

- **Date sent:** 7 April 2020, 16:55
- **From:** Elena Pian
- **To:** Division D High Energy Phenomena and Fundamental Physics
- **Subject:** IAU outreach program: "Meet the IAU Astronomers!" call for interest to Division D members

Dear IAU Division D Members

As the world struggles to contain the spread of COVID-19, the IAU Outreach team endeavours to adapt programs to a fully online framework, doing whatever they can to help tackle this pandemic as well as its collateral effects on society. As many of us turn online to stay connected with our communities through astronomy, astronomers have a wide range of expertise which could help the current situation.

One of the projects they intend to implement is "Meet the IAU Astronomers!", whereby they encourage teachers, informal educators, amateur astronomers, to organize a virtual meetup with an IAU Astronomer to talk to students, parents and the general public about astronomy, the importance of astronomy for society, and choosing astronomy as a career.

The programme garnered a positive response from our IAU National Outreach Coordinators (NOCs), with an expression of interest from Sri Lanka, Cameroon, Uganda, Haiti, to name a few. To start implementing this programme the IAU Office for Astronomy Outreach would like to start building an IAU-members database of astronomers interested in participating and has issued a call for interest through the Division Presidents.

The expressions of interest should be conveyed to Dr. Lina Canas (lina.canas@nao.ac.jp) and in CC to public@oao.iau.org.

The Outreach team will then send a form to interested members to collect the details of each participant.

Thank you very much for your attention and cooperation, and best regards and wishes.

Elena Pian

Div D President, on behalf of the IAU Office for Astronomy Outreach Team