



Second Facility TNA Periodic Report

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The two planned milestones in the reference period (from 7/2016 to 7/2017) have been fulfilled in due time. Specifically the WP4 has activated the two selection rounds of the TA1 program evaluating the proposal that have been submitted in the two relevant semesters. Indeed starting with the second semester as for decision of the AHEAD MGT the TA1 program has adopted an ever-open call system with a fixed selection date scheme so that proposal can be submitted at any time. At the AHEAD MGT meeting held in Rome on March 2017, in order to introduce an additional element of flexibility in the access program and to cope with request coming from possible interested teams, it has been further decide to adopt a selection procedure that provide a fast (within about 1 month from the submission) reply to proponent teams.

All those changes have been implemented in order to ease the participation of the guest team to the TA1 program. As a result of those actions, of a wider dissemination and of a more proactive role of the facility teams three proposals have been submitted during the period covered by this report.

The three proposals are from a SME team, from a research-SME join team and from a research team, respectively. The first one – submitted on October 2016 – that asks also for a preparatory visit was focused on performing ground test campaign of a qualification model of flying hardware of a space mission part of the ESA Earth Observation program, the second proposal – submitted on March 2017 – asks for a preparatory visit and 2 one week long each visits to perform a series of crucial tests of a prototype of focusing gamma ray optics, the third proposal – submitted on 5 May 2017 – plan to perform a visit of, at least, 2 weeks in order to perform qualification test for a crucial replacement hardware of a failed part of the AMS ISS experiment.

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 first proposal have to be approved in full. The other two proposals have been positively evaluated by 4 panel members since one of the members has not expressed his opinion in due time. All the three proposals ask for a substantially longer visits than originally planned in the TA1 program; as matter of fact the quest for long visit emerges clearly even if number of proposals is still small.

As a results all the three proposals have been approved by the selection panel because they have been evaluated positively from the technical and scientific point of view, considering also the great impact of the proposed campaign of measurement. However the first proposal approved to the SME firm has been lately declined by the proposing team. The second proposal will be conducted to the Ferrara LARIX facility and the third one to the Perugia University Space Laboratories. The teams and the facility contact points have been duly informed and they are negotiating the implementation program for each visit, actual measurements are likely to occur in the second half of 2017.

Finally it is worth to mention that the proposal approved during first half of 2016 to the team lead by Prof. M. Barbera of the University of Palermo has been completed and that a very successful campaign of measurements has been performed at the end of March 2017 at at the CSL in Liegi.

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