
WP 5 Deliverable N. 5.2

Second Annual Report

covering the March 2nd 2021 - March 1st 2022 period

Project acronym:
AHEAD2020

Project Title:
Integrated Activities for the High Energy Astrophysics Domain

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1	1/03/2022	S. Sciortino & R. Muscolino	L. Natalucci

Distribution List	Date	Version

Explanation of the work carried out within the WP.....3

Status of Milestones & Deliverables.....4

Dissemination & communication activities.....4

Deviations and non-compliances.....4

Explanation of the work carried out within the WP

The Transnational Access (TA1) devoted to access to experimental facilities is handled in the WP5. The WP activities are conceptually organized in two tasks: 1) the management activities under the responsibility of WP coordinator supported by his team; 2) the facility accesses (visits) that are under the responsibility of facility owners. To improve the overall efficiency AHEAD2020 has decided that the WP 5 coordinator will also be, “ex-officio”, the chairperson of the TA1 proposal selection committee, hence the selection procedure is part of the overall management activities.

Due to the adverse effects of the COVID-19 outbreak it is worth to remember that the TA1 AO has been opened on January 2021 at the same time of the first call for AHEAD2020 TA2 and TA3. The WP5 leader has participated to all the regularly organized management meetings (all performed remotely by teleconferences) as well as to the (tele)meeting with the AHEAD SAC (25 November 2021) and to the (tele)meeting with the EU appointed reviewer to discuss the 1st AHEAD periodic report, held on 17 December 2021.

During the reference period most of the activities have been focussed on dealing with the submitted proposals. In most cases the WP coordinator has interacted with the facility experts to verify the technical feasibility of the proposed measurements. For the technically feasible proposals the WP coordinator has started the selection process by distributing the submitted proposals to the panel members with his own assessment and has interacted with them to arrive to the final evaluation. Internal reports of the entire process are regularly prepared and send to the AHEAD Project Scientist. At the end of the selection process the WP coordinator has sent to the proponent PI an email to notify the selection outcome, in case of approval this email is also sent to the facility contact point in order his/her knows of the approved proposal and can start interacting with the guest team.

Another activity that has requested a substantial effort has been the collection of all information to prepare the INAF-OAPA contribution for the preparation of the first AHEAD periodic report. At OAPA this activity was performed by Dott.ssa R. Muscolino that has dealt not only with the reporting of the WP5 activities, but, more in general, of all the AHEAD WPs where INAF-OAPA people has contributed.

Finally, some activities have focussed on improving the TA1 WEB page; those have seen the involvement of the same 3 people that have setup the TA1 WEB page.

During the reference period of this report the TA1 has approved three of the four proposals received in the months of February-March 2021. One of these proposals was not technically feasible and the proponent was duly informed that the submitted proposal cannot be approved. The guest team programs

of two of the approved proposals to access the BABE facility have already been performed, the third one to access the CSL shaker has been postponed due to a delay in the procurement of the samples to be tested. During the reference period of this report AHEAD TA1 has received three (3) more proposals by 3 guest teams:

1. Calibration of coating polarizers at 121.6 nm for CORlab UV polarimeter, PI: Juan I. Larruquert (Spain) to access BABE at IOM-CNR
2. “NYUAD Spacecraft & Moondust Photoemission” by Francesco Arneodo from the New York University Abu Dhabi (UAE) to access BABE at IOM-CNR
3. “CdTe TGF and High-energy Astrophysics Prototype Test” by Rui Curado da Silva from Laboratório de Instrumentação e Física Experimental de Partículas - Coimbra (LIP-Coimbra, Portugal) to access LARIX at UNIFE

All those proposals are eligible according to the grant agreement rules and have been sent to the panel for their evaluation that has approved all of them. In summary these 3 proposals ask to access two installations: BABE at IOM-CNR (Italy) for about 12 working days for the measurement visit plus about 3-4 days for mentoring activity and preparatory visit and the LARIX at UNIFE (Italy) for 5 working days for the measurement visit plus 2 days for a preparatory visit. Those duration estimations do not include the time for travelling. All the proposing teams are unrelated to AHEAD.

Status of Milestones & Deliverables

All the planned WP 5 deliverables and milestones during the reference period have been achieved. The present report is the deliverable 5.2.

Dissemination & communication activities

The dedicated WEB page has been opened and it contains all the relevant information for the TA1; the page is kept update with the changes occurred since its opening. Notwithstanding the difficulties due to the Covid19 outbreak the dissemination has been quite effective. It has been based on the use of a large email list handled by the AHEAD2020 project as well as on the internal mailing lists and other form of contacts handled by the facility owners that have acted on request of the WP5 coordinator. Overall several thousands of contact have been reached. The figure below provides a summary of the number of daily visitors and visits to the TA1 call web page since Jan 15 2022, in the vicinity of the new opening of TA2 and TA3 AOs (Jan 20 2022) when a “remind me” on the always opened status of TA1 is distributed via email.

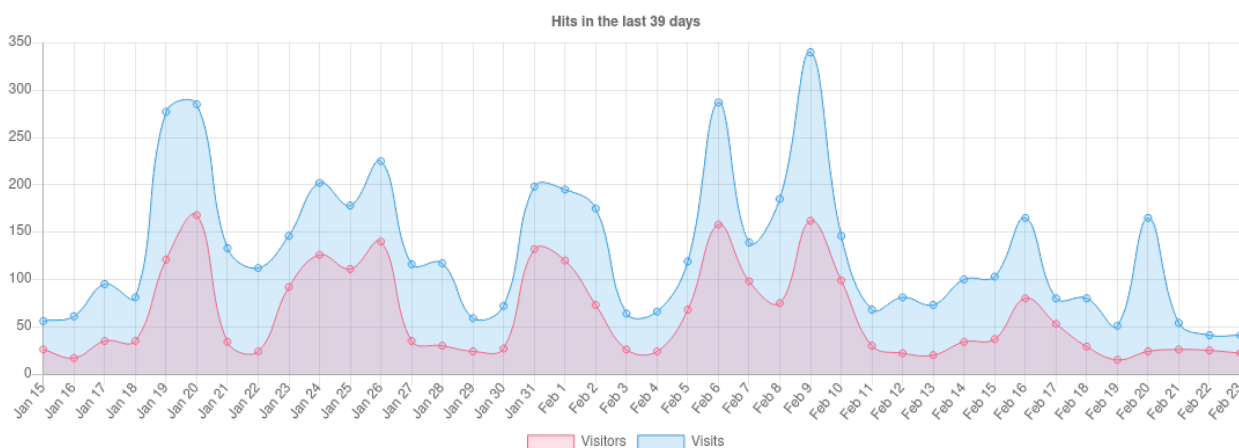


Figure 1: A summary plot of the number of visits and visitors to the TA1 Web page since Jan 15 2022 till February 23 2022.

In 30 days, starting on Jan 15 2022, the TA1 web page has had 2165 visitors and 4391 visits,

Deviations and non-compliances

None to signal during the reference period. In one case the approved guest team visit has been postponed due to procurement problem of the samples to be tested.