



NEWSLETTER

OPTICON-
RADIONET PILOT



NEWSLETTER #4

Latest updates for the ORP Consortium

Dear ORP Consortium members,

We would like to wish you a safe, healthy and prosperous new year! May the year 2022 be full of energy, great projects and successes in ORP.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for your unwavering commitment to this project from the beginning, despite the difficult conditions of the pandemic. We have not given up and together we have successfully launched this pilot.

You will read in this fourth newsletter that common actions and procedures are starting to take place, and this momentum should not stop any time soon. After the successful Telescope Directors Forum in December 2021, we hope to see many more radio and optical collaborative actions develop in 2022!

Have a good read!

Agnieszka Słowikowska, Chair of ORP Board,

Francisco Colomer, Chair of ORP Executive Committee,

Vassilis Charmandaris, Vice-Chair of ORP Board,

Jean-Gabriel Cuby, Anton Zensus, Gerry Gilmore, Izabela Rottmann, Gudrun Pebody and Hélène Dworak from the ORP Executive Management Team

Current ORP TA Opportunities Open

In the following, we list the current ORP Transnational Access opportunities that are open:

- [European ARC Network](#)
- [100-m radio telescope Effelsberg](#)
- [European VLBI Network](#)

ORP Telescope Director Forum

The first ORP Telescope Directors' Forum took place on 1-2 December 2021 in Paris (France) and online as a hybrid meeting. The TDF built on a long OPTICON tradition of fora enabling telescope directors to meet and chat. Hence the ORP project used the same format to start making ORP more than the sum of two complementary communities. The forum welcomed more than 50 participants from both communities and provided a stimulating platform for discussion and collaboration.

Find more information [here](#).

ORP Trainings: Common registration and questionnaire for radio and optical schools

Following the JA4 meeting that took place in September 2021, John McKean (ASTRON) and Heidi Korhonen (ESO), leaders of the radio and optical trainings, developed and agreed on a common registration form and questionnaire to be used for all ORP funded schools. Collected information will be used for statistical reasons and for the continuous improvement of the training provided under ORP.

Please find details on the registration form [here](#) and on the questionnaire [here](#).

EVN Call for Proposals Support+ Programme



The European VLBI Network (EVN) Call for Proposals is open (deadline 1 February 2022). For this call, JIVE/EVN initiates a pilot program to provide extended support to teams new to the EVN, with little or no direct VLBI experience. This includes the scheduling of the VLBI run and the VLBI-specific parts of the data reduction.

Find more information [here](#).

Article on the ORP project in the EU Research & Innovation Magazine Horizon

HORIZON
*The EU Research &
Innovation Magazine*

The EU Research & Innovation Magazine Horizon published on December 8, 2021 an article on the ORP project entitled “*Is Europe entering a golden age of astronomy?*” (by Gareth Willmer).

Read the full article on the Horizon Magazine website [here](#).

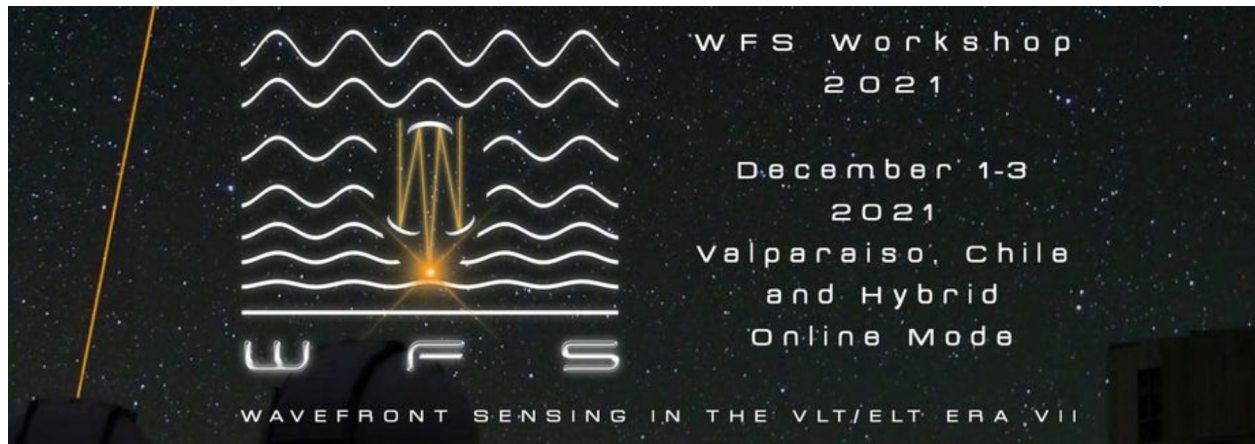
ORP IRAM School attracted hundreds of participants



The ORP IRAM 30m School organised virtually by the Institut de Radioastronomie Millimétrique (IRAM) on 15-19, 22 and 23 November was a success with the participation of hundreds of students. The School combined topics on (sub)millimetre astronomy with technical lectures on instrumentation, observing techniques, and data processing and, very importantly, with observations carried out at the 30m telescope. Lectures were given by experienced scientists and observers, covering a wide range of scientific and technical topics.

Read more about the ORP IRAM 30m School [here](#).

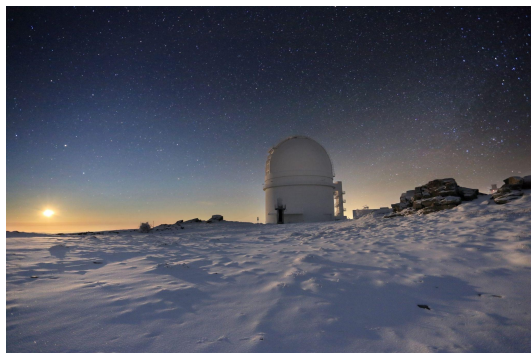
Wave-Front Sensor 2021



The Wave-Front Sensor 2021 (WFS2021) Workshop was held on 1-3 December 2021 as a hybrid meeting in Valparaíso, Chile. The workshop was organised under JA3.3 Adaptive optics activity to share and discuss the latest advancements in WFS technologies and applications.

Find the full article on the ORP website [here](#).

Europlanet Telescope Network Science Virtual Workshop



The Europlanet virtual workshop on the use of small telescope networks will take place on 9-11 February 2022. The [Europlanet Telescope Network \(EPN-TN\)](#), launched in 2020, is a network of small telescope facilities to support planetary science observations by professional and amateur astronomers. The goal of this workshop is to encourage community-led proposals and to highlight scientific results achieved with EPN-TN and other medium size and small telescopes. Interested astronomers and amateurs are invited to participate, to learn more about the instruments offered, their capabilities, and scientific potential.

Find more information about the workshop [here](#).

Report from ORP Activities

During the period 15 November 2021 - 15 January 2022 the following activities have been organised:

JA1.5 Preserving the skies | 11 January 2022 - The Preserving the skies group met online on 11 January 2022 and gave an update on activities and developments since the last meeting in November 2021. A call for optical representatives in the group was made during the Telescope Director Forum, ORP members are encouraged to reach out to Michael Kramer if they would like to participate. This meeting also provided the opportunity to Gyula I. G. Józsa (MPG), who recently joined JA1.5, to present the first draft of a logical framework for JA1.5. This logframe aims to serve as the basis for the drafting of the advocacy and lobbying strategy, the draft is available for inputs and comments from the group members.

JA2 Seamless performance group meeting | 12 January 2022 - The JA2 Seamless performance core group met online on 12 January 2022 for a brief follow up meeting. Task leaders gave an update on the progress and activities in their tasks. The first deliverable was submitted on time to the EC, JA2 is well on track.

JA2.5 Preserving the sky for future generations meeting | 13 January 2022 - The JA2.5 Preserving the sky for future generations had its kick off meeting online on 13 January 2022. 24 interested participants had the occasion to get to know each other and to work out the aims and challenges of JA2.5 - including its connection and overlap with JA1.5. As the first action to organize this difficult task, a questionnaire will be distributed among the participants, where they will report their specific capacities for contributing to JA2.5, to gather and collate information. In this meeting, Gyula I. G. Józsa (MPG) had the opportunity to present the first draft of a logical framework for JA2.5, which will be used to develop a work plan and keep track of the progress. The draft is available for inputs and comments from the group members.

Upcoming ORP-related Activities & Events

- JA4 Training group meeting | 26 January 2022
- Meeting JA3.3 Adaptive Optics Telemetry Standard | 27 January 2022
- Europlanet conference on the use of small telescope networks | 9-11 February 2022



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