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BELBaR

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COMMUNICATION ACTION PLAN

DELIVERABLE D6.4

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Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	PU
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the partners of the [acronym] project	
CO	Confidential, only for partners of the [acronym] project	

[BELBaR]



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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document presents the BELBaR Communication Action Plan (CAP) and serves as deliverable D6.4. It highlights communication actions already identified, such as main communication materials (website, project presentation) and events involving external participants, but also draws a framework to identify potential future actions.

This first version of the CAP focuses on proposing guidelines on main communication activities and principles under BELBaR project. However, communication objectives and activities may change as the project evolves and more detailed intermediate results are made progressively available, it is also important to keep some flexibility in this plan.

Therefore, the CAP will be updated as necessary:

1.2 Key messages

What do we want to say and how? These questions are the core of a communication strategy.

What is the specificity of BELBaR project?

The final outcome is to consider how colloids and related phenomena can be considered in the long term safety case and to make recommendations on the quantitative and qualitative approaches that a safety case could pursue to adequately address this potentially very significant issue.

Why?

Recent safety assessments have shown the formation of bentonite colloids may have a significant impact on the performance on a nuclear waste repository with a bentonite EBS emplaced in fractured rock under some circumstances.

Why now?

Some national programmes are now entering into a licensing phase; others are in a phase of site and concept selection. A deeper knowledge of about the colloid issues would be an advantage to programmes in all stages.

Who are we and who are we talking to?

We are talking to all people

BELBaR is a consortium of organizations involved in the planning and realization of a safe disposal of radioactive waste. Our audience is everybody (waste management organisations, regulatory authorities, researchers, universities and public) interested in the long term safety of radioactive waste.

1.3 Target audiences

Since this Communication Action Plan concerns communication with actors outside the research community, the audiences considered here are mainly user groups, key stakeholders, and the general public.

The user groups of the knowledge arising from the project results consist of:

The Nuclear Waste Management Arena

The BELBaR Consortium has excellent connections with the Nuclear Waste Management arena, including regulatory authorities. The communication with this audience will be direct through email-lists, meetings and other tools described below. It is also expected that this audience will provide interesting feed-back to the project.

Private sector: Professionals in industry

Considering the fundamental questions regarding material behaviour that are investigated in BELBaR, it is expected that there will be a general interest among professionals in the private sector. This audience will be reached through professional magazines, and the web site, as well as other tools.

General Public

Public involvement in science is important for research, and vice versa. The overall aim of BELBaR, i.e. to reduce uncertainties related to final disposal of spent nuclear fuel, is clearly a topic which interests the general public. It is important that the dissemination of the results to this audience is expertly done, and SKB has excellent experience in this area.

1.4 Obligations towards the European Commission

Dissemination materials produced by the project (publications, website, etc.) need to contain the following specific sentence:

“The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Atomic Energy Community’s Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2011) under grant agreement 295487”.

The European flag (Figure 1) and the Euratom Programme logo (Figure 2) should be also included in dissemination materials on front pages/back pages of documents produced by BELBaR partners.



Figure 1 EU flag



Figure 2 EURATOM Logo

2 Website and Internet presence

The BELBaR project website: www.belbar.eu is the primary information source.

2.1 Public area of the website

The public area of the BELBaR website is being developed at the beginning of the project. Partners will be involved in providing content as for instance organisation's presentations, logos, etc. The website remains a flexible tool and content and structure may evolve if necessary.

The website will be updated frequently (in principle, as further results become available for public dissemination) in order to keep the public informed on progress made in the project and to disseminate the publicly available part of the scientific results. The most important information on the public area of the website will be the section with the public deliverables. Almost all of the project deliverables are classified as public and they will be made available on the website as soon as they are produced.

The publication of the deliverables on the public website means that the intermediate project results will be available to a public audience.

2.2 Internal and restricted part of the website

Each partner has been provided a user name and a password to access the internal part of the website. In this area non-public project information will be made available to all project partners. This refers to restricted deliverables as well as minutes and presentations from all type of project meetings

2.3 Link exchange

An easy way to increase the visibility of the BELBaR website is to promote the project in other websites.

When the public part of the BELBaR website will be available, partners will be invited to include a link referring to www.belbar.eu on their organisation's websites. This collaborative work will generate additional traffic and interest on BELBaR project website.

2.4 Partner information exchange

Currently the information exchange between individual partners is done by email, or by uploads to the internal and restricted part of the website. However, if this is found to be inconvenient a project specific ftp-server will be opened.

3 Communication materials

3.1 Project presentation

A project presentation has been produced at the beginning of the project can be found on the CORDIS website: http://cordis.europa.eu/projects/rcn/101412_en.html.

3.2 Figures

Figures (pictures, drawings, schemas, etc.) will be collected on the website (or by one partner) and identified for the use of the project.

This will be done:

1. In the deliverables, in the public section of the website
2. In project meeting presentations, in the internal and restricted part of the website

Proper references should be given to the producer of the figures.

4 Ways of communication

4.1 Reports

Synthesis reports of the key findings will be prepared based on each work package highlighting key advancements in process understanding for the treatment of permafrost issues in repository performance assessment. In addition, a key output of the project will be the publication of an overview report summarising the results and achievements of the totality of the project and their implications for performance assessment. Key findings of the work will be presented at a suitable European scientific venue. The final versions of these reports will be made available for all stakeholders on the BELBaR website.

4.2 Workshops

To ensure that the BELBaR project results are presented to the wider scientific community two workshops have been envisaged. The first will be undertaken as part of WP1 with the dual aims of:

- Dissemination of initial findings
- Establish a network of specialists from various areas of the world and with a range of expertise relevant to the project.

The second workshop will take place towards the end of the project and will target dissemination to the radioactive waste management community and the wider scientific community.

Both workshops will be open to external participants, with activity solicited contributions, and the results will be published. It is targeted that the contributions will be published as a proceedings or special issue of a major journal and undertake a robust peer-review process. It is noted however that this may take a substantial amount of time and the final workshop may be published after the end of the project.

The location of the project will be given special attention to encourage participation of the wider scientific community and participation of newer EC member states.

4.3 Journal publications

All partners will have responsibility to disseminate outputs from their own work via peer-reviewed scientific publications. It is anticipated that each member will produce at least one journal publication during the project. Work package 6 members will lead on creating project specific publications along with the coordination team, made up of work package leaders and a cross-cutting theme coordinator. These publications will be peer-reviewed and are aimed to be published in high-quality journals for maximum impact.

The results of the workshops will be published as a proceedings or special issue of a major journal and undertake a robust peer-review process. It is targeted that these publications will form a valuable and comprehensive resource produced by the project. These will be made widely available to stakeholders, academia and the wider public.

4.4 Conferences

BELBaR project members will be encouraged to participate in Euratom meetings and other conferences, such as:

- Clays in Natural and Engineered Barriers for Radioactive Waste Confinement 2012, October 22-25, 2012 (<http://www.montpellier2012.com/>)
- The ASME series on Environmental Remediation and Radioactive Waste Management (September 08 2013 - September 12 2013)
- The XV International Clay Conference 7-11 July 2013 (<http://www.15icc.org/>)
- The 50th Annual Meeting of The Clay Minerals Society October 6–10, 2013 (http://www.clays.org/annual%20meeting/50th_annual_meeting_website/general.html)
- 7th Mid-European Clay conference 2014 (September 16-19)
- The International Conference on Geological Repositories series held every 4 years
- The annual meetings of Materials Research Society, November 25 - 30, 2012

5 Publication of the final results

At this stage, the main publication planned in the BELBaR project is a number of different final reports:

- Synthesis Report: colloids and related issues in the long term safety case, produced by WP1
- WP2 partners final report. Evaluation of experimental results on bentonite erosion
- WP3 partners final report on experimental results on micro- to macroscale colloid rock interaction and colloid radionuclide interaction
- WP4 partners final report on experimental results on clay colloid stability
- Synthesis report of model development and validations, produced by WP5
- Final publication of work a full project report that includes the synthesis report from WP1-WP5
- Publication of project summary