



ENSAR2: status report

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on behalf of

ENSAR2 management group

ENSAR2 Town Meeting

10-14 February 2020

Athens, Greece



ENSAR2 Started on:

1 March 2016

First reporting period ended 31 August 2017

⇒ 18 months + 2 months

⇒ (reports have been submitted on 31 October 2017)

Second instalment approved 24 July 2018

Mid-term Review of ENSAR2

30 January 2018

Second reporting period ended 28 February 2019

⇒ 36 months + 2 months

End date of ENSAR2 was supposed to be on:

February 29, 2020



3rd GA Meeting

April 17, 2019 in the afternoon

Approval of:

2nd Intermediate Scientific Report

2nd Intermediate Financial Report



Because of some delays in submitting of certain deliverable reports ⇒

Modifications in the Grant Agreement of ENSAR2 (n°654002) were needed.

Amendment submitted on 5 April 2019.

It was approved on 11 April 2019.

Because of the delay with the amendment and its approval, we were given an extra month to submit the 2nd report, i.e. on May 31 instead of April 30, 2019.



Finally, the 2nd scientific and financial reports were submitted on May 13, 2019. The delay was caused by financial reporting. The scientific report was finally ready on time.

Both were approved by the General Assembly via e-mail before submission.

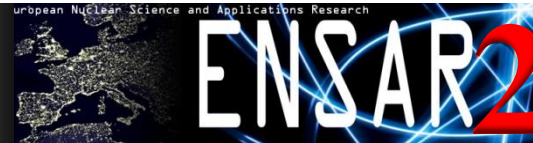
Following this, we were awaiting approval of reports and subsequently 3rd instalment of budget. We expected this to take a few months.



Mina Koleva, our project officer, sent on 25 June a list of remarks on the scientific and financial reports. In particular, she wanted highlights for TNAs (scientific) and personnel costs (financial).

The report was not rejected and we agreed that by giving answers within a week it will be accepted in a light procedure. Mina was to move at end of June to another section and a new project officer, René Martins, was assigned implying a much longer time to approve report.

This happened within a huge reorganisation at DG RTD. Philippe Froissard left to a different department (Transportation). Martins has worked with synchrotrons and has some affinity with our research.



Surprisingly fast, we got the following message from the EC on 15 July 2019

Your EU project ENSAR2 - REP-654002-2; PAYMENT LETTER

Dear Coordinator,

The payment for the abovementioned project has been finalised and the notification of the amounts due has been communicated.

A suggestion for the repartition of the 3rd instalment between the partners in proportion to their initial ENSAR2 budgets was made. This needed the approval of the General Assembly (GA), and the approval by GA members was made on 7 October. The budgets were distributed thereafter.

In total it took around five months between submission of reports and distribution of budgets.



During the PCC meeting (17 April) it was reported that:

ALL NAs have fulfilled their tasks in organising workshops, meetings, training sessions, etc. Budget spending is on track.

ALL JRAs have fulfilled their tasks almost fully. Budgets for personnel are not fully exhausted because of delays in hiring personnel (postdocs, PhD students and technicians). Expectations are, however, that depletions of budgets will be total by end of ENSAR2.

Some TNAs requested prolongation of ENSAR2 project beyond 29 February 2020. This has to be decided around September depending on some conditions.



Following the result for ERINS (European Research Infrastructures for Nuclear Science: Nuclear Structure, Astrophysics and Applications), we decided to ask for an extension of ENSAR2 as has been agreed earlier with GA and PCC on 17 April.

Marek and I went to DG headquarters in Brussels on October 4 and met with René Martins, our new project officer, and discussed extension of ENSAR2 by several (six!) months.

The reasons given were primarily that some of the TNAs could not fulfil their commitments for providing transnational access and travel and subsistence (T&S) because of circumstances beyond their control.



- 1. Work package 16 – TA1 – GANIL-SPIRAL2**
GANIL delivered up to now 62% of the promised beam hours and spent 62% T&S money. Beam time 3 months from February 2020.
- 2. Work package 17 – TA2 – LNL-LNS**
Unscheduled maintenance of the accelerators, mainly at LNL. Approved experiments can be scheduled only in the first half of 2020.
- 3. Work package 19 – TA4 – JYFL**
Unforeseen long shutdown period (three months) December 2019-February 2020.
- 4. Work package 21 – TA6 – GSI**
No beam in 2018 due to unfortunate fire accident with the heavy-ion linear accelerator UNILAC. Beam time at GSI will start at 10 February 2020 and will last until 31 May 2020.
- 5. Work package 24 – TA9 – IFIN-HH / ELI-NP**
High-brilliance gamma source up to 20 MeV photon energy to be installed by the EuroGammaS (EGS) Consortium at ELI-NP around mid-2019 did not materialise. Nuclear experiments with 10 PW laser can be done in first half of 2020. Otherwise, experiments would be performed at IFIN.



There are less compelling reasons for NAs and JRAs.

1. Work package 4 – NA4 – NUSPIN

NUSPIN had difficulties organising two workshops/schools before end of February 2020, because invited lecturers had other commitments.

2. Work package 9 – JRA1 – PASPAG

Beam time for test measurement of response of phoswich detectors coupled to newly developed Hamamatsu PMTs has been approved at CCB IFJ-PAN but can take place in Spring of 2020.

3. Work package 15 – JRA7 – TechIBA

Delay in the design and manufacturing of a specific ASIC to read a sizable (>1000) number of channels with a wide dynamic range (1:10,000), and a further delay in full characterisation of the chip because of lack of beam time.



Agreed with René Martins that a concept of extension will be sent to him for comments before official submission.

18 October concept sent to René.

24 October request for confirmation of receipt.

8 November reply with suggestions for modifications.

On 17 November, amendment of Grant agreement including extension request submitted.



The excellent news that our request for extension of ENSAR2 has been approved was received on 16 December through approval of the modified Grant Agreement. This means that ENSAR2 will run now until 31 August 2020, instead of ending on 29 February 2020. This has two implications.

1- The third and final report is now due October 31, well after the summer vacation.

2- The MoUs with the international partner institutes can be extended up to 31 August 2020. I wrote an e-mail to all directors and contact persons suggesting extension of the MoUs, which will benefit scientists who will perform experiments at the running RIs. No objections were received and some replied positively.



MoUs with International Research Infrastructure

MoUs were signed with several the international Research Infrastructures.

Japan: RCNP, Osaka; RIKEN, Tokyo; and IPNS (KEK) and CNS both located at RIKEN

China: IMP-CAS, Lanzhou

South Africa: iThemba, Cape Town

JINR, Dubna

U.S.A.: NSCL East Lansing; ANL Argonne

India: Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)

The MoUs are now valid up to 31 August 2020.



APPENDIX I

Each Party shall be responsible for its own costs and expenses under this MoU, except as otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties. RNC-RIKEN will cover the daily expenses of European physicists, while performing experiments at RNC-RIKEN, according to local per diem rules and vice versa, IA ENSAR2 will cover the daily expenses of Japanese physicists, while performing experiments at IA ENSAR2 RIs, according to local per diem rules of the IA ENSAR2 RIs. In the case of IA ENSAR2 support, mutual spokesmanship for the experiments is required.



Thank you for your attention