnets): delayed to M34.

- MS26 (optics for ELETTRA): coming…

- MS56 delayed to M38

- MS37 (thin film Workshop), delayed to M31 and now to M36.

So far, 7 extended Tasks

Letter sent to REA Officer on 8 May (and accepted on 10.5):

Extended Tasks:

- Task 2.3 Challenge Based Innovation (to M48)

- Task 2.4 Industrial Training associated with Knowledge Transfer (to M36)

- Task 10.4 Development of AM-manufactured SC RF cavities (to M36)

- Task 12.3 Design of internal RF Ion Source for Cyclotrons (to M36)

- Task 13.1 Strategy for development of AMICI TI (to M30)

- Task 13.2 Developing and promoting services to industry (to M30)

- Task 13.3 New RF amplifiers based on GaN (to M36)

Recent additional request from Task 10.6 (Machine learning)
Any other requests to come?

Observations from SAC and actions

SAC Message	Proposed Action
I.FAST (application) technologies to be assessed with regards to a realistic pathway to identified markets and time scales required. Get idea of TRL. Note if developments happening because of I.FAST.	Prepare **list of I.FAST technologies**. **Questionnaire** from WP3: TRL, envisaged pathway, time scale, role of I.FAST.
Diversity: improve gender equality (e.g. at Annual Meeting)	More **female speakers**, **diversity session** at Annual Meeting
Communication: more stories in the web site, I.FAST brand more visible in Workshops	Send **reminder to Task Leaders**
Connection between individual projects/events and wider WP and project not always made clear enough	
CBI: wider promotion and improve diversity	More promotion through universities, approach directly small countries (with sponsors)
Prepare continuation of selected activities after I.FAST	Presentation at Annual Meeting ("Plans for the future")
I.FAST as an information hub for training opportunities	?

Plans for Periodic Report 2

Periodic Report 2 – technical part

- Covers the second **18-month period** (October 2022 – April 2024)

- Must be submitted 2 months after end of period (**30 June 2024**)

❑February-March 2024: templates sent to all **Task Leaders**, with copy to WP Coordinators. To be filled in with a description of activities from October 2022 to April 2024: summary, objectives, description of work, meetings, milestones, deliverables, publications. Usual guidelines: **2/3 pages per Task**!

❑**End of April 2024**: deadline for **sending the contributions to Valérie**, who assembles the WP Sections and sends them to the WP Coordinators for validation.

❑ 15 May 2024: deadline for WP Coordinators to send WP chapters to Valérie.

❑ End of May: complete document sent to WP Coordinators for approval.

❑15 June: Report ready for submission.

I.FAST Annual Meeting

16-19 April, Paris

Social and organisational aspects (Valérie)

Agenda

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Tuesday 16/04	Parallel meetings	**Industry Workshop** (cryogenics)	
Wednesday 17/04	**Industry Workshop** +visit Saclay/Orsay	**Plenary meeting start at 13:30**	Welcome Drink
Thursday 18/04	**Plenary meeting** + Mini-Workshop	**Plenary meeting** + IFF projects	Banquet
Friday 19/04	**Plenary meeting** SAC Report **end at 13:00**	Governing Board Steering Committee	

w.r.t. Trieste, half a day more for Plenary Meeting, more time for questions and coffee-breaks.
Friday: Governing Board at the end (14:00-16:00). Steering committee 16:00-17:00
Task presentations must be centred on last year progress (better: last 18 months)

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Parallel Meetings

WP9 (O. Malyshev)	Tuesday 16.04	All day	20 p + Zoom	Salle cinéma
WP10 (A. Ratkus)	Tuesday 16.04	afternoon	15 persons	Bibliothèque
WP5.2 (F. Zimmermann)	Tuesday 16.04	14:00-16:00	10 persons	Salon
WP11 (M. Seidel)	Tuesday 16.04	16:00-18:00	15 persons	Salon
WP10 (O. Malyshev)	Wednesday 17.04	morning	20p + zoom	Salle cinéma

Any other (last minute) request?

Draft Agenda for plenary sessions

	Start	End	Morning	Afternoon
Wednesday 17/04	13:30	18:00		Welcome and Introduction WP/Task presentations Diversity and innovation
Thursday 18/04	09:00	17:30	WP/Task presentations Highlight talks Mini-Workshop ?	WP/Task presentations Highlight talks Special industry session
Friday 19/04	09:00	13:00	I.FAST IIF projects PresentationS: AIPF, iSAS, INFRA-INNOV News from EC **SAC Report**	Governing Board (14-16) Steering Committee (16-17)

Additional Sessions and talks:
- Diversity and innovation (talk and discussion)
- Accelerator Industry Permanent Forum presentation
- 2-hour session on academia-industry perspectives for applications
- Summary of TRL's and ways to market for I.FAST technologies
- presentation of projects: iSAS, INFRA-INNOV

You are welcome to start proposing highlight talks!

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The future after I.FAST

Discussions with EC

➤ 2 Meetings in Brussels in June - July to meet M. Arentoft, new Head of Unit for DG-RTD-A.4 (Open Science and Research Infrastructure) and his team including P. Postigo, our usual entry point. First meeting with TIARA, second with the 3 INFRA-INNOV Projects (I.FAST, LEAPS-Innova, AIDAinnova).

➤ Excellent contact and very open discussions.

➤ They liked the idea that our 3 INNOV communities are coordinated, noticed that we represent most of **Big Science** and commented that one could consider extending our innovation project scheme to astronomy, neutrons and fusion, with a more stable long-term funding programme in the next Framework Programme.

➤ In general, the next FP10 will be more targeted (top-down).

Where are we now

- "Exploiting the **innovation potential of Research Infrastructures**" is a strategic point in the orientation document for future Horizon Europe calls.

- Preparation of the next Work Programme (**2025/26/27**) for Research Infrastructures is ongoing. An **innovation-oriented call** for the I.FAST and other INFRA-INNOV communities could be included in the Programme for 2025. Decision to be taken at May meeting of Work Programme Committee – any contact that you might have with National Representatives might be precious!

- In this case, the start of the Programme will be delayed to synchronise with the new Commission, and the first calls will be for **October 2025** – for a project start not before June 2026. To avoid a long gap, we might be encouraged to ask for a prolongation of I.FAST by **6 months** (October 2025), with no additional funding.

- A new pilot project might last **less than 4 years** – not bad news, since the goal would be to avoid overlaps with a potential new wider action for innovation in accelerators and other technologies that might be launched at the start of the next Framework Programme (FP10).

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Thank you for your attention!

Image credit:
Elwood H. Smith,
The New York
Times