

CERIC-ERIC newsletter n.2

CERIC-ERIC is an integrated multidisciplinary Research Infrastructure open for basic and applied users in the fields of Materials, Biomaterials and Nanotechnology. With a single entry point to excellent facilities, it allows structural investigation, analysis and synthesis of materials, using photon, electron, neutron, and ion based techniques.

www.ceric-eric.eu



Results



Opportunities



Events



Highlights

CERIC is one year old! Happy birthday CERIC!



[Click here to watch the video](#)

Results

The new CERIC website is online!

In a fruitful coordination between the communication teams of the institutions participating in CERIC in Center East Europe, the editing of the new CERIC website contents has been achieved. The website is now online, and targets the interest groups, our stakeholders, with useful information about CERIC, its services and how to access. New highlights and multimedia contents will soon be available for the wider public and for anybody interested in science, research and innovation, willing to know about the research and training opportunities that CERIC offers. Check it out and...enjoy your surfing!

CERIC published its first annual Report

The report on CERIC activities carried out in the first year of operation is out

June 2015 – CERIC Headquarters

CERIC has published its first annual report, with the main activities carried out during the first year of operation, and including the main results achieved during the first half of 2015.

The scientific activities of this new distributed Research Infrastructure show interesting numbers and outreach for the users attracted and served: over 100 proposals have been received and 32 accepted, coming from over 15 EU and non-EU countries, including India and Japan. The users required multiple techniques corresponding to over 170 accesses to single facilities. This opens a new and powerful integrated approach to the over 1000 users now accessing the ordinary operation of the Partner Facilities.

The proposals cover a wide range of topics, such as fuel cells, catalysts, energy storage materials, medical imaging and therapy, biosensors, graphene-based materials, microelectronic devices, sustainable biomaterials, cultural heritage analysis and preservation, aerosol nano-particles, peptide and protein structures, etc. CERIC is, by now, an established center of attraction at international level contributing to EU top-level research.

The applied and industry-related activities have been started by finding synergies between the existing Technology Transfer (TT) services already available in the Partner Facilities, with the goal of building a distributed TT and Industrial Liaison (IL) Facility.

A flexible and light distributed management has been implemented and has been tested by compiling the first annual account, based on the International Accounting Standards (IAS), encompassing all resources used in the Partner Facilities and contributed in-kind as the resources for ordinary and users-related operation of CERIC for the year 2014.

The full version of the CERIC Report 2014 is available [here](#).

CERIC-ERIC New Users Symposium 2015

Photons, Ions, Neutrons and Electrons combined in Materials and Biomaterials.
Premier workshop on multi-technique research.

June 24th – 25th 2015, Jagiellonian University, Krakow – Poland

The challenges of modern material and biomaterial research have become too complex to be solved by single approaches. Many advances have required sets of complementary techniques. CERIC supports this approach by providing access to different state-of-the-art facilities by a single entry point.

To get the research community acquainted with this new opportunity, a New Users Symposium was held at the new Polish Synchrotron SOLARIS in the Jagiellonian University of Krakow.



This symposium aimed both at mutual information between the CERIC Partners and at new and potential CERIC users, by showing the variety of research topics addressed by the available facilities and the results obtained by some of the first users of CERIC. Instrument scientists introduced techniques and instruments, as well as some examples of research in the Partner Facilities highlighting the use of complementary methods for multidisciplinary research.

The event hosted about 50 participants. Many presented their research in poster sessions and in Q&A sessions, contributing to the success of the Symposium.

Framework Agreements for the setting-up and operation of the Partner Facilities

March – June 2015 – Austria, Czech Republic, Italy, Slovenia

Framework Agreements between CERIC and the Representing Entities (REs) are the formal contract for setting-up the Partner Facilities and define the resources contributed in-kind to the integrated activities. These agreements have been signed with Austria, the Czech Republic, Italy and Slovenia and soon with Romania, and regulate the mutual responsibilities and obligations in supporting the scientific, technical and administrative operation of each Partner Facility, as well as of CERIC. These will be followed by Specific Agreements to detail the endowment and operation values of each PF.

The Framework Agreements define also the access and service to scientific and industrial users and makes reference to the task of each Partner Facility operating also as the entry point for the national scientific community and for the development of applied and industry-related activities, training, communication and data management.

Opportunities

CERIC Call for Proposals – deadline on September 1st 2015

The Call Three for proposals is soon to be opened with many techniques and new instruments

September 2015

The deadline of the Call Three for proposals will be on the 1st of September 2015. Starting from this call, all proposals will go through a two-step evaluation consisting in a pre-submission and first assessment with direct involvement of the technical staff of the facilities allowing to suggest technical improvements. A two weeks interval will allow the proposer to submit the final proposal after improving the content prior to the scientific evaluation process. This approach has been introduced to help the new users to get the most of the multi-technique approach and allows different experts to evaluate both the technical challenges and the scientific potential. An approach allowing the use of different techniques in successive “single technique” approaches and having high scientific potential is being considered.

Access the CERIC-ERIC website and check [how to submit a proposal](#).

Events

CERIC @ Trieste NEXT

With a dedicated area in Elettra's booth, CERIC will introduce to the local community in Trieste

September 25th – 29th 2015, Trieste – Italy

BIOlogos – The Future of Life. With this title, the 4th edition of the event Trieste NEXT, will take place from September 25th to 29th in Trieste. It will focus on biocompatible solutions available for the survival of our planet and, consequently, of ourselves. Institutions and Research infrastructures active in the region will participate with conferences, workshops, hands-on laboratories and entertaining activities with a main focus on macro-areas such as Biomedicine, Biotechnologies, Bioinformatics, nutrition and personal care.

CERIC and its staff will be available to show the service offered and the results reached in the specific fields that are focus of the event, in the Elettra booth.

On September 27th Dr. Alfredo De Biasio, researcher at Elettra and CERIC user, will highlight the importance of integrated multiple techniques – with the presentation “*Life molecules: an issue about shape. Discovering the structure of molecules to lengthen life*”.

CERIC @ the final meeting of the EU FP 7 Project CALIPSO

Synchrotrons Users in Europe got to know CERIC, its functioning and services

May 12th – 13th 2015, Krakow – Poland

Matthias Girod was invited at the final meeting of the EU FP 7 Project CALIPSO, held in Krakow in May 12th and 13th, to give a presentation about CERIC as an example of a distributed Research Infrastructure set up as an ERIC. Delegates and users of European Synchrotrons represented by ESUO and ELSII (the organizations representing users and the industrial innovation) showed great interest in the presentation and in the opportunities given by the ERICs in general and by CERIC's unique multi-technique approach. The fruitful exchange led to the agreement to intensify the collaboration between ESUO and CERIC: ESUO outreach can help promoting CERIC among the European Synchrotron users, whereas CERIC's strong network in Central-Eastern Europe can stimulate new scientific and industrial users from that region.

CERIC-ERIC @ IBA 2015

CERIC has sponsored the 22nd International Conference on Ion Beam Analysis

June 14th – 19th 2015, Opatija – Croatia

CERIC has been one of the official sponsors of the 22nd International Conference on Ion Beam Analysis – IBA 2015 – that took place from June 14th to 19th in Opatija, Croatia.



A dedicated booth provided information about the available methods pool and the access procedures..

The IBA is a traditional biennial meeting for over 300 scientists, industry professionals and students from Material Science to Medicine. The event has been an exciting discussion forum for basic research and applications of low, medium and high-energy ion beams in a rich variety of research fields.

The main organizer has been CERIC's Croatian Partner Facility, the Ruđer Bošković Institute in Zagreb, in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Croatian Center of Excellence for advanced Materials and Sensing devices (CEMS) and the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports (MZOS), with the support of CERIC-ERIC.

CERIC @ ERF-AISBL Workshop – Public Awareness of Research Infrastructures CERIC presented its achieved results and future challenges in the communication activities

June 18th – 19th 2015, Garching – Germany

On June 18th and 19th, CERIC participated in the ERF-AISBL Workshop on Public Awareness of Research Infrastructures. The presentation “Implementing the communication plan in the distributed Research Infrastructure CERIC-ERIC” by Nicoletta Carboni, highlighted the communication activities in a distributed environment during the first year of operation of CERIC, as well as the critical aspects and milestones of the communication action plan. The event took place at the European Southern Observatory in Garching (Germany), and has been a relevant opportunity to network with PR and communication officers of Research Infrastructures from all over Europe, sharing and exchanging experiences and best practices.

Highlights

1st CERIC Communication Workshop

A first step towards a joint cooperation within the newly set-up CERIC communication team

April 20th – 21st 2015, National Institute of Chemistry, Ljubljana – Slovenia

The 1st CERIC Communication Workshop was held at the Slovenian Partner Facility in CERIC-ERIC, the NMR center.

The workshop has been a successful starting point to build the distributed CERIC communication team, outlining an internally coherent corporate identity implementing the values of CERIC. The main goal has been to share the understanding of CERIC's specific identity and to identify the diverse target groups and stakeholders inside and outside the Consortium, as well as their main interests.

The team, composed by the press and communication officers from each Partner Facility in CERIC, met in plenary hands-on working sessions, with the scope of creating commitment involving all participants, to respond to CERIC communication needs. Welcomed by Prof. Janez Plavec, Director of the NMR center, the team visited the



Slovenian Partner Facility to get acquainted with the technical and research opportunities offered to the users.

The very positive feedbacks from the participants pave the way to a further joint development and coordination of the CERIC's communication activities and a closer cooperation for an improved approach towards CERIC's community and its stakeholders.

You can read more news and keep updated about CERIC opportunities and events on our website: www.ceric-eric.eu