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Providing access of 370 hours to the Effelsberg infrastructure

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DER WISSENSCHAFTEN E.V. (MPG)

1 Document information

Document name: Providing access of 401 hours to the TNA – Effelsberg infrastructure in the period 01/01/2012 – 51/05/2013

Type Other

WP 15

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1.1 Dissemination Level

Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

1.2 Content

- 1 Document information 2
 - 1.1 Dissemination Level 2
 - 1.2 Content..... 3
- 2 Description of the TNA deliverable..... 4
 - 2.1 Information about the TNA – Effelsberg 4
 - 2.2 Information about the provided access in the period (01/01/2012-31/05/2013) 5
 - 2.3 Information about the financial EC contribution to the travel..... 6

2 Description of the TNA deliverable

2.1 Information about the TNA – Effelsberg

The 100-m radio telescope of the Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie (MPIfR) is a unique European astronomical facility that combines superb sensitivity and wide frequency coverage with distinct versatility, making the telescope not only a cutting edge instrument for front-line research but also a testbed for emerging and future technology. With its specs, this extremely flexible telescope is only rivalled by the Green Bank Telescope in the US, the only other fully steerable 100-m-class telescope in the world. The telescope is located in a protected valley near Bad Münstereifel-Effelsberg. The telescope can be used to observe radio emission from celestial objects in a wavelength range from 90 cm (300 MHz) down to 3.5 mm (86 GHz).

Observer's access to the Effelsberg Radio Observatory with its 100-m telescope is awarded on the basis of successful observing proposal, subject to a peer review procedure by a TAC (see below). To facilitate the proposal preparation the MPIfR has adopted the web-based proposal tool "North Star" which was developed by the FP6 NA2 (Synergy) program. The proposers are informed about the success of their application (with feedback) soon after the meeting of the TAC. Proposals selected for observation are scheduled as soon as possible (normally within 3-6 months). "Target-of-Opportunity"-proposals can be submitted at any time.

The TAC, the Programm Komitee Effelsberg (PKE), currently consists of three members elected from the scientific staff of the institute, and five experts (2 Germans + 3 Europeans) from outside the MPIfR. They meet face-to-face three times per year. During these meetings the PKE judges the scientific merit and technical feasibility of each proposal and assigns a certain grade and – if necessary – a reduction of the observing time granted. This procedure is the same, regardless of the origin of the proposers or their observing experience. Members of the PKE, who are co-investigators on a project, are not participating in the assessment of the corresponding proposal. After the meeting, the proposers receive a notification about the assessment including the grade, amount of time granted, the comments of the referees, and – if applicable – scheduling information.

External users are offered support by specialised and experienced local staff at all project stages: scientific and technical support for the preparation of the proposal, during the observations as well as during the data reduction process. In addition, technical staff at the radio observatory (receiver engineers, telescope operators, etc.) is available at any time to ensure successful data taking. In some cases, remote and absentee observations have been made possible by the Effelsberg staff (e.g. for projects 48-12, 16-10).

Through the financial aid of the current TNA proposal, a (second) dedicated support scientist has been hired who will especially look after the (most requested) spectroscopic mode of observations. Users who gain access to the telescope can also count on the help of scientists ("friends of observers") from the institute's headquarters in Bonn who are experienced in the corresponding observing modes (spectroscopy, continuum, pulsars, and VLBI). Furthermore, the MPIfR provides external users with transportation from Bonn to the telescope site (~40 km distance), en-suite accommodation at the observatory (for one or two observers per project), a well-equipped library, office space, kitchen and computer access. (Outside the TNA program, visitors have to pay for their own travel expenses and the costs of local accommodation.)

2.2 Information about the provided access in the period (01/01/2012-31/05/2013)

Date of access	Project acronym	Name (institute) of the TNA user group leader	Number of the TNA users	Provided access [hours]
22.-28.2.2012	19-11	Wim Ubachs, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, NL	4	13
28.3.-1.4.2012 27.12.2012-7.1.2013	78-09	Karl-Heinz Mack, INAF Bologna, IT	3	31
9.-12.4.2012	87-11	Matteo Murgia, INAF Cagliari, IT	5	29
20.-24.6.2012	101-11	Blazej Nikiel-Wroczynski, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, PL	3	58
27.7.-28.8.2012	48-12	Mercedes Filho, Porto University, PT	8	48
24.-27.9.2012	21-12	Diego Tucillo, Santander University, Spain	4	29
14.-18.11.2012	50-12	Wim Ubachs, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, NL	4	17
18.-22.11.2012	58-12	Jaroslav Kijak, University of Zielona Gora, PL	3	26
26.11.-02.12. 16.-21.2.	16-10	Anna Bartkiewicz, University Torun, PL	2	29
11.-20.12.2012	57-12	Viktor Toth, Eötvös University Budapest, HUN	7	93
15.-19.3.2013 20./21.5.2013	86-12	Wim Ubachs, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, NL	4	26
27.5.2013	40-13	Anita Richards, University of Manchester, UK	4	2
	Total projects 12		Total users 41	Total access 401

The detailed information about the committee providing access, projects and selection is given in the TNA database of the 1st periodical report.

2.3 Information about the financial EC contribution to the travel

The table below shows the estimated travel costs. It is a responsibility of the TNA leader to allocate and approve a travel support (see estimated support).

The travel budget is allocated by the RadioNet3 beneficiary 5 (JIVE). Therefore, the exact numbers will be presented by JIVE at the 1st periodic report.

Project acronym	Person name (institute)	Estimated EC travel support [€]
78-09	Alice Pasetto, INAF Bologna, IT	263,00
78-09	Karl-Heinz Mack, INAF Bologna, IT	454,10
21-12	Diego Tucillo, University of Santander, ES	491,09
50-12	Julija Bagdonatie, Vrije Universit�t Amsterdam, NL	375,76
16-10	Pawel Wolak, University of Torun, PL	219,20
58-12	Jaroslav Kijak, University of Zielona Gora, PL	315,00
57-12	Orsoloya Feher, University Budapest, HUN	83,00
57-12	Viktor Toth, University Budapest, HUN	228,75