

Work package number ⁹	WP2	Lead beneficiary ¹⁰	1 - JIV-ERIC
Work package title	Outreach and Advocacy		
Start month	1	End month	48

Objectives

Support the sustainability of JIV-ERIC and the EVN in the coming decade through profiling the scientific impact of high-resolution radio astronomy amongst the general public, policy makers and peers in the scientific community.

Description of work and role of partners

WP2 - Outreach and Advocacy [Months: 1-48]

JIV-ERIC

Background. JIVE has been in existence for over 20 years, serving the EVN and its users. As the mission of JIVE has focused on an operational role to facilitate EVN usage, any outreach targeting the general public, the European policy makers and prospective users was limited to activities by JIVE management and individual scientists. The only exception occurred during the EC-funded (N)EXPRES projects, where a dedicated outreach effort created far more visibility in the general European scientific and industrial arena.

One can argue that without such a small (5%) but dedicated outreach effort, organisations like JIVE/EVN are not making effective use of the output they are generating. Nevertheless, the JIVE partners have always given priority to operational aspects and user interfaces, as they consider outreach to be a national matter. With JIVE now being a European entity it is crucial that the excitement of VLBI is communicated at a super-national level, notably so as the strategy is to involve more countries and advocate global VLBI.

It is of key importance that JIVE communicates with potential users across Europe. We have learned in past RadioNet (FP7) efforts that this is a delicate process; it requires the authority of a scientist to attract new users to the facility. The EVN and JIVE have been making slow but steady progress in this area, helped by the efforts of the support scientists at JIVE, who have consistently forged close collaborations with new users.

Task 1. Outreach for non-experts.

We propose to employ a half-time communication expert who will help us to profile JIVE among nonexperts. This will involve shaping a number of communication tools, such as a web page and annual reports. Most importantly, we require new communication materials now that JIVE has become a new legal entity. The outreach person will also become point of contact for EVN-wide press releases. The EVN recently adopted a guideline on how to relay press material in all partner countries, after it was realised that some exciting results had not reached all communities that contribute to European VLBI.

This plan calls for central resources at JIVE. With the press officer in place the EVN will also be more visible at conferences and events. This effort will make use of the existing expertise amongst the partners, notably at IGN Spain and the SKA Organisation.

Task 2. Advocacy of EVN capabilities to scientists.

It is equally important to communicate the exciting capabilities of EVN/JIVE to the scientific community. For this an active scientist (actively pursuing a scientific career) is required. This person will raise the visibility of EVN observing opportunities, targeting the communities that are not (yet involved in VLBI. Important goals will be to attend (regional) science meetings of astrophysicists and other potential VLBI users (space applications and geodesy). Considering the close links to WP6 (geodesy) and WP9 (Africa), one suitable person might combine the position of project scientist with that of policy officer in WP3 (new partnerships) and WP4 (ERIC scope).

WP leader: JIVE (Huib van Langevelde)

Participation per Partner

Partner number and short name	WP2 effort
1 - JIV-ERIC	42.00

Partner number and short name	WP2 effort
Total	42.00

List of deliverables

Deliverable Number ¹⁴	Deliverable Title	Lead beneficiary	Type ¹⁵	Dissemination level ¹⁶	Due Date (in months) ¹⁷
D2.1	Brochure	1 - JIV-ERIC	Websites, patents filling, etc.	Public	14
D2.2	Display	1 - JIV-ERIC	Websites, patents filling, etc.	Public	24
D2.3	Report on advocating the EVN	1 - JIV-ERIC	Report	Public	18
D2.4	Final report on attracting new users for EVN	1 - JIV-ERIC	Report	Public	47

Description of deliverables

D2.1 : Brochure [14]
 Brochure explaining the principles and practices of VLBI

D2.2 : Display [24]
 Project display to be used at conferences

D2.3 : Report on advocating the EVN [18]
 Report on advocating the EVN outside regular circles

D2.4 : Final report on attracting new users for EVN [47]
 Final report on attracting new users for the EVN

Schedule of relevant Milestones

Milestone number ¹⁸	Milestone title	Lead beneficiary	Due Date (in months)	Means of verification
MS4	Brochure	1 - JIV-ERIC	14	Brochure explaining the principles and practices of VLBI, approved by exec.
MS5	Display	1 - JIV-ERIC	24	Display to be used at conferences, approved by exec
MS6	Report on advocating the EVN	1 - JIV-ERIC	18	Report on advocating the EVN outside regular circles, approved by board
MS7	Final report on attracting new users for the EVN	1 - JIV-ERIC	47	Final report on attracting new users for the EVN, shared with EVN-CBD