

SOLARNET

Transnational Access and Service Programme 2013-2017



This project is supported by the European Commission's FP7 Capacities Programme for the period April 2013 – March 2017 under the Grant Agreement number 312495

Overview

As a part of the SOLARNET project, the Transnational Access and Service Programme supports the access of the European solar physics community to some of the best European telescopes. To enhance the efficiency of data usage, external observers will receive also support for post-factum reduction of data, while standard pipelines are not fully developed, with the aim of providing them science-ready data. A successful Programme, which will bring together researchers of different nationalities, forms the basis for a long-term perspective of solar physics in Europe and for the operation of the European Solar Telescope, when it become a reality.

Every facility will offer an average of 20 observing days per year to external observers under this SOLARNET Programme. In addition to the telescopes **VTT**, **GREGOR**, **THEMIS**, and **SST**, located at Tenerife and La Palma, the **IBIS/DST** and **ROSA/DST** instruments, installed at the US Dunn Solar Telescope, are also offered by this programme. This is possible thanks to an agreement with the National Solar Observatory to open the DST to the European community.

SOLARNET is also supporting the access to the most demanded European Science Data Centre, providing data gathered by the solar satellite **Hinode** (**SDC Europe**) and the **Solar Dynamics Observatory** (**BE-WISSDOM** and **GSC-SDO**). Travel and subsistence grants to be on-site during the observations are also available



VTT – Tenerife



THEMIS – Tenerife



SST – La Palma



GREGOR – Tenerife



DST



IBIS & ROSA at DST - US



DB repositories: SDC Europe / BE-WISSDOM / GSC-SDO

EXTERNAL USERS ARE WELCOME TO APPLY FOR OBSERVING TIME AND DATABASE ACCESS

How to apply for Access

Eligible user groups interested in applying for telescope time are invited to do it in response to the specific Announcements of Opportunity that will be published at the SOLARNET web site.

In general terms, these announcements for observing time will published once a year, and potential users have to submit their application following the guidelines available at the SOLARNET website.

On the other hand, access to database repositories supported by SOLARNET is internet-based and completely open. Researchers worldwide are welcome.

Criteria of eligibility

To be eligible to benefit from this access a user group must satisfy the following three conditions:

- The user group leader and the majority of the users must work in an institution established in an EU Member State¹ or in an EU FP7 Associated State²
- The user group leader and the majority of the users must work in a country other than the country(ies) where the legal entity(ies) operating the infrastructure is(are) established³
- User groups requesting access will submit an application following the conditions and deadlines of the Announcements of Opportunity yearly published by SOLARNET.

The selection will be based on scientific merits and technical feasibility. Special targeted groups (new users, users from countries with no similar facilities, etc.) will be prioritized under equally scored proposals.

Due to the limited amount of funds, those users meeting these criteria of eligibility are not automatically granted with telescope time under the Programme. Successful candidates will be contacted well in advance.

¹EU 28 Member States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

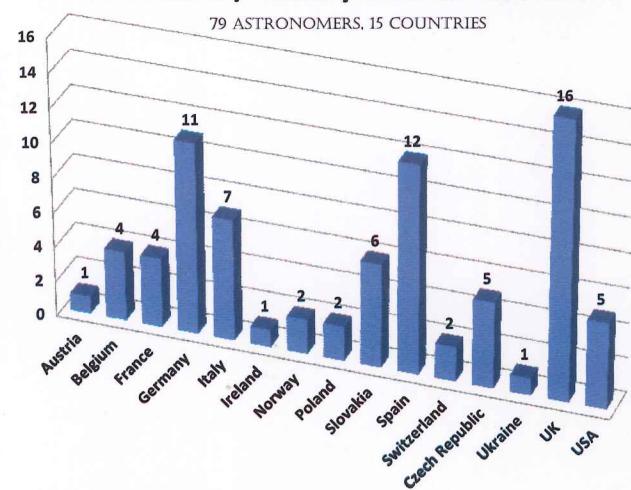
²EU FP7 Associated States: Norway, Switzerland, Israel, Iceland, Turkey, Croatia, Liechtenstein, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Republic of Moldova.

³EU countries excluded by this condition are: Germany and Spain at GREGOR and at VTT; France and Spain at THEMIS; Sweden and Spain at SST; Italy at IBIS/DST; and UK at ROSA/DST.

First results. 2013

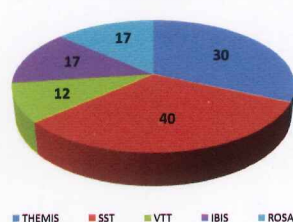
Nr of users / country of home institution

79 ASTRONOMERS, 15 COUNTRIES

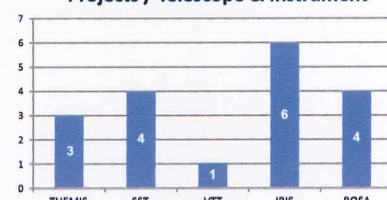


Observing days / Telescope & Instrument

116 OBS. DAYS

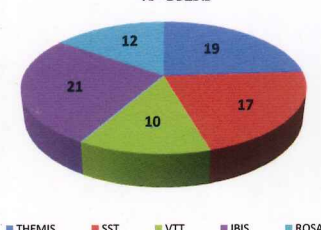


Projects / Telescope & Instrument



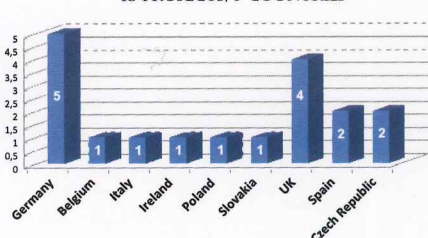
Nr of users / Telescope & Instrument

79 USERS

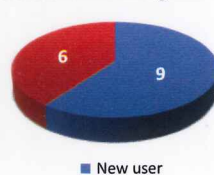


Nr of projects (teams) / PI home institution

18 PROJECTS, 9 COUNTRIES



Astronomers supported with travel & subsistence grants: 15



During the first calendar year of the SOLARNET TAS Programme:

- ✓ 116 observing days at THEMIS, SST, VTT, IBIS/DST and ROSA/DST
- ✓ 28% of the total expected amount of access to be provided under this four-year contract
- ✓ 79 astronomers (team members) from 15 countries; 18 groups (projects) were involved
- ✓ 15 users received travel and subsistence grants to be on-site during the observations
- ✓ 60% of these users visiting the facility under the Programme were new users.

More information

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SOLARNET, the high-resolution Solar Physics Network supported by the EC, brings together and integrates the major European research infrastructures in the field of high-resolution solar physics, in order to promote their coordinated use and development. This network is participated by all pertinent European research institutions, infrastructures and data repositories. Private companies and non-European organizations are also involved in this worldwide initiative.

Networking activities, access to first-class infrastructures and joint research and development activities, will be covered under SOLARNET to improve, in quantity and quality, the service provided by this European community. In particular, project achievements will be of paramount relevance to contribute towards the realisation of the 4m European Solar Telescope