



THE AFRICAN LIGHT SOURCE CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP

16 - 20 NOVEMBER 2015, ESRF GRENOBLE FRANCE



Outline of “Policy” Session and the AfLS Vision

AfLS

How did we get here ?

What are we doing ?

Where are we going ?

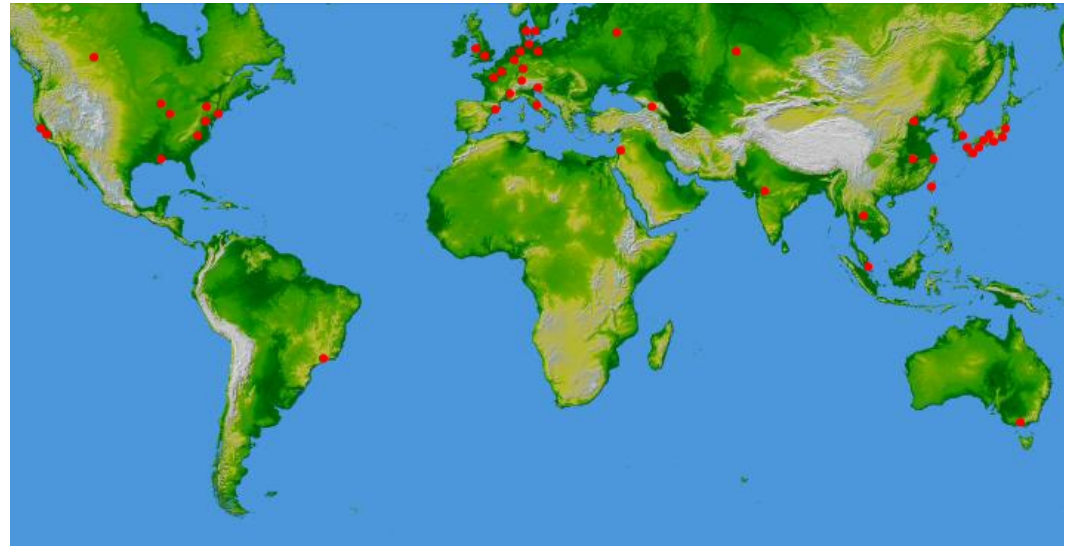


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- The conversation about a light source for Africa is actually well advanced and some decades old.
- Africa stands out as the only habitable continent without a light source.
- This is significant considering the massive proven benefit of a light source to human and infrastructure capacity building, competitive industry and the cultural enlightenment that accompanies a strong integrated science system.





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AfLS meeting : several tasks with very concrete outcomes.

Part I

1. Showcase the contribution of light sources as premier tools for research, across many disciplines, and including for industry, in tackling problems that are often very pertinent to Africa.
 - The role of light sources in studying disease and then in drug design, including for malaria, HIV, tuberculosis and ebola.
 - The role of light sources in heritage studies.
 - Africa is the cradle of hominid evolution
 - Africa as the cradle of culture
 - Preservation
 - Not to mention geology, materials, industry, energy, environment



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AfLS meeting : several tasks with very concrete outcomes.

Part I

1. Showcase the African participation in the research done at synchrotrons.
 - The role of light sources in studying disease and then in drug design, including for malaria, HIV, tuberculosis and ebola.
 - The role of light sources in heritage studies.
 - Africa is the cradle of hominid evolution
 - Africa as the cradle of culture
 - Preservation
 - Not to mention geology, materials, industry, energy, environment
 - Technology (software)
2. Learning to track and audit this.



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AfLS meeting : several tasks with very concrete outcomes.

Part II

1. Grenoble Resolutions.

- See https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gnbb_7YypwChZpiC3NkoUnkp7InL4R4lwR_bYcJbK3Y/edit?usp=sharing

2. Terms of Reference.

- Link coming

3. Roadmap summary.

- See https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gnbb_7YypwChZpiC3NkoUnkp7InL4R4lwR_bYcJbK3Y/edit?usp=sharing

4. Steering Committee to drive this roadmap forward.

- fully mandated
- globally elected
- See <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NlULgrE7Bu9t2aeiKIYd3zgFALoLbksfEFTgNC8p0q0/edit#gid=0>



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Details ? Not yet.

Although we do look at costs, light source technologies, we even peek in the crystal ball to see where these may evolve, we are not yet talking about when, where and what.

Focus on what we can easily agree on now.

We are concerned with building networks, identifying partners, training, mobility, future workshops, schools and conferences and optimising the use of existing funding instruments. By degrees we will be building, on strong foundations, a massive campaign for a strong researcher user base with an aware policy-maker cohort, across Africa, and globally linked.



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**AfLS SC + ToR + Resolutions + Roadmap + (Pan Africa, Global)
networks =**

Build consensus, establish pedigree, start affordably, governance, representation, transparency, inclusivity.

Details of growth can to some extent be left to future annual AfLS meetings



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ToR : ambit of our mandate.

- Full range of tasks to progress the Roadmap.
- Continue to develop the Roadmap.
- Organising future annual AfLS meetings
- Limited Executive capacity
- Some decisions to be ratified at AGM's at the AfLS meetings
- The Voice of Africa on Light Source Matters
- Raising Funds
- Disbursing these funds.
- Accountability via AfLS AGM.
- Fixed terms, Re-elections
- Can co-opt members,
- Spin-off sub-committees
- Further develop the ToR



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AfLS meeting : outcomes so far.

Part I – Showcase African participation and potential

1. User base is bigger and stronger than originally perceived.
2. Industry already engaged (SASOL)
3. Paleo- with a huge African footprint
4. Bio- already onto African diseases
5. Materials Experienced Users
6. Beginnings of a local infrastructure in some countries.
7. Synergies with SKA in IT support
8. Potential for growth based on the Userbase of feeder instrumentation



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AfLS meeting : outcomes so far.

Associated outcomes

1. Starting to survey existing Funding Instruments to support Access and Training.
2. LS Facilities / partners identified which welcome the AfLS programme
3. Stakeholder Organisations / partners partners identified which welcome the AfLS programme
4. MOOCs



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