

EUNAWE

Building on the International Year of Astronomy: Making young children aware of the Universe

INSPIRATION FOR CHILDREN FROM SPACE

Thinking about the Universe and space fascinates children. EUNAWE will use the inspiration and excitement of astronomy and space sciences to interest very young underprivileged children in science and technology, broaden their minds and stimulate European and global citizenship.

The project builds on Universe Awareness (UNAWA), a unique and proven programme for children aged 4 to 10 years. UNAWA is active in 40 countries and was a cornerstone of the successful UN-ratified International Year of Astronomy. EUNAWE will exploit the achievements of European and South African astronomy and space sciences to inspire, excite and stimulate children at an age when their curiosity is high and their value systems are being formed. The project will focus on 5 European countries - Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, the UK - and South Africa.

Specifically, EUNAWE will:

- Train and empower primary school teachers to include space topics in the classroom.
- Develop and translate hands-on material over the partner countries.

- Provide a network for the exchange of expertise and material between educators of very young children in EU member states, Associated Countries and International Cooperation Partner Countries

- Help stimulate the production of the next generation of European engineers and scientists, particularly girls.

- Contribute to the integration of underprivileged communities in participating countries.

- Strengthen collaboration between Europe and South Africa over mutually beneficial scientific, technological, educational and social topics.

- Lay the groundwork for expansion during FP8 to all EU member states and additional countries in Africa and Asia.



GEORGE MILEY
IS PROJECT COORDINATOR

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What do you want to achieve with this project?

To interest disadvantaged children in science and technology, train teachers and foster international expertise. Our long term goal is to use perspective provided by the beauty and grandeur of the Universe to broaden children's minds and foster tolerance and internationalism.

Why is this project important for Europe?

It will help produce the next generation of European and African engineers and scientists, particularly girls and be a showcase for European astronomy/space and related technologies. It will also contribute to reducing the negative social effects of fanaticism and intolerance.

How does your work benefit European citizens?

It is a bottom-up project that will contribute to education, social stability and innovation in five European countries and South Africa.



Artist view of Io's high thermal emission induced by Jupiter's tide © ESPACE

EUNAWE will use inspirational aspects of space sciences to interest young children in science and technology and stimulate European and global citizenship.

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LIST OF PARTNERS

- Leiden University, The Netherlands
- Ruprecht-Karls-Universitaet Heidelberg, Germany
- Universitat Politècnica De Catalunya, Spain
- Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica (Arcetri Observatory), Italy
- National Research Foundation (South African Astronomical Observatory), South Africa
- Armagh Observatory and Planetarium, United Kingdom

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PROJECT INFORMATION

Building on the International Year of Astronomy:
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(EUNAWE)

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