



# EDINAF

PRESS RELEASE

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY #3 OF EDF-FUNDED "EDINAF" PROJECT

Middelburg, May 30, 2024



The partners of the European Digital Naval Foundation (EDINAF) project, funded by the European Commission (EC) under the European Defence Fund (EDF2021), convened in Middelburg, the Netherlands, for the third General Assembly Meeting, between 28 and 30 May.

This General Assembly brought together the EDINAF partners across Europe: Navantia (Project Coordinator), AERTEC, B-COM, CETENA, Damen, Fincantieri, Fincantieri NexTech, Indra, Jotne, Kongsberg, Leonardo, Light Structures, MARIN, MBDA, the Netherlands Defence Academy (NLDA – Ministry of Defence of the Netherlands), Naval Group, Naval Group Belgium, QRelation, Renk Group, Rheinmetall, RH Marine, SAAB, SEA Europe, SINTEF, SINTEF Ocean, thyssenkrupp Marine Systems, Thales Netherlands, TNO, Università degli studi di Genova, Universidade da Coruna, and Université de Lorraine.

Hosted by DAMEN, the EDINAF Consortium was honored to welcome Dirk Peters, Deputy Project Officer of the EC DGDEFIS, alongside representatives from the Spanish, Dutch, Swedish, Italian, and Norwegian Ministries of Defence. The Deputy Project Officer highlighted how there is a strong support from the MoD, which is a strong sign of relevance, as well as how there is a constructive spirit and teamwork, even when the challenges are seriously discussed.

The General Assembly and workshop sessions saw constructive discussions and participation, enabling the consortium to clarify the next steps for the project. EDINAF is at its halfway point,



with a year and a half remaining to research and develop the foundational architecture, associated services, and agreements to benefit the navies and future initiatives.

In addition, the participants had the opportunity to virtually navigate through the engine room and access a vessel's Chilled Water system control cabinets. This first demonstration proposed by Rheinmetall, aimed at showing the status of WP15 (Crew Training with Agents/Assistant Use Cases). A second demonstration proposed by RH Marine, enabled the participants to get an illustration of the virtualization concept developed under WP10 (Demonstrator).

The EDINAF consortium also had the opportunity to visit the DAMEN Shipyard in Vlissingen, including a tour around a Netherlands Navy Offshore Patrol Vessel in drydock. Additionally, the consortium visited the fishing village of Yerseke, renowned for its mussels and oysters, before enjoying the dinner hosted by DAMEN.

In its concluding remarks, the Spanish Ministry of Defence praised the consortium's progress in formalizing the digital architecture. At the halfway point of the project, the Ministry highlighted that the strong collaboration among consortium members is crucial to the project's success and the achievement of its expected outcomes.

*"At the halfway point of our project, the third General Assembly marks a major milestone for EDINAF," said Juan Ignacio Silvera Vez, EDINAF's Project Coordinator. "Our focus is to continue achieving convergence of approaches, with the objective for all being to prepare the demonstration in Norway in May 2025. I am proud of the work accomplished by the consortium over the past year and a half, and of the teamwork we are doing. We can concretely see how fruitful our collaboration is for the development of the architecture. The project is on track to meet the requirements set forth by the Ministries of Defence and the European Commission."*



# EDINAF

 Navantia

AERTEC

b com

 CETENA

DAMEN

FINCANTIERI

FINCANTIERI  
NexTech

indra

 jotne



KONGSBERG

 LEONARDO

 LIGHT STRUCTURES  
Advanced Ship Manufacturing

MARIN

**MBDA**  
MISSILE SYSTEMS



Ministerie van Defensie

**NAVAL**  
GROUP

 Relation  
MANAGEMENT TEAM

RENK

 RHEINMETALL

 RH  
MARINE



**SAAB**

 SEA Europe  
Shipyard & Maritime Equipment Association

 SINTEF

THALES

 thyssenkrupp

**TNO** innovation  
for life

 UNIVERSIDADE  
DA CORUÑA

 UNIVERSITÉ  
DE LORRAINE

 Università  
di Genova