



RADIONET SPOOR MEETING / VIDEO-CONFERENCE

DATE	Sep 4, 2018	TIME	10.00 – 11am (CEST)
PARTICIPANTS	John Conway (OSO); Michael Garrett (UMAN); C. Jackson (ASTRON); R. Mauersberger (MPIfR); Izabela Rottmann (MPIfR, minutes); T. Venturi (INAF); R. Vermeulen (ILT); Anton Zensus (MPIfR - lead)		
VERSION	FINAL (vers. 4.9.2018)		
NEXT MEETING	October 11, 2018		
AGENDA	Discussion on INFRAIA-03-2020 - Pilot for a new model of Integrating Activities		

MINUTES

1. Interest of funding agencies towards the pilot

- Sweden – research council is hesitant toward a pilot for a joint optical-radio RI, as they are different in the techniques and in organisations. Thus one organisation for both of them is not plausible. Critical is also how we organise radio astronomy in Europe especially in the SKA era.
- Italy – the ministry is well aware of the pilot idea and its direction. There is willingness to work out the best solution for the pilot. INAF is involved in OPTICON and RadioNet. There are two separate level of the discussion: 1) new direction of radio astronomy under pilot and 2) the broader future of the radio astronomy in Europe.
- Netherlands – there is willingness of research council to engage in the pilot. NWO is encouraging ASTRON to be part of the discussion and to involve also ASTRONET. But is the pilot the best forum for the strategy towards the future?
- ILT – ILT ASTRON has the national willingness towards pilot. Practical involvement of the other ILT partners is more difficult issue. There is an assumption that only one ILT representative will be the pilot beneficiary (see RadioNet).
- Germany – the German government takes the pilot for granted but will be not involved as partner (due to legal issues of MPG).
- UK - sees the pilot as a funding opportunity. The EC motivation seems to be not really understood.

2. Additional thoughts

- Involvement of ASTRONET and/or funding agencies has to be carefully planed.
- The pilot will involve only fraction of radio astronomy institutes in Europe and thus the pilot will be not representative for European radio astronomy - even if the pilot would be the only project running at the time, in which radio and optical astronomy discuss options with funding agencies.
- The discussion on organisation of radio astronomy in Europe (big picture) has to happened now, in SPOOR/RadioNet not in the pilot
- Possible pilot organisation could be RadioNet, OPTICON and research councils. BUT it is RadioNet and OPTICON who will define how the involvement of the research organisation will be.
- RadioNet and OPTICON should define clear boundary conditions for the pilot first.
- RadioNet is ready to coordinate the pilot, CNRS-INSU as coordinator is not an option.

Issues to be clarified?

- What is the real goal of the pilot? (1. Funding of TA; 2. Creation of astronomy platform?)
- Which partner does EC expects in the pilot (TA provider, funding agencies, ASTRONET...)? – Who should signed the contract in practice?
- What is the role of research councils in the pilot?
- What kind of work packages are planned (TA, JRA, NA?)
- Does EXC expect from the pilot a creation of astronomy platform/forum?



INFRAIA-03-2020 - Pilot for a new model of Integrating Activities

Objective

- Develop new ways for opening RI of European interest and support the integrating provision at EU level of their services
- Prepare the ground for supporting networks that bring together national, regional and European funders of research infrastructures for the co-funding of trans-national access of researchers.

Target

- Targeted approach (3 areas). One stage call: deadline March or May 2020
- Targeting larger sets of RIs, gathering close advanced communities to develop and implement a programme focussing on access provision and integration

Scope

- Virtual and Trans-national **access provision** to RIs internal and external to the consortium, the latter supported through **cascade granting**
- Joint activities to facilitate and **integrate** the access procedures, improve the services the infrastructures provide and further **develop on-line services**, ensuring their connection to the European Open Science Cloud
- Model development and testing mechanisms and practices for the long-term **engagement of funders** in supporting and making **trans-national access sustainable** beyond the EU funding

Thematic coverage: RI for advanced optical/IR and radio astronomy: OPTICON, RadioNet

INTERNAL Timeline

- Draft of the call text - discussion on 7 Sep 2018
- The call will be ready by December 2018
- Proposal submission deadline March or May 2020
- The internal preparation must start in 2019
 - Gathering of the partners
 - Selection of the coordinator's team
 - The skeleton of the proposal should be ready before the release of the call