

ET-PP Coordination Meeting

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19th December 2024



<https://etpp.ifaes.es>

ET-PP status and News



- We received EC officer feedback [please read it] (some notes next two slides)
 - It deserves a detailed discussion and a plan of action that need to be developed
 - ET-PP has 30 days to provide a formal answer [-> 18th January latests]
 - We will have a special session on January 9th to analyse it and determine plan of action
- Amendment of INFN budget (related to WP9) — initiated — need to be launched now
- CERN delivered D6.2 (Vacuum pipe design) (pre-TDR) review progressing
 - 3.5h discussion with panel on Dec 16th
 - I learnt also CERN received some separate feedback from ETC Members
 - A document with comments in preparation — aim to send it to CERN on Monday 23rd
- Today we will have a report from WP5 and WP6

EC review notes

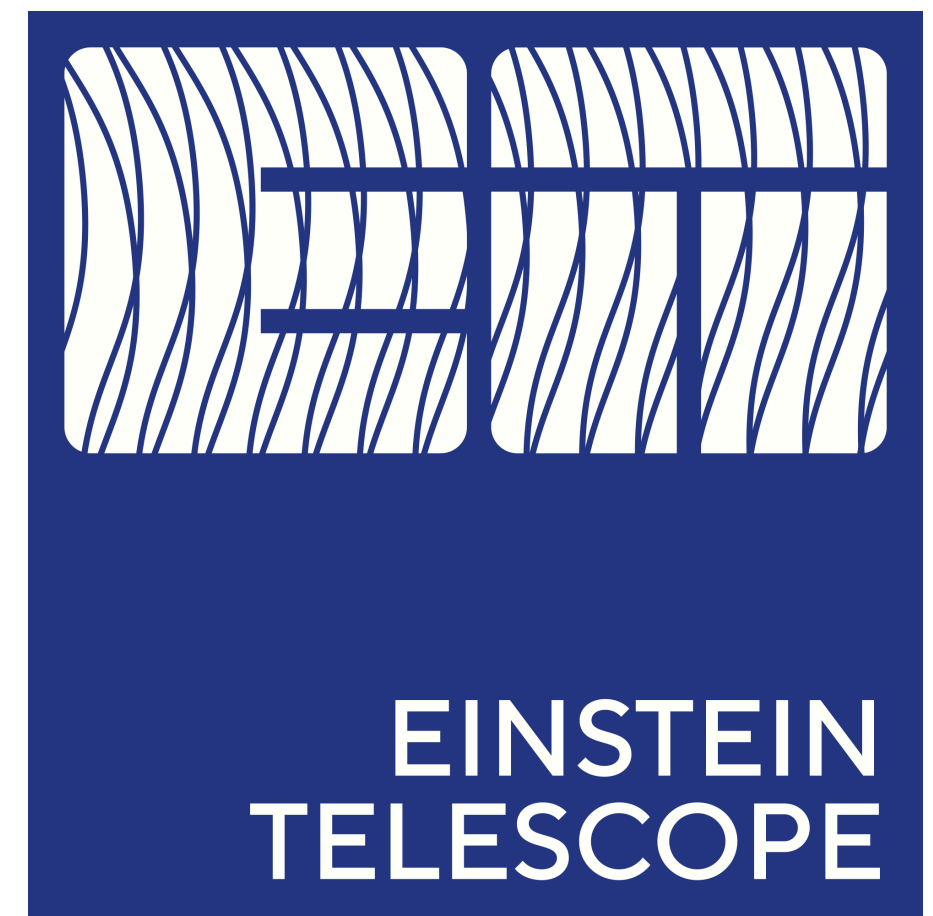
- EC officer letter includes general considerations on the status of the project (we know all off it already)
 - **As of November 2024, the project continues to be plagued by unresolved issues, high complexity, uncertainty in the achievement of objectives and lengthy delays on delivering core results.**
 - The location and, curiously, the form of the instrument have become a subject of political controversy between candidate host countries, and this is occasionally visible even in the interactions between the respective scientists.
 - There are too many variables in the decision making, linked in a closed cycle of science – form –location – governance which the stakeholders until now have not been able to break.
 - The management of the ET-PP project does not wield enough authority in the very complex structure of decision-making bodies. It is thus unable to push for certain decisions critical for the project to be expedited. As a result, a high proportion of the project’s objectives are essentially in limbo, waiting for the other bodies to agree and decide.
- While the funding authority does acknowledge that many of the obstacles are caused by factors and players outside the consortium, this does not change the fact that the original proposal ETPP in the call HORIZON-INFRA-2021-DEV-02 was highly scored and gained funding on the grounds of promising to achieve a number of ambitious objectives.
 - Specifically, three core work packages, on Governance, Site Preparation and Technical Design are at risk of not being able to deliver any of their substantial results by the end of the project in August 2026: The “Legal Entity Statutes”, the “Roadmap to the Legal Entity”, the “Detector – “ and “Infrastructure Design Report” and the “Cost and Schedule Estimates”, to name but a few.
 - In addition, up to this point many of the objectives that are achievable, have not been tackled seriously and the related deliverables are not of the expected quality.
- In many cases, the above would definitely constitute grounds for the termination of the grant agreement by the EU. However, the funding authority recognises:
 - the strategic importance of the Einstein Telescope for maintaining European scientific competitiveness in the field.
 - the forthcoming way and sincerity of the consortium management in admitting the difficulties rather than try to hide or distract. The continuous updates on the situation provided are very much appreciated. The commitment of the consortium and their willingness to move forward is not under doubt; they are mostly hindered by a complex structure and not enough own influence.

EC recommendations

- In view of the above, the funding authority does not wish to consider a grant termination. Instead, the grant management should pass in “damage control” mode and attempt to save as much as possible from the original scope.
 - The tangled interdependency cycle that hinders the critical decisions should be decisively broken, preferably the way the reviewer has proposed in her assessment: by starting with the science case, determine the best configuration and continue from there on.
 - The complicated and slow-moving management scheme of the Einstein Observatory (ETO, BGR, etc) should be put in motion, if possible in a simplified mode, instead of referring each decision from one player to the other and leaving the ET-PP management in a constant waiting state, totally disempowered.
 - The ET-PP management should urgently mobilise all partners to – in turn – put pressure on the stakeholders to expedite the critical decisions. **All partners should also start paying serious attention to the quality of the submitted deliverables.**
- **Regarding an Amendment to officially move the deadlines of the Deliverables: This is still under consideration and will be discussed again in the upcoming official second review of the project at the end of Reporting Period #2**
- **This is complemented with a detailed document by external referee going WP by WP**
 - **Lets take the time to study it in detail and have a discussion on January 9th on it.**

Tentative schedule of ET-PP meetings

- 21st November — WP2/WP3 — today
- 5th December — WP4 and ETO
- **19th December — WP5 and WP6 + first reaction to EC report**
- **January 9th — Special Session on EC review and plan of action**
- January 23rd — WP7 and WP9
- February 6th — WP8 and WP10
- Then we will start discussing RP2 preparation —



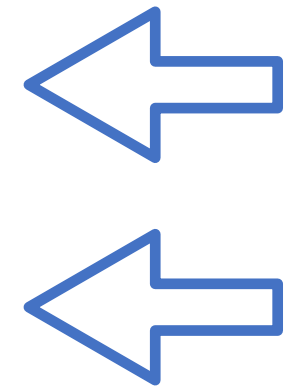
News & EC discussion

- EC review on 25th October (4 hours review)
 - It went well within the expectations
 - Critical points during review (my view)
 - Missing WP2 deliverable might translate into reduced funding — move to July 2026
 - Delivery of RI TDRs under doubt — at this point D6.5 will be (most probably) missed
 - Became evident our weakness in Sustainability and the dependency with local teams on WP9 and WP4
- Still waiting for the report from EC officer
- Action item: ET-PP coordinator needs to submit to EC office now proposed deadlines — following two weeks
- Action item: initiate the paperwork for amendment to facilitate WP9 sustainability Deliverables
- Remember we have a RP2 formal review in Spring 2025 — will also require financial reporting
- We will have a second (non scheduled) interim check point in January 2026
- EC officer will offer at a given point the possibility of extension for 6 months — but I will not ask for it now

Time	Topic	Duration
13:00 → 13:20	ET-PP status and overview	20m
13:20 → 13:50	Report from WP2 and interactions with BGR	30m
13:50 → 14:20	Report from WP4	30m
14:20 → 14:35	Break	15m
14:35 → 15:05	Report from WP6	30m
15:05 → 15:30	Report from WP9	25m
15:30 → 16:00	Discussion	30m

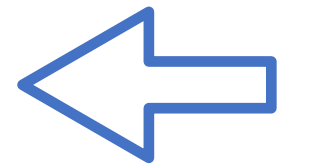
ET-PP Milestones (1/2)

#	Details	WP	Status	Due by	Delivered	Comment
1	Constitution / first meeting of the resource board	3		May 2025		Expected to be on track (WP2/WP3 workshop schedules in November 2024)
2	Document detailing the site-specific characteristics that impact ET sensitivity and its duty cycle.	4	Moved to RP2	Nov 2022	Jan 2023 / Oct 2024	Rejected in RP1 New version finalised See separate WP4 report
3	Common methodology to estimate impact of site characteristics on ET sensitivity and operation	4	Moved to RP2	June 2023	March 2024 / March 2025	Not Achieved See separate WP4 report
4	The recruitment of the Project Office team is completed	5		Nov 2023	Nov 2023	
5	All three documents (WP5-D5.1, D5.2 and D5.3) are published	5		Sept 2024	Sept 2024	
6	The Engineering Department as a functional unit complete	5		Nov 2024		Expected to be on track
7	The Project Office as a functional unit complete	5		Nov 2024		Expected to be on track
8	ET Collaboration in place	6		July 2023	June 2022	
9	Analysis of promotion strategies accomplished	7		Abril 2023	Abril 2023	
10	Engagement plan produced	7		June 2023	Oct 2023	
11	Analysis of balanced industrial return strategies accomplished	7		Nov 2023	Oct 2024	Delivered in time for this review
12	Workflows Requirements collection and constraints: computing and data	8		July 2023	July 2023	



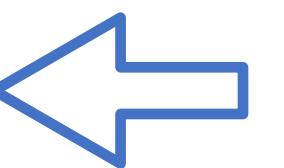
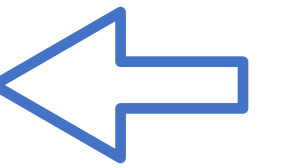
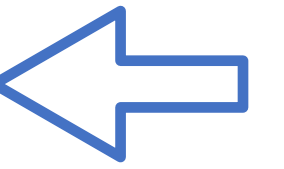
ET-PP Milestones (2/2)

#	Details	WP	Status	Due by	Delivered	Comment
13	Computing Infrastructures availability for ET workflows, characteristics	8		Aug 2024	Jul 2024	
14	On site infrastructure, computing and data model	8		Aug 2025		Expected to be on track
15	Low latency and offline workflows and computing model	8		Dec 2025		Expected to be on track
16	Data management, access, policy and implementation	8		Jun 2026		Expected to be on track
17	Preliminary sustainability plan	9	Delayed	Jul 2023	May 2025	New version prepared but retained Expected by Spring 2025 See report from WP9
18	ET Sustainability Workshop	9		Feb 2024	Nov 2023	
19	Final sustainability plan	9		July 2026		Expected to be on track
20	Appointment of Communications and Outreach Coordinator	10		April 2023	July 2023	
21	ET Consortium website and social media launched	10		Aug 2024	Oct 2024	Delivered in time for this meeting Website still password protected
22	ECR Mentorship and Training programme established	10		April 2026		Expected to be on track



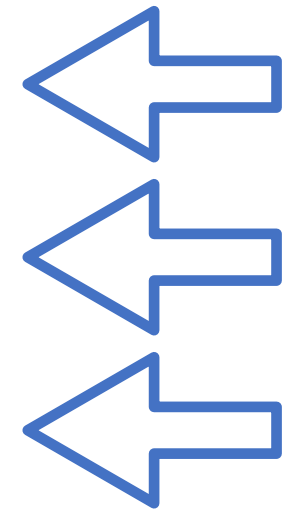
ET-PP Deliverables (1/3)

#	Details	WP	Status	Due by	Delivered	Comment
D1	D1.1: Dissemination and Exploitation (D&E) Plan	1	EC approved			
D2	D1.2: Data Management Plan (DMP)	1	EC approved			
D3	D2.1: Report providing options for legal entity	2	EC approved			
D4	D2.2: Minutes of meetings with EC and involved ministries	2	EC approved			
D5	D2.3: Legal entity statutes	2	TBD	Aug 2025	July 2026	See report from WP2
D6	D2.4: Roadmap to establish the legal entity and its implementation	2		Aug 2026		See report from WP2
D7	D3.1: Handbook for design and construction phase	3		Aug 2025		Close interaction with WP2 and WP5 taking place
D8	D3.2: Handbook for operating phase	3		Feb 2026		
D9	D3.3: Financial plan and Scenario analysis	3		July 2026		
D10	D4.1: Scan of legal procedures, permitting and land acquisitions	4	EC approved			
D11	D4.2: Updated socio-economic impact studies	4	Delayed	Nov 2023	Dec 2024	Is happening ?
D12	D4.3: Complete quantification of all the aspects impacting the ET performance	4		Dec 2024	July 2026	Check point in Jan 2026
D13	D4.4: Report on 3D geology, hydrology, etc. model with localisation of the ET infrastructure	4		Jan 2025	Feb 2026	Check point in Jan 2026
D14	D4.5: Updated cost and schedule estimates of the excavations	4		Feb 2026	July 2026	Check point in Jan 2026
D15	D5.1: Structure and mandate of the Project Office	5	Submitted to EC	Sept 2024	Sept 2024	



ET-PP Deliverables (2/3)

#	Details	WP	Status	Due by	Delivered	Comment
D16	D5.2: Functionalities required from the tools in support of the project management	5	Submitted to EC	Sept 2024	Sept 2024	
D17	D5.3: .Structure and mandate of the Engineering Department	5	Submitted to EC	Sept 2024	Sept 2024	
D18	D5.4: Funcional Engineering Department	5		Dec 2024		Expected to be on track
D19	D5.5: Funcional Project Office	5		Dec 2024		Expected to be on track
D20	D6.1: Refined Science Case	6	Delayed	Feb 2024	Feb 2025	See report from WP6
D21	D6.2: Vacuum pipe Design	6	Delayed (internal review)	Aug 2024	Dec 2024	Document concluded See report from CERN
D22	D6.3: Preliminary RI TDR	6	Delayed	Aug 2024	July 2026	See report from WP1
D23	D6.4: Preliminary DET TDR	6	Delayed	Aug 2024	July 2025	See report from WP6
D24	D6.5: RI TDR	6		Dec 2025	MISSED ?	See report from WP1
D25	D6.6: DMP and Data Access Policy	6		Jun 2026		Expected to be on track
D26	D7.1: Innovation plan	7	EC approved			
D27	D7.2: Report on industry engagement plan execution	7		Feb 2026		Expected to be on track
D28	D7.3: Model for pursuing in ET a balanced industrial return	7		May 2025		Expected to be on track
D29	D7.4: Report on TT and Intellectual property management in ET	7		April 2026		Expected to be on track
D30	D8.1: Computing and Data Requirements	8	Submitted to EC	Feb 2024	Feb 2024	



ET-PP Deliverables (3/3)

#	Details	WP	Status	Due by	Delivered	Comment
D31	D8.2: Computing and Data Model	8		Feb 2026		Expected to be on track
D32	D8.3: Data Access Implementation Guidelines	8		Jul 2026		Expected to be on track
D33	D9.1: ET Sustainable Development Implementation Strategy	9	Delayed	Feb 2024	OCT 25	Expected by October 2025
D34	D9.2: ET Environmental impact assessment and mitigation strategy	9	Delayed	Aug 2024	OCT 25	Expected by October 2025
D35	D9.3: ET CO2 footprint ET assessment and mitigation strategy	9		Aug 2025	OCT 25	Expected by October 2025
D36	D10.1: Initiate strategic media and communications plan	10	EC approved			
D37	D10.2: Launch consortium website and social media accounts	10	Submitted to EC	Aug 2024	Oct 2024	Delivered in time for this review
D38	D10.3: Formulate strategic media and communications plan	10	Submitted to EC	Aug 2024	Oct 2024	Delivered in time for this review
D39	D10.4: Complete bank of graphics and multimedia resources	10		Aug 2025		Expected to be on track
D40	D10.5: Launch ECR mentorship and training programme	10		April 2026		Expected to be on track

