

# SKAO Project Status update

Luca Stringhetti, Project Engineer



## SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY

Exploring the Universe with the world's largest radio telescope

Luca Stringhetti, SKA Project Engineer

11/05/2020



# What I do?



## Luca Stringhetti



Physic degree in 1996  
Antenna Engineer 1996-2004  
LFI Planck Verification Eng. 2004 -2008  
ACES System Engineer 2004 – 2010  
SRT Verification manager 2010-2013  
ASTRI/CTA system Engineer 2011-2016  
SKAO Project Engineer 2016- now

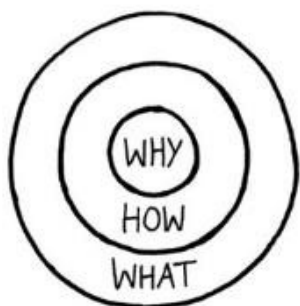


# Agenda

- Introduction
- WHY we do what we do?
- HOW we do what we do?
- WHAT are we going to do?
  - The Organisation
  - The project
  - The plan
  - The future
- A few not serious lessons learnt from my first 5 years in SKAO

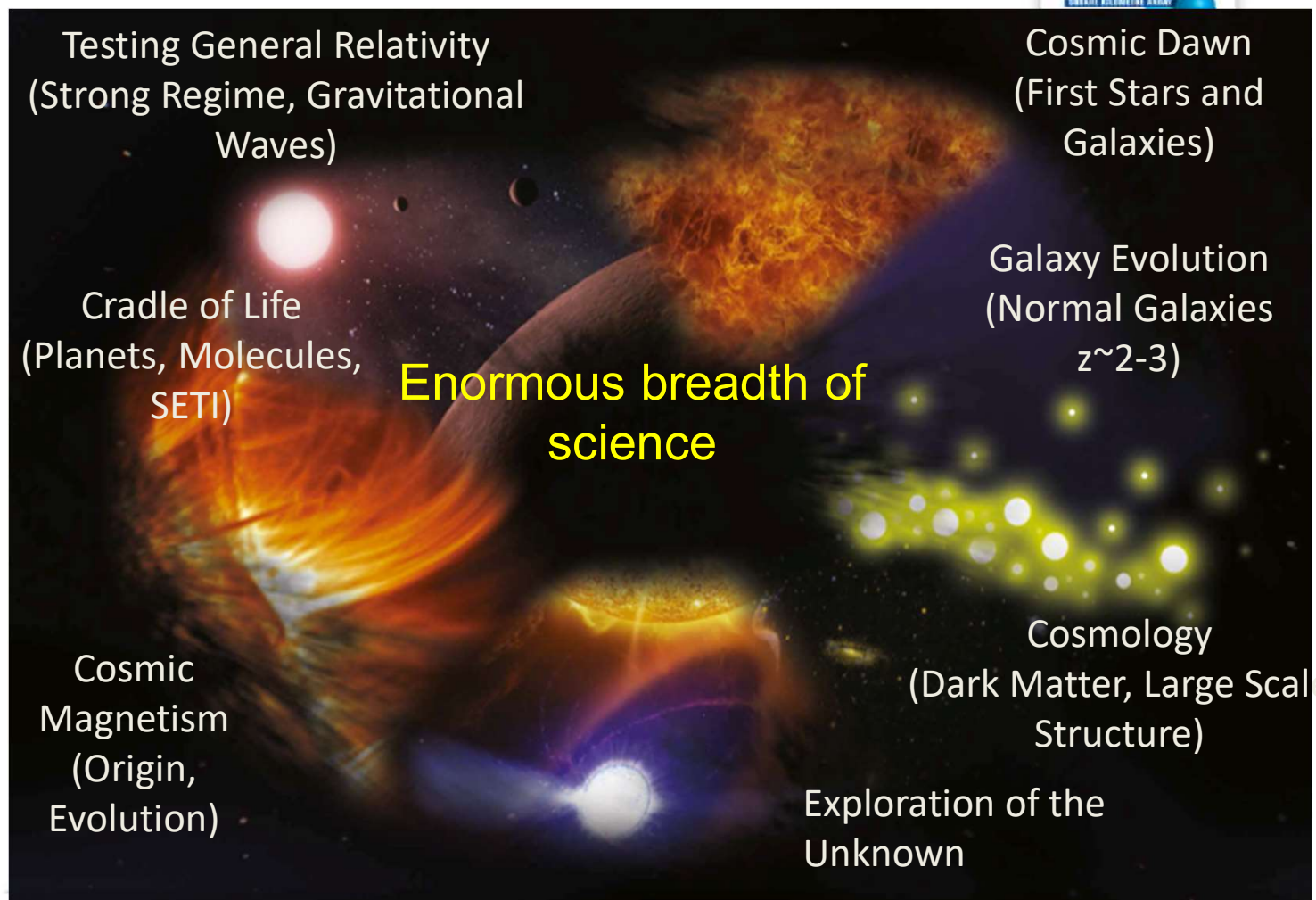
# WHY we do what we do?

## SKA – Key Science Drivers



Simon Sinek

[https://www.ted.com/talks/simon\\_sinek\\_how\\_great\\_leaders\\_inspire\\_action?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/simon_sinek_how_great_leaders_inspire_action?language=en)





# HOW we do what we do?



It's all about the people!

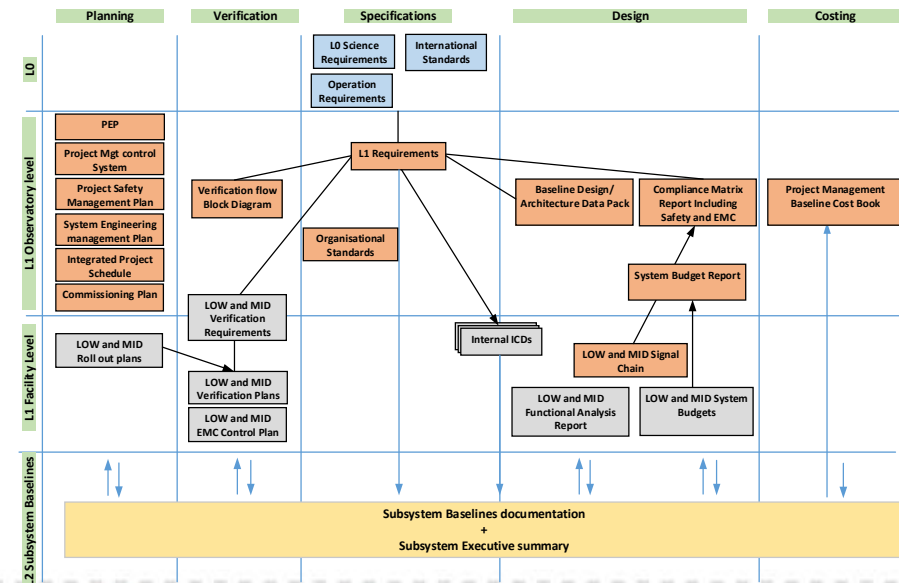
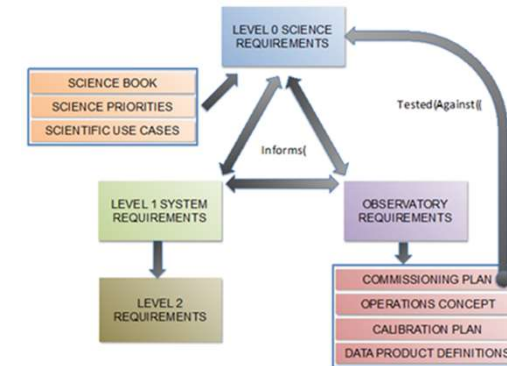
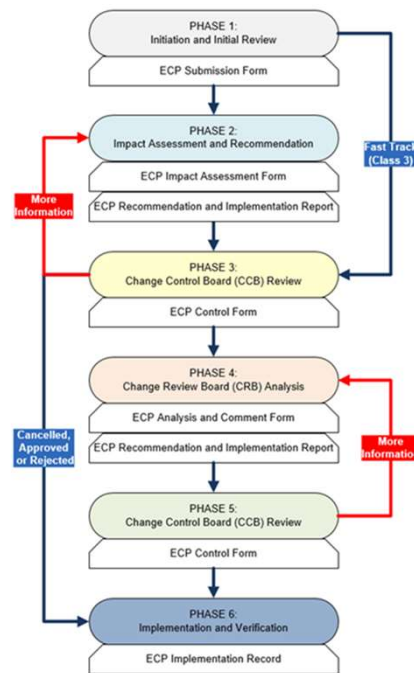
....and yes, a lot of good application of engineering!



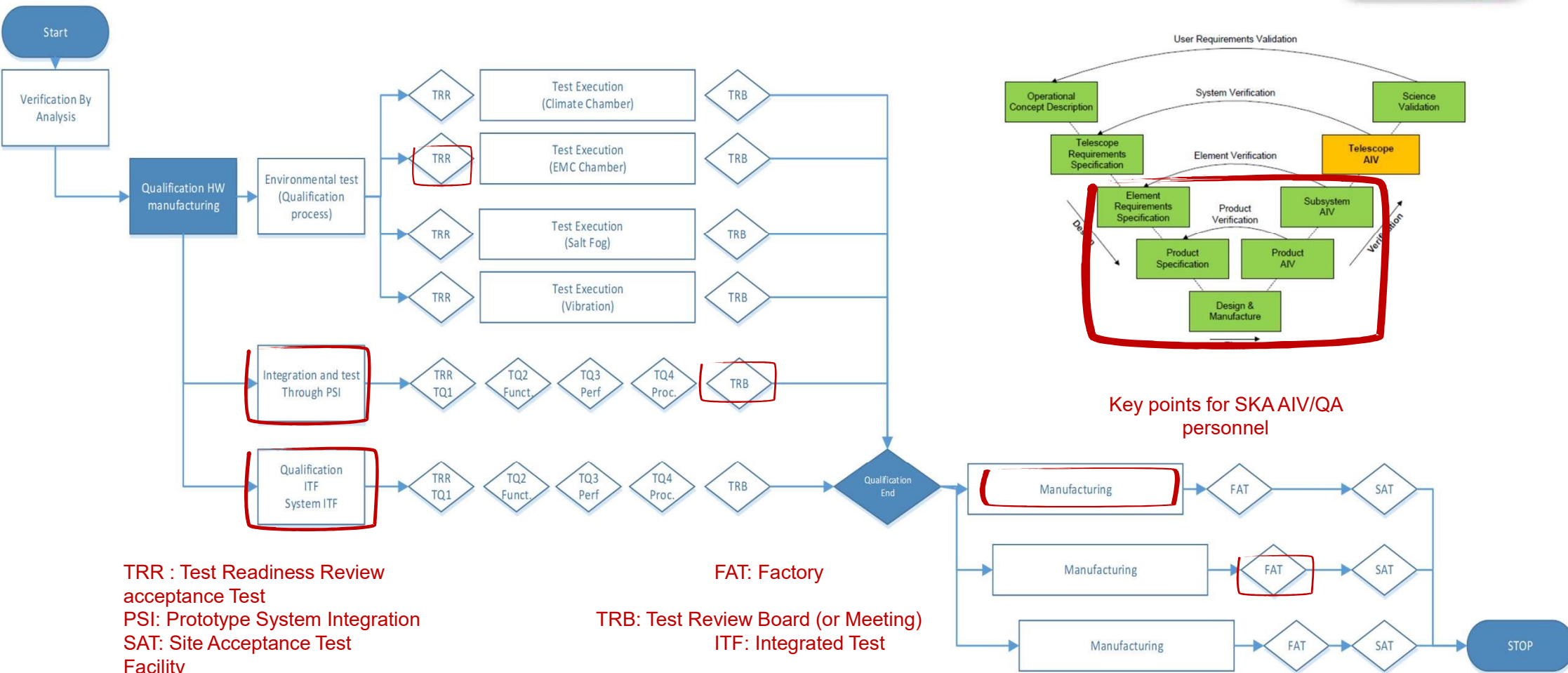
# HOW we do it?

## • Systems Engineering

- Requirements management and flow-down.
- Document tree, including ICDs.
- Engineering Change Procedure.
- Design definition
- Design Justification
- Modelling
- Diagrams
- Testing often and early



# Verification at Product level (example)





- SYSTEM IT'S TE and SuT



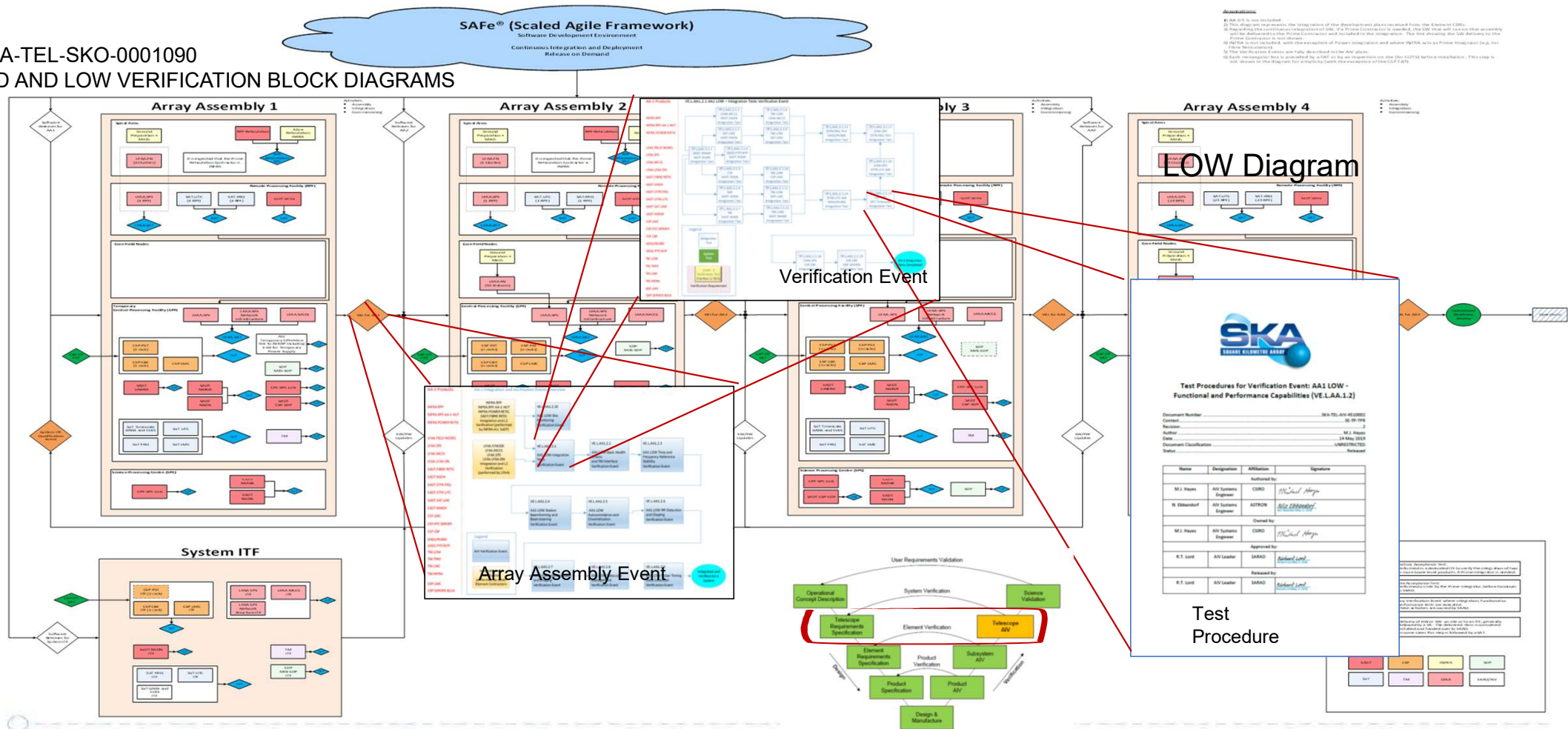


# System Level AIV



SKA-TEL-SKO-0001090

## MID AND LOW VERIFICATION BLOCK DIAGRAMS





# What is what we do? What is SKAO?

SKAO is an  
Organisation

SKAO is a  
Project

- A global collaboration to design, build and operate the next-generation radio astronomy observatory
- A treaty has been signed to establish the SKA Observatory: a new Inter-Governmental Organisation for astronomy and fundamental science with a 50-year lifetime.
- On the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2021 all the staff transitioned in the SKAO and in the IGO
- It will consist of:
  - An array of 197 dishes in South Africa
  - An array of ~132,000 antennas in Australia
  - Global HQ in the UK
  - 2 Data processing centres (AU and ZA) and a global network of Regional Centres delivering science-ready data to end users
- Governments working to provide ~€1.9B for 2021-2030, will cover construction and first 10 years of operations.

SKAO is...people working together with passion



# SKAO is a new organisation



# What is our vision?

## Our vision

*"The SKAO is one observatory, with two telescopes, on three continents; a 21st century observatory and an inter-governmental organisation with sustainability and respect to all our communities at its heart, driven by a commitment to fundamental science and technology."*

The SKAO logo, featuring the letters 'SKAO' in a bold, dark blue font. The letter 'A' is replaced by a stylized, multi-colored starburst or galaxy icon.



## Our values

Our values are at the heart of who we are and what we stand for. They define our standard of conduct. Every SKAO employee is expected to embody these values in their professional relationships. They were defined through extensive consultation with both internal and external stakeholders and are backed by high-level statements in the Preamble to the SKAO Convention, to which every Member State adheres.

### Diversity & Inclusion

We aim to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where everyone feels they belong, there is fairness and respect for everyone as an individual, and diverse perspectives and ideas thrive.

#### In the SKAO Convention

**COMMITTED** to an organisation where diversity and equality are promoted and respected.

### Creativity & Innovation

We will foster a culture of creativity and innovation where we take time to seek innovative, better solutions and problem-solving, focusing on delivering value to our user's community.

#### In the SKAO Convention

**EMBRACING** the potential for scientific discovery to contribute to advances in technology and innovation and to deliver a broader benefit for industry and society.

### Excellence

We value professional excellence in the delivery of world class transformational science. This is founded on ways of working where leadership, integrity, personal responsibility and safety are at the heart of everything we do.

#### In the SKAO Convention

**DESIRING** to deliver one of the most visionary and ambitious science projects of the 21st century involving significant international cooperation.

**COMMITTED** to testing the limits of engineering and scientific endeavour and to exploring fundamental questions in astronomy and physics.

**NOTING** that the Square Kilometre Array will be a next generation radio telescope facility that has a discovery potential far greater than any previous instrument.

**DEDICATED** to realising the full ambition of the Square Kilometre Array Project.

### Collaboration

We are aligned around common goals and actively create and promote collaborative working across cultural and geographical, functional and specialist boundaries.

In doing this we will communicate appropriately and in an open manner, delivering on commitments and building long term supportive, trusting and professional relationships.

#### In the SKAO Convention

**RECOGNISING** that the scale and ambition of the Square Kilometre Array demand a global effort with long-term investment.

### Sustainability

We take a long-term view and ensure sustainability is integrated into everything we do, taking into account social, financial, ecological and environmental responsibilities, both globally and locally. In doing this we demonstrate care towards the people, places and resources on which we rely and seek to build long-term sustainable relationships.

# SKAO is a project





# SKAO 1, 2, 3...

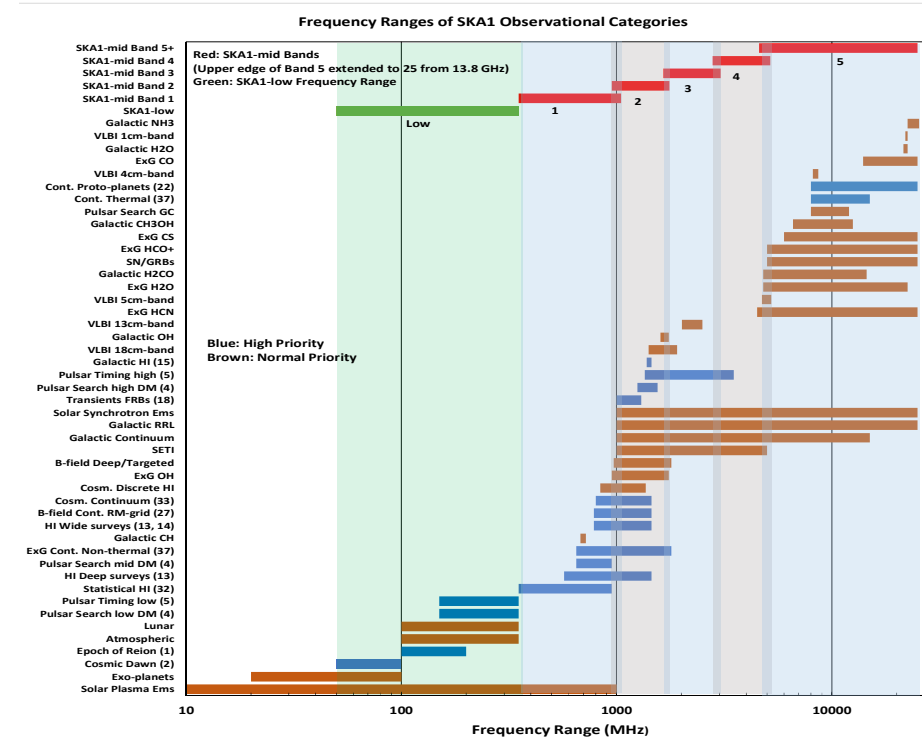
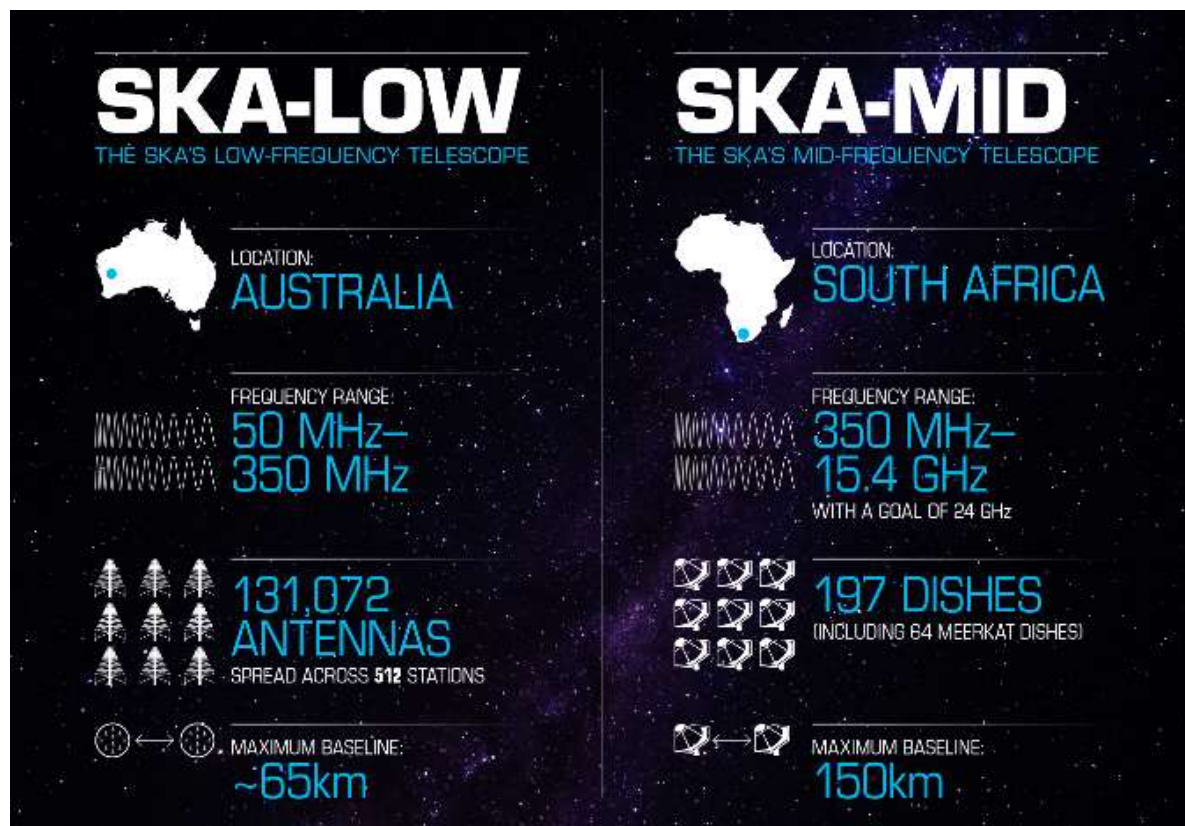


- 1 Observatory
- 2 Telescopes
- 3 Host countries

SKAO Head quarters in Jodrell Bank (UK)



# SKAO is two telescopes



SKAO telescopes are an multi objective observatory so frequency coverage is a paramount

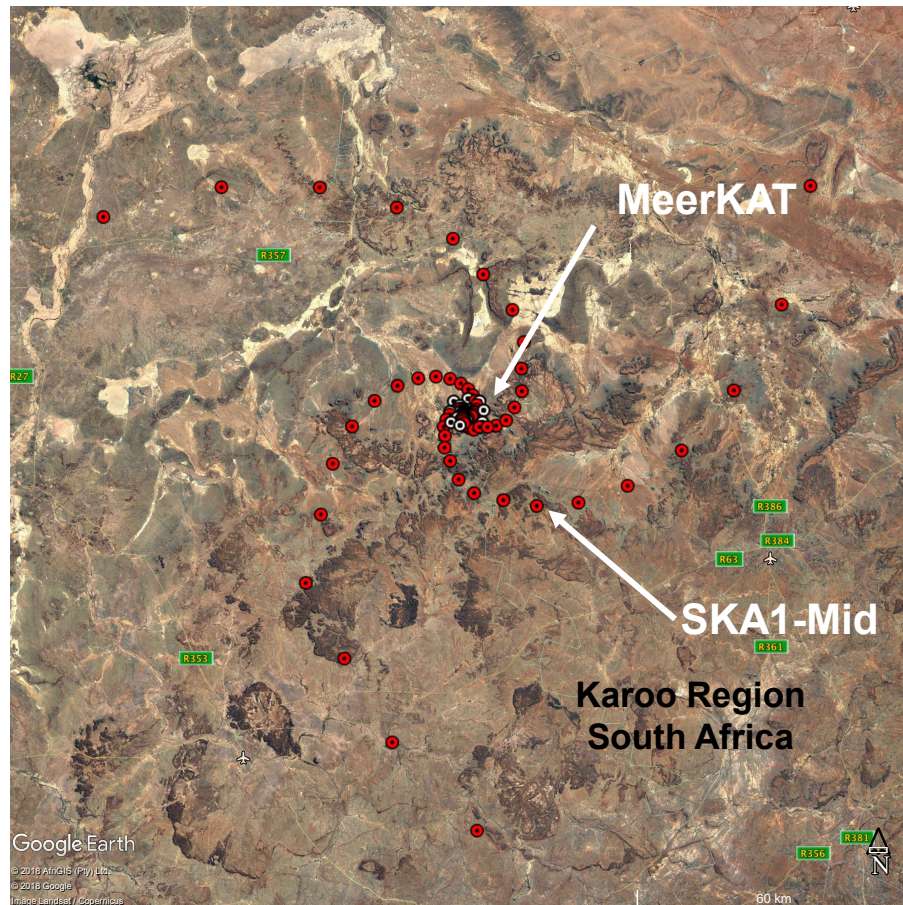


# Karoo SKAO Site South Africa

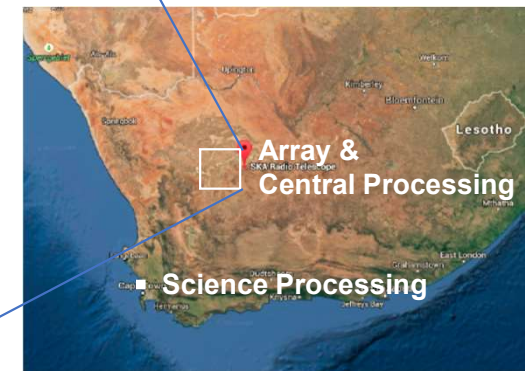




# SKA1-MID Configuration

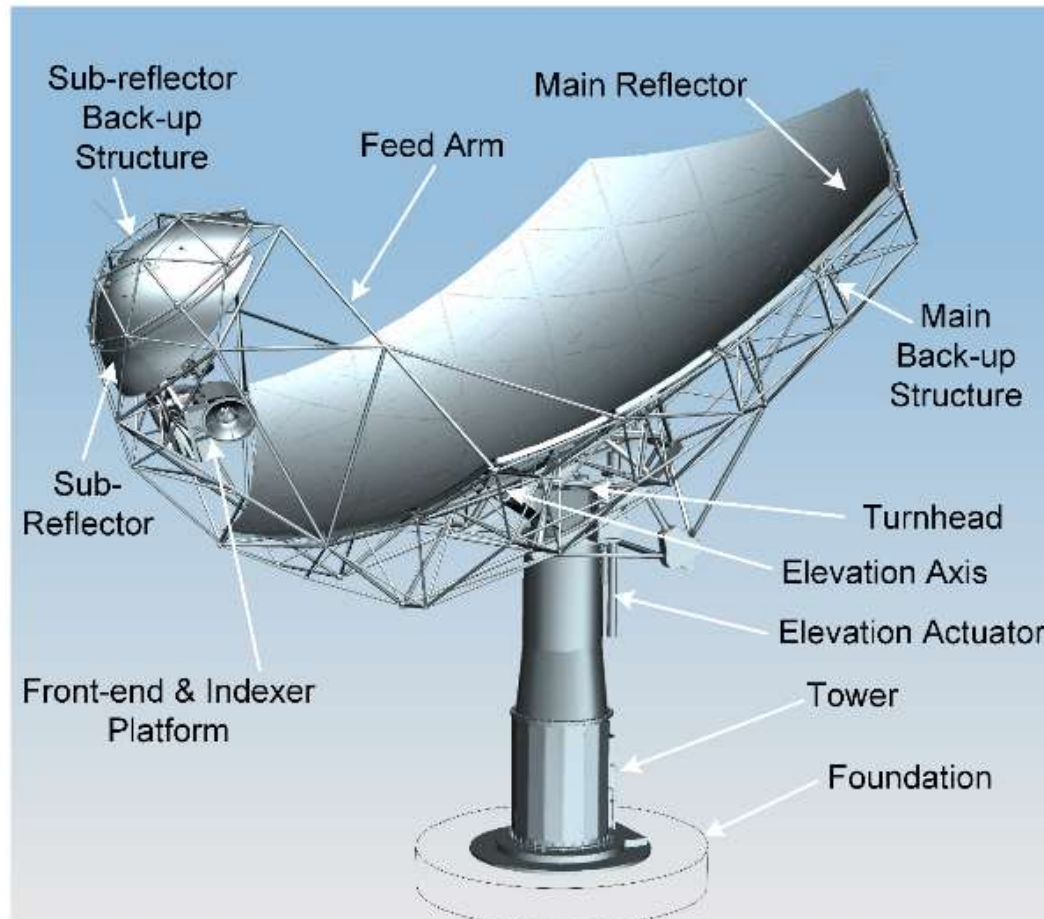


- 133 SKA 15m dishes
- 64 MeerKAT 13.5m dishes
- Maximum baseline 150 km
- 3 logarithmic spiral arms
- Frequency range: 350 MHz to 15.4 GHz



60km

# SKA1 Mid Antenna



## Antenna Features

- Frequency: 350MHz – 15.4GHz +
- 15 metre offset Gregorian optics
- Sub-reflector: 5 m, with skirt
- Tracking speed: 30 times sidereal rate @ 10arcsec accuracy
- Slewing Speed:
  - 1deg/sec elevation
  - 3deg/sec Azimuth
- Indexing speed: Less than 30 sec



# Antenna Performance



## Sensitivity per Band estimates

| Band | Frequency (GHz)              | BW (MHz) | Sensitivity Requirement (m <sup>2</sup> /K) |                  | Design (m <sup>2</sup> /K) |
|------|------------------------------|----------|---|------------------|----------------------------|
|      |                              |          | Array (L1)                                  | Dish (L2)        | Dish (L2)                  |
| 1    | 0.35 – 0.650<br>0.65 – 1.050 | 700      | 272 – 545<br>545                            | 2.1 – 4.2<br>4.2 | 2.5 – 5.0<br>5.4           |
| 2    | 0.95 – 1.760                 | 808      | 916   | 7.1              | 10.9                       |
| 3    | 1.65 – 3.050                 | 1403     | 916   | 7.1              | --                         |
| 4    | 2.80 – 5.180                 | 2380     | 833   | 6.6              | --                         |
| 5a   | 4.60 – 8.500                 | 3900     | 1110  | 8.86             | 9.52                       |
| 5b   | 8.30 – 15.40                 | 7000     | 805   | 6.74             | 7.93                       |

## Pointing performance estimates

|                                |             | RMS error (arcsec) | RMS error (arcsec) | RMS error (arcsec) |
|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Blind Pointing Error</b>    | Requirement | 9                  | 18                 | 36                 |
|                                | Design      | 5.5                | 11                 | 21.7               |
| <b>Relative Pointing Error</b> | Requirement | 1.3                | 2.6                | 5.2                |
|                                | Design      | 1.2                | 3.5                | 6.7                |
| <b>Tracking Stability</b>      | Requirement | 2.3                | 4.6                | 9.2                |
|                                | Design      | 1.5                | 4.4                | 8                  |



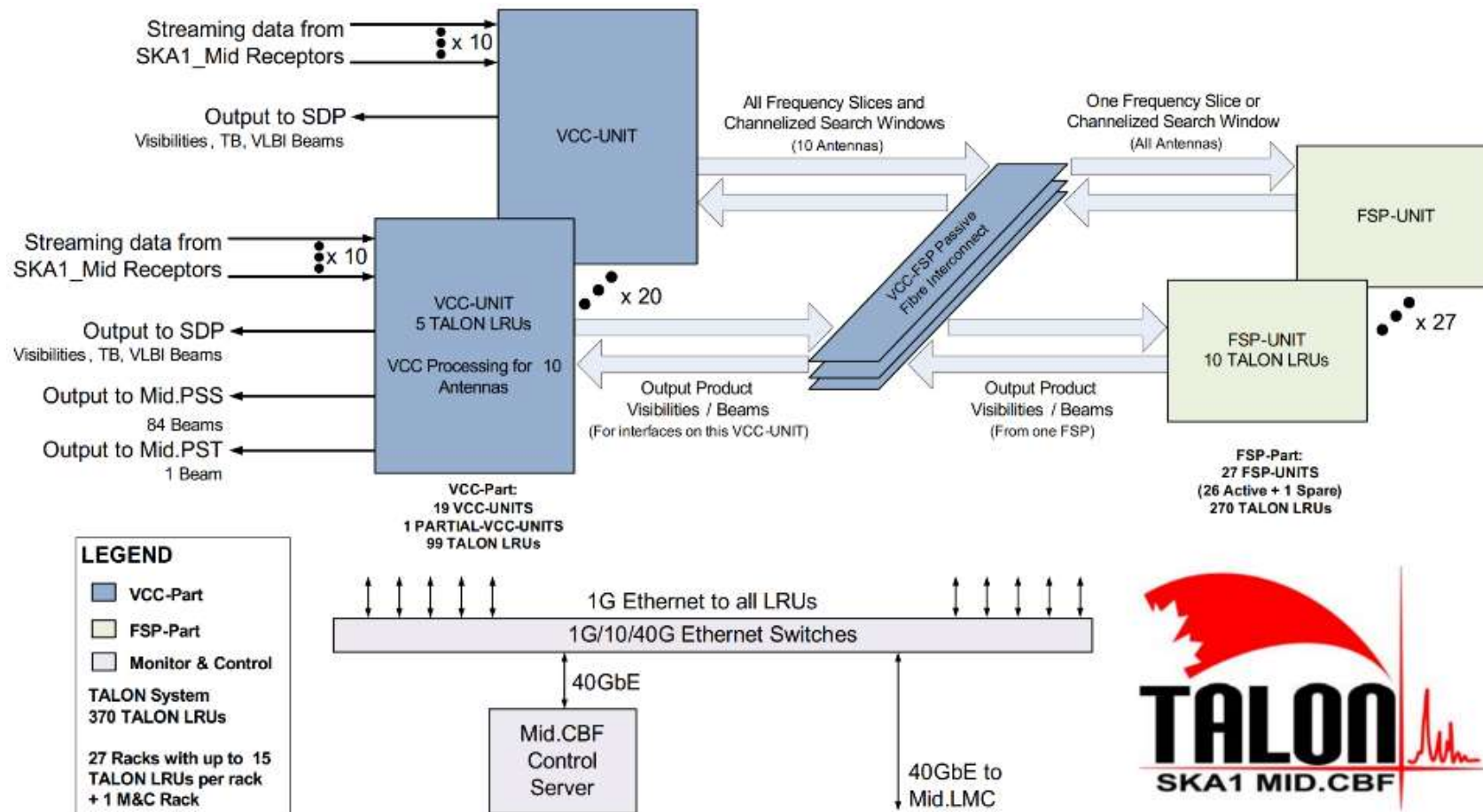
## SKA1-MID SPF Receiver (Digitisation)

- RF samplers located on the Feed Indexer
- Packetiser, DSP and C & M located in RFI enclosure in the Dish Pedestal (TALON)
- Separate Band 123 and 345 Digitisers

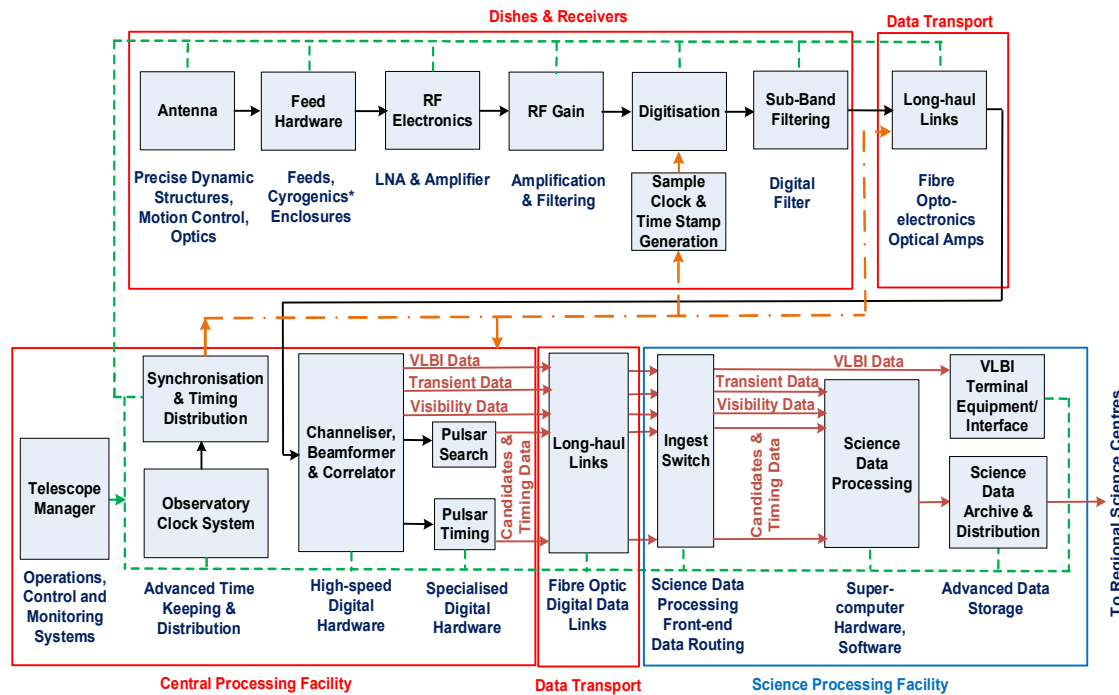
| Band | Frequency (GHz) | RF BW (MHz) | Sampling Rate (GSps) | Nyquist Zone | ADC Sampling Bit Depth | Transport Sampling Rate (GSps) | Transport Bit Depth | Transport Data Rate (Gbps) |
|------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1    | 0.35 – 1.050    | 700         | 3.96                 | 1            | 8                      | 3.96*                          | 12                  | 95.04                      |
| 2    | 0.95 – 1.760    | 808         | 3.96                 | 1            | 8                      | 3.96*                          | 12                  | 95.04                      |
| 3    | 1.65 – 3.050    | 1403        | 3.168                | 2            | 6                      | 3.168*                         | 12                  | 76.032                     |
| 4    | 2.80 – 5.180    | 2380        | 15.84                | 1            | 4                      | 5.94*                          | 8                   | 95.04                      |
| 5a   | 4.60 – 8.500    | 3900        | 8.91                 | 2            | 3                      | 2 x 5.94*                      | 4                   | 95.04                      |
| 5b   | 8.30 – 15.40    | 7000        | 15.84                | 2            | 3                      | 2 x 5.94*                      | 4                   | 95.04                      |

\*Offsets are added to these frequencies to reduce correlated noise

# CBF Hardware concept



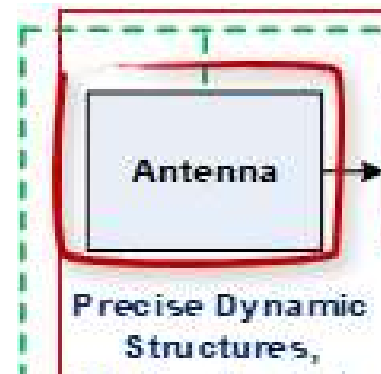
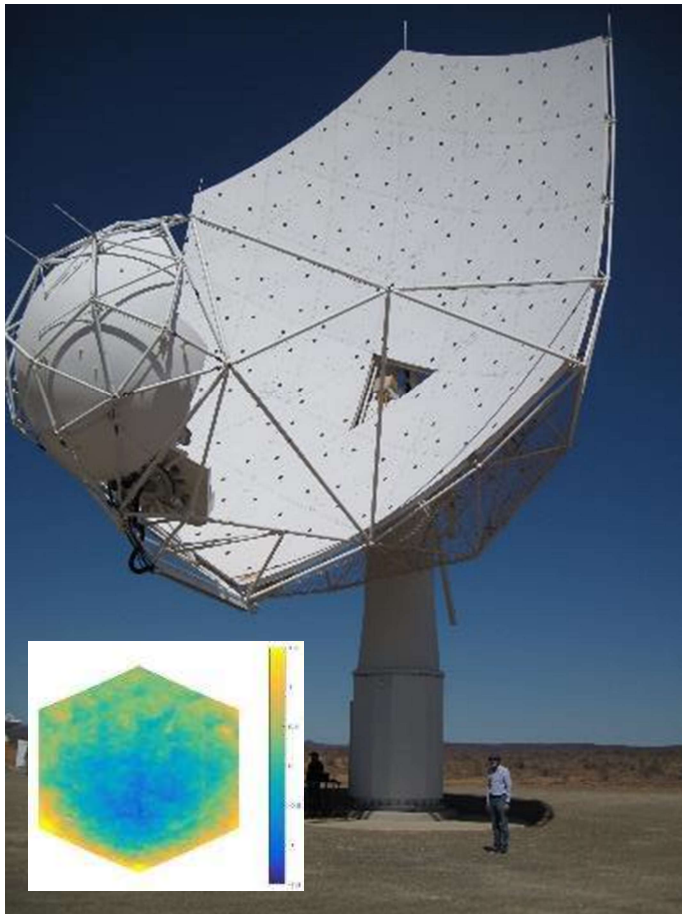
# SKA MID in a nutshell



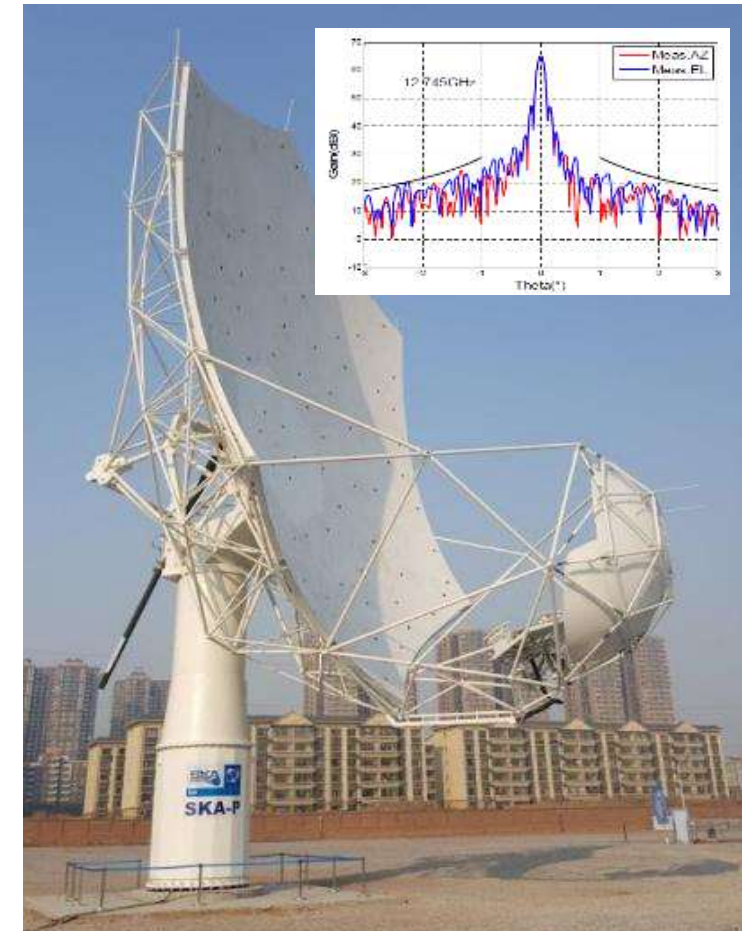
| Aperture                            | m <sup>2</sup>        | 133 x 15-m (equiv. dia.) offset Gregorian reflectors<br>Plus 64 x 13.5-m (equiv. dia.) offset Gregorian reflectors |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Total physical aperture             | 33306                 |  |
| Total Available aperture            | 31641                 | Availability 95%   |
| Minimum Elevation Angle             | 15 deg                | All Azimuths – 270° wrap   |
| <b>Array Configuration</b>          | Antenna               | Filling factor %   |
| radius < ~400 m                     | 80 (41%)              | 2.67   |
| ~400 m < radius < ~1000 m           | 35 (18%)              | 0.22   |
| ~1000 m < radius < 2500 m           | 23 (12%)              | 0.023  |
| ~2500 m < radius < 4000 m           | 13 (6.6%)             | 7.04E-03   |
| ~4000 m < radius < 10000 m          | 13 (6.6%)             | 8.53E-04   |
| 10000 m < radius < 30000 m          | 15 (7.6%)             | 1.05E-04   |
| ~30000 m < radius < 100000 m        | 18 (9.1%)             | 1.11E-05   |
| <b>Antenna RF System</b>            |                       |  |
| Frequency Range                     | GHz                   |  |
| Band 1 (high) + UHF Band            | 0.58 – 1.015          | Dual pol'n. Shared Frequency Range   |
| Band 2 + L-band                     | 0.95 – 1.67           | "  |
| Band 3                              | 1.65 – 3.05           | Dual pol'n. SKA antennas only  |
| Band 4                              | 2.80 – 5.18           | "  |
| Band 5a                             | 4.60 – 8.50           | "  |
| Band 5b                             | 8.30 – 15.4           | "  |
| Band 5c                             | 15.0 – 26             | "  |
| <b>Continuum Sensitivity</b>        |                       |  |
| SEFD (available antennas, Stokes I) | Jy                    | Equivalent A <sub>ν</sub> /T <sub>sys</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> /K)  |
| Band 1 (high) + UHF Band            | 7.85                  | 967  |
| Band 2 + L-band                     | 1.55                  | 1784   |
| Band 3                              | 2.50                  | 1102   |
| Band 4                              | 3.49                  | 792  |
| Band 5a                             | 2.38                  | 1161 (Max. Sampled Bandwidth 2 x 2.5 GHz)  |
| Band 5b                             | 2.77                  | 998 (Max. Sampled Bandwidth 2 x 2.5 GHz)   |
| Min. detectable flux (rms) {AS...}  | μJy s <sup>1/2</sup>  |  |
| Band 1 (high) + UHF Band            | 99.8                  | Average over RF bands  |
| Band 2 + L-band                     | 42.1                  | "  |
| Band 3                              | 48.9                  | "  |
| Band 4                              | 59.1                  | "  |
| Band 5a                             | 75.3                  | "  |
| Band 5b                             | 29.4                  | "  |
| <b>Signal Processing System</b>     |                       |  |
| <b>Correlator</b>                   |                       |  |
| Freq. chans {widest sampled BW}     | 65536                 |  |
| Full Bandwidth Velocity Resolution  | km s <sup>-1</sup>    |  |
| Band 1 (high) + UHF Band            | ~5                    | Non-zoom, all available frequency channels   |
| Band 2 + L-band                     | ~5                    | "  |
| Max. Frequency Resolution           | 0.21 kHz              | [13.440 - 2.0] m in {0,...,6} kHz in Zoom mode   |
| Standard Frequency Resolution       | 13.44 kHz             | 220.200/60 / 16384   |
| Complex Correlations                | 5.1 x 10 <sup>6</sup> | (1972/2) baselines x 4 pol'n prod's x 65536 chans  |



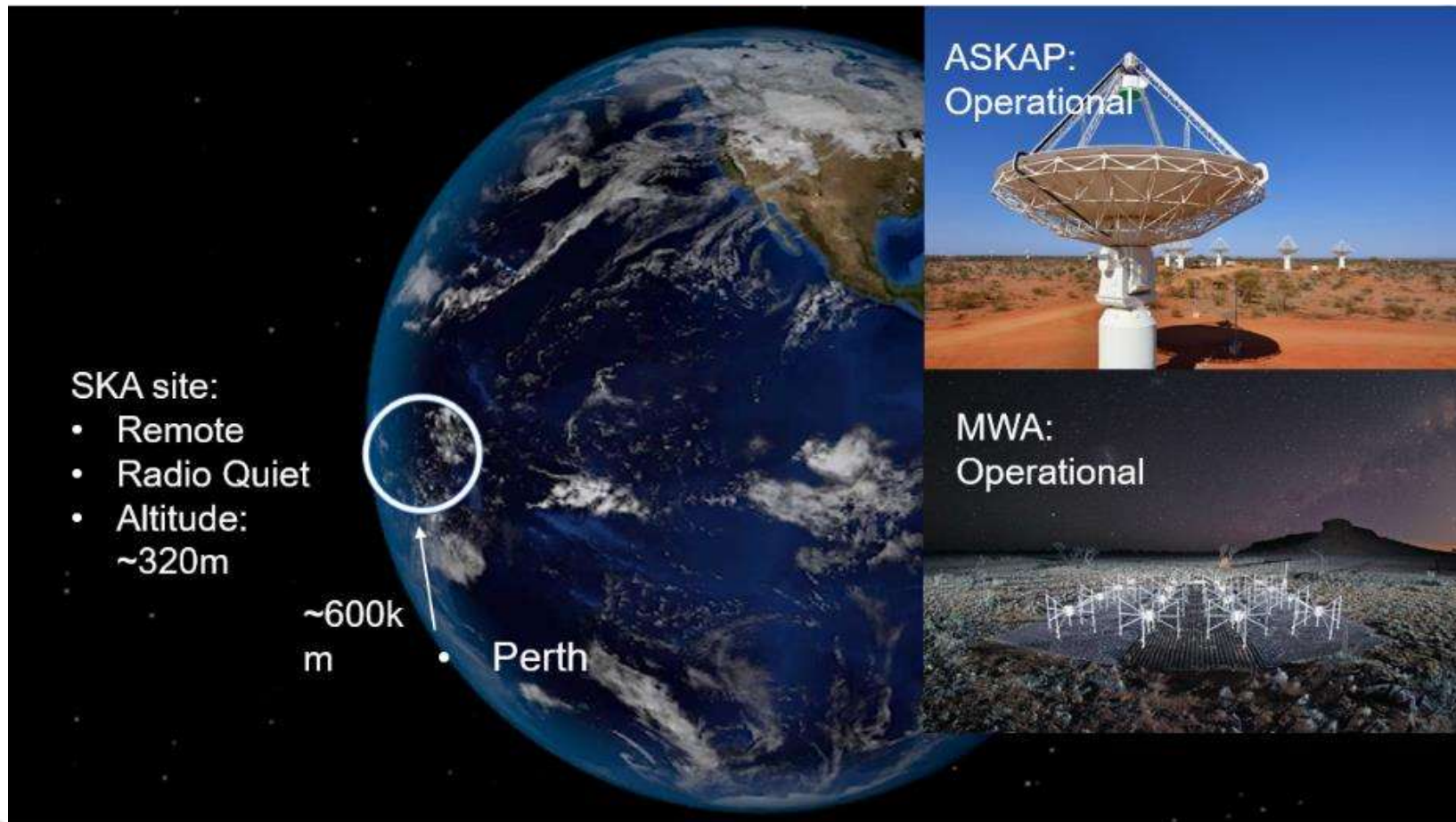
# MID Prototype



Two structure prototype available to test manufacturing, and basic mechatronic performance. Used to test surface accuracy (photogrammetry) and pointing performance. Test still happening.

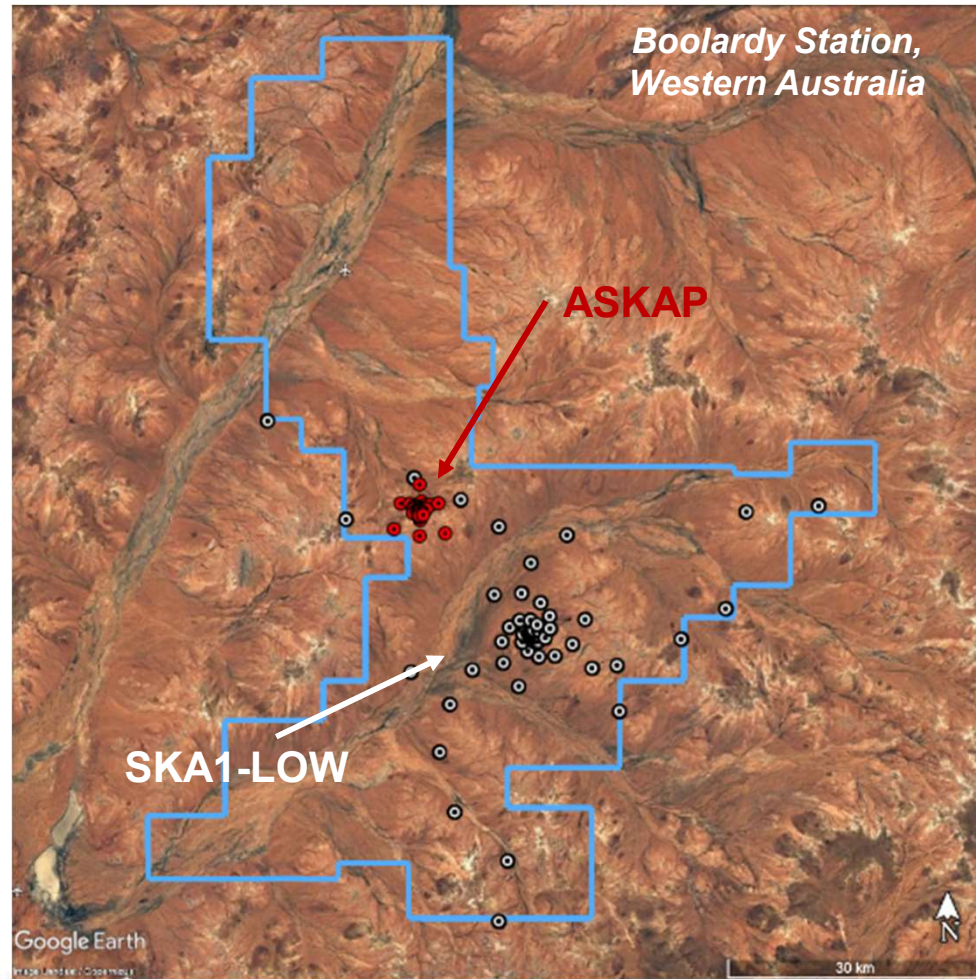


# Murchison SKA Site Australia





# SKA1-LOW: Configuration



- ☐ 512 aperture array stations
- ☐ Maximum baseline 65 km



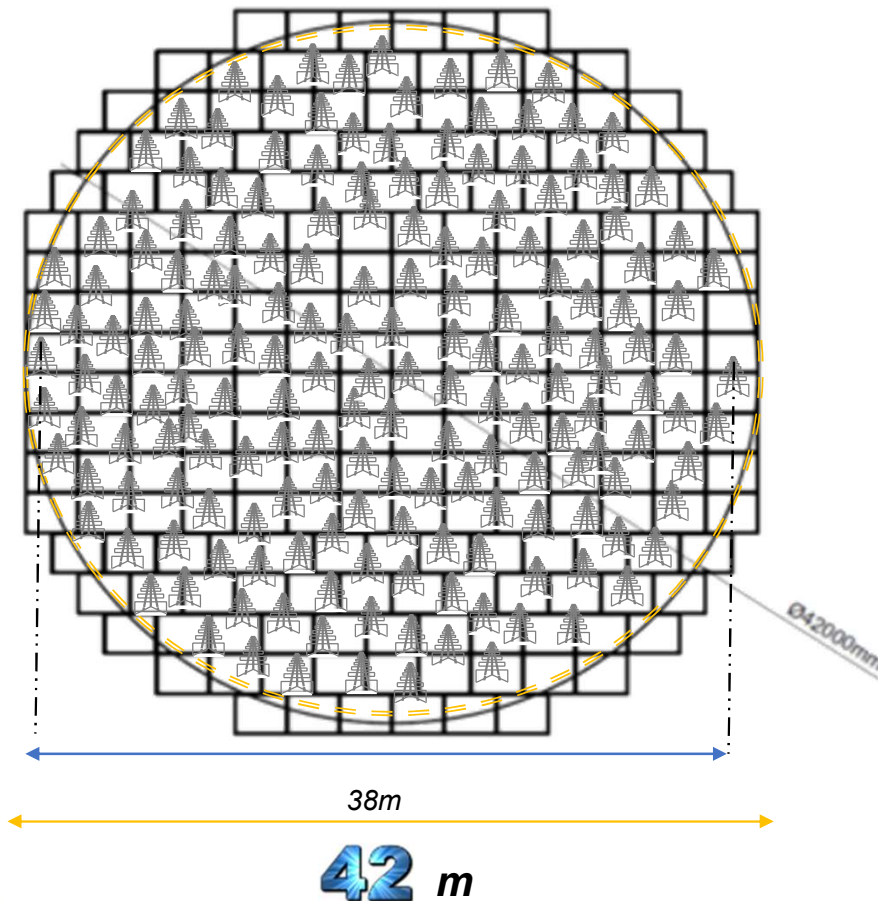


# SKA1-LOW: Field Station



- 256 antennas
- Circular area
- 38 m (*effective station diameter*)
- Ground plane

|            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| Mesh       | 50mm x 50mm     |
| Wire gauge | 4mm             |
| Sheet size | 2400mm x 3000mm |



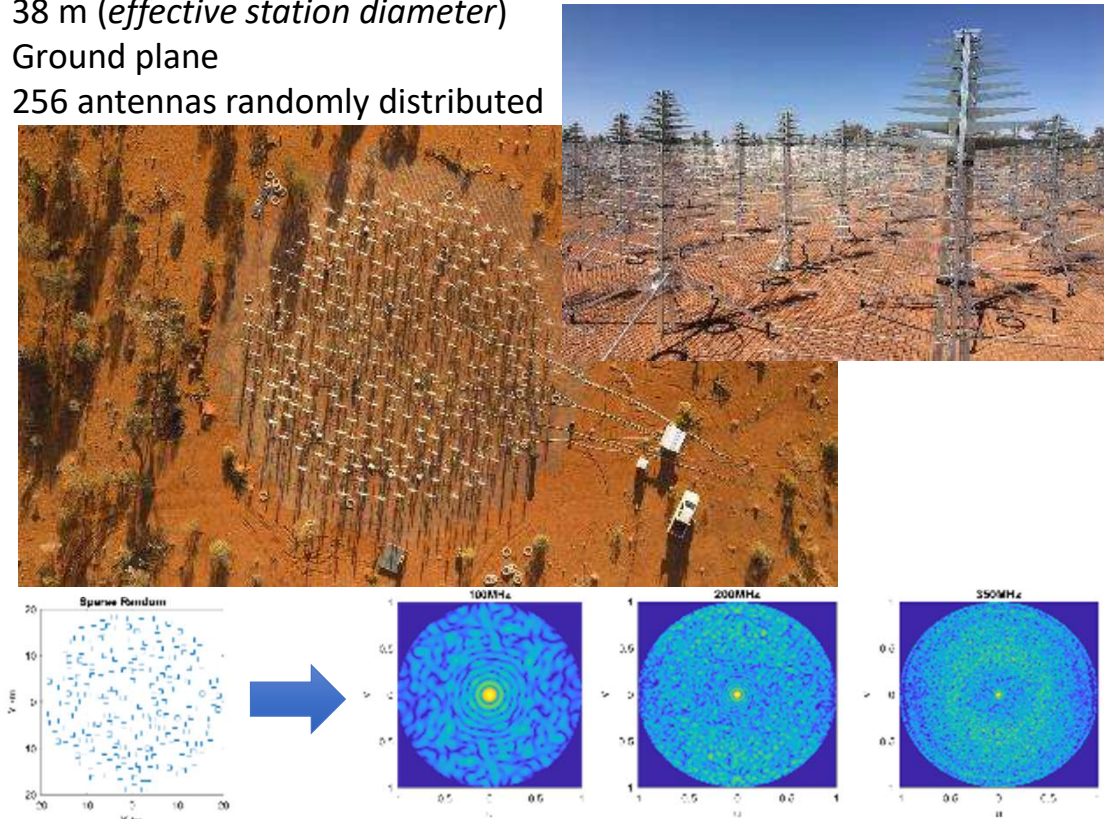
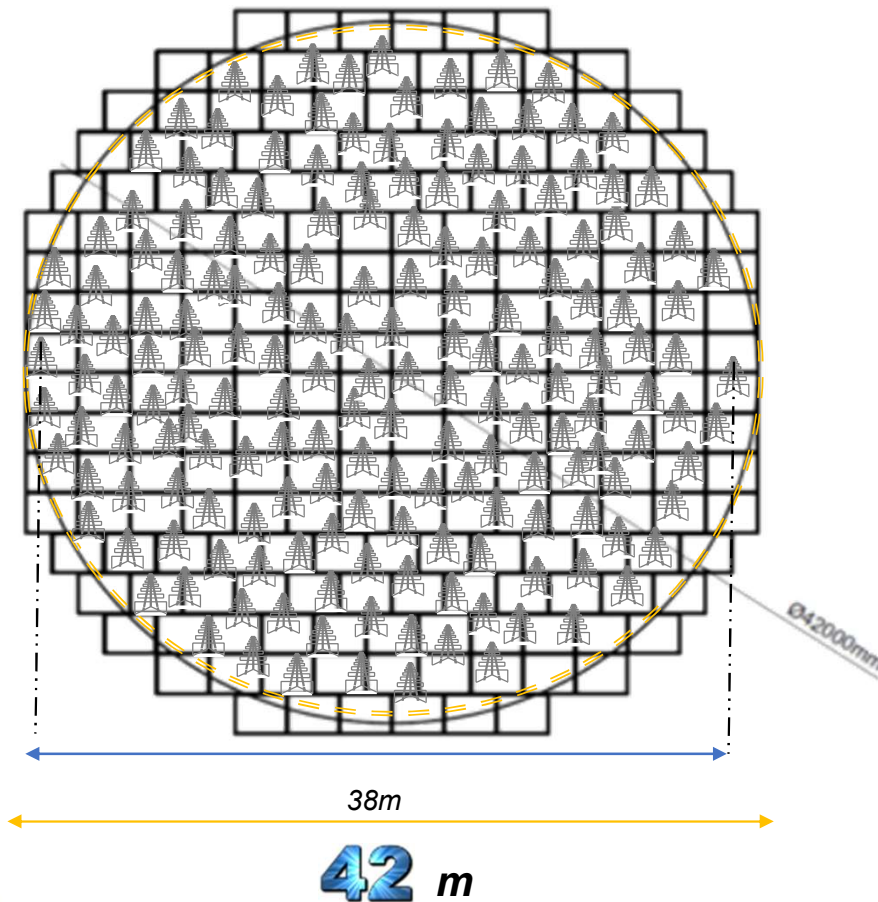
## *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

The "Answer to the Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe, and Everything"  
calculated by an enormous supercomputer named Deep Thought over a period of 7.5 million years

# SKA1-LOW: Field Station



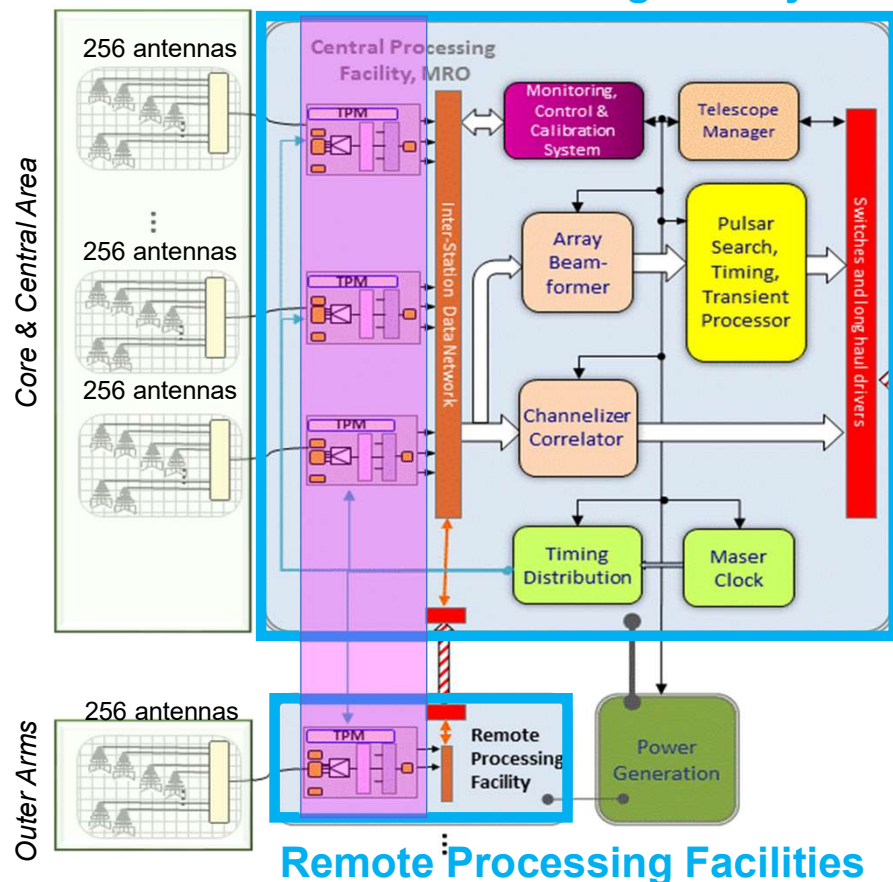
- 256 antennas
- Circular area
- 38 m (*effective station diameter*)
- Ground plane
- 256 antennas randomly distributed



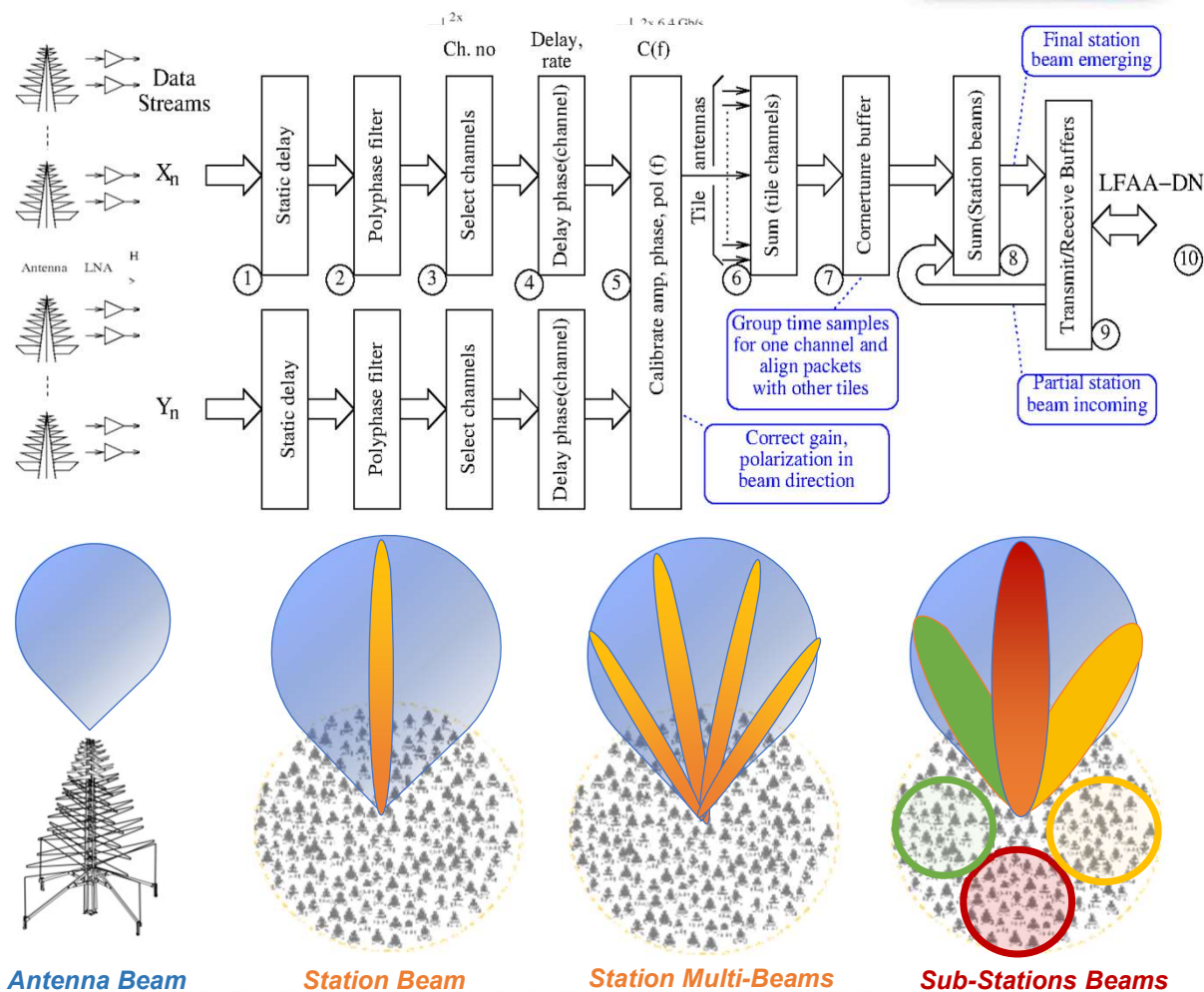


# SKA1-Low Architecture: Station Beamforming

## Central Processing Facility



## Remote Processing Facilities

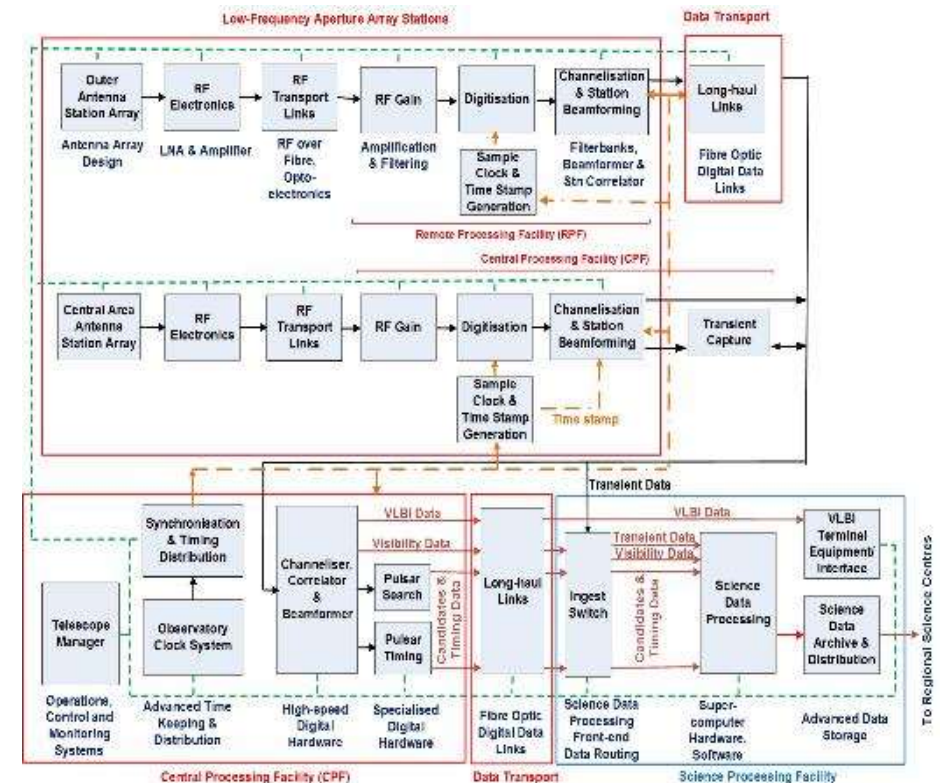




# SKA1-Low in a nutshell



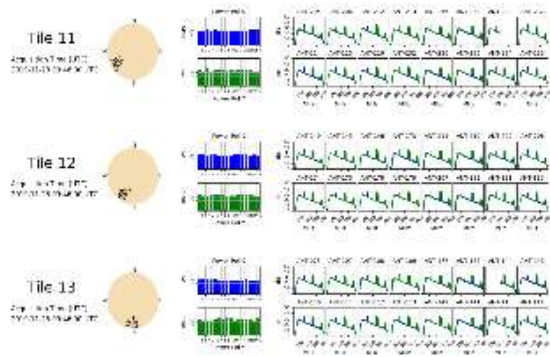
|   |                               |   |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Aperture Arrays</b>                  |                               |   |
| Lower Frequency                         | 50 MHz                        | Each antenna element covering full range  |
| Upper Frequency                         | 350 MHz                       | Dual pol'n  |
| Number of antennas per station          | 256                           | Log-Periodic-Dipole antennas  |
| Station Effective Diameter <sup>1</sup> | 38 m                          |   |
| Number of stations                      | 512                           |   |
| Total physical aperture                 | $5.8 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2$ |   |
| Dense/Sparse Transition <sup>2</sup>    | ~94 MHz                       |   |
| <b>Array Configuration</b>              |                               |   |
| Core (radius <500 m)                    | 224 stations                  | See Figure C-1  |
| Inner (radius <1700 m)                  | 278 stations                  | "   |
| Spiral Arms                             | 234 stations                  | "   |
| <b>Station Beam Forming</b>             |                               |   |
| Number of beams <sup>3</sup>            | 1-384                         | Each with dual polarisation.  |
| Max. bandwidth per beam                 | 300 MHz                       | Each polarisation.  |
| Max. no. of antennas per beam           | 256                           |   |
| <b>Signal Processing System</b>         |                               |   |
| Max. no. frequency channels             | 55296                         |   |
| Standard Frequency Resolution           | 5.4 kHz                       | $300 \text{ MHz} / 55296 = 5.4 \text{ kHz}$   |
| Max. Frequency Resolution               | 226 Hz                        | Zoom mode   |
| Complex Correlations <sup>4</sup>       | $2.9 \times 10^{10}$          | $(512-513/2) \text{ baselines} \times (1) \text{ beams} \times 4 \text{ pol'n prod's} \times 55296 \text{ chans}$ |
| Integration Time                        | 0.9 s                         | Reduceable to 0.3 s for a limited number of sub-stations  |
| <b>Array Beam Former</b>                |                               |   |
| Full beamformer                         | 512 stations                  |   |
| Within 20-km Array Diameter             | 404 stations                  |   |
| Pulsar Search                           | 500                           | Independently steerable; 2 pol'n  |
| Pulsar Timing                           | 16                            | "   |
| VLBI                                    | 4                             | "   |
| Max. bandwidth per beam                 | 300 MHz                       | 300 MHz; 2 pol'n  |
| Pulsar Search                           | 118 MHz                       | Per beam; 2 pol'n   |
| Pulsar Timing                           | 300                           | "   |
| VLBI                                    | 300                           | "   |





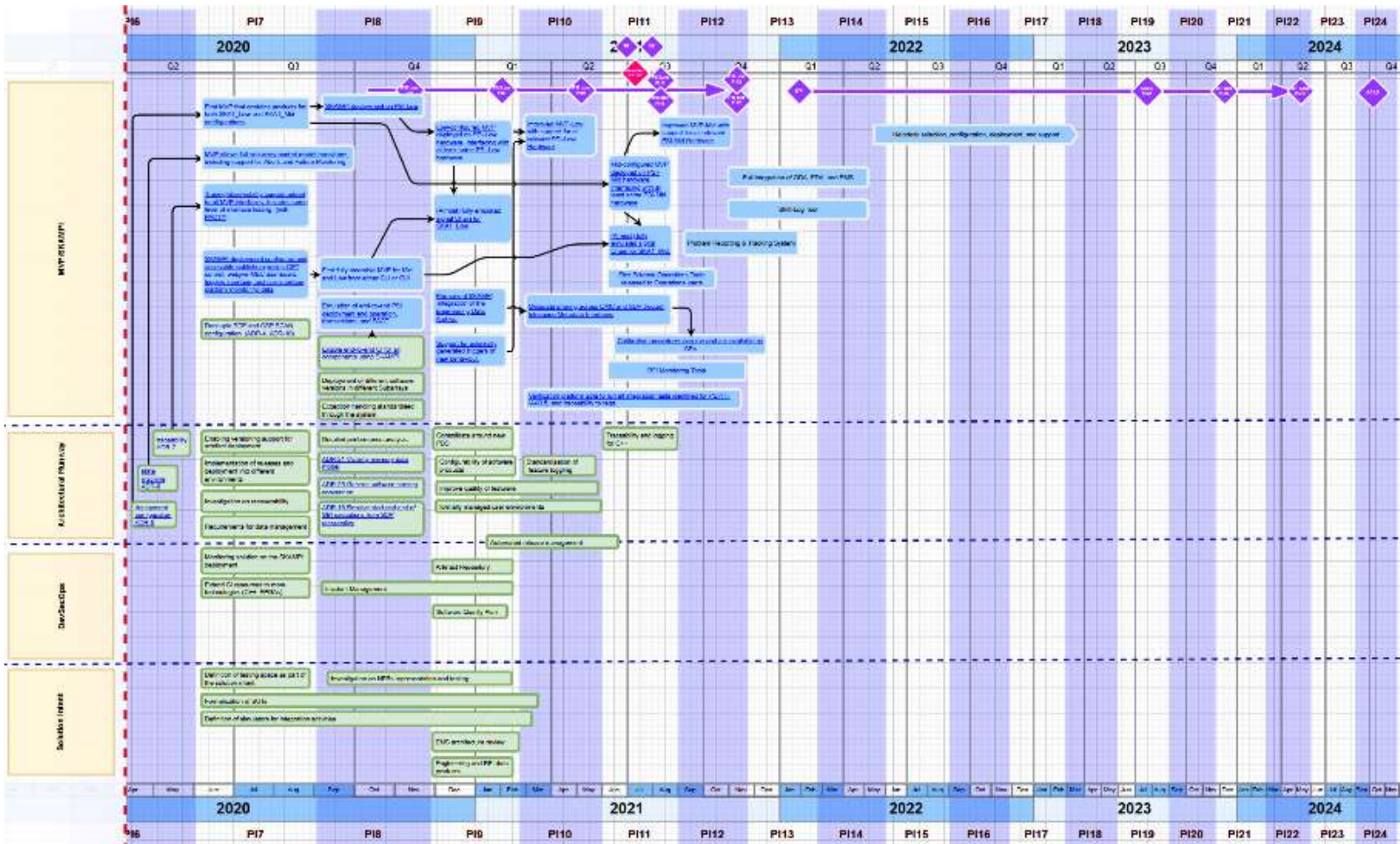
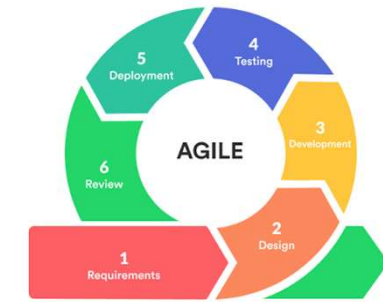
# LOW prototype

Commissioning of a prototype station is still on going. We plan to install a second one and do interferometry



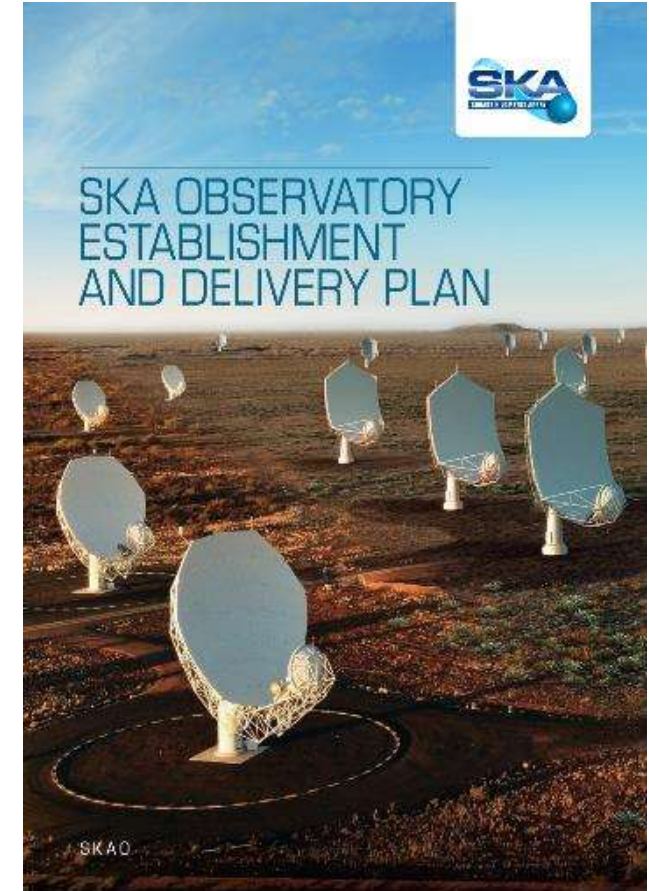
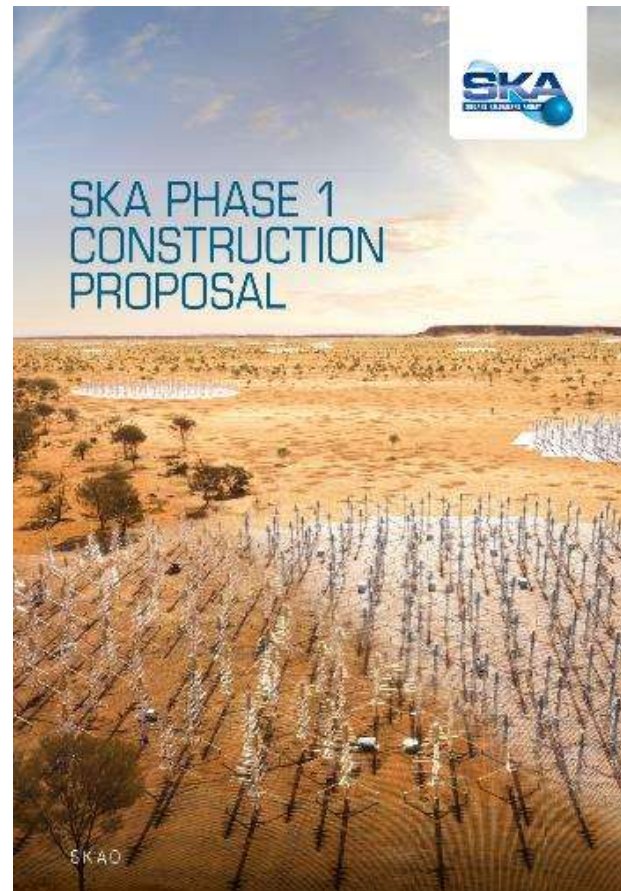
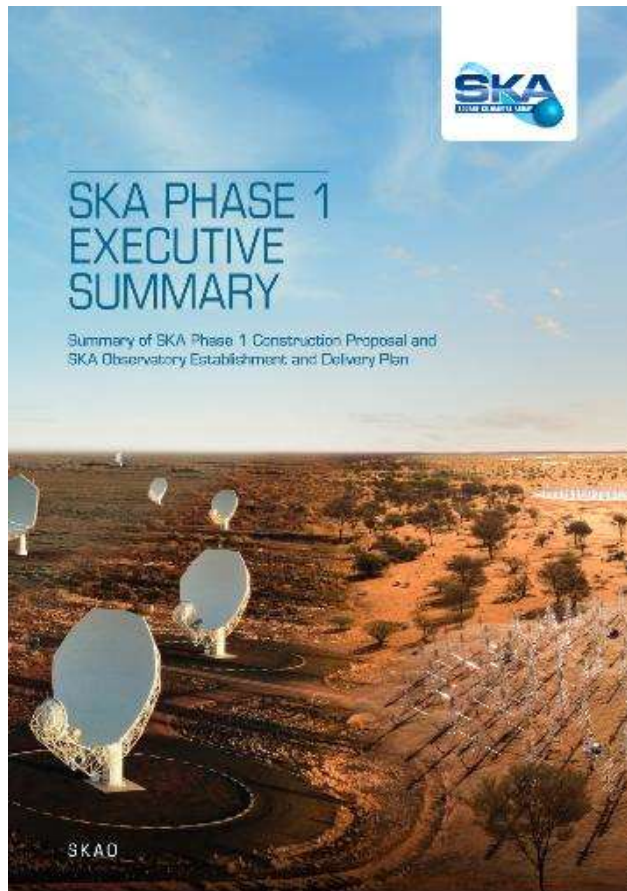


# ....and the SW?





# Where are we with the construction preparation?





# SKA Timeline



- Q1 2019: Treaty signed
- Q4 2019 – Q1 2020: Major Reviews
- Q4 2020: SKA Observatory exists
- Q2 2021: Construction activity begins
- Q4 2024/5: Science Commissioning starts
- 2027/8: SKA1 construction complete; start of full operations



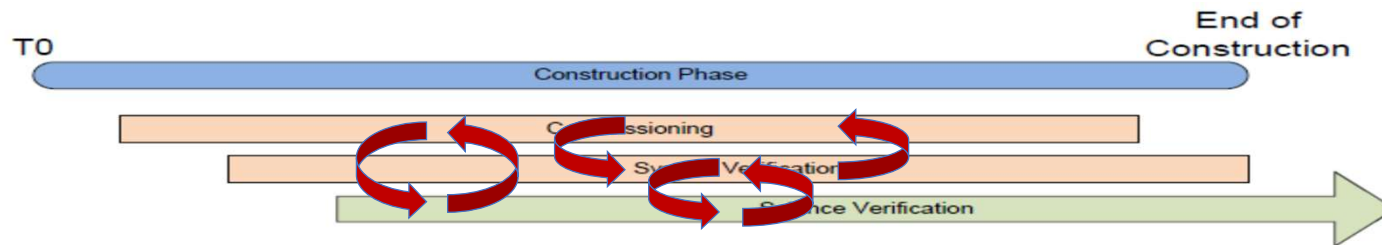
## Key project milestones

|  | SKA-Low       | SKA-Mid        |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Start of construction (T0)   | 1ST JULY 2021 | 1ST JULY 2021  |
| Earliest start of major contracts (C0)   | AUGUST 2021   | AUGUST 2021    |
| Array Assembly 0.5 finish (AA0.5)<br>SKA-Low = 6-station array<br>SKA-Mid = 4-dish array   | FEBRUARY 2024 | MARCH 2024     |
| Array Assembly 1 finish (AA1)<br>SKA-Low = 18-station array<br>SKA-Mid = 8-dish array  | FEBRUARY 2025 | FEBRUARY 2025  |
| Array Assembly 2 finish (AA2)<br>SKA-Low = 64-station array<br>SKA-Mid = 64-dish array, baselines mostly <20km                               | FEBRUARY 2026 | DECEMBER 2025  |
| Array Assembly 3 finish (AA3)<br>SKA-Low = 256-station array, including long baselines<br>SKA-Mid = 133-dish array, including long baselines | JANUARY 2027  | SEPTEMBER 2026 |
| Array Assembly 4 finish (AA4)<br>SKA-Low = full Low array<br>SKA-Mid = full Mid array, including MeerKAT dishes                              | NOVEMBER 2027 | JUNE 2027      |
| Operations Readiness Review (ORR)  | JANUARY 2028  | DECEMBER 2027  |
| End of construction  | JULY 2029     | JULY 2029      |

The plan is staged in this way in order to have the possibility to test the array in different configuration.  
AA0.5 is the time where also the industrial process is tested and qualified.



# Is that all?



## Commissioning

- All activities necessary to arrive at a working end-to-end system that can be used to perform system verification. These include:
  - setting-to-work
  - integration testing
  - system testing
  - execution and analysis of test science observations, with the aim of debugging the system.

## Science Commissioning

The subset of commissioning which requires specification, execution and analysis of astronomical observations. This is separated out, since it will be primarily performed by a different group from that responsible for engineering commissioning and is a principal concern of this document.

## Science Verification

All activities that are executed to verify the Telescope system against its Level-0 Requirements, i.e. to ensure that the Telescope system meets the needs of the science and operational users.



| SCIENCE COMMISSIONING AND VERIFICATION PLAN |                      |  |  |
|---|----------------------|--|--|
| Document Number                             | SKA-TEL-SKO-0000315  |  |  |
| Document Type                               | PLN                  |  |  |
| Revision                                    | 01                   |  |  |
| Author                                      | R.A. Laing           |  |  |
| Date  | 2019-10-14           |  |  |
| Document Classification                     | FOR PROJECT USE ONLY |  |  |
| Status                                      | Released             |  |  |

| Name                 | Designation                             | Affiliation | Signature                                       |
|----------------------|---|-------------|---|
| Authorized by:       |   |             |   |
| Robert Laing         | System Scientist                        | SKAO        | <i>R.A. Laing</i><br>Date: 2019-10-15           |
| Owned by:            |   |             |   |
| Robert Laing         | System Scientist                        | SKAO        | <i>R.A. Laing</i><br>Date: 2019-10-15           |
| Approved by:         |   |             |   |
| Antonio Chrysostomou | Interim Director of Operations Planning | SKAO        | <i>Antonio Chrysostomou</i><br>Date: 2019-10-15 |
| Released by:         |   |             |   |
| Joseph McMullin      | Programme Director                      | SKAO        | <i>J.P. McMullin</i><br>Date: 2019-10-16        |

# SKA Construction

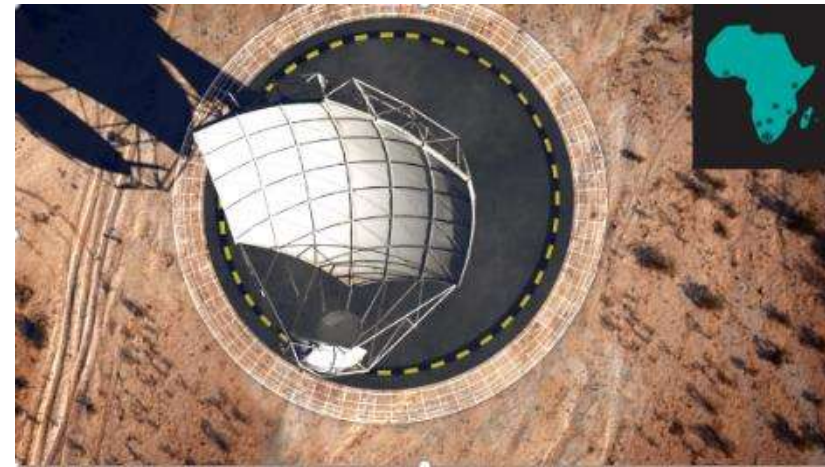


3 sites (AUS, RSA, UK-HQ): **2 telescopes (LOW, MID), one Observatory (SKAO)**  
**Construction: 2021-2028**

**SKA1-Low:**  
512 x 256 low-freq dipoles  
50 – 350 MHz  
65 km total extent  
Murchison, Western Australia



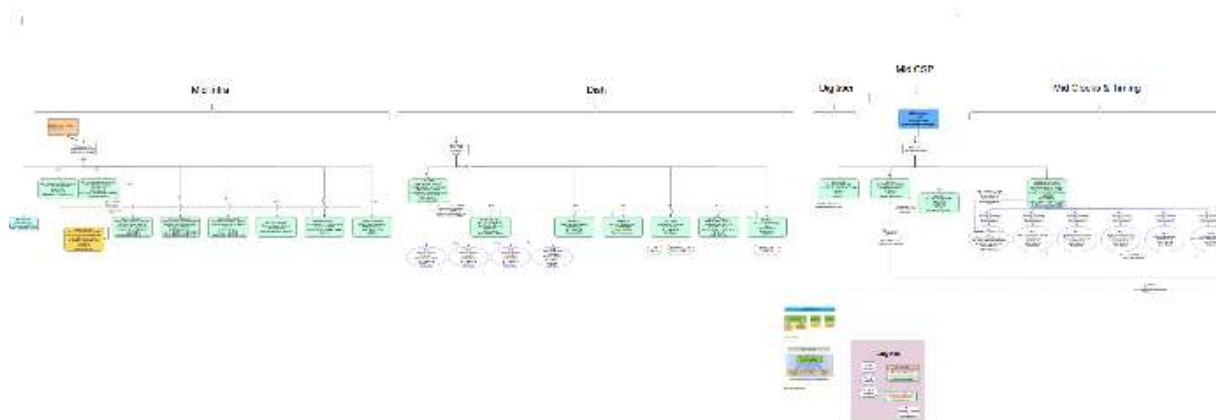
**SKA1-Mid:**  
197 15m dishes  
350 MHz – 15.3+ GHz  
150 km total extent  
Karoo, South Africa



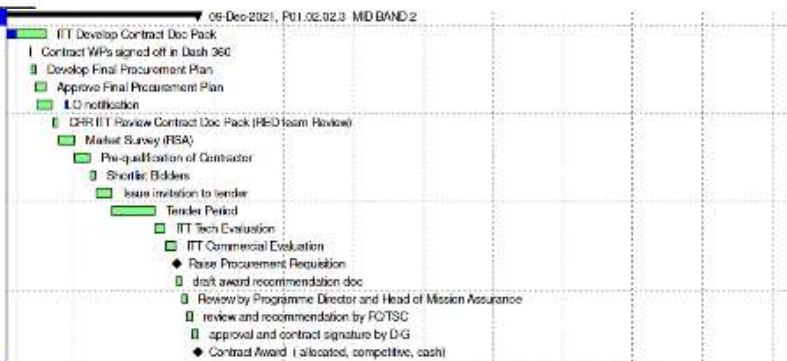
# The contracting work



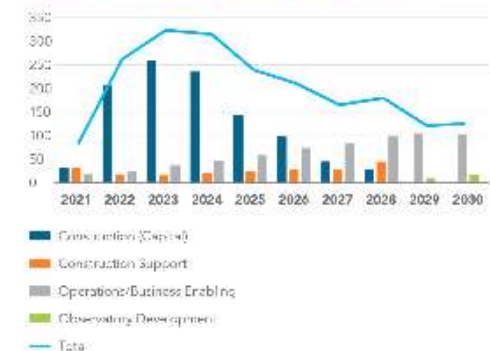
MID



| P01.02.02.3 MID BAND 2 | 2124   | 17-Feb-2021     | 09-Dec-2021 |
|------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------|
| PP3100                 | ITT Develop Contract Doc Pack                              | 70d 17-Feb-2021 | 25-May-2021 |
| PP10030                | Contract WPs signed off in Dash 360                        | 0d 05-May-2021  | 05-May-2021 |
| PP2930                 | Develop Final Procurement Plan                             | 4d 06-May-2021  | 11-May-2021 |
| PP2950                 | Approve Final Procurement Plan                             | 10d 12-May-2021 | 25-May-2021 |
| PP11510                | ILO notification   | 15d 14-May-2021 | 03-Jun-2021 |
| PP4620                 | CHN ITT Review Contract Doc Pack (H&D team Review)         | 5d 04-Jun-2021  | 10-Jun-2021 |
| PP4840                 | Market Survey (RSA)  | 15d 11-Jun-2021 | 01-Jul-2021 |
| PP5540                 | Pre-qualification of Contractor                            | 15d 02-Jul-2021 | 22-Jul-2021 |
| PP6030                 | Shortlist Bidders  | 5d 23-Jul-2021  | 29-Jul-2021 |
| PP6190                 | Issue invitation to tender                                 | 15d 30-Jul-2021 | 19-Aug-2021 |
| PP6790                 | Tender Period  | 40d 20-Aug-2021 | 14-Oct-2021 |
| PP7390                 | ITT Tech Evaluation  | 10d 15-Oct-2021 | 20-Oct-2021 |
| PP7530                 | ITT Commercial Evaluation                                  | 10d 29-Oct-2021 | 11-Nov-2021 |
| PP2600                 | Raise Procurement Requisition                              | 0d 12-Nov-2021  |             |
| PP7750                 | draft award recommendation doc                             | 5d 12-Nov-2021  | 18-Nov-2021 |
| PP2750                 | Review by Programme Director and Head of Mission Assurance | 5d 19-Nov-2021  | 25-Nov-2021 |
| PP7870                 | review and recommendation by FG/TSC                        | 5d 26-Nov-2021  | 02-Dec-2021 |
| PP2620                 | approval and contract signature by D-G                     | 5d 03-Dec-2021  | 09-Dec-2021 |
| PP8330                 | Contract Award (allocated, competitive, cash)              | 0d              | 09-Dec-2021 |



SKA Phase 1 (2021-2030) total costs (€m)



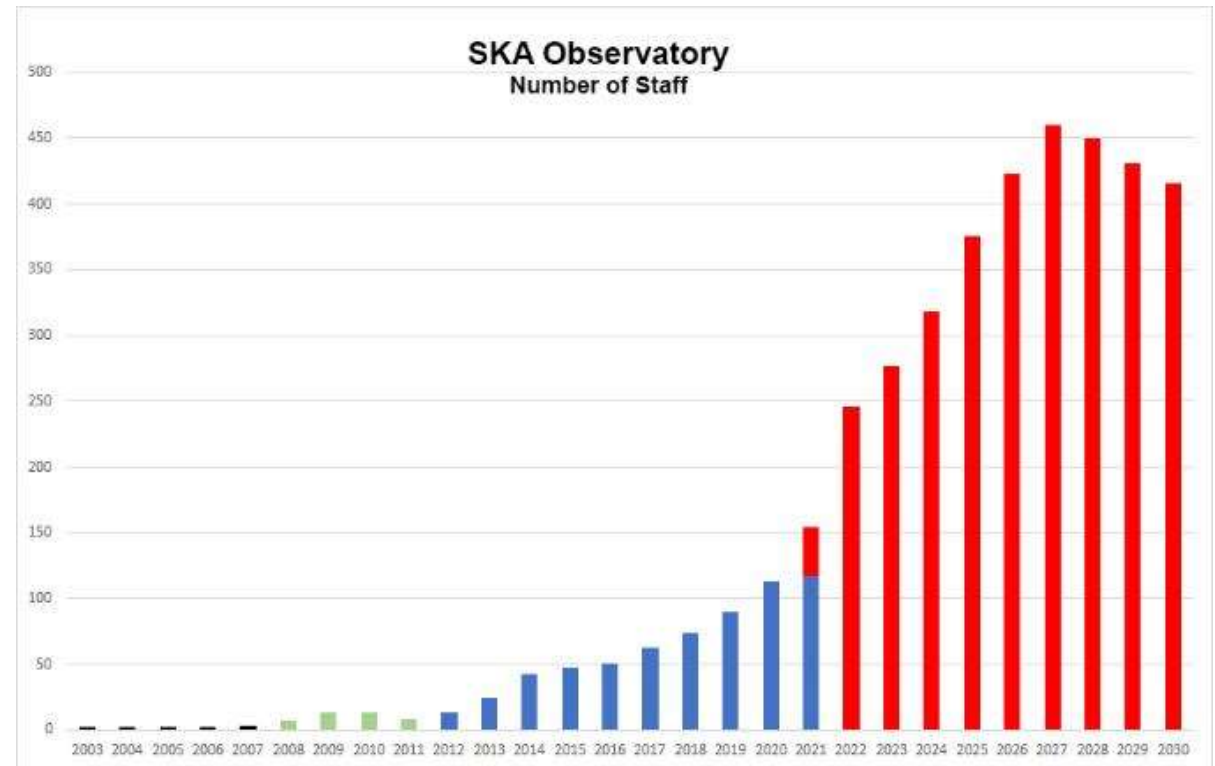


# Where are we now and what are we doing?



| Touch-point                              | Jan '21   | Feb '21                       | Mar '21  | Apr '21 | May '21   | Jun '21  | Jul '21   | Aug '21   | Sep '21   | Oct '21   | Nov '21   | Dec '21                                  | Full year 2022   | Full year 2023  |
|--|---|-------------------------------|--|---------|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| <b>PR</b>                                | All   |                               |  |         |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |
| <b>CRRs (43)</b>                         |   | Mid CBF; Software Sole Source | Mid Infra PSC; Mid Infra 1; Mid Infra 2; Mid Infra 3; Mid Infra 4; Low Infra PSC; Low Infra 1; Low Infra 3; Low Infra 6; |         | Low CSP; Software Comp.;                                | Mid Dish Element ; Mid B2; Low & MID Timing Mid S-AIV; Low Infra 2; Mid CSP; Mid & Low Clocks; | Mid B1; Low Station Mgt & Int.;                         | Mid Dish Structure Low Antenna Ass.; Low PaSD; Mid Infra 6          | Mid SPF Services; Low Infra 5; Low Station Dep.; Low S-AIV; | Low SPS; Mid Cryo   | Mid SPFRx123 & PU   |  | Mid Infra 5; Mid Networks; MeerKAT Integration; Mid CPF; Low Networks; Low CPF; Low PPA; Mid SPFRx45 Mid B5  | Mid SPC; Low SPC  |
| <b>TEPs start reviewing tenders (71)</b> |   |                               |  |         | Mid Infra PSC; Low Infra PSC; Software Sole Source (17) |  | Mid CSP; Mid CBF Mid Dish Element                       | Low Station Mgt & Int.; Mid S-AIV; Low Infra 2; Software Comp. (10) | Mid Infra 4; Mid Infra 6; Low Infra 6; Mid B2;              | Mid Infra 1; Mid Infra 2; Mid Infra 3; Mid B1; Low Infra 5 Low Infra 1; | Mid Timing; Mid & Low Clocks; Low CSP; Low & MID Timing Low Infra 3; Mid Dish Structure | Low S-AIV;                               | Mid Infra 5; Mid Infra 6; Mid B5; Mid Cryo; Mid SPF Services; MeerKAT Integration; Low Station Dep.; Low Antenna Ass.; Low PaSD; Low SPS; Low PPA; Mid SPFRx123; Mid SPFRxPU   | Mid Networks; Mid SPC; Low SPC (2024); Mid CPF; Low Networks; Low CPF; Mid SPFRx45        |
| <b>C0s (71)</b>                          | <b>KEY:</b><br>Ben = red<br>André = gold<br>Maurizio = brown<br>Du Bruyn = black<br>Mark = blue<br>David = green<br>Peter = orange<br>Jacque = pink<br>Jill = purple<br>Adriaan = yellow<br>Unassigned = grey |                               |  |         |   |  | Mid Infra PSC; Low Infra PSC; Software Sole Source (17) |   | Software Comp. (10) Low Infra 2; Mid Dish Element           | Mid Infra 6;  | Mid Infra 4; Mid S-AIV; Low Infra 6 Low Station Mgt & Int.; Mid CBF; Mid CSP;           | Mid B2; Mid Dish Structure; Low Infra 1; | Mid Infra 1; Mid Infra 2; Mid Infra 3; Mid B1; Mid B5; Mid Cryo; Mid SPF Services; Mid SPFRx123; Mid SPFRxPU; MeerKAT Integration; Mid & Low Clocks; Low Infra 3; Low Infra 5; Low Station Dep.; Low Antenna Ass.; Low PaSD; Low SPS; Low & MID Timing Low CSP; Low S-AIV; Low PPA | Low CPF; Mid Networks; Mid CPF; Low Networks; Mid SPFRx45; Mid SPC (2024); Low SPC (2024) |

# Staffing of the Observatory?



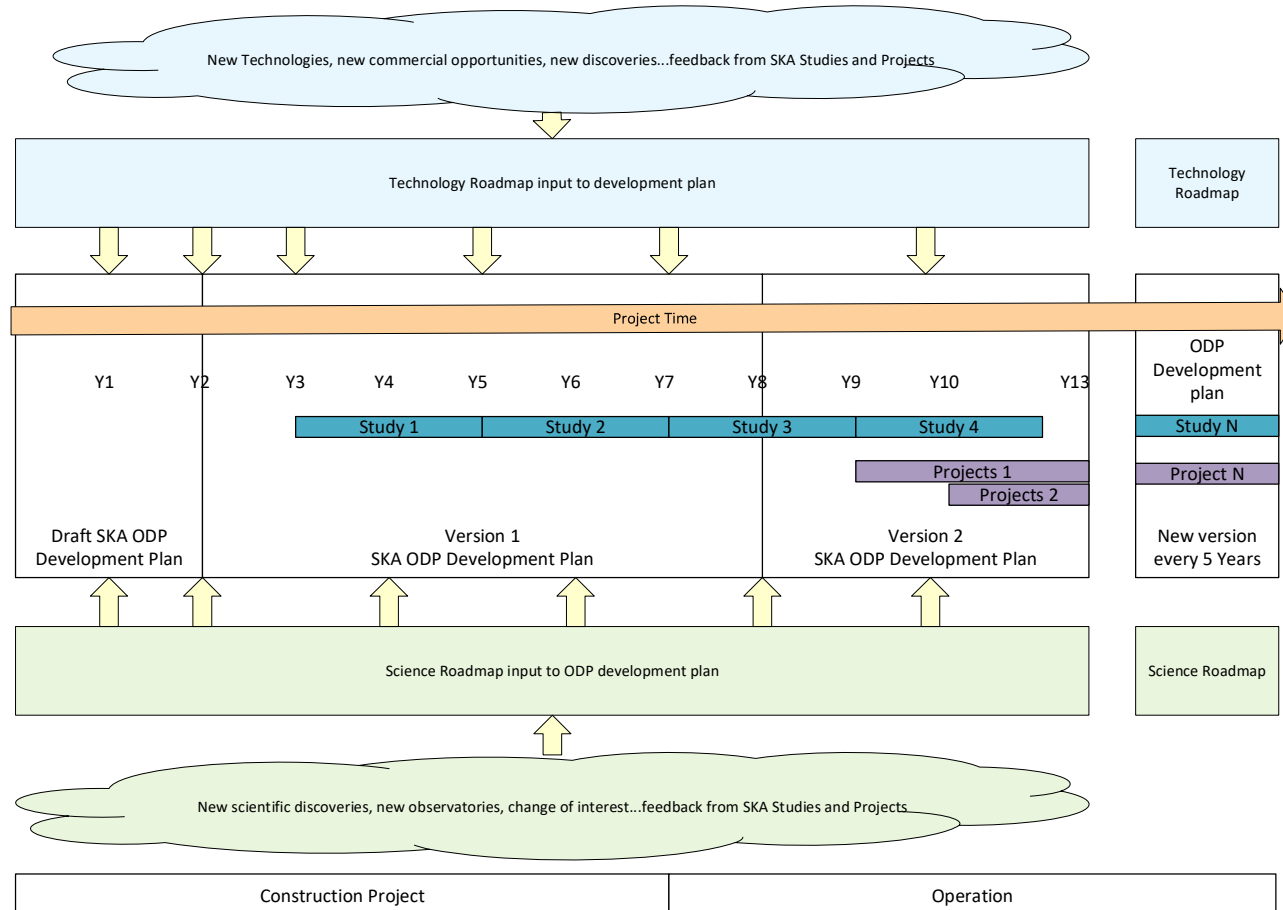
## The SKA Observatory Development Plan

- Enhance SKA Science Output
  - Adapt to changes in scientific landscape and priorities
  - Enable new science (e.g. a new receiver band)
  - Improve science output (e.g. more reliable power system; increased RF bandwidth)
  - Reduce operations costs
  - Restore lost capability

**A Development Programme is essential to the health of any Observatory**



# SKAO Observatory Development Program



# SKA is people



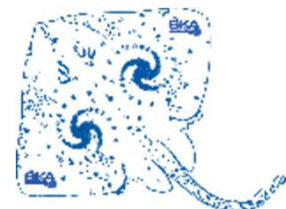


# It's all about people

## The SKAO Telescope Engineering Team in SKA

- [Alachkar, Bassem](#)
- [Anthony, Rob](#)
- [Barriere, Kevin](#)
- [Caiazzo, Marco](#)
- [Chen, Songlin](#)
- [Cremonini, Andrea](#)
- [Gounden, Shagita](#)
- [Hayden, Daniel](#)
- [Hekman, Peter](#)
- [Hendre, Aniket](#)
- [Labate, Maria Grazia](#)
- [Pellegrini, Alice](#)
- [Roy, Jayashree](#)
- [Smith, Craig](#)
- [Stringhetti, Luca](#)
- [Tirone, Lucio](#)
- [Swart, Gerhard](#)
- [Nkawu, Treasure](#)
- [Waterson, Mark](#)

- SKAO Domain Specialist (Signal Processing)
- SKAO Junior System Engineer
- SKAO Power Engineer Junior
- SKAO Senior System Engineer
- SKAO MID Domain Specialist
- SKAO MID System Engineer
- SKAO Junior System Engineer
- SKAO LOW System Engineer
- SKAO MID AIV Lead Engineer
- SKAO Domain Specialist (Time and Frequency)
- SKAO LOW Telescope Engineer
- SKAO Domain Specialist (RF/Antenna)
- SKAO DSP Engineer
- SKAO Electrical engineer
- SKAO Project Engineer
- SKAO LOW AIV Engineer
- SKAO MID Telescope Engineer
- SKAO Domain Specialist (EMC)
- SKAO LOW Domain Specialist



8 nationalities (Bassem counts for two!)  
 11 Languages (including American and English)  
 .....**better than an Emirates Airlines flying crew!**

# Conclusion

SKAO is now an International Organisation with the objective to lead the radioastronomy in the next decades.

Again SKAO is on a brink of a pivotal moment. In one months we will get the green light for the construction to start and first contracts will be placed.

The engineering work is still on going and based on the systems engineering our next challenge will be secure and keep high quality in the delivery

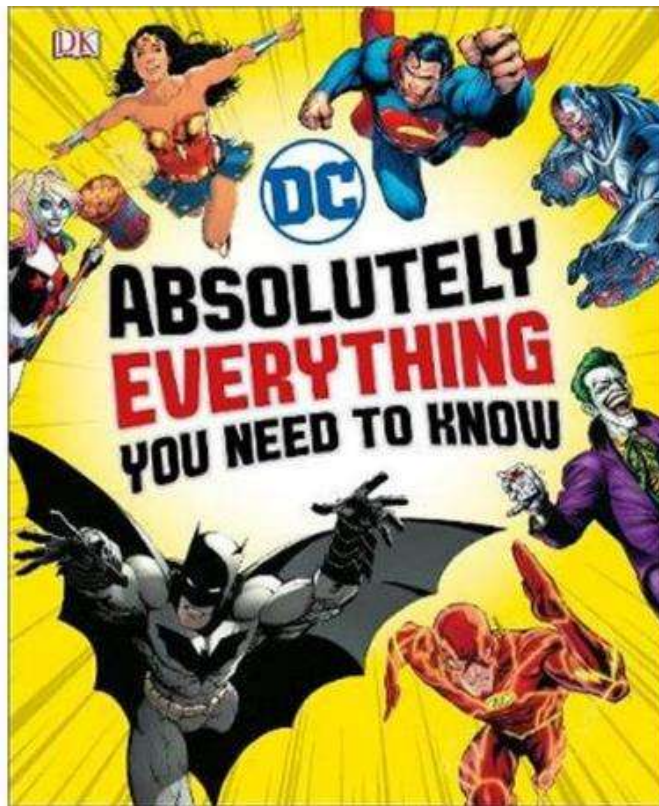
Verification is getting more and more momentum now (more job adverts are out) and preparation is very active.

**Thank you very much for you attention...**

**Questions?**



You do not need to know everything....it is ok (not super...just ok...but it works anyway). People first.



Culture is much more different than expected. People first.



Biases exist! Cultural confirmation and geographical....

People first



Alistair was wrong. Sometimes you need to repeat the same message more than seven times...People first.





# Remote working is not my thing.... People first.



## SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones

