



WP 1.3 Links with other Astronomy FP6 activities

The attached table lists the various astronomy-related activities under way in FP6, as far as we have been able to determine them. It is possible that there may be further or newly-awarded activities that are not yet included; we are aware of one, the astroparticle physics ERA-NET called ASPERA.

Contact has been made with the PIs of ASTRONET and RadioNet, and with the designated person from ASPERA for preliminary discussions on the interaction between their activities and those of ASTRONET. RadioNet and OPTICON are both broad, active I3 programmes covering both current and planned activities and with some element of looking to the longer-term future. There is therefore clearly a degree of overlap with some aspects of the ASTRONET activity. ASPERA is more narrowly focused, but has specifically been tasked with forward planning in a way that apparently overlaps directly with the ASTRONET remit (notwithstanding that it was assessed and the award made after ASTRONET had been awarded). The remaining activities appear to be more closely focused on the particular activities of specific wavelengths or scientific interests.

While it is an important part of the ASTRONET remit to establish contact with all sectors of the Astronomy community and ensure the widest possible awareness of ASTRONET's activities, it is suggested that the three groups that ASTRONET needs to work with the most closely in developing its key deliverables (the Science Vision and the Road Map) are OPTICON, RadioNet, and ASPERA. It is therefore proposed that for these purposes, the PIs of these three programmes be approached with a view to setting up reciprocal arrangements for them to attend the ASTRONET Board meetings as observers, and for ASTRONET to send an observer to their respective Board meetings.

Furthermore, to avoid duplicating the effort on planning for which ASPERA has been funded, it is suggested that discussions be opened with ASPERA with a view to agreeing that ASTRONET will take their forward plan and facility priorities and integrate it into the wider ASTRONET plan. Under such an arrangement, ASTRONET would not change the priority order assigned by ASPERA to the selection of the specialist facilities it requires, but would place those facilities within a prioritised order encompassing all potential future astronomical facilities. This approach has already begun to be implemented in the operation of the relevant panel for the Vision exercise, where there is representation in the Panel from ASPERA.

There is currently an ongoing discussion as to what exactly was offered to OPTICON and RadioNet in terms of nominations to the Science Vision panels. What must be important and pre-dominant in terms of credibility of the eventual ASTRONET output is that the conclusions should be objectively and scientifically driven. It should be clear that the panel members are appointed solely on the basis of scientific expertise, and not as placeholders for any particular interest group.

In the Road-Mapping phase, however, it will be appropriate to appoint individuals with particular expertise, and with particular knowledge of existing and potential facility developments in different areas. In particular, it would be appropriate to invite nominees specifically from the 3 key groups (OPTICON, ASTRONET and ASPERA) to participate. It would be advisable to determine in advance in which panels such participation should be focused.

Finally, as regards contact with other FP6 activities, it is necessary and desirable to develop these in shorter time as part of wider programme of propagating awareness of ASTRONET's activities. It is proposed that this be an ongoing activity under the auspices of WP1.3, with a programme of contacts with the various activities being established and a form of "town meeting" being held on one or two occasions to discuss the Science Vision and the evolving Roadmap.

Acronym	Instr /P.O.	Title	Co-ordinator	Project scientist(s)
RadioNet	I3 ERS	Advanced Radio Astronomy in Europe	P.Diamond University of Manchester, JBO Tel +44 (0) 14 77 57 26 25 Email: pdiamond@jb.man.ac.uk	Leonid Gurvits JIVE Tel: +31 (0) 521 596 514 Email: lgurvits@jive.nl Althea Wilkinson (Project Manager) University of Manchester, JBO Tel: +44 (0) 1477 571321 Email: aw@jb.man.ac.uk <u>Admin</u> Pat Gorham University of Manchester, JBO Tel: +44 (0) 1477 572694 Email: Patricia.A.Gorham@manchester.ac.uk
OPTICON	I3 PM	Optical Infrared Co-ordination Network for Astronomy	G. Gilmore Cambridge University Tel:+44 (0) 1223 337506 Email: gil@ast.cam.ac.uk	J. Davies University of Edinburgh Tel +44 (0) 131 668 83 48 Email: jkd@roe.ac.uk <u>Admin:</u> Suzanne Howard Cambridge University Tel +44 (0) 1223 766097 Email:showard@ast.cam.ac.uk
ILIAS	I3 GL	Integrated Large Infrastructures for Astroparticle Science	B. Saghai CEA/Saclay Tel: +33 (0)1 69 08 75 61 Email: bsaghai@cea.fr	
EuroPlaNet	CA ERS	European Planetology Network	M.Blanc Centre d'Etude Spatiale des Rayonnements (CESR) Tel +33 (0)5 61 55 62 22 Email : Michel.Blanc@cesr.fr	C.Guidice CNRS-Délégation Midi-Pyrénées Tel : +33 (0)5 61 33 61 17 Email : christine.guidice@dr14.cnrs.fr
ARENA	CA ERS	Antarctic research: a European network in astronomy	N.Epchtein LUAN/UNSA/UMR-CNRS Tel:+33 (0) 4 92 07 63 81 Email:epchtein@unice.fr	

HELAS	CA ERS	European helio and asteroseismology network	O.von der Lühe Kiepenhüer-Institut Sonnenphysik Tel: +44 (0) 761 3198 0 Email: ovdluhe@kis.uni-freiburg.de	
ELT DS	DS ERS	Extremely Large Telescopes Design Study	R.Gilmozzi ESO Garching Tel: +49 (0) 89 3200 6667 Email: rgilmozzi@eso.org	P.Dierickx ESO Garching Tel: +49 (0) 89 3200 64 37 Email: pdierick@eso.org
SKADS	DS ERS	Square Kilometre Array Design Study	A. van Ardenne ASTRON Tel: +31 (0) 521595144 Email: ardenne@astron.nl	
ALMA (enhancement)	CNI ERS	Enhancement of ALMA Early Science	T. Wilson ESO Garching Tel:+44 (0) 89 3200 6627 Email: twilson@eso.org	
VO-TECH	DS PM	The European Virtual Observatory- VO Technology Centre	Andrew Lawrence University of Edinburgh Tel: +44 (0) 131 668 8346 Email: al@roe.ac.uk	
KM3NET	DS GL	Km3 underground neutrino detector Design Study	Under negotiation	
SURE	TA ERS	Access for Europe to the International Space Station	Under negotiation	
ASTRONET	ERA NET	Co-ordinating Strategic Planning for European Astronomy	A-M Lagrange INSU/CNRS Tel: +33 (0) 89 3200 6627 Email : anne-marie.lagrange@cnsr-dir.fr	