

NEWSLETTER

7th February, 2024

PIANOFORTE WP5 INFRASTRUCTURES WORKSHOP, JANUARY 2024

On the 29th and 30th January, at INFN in Catania, PIANOFORTE WP5 colleagues hosted the first PIANOFORTE Infrastructures workshop. The event was attended by 40 colleagues from within and external to PIANOFORTE, and participants heard presentations from infrastructures large and small from across Europe, on their facilities and challenges in relation to open science. Attendees then had the opportunity to contribute to focused workshop sessions on Best practices for Access, Training and Financing, the FAIR Principles, and Intercomparisons and Quality Assurance, with the aim to create a stakeholder driven plan for activities under WP5 going forward. The workshop was very successful, with contributions from colleagues at all career stages, and with open discussion of the many challenges in this field (very much aided by the sunshine, the lovely hills of Sicily and the beautiful view of the sea, and with plentiful delicious Sicilian food too). The presentations and discussions were followed by tours of the impressive INFN facilities (www.Ins.infn.it). A workshop report describing the outputs in more detail is now being prepared for publication in due course. We would like to extend our huge thanks to the organizers for their generous hosting and facilitation, and to all the attendees for sharing their experiences and contributing to ensuring PIANOFORTE WP 5 makes genuine progress in terms of infrastructures and data management in support of radiation protection research.



Fig. First PIANOFORTE Infrastructures workshop in INFN Catania.



Fig. Workshop participants (INFN Catania).

START OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Several research projects selected within the first Call started from 1st February 2024. Kick-off meeting of RRADEW project already took place in Fontenay-Aux-Roses, France.

RRADEW KICK-OFF MEETING: 2ND FEBRUARY 2024, FONTENAY-AUX-ROSES, FRANCE

The overall objective of RRADEW is to enhance nuclear emergency preparedness, response, and recovery (EPR&R) systems by developing methodological and technological approaches to strengthen resilience in the context of war or armed conflict disasters.

RRADEW (Resilience to Radiological Events in Wartime) Kick-Off meeting took place on 2 February 2024 at Fontenay-aux-Roses (France) hosted by CEPN as coordinator of the project. The meeting gathered 18 people in-person and around 10 on-line, representing all partners and work packages, and lead to fruitful discussions for the launch of the project.

CEPN welcomed partners and gave a reminder of the scope, expectations, and milestones of RRADEW and WPO initial thoughts on the development of the Communication and Dissemination Plan, the Data Management Plan, and the Project Stakeholder Group.

Work Packages were presented by their respective WP Leaders: ISPNPP (WP1), KIT (WP2), IRSN (WP3), NMBU (WP4) and USB (WP5). Each presentation led to discussions between partners to plan work management, interface between WPs and the path to deliver Milestones and associated Deliverables. These insights helped RRADEW partners to identify key considerations to launch WPs.



Fig. Participants of the RRADEW Kick-off meeting on 2 February 2024.

For more details on the project, information will be shared on the PIANOFORTE website. For any additional request or information concerning RRADEW please contact the coordinator at pascal.crouail@cepn.asso.fr and eymeric.lafranque@cepn.asso.fr.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

WP3 has completed the stakeholder engagement activities with regard to the 2nd PIANOFORTE Open Call. The feedback from the Stakeholder and Advisory Board and further external stakeholders on the proposed call topics, including a topic ranking, was provided to WP2 to conclude the overall ranking process of the 2nd call. The outcomes and contributions from the stakeholders have been summarised in Deliverable *D3.2 Stakeholder comments on call topics and criteria for the second call* which was submitted to the EC in January 2024. The report will be available on the PIANOFORTE website as soon as it has been acknowledged by the EC.

In November 2023, the workshop “Towards a European database - strengthening cooperation and data exchange between Proton Therapy centres” was organized by the Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Polish Academy of Science (IFJ PAN) in Kraków (Poland). The hybrid workshop brought together some 28 representatives of the major European proton therapy centres and further experts for an exchange on national solutions of clinical data storage and to discuss perspectives of a common European proton therapy database. Overall, the participants concluded that an enhanced collaboration on the European level resulting in coordinated clinical trials and finally in a European database would constitute an essential



tool for verifying the efficacy of proton therapy. The conclusions from the workshop have been submitted as deliverable D3.9 and will be published as soon as the deliverable is accepted.

In view of expanding our stakeholder network and to open up a collaboration for radiation protection in space, PIANOFORTE initiated a joint meeting with the European Space Agency (ESA) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in January 2024. The meeting led to very stimulating discussions on scientific topics linked to the effects of ionizing radiation on humans, and more generally on radiation protection in the context of space exploration. Great prospects for

collaboration! A further meeting is planned in the context on how our collaboration can work in practice.

EXECUTIVE BOARD – WHO ARE WE?

With the beginning of the year, we continue to present you members of PIANOFORTE executive board. In this newsletter it is my turn to introduce myself – I am Marie Davidková and I lead PIANOFORTE Work Package 6 *Knowledge management, communication, dissemination and impact creation*.

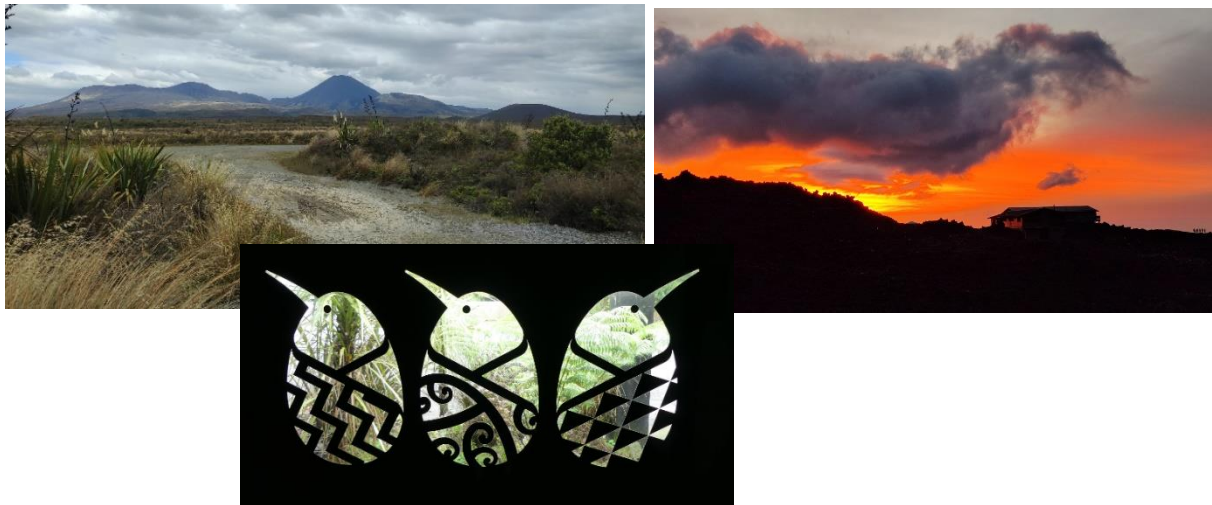
I acquired master degree in Nuclear Engineering at the Department of Dosimetry and Application of Ionizing Radiation, Faculty of Nuclear Sciences and Physical Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague. I believed I will work as a medical physicist in a hospital. Then I met “science” by hazard and I finished as a researcher in the Department of Radiation Dosimetry, Nuclear Physics Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences for nearly 28 years. My PhD study focused on radiation damage to DNA and I combined experimental work in the Centre de Biophysique Moléculaire CNRS in Orléans, France with theoretical modeling in my home department in Prague, Czech Republic. Here I have to make a statement for all young students and early career researchers – if do you have an opportunity to study and work abroad, go for it. It was such a great experience – I met nice people, I learnt language and French culture - I will never forget these years.



After my postdoctoral stay in the Radiation Laboratory, University of Notre Dame, USA, I led the group of microdosimetry and radiation biophysics and later the whole

department. In February 2022, I moved to the National Radiation Protection Institute and now big part of my activities is devoted to PIANOFORTE project.

Except professional live, I have and I love my family, nature and photography. During covid period, we rediscovered with my daughter development of black and white photos in a dark room. The second when the image appears on the white paper remains for me a moment of small miracle. Similarly to real experiments, where I am curious until the last moment if I get the expected result.



As for PIANOFORTE partnership, I shall invite you to share your work, interesting results, seminars, workshops, training courses, ... If do you have anything related to radiation protection you want to share, please feel free to contact me at marie.davidkova@suro.cz.