

‘The European Collaboration for Stable Ion Beams - ECOS’

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In the past a sufficiently large number of facilities have been available to the European Nuclear Physics Community delivering stable heavy ion beams at energies close to the Coulomb barrier with intensities of up to a few 10^{12} particles/sec. Many of these facilities are being recognized as leading European Research Infrastructures. Nevertheless, the last decade has seen the phasing out of several of these facilities in Europe resulting in the consequence that the beam time available to the European Nuclear Physics community has become marginal. In the meantime new physics domains have emerged that require the use of higher beam intensities than available today.

NuPECC has stressed on many occasions and particularly in its recommendations for the last Long Range Plan, the importance of the existing stable beams facilities for our field. Furthermore NuPECC has appointed, the ECOS working group in order to examine the research perspectives with high intensity stable ion beams, to help categorize existing facilities and their possible up-grades and to identify the opportunities for a dedicated new facility in Europe.

In my talk, I will describe some aspects of the work done by the ECOS group. The ECOS working group came to some conclusions and recommendations that I will be also developing during my talk.