

Third year summary

HYDROMEL reached project month 36 of 48 months. The phase M25 to M36 has been intensively used to promote the project on different levels. The project is progressing according to the planning and has taken into account strategic adaptations for optimized implementation.

Internally

The **HYDROMEL technology platform** is nearly completed. It consists of (i) methods for **advanced robotics** and associated technologies (SP 2, SP 6), (ii) **self-assembly technologies** and enabling technologies (SP 3) and finally (iii) development of methodologies and application scenarios for **hybrid assembly** – the combination of robotics and self-assembly – (SP 4).

Strong and close cooperation between the scientific and industrial project partners led to **integration** of these project results (SP 5) and the start of **demonstration** activities (SP 7). The HYDROMEL technology platform is applied in various demonstrator scenarios (see demonstrators 1-5) but also in selected “**Sub-demonstrators**” that are additional outcomes from the platform research and development activities.

Strengthened **exploitation activities** (SP 8) – the exploitation strategy seminar held at project month 30 in Paris is a highlight - helped to identify project results, but also to assess their potential for future exploitation.

Activities beyond the consortium

As HYDROMEL generated visible output and concrete results, communication with external parties has been identified in order to promote the project and its results. An industrial **advisory board** has been established and invited at project month 30. This board consists of experts from micro-assembly / micro-systems industry and gave valuable feedback to the project results in discussions with the experts. It's targeted to implement selected advises (e.g. related to Demonstrator 4, realization of a sensing device) within the remaining project period.

Furthermore, HYDROMEL was represented on **national and international** dissemination events, such as conferences, workshops. The project has also been linked to related, complementary European research projects and exchange of ideas has been carried out (e.g. close link to the NanoHand project).

Project coordination and management

The project is going on as planned. The month 24 review gave valuable input how to improve the project and the work. Several major changes had to be implemented that were related to change of situation at project partners. The most important was the project withdrawal of institute PROFACTOR, which led to a reassessment of Demonstrator 2 (RFID tag assembly). Furthermore a critical situation with industry partner NASCATEC had to be solved. This company has operational challenges, therefore their contribution to HYDROMEL had to be reduced, internal partners could be found to cover the related topics.

In accordance to the interests of industry partners that represent demonstrators (BIOPREDIC for demonstrator 3 – Handling of cells - and ST for demonstrator 4 – Handling methods for Nanowires), these partners actively optimized their contributions and advised the development for the demonstrators.

The project management was in close contact with the EC (project officer) to manage the necessary adaptations to the implementation plan and administrative procedures.