EDINAF

OCTOBER 2023 – EDINAF NEWSLETTER #2

Dear reader,

The EDINAF Consortium is thrilled to welcome you to the second edition of the EDINAF Newsletter, your gateway to the latest developments and breakthroughs within the realm of naval digitalization. As we continue our journey towards transforming the future of maritime operations, we are delighted to share with you the progress made since our project's inception.

This edition is focused on the launching of the Work Packages and the first General Assembly where all the partners were invited. Their collective dedication and insights have laid the foundation for an innovative and collaborative approach towards building the Digital Ship of tomorrow.

Have a nice reading!

The EDINAF Consortium

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EDINAF Consortium Held its First General Assembly to Discuss Progress and Future Plans

> *"We are delighted to express our utmost satisfaction with the advancement achieved in the EDINAF project over the past six months. The involvement of the Ministries of Defence at our side will significantly influence the success of the project. Once again, this first General Assembly shows everyone's great dedication to work and collaborate on the project, for years to come."*
>
> Juan Ignacio Silvera, EDINAF's Project Coordinator.

On the 27th and the 28th of June, the EDINAF project marked a significant milestone as it successfully conducted its first General Assembly. Six months after its launch, the EDINAF consortium, led by Navantia, gathered to discuss the project's progress and future plans in the Navantia Training Center in Cadiz, Spain.

The meeting adopted a hybrid format, allowing both physical and virtual attendance, accommodating partners from different regions and enhancing collaboration. In attendance were representatives from the project coordinator Navantia, along with partners AERTEC, B-COM, CETENA, Damen, Fincantieri, Fincantieri Nextech, Indra, JOTNE, Kongsberg, Leonardo, Light Structures, MBDA, Naval Group, QRelation, Renk Group, Rheinmetall, RH Marine, SAAB, SEA Europe, SINTEF Ocean, thyssenkrupp Marine Systems, Thales, TNO, Universita' degli Studi di Genova, Universidade da Coruña, and Université de Lorraine. Furthermore, the Ministries of Defence of Spain, the Netherlands, Sweden, Germany and Norway actively participated, expressing their expectations and needs concerning EDINAF and the Digital ship.

The primary focus of the General Assembly was to review the progress made in the various EDINAF work packages (WPs). Technical workshops were conducted during the two-day event. These workshops especially served as a platform to define the modalities of the involvement of the Ministries of Defence and Navies in the project.

With the successful conclusion of the first General Assembly, the EDINAF consortium is now equipped to advance further, leveraging the collective expertise and dedication of its partners. As the project continues to make strides, the partners look forward to witnessing the positive impact it will have on the European naval

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Kick-Off Meeting – Preparation for the Collaboration with the MoDs and Navies

On the 12th of September, the EDINAF Consortium, represented by Navantia, met the MoDs and Navies. This meeting gathered representatives from France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, and Sweden.

Navantia shared the status of the Needs & Requirements Work Package, and how EDINAF considered the feedback provided by the MoDs and Navies. It was also the occasion to discuss what engagement is expected with them for the next year. Then, the MoDs and navies stated that they were still processing and gathering inputs to address the Needs and Requirements topic, especially the User Stories. The Consortium confirmed that a second update of these deliverables will be posted into the European Commission portal to reflect the recent inputs, by the end of the year.

The MoDs and Navies highlighted the high value there is in holding this update in between the General Assemblies, in addition to the regular updates conducted with their respective National Leads. Also, the level of engagement that EDINAF is establishing was highly welcomed.

The next step will be a meeting specifically focusing on the Use Cases proposed to the MoDs and Navies to review in detail the scope and status. This meeting will be held before the next General Assembly in Brussels, as agreed during the previous one in Cadiz.

EDINAF Website

The consortium is delighted to announce the opening of its website, where updates of EDINAF, newsletters, press releases will be regularly posted. More information can be found at EDINAF – European Digital Naval Foundation.

WP4 Kick-Off Meeting

The WP4 Kick-off meeting was held on the 5th of July in Ferrol, both physical and online. Chaired by Navantia, the meeting allowed WP4 partners to share their contributions and expectations, with the aim of ensuring the success of WP4.

An overview and the objectives of the project were made by Navantia and the partners who had the opportunity to share their affiliations, and roles in the project.

Around the leader Navantia, representatives from partners such as AERTEC, CETENA, DAMEN, Fincantieri Nextech, INDRA, Jotne, Leonardo, Naval Group, Naval Group Belgium, RH Marine, SAAB, Sintef, Sintef Ocean, TKMS and UDC presented their contributions, showcasing their respective areas of expertise and the specific contributions they will bring to the project. The participants' presentations were followed by a detailed explanation of the project's planning, including timelines for deliverables and interface documents. Additional interface documents were added, strengthening the connections between use cases and the demonstrator. The methodology was presented, enabling participants to provide feedback and approve the process.

With all the important points discussed, this meeting demonstrated the commitment of the participating organizations to collaborate in advancing defence technologies.

WP6 Kick-Off Meeting

In January and July, a soft and virtual kick-off meetings were organized for the work package 6 – Connectivity. These meetings are the first of a series of 3 kick-off meetings decided by Navantia, the leader of the work package.

The soft meeting was the opportunity for everyone to gather information about the participation level, define the task leaders, make a short mailing list, and have an initial approach to the work-packages tasks.

The virtual kick-off meeting was a short virtual meeting with all work-package participants to show the result of the soft kick-off meeting and agree on the schedule and agenda for the next face-to-face kick-off meeting.

Then followed a physical meeting in Madrid on the 20th of September, during which the partners agreed on structural and organisational aspects (the participants and tasks, validation of the task leaders, and definition of a methodology for the work-package).

EURONAVAL Talks

A year ahead of Euronaval 2024, online roundtables are organized to discuss current or increasingly important topics related to the naval domain. Some of these quarterly talks may be of interest, such as that of 13 June on the opportunities in the global defence market.

More information can be found at: Euronaval 2024 - Talks.

WP7 Kick-Off Meeting

Work package 7 – System Integration – was officially launched on the 18th of July 2023. This kick-off meeting was the occasion for Fincantieri NexTech, the work package leader, and the members, to start discussing the task organisational breakdown.

Additionally, this meeting enabled the partners to decide that a common approach to each of the task based on a system-analysis of the intended Use Cases (linked to work package 11 to 15) will be carried out in order to define the operational requirements for their integration in the Digital Platform, based on the results of work packages 2 and 4. The integration requirement definition will integrate the MBSE approach with an AGILE approach starting from tasks and user stories.

The work package is directly linked to work packages 2, 3 and 8, from which inputs will be expected. On the other side, the work done will be useful for Use Cases work packages (from 11 to 15).

ECCOMAS

The 9th European Congress on Computational Methods in Applied Sciences and Engineering (ECCOMAS) will take place next June in Lisbon, Portugal. This will be the opportunity to discuss state-of-the-art developments in scientific computing applied to engineering sciences with lectures, special technology sessions, and mini-symposia. More information is available at ECCOMAS 2024.

WP9 Kick-Off Meeting

On the 19th of June 2023, the engineering WP9 was officially launched with a formal online meeting,

followed on the 12th of June by a one-day technical meeting in Paris, at Naval Group's premises, allowing the main contributors to get to know each other, clarify their respective roles and start coordinating their actions.

It was agreed that Naval Group would be responsible for the task of studying the expectations of digital engineering, tkMS for the task of defining the use of modelling to meet this ambition (MBSE), and Rheinmetall for producing a demonstration of this new engineering. That new engineering would be illustrated on the basis of the definitions of the "digital ship" and its operational use cases produced by the other work packages in the EDINAF project.

On their side, the universities of Lorraine and Genoa will make a major contribution to these discussions, so that the EDINAF project can benefit from the state of the art in research on this subject. In particular, they will provide the European Commission with recommendations on possible standardisation projects for engineering frameworks specifically adapted to naval requirements.

WP10 Kick-Off Meeting

On the 17th of July, a soft virtual kick-off meeting was held for the WP10 in charge of the demonstrator.

This was the opportunity for Naval Group which leads the work package to make an overview, to present the objectives, to remind the contributors and their capacities, and to

disseminate the latest administrative news.

On the 10th of October, a meeting was held onsite in Toulon, France, to discuss the specifications of the demonstrator. It was also the occasion for the partners to arrange the organisation and task breakdown of the work-package.

19th October 2023: Executive Board in Kiel, Germany

EDINAF work package leaders met on 19th October 2023, for the project's Executive Board and first Risk Panel at tkMS premises in Kiel, Germany.

On the agenda of this hybrid board were work packages status updates, next steps and decisions on the way forward ahead of the next General Assembly in November.

Following this Executive Board, the first Risk Panel took place. Each work package leader had to present the risks and mitigation measures they had identified to everyone.

"It is very useful to hold these meetings physically", said EDINAF Project Coordinator. It facilitates the exchange of views, particularly when it comes discussing challenges or agreeing on interconnections between the different work packages.

Next meeting will take place just before the next General Assembly.

WP12 Kick-Off Meeting

The kick-off meeting for the WP12 – Decision support for autonomous UxVs and enhanced situation awareness, led by Saab, took place on May 24th, 2023 in Malmö, Sweden, with all parties

represented online and in-presence: Saab, Thales NL, Fincantieri NextTech, RH Marine, Thyssenkrupp and Leonardo. The meeting was held in the historic building "Kockska huset" from the early 16th century and generated innovative discussions and ideas on how to tackle and break down the work to be done, possible risks and solutions within the project, connections to other WPs and a strong team spirit amongst the participants, eager to get started and looking forward to the next steps.

EDINAF Introductory Video for the Public Available Soon

EDINAF's video for the public will be released soon on the consortium's website. This short format enables one to grasp the aims and objectives of EDINAF.

Preparation for the Next EDINAF General Assembly in Brussels

On the 29th and 30th of November 2023 will take place the EDINAF's second General Assembly in Brussels, Belgium, organised by SEA Europe.

This two day meeting at the Thon Hotel premises, will be punctuated by updates from the project management team and work package leaders, technical internal workshops on one side, to discuss the progress of the project, exchange information on specific topics and make important decisions if needed.

On the other, an open event will take place on the 29th November afternoon, which aims to discuss the following: "Operational Combat Clouds: from Naval to Multidomain Applications", from a strategic perspective and from EDINAF's view on how to address the challenges. This is an opportunity to broaden perspectives and stimulate a collaborative environment through dialogue. Among the panellists, the DGDEFIS, EDA, an EDOCC and industry representatives will sit with Juan Ignacio, the EDINAF Project Coordinator, to exchange views on this topic.

Further Reading

Daniel Fiott (2023), Investing and innovating? Spain and the European Defence Fund

This article looks at how Spain has been positioning itself within the European Defence Fund since its launch. Based on this analysis, the author reverts on some critical aspects of the state's overall defence industrial strategy, from which he puts forward recommendations on how Spain can be better engaged as a leading defence actor in Europe. This analysis can be found at

https://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/en/analyses/investing-and-innovating-spain-and-the-european-defence-fund/

Raluca Csernatoni & Bruno Oliviera Martins (2023), Disruptive Technologies for Security and Defence: Temporality, Performativity, and Imagination, Geopolitics

In this academic article, the authors come back to the notion of disruption itself and its implications proposing a new analytical framework to study disruptive security and defence technologies, based on three axes: temporality, performativity, and imagination. The intention is to propose a centralized approach to the concept of disruption, drawing its core elements from the different meanings it can have depending on the field (critical security studies, science and technology studies, and innovations studies). The analysis is illustrated with recent examples of the EU, NATO, and US efforts to mainstream emerging security and defence disruptive technologies. This analysis can be found at

https://doi.org/10.1080/14650045.2023.2224235