



NEWSLETTER

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RADIONET PILOT



NEWSLETTER #11

Latest updates for the ORP Consortium

Dear ORP Consortium members,

And here we are, time is marching on, and we are already in the middle of our program. A lot has already been achieved and I would like to remind you that the quality of the work already accomplished has been positively highlighted at the Mid-Term Review.

As you will see in this Newsletter, the activities are now well underway and we are already starting to think about the future of ORP. We will come back to this point in a future Newsletter.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter as much as we enjoyed preparing it.

Stéphane BASA, on behalf of the EMT

Current ORP TNA Opportunities Open

ORP Transnational Access opportunities presently open:

- [Effelsberg](#)
- [European ARC Network](#)

Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT): Call for LoI for Associate Partners and MSE Collaborators

The Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT) invites expressions of interest in collaboration as it seeks to broaden its global community of partners. First, CFHT invites participation in its Associate Partnership Program, utilising its current suite of instruments spanning ultraviolet to near-infrared wavelengths with wide-field imaging and high-resolution spectroscopy capabilities.

Second, CFHT is seeking Letters of Interest to participate in the development of the Maunakea Spectroscopic Explorer (MSE) through either the:

- Design and fabrication of MSE-Pathfinder, an instrument for CFHT
- Design of the Maunakea Spectroscopic Explorer (MSE)

The purpose of this call is to identify institutes/organisations interested in participating in the above opportunities. Letters of Interest are solicited by May 1st. The [full text of the call](#) is available on the CFHT website.

Activities of the ORP Sky Protection Group

For ORP Joint Actions 1.5 Preserving the Sky and 2.5 Preserving the Skies for Future Generations the beginning of 2023 stood in the light of restructuring the sky protection effort of the ORP. To unlock untapped potential within the European and international community, it was decided to open membership in a newly created ORP Sky Protection Group, comprising all members of Joint Actions 1.5 and 2.5, as well as any external interested people who want to contribute to a coordinated effort within Europe to minimise the negative impact of electromagnetic interference (EMI) on astronomy, both radio-interference and light pollution and of terrestrial origin or from space. To organise the new effort, ad-hoc working groups were built, aligned with the strategic plan. The single groups are meant to work independently to develop and pursue their own work plan, while their chairpersons meet once per month as the management team. Luckily, we were able to find very suited chairpersons for most of our groups and would be delighted to hear from anyone interested to lead/chair work on Mitigation Software:

- Outreach and Education - Gyula I. G. Józsa (MPIfR)
- Drafting - Gyula I. G. Józsa (MPIfR)
- (Astronomy) Liaison - Andreas Hänel (Vereinigung der Sternfreunde e.V.)
- Public affairs and government relations - Andrew P. Williams (ESO)
- Mitigation software - tbd.
- Mitigation hardware - Pietro Bolli (INAF)
- EMI monitoring - Ioannis Antoniadis (FORTH)

Any interested person can [sign up for participation in the ORP Sky Protection Group](#), do not hesitate to spread the good news or to sign up yourself. [Read more](#).

ORP JA2 all hands meeting



The ORP JA2 Seamless Performance group met on 15 March 2023 in Berlin for a hybrid meeting. This meeting provided the opportunity for 36 participating JA2 group members to share outputs and achievements during the first part of the ORP project, and hence build further connections across the wide JA2 membership.

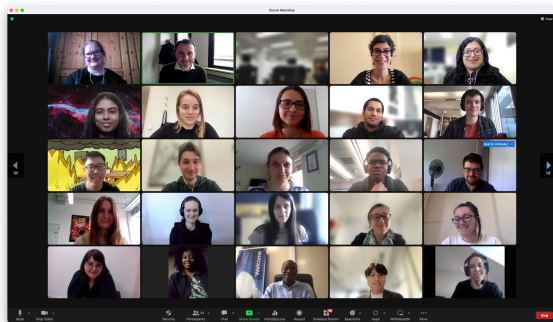
The whole JA2 group met for a full day of working meeting combining an all-hands plenary session with intensive parallel sessions for individual tasks.

[Read more.](#)

Changes in the ORP-team

As foreseen in the Grant Agreement, on 1 March the election of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of both the Board and the Executive took place. As a result, **Vassilis Charmandaris** (FORTH) was elected Chair and **Agnieszka Słowikowska** (JIV-ERIC) was elected Vice-Chair of the Board. On the Executive side, **Paulo Garcia**, (UPORTO) was elected Chair of the Executive Committee and **Rene Vermeulen** (ILT), Vice-Chair.

ORP Proposal Writing School engages students from 18 countries



The [2023 Proposal Writing School](#) was the first synergy school organised by ORP Training work package. It took place from 20 February to 20 March 2023 (each Monday) and delivered an introductory-level overview of the proposal writing process with a focus on ORP-supported facilities. From the 190 applicants 30 students from 18 countries were selected by the SOC to participate in this school. [Read more.](#)

VLTI and ALMA Synthesis workshop



On 9-12 January 2023, at the European Southern Observatory in Garching near Munich, the [ORP Workshop on image reconstruction](#) brought together 100 participants to raise awareness of complexities the two regimes are covering, strengthen the synergies between the two communities and find a common ground to advance imaging algorithms. [Read more](#).

Publications resulting from ORP support

Effelsberg observations: [A burst storm from the repeating FRB 20200120E in an M81 globular cluster](#) (Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, Volume 520, Issue 2, pp.2281-2305, doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stad269)

Deliverables

The following Deliverables have received internal approval and been uploaded onto the EC portal since 20 March 2023:

- D3.3 [ASTRON] : Gap analysis of existing archives and data processing framework & FAA tools (JA2.3)
- D3.4 [UNIWARSAW] : Delivery of automated data processing tools for photometric observations (JA2.2)
- D4.1 [ESO] : Workshop with imaging experts from VLTI and millimetre communities
- D5.1 [ESO] : Report 1 on training activities
- D6.1 [JIV-ERIC] : Providing access of 537 hrs to the EVN infrastructure
- D7.1 [UNIMAN] : Providing access of 306 hrs to the e-MERLIN infrastructure
- D8.1 [IRAM] : Providing access of 90 hrs to NOEMA and 329 hrs to PV
- D9.1 [ILT] : Providing access of 631 hrs to the LOFAR infrastructure
- D11.1 [OSO] : Providing access of 125 hrs to the APEX infrastructure
- D14.1 [ASTRON]: ADA assessment report 1
- D17.2 [UPORTO] : VLTI Expertise Centres evaluation report

Subscribe to the ORP External Newsletter

The external ORP newsletter is aimed at the international astronomical community to publicise the framework and activities of the project, and in particular draw attention to the benefits of

bringing together the optical and radio astronomical ground-based communities. **Subscription for the newsletter is available [here](#).**

Please help us spread the update to reach out to as many people as possible!

ORP Activities

During the period 15 January 2023 - 20 March 2023 the following activities have been organised:

JA1.5 Preserving the Skies and 2.5 Preserving the Sky for future Generations - See article above.

JA2.3 Common frameworks for Data access and processing procedures | 26 January 2023 & 15 March 2023 - The ORP JA2.3 Common frameworks for Data access and processing procedures group met on 26 January 2023 and on 15 March 2023 in Berlin. Task leader Janneke de Boer presented the results gathered from the interviews, the gap analysis and defined the next steps. JA2.3 will build upon ESCAPE ESAP, in the form of a data discovery tool. Combined with the ASTRON data processing tool, this will form the basis for a science platform. Over the next two years, ASTRON will intend to further develop this. Hanno Holties gave an insight into the architecture of both the data discovery tool and the data processing tool. Within the SKA Regional Centre network, many interesting topics for ORP are going on. Rob Beswick and Janneke de Boer, among others, are closely involved in the SKA regional Centre network and will keep us updated on all relevant ongoing developments. For the 15 March Berlin meeting, Jens Jensen from the SRCnet was invited to talk about AARC and FAAL. After an interesting talk, there was an open discussion on the subject. This discussion is set to continue, as multiple parties expressed their interest in FAAL.

JA2 Seamless Performance meeting | 15 March 2023 in Berlin/DE - See article above.

JA2.2a Time-Domain Multi-Facility & Multi-Frequency access to Research Infrastructures - Monthly update meeting | 26 January & 23 February 2023 online & 15 March 2023 hybrid (Berlin/DE and online)

Work on MS4-Demonstrated use for pilot partners (addition of REM telescope to the AEON network): a short report on MS4, specifying when and how the demonstration has been written and placed on the redmine.

BHTOM features: The statistics feature is being improved, with the possible specification of telescope to enable comparisons. For BHTOM 2, the adding of new brokers is in progress; data from the Catalina Real-time Transient Facility, ASAS, PanSTARRS, SDSS, NEOWISE etc. are being collected on the BHTOM for interesting targets and already demonstrated to work in BHTOM 2. BHTOM 2 is currently only open for internal usage. In the coming weeks, a broker for the VLA radio survey FIRST catalogue will be finished.

Target / multi-wavelength study: A spectrum of an interesting target for multi-wavelength study (GAIA21fug) was obtained. It looks like a flat spectrum/quasar. The spectrum will be uploaded to the BHTOM under "spectroscopy". This target is interesting because of rapid changes in it. The group agreed to apply to EVN call with the 1 June 2023 deadline to do some radio observations of this target.

EVN TOM Toolkit plugin: A backend was made, and several problems/bugs were discovered and fixed with the help from testers at Torún and Yebes. The next step is to put an observation request in and verify if the automatically generated VEX file can be used by stations.

AEON developments: For communication with REM, the plan is to use an email server that has been set up several years ago, which allows a user with the correct authorizations to send information to REM via email. The necessary steps towards this solution had been taken and things are progressing well. The project milestone M4, demonstrated use of the AEON protocol at PILOT partner RI, was passed in Feb 2023 and a report submitted on the project Redmine.

WP6-14 TA/VA radio leaders meeting | 13 February 2023 - The TA/VA group met online on 13 February 2023. The TA leaders gave updates on their infrastructure. Almost all activities are on track; except Sardinia Radio Telescope where a major upgrade is still ongoing and thus unfortunately delayed. The status is closely monitored and at present it is expected that SRT will be operational at the end of 2023.

Upcoming ORP-related Activities & Events

21 March 2023 – online – [JA4 Radio Training](#)

1-5 May 2023 – Vancouver/CA – [New Eyes on the Universe - SKA and ngVLA](#)

8-10 May 2023 – Granada/ES & online - [SKA Open Science School](#)

17-26 May 2023 – Milan/IT – [2023 Instrumentation School](#)

5-9 June 2023 – Dwingeloo/NL – [CASA VLBI Workshop](#)

12-16 June 2023 – Olsztyn/PL – [LOFAR Family Meeting 2023](#)

12-17 June 2023 – Budapest/HU – [11th VLTI Interferometry School](#)

4-8 September 2023 – Manchester/UK – [European ALMA school](#)



The ORP project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101004719

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