

ESO: UK In-kind contribution
Proposal for ESO access to UKIDSS public surveys

As part of the UK accession to ESO, the UK has undertaken to make contributions both in cash and in kind. The in kind contribution is to include VISTA. The UK and ESO have further agreed that in view of the expected delivery date of VISTA, ESO shall have access to the WFCAM UKIDSS Survey in accordance with the following proposal:

1. It is intended that at least 75% of the WFCAM time on UKIRT will be used to conduct public surveys.
2. A copy of the raw survey data will be archived in the ESO archive and will be public to the ESO community at the same time as the UK community.
3. All data products from such public surveys, e.g. co-added images, catalogues, etc, shall become public to the ESO community at the same time as in the UK.
4. The expectation is that the survey will be performed as outlined in the UKIDSS proposal (March 2001). In particular, there will be five parts to this survey:
 - the Large Area Survey;
 - the Galactic Plane Survey;
 - the Galactic Clusters Survey;
 - the Deep Extragalactic Survey; and
 - the Ultra-Deep Survey.

The UKIDSS Consortium will involve ESO astronomers in the future planning and detailed execution plans, including determination of the field centres for the surveys.

5. This agreement applies only to the surveys detailed above; it does not apply to future surveys or to other WFCAM programmes.
6. The format of the data will be FITS, of a fixed configuration for the entire survey, and the integrity of the data will be the responsibility of the UK.

It is the intention of the UKIDSS Consortium at an appropriate future date to issue an open invitation to the ESO community to join the Consortium and to participate in the execution of the surveys described above.