

Roelofs, M.E.H. [Miriam]

Van: KINGS, Jonathan (DS IDG) <Jonathan.Kings@mfat.govt.nz>
Verzonden: dinsdag 3 februari 2015 5:26
Aan: Roelofs, M.E.H. [Miriam]
Onderwerp: Go SKA

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear GO-SKA,

As chair of the Strategy and Business Development Committee (Stratcom) of the Board of the SKA I wish to acknowledge the significant contribution of the GO-SKA project to the policy work of the SKA and Stratcom.

The effort under work package one to coordinate and align with the SKA Organisation meant that the work of GO-SKA provided significant value to the SKA Organisation. In my opinion the considerable effort put in at the beginning of the GO-SKA project to engage with the SKA organisation and Stratcom resulted in work packages which complemented the work of Stratcom and provided vital input into Stratcom's work programme. This is a reminder that careful initial design results in contributions which are of real value. The result was a valued European contribution to a global project.

The approach to actively engage with all participants of the SKA throughout the GO-SKA project meant that workshops and the resulting work product met the needs of the global participants to the project and had their support. The GO-SKA project in its approach modelled the behaviour required to build a global collaboration.

The SKA organisation is an organisation in transition as it moves through detailed design into construction. Significant issues of governance, procurement, funding, outreach, impact required the thought and rigour which the resources of GO-SKA enabled to be brought to the project. They were also issues which required broader perspectives than were available in the SKA Organisation and the Board.

Work package 5 also assisted the SKA to position itself in a context which was bigger than radio astronomy. This was particularly of value as participant countries consider the rationale for funding the SKA project.

In conclusion GO-SKA worked hard to design a programme of work which would be of value to the SKA. It worked hard to ensure that its events and work product were substantive contributions to the issues which the SKA was working its way through. The collaborative and inclusive approach adopted by GO-SKA meant that non-European participant countries see the work of GO-SKA as a valuable contribution from Europe to the project.

Regards

Jonathan Kings
Chair, Strategy and Business Development Committee
SKA Board

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