

**ICRI 2022**  
**Research Infrastructures' contribution to SDGs**  
**Cluster Physical Sciences and Engineering**

**Ornela De Giacomo - CERIC-ERIC**

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# Research Infrastructures – PSE

**RI are facilities, resources and services that are used by the research communities to conduct research and foster innovation in their fields.**

**Single-sited** RIs are central facilities geographically localised in a single site or in a few dedicated complementary sites designed for user access



European Spallation Source ERIC

A multi-disciplinary research infrastructure with the vision to build and operate the world's most powerful neutron source.

# Research Infrastructures

A **distributed RI** consists of a Central Hub and interlinked National Nodes



CERIC-ERIC

CERIC, the Central European Research Infrastructure Consortium, integrates and provides open access to some of the best facilities in Europe, to help science and industry advance in all fields of materials, biomaterials and nanotechnology.



Some examples...

Synchrotron



neutron



NMR

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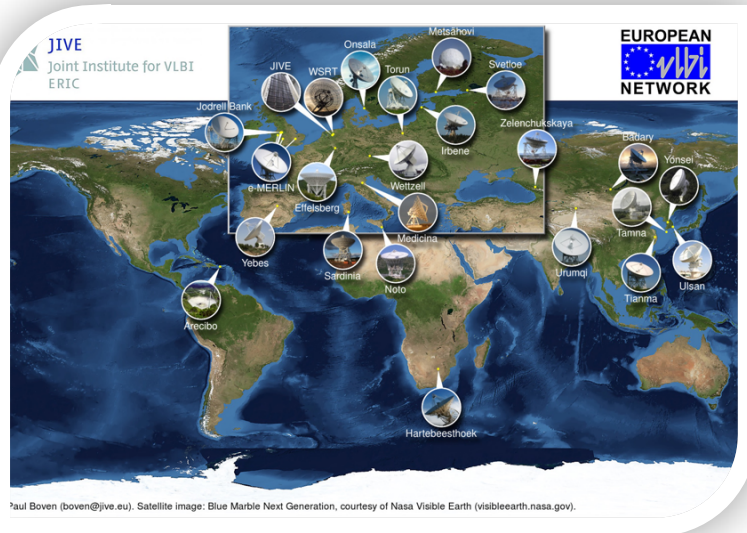
ELI-ERIC

ELI, the Extreme Light Infrastructure, is the world's largest and most advanced high-power laser infrastructure and a global technology and innovation leader in high-power, high-intensity, and short-pulsed laser systems.



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Facilitates radio astronomical research as the data processing and user support centre of the European VLBI Network (EVN), a globally distributed research infrastructure composed by some of the largest radio telescopes on Earth

A network of radio telescopes serves to provide a complementary (and often unique) view to the Universe, with multiple technical challenges - and solutions!

JIVE ERIC

# Research Infrastructures in PSE



Image by [Freepik](#)

**How do these large  
research infrastructures  
contribute to the  
Sustainable  
Development goals?**

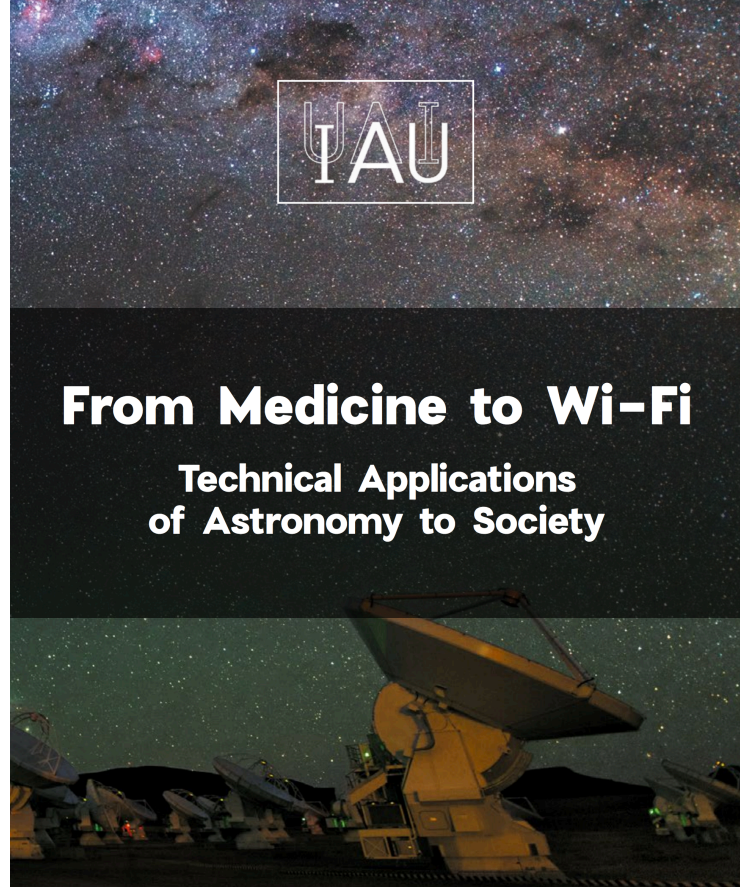
# From Medicine to WI-FI!!

- Basic science is in the base of any application!

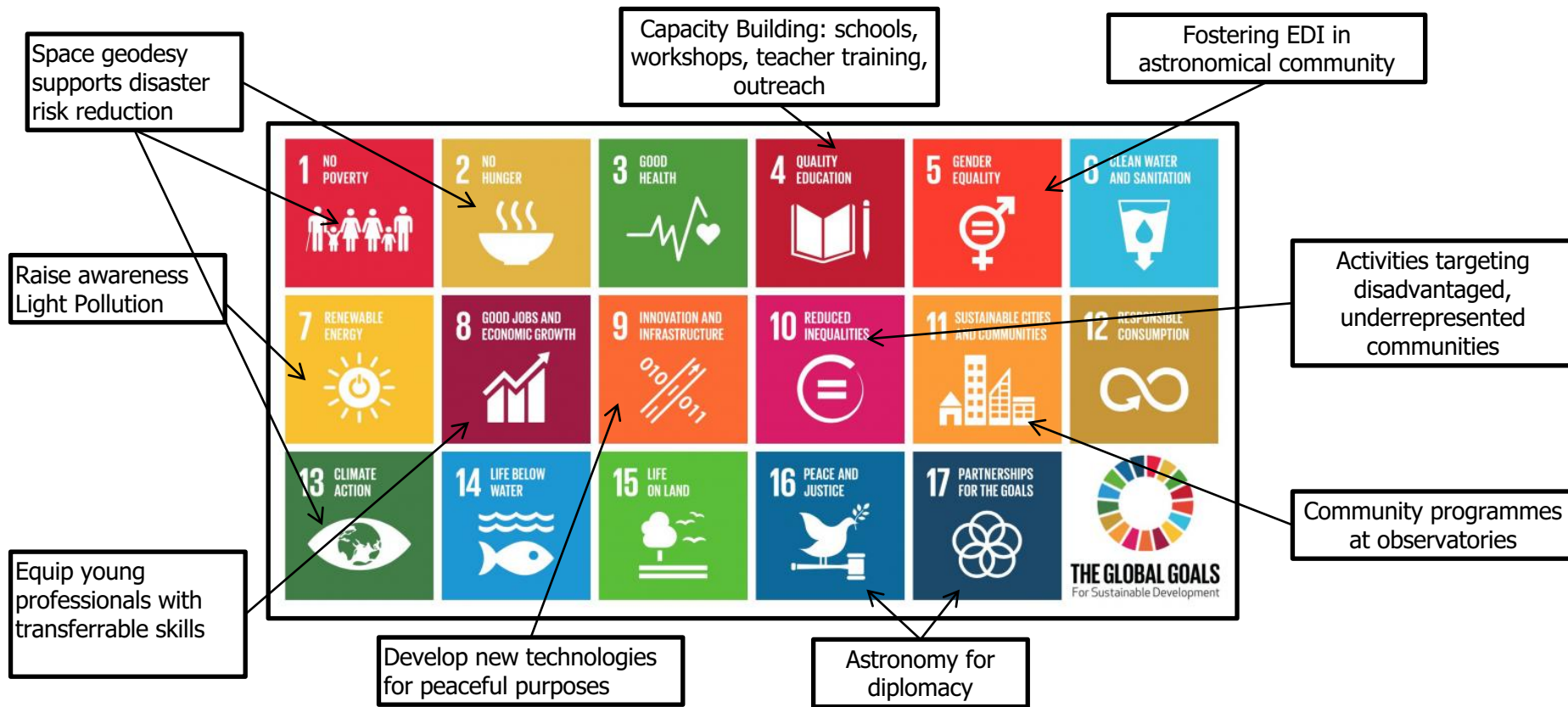
Astronomy contributes to:

- Medicine
- Climate change
- Computing
- Time keeping / reference frames
- Imaging
- Communication
- Big data
- WI-FI

<https://www.iau.org/static/archives/announcements/pdf/ann19022a.pdf>



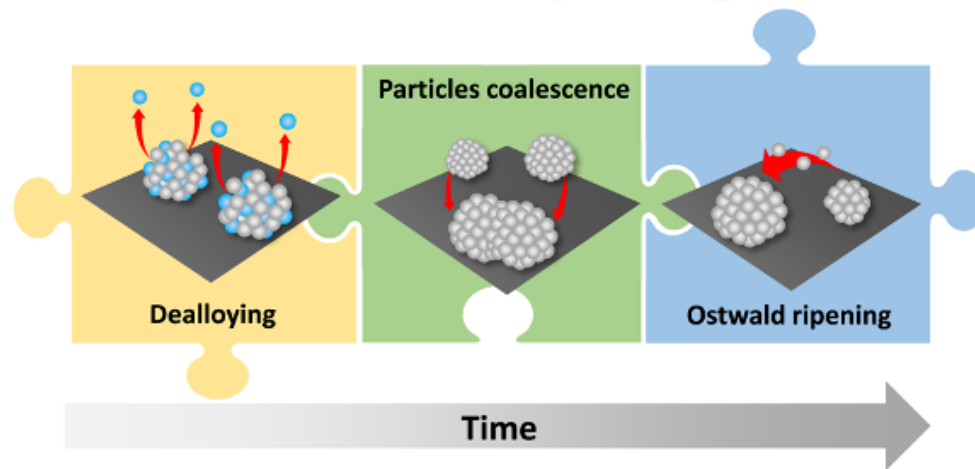
# How Astronomy contributes to the SDGs



# New materials for cheaper PEM fuel cells

A comprehensive study provided insights into the morphological variations and degradation of a platinum-nickel alloy catalyst during operations, to improve its duration and performance.

## Pt-Ni fuel cell catalyst degradation



Bogar, Marco, et al. "Interplay Among Dealloying, Ostwald Ripening, and Coalescence in Pt X Ni100-X Bimetallic Alloys under Fuel-Cell-Related Conditions." *ACS Catalysis* 11.18 (2021): 11360-11370.

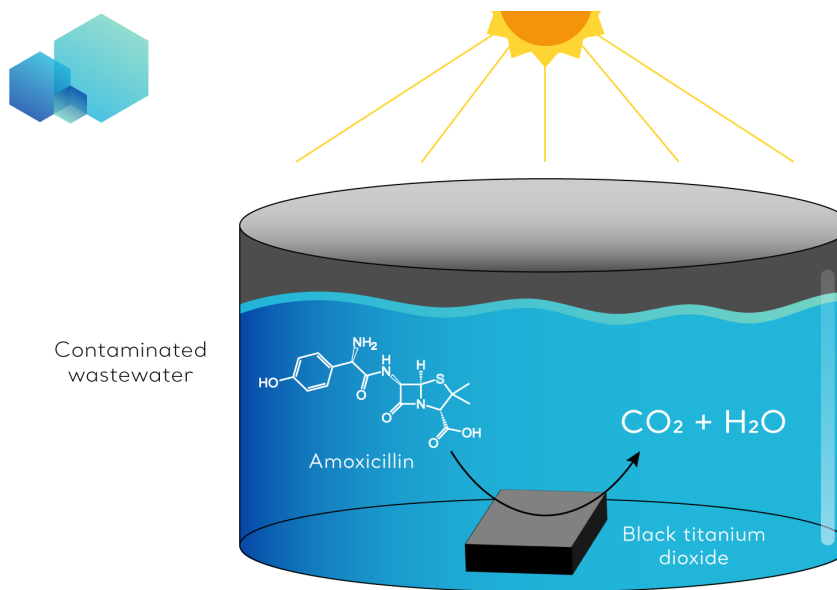


# Preventing antibiotics' contaminations in water bodies

The ever-growing employment of antibiotics results in the contamination of water bodies.

Black titanium dioxide was tested for the photocatalytic degradation of amoxicillin, a common antibiotic.

The samples exhibited over 90% efficiency in the degradation of amoxicillin after 6 hours under simulated solar irradiation.





**ELI Beamlines explores the interaction of light with matter  
at intensities that are 10 times higher than previously  
achievable.**

**Ultra-short laser pulses <30 femtoseconds**

**laser achieving up to 10 PW enables new techniques and  
tools for research such as**

**medical imaging and diagnostics, radiotherapy  
new materials**

**X-ray optics**

**Laser driven hadron-therapy**

**Proton-boron nuclear fusion**

**ELI Beamlines**

*Dolní Břežany, Czech Republic*



# ELI ERIC Leads Innovation and Technology

## Training a new generation of scientists and experts

The ELI Facilities have  
awarded over €455  
million in contracts to  
companies from 19  
European countries



# ESS - Energy storage & transformation

- More efficient energy conversion & more sustainable energy sources
- Explore material characteristics & develop more effective ways to harvest energy
- Follow lithium ions in a battery when charging & discharging to better understand and improve the process
- Smaller and more powerful batteries than ever, and can charge faster
- Opportunity to optimise material, improve energy density and increase the number of charging cycles in batteries
- Environmentally friendly energy products can be further developed which deepen our understanding of sustainable sources, such as hydrogen-powered fuel cells

# Life science and medical equipment

- New drugs and treatment methods can be developed when we understand more about how drugs react with proteins
- Possibility to detect hydrogen atoms - able to study the interactions between proteins and chemical substances
- More efficient drug delivery from analysing how treatments & proteins interact on a structural level
- Structure-based drug development more likely to be successful at an earlier stage
- More efficient and sustainable solutions due to unique insights into components used in essential technology
- The study of magnetic properties and the interplay between magnetism & superconductivity can lead to advances in technology



# Research Infrastructures in PSE

- The best science requires the best research infrastructures
- They contribute broadly to the Sustainable Development goals, from basic science to applications, development and transfer of technology
- Huge efforts in training, education and dissemination; impact for all society