

ESO

- Intergovernmental treaty organisation for astronomy
 - > Founded in 1962, by 5 countries
 - ➤ Currently 14+2 Member States, may increase further
- Mission
 - Develop and operate world-class observing facilities for astronomical research
 - Organise collaborations in astronomy





ESO's Programme

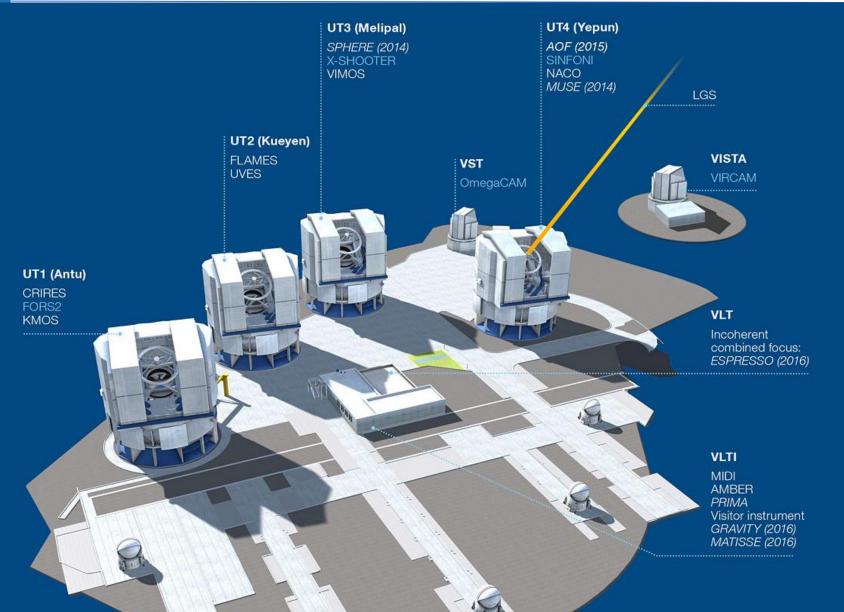
- Visual/infrared light
 - La Silla telescopes incl. 3.6m and NTT
 - > VLT, VLTI, VISTA and VST on Paranal
 - > E-ELT construction on Armazones
 - > Instrumentation development
- Submillimeter radio waves
 - > APEX & ALMA partnerships at Chajnantor
- High-quality user support







Paranal System





Paranal Instrumentation

- MUSE and SPHERE arrived in 2014
 - > Tremendously powerful instruments
- More instruments to come
 - > ESPRESSO, CUBES, CRIRES+, ERIS, MOONS for VLT
 - GRAVITY & MATISSE for VLTI
 - > 4MOST for VISTA
- Ongoing infrastructure upgrades
 - Adaptive Optics Facility on UT4
 - Key components for VLTI
 - ➤ Incoherent combined focus for ESPRESSO
- Long-range plan
 - Upgrades and new instruments in budget through 2030



ALMA



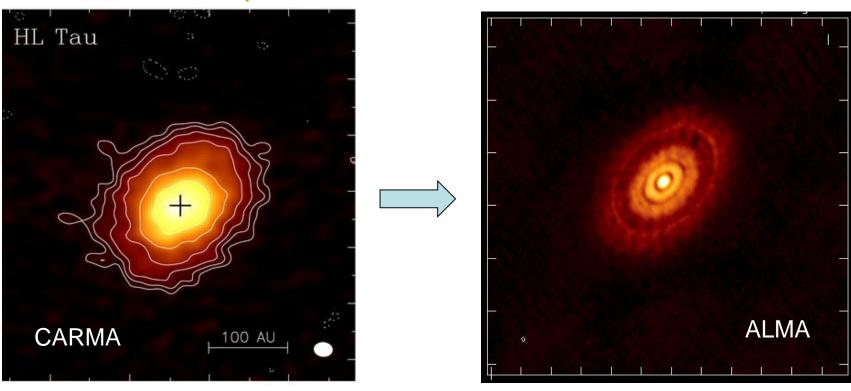
- Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array
 - > 54 x 12m + 12 x 7m antenna's on Chajnantor at 5050m
 - → 7 0.35 mm (30-900 GHz) in 10+ atmospheric windows
 - World's most powerful radio interferometer
 - ➤ Cold Universe: formation of planets, stars and galaxies
- Construction essentially completed
 - All equipment procured by Partners
 - ➤ ESO contribution corresponds to ~485 MEUR
 - > Transition to full operations will take few more years





ALMA





- Transformational facility
 - > Superb Chajnantor site (5000m), state-of-the art receivers
 - > 66 antennas, baselines larger than 15 km

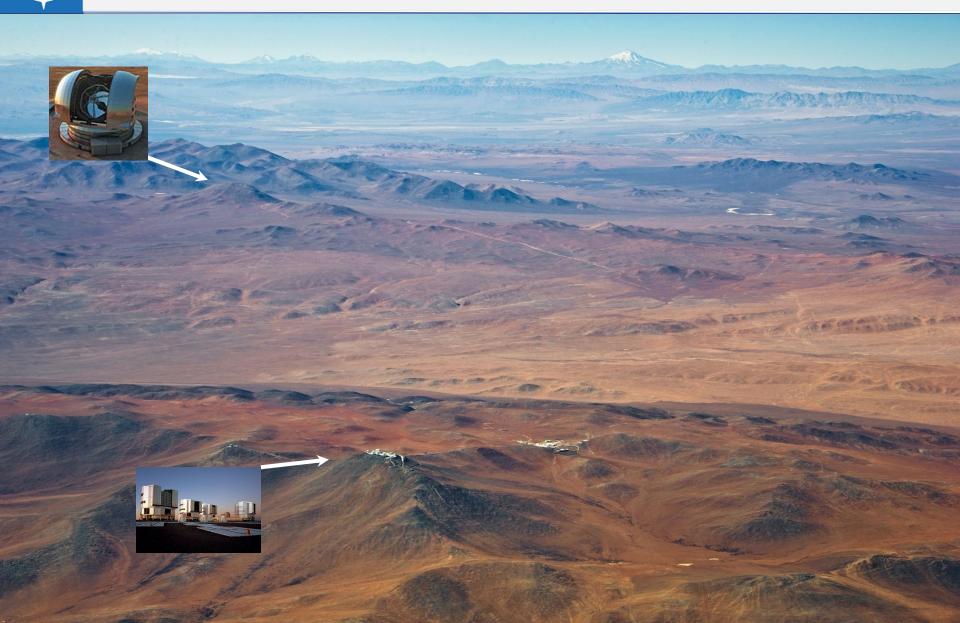


E-ELT

- Largest optical/infrared telescope in the world
 - > 39m segmented primary mirror: transformational step
 - > Science: exo-earths, deep universe, resolved populations
 - On Cerro Armazones, as part of the Paranal system
- Construction has started
 - Cost-to-completion 1104 MEUR (2014 prices)
 - Includes contingency and contribution to first instruments
- Funding
 - > Regular ESO income
 - >~30% increase of contributions by 14 Member States
 - Accession of Brazil and Poland
 - Parliamentary ratification moving forward



Armazones and Paranal







Construction in Two Phases

- Council approved E-ELT construction in two Phases
 - Phase 1 affordable without Brazil
 - 39m E-ELT but not all instruments and capabilities at first light
 - First light late 2024 or soon after; cost 1012 MEUR
 - ➤ Phase 2 (92 MEUR) will complete baseline E-ELT
- Council authorized spending on Phase 1
- The two-phase approach is a back-up plan
 - ➤ Path to the E-ELT without Brazil, without additional MS contributions and without any new MS other than Poland
 - > By design, Phase 1 starts deviating from baseline in 2017
 - ➤ Provides time for Brazil to join ⇒ return to baseline
 - This is the preferred way forward



This Workshop

- Current programme
 - > Will deliver tremendous scientific results
 - Incl. synergy with GAIA, JWST, PLATO, EUCLID, Athena, ...
 - ➤ Commits ESO's income for ~15 years
- Many ideas for new ground-based facilities
 - Some would be natural to do at ESO
 - Optical, radio or other 'messengers'
 - Can be 'all ESO' or in partnership
 - Would require additional funding
 - From new MS or provided for the project by current MS, or both
 - Will need very powerful arguments in current financial climate
- Important to start planning now
 - Develop consensus on scientific priorities, taking into account global context