



Research and Innovation Action



Astronomy ESFRI and Research Infrastructure Cluster

Contract number: 653477

Project coordinator: ASTRON, M.A. Garrett

Asterics Kick-Off

26 May 2015

Location: ASTRON Office, Dwingeloo, The Netherlands

Participants:

ASTRON	Garrett, Michael	INTA	Solano, Enrique
	Meer, Rob van der		Diaz-Menendez, Maria Luisa
	Boerma, Emmy	UEDIN	Lawrence, Andy
	Dijkema, Tammo Jan	UHEI	Demleitner, Markus
	Kruithof, Gert		Wambsganss, Joachim
	Vermeulen, Rene	OU	Serjeant, Stephen
	Wise, Michael	VU/VUmc	Koelemeij, Jeroen
CNRS	Mourard, Denis	CEA	Kosack, Karl
	Genova, Francoise	UVA	Berge, David
	Lamanna, Giovanni	UGR	Díaz, Javier
	Allen, Mark		Ros, Eduardo
	Boisson, Catherine	FOM	Kleuver, Job de
	Chassande-Mottin, Eric		Jong, Maarten de
	Coyle, Paschal	IEEC	Colome, Josep
	Kohler, Elisabeth		Manas, Miguel
INAF	Pasian, Fabio	IFAE	Rico, Javier
	Antonelli, Lucio Angelo	STFC	Williams, Stewart
UCAM	Nikolic, Nikolic	DESY	Wischnewski, Ralf
JIVE	Langevelde, Huib Jan van	SURFnet	Hinrich, Peter
	Boven, Paul		Smets, Rob
	Poll, Aukelien van den		
	Verkouter, Harro		
ESO	Sterzik, Michael		
NWO	Stark, Ronald		
SKA	Berry, Simon		

Apologies:

No attendees for partners FAU, UCM or INFN



0) Arrival of partners, registration and lunch

1) Welcome

At 14.00 hours Prof. Michael Garrett (ASTRON) welcomes all attendees to the ASTERICS Kick-Off meeting.

2) ASTERICS overall introduction and overview, planning and expectations

Prof. Michael Garrett (ASTRON) gives an overview of the project, planning and expectations and explains the roles of the various management groups.

Two candidates have presented themselves for the role of AGA chair / vice chair: Denis Mourard (CNRS) and Fabio Pasian (INAF). The election will be held in the first AGA.

3) Work packages presentation

All work package leaders give a short presentation explaining the tasks and goals of their work packages.

WP1 Management - Dr. Rob van der Meer (ASTRON)

Tasks of WP1: project governance, coordination (internal and external) and management.

Goal of the policy forum: creating policies between ESFRI projects.

Reports to the EC are due in months 18, 36 and 48.

Proposal for AGA: internal reporting every 6 months.

Formal EC reviews will be held in months 24 and 48.

Questions asked:

1. Are there plans for an internal project website?
Yes, a wiki-page is already installed and will be expanded: www.astron.nl/asterics.
2. How is the management team formed?
The AMST is formed by the project manager, the project administrator and the project scientist. The project manager will be, among other things, chasing deliverables and reports and is in contact with EC regarding the execution of the contract. The project administrator will be looking after financial aspects. The project scientist monitors the scientific development of the project and the quality of deliverables and represents the project at various events and meetings. The project scientist will also assist in making reports and deliverables uniform. The role of project scientist requires some one with scientific understanding.
3. The first talks will start next week. It will be good to have a website to refer to.
The presentations of the kick-off will be made available on-line.
[action: Rob van der Meer]



WP2 Dissemination, Engagement and Citizen Science (DECS) - Dr. Stephen Serjeant (OU)

WP2 will create an outward-facing dialogue with technical communities, decision makers and the science-inclined public, and an inward-facing dialogue within the consortium.

WP2 will deliver metrics to measure the dialogues with the general public.

There will be citizen science experiments using the Zooniverse project.

Projects will also be hosted on OpenLearn (initiative from The Open University and The Wolfson Foundation).

Presentation closes with the question: What would you like a million people to do for you?

Questions asked:

1. Two examples were about optical identification, are there examples for radio astronomy?
Yes, there is already a radio galaxy zoo.
2. How do you interact with the ESFRI to service the outreach? How can the general public be engaged?
For CTA e.g. you could be looking at the special distribution of detections. Close to the detection threshold. The challenge will be to make it visually attractive for the crowd.

WP3 OBservatory E-environments Linked by common ChallengeS (OBELICS) - Dr. Giovanni Lamanna (CNRS)

WP3 is the largest work package in the project, with its own management and dissemination.

OBELICS is divided into four tasks with the goal to find the commons between facilities and ESFRI's. The focus on the research infrastructures is fundamental.

Upcoming steps: recruiting personnel (including OBELICS project manager).

Remarks:

1. Fabio Pasian (INAF) notes that in a diagram of the presentation of Michael Garrett an arrow was shown between WP3 and WP4; this arrow is very important. Man power allocated to this is very low. But it is very important to guarantee a constant connection between two work packages. Only if working together WP3 and WP4 will add value.

WP4 Data Access, Discovery and Interoperability (DADI) - Dr. Françoise Genova (CNRS)

The goal of WP4 is delivering data (no pipe line etc.).

WP4 will make everyone an actor of the Virtual Observatory (VO) not only the consumer.

In task 2 trainings will be given, mainly for early researchers.

Questions WP4 has to the project:

- How will information be distributed (circulation of information)?
- What is the role of the AEAB? There might be a role for the AEAB to prioritize, but this will have to be discussed first.
- Will there be a repository of products? Yes.



Questions asked:

1. What is expected from the AEAB?

We will do the work needed to together. We have ESFRI representatives in the project. The gatherings will bring things to do from the ESFRI representatives but also from the scientists. We might annually ask the AEAB for feedback on the reports we delivered. We don't have this kind of structure yet in the project plan. Many people are closely involved in the ESFRI projects. WP4 hopes that the ESFRI will tell them what to do and to prioritize. Michael Garrett would not be surprised if the AEAB is involved in the midterm and final review.

Since the AEAB is new in H2020 projects, the coordinator will contact the EC Project Officer for more information regarding the role of the AEAB. [action: Michael Garrett]

WP5: Connecting Locations of ESFRI Observatories and Partners in Astronomy for Timing and Real-time Alerts (CLEOPATRA) - Prof. Huib van Langevelde (JIVE)

Huib van Langevelde informs that JIVE is inaugurated as an ERIC on April 21, 2015. The formal legal transition is in progress. In due time a change will be required for the ASTERICS project and the consortium agreement.

WP5 has 4 activities:

- Synchronization (use of White Rabbit Ethernet)
- Multi-messenger methods
- User domain data streaming
- Scheduling (complex, many element arrays)

Questions asked:

1. There are infrastructures that will not be ready for a while. Therefore pathfinders are important. Do we feel well represented?
For radio-astronomy yes, for the others Huib van Langevelde is hopeful.

4) ESFRI projects presentation

Representatives of the ESFRI's invited give a short presentation on their infrastructures.

EGO - Dr. Eric Chassande-Mottin

Questions asked:

1. When do you expect to observe after commissioning?
LIGO this year and VIRGO at the end of 2016.

KM3NeT - Prof. Maarten de Jong

Questions asked:

1. Are the prototypes in the sea successful so far?
Yes, the results so far are positive. In a few weeks time the first string is ready: the minimum system. If that is successful nothing can stop KM3NeT.

ANTAR data and public Icecube data will be given to the ASTERICS project.



SKA - Dr. Simon BERRY

Questions asked:

1. Is Jodrell bank now the headquarters for SKA?
Yes.
2. Are you planning to become an ERIC?
No, our global nature makes ERIC not very suitable because internal organisations might not be able to join. SKA turned out to be a company.
3. Are we assigning one person for each ESFRI to link to ASTERICS (referring to Michael Garrett being the interface between SKA and ASTERICS)?
Michael Garrett was picked by SKA since he attends many of the SKA-meetings. The ESFRI- coordinator should appoint someone if appropriate. It so happened that Michael Garrett is already on the SKA board.

E-ELT - Dr. Michael Sterzik

E-ELT invites ASTERICS to see how they are moving and how things can get aligned. SCIOPS 2015 is held from 24-27 November 2015: ASTERICS is invited to attend to this workshop.

CTA - Dr. Giovanni Lamanna

In the presentation there is a link to a movie regarding the CTA observatory. This movie might be of interest to WP2.

Questions asked:

1. Does CTA expect a specific deliverable from CLEOPATRA?
The deliverables WP5 has towards the EC will be useful and appropriate for CTA and SKA as well.

APPEC - Mr. Job de Kleuver

APPEC is the successor of ASPERA.

From 29-30 September 2015 a community meeting in preparation of new H2010 calls will be held in Zagreb.

A draft of the new APPEC roadmap will be discussed in January 2016 in Rome. The final document will be released in the spring of 2016.

ASTERICS is very welcome in all APPEC events.

ASTRONET – Ronald Stark (ASTRONET was added to the agenda during the meeting)

ASTRONET started as a funding agency under FP6 to establish a strategic planning mechanism for all of European astronomy. There are more than 30 partners in and outside Europe.

5) Parallel sessions of work packages 2, 3, 4 and 5

At 17.00 hours the kick-off is split into splinter groups.

6) Group photo + Kick-off celebration (including dinner)

ACTION ITEMS

Action no.	Responsible	Description	Meeting date	Due date
KO-1	Rob van der Meer	Making the presentations of the kick-off available on-line	26/05/2015	01/06/2015
KO-2	Michael Garrett	Contact the EC Project Officer for more information regarding the role of the AEAB	26/05/2015	Jan. 2016 (or next AGA)

ACRONYMS used in the minutes of meeting

AEAB	ASTERICS External Advisory Board
AGA	ASTERICS General Assembly
AMST	ASTERICS Management Support Team
EC	European Commission
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures
VO	Virtual Observatory

