International LOFAR Telescope

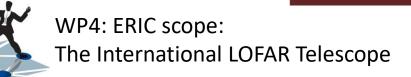


WP4: ERIC scope: The International LOFAR Telescope



#### WP4 ERIC scope: The International LOFAR Telescope

#### Jumping JIVE Final Review 2021-10-12 René Vermeulen (Director ILT)





*Jumping JIVE: Strengthen JIVE, advocate its services and enlarge its partnerships* 

Goals

WP4: Investigate feasibility to expand scope JIV-ERIC to International LOFAR Telescope (ILT)

- JIVE and ILT both support a distributed telescope network spread over a number of countries
  - Geographical / Institutional overlap
- Both rely on a central facility for correlation and data curation, quality control and users' interface
  - Technological overlap
  - Services overlap





JIVE Joint Institute for VLBI ERIC

# Methodology

- Comparative study <u>operations models</u>
- Comparative study governance & financing models
- Workshops on options to proceed
- Reporting to JIVE Council and ILT Board
- Conclusions / follow-up actions





# Findings

- Important areas of synergy and complementarity identified:
  - Exploitation: large-scale distributed facilities
  - Core technologies: long-baseline interferometry & data analysis
  - Science facilitation: e.g. transient sources
  - Presence: substantial Infrastructures in the European Research Area





## Impact

- Important areas of synergy and complementarity identified:
  - Exploitation: large-scale distributed facilities
    - Operators more aware of each other's best practices, joint students/apprentices
  - Core technologies: long-baseline interferometry & data analysis
    - reinforced collaboration on development activities (e.g. within ORP)
  - Science facilitation: e.g. transient sources
    - Presentations / cross-fertilization at science meetings (e.g. EVN Symposium)
  - Presence: substantial Infrastructures in the European Research Area
    - Intensified interaction on optimal interface to stakeholders and policy makers





## Succesful outcome

Perspectives gained in WP4 led to a focus on distinct paths in the short term:

- ILT: evolution to a LOFAR ERIC in its own right, as it needs to:
  - Cohere current and prospective partners and their financing
  - Realise the jointly funded major LOFAR2.0 upgrade
  - Exploit under joint policies a distributed 24/7 observatory infrastructure
- JIVE: ongoing discussion with EVN on enhanced engagement

JIVE and ILT have improved knowledge and contacts helping to strengthen each other

- Increased awareness of areas of synergy
- Short lines of communication to act in concert on joint interests in e.g. RadioNet JIVE staff provided expert assistance in preparing the LOFAR ERIC Step1 application!

It has been noted for the future that

- ERICs are vehicles for collaborations in the European infrastructure landscape
- JIVE and LOFAR operating models and partnerships may become more similar over time
- Evolution of the scope of the ERIC(s) will not be excluded