

## Minutes NMI3-II WP5 „Integrated User Access“ Meeting

Oct. 14, 2015, Niel-Bohr-Institut, University Copenhagen, Denmark

Participants:

Rozsa Baranyai (BNC), Menno Blaauw (TUD), Flavio Carsughi (JCNS), Mirjam van Daalen (PSI), Thomas Gutberlet (HZB), Stefan Janssen (PSI), Philip King (ISIS), Nils Leidel (HZB), Alain Menelle (LLB), Klaus Pranzas (HZG), Pavel Strunz (NPI)

The meeting was opened by Thomas Gutberlet with a short update on recent activities of the work package.

Main activities within the last six months were the implementation of the discussed additions and changes to the software prototype sections presented at the last meeting of WP5 in June 2015 at FRM II by partner HZB. These new features were presented by Nils Leidel (HZB) and given below.

As the project will end on Jan. 31 2016 the partners are asked to clear their budget allocated to the work package. The WP5 coordinator will take necessary steps to balance the budget with the project manager in case of any under- or over-spending.

- Task 5.3 ‘Harmonized proposal forms and templates’, Software package prototype to handle proposal submission and reviewing between facilities (D5.4)

Nils Leidel presented the modified and extended version of the handling system on harmonized proposal forms and reviewing between different facilities (see Task 5.4, D5.6). The system based on an XML protocol allows individual facilities to define requirements for proposal submission and users to submit proposals to various facilities. An upload and download protocol allows transfer of all necessary information between users and facilities. The system is accessible via the local user office platform as ‘add-on’ service to these programs.

Improved and modified features as discussed were presented. Some minor extensions regarding user registration e.g. notification of registration were shown or the addition of certain roles defined by the facility administrators e.g. instrument scientists.

Modified workflows regarding management of the review panel (see Task 5.4, Report D5.5 and Report D5.6), history of review and distribution of rejected proposals and subject of redirection to another facility were demonstrated. It was stated again that the user should be the active person in this matter rather than any facility administrator.

Depending on the policy of the facilities a continuous review process was implemented which can be triggered by the facility administrator.

The option of referees to send an e-mail with requests to a specific proposer was discussed. A clear requirement here is that the referee stays anonymous and that the contact is administered by the facility administrator.

The final version will now be completed. The draft of the report on this software package prototype (Deliverable D5.4) was discussed briefly. It will be updated and delivered till end of Nov. 2015.

- Task 5.5 'Platforms for cross source independent beam time access', Feasibility study on software prototype for cross facility beam time access (D5.8)

The updated software prototype for cross facility beam time access was presented and discussed. It is designed to be as compatible as possible with the existing user administration systems of the large-scale facilities (see also Report D5.7). Proposals with cross-facility beam-time access are linked together and have the same background color. The facility administrator can monitor the requested and allocated beam time from the connected proposals. Also an overview table of all summed allocated beam time per instrument and proposal round is available.

As discussed in Task 5.3, the distribution of proposals in case of rejection and the resubmission to another facility must be kept within the user's responsibility.

The option of referees to send an e-mail with requests to a specific proposer was mentioned again. Clear requirement here stays that the referee stays anonymous and that the contact is administered by the facility administrator.

The partners agreed that the resulting prototype shows the feasibility but also the complexity of this approach and is valuable for future discussion on this subject. The final version will now be completed. The draft of the report on this software package prototype (Deliverable D5.8) was discussed briefly. It will be updated and delivered till end of Nov. 2015.

- Next steps: WP5 in NMI3-III and Umbrella?

Mirjam van Daalen gave a general introduction and overview in the Umbrella project. She stated the availability of Umbrella implemented in several user office systems as PSI or ILL as authentication system to allow cross facility usage of DUOs for users between facilities with an Umbrella account. The Umbrella consortium is now a free networking activity joined by most of the synchrotron and neutron facilities. She encourages the facilities to join this network in order to participate and benefit of Umbrella. Most participants welcomed this option and may consider to join the Umbrella consortium in the future.

As Umbrella till now has not developed or implemented any software to handle, review or administer proposals as developed and shown in the present WP the partners in WP5 would appreciate to allow Umbrella to use and develop the current programmed prototypes for future use. This would also secure the availability of the software after the end of the current NMI3-II project.

The possibility to include the Umbrella registration into the current software prototype for the registration of users is still pending and will now be discussed between MLZ and PSI, as the software is implemented meanwhile in the NMI3 webportal and can be used on demand by external partners.

Furthermore, it was discussed and agreed to implement a full test installation of the software prototype at BNC, Budapest, to allow for a "real" test of the delivered software at a smaller facility. Depending on available resources, this action may last beyond the end of the current NMI3-II project.

Finally, the option to continue further aspects of the WP in a future new networking WP in a follow-up project of NMI3-II beyond 2016 was seen as a positive chance to develop and harmonize proposal systems and policies within the neutron community in Europe. An inclusion or close collaboration with the Umbrella network is also seen as positive and useful.

The partners agreed to finalize the missing reports (D5.4 and D5.8) till end of 2015 and to add a final report on the achievements of the WP to the project in general.