



First Facility TNA Periodic Report

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The three planned milestones in the reference period have been reached in due time. Specifically the WP4 has prepared in due time a dedicated web page describing the TA1 activities and the offered infrastructures. This has permitted to open in due time (specifically on Dec. 10 2015) the first TA1 call that has closed on 15 January 2016. At the closing date no proposal has been submitted. The AHEAD appointed TA1 selection committee has been duly informed, and the AHEAD MGT has discussed the reason for this unexpected situation and has started a series of corrective actions including i) a more pro-active role of the facility teams involved in the TA1 activities, ii) the introduction of additional flexibility in the TA1 call system, iii) the identification and use of wider distribution lists, in order to reach possible interested teams in neighbouring research fields and in high-tech SME, iv) an ever-open call system with a fixed selection date scheme.

Facility call announcement available at <http://ahead.iaps.inaf.it> and <http://ahead.astropa.inaf.it>. Facility call and facility detail descriptions available at <http://ahead.astropa.inaf.it>

As a result of the new opening of the facility TNA call on May 16-th 2016 the AHEAD project has received before the end of June 2016 (the dead-line for the 2-nd evaluation round of TNA proposals) one (1) proposal to access some of the offered test facility as part of the TNA program.

The proposal was submitted by a team led by Prof. M. Barbera of the University of Palermo whose intent is to perform at the CSL in Liegi, in the reference period likely starting in September 2016, a series of measurements of thin filters, part of the hardware to be developed for the ATHENA space mission. In view of the proposed measurement campaign the team has also asked AHEAD support for a preparatory visit at test facility premises.

The facility TNA selection panel chairperson (S. Sciortino, also leader of WP4) has distributed the submitted proposal to the other 4 panel members by the middle of July and has asked them to express their opinion on the submitted proposal and on the opportunity of supporting it as part of the AHEAD TNA program.

All the 5 members of the selection panel (Salvatore Sciortino, Graziella Branduardi-Raymont, Bruna Bertucci, Agata Rozanska and Wojciech Hajdas) have expressed the opinion that the proposal have to be approved in full since

The question put in the proposal is critical for success of the mission while the system performance is technically challenging and requires uttermost attention with methodologically proper and timely approach.

Prof. M. Barbera and Dott. A. Fumel, the contact person of the CSL facility in Liegi, have been informed of the approval of the proposal and have been asked to make all the needed steps for implementing the approved TNA facility program.