



## EPN2020-RI

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### **Deliverable D13.15 Year 2 Outreach Professional Meetings**

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Dissemination level		
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<b>PP</b>	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Service)	
<b>RE</b>	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
<b>CO</b>	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (excluding the Commission Services)	

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**Abstract:** Three activities were organised under this deliverable in Year 3 of the Europlanet 2020-RI project:

**1. A workshop, “Touching the Planets, Evaluating Excellence” was organised at the Kostis Palamas Building at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.**

- The workshop aimed to give participants practical experience of using evaluation tools, as well as give Europlanet a further opportunity to pilot its Evaluation Toolkit, which will be launched at EPSC 2018 in Berlin in September.
- The Local Organising Committee for the workshop comprised Nantia Moutsouroufi, Dr Eleni Chatzichristou and Prof Ioannis Dagleis.
- A registration page was set up on Eventbrite and the event was publicised through 40 amateur astronomy associations in Greece, Greek science media, the newsletter of the Hellenic Astronomical Society, the Europlanet outreach newsletter and the main Europlanet newsletter, as well as the LOC’s networks of contacts.
- 18 people attended from Greece and Cyprus (11 male, 7 female), including amateur and professional astronomers, outreach professionals and young researchers. The workshop was free to attend and some budget was available to cover the travel costs. 28 people registered, but potential participants from Bulgaria, Ireland, the UK and Russia dropped out as they felt that the bursary was insufficient to cover their costs. A participant from Qatar and a participant from Iran were unable to attend as they could not obtain visas in time.
- On Day 1, Prof Dagleis welcomed the participants and gave an overview of the Europlanet project. Dr Jen DeWitt introduced the Evaluation Toolkit that she and Dr Karen Bultitude have developed for Europlanet.
- The participants gave presentations sharing their experiences of running outreach activities and lessons learned. In the evening, the participants were given a tour of the National Observatory of Athens and given the opportunity to observe Saturn and Jupiter through the Doridis telescope.
- On Day 2, the students evaluated the visit to the Observatory using the “Three Words” and “Snapshot Interviews” techniques from the toolkit. They were given an introduction to “Word Clouds” and “Thematic coding”. They

also evaluated the workshop overall using “Three Words” and “Pebbles in a Jar”. The evaluation was very positive, with 10/11 respondents saying that they planned to use the evaluation toolkit in the future, with the other response being “Maybe”.

- For more information, see an [article on the Europlanet website](#) and the [evaluation report](#).
- 2. Outreach sessions at the European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC) are an important opportunity to share ideas and best practice. Dr Eleni Chatzichristou leads the programme group for the Outreach, Education and Policy sessions at EPSC, as part of this task for EPN2020-RI NA2.**
- Four sessions were convened in at EPSC 2017 in Riga in September 2017:
    - [OEP1](#): Policy & Sociocultural Aspects of Planetary exploration/Networking of European planetary science communities/Citizen Science with Big Data. This session included 6 oral presentations and 2 posters.
    - [OEP2](#): Education, capacity building and training with Planetary Research. This session included 13 oral presentations and 3 posters.
    - [OEP3](#): Planetary science and exploration outreach through Arts. This session included 5 oral presentations and 1 poster
    - [OEP4](#): International lunar decade - towards a self-sustaining space economy. This session included 5 oral presentations and 2 posters.
  - All the abstracts and posters can be found here: <http://www.europlanet-eu.org/epsc-2017-outreach-sessions/>
  - Additionally, a [breakfast event](#) was held to discuss the needs of the outreach community in developing the Europlanet Evaluation Toolkit
- 3. Session on “Making the case for European astronomy and space science: public and political engagement” at the European Week of Astronomy and Space Science (EWASS) 2018, Liverpool, UK in April 2018.**
- This session was co-organised by Europlanet 2020 RI, the Royal Astronomical Society (RAS), the European Space Agency (ESA) and the European Astronomical Society (EAS).
  - The session was led by a panel of speakers with different perspectives on the dialogue between the astronomy community, policy makers and the public. The panel comprised [Terry O'Connor \(STFC\)](#), [Nathalie Meusy \(ESA\)](#) and [Clare Moody MEP](#) and was chaired by Mike Bode of the European Astronomical Society. The panel’s presentations were followed by discussion session. For further details and to download the presentations, see: <http://www.europlanet-eu.org/making-the-case-for-astronomy-engaging-with-policy-makers/>
  - The session was a follow-up to one of the same title held at EWASS 2017 in Prague. Key points from the 2017 discussion were written up and published in the February issue of the RAS magazine, Astronomy & Geophysics, which reaches more than 3000 astronomers worldwide. The article was featured as “Editor’s Choice” for the magazine and has had more than 300 views of the online version and 39 downloads at the time of writing: <https://academic.oup.com/astrogeo/article/59/1/1.27/4804289>