

Minutes of the Annual MIGRATE Meeting
at GFZ
building H, lecture hall
Telegrafenberg, 14473 Potsdam, Germany
from 26th to 27th November 2018

November, 26th

09:30 Welcome statements by the host Judith Schicks and chair Klaus Wallmann

The host Judith Schicks welcomes all participants and provides some general information about the schedule and about the GFZ. The chair Klaus Wallmann informs about the agenda. He points out that due to the end of the project in March 2019, MIGRATE needs to finalize the “Final MIGRATE Report” that will include all reports, publications, presentations etc. by the members.

09:45 Presentation by Matthias Haeckel on first results of the MeBo drill cruise M142 in the Romanian sector of the Black Sea

Matthias Haeckel presents initial results on the gas hydrate distribution in drill cores retrieved in the Romanian sector of the Black Sea.

10:15 Presentation by Ricardo León Buendia on the GARAH Project (Geological Analysis and Resource Assessment of selected Hydrocarbon systems)

Ricardo León Buendia informs that during the lifetime of the GARAH Project, limited funds are available (about € 30,000) to assess the distribution of gas hydrates around the European continental margin. The GARAH project will use the maps provided by MIGRATE working group 1 as a basis for their assessment. John Hopper explains that databases developed by GARAH will be publically available.

10:40 Report on STSMs (Judith Schicks)

Judith Schicks reports that during the 3rd year only one STSM has been completed. She points out that there is still enough time to send PhD students to other institutions to fulfill an STSM.

10:55 Coffee break

11:30 Presentation by Georgia Sismani on Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC)

Georgia Sismani explains that until the end of the project there is the possibility to support scientists from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs) with a grant when attending conferences. The deadline for application will be mid-February 2019. A call will be announced on the MIGRATE homepage.

11:35 Report by working group 1 (Tim Minshull)

Tim Minshull presents the ongoing work in WG1 that includes the preparation of a scientific publication on the distribution of gas hydrates along the European continental margin.

11:45 Presentation by Judith Schicks on ETN initiative: clathrate hydrates for integrated industrial applications: powerful crystals for smart solutions (CLOISTER)

Judith Schicks presents the concept for the ETN initiative CLOISTER that is based on the work conducted in WG2 of MIGRATE. She emphasizes that the training should be the main subject of the ETN proposal. The deadline for submission will be 15th January 2019.

12:30 Lunch

13:50 Presentation by Umberta Tinivella on ETN initiative: assessment and mitigation of emissions induced by offshore resource extractions (ASSURE)

Umberta Tinivella presents the concept for the ETN initiative ASSURE that is based on the work conducted in WG3 of MIGRATE. It will be submitted until 15th January 2019.

14:45 Parallel meetings of WG1-WG3

WG1 discusses the synthesis paper, the updating and maintenance of the database and the topics for a final WG1 Meeting.

WG2 works on the ETN initiative CLOISTER and the final report of WG2.

WG3 works on the ETN initiative ASSURE and the final report of WG3.

16:00 Coffee break

**16:45 Parallel meetings of WG1-WG3
- 18:00**

WG1-WG 3 continue with their discussion and thematic work.

19:00 Conference Dinner at the restaurant "Zum Fliegenden Holländer"

November, 27th

09:40 Parallel meetings of WG1-WG3

WG1-WG 3 continue with their discussion and thematic work.

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Plenum Meeting (report of WGs, discussion and decision on next steps/priorities, closing remarks)

Klaus Wallmann introduces the agenda of the afternoon.

Reports of the WGs:

Working Group 1 presents the main topics:

Synthesis paper

Updating and Maintaining the Database

Plans for Final WG1 Meeting, (28th-29th January 2019)

Current National Activity

Topics for the future

WG1 focused its discussion in two areas. The first was discussion of a manuscript being prepared by WG1 members (with about 30 authors) that reviews the work of the group on hydrate occurrences in Europe. A draft was completed in advance of the meeting and during the meeting, some details of this draft were discussed – in particular the introductory and concluding sections. It was agreed that the target journal would be “Marine and Petroleum Geology”.

The second topic was the future of the database compiled by WG1. It was agreed that those responsible for each geographical area in the manuscript would check the database for completeness, and that the database would be updated via an STSM visit from the University of Malta to the University of Tromsø during February 2019. There was a discussion about whether long-term maintenance of the database should be by GeoERA (via the GARAH project) or by EMODnet.

The final meeting of WG1 was also planned, with further work on the manuscript and further discussion of the future of the database. It was agreed that the representatives of GARAH and of EMODnet should be invited so that a final decision could be made on future hosting and maintenance of the database. Finally, WG1 members summarised the current national activities in gas hydrate research in each of their countries.

Working Group 2 split into 2 teams, one focused on improving and refining the proposal for an ETN on clathrate hydrates in industrial applications (CLOISTER), while the other started to refine and update the report (first published in August 2017) towards final publication. It was decided that further work on these two topics will continue, through internet collaboration and additional final meetings.

There will be a writing group meeting of WG2 by the beginning of 2019 in order to improve the ETN proposal CLOISTER by the help of native speakers.

The Working Group 3 meeting was dedicated to finalize the final points that should be completed before the end of the project:

1. submission of the ETN proposal;
2. submission of the joint paper of the working group;
3. definition of the final WG3 report.

Most of the meeting was dedicated to refine and finalize the proposal of the ETN, entitled “ASSessment and mitigation of emissions indUced by offshore Resource Extractions – ASSURE”, which was presented to the MIGRATE consortium. Nick O’Neill offered to review the English spelling and grammar with Ana Cameirao and Livio Ruffine by participating in a meeting organized by OGS in Trieste, 7th-8th January 2019. Miro Tsvetkov offered to organize Summer Schools and Annual Meetings for the ETN, including a field course in Varna (Bulgaria). In this way, costs will be reduced and the ESR will have the possibility to visit one of the case study areas, i.e., the Black Sea. Regarding the WG3 paper, Livio Ruffine, who manages the preparation of the paper, suggested to start the definition of the paper after the submission of the ETN ASSURE proposal. Thus, this point will be discussed in detail during the last WG3 meeting that will be organized during the first two weeks of February. Finally, it was decided to postpone the discussion about the final report to the final WG3 meeting.

Closing remarks:

Klaus Wallmann expresses his thanks towards the LOS and the administrative project manager.

14:45 Coffee break

15:00 MC Meeting

Klaus Wallmann asks for critical points and comments that could be discussed. No critical points were raised. It was decided to spend most of the remaining funding for meetings of the working groups 1-3. Moreover, Klaus Wallmann points out that the WG leaders shall ask for contributions to the final MIGRATE report. The collection of these shall be sent to Astrid Ulbrich. Klaus Wallmann closes the meeting.

15:45 End of the Annual Assembly