

**Copernicus Tools for Monitoring Global Change  
Effects in Rivers and Riparian Zones**

**(Cop.RIVER)**

**Deliverable 1: Minutes of Cop.RIVER kick-off meeting**



## **INDEX**

INDEX .....	1
1 BACKGROUND .....	2
2 KICK-OFF MEETING.....	2
2.1 MINUTES .....	2

## 1 BACKGROUND

*Cop.RIVER* aims to promote the use of Earth Observation (EO) in applications and services related to the ecological status of riverscapes (*i.e.* rivers and their associated alluvial plains, floodplains and riparian forests). The action will strengthen the Copernicus user uptake by supporting regional and national authorities in the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, the Habitats and Birds Directives and the Water Framework Directive by applying GAP analysis, to complement available Copernicus information on the state and characteristics of rivers and riparian zones.

The action will develop an innovative toolkit (*i.e.* environmental knowledge and geo-information services) that will allow defining a selected set of standardized ecological indicators from both riparian and aquatic domains. This tool will enable achieving independent decision-making to assist on water resource management, restoration and conservation actions in these complex, fragile and valuable landscapes.

The action will also develop a benchmark for monitoring riparian processes and services (water quality, habitat conservation or urban planning) that will foster opportunities for European enterprises to provide innovative Earth observation systems and services for a more sustainable management of riverscapes based on remote sensing data.

The project was planned to start in October 2021; however, due to the delay between the call resolution and the signing of the agreement, the project started in October 2022 and will end in September 2025.

## 2 KICK-OFF MEETING

*Cop.RIVER* started on October 1, 2022. A project kick-off meeting was held in early November 2022 at Instituto de Hidráulica de Cantabria (IHCantabria – Copernicus Academy Member) to recapitulate *Cop.RIVER* objectives, milestones and deliverables and go over the main administrative and financial issues of the project. Forthcoming milestones and deliverables were discussed and scheduled. The attendees included the principal researcher, the project leader and two other project team members.

### 2.1 Minutes

#### Date and time of meeting:

A project kick-off meeting was held in November 10, 2022 at 9:15 a.m. at Instituto de Hidráulica de Cantabria (IHCantabria), Santander, Spain.

#### Names of the participants:

A total of four project members attended the meeting:

- José Barquín, Professor – Principal Researcher.
- Laura Concostrina, Researcher – Project leader.
- José Manuel Álvarez, Researcher – Project team member.
- Fernando Rodríguez Montoya, Technician - Project team member.

### Agenda items and topics discussed

The agenda for the meeting included a recapitulation of project objectives, working plan and financial issues. The topics discussed were the following:

- Project objectives
- COPERNICUS products validation
- COPERNICUS evolution: needs, gaps and solutions
- Working packages, milestones & budget

### Action items

The milestones, deliverables and result indicators were reviewed and deadlines were assigned. For those included in the first year of the project, specific delivery dates were scheduled.

- Milestones and deliverables:

YEAR	Milestone	Deliverable	Report	Deadline
	- Initiation	- Kick off meeting	RP1	10/10/2022
	- Identify monitoring indicators	- List of indicators from DMA, FD, HD, BioStrategy, NbS, BGINs	RP1	28/08/2023
	- Methodologies for indicators	- Protocols and literature review	RP1	28/08/2023
2022	- Assessment of different remotely sensed indicators	- List terrestrial and aquatic remotely sensed indicators selected	RP1	15/09/2023
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2023	- Assessment of available products	- List of indicators provided by RS products	RP1	20/09/2023
	- Analysis of potential study sites	- Study sites selected	RP1	11/09/2023
	- Collection of available ground data	- Ground databases prepared	RP1	11/09/2023
	- Identification of stakeholders and IAC	- Regional and national stakeholders and IAC selected	RP1	15/09/2023

2023 - 2024	- Preparation of project meeting 1	- Action meeting 1	RP2	30/09/2024
	- Analysis of selected indicators	- Development of selected indicators	RP2	30/09/2024
	- Improving knowledge of study sites	- Description of study sites	RP2	30/09/2024
	- SWOT analysis with relevant stakeholders	- Engagement with stakeholders	RP2	30/09/2024
	- Communication of project developments	- Project indicators achievement	RP2	30/09/2024
2024 - 2025	- Reporting	- Action meeting 2	RP3	30/09/2025
	- Workshop and technical sessions preparation	- Review of all project indicators achievement	RP3	30/09/2025
	- Preparation of project meeting 2	- Delivery of all project results and indicators	RP3	30/09/2025
	- Engagement with stakeholders			30/09/2025
	- Communication of outputs and results			30/09/2025

- Project indicators:

Indicator type	Indicator	Deadline
Meetings	3 National-level Action meetings in Spain at the beginning, medium and end of the Action to engage stakeholders and present ongoing and final results. Each meeting and trainings shall have at least 10 participants.	30/09/2025
Workshops	2 overall workshops on technical issues and results obtained at the middle and the end of the Action, with an estimated minimum attendance of 30 people each.	30/09/2025

Workshops	1 National Copernicus user uptake workshop sessions in Spain for presenting the Action methods and results. Potentially influenced 200 attendees.	30/09/2025
Report	1 report with available methods and datasets related to riverscape monitoring for improving results interpretation, distributed to a minimum of 5 stakeholders (Ministries and regional authorities).	30/09/2025
Maps	Maps of riverscape ecological/optical indicators for selected pilot basins in Spain. At least 1 pilot area with 10 cartographic products.	30/09/2025
Social media	At least 2 web stories and a minimum of 20 publications in social networks (Twitter, Facebook) published during the Action.	30/09/2025
Report	1 peer-reviewed report submitted to international conferences	30/06/2023
Report	1 peer-reviewed report submitted to peer-reviewed journals.	30/09/2025