

Land-Based Solutions for Plastics in the Sea

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D9.2. Project Website

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Horizon 2020
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for Research & Innovation

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project number: 101003954

Project acronym: LABPLAS

Project full title: Land-Based Solutions for Plastics in the Sea

Call: H2020-SC5-2018-2019-2020 submitted for H2020-SC5-2020-2 / 03 Sep 2020

Topic: CE-SC5-30-2020 – Plastics in the environment: understanding the sources, transport, distribution and impacts of plastics pollution

Type of action: RIA – Research and Innovation Action

Starting date: June 1st, 2021

Duration: 48 months

List of participants:

Nº	Participant name	Acronym	Country	Type
1	UNIVERSIDADE DE VIGO	UVI	SPAIN	HES
2	UNIVERSIDADE DA CORUÑA	UDC	SPAIN	HES
3	Bundesanstalt fuer Gewaesserkunde	BfG	GERMANY	RTO
4	LABORATORIO IBERICO INTERNACIONAL DE NANOTECNOLOGIA	INL	PORTUGAL	RTO
5	KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN	KUL	BELGIUM	HES
6	HELMHOLTZ ZENTRUM FUR OZEANFORSCHUNG KIEL	GEOMAR	GERMANY	RTO
7	NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHY CENTRE	NOC	UNITED KINGDOM	RTO
8	SORBONNE UNIVERSITE	SU	FRANCE	HES
9	OPEN UNIVERSITEIT NEDERLAND	OUNL	NETHERLANDS	HES
10	LEIBNIZ INSTITUTE FOR BALTIC SEA RESEARCH	IOW	GERMANY	RTO
11	ASSOCIACAO PARA O DESENVOLVIMENTO DO ATLANTIC INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE	AC	PORTUGAL	RTO
12	UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SAO PAULO	UNIFESP	BRAZIL	HES
13	BASF SE	BASF	GERMANY	LE
14	TG ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH	ER	UNITED KINGDOM	SME
15	CONTACTICA S.L.	CTA	SPAIN	SME
16	EGI	EGI	NETHERLANDS	Non-P
17	RADBOUD UNIVERSITEIT	RU	NETHERLANDS	HES

Universidade de Vigo

UNIVERSIDADE DA CORUÑA

bfg German Federal Institute of Technology

KU LEUVEN

INL

GEOMAR

National Oceanography Centre

SORBONNE UNIVERSITE

Open Universiteit

Radboud University

IOW

UNIFESP

BASF

TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH


AIR CENTRE

contactica innovation

EGI

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DELIVERABLE DETAILS

Document number:	D9.2
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Executive summary:	<p>This document corresponds to the Deliverable 9.2 Project Website. It is a description of the LABPLAS project website which has been designed and implemented for wider public information and as a repository for the communication material. The publicly accessible areas of the website contain general non-confidential information about the project, the members of the consortium, relevant events and news related to the involved fields of work. In addition, the consortium team has access to a restricted private area used as an internal repository for LABPLAS documentation and information. The LABPLAS website is publicly accessible online since November 2021 at the following link: https://LABPLAS.eu/. It is responsive to the browser, making it also readable from mobile devices. It will be actively maintained and updated with the results from the project and will remain open beyond the end of the project.</p>

Version	Date	Comments
1	09/12/2021	Initial version
2	10/12/2021	Submitted deliverable version
3	07/02/2023	Reviewed with changes requested by the PO

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1 INTRODUCTION

Plastic is pouring from land into our oceans at a rate of nearly 10 million tonnes a year. Once in the sea, plastics fragment into particles moving with the currents and ocean gyres before washing up on the coastline. The smaller the size the higher the risk posed by these particles to organisms and human health. Because small, micro- and nano- plastics (SMNP) cannot be removed from oceans, proactive action regarding research on plastic alternatives and strategies to prevent plastic from entering the environment should be taken promptly. The LABPLAS project is a 48-months project whose vision is to develop new techniques and models for the detection and quantification of SMNP. Specifically, LABPLAS will determine reliable identification methods for a more accurate assessment of the abundance, distribution, and toxicity determination of SMNP and associated chemicals in the environment. It will also develop practical computational tools that should facilitate the mapping of plastic-impacted hotspots and promote scientifically sound plastic governance.

This document corresponds to the Deliverable 9.2 Project Website. It is a description of the LABPLAS project website which has been designed and implemented during the first months of the project for wider public information and as a repository for the communication material. The publicly accessible areas of the project website contain general non-confidential information about the project, the members of the consortium, relevant events and news related to the involved fields of work. In addition, the consortium team has access to a restricted private area used as an internal repository for LABPLAS documentation and information. This area is protected with a username and password. The LABPLAS website is accessible online since November 2021. It is responsive to the browser, making it also readable from mobile devices. The website will be actively maintained and updated with the results from the project and will remain open beyond the end of the project.

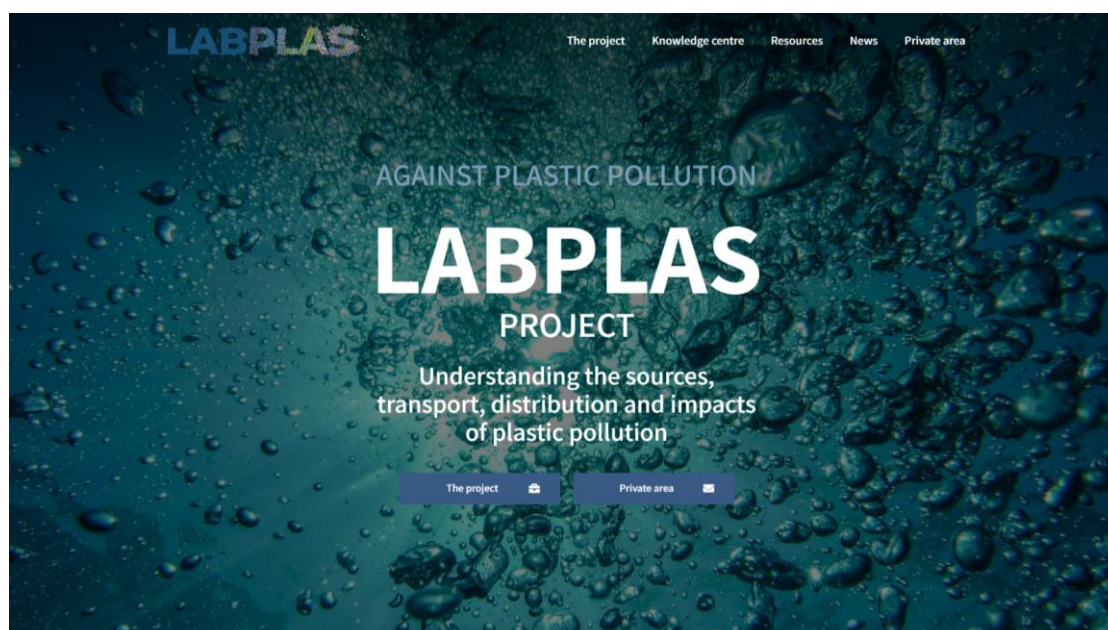


Figure 1. Screenshot of the LABPLAS Project Website

2 ACCESS

The project website is publicly accessible online since November 2021 at the following link: <https://LABPLAS.eu/>

3 LABPLAS WEBSITE STRUCTURE

All individual pages of the LABPLAS website include a header with the project logo and a navigation menu allowing for quick access to any part of the website, as well as a footer with the acknowledgement text “*This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101003954*” and the EU flag.

3.1 Home

The homepage contains a brief introduction to the project with key information about its objectives and a slider with all the consortium partners (with active links to their institutional websites).

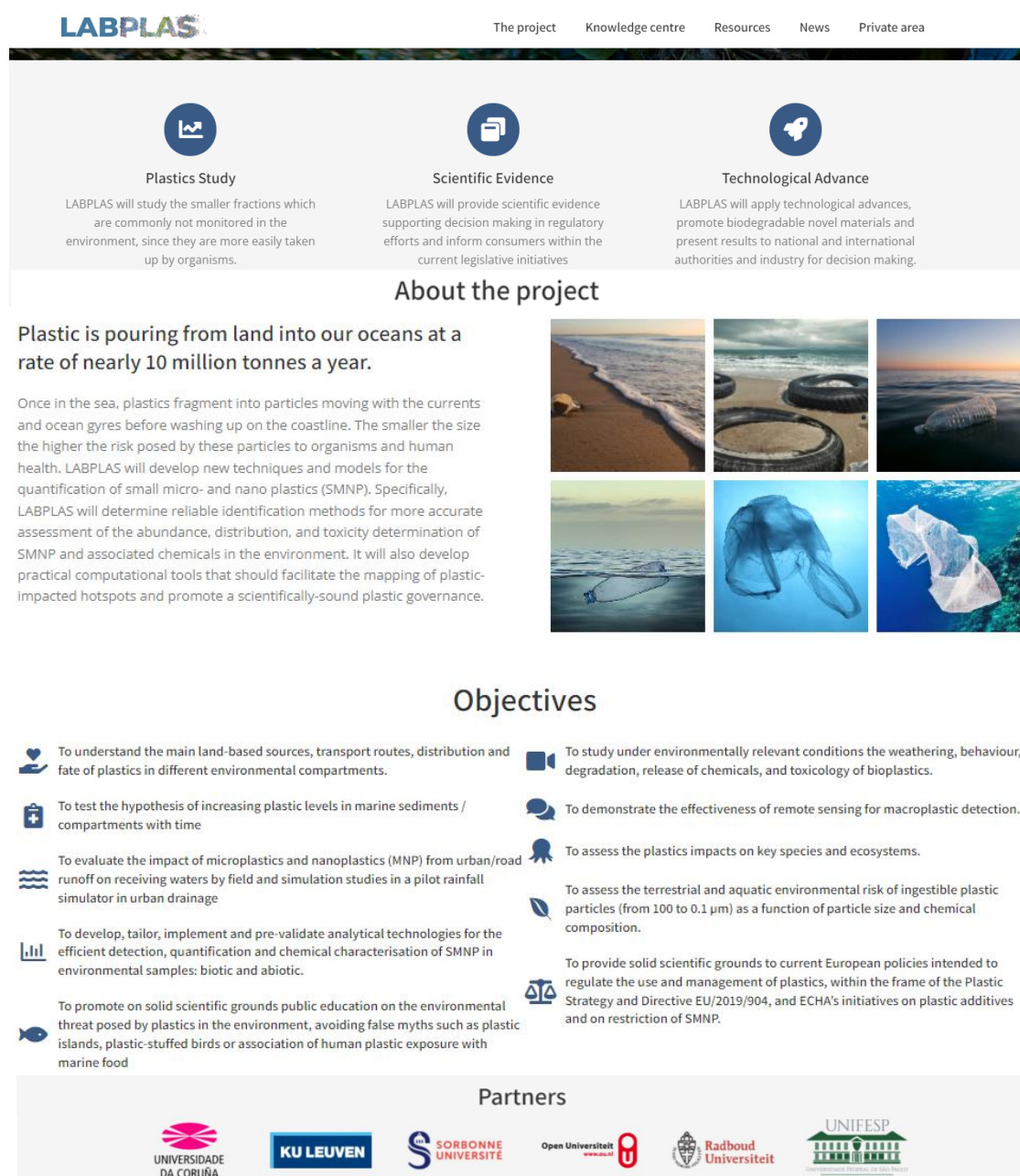




Figure 2. Screenshot of the LABPLAS website homepage

3.2 The Project

The Project page, accessible through the menu, contains information about the general aspects of the project, including the objectives.




[The project](#)
[Knowledge centre](#)
[Resources](#)
[News](#)
[Private area](#)




THE PROJECT

Approximately 6,300 million tonnes (Mt) of plastic waste has been generated to date, 79% of which has been accumulated in landfills or the natural environment.

If current production and waste management trends continue, roughly 12,000 Mt of plastic waste will be in landfills or the natural environment by 2050. Land-derived plastics reach environmental compartments from multiple sources, where they fragment into increasingly smaller particles (<100 µm) with suspected increase potential for bioavailability and risk as particle size decreases. Since the fragmented small particles cannot be easily removed from ecosystems, prevention is better than cure. Strategies to prevent plastic entering the environment and research on aquatic biodegradable alternatives should be taken promptly





Principles of our work

The LABPLAS project is focused on understanding the sources, transport, distribution and impacts of plastic pollution in all environmental compartments (freshwater, marine, terrestrial, atmosphere and aquatic biota). LABPLAS will apply technological advances (sampling, analysis, quantification), promote biodegradable novel materials, develop innovative and up-scalable models (for assessing the fate, effects and risks of plastics), and present results to national and international authorities and industry for decision making.

LABPLAS will study the smaller fractions (micro and nanoplastics (SMNPs)), which are commonly not monitored in the environment, since they are more easily taken up by organisms. Plastics are not just polymer, and LABPLAS will additionally pay attention to chemicals added to plastic objects to enhance their physical properties, and assess their potential effect to metabolism.

LABPLAS will provide scientific evidence supporting decision making in regulatory efforts and inform consumers within the current legislative initiatives prompted by the EU Plastics Strategy and the Plastics Directive (EU 2019/904) by providing solid scientific evidence and novel technical developments rather than by misperceptions and false myths on plastic properties

Figure 3. Screenshot of "The Project" page

Our objectives

The LABPLAS project is based on the following assumptions:

1. Most plastic pollution can be traced back to land-based sources of plastic waste;
2. The environmental impact of plastic particles is driven by their size, shape and composition (i.e., polymer properties, particle size, shape and chemical additives determine environmental fate and ecotoxicological effects).

Based on these assumptions, the main objectives of LABPLAS are

- ✓ To understand the main land-based sources, transport routes, distribution and fate of plastics in different environmental compartments.
- ✓ To test the hypothesis of increasing plastic levels in marine sediments/compartments with time
- ✓ To evaluate the impact of microplastics and nanoplastics (MNP) from urban/road runoff on receiving waters by field and simulation studies in a pilot rainfall simulator in urban drainage
- ✓ To develop, tailor, implement and pre-validate analytical technologies for the efficient detection, quantification and chemical characterisation of SMNP in environmental samples: biotic and abiotic.



Figure 4. Screenshot of the LABPLAS objectives page

Also, there is a sub-page, accessible by clicking on “The project tab” that presents the different Work Packages.

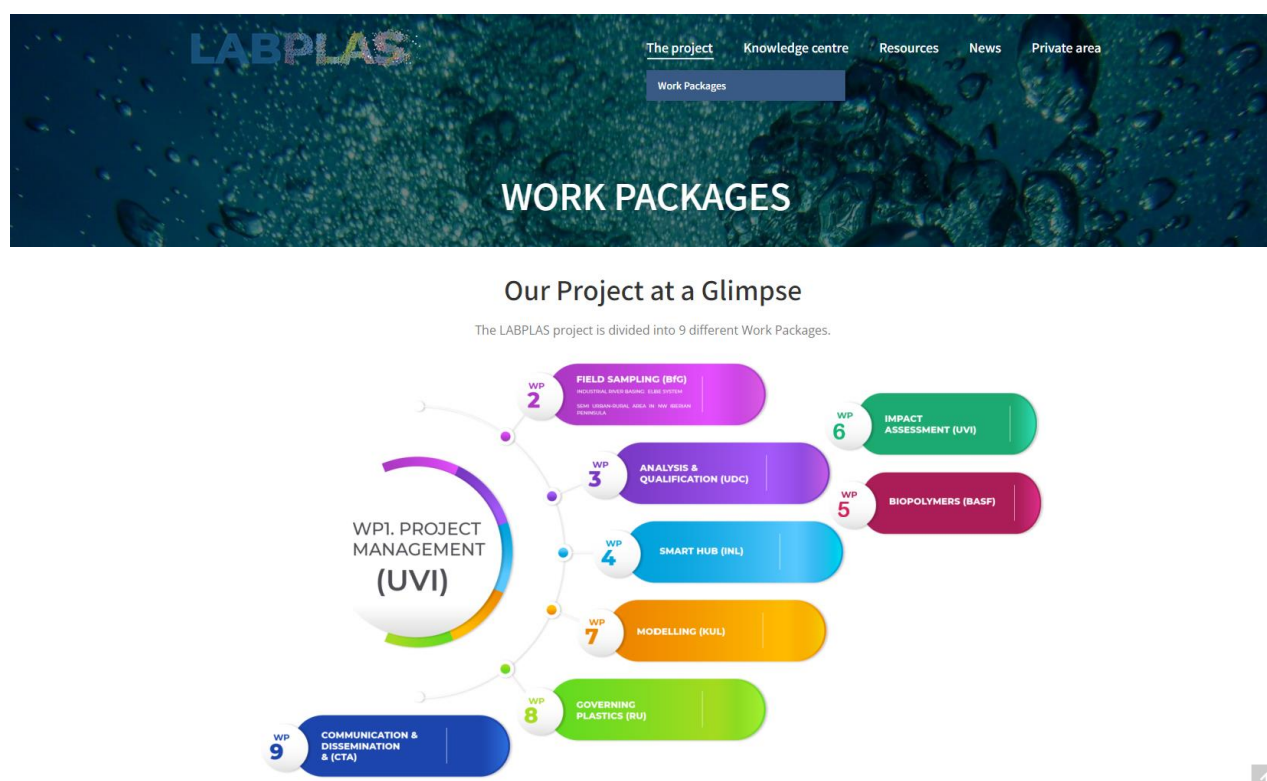


Figure 5. Screenshot of the Work Packages Sub-Page

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3.3 Knowledge centre

On the “Knowledge centre” page, the LABPLAS project public deliverables and scientific publications will be uploaded in two subpages to contribute to knowledge sharing.

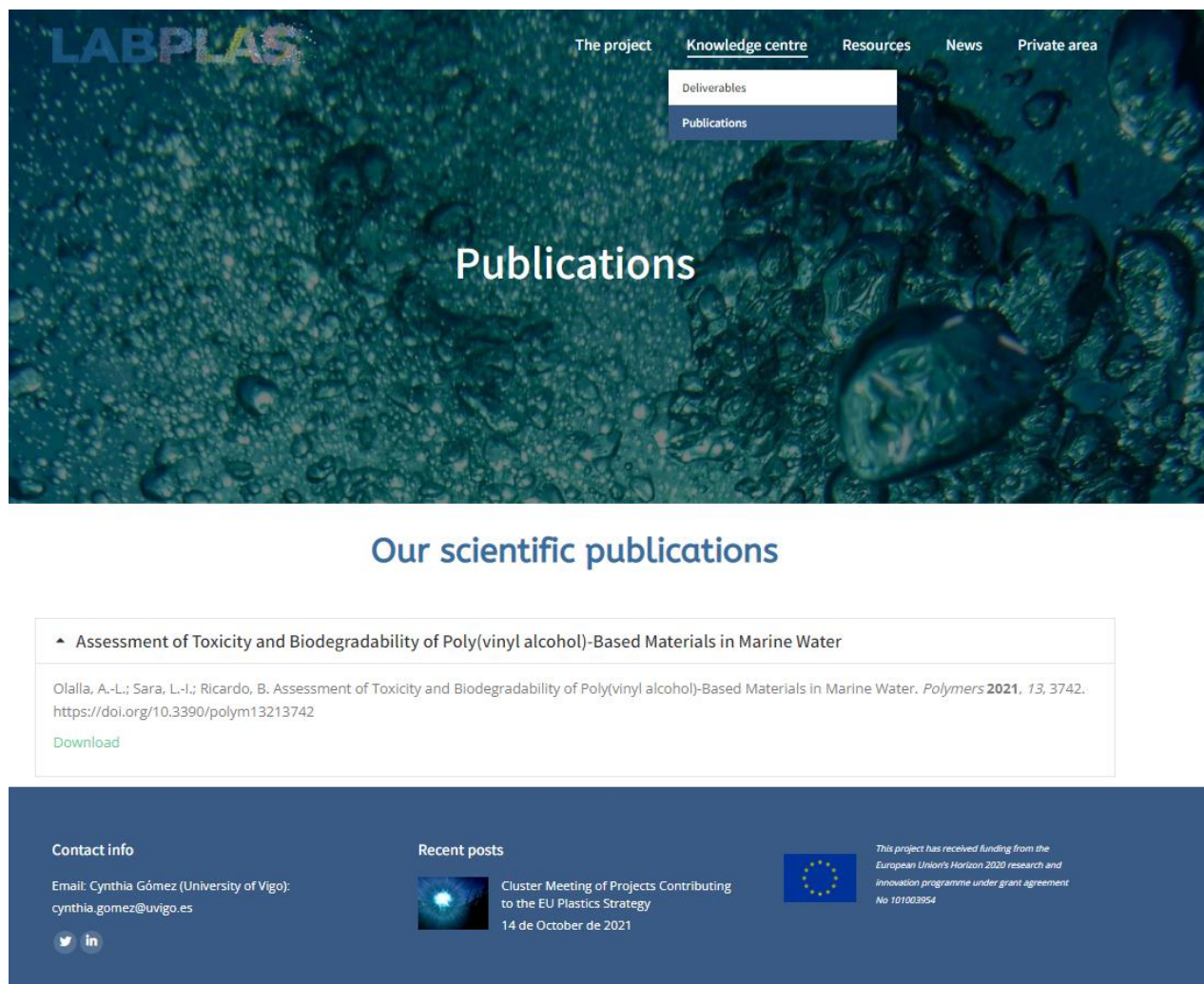


Figure 6. Screenshot of the Publications sub-page

3.4 Resources

The page “Resources” is also divided into two subpages: “Communication” and “Gallery”. This will be one of the main channels for wider public information and the repository of the project's communication material.

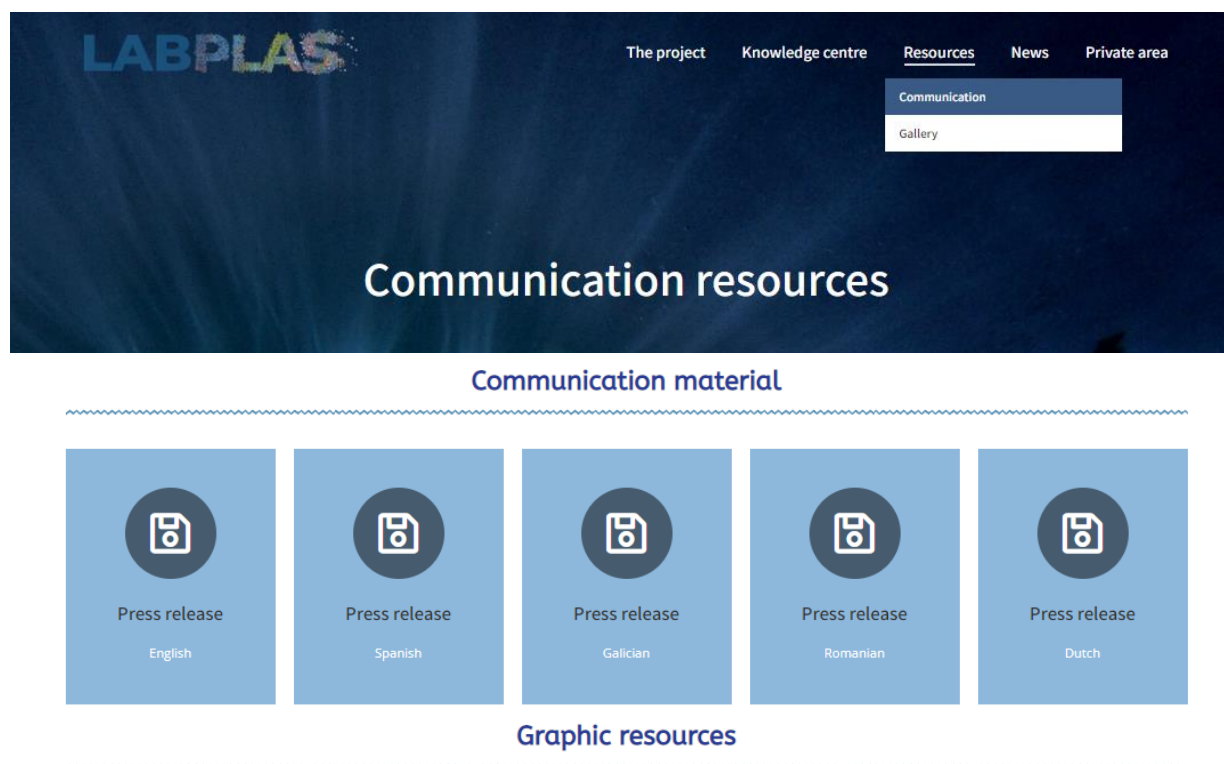


Figure 7. Screenshot of the Communications sub-page

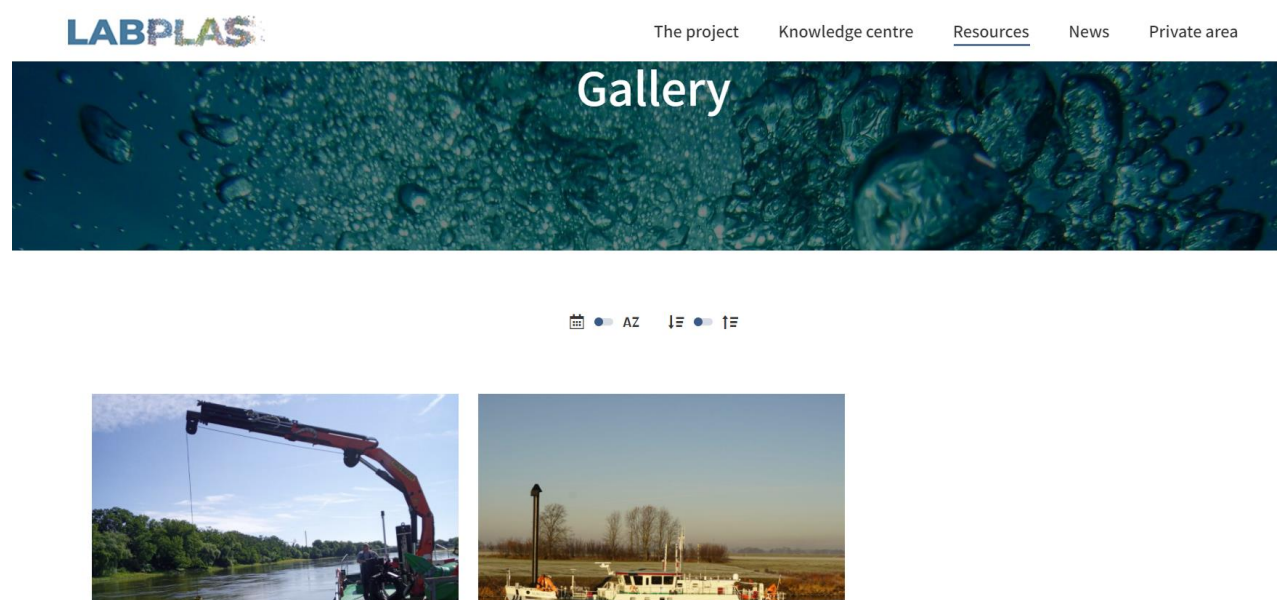


Figure 8. Screenshot of the Gallery sub-page

3.5 News

On this page, details of dissemination activities, news, and events regarding the LABPLAS project will be shared.

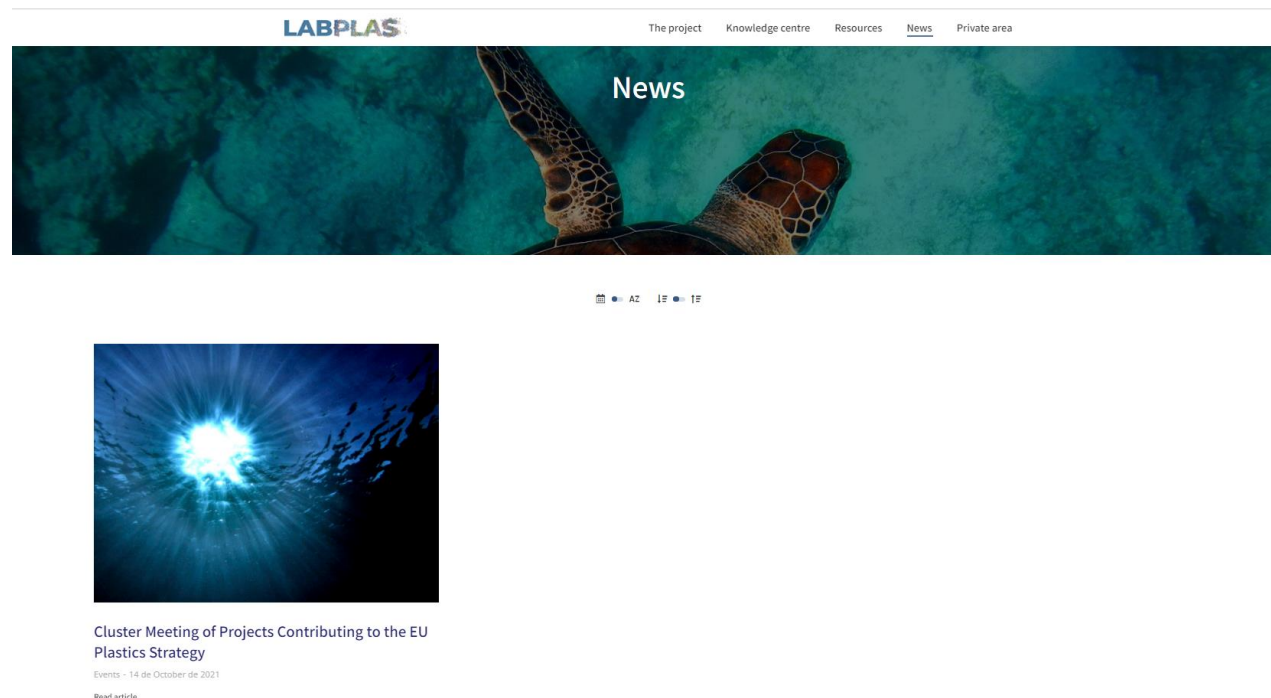


Figure 9. Screenshot of the News page

3.6 Footer

The website footer contains the project's social links, EU grant acknowledgement information, EU flag, recent posts and contact details.



Figure 10. Screenshot of the Footer

3.7 Private area

The LABPLAS website also has a restricted private area used as an internal repository for LABPLAS documentation and information. This area is protected with a username and password.

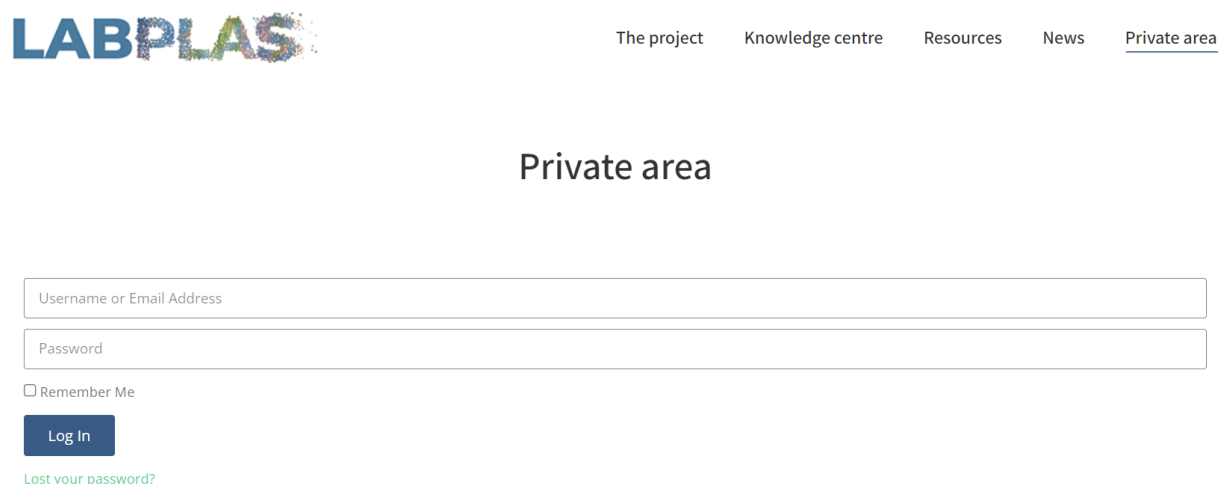


Figure 11. Screenshot of the Private area page

Once logged in, partners have access to the repository where project documentation and information are uploaded.

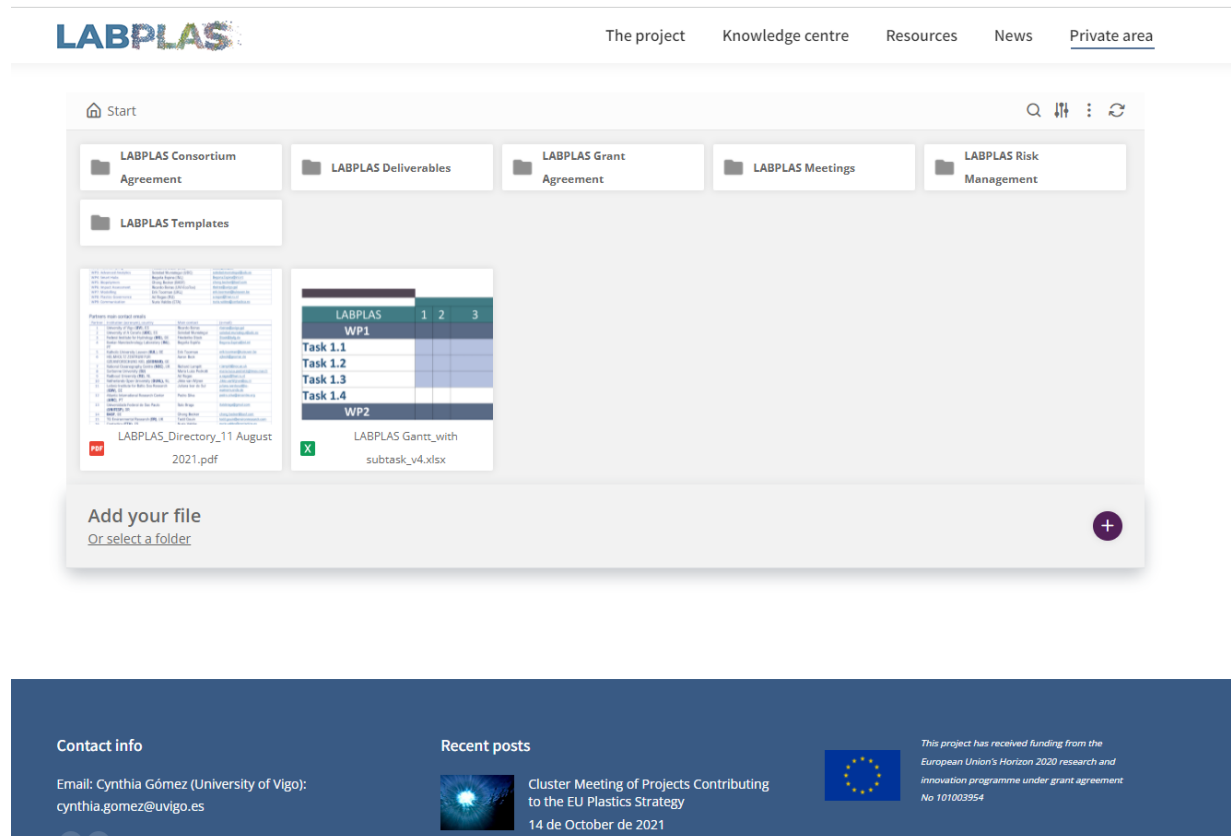


Figure 12. Screenshot of the internal private repository

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