

Radionet3-proposal: Meeting with Elena Righi Steele, 5/08/2010

– Discussion points –

Previous meeting (AZ, HvL, VT): 12.30 h in the Café Tout Bon,
Luxemburgstraat 68 (situated at the Place Luxembourg)

Meeting date with E. Righi Steele: 5/08/2010, 2 p.m.

Venue: European Commission, Square de Meûs 8, 1050 Brussels

Important: Identity card!

Call topic

INFRA-2011-1.1.21. Research Infrastructures for advanced radio astronomy.

A project under this topic must provide and facilitate access to the key research infrastructures in Europe for advanced radio astronomy, including Very Long Baseline Interferometry. It should aim to integrate these facilities and resources with a long term perspective. A project under this topic should also stimulate new scientific activities aimed at taking full advantage of new experimental possibilities which will be offered by the future Square Kilometre Array ("SKA") and Atacama Large Millimeter Array ("ALMA").

Discussion points:

- **3 or 4 years duration:**
 - o Budget: 10 Mio Euro, 26 Partners: according to the experience with RadioNet FP7 the successful implementation of the project seems more feasible with a three years duration (also taking into account the time line for the implementation of e.g. the SKA)
- **Relative weight TNA, JRA, NA:**
 - o In RadioNet FP7 the weight of the TNA, JRA, NA is
TNA 45%, JRA 40%, NA 15%
Is this weight appropriate, or is it possible to shift the weight?
- **TNA funding for distributed facilities EVN, ALMA regional centers**
 - o Is this within the intend of the call
- **Need of structuring the community within the next funding period**, such as installing a "big central institution" anchoring the Radio Astronomy community?
 - o In confidential draft of the I3-call 2011 this point was mentioned:
"The RADIONET consortium has been structuring a relatively loosely organized (compared to the optical astronomy) and diverse community that has many interactions with industry. Radio astronomy in Europe is carried out as a distributed activity without (so far) a big central institution like ESO for the optical community. [...] Continued EC support is essential as there is at present not yet a European organisation anchoring this community."
- **Possible starting date for RadioNet3?**
 - o Parallel implementation to RadioNet FP7 or after its completion?
- **Further structuring of the Community:** In the confidential draft of the I3-call 2011 it is stated, that "Coordination and planning of future infrastructure developments is also currently funded as an ESFRI Preparatory Phase (FP7) ending in March 2011 ("PrepSKA" project). An upcoming review in 2010 of existing radio telescopes and their future role will provide important input for the further structuring of the community. An overall coordination mechanism will certainly be required also in the future in view of the arrival of future large projects like ALMA and SKA. Whether a single I3 will be able to integrate all of the ongoing activities remains to be seen."
 - o Political thoughts behind this statement?
- **Other points**