

## **RadioNet3 Executive Meeting: 6 Nov 2012**

### **Transnational Access Report**

Simon Garrington

All facilities receiving support through the TNA programme are tracking eligible projects and users and have provided updated statistics on the numbers of eligible hours, projects and users.

A telecon was held ahead of the Executive Committee meeting to review the hours observed, numbers of projects and users, travel requests and project feedback for the period Jan 2012 to October 2012.

Since STFC have given notice to withdraw funding from JCMT in 2014, the status of JCMT for TNA funding is being reconsidered. It is expected that JCMT will be removed from the TNA programme. The funding which was allocated to JCMT could be redistributed within the TNA programme. If distributed pro-rata this would require a 9% increase in the number of contracted observing hours. This is not likely to present a problem to any of the TNA facilities, given the observing hours shown below.

The completion of project questionnaires is low. This could be largely due to the perception by users that the questionnaire cannot be completed until the whole project is completely analysed and perhaps even published. Following discussion at the telecom, the RadioNet3 Office (Izabela) and TNA coordinator (Garrington) will provide guidance for a pro-forma response which could be completed as soon as the observations are completed. This should dramatically increase the completion rate for the questionnaires.

EVN, WSRT, e-MERLIN, Pico Veleta, Plateau du Bure and APEX have already delivered more than the budgeted observing hours for the first reporting period which ends in July 2013.

LOFAR is likely to reach the budgeted hours with additional early science observations before December, but in any case Cycle 0 observations for the period December 2012 to May 2013, include approximately 1000 proposed hours which would be TNA eligible. With an oversubscription factor of 1.6 in this cycle, it is expected that ~600 TNA eligible hours will also be observed during cycle 0.

Effelsberg is on track to meet the expected hours by the end of the first reporting period.

The table of expected and observed hours/projects/users is below:

	Period 1 : Jan 2012 – Jul 2013					
	Hours		Projects		Users	
	Budget	To Oct 12	Budget	To Oct 12	Budget	To Oct 12
EVN	228	706(1)	49	46	99	173
JCMT	147	5	6	2	25	2
e-MERLIN	236	248	15	11	45	
Effelsberg	339	178	7	5	11	25(5)
LOFAR	160	140(2)	6	3	26	73
WSRT	160	800(3)	4		18	
Plateau du Bure	43	244	18	11	70	64
Pico Veleta	142	764	37	27	112	223
APEX	103	262	5	19	21	95
Sardinia RT	30	0 (4)	1	0	1	0

#### Notes

- (1) This includes EVN Session 2 2012, which is still in progress
- (2) This includes an estimated 20 hours since August. Cycle 0 observations are due to start with LOFAR in December – 16 eligible projects with approximately 1000 hours have been proposed for this cycle, which ends in May 2013.
- (3) 620 hours had already been observed by August and 800 hours will have been scheduled by the end of the year.
- (4) No TNA eligible observations are expected before the end of the year.
- (5) This entry corrected a previous error in the last TNA report.