BIOFOS

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Website availability

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EU  European Union  
EC  European Commission  
ICT  Information and Communication Technologies  
STREP  Specific-Targeted Research Project  
FP7  Seventh Framework Programme  
NTUA  National Technical University of Athens  
ICCS  Institute of Communication and Computer Systems  
LoC  Lab-on-Chip  
WP  Work-Package  
RSS  Really Simple Syndication  
CMS  Content Management System  
XHTML  Extensible HyperText Markup Language  
CSS  Cascading Style Sheets  
SQL  Structured Query Language  

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Executive Summary

The present document reports on the establishment of the initial content of the BIOFOS project website. It describes the objectives that the website intends to address, its structure and its functionalities and the basic tools that were used for its development. The actual deliverable is available at http://www.ict-biofos.eu.

1 Introduction

BIOFOS project is a specific-targeted research project (STREP) co-funded by the European Commission, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) under the seventh Framework Programme (FP7). BIOFOS is a three year duration project, officially started on November 1st, 2013. The BIOFOS consortium consists of ten (10) beneficiaries from five European countries (Greece, The Netherlands, France, Switzerland and Spain): four academic partners (Institute of Communication and Computer Systems/National Technical University of Athens-ICCS/NTUA, Université de Perpignan Via Domitia-UPVD, Wageningen University-WU, Saxion University of Applied Sciences-SAXION), two research institutes (Institut de Recerda I Technologia Agroalimentaries-IRTA, Bioacademy of Athens-BRFAA) and four industrial partners (LioniX BV-LioniX, Surfix BV-Surfix, Centre Suisse d’ Electronique et de Microtechnique-CSEM and Sociedad Cooperativa Andaluza Ganadera del Valle de los Pedroches-COVAP).

Within BIOFOS, the beneficiaries form a team aiming to develop a reusable, highly functional Lab-on-Chip (LoC) -based sensor for field application in the food sector.

2 Objectives of BIOFOS website

The development of the BIOFOS website is a task falling into the Work-Package 9 activities of the project related to the dissemination and exploitation of the project results, aiming to make the achievements and benefits known to relevant target-groups, including scientific/technical community, people from industry, to other ICT projects and to the general public.

Furthermore, the availability of the website intends to enforce the efficient administrative and technical management of the project since it will serve as a point of reference for exchange of information and documents between the consortium members and at the same time to enable information flow towards the European Commission officers and the project reviewers.

The key issues that were considered in selecting, structuring and writing content for the BIOFOS website are the following:

- To present the BIOFOS project’s profile to the visitors of the site (members of the scientific community, people from industry, general public).
To present the BIOFOS concepts, specific objectives and progress on the research activities of the project. This targets, in particular, the members of the scientific community and the people from industry and aims at attracting their interest and increasing the visibility of the project.

- To become a point of reference for the consortium members, concentrating the main documents and enabling flow of information between the consortium partners.
- To facilitate efficient information flow and submission of documents to the EC.
- To disseminate the project activities to the general public through a number of reports, presentations and others that will be available for reading and downloading to external visitors of the website.
- To maintain a high profile for content.

3 The BIOFOS website

3.1 General

The BIOFOS Project Website (http://www.ict-biofos.eu) was implemented by the ICCS/NTUA web-developer and the Project Coordinator ICCS/NTUA. The website is hosted, with all the relevant files, at the server hosted in the network operations center of the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) premises. The appearance of the website reflects the corporate image of the project through a clean and functional design.

3.2 Structure and Content

A screenshot of the home page of the BIOFOS website is depicted in Figure 1. On the top-center region there is the navigation menu that is common for all pages. Through this navigation, users can quickly access each of the nine main sections and to contact the project.

On the top-right region of the page, there is available a search link providing to the user to search through keywords within the website. The user will be also able to be guided through the website to the Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn BIOFOS pages. At the same area, the European flag and FP7 logo appear, linked to the respective websites of EC¹ and FP7². On the right region contact information and latest news are available.

The major sections of the website and their content are as follows:

3.2.1 Home

The “Home” page of BIOFOS website frames a short description of the project objectives and also includes three “rolling” photos, depicted on top of the page, highlighting the main concepts of the project. It also informs the reader that the project is a specific-target research program (STREP) co-funded by European Commission’s 7th Framework Programme (Figure 1).
3.2.2 Project Overview
The “Project overview” page presents a more detailed overview of BIOFOS project, representing its factsheet as it can be seen in Figure 2. This page intends to provide the basic information to all visitors of the site.

3.2.3 Objectives
The “Objectives” page presents the main technological challenges that BIOFOS is aiming to address.

3.2.4 Partners
The “Partners” page lists all the organizations in the BIOFOS project consortium together with logo linked to their websites and contact details. It also provides a brief description of the role of each partner within the BIOFOS work-plan (Figure 4).

3.2.5 Private area
The “Private area” of the website has been designed so as to facilitate ease in exchange of information between the project beneficiaries and thus, it is only accessible to the BIOFOS project partners. Each consortium member, as authorized user, may login to the private area using the username/password combination that has been defined and sent to each consortium partner by the coordinator. Since the BIOFOS project has ten partners and most of them are involved in most of the Work-Packages (WP) it has been decided all partners to have access rights to all WP.

Within the private area, the user can access (read and download) main documents of the project, deliverables, confidential presentations and working documents, minutes from meetings and phone-conferences, internal reports and any other type of supporting documents. A screenshot of the central page of the private section is illustrated in Figure 5. Up to date, in the private section, the presentations of the BIOFOS kick-off meeting have been launched, including the kick-off minutes, as well as templates for project presentations, deliverables and internal reports. As the project progress, it is anticipated that new items will be consciously added in the private area.

3.2.6 Reviewer’s area
This area is devoted to the EC officers and the external evaluators of the project. Within the “Reviewer’s” area, the authorized users will have the possibility to see and download specific documents such as the deliverable reports. In this way, a most efficient information flow from the project coordinating team to the EC is intended. A screenshot of the login page of the reviewers’ area is presented in Figure 6.

3.2.7 News
This page will provide latest news from the progress on project activities including publications, project meetings, workshops and events of BIOFOS, public deliverables and press releases as well as news from other ongoing activities relevant to the scientific fields of BIOFOS project. As the technical work and project activities progress, new items will be published under the “News” area with the most recent ones appearing also within the “Latest News” region of the main website page.
3.2.8 **Contact**
The “Contact” page provides information for contacting the Project Coordinator for inquiries regarding the BIOFOS Project and also for the Exploitation Manager of the project for inquiries regarding project exploitation and applications.

3.2.9 **Links**
This page provides external links to relevant websites including ongoing EU-funded projects, the Horizon 2020, the European Commission ICT and other ICT projects. The specific page will also provide access to fundamental or more advanced scientific documents that are relevant to the scope and the scientific challenges of BIOFOS project.

3.3 **Preview**

In the following figures are depicted the BIOFOS webpages as screen captured at the time of writing this report.

![Home page of the BIOFOS website.](image)

**Figure 1:** Home page of the BIOFOS website.
Figure 2: “Project Overview” page presenting the factsheet of BIOFOS.

Figure 3: “Objectives” page of the BIOFOS presenting the main technical objectives of the project.
Figure 4: Screenshot of the “partner’s” page presenting a number of the consortium partners of BIOFOS. The role of each partner has been included as a pop-up link under the “Role in BIOFOS”.

Figure 5: Central page of the private area of BIOFOS website.
Figure 6: Login page of the reviewers’ area.

Figure 7: “News” page of the BIOFOS website showing the different sub-sections of the page—publications, project meetings and events, public reports and press releases that the user can access.
Figure 8: Screenshot of the “Contact” page of the BIOFOS website.

Figure 9: A screen capture of the “Link” page of the BIOFOS website.
3.4 Technical implementation

The following technical implementation were defined by the BIOFOS web-developer and the Project Coordinator:

3.4.1 Domain
The domain used for the BIOFOS Website is http://www.ict-biofos.eu.

3.4.2 Software
The website is based on the Drupal Content Management System (CMS)³ (version 7.24). Drupal is an open source content management system which facilitates easy of use and allows maximum flexibility. The website is designed to be conformant with the latest W3C standards, in particular XHTML 1.0, CSS3 and HTML5. Following the responsive web design standards, the website is responsive to three different site templates for: desktop PCs, tablets, and smartphones.

3.4.3 Server
The server has the following features:

Operating System: FreeBSD
Web server: Apache/2.2.22 (FreeBSD) DAV/2 PHP/5.3.17 with Suhosin-Patch mod_ssl/2.2.22 OpenSSL/0.9.8q
MySQL server version: 5.x - MySQL 5.1.65
PHP 5.x - PHP 5.3.17
Slider jQuery 1.8.2

3.4.4 Security
The security guidelines that have been followed are:

- Monitor tools have been used, in order to block any IPs showing unusual behavior.
- The Private area and the reviewer’s area is password protected. To simplify the process of user management and authentication, a role is assigned to each authorized user, so after one has passed the log-in process, is redirected to the appropriate user – centric content.
- PHP memory limit: 192M
- PHP register global.

3.4.5 Statistics
For the BIOFOS website, usage statistics⁴ are maintained, providing information on the site visitation. In particular, total number of hits, the most requested pages and the distribution of the visitors by country and user agent are counted and this may be found at http://www.google.com/analytics/. Although, for now, the statistics information is accessible only to the coordinator, access will be given also to the consortium partners.

3.4.6 Databases
The Project Portal has a dedicated MySQL database, optimized for performance and security especially for the CMS - Drupal.
3.4.7 Back-up
Automated Backups of the Website including the database, are performed on a daily basis. At any given time, the system can be reverted to its previous state for at least five days back.

4 Conclusions and Future Plans

The website is providing information about the BIOFOS project, partners, upcoming events, contact details and other issues. Through the website, the visibility of the project towards the scientific community, the industry and the general public will be supported. Furthermore, the website, through the private area and reviewer’s area, will facilitate the communication between the project beneficiaries and information flow from the BIOFOS coordination team to the European Commission.

The BIOFOS website has been created the first month of the project and is already launched (www.ict-biofos.eu). Nevertheless, it is anticipated that it will continue to develop and expand as the project is in progress, aiming to be a point of reference for other activities and events that are relevant to the scientific field of BIOFOS. In this aspect, updates of the website contents and improvements of the “look-and-feel” of the website will be continuously done in order to enhance its visitation and enable its functional role in the exchange of information between the BIOFOS beneficiaries.

Future steps include optimization of the website for search with popular search engines, continuous updates of the website content with insertion of relevant material from the research activities of the project, as well as from external links.

5 References

1 http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm
2 http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm
3 https://drupal.org/
4 http://www.google.com/analytics/