

Regional User Facilities/ Distributed Large Scale Facilities

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1. Elaboration of Jerzy Jastrzębski (http://gdr.ifj.edu.pl/EWON/JJ_RUFs.pdf)

On the support of Research

Infrastructures in Central Europe

The drastically non-uniform distribution of the European Research Infrastructures together with a free circulation of the working population will have a devastating influence on the civilization level of the European peripheries.

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In this note some propositions related to the intermediate scale, regional research centers, existing in the Central part of Europe are presented. These propositions are emerging from the Nuclear Physics case, the best known to the author of these notes.

Regional User Facilities

By the term “Regional User Facility” (RUF) I understand here a facility build and operating using mainly the national resources, having a unique in the regional scale experimental equipment, open for the national and international users not belonging to the institution running the equipment.

- Research program overlooked by „close to Nobel Prize” program of LSFs
- Crucial role in interdisciplinary research
- Training young scientists (which can later efficiently use LSFs)

Unfortunately the role of this local user facilities is very often underestimated by the national science policy makers and, what is even more symptomatic – often neglected by the European science strategy, elaborated mainly by the European rich countries.

the networking of the Regional User Facilities in Central Europe and their connection to other European Regional and Large Scale Facilities could be organized with the help of the European Commission. In particular, the establishment of the common rules for the facilities evaluation, the financial support of the Review Panels travel, the networking exchange cost could be covered by the Commission.

2. The idea of RUF was discussed by Sotirios Harissopulos, Victor Zamfir, AM and others during the NuPECC sponsored meeting about FP7 bids in Brussels March 2006;
and later, by Jan Styczen and others, on NUPPECC meeting in Athens

3. During the Brussels meeting, AM proposed to think about an extension of the idea of RUFs –

Distributed Large Scale Facilities

The proposition, *not very well prepared*, was that each RUF from different countries give certain equipment to a common pool, which can after adding all of the elements, be of the size and quality as *Large Scale Facility*, only *Distributed*.

The coordination will be done by the Steering committee, representing each of the RUF joining the D_LSF.

Being the LSF, all of the RUFs can profit from that, obtaining e.g. the money for performing the experiments etc.

This idea was positively taken by Brian Fulton and Muhsin Harakeh, and even enthusiastically by Alex Müller, who proposed that this should be **one of the main subjects for discussion among EWON**

Daniel Passini from EC confirmed that formally such a *distributed* structure can be approved by EC (in fact such thing exists in astrophysics)

4. Time for Discussion