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## ACTRIS WEEK

### October 26-28, virtual meeting

#### Action Items

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### Opening Plenary Session, October 26<sup>th</sup>

Monday October 26<sup>th</sup>, 09:00-10:30 CET

The session was attended by 205 participants.

- Most of ACTRIS facilities have been operational during the lockdown, and ACTRIS relevance has increased.
- The main targets for the autumn 2020 are setting up ACTRIS ERIC and ACTRIS IMP activities.
- ACTRIS leader position will be opening and it will replace both interim leader and scientific chair positions.
- Portfolio of ACTRIS outreach material will be provided soon by the IMP WP10.
- ACTRIS is in the process of setting up a new website (expected launch is December 2020). In the meantime, a temporary website is set up. Documents will not be available on the temporary website. Please contact ACTRIS HO if something is needed. [actris.eu](http://actris.eu) will go offline shortly; however, everything is saved. A repository forum for documents will be established if needed before the launch of the new website.

### Scientific Plenary Session on ACTRIS & COVID-19, October 27<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday October 27<sup>th</sup>, 09:30-12:00 CET

This session focused mainly on scientific presentations and included a pan-European overview of the effect of lockdown on the European atmosphere, an overview of ACTRIS observational data in relation to the lockdown period in Europe and ACTRIS strategy for scientific publication. A panel discussion about the atmosphere and the observing system from the lockdown episode also took place. The session was attended by 282 participants.

- There are currently 25 COVID-related ACTRIS publications. It is important to share all the work within the community.
- IPCC initiative on COVID-19 relevance needs to be informed to the ACTRIS Head Office.
- Joint activities with ENVRI are ongoing.

#### Panel Discussion

- Some CO<sub>2</sub> fluctuations are caused by natural processes. Daily emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> were reduced by 20% during lockdown, 5-7% on an annual scale. The signal is small compared to natural fluxes and total emissions. There is a very clear traffic signal in urban areas during the lockdown. Signal is more visible closer to the sources.
- Significant impact of lockdown on NO<sub>2</sub> concentration was clearly visible. The impact on other compounds was not as significant, incl. CO<sub>2</sub>. Satellite measurements reach large regions, but they need support from other types of measurements (e.g. ground based) to be able to provide reliable information to the society.
- At the global scale, global T was higher in February 2020 compared to previous years. Weather effects are really important. High-altitude sites are important for examining the transport. A lot of data are available already for modelling.
- No impacts on regional scales were seen from the regional models.
- It is important to treat COVID-19 as experimental time. We need to discuss within the scientific community before we reach out to policymakers. We cannot always properly distinguish the natural phenomena and the lockdown. There are many lessons to be learnt. Peer-review is needed, and it takes time.
- Additionally, we do not necessarily see a reduction, but rather a redistribution of the emissions (e.g. locally, using more own cars, saunas, barbeque). Reporting on the effects of lockdown is not an emergency, and science takes time. Policy makers need to be aware of this as well.
- We need to be active at two levels simultaneously: European level and local level (local policy makers).
- ACTRIS is relevant and has been operational, and benefits the society during the COVID-19. And we are now more prepared for the next observations and measurements.

### Scientific/Technical Plenary Session, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday October 28<sup>th</sup>, 09:00-10:40 CET

This session focused on synergies between the ACTRIS Components and included five presentations from several interconnected Topical Centres. The session was attended by 163 participants.

### TNA & Access Plenary Session, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday October 28<sup>th</sup>, 11:00-12:00 CET

- TNA Access and Access Funding
  - Access services are to be provided also beyond the scientific community.
  - The effect of COVID-19 on physical access -> we had to come up with backup solutions, concentrating on the remote access possibilities.
  - TNA sites need to be updated on the website (currently displayed are the ACTRIS-2 sites).
  - TNA is coordinated by SAMU. Platforms are chosen ahead of time. Activities are scheduled according to agreements between key actors, incl. SAMU, access providers etc.
- Access Services
  - User is at the centre of the services. User needs of the different user groups are crucial. A survey will be launched soon. therefore, please, be prepared to answer as the information is crucial for the services.
  - ACTRIS PASS selected as the name for the access management platform.
  - The Science and User Forum will be a tool for the SAMU to manage the external users' access to the services. The name of the Forum can be a bit misleading ("Science") -> the name can be changed to be clearer.

## NF Plenary Session and Conclusions, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday October 28<sup>th</sup>, 13:00-16:00 CET

- It is important to make sure that different NF components are well-situated across Europe.
- At the moment there aren't any indications that countries' contributions would change due to COVID-19. Next IAC will follow in Nov, and there should be more information from there.
- Updating the presented Country Proposal for Observational Platforms table is still ongoing and will be finalised when the membership contributions are clear (not all countries have made the decision yet). It will be iterated with NCPs during the autumn. The table represents the current situation of the IAC countries foreseeing to sign the ACTRIS ERIC step 2 document.
- In order to avoid a situation where a country is paying the part of a NF in the membership fee once the labelling process starts and then the NF does not pass the labelling process, it is important to think carefully about the definition of what is needed from the NF and make sure already before applying that a NF will meet the requirements. This is not included in the Internal financial rules yet.
- The readiness of a Topical Centre is related to the readiness of the NF labelling. Labelling pilot activities will be established in ACTRIS IMP and can help as a tool to estimate the readiness for the labelling. In the first years there will be a rush for NF labelling. Risk management and contingency plan are working on this.
- Country Proposal for the Exploratory Platforms table: min/max value calculations need to be checked; this applies also to Observational Platform table. Database system is needed for the NF labelling as it is hard to read these tables.
- We need to start from the minimum scenario of NFs and move forward from there.

- A country's NF strategy needs to be realistic about its network design. It is important to start from what we have and try to fill in the gaps (i.e. we do not start from scratch). We need to make the user needs for the whole infrastructure visible to the national stakeholders. We need to have a European level NF strategy to support the scientific networks, and ACTRIS can help with this. We also need to think about the countries that are not (yet) included in the ACTRIS ERIC. We need to support them to join and encourage them to bring their components and expertise to our network.
- Pilot labelling will start as soon as possible, but we need to wait to have the basic tools in place. Process needs to be prepared by the Head Office (web-tool, templates, questions etc.). This is now one of the highest priorities in the Head Office task list; however, it not happening this year.
- ACTRIS NFs are the ones that are validated by the countries and will be labelled in the next five years according to the plan. New NFs are facilities that the countries are bringing in addition to the NF list already announced. These two categories are not the same thing. This needs to be discussed/defined more carefully in the Interim RI committee and then communicated to the community with the guidance. Additionally, RPF definition is not clear. Task 1.4. in IMP is dedicated to this issue.

#### Concluding remarks

- The participation in the ACTRIS Week has been a great success. All the aspects have been tackled also in a virtual mode.
- COVID-19 session was a great success and similar sessions could (and should) be organized also in the future. It is important to continue to communicate about the COVID activities widely as it shows ACTRIS relevance.