

EPN 2024 RI
1st Council Meeting

Day 2 – Sustainability, Future Plans and Horizon Europe



Europlanet 2024 RI has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 871149

A deliverable of all current Research Infrastructures required by the Commission is for the RI to define their plans for sustainability.

We began serious planning for Europlanet sustainability in Europlanet-2020-RI with the decision to create the Europlanet Society (rather than seek an ERIC).

Europlanet Society was launched at EPSC Berlin 2018 with administrative HQ at ESF in Strasbourg.

Europlanet Society and its structures (Regional hubs, EPEC etc) built into operations of Europlanet-2024-RI.



Europlanet Society

Membership - We need to raise numbers both for income but also to show EC etc that we do indeed represent the European planetary science community

Aim: 1000 members by time of mid term review (Noting we believe there are 300+ groups and 800 – 1,000 academics and 3,000 ECRs in Europe alone. Institutions can also join for its employees.

Europlanet Society is open to all. Recruit outside Europe – maybe by Institute ?

Regional hubs -- more direct contact and engagement with members and researchers

Other committees – Diversity, Industry



EuroPlanet Early Career Network (EPEC)

- Largest % of members are EPEC members
- Fulfills the EC target of training

Mentoring programme; launched at EPSC 2020 – pilot autumn 2020 full launch 2021.

Need mentors

Also leads on Diversity etc – another key EC objective and we have to keep records.



Europlanet-RI-2024 requirements

All tools (e.g. VESPA Spider GMAP) must be retained and operational three years post project.

However we must also sustain structures

Europlanet Telescope network

TA network – more than code of conduct – How do we sustain and indeed expand?

Plans for Horizon Europe (maybe in collaboration with other RIs)

Outreach and education tools plus media office -- FTP-Europlanet gUG, which is being established in Germany to provide a sustainable EU base to carry out educational, outreach and media activities developed by Europlanet and the Faulkes Telescope Project



Financial sustainability

- Unlikely to be single project like Europlanet-2024-RI in Horizon Europe - separate projects e.g. e-infrastructure, TA programme, Educational (ITN, cofund) operating under/with Europlanet name. **More complex in coordination.**
- **EPSC** – major conference run at breakeven but with margin to sustain next meeting (operating costs, bursaries) **Revenue loss in 2020 is serious can be sustained in 2021 Helsinki but no further.**
- **Society income** – subscriptions/membership. Need to think of sponsors (aka DPS) e.g. publishers.



Infrastructure

- **People and platforms**

- **Immediately we need.**

1. The EPSC Executive Committee Chair
2. The Chair of Scientific Organising Committee (SOC)
3. The Chair of the Virtual Organising Committee (VOC) - established for the EPSC2020 Virtual Meeting but confirmed as a standing committee to lead planning for virtual participation in future EPSCs and wider virtual meetings across the Europlanet programme.
4. Within the Society it has proven difficult to recruit Chairs and Committee Representatives in the Regional Hubs

And we need leaders for the new bids.

The next generation of RI like leaders come from members of present Europlanet 2024 RI.

YOU !!



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- **Infrastructure –**
- **ESF hosts Society, website, undertakes communications and with SOC,LOC and VOC committees and Copernicus organizes EPSC. But ESF is not the science lead.**
- **Europlanet-2024-RI project office University of Kent but post 2024 and with Brexit new lead will be in EU state as will other project leads -- where and who?**



Legal entity for Europlanet

- **Who are we? Under what auspices do we agree MoU, Tender for services (e.g. ESF and Copernicus for EPSC), join EOSC etc?**
- **Seeking legal advice. Examples EAS (Swiss) or EOSC (Belgium)**
- **Need to establish before July 2021**



Questions & Comments ?

