

SWWT Meeting 21, 10th May, 2007.

Royal Observatory Belgium, Brussels.

1. Introduction and welcome, agree agenda
2. Review actions from last SWWT meeting
3. Space weather and FP7
 - a. activities in current calls
 - b. planetary space weather/EuroPlanet
 - c. building an I3 for terrestrial space weather
4. A European Space Weather journal?
5. Highlights of other SW activities: ESA, national activities, COST 296 & 724, DIAS
6. Plans for ESWW4
7. News and key issues from the SWWT topical groups
8. Summarise actions
9. AOB

Background information request, circulated in advance by M Haggood:

One of the major issues for discussion at the forthcoming SWWT meeting (Brussels, 10 May) is space weather opportunities in Framework 7 - and thus follow-up on our discussions at ESWW3 and our meeting in Paris back in January. I am aware that various proposals are being prepared for the open call on data infrastructure (closes 2 May) and that planetary space weather should form part of a wider planetary science proposal being prepared by EuroPlanet (I will report further on 10 May).

The critical issue now is whether to develop terrestrial space weather proposal for an Integrated Infrastructure Initiative (a so-called I3 or I-cubed). The I3 is an FP7 instrument for developing research infrastructures at European level. Its essential elements are (a) human networking activities, (b) access to services (e.g. databases, models) and (c) joint research activities = research on the infrastructure, e.g. development of shared tools. There will be a major call for I3 proposals in spring 2008 - open to bottom-up proposals on any topic. This is an important opportunity for our community - perhaps a natural next step in consolidation of European space weather community. It is an excellent way to integrate the commercial groups within our community since FP7 encourages commercial, as well as academic, participation. I note that SMEs (small & medium enterprises) especially welcome in FP7 - and on similar terms to academics (75% funding).

If we want to make a good I3 proposal we need to work on it now. Thus I would like to collect ideas for projects that can be included in terrestrial space weather I3. May I invite you submit ideas:

1. Short summary of idea (≤ 1 page)
2. Proposer details (ideally ≥ 3 countries)
3. Classify your idea as one of the I3 components: human networking, access to services, JRAs.

Please send ideas to me (M.Hapgood@rl.ac.uk) - if possible by 4 May. Please also feel free to circulate ideas via SWWT mail list - send to SWWT@LISTSERV.cclrc.ac.uk. I will produce a consolidated list of all ideas submitted by 4 May and use that to stimulate discussion/review at the SWWT meeting on 10 May.

Finally, I would like to raise a strategic issue that we need to discuss at the SWWT. To be successful our I3 proposal must have a coherent focus. This is not always an easy thing for space weather since our subject covers many different regions of space and many different user applications. As experts we can see the linkages, but it can be hard to sell those to external referees. I therefore wonder if we should build a focus by making ionospheric applications the core of the proposal? These are natural focus for FP7 support as they have wide application across EU interests. This approach can easily be extended to include GIC (via the link to ionospheric currents) and could also include ESA in a balanced way (given that Galileo is a very important, but not dominant, ionospheric application). It would naturally include ground-based networks (TEC, scintillation, ionosondes, etc) and could be easily extended to include space-based monitoring of solar, heliospheric and magnetospheric drivers of ionospheric behaviour. Please could I encourage you to think about this and be ready to discuss it at our meeting on 10 May.
