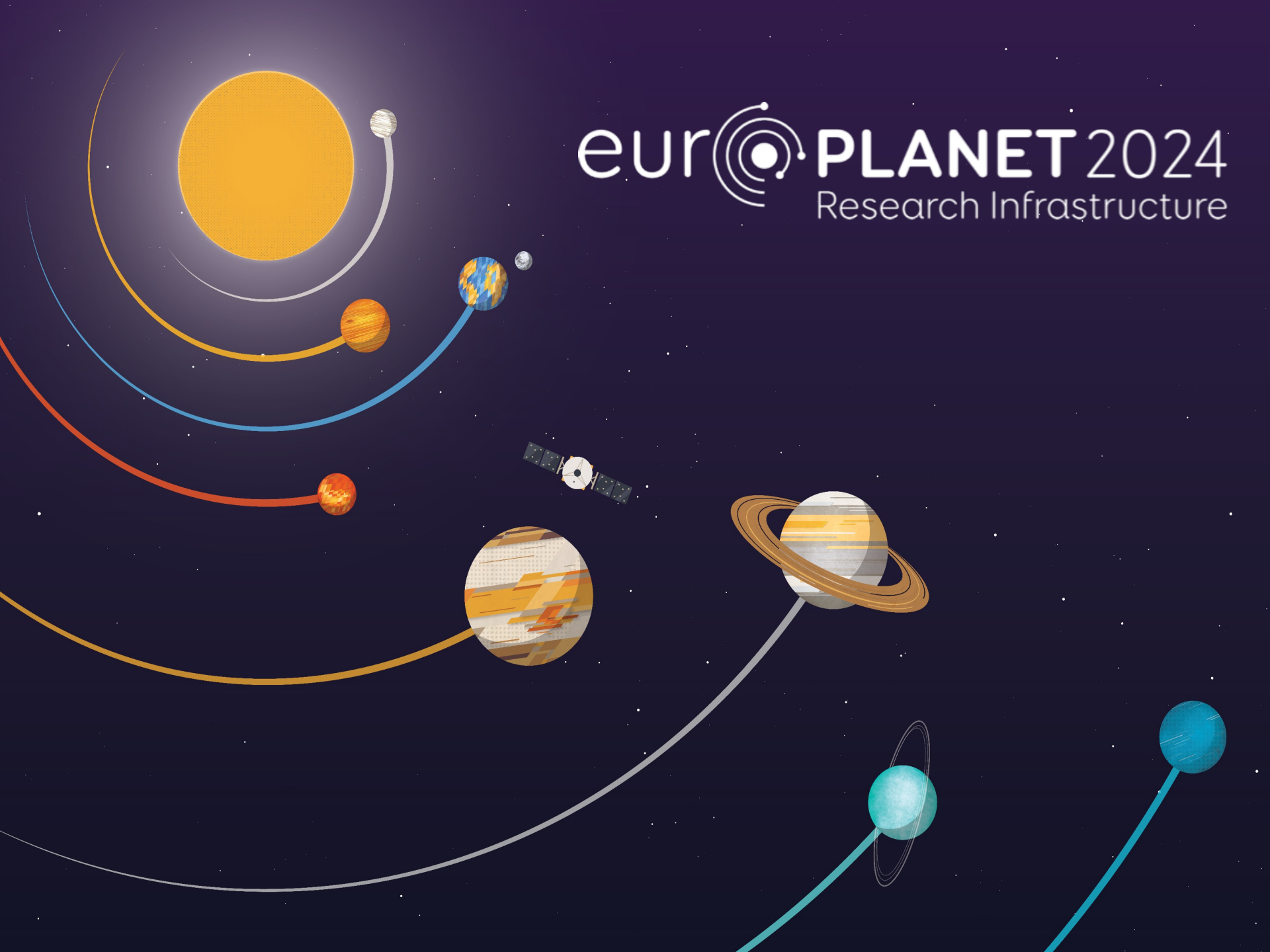
europlanet 2024
Research Infrastructure

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Impact Evaluation: Evaluation Framework

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Evaluation Officer

Evaluation framework

- Helps assess the effectiveness of the Europlanet Research Infrastructure for its user community
- Contains aims, objectives, and how they will be measured (metrics/KPIs, impact indicators)
- Underpinned by a logic model

Logic model - Overview

- A visual depiction of how a project (or infrastructure) works
- Logic models link outcomes with project activities and underlying assumptions
- Should be developed collaboratively
- Can evolve and change over the course of a project
- Consists of inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes/impacts

Some definitions

- Inputs – resources available to or needed for the project
- Activities – things the project does (e.g. providing visits, allowing access to data, etc)
- Outputs – products or services of the activity; QUANTIFIABLE
- Outcomes – changes to individuals, groups or communities resulting from experience

Evaluation aims

- Describe intended outcomes and indicators of success for the access activities (Transnational and Virtual)
- Describe intended outcomes and indicators of success for the networking activities.
- Identify elements/features of access activities that act as contributors and barriers to their success.
- Identify elements/features of networking activities that act as contributors and barriers to their success.

OECD publishing
REFERENCE FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSING THE SCIENTIFIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES
OECD SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRY
POLICY PAPERS
March 2019 No. 65
OECD
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

Impact areas (OECD)

- Scientific
- Technological
- Training & Education
- Economic
- Social & societal

Strategic objectives

1. Be a national or world scientific leading RI and an enabling facility to support science
2. Be an enabling facility to support innovation
3. Become integrated in a regional cluster/ in regional strategies/ facilitate regional collaboration
4. Promote education, outreach and knowledge dissemination
5. Provide scientific support to public policies
6. Provide high quality scientific data and associated services
7. Social responsibility

Data collection

- Publications, conference abstracts/presentations
- Feedback forms from TA visits (new scientific activity?); Snapshot interviews (via Zoom)
- Research bids
- Collaborations (with researchers, with industry)
- Training
- Public outreach (journalism, schools)
- Links to other services (VESPA)
- Support for amateur astronomers
- Engagement (meetings) with policymakers

Where has this got us?

- Less onerous than expected/feared
- Large amount of data collected
- Supports reporting – very robust impact section, strong narrative
- Cohesive framework – generative of ideas for additional evaluation (mentorship programme)
- Foundations laid in the bid