



Policies

Science Team Policies

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Change Record

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1 Scope

This document defines the policies that govern the scientific collaboration of 4MOST, including all Consortium and Community Surveys. Additional policies may apply to Consortium Surveys.

This document covers all phases of the 4MOST Project, from the preparatory phase involving only the 4MOST Consortium, to the joining of the Community Surveys and the joint preparations phase, and finally the operations phase.

This document is owned by the 4MOST Science Coordination Board and may be modified by it at any time.

2 Applicable Documents (AD)

The following applicable documents (AD) of the exact issue shown form a part of this document to the extent described herein. In the event of conflict between the documents referenced herein and the contents of this document, the contents of this document are the superseding requirement.

AD ID	Document Title	Document Number	Issue	Date
None				

3 Reference Documents (RD)

The following reference documents (RD) contain useful information relevant to the subject of the present document.

RD ID	Document Title	Document Number	Issue	Date
[RD1]	Operations Plan	MST-PLA-PMO-70100-9710-0001	2.00	2017-02-27
[RD2]	4MOST Survey User Manual	VIS-MAN-4MOST-47110-9210-0001	1.01	2022-09-02
[RD3]	Science Coordination Board Rules of Procedure	VIS-POL-4MOST-47110-9211-0001	2.00	2015-04-14
[RD4]	4MOST Consortium Agreement	MST-CON-PIN-10100-9110-0001	1.00	2018-05-18
[RD5]	Science Policy Board Rules of Procedure	VIS-POL-4MOST-47110-9211-0002	2.00	2021-11-01
[RD6]	Poor Conditions Programme	VIS-POL-4MOST-47110-9213-0001	0.05	2025-10-19



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4 Introduction

The 4MOST instrument will be used by the 4MOST Consortium, in collaboration with ESO and the community, to carry out a comprehensive, multi-year public survey programme consisting of a number of individual surveys, initiated, and implemented both by the 4MOST Consortium and the community, covering a large fraction of the southern sky and addressing an extremely wide range of scientific questions. For reasons of efficiency, this survey programme will normally be carried out in an integrated manner, with all individual surveys being carried out in parallel and sharing the focal plane. This requires an integrated approach to the planning, development, and operational implementation of the survey programme as a whole. However, going beyond the efficiency argument, it is the view of both ESO and the 4MOST Consortium that the scientific value of the 4MOST survey programme as a whole will be larger than the sum of its constituent parts. Therefore, the integrated approach should be extended beyond planning and operations to the dataset itself as well as its scientific exploitation. This is the reason why the 4MOST scientific community has decided not to view itself as a collection of individual, disparate, and disjoint survey teams, but rather to come together in a single 4MOST Science Team that will collectively plan, execute and exploit the 4MOST survey programme in a collaborative manner.

It is thus the declared intent of the Science Team to work together in a cooperative and respectful atmosphere, with scientific best practices at heart, and in the interest of the overall 4MOST science programme. While the Science Team acknowledges that each constituent survey of this programme has its legitimate individual interests, and that the effort invested towards attaining a survey's main science goals should be respected, the Science Team also recognizes the value of cooperation across survey boundaries to the extent that it strives to minimize these boundaries as far as possible. It is this spirit of partnership that guides all interactions among the Science Team.

5 Definitions

This section does not contain any policies but instead defines a number of terms and entities that are governed by the policies set forth in the rest of this document.

5.1 Science Team

5.1.1 Composition

The 4MOST Science Team (ST) is comprised of the 4MOST PI, the 4MOST PSs, and all scientific members of all Consortium and Community Surveys. The ST thus encompasses the entire 4MOST user community (in the usual sense of a “user” being a co-author of a 4MOST proposal).

The ST sets the science requirements, defines the survey programme, and delivers the scientific data products back to ESO and the public. The ST is also a privileged end user of these data products through both early access (see Section 17) and intimate knowledge of their genesis. As such, the ST is the primary scientific exploiter of the 4MOST data.

5.1.2 Structure

5.1.2.1 4MOST Principal Investigator

The 4MOST Principal Investigator (PI) is responsible for the overall management of the 4MOST Project and of the Consortium. The PI also represents the ST towards ESO. As such, the PI is responsible for negotiating the contents and schedule of the ST’s deliverables to ESO, and ultimately for the delivery of the 4MOST survey programme, i.e. the L1 and deliverable L2 data products (see Section 5.5).

5.1.2.2 4MOST Project Scientists

The two 4MOST Project Scientists (PSs), one for Galactic, one for Extragalactic science, are the internal leaders of the ST and are responsible for the management of the ST. They oversee the development of 4MOST science cases, guide the development of the resulting requirements, develop a vision for the overall legacy of the 4MOST survey programme, foster the integration of the different science cases, represent the “One 4MOST Survey” perspective in any discussion, and define the deliverables and the schedule for the Surveys (except for the L2 data products). Metaphorically speaking, the PSs are the oil in the 4MOST science machinery.

The PSs are nominated by the 4MOST PI and approved by the 4MOST Executive Board.

5.1.2.3 Surveys

A Survey is a specific sub-set of the 4MOST science programme that is pursued and supported by a specific sub-group of the ST. In other words, a Survey is an observing programme on 4MOST of a specified set of targets that is pursued by some members of the ST. Normally, a Survey is centred around a specific science theme and is thus driven by a set of closely connected scientific goals. However, some Surveys may instead be centred around a common methodological approach, resulting in more disparate scientific goals (e.g. TiDES).

The subset of the scientific goals that was used to motivate the Survey in the Survey’s proposal to ESO is referred to as the Survey’s “core science” in this document.

A Survey is defined by its: PI(s), Survey team, Survey Science Plan (science case and derived requirements), Survey Management Plan (WBS, resource planning, team structure, schedule), target list with associated spectral success criteria, overall survey figure of merit, and L2 data products to be delivered to ESO.

Surveys are free to define their internal structures as they see fit.

By definition, every ST member except the 4MOST PI is a member of at least one Survey. Since ST members may be members of more than one Survey, there will in general be overlap between Survey teams.

Surveys have the responsibility to prepare and exploit their “own” programmes, as well as to contribute to all aspects of the planning, implementation and analysis that concern multiple Surveys, as carried out by the Infrastructure Working Groups (IWGs). Specifically, the main responsibilities of Surveys include staffing the IWGs and creating their own target lists and L2 data products (where applicable, see Section 5.5).

A given Survey may include sub-surveys. These are defined as sub-groups of the Survey’s target list that are critical to the Survey’s success. The successful completion of each sub-survey is thus a condition of the successful completion of the Survey itself.

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Some Surveys were initiated by the 4MOST Consortium and will be carried out using GTO time (Consortium Surveys), while others were initiated by members of the ESO community and will be carried out using public time (Community Surveys). In all aspects of the 4MOST project, including this document, every attempt is made to distinguish between these two types of Surveys as little as possible.

Changes to the PIship of a Consortium Survey require approval by the 4MOST Executive Board. Changes to the PIship of a Community Survey require approval by ESO.

5.1.2.4 Science Coordination Board

The Science Coordination Board (SCB) represents the 4MOST Surveys and consists of all Consortium and Community Survey PIs, the 4MOST PI (no voting rights), the 4MOST PSs (no voting rights) and the ESO 4MOST PS (no voting rights). It is the central body in charge of the planning of the 4MOST science programme, including both Consortium and Community Surveys. Its decisions are binding on the Surveys (but see Section 8 of [RD3]). Its main roles are:

- The SCB coordinates the scientific programmes of the Surveys and mediates between potentially conflicting interests of different Surveys. In this capacity, it is also responsible for defining a sample of “supplementary” targets, to be observed only when fibres cannot be filled with survey programme targets (see Section 5.3).
- The SCB is conceptually the owner of the Science, User and Operations Requirements. As such, it is the customer of the 4MOST project and represents the interests of the science programme to the Consortium. It is mandatory for the Project Office to consult the SCB on all matters concerning the requirements. The SCB is responsible for negotiating a solution in case of conflicting requirements. The SCB verifies whether the requirements are met by the facility and operations. In particular, the SCB approves the final survey strategy (Section 7).
- The SCB assists the 4MOST Project in coordinating all matters affecting more than one survey, in particular the joint planning and execution of all Consortium and Community Surveys.
- The SCB is the owner of the survey strategy (see Sections 5.4 and 7) and is responsible for overseeing and approving any changes to the survey strategy and any revisions of the Survey target catalogue packages. For minor changes to the Survey target catalogue packages this authority is delegated to the Catalogue Coordination and Change Control Advisory Board.
- The SCB approves the creation of new IWGs, the dissolution of existing ones, and the appointment of new IWG leaders.
- The SCB defines, manages, implements, and enforces the Science Team Policies, and is the owner of the present document. The day-to-day implementation of the Science Team Policies is delegated to the Science Policy Board.

The rules governing the transactions of the SCB are described in [RD3]. The minutes of its meetings are available on [Docushare](#).

The chair of the SCB is elected by the SCB and approved by the PI. The PI proposes the chair to the 4MOST Executive Board, who appoints the chair. The SCB chair is appointed for a renewable term of two years.

5.1.2.4.1 *Science Policy Board*

The Science Policy Board (SPB) is a sub-committee of the SCB. It consists of one representative from each Survey who is appointed by the Survey's PI(s). Its task is to deal with all matters arising from the implementation of the Science Team Policies in relation to ST membership (Section 6), scientific exploitation (Section 18), data sharing (Section 19) and accelerated publication (Section 20.1). All requests for approval in these matters, as required by the Science Team Policies, are first handled by the SPB. Issues on which the SPB is unable to reach unanimous consensus are referred up to the SCB for resolution. In other words, the SPB acts as a kind of filter which only lets controversial issues through to the SCB but deals with uncontroversial ones itself.

The SPB defines its own Rules of Procedure [RD5]. All of its transactions are as transparent as possible to the rest of the ST by means defined in [RD5].

The chair of the SPB is elected by the SPB for a renewable term of two years and requires approval by the SCB chair.

5.1.2.4.2 *Catalogue Coordination and Change Control Advisory Board*

The Catalogue Coordination and Change Control Advisory Board (4CAB) is a sub-committee of the SCB. It consists of the 4MOST PSs, the leaders of the Survey Strategy and Targeting Support IWGs, and the leader of the Documentation Work Package in the Targeting Support IWG. The Chair of the SCB is an observer on 4CAB. Its task is to design, implement and manage a change control process for Survey target catalogue packages, to review change requests from Surveys, to assess their impact on other Surveys, to decide on minor change requests, and to escalate major change requests up to the SCB.

The entire change control process, including the guidelines on how to distinguish between minor and major change requests, is subject to the approval of the SCB.

5.2 Survey programme

The set of all Consortium and Community Surveys is collectively referred to as the 4MOST survey programme.

5.3 Survey programme, supplementary and poor conditions targets

Any object for which any of the Surveys request any observations is referred to as a "survey programme target".

It is a priori clear that it is not possible to guarantee that every single 4MOST fibre in every single observation can be allocated to an uncompleted survey programme target. In order not to leave any fibres empty, thereby wasting observing time, it is therefore necessary to supplement the survey programme target sample with an additional sample of targets referred to as "supplementary targets". A supplementary target will thus only be observed if the fibre allocated to it cannot be allocated to an uncompleted survey programme target instead.

An object may be both a survey programme and a supplementary target. In other words, a survey programme target may be proposed for additional observations beyond what is required by the survey programme. Conceptually, such an object should be thought of as two targets, with the supplementary target "replacing" the survey programme target once its survey programme observations have been completed.

The policies governing supplementary targets are described in Section 9.

A non-negligible fraction of observing time is affected by conditions too poor for regular survey programme observations but still sufficient for observing very bright targets. This time is thus used by a separate observing programme referred to as the “Poor Conditions Programme” (PCP). The details of the PCP are defined by [RD6]. Any LR target brighter than $G < 12.5$ mag and any HR target brighter than $G < 10.5$ mag is deemed too bright for regular survey programme observations (as it contaminates neighbouring spectra on the detector and may even saturate the detector). The corresponding objects are thus *only* observed as part of the PCP. However, the PCP will not be limited to these extremely bright targets. Objects fainter than these limits may therefore be observed both as part of the PCP and as part of regular survey programme observations.

The policies governing the PCP are described in Section 12.

5.4 Survey strategy

The term “survey strategy” refers to all aspects of the execution of the observations for the 4MOST survey programme. This includes, e.g., the procedures to decide where to point the telescope at any given point in time, which targets to observe in this field, and how to allocate the fibres to these targets. This also includes the procedures to determine the values of any “free parameters”, such as, e.g., the use of any fixed tiling pattern, the number of exposures at a given position, and the exposure times.

The policies governing the survey strategy are described in Section 7.

5.5 Data and data products

Section 4.3.1 of [RD1] defines 3 levels for data and data products, from L0 (raw data) to L2 (data products derived from 1D spectra).

L0 and L1 data are produced by the observing and data management systems and are made available to the ST with a frequency defined in Section 6.4 of [RD1]. L2 data products are produced by the ST. Among the L2 data products this document further distinguishes between those that are deliverables to ESO and those that are not. Since all 4MOST Surveys are ESO Public Surveys the ST will be required to deliver, for each Survey, a certain set of pre-defined L2 products to ESO. These are termed deliverable L2 (DL2) products. However, the ST is in no way precluded from generating, exploiting, and publishing additional L2 (AL2) products.

DL2 data products are further distinguished between those that are produced by the L2 pipelines developed by the Galactic and Extragalactic Analysis Pipeline IWGs (DL2-IWG) and those that are produced by L2 pipelines developed by individual Surveys (DL2-SURV). The creation of DL2-IWG data products is the responsibility of the respective IWGs, while the creation of DL2-SURV data products is the responsibility of the respective Surveys.

Again, since all 4MOST Surveys are ESO Public Surveys the L0, L1 and DL2 data and data products will eventually become public through ESO’s Science Archive Facility (SAF), as well as the 4MOST Public Archive (4PA). L0 data will be public immediately, whereas L1 and DL2 data will become public on a pre-determined schedule to be negotiated with ESO. AL2 data products will normally be published in 4PA. The policies in Sections 15 – 19 thus only apply to L1 and L2 data and data products that have not yet been published by the SAF or 4PA, and the unqualified term “data” is used accordingly in these sections. Nevertheless, in keeping with



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the spirit of Section 4, all ST members are encouraged to observe the policies of Sections 15 – 19 even for data and data products that have already been published.

All data and data products of all of a given Survey’s targets are collectively referred to as the Survey’s “data” or “dataset”.

The 4MOST Project will conduct Survey Programme Validation (SPV) observations prior to the start of regular scientific operations. The primary purpose of these observational “experiments” is to validate the scientific feasibility of the 4MOST survey programme. In principle, the data collected during this phase are included in the unqualified term “data”. However, due to uncertainties regarding the availability and exact status of the many components of both the front-end and back-end operations software during SPV, the extent to which the policies of Sections 15 – 19 can or should be applied to SPV data and data products remains TBD (see Section 13).

6 Science Team membership policies

Every ST member shall be registered in the 4MOST Management System (4MS) and shall be required to confirm or update their contact details and to confirm their observance of the 4MOST Code of Conduct (Section 21) once a year.

All ST members should participate in the activities of the Surveys they are a member of. “Passive” membership is discouraged.

As a guideline, ST members should be members of at most 2 Surveys. This guideline is meant to promote and encourage active participation.

6.1 Membership types

Two types of ST members are defined in the following. This differentiation is needed for the regulation of the scientific exploitation rights.

An ST member who is a member of a 4MOST Consortium institute (as defined in [RD4]) or of ESO, or who is an individual Consortium member is termed a Consortium ST member. All other ST members are termed Community ST members. (Note that ST membership type is defined by membership of the 4MOST Consortium, not by membership in a particular type of Survey. In particular, Community ST members may be members of Consortium Surveys and vice versa.)

Permanent ST members (see Section 6.4) shall retain the ST membership type they had when their permanent ST membership was awarded, irrespective of their membership of a 4MOST Consortium institute (as defined in [RD4]) or of ESO, or their individual Consortium membership.

6.2 Admission

This section describes the policies governing the admission of members to Surveys. Since Survey membership is a necessary and sufficient condition for ST membership (except for the PI), these policies also govern ST admission.

6.2.1 Consortium Surveys

Existing Consortium ST members, all members of 4MOST Consortium institutes (as defined in [RD4]) and of ESO¹, and all individual Consortium members shall be admitted upon request.

Existing Community ST members may be admitted upon application at the discretion of the Survey, without requiring approval from the SPB.

6.2.2 Community Surveys

The initial members of a Community Survey are the co-authors of the Survey's proposal.

Existing ST members, members of 4MOST Consortium institutes (as defined in [RD4]) and ESO, and individual Consortium members may be admitted upon application at the discretion of the Survey, without requiring approval from the SPB.

6.2.3 Common policies

Every Survey shall admit all research² students of its members upon request. Research students from outside of both the existing ST and the 4MOST Consortium shall be admitted as Community ST members.

A given Survey may admit a new member from outside of both the existing ST and the 4MOST Consortium under the following conditions:

- The proposed new member shall bring a capability or expertise to the Survey that is essential for the preparation of the Survey, allows the Survey to produce a new type of data product or significantly enhances the Survey's ability to scientifically exploit its data.
- Said capability or expertise shall not be available among existing ST members or, if it is, the relevant ST members have declined a collaboration with the Survey (e.g. for lack of time).
- The 4MOST PI can give a temporary Survey membership to those scientists who are in the process of raising funds to become Consortium members. Memberships on this basis will be reviewed once 4MOST is fully funded. If insufficient funding has been contributed to become Consortium member, membership under the previous clause may still be applied for.

The SPB shall verify whether these conditions have been met based on an application submitted by the Survey PI(s) on behalf of the proposed new member. The application (~2 pages) should include a brief CV of the proposed new member and should address the above points as well as any other relevant issues.

Upon SPB approval the new member shall be admitted to the ST as a Community ST member, irrespective of the Survey they are joining.

Members admitted under this policy are termed "invited members".

The number of invited members any Survey may admit shall be limited to 15 per approved scientific programme.³ In some cases, Surveys may exceptionally exceed this limit up to 10

¹ Members of ESO need approval from the ESO Director for Science before joining a Consortium Survey.

² Research students include PhD students as well as undergraduate students undertaking a research project.

³ This term refers to the Consortium and Community Surveys as originally approved by ESO, i.e. before some of

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additional invited members. These additional invited members shall require strong additional and extenuating justification (to be included in the above application) based on the exceptional circumstances of the Survey. Members admitted under this policy who have since been awarded permanent ST membership (see Section 6.4) or whose ST membership has ended shall not be counted towards this limit.

6.3 End of membership

Any ST member may withdraw from any Survey they are a member of at any time by notifying the PI(s) of that Survey.

As a guideline, every Survey should review their membership every 2 years. Members who have not participated in any of the Survey's activities over the previous 2 years may be asked to resign their Survey membership at the discretion of the Survey PI(s).

A research student's ST membership, and thus all Survey memberships, shall expire upon completion of their research project unless permanent ST membership has been granted (see Section 6.4). Individual Surveys may also be re-joined by the former student through the process described in Section 6.2.3.

A research student's Survey membership shall normally, but not necessarily, be terminated when their supervisor's Survey membership ends unless permanent ST membership has been granted (see Section 6.4). In the case of PhD students, an exception may be made by the SPB upon application from the student and their supervisor if this is in the interest of a successful completion of the PhD.

A Community ST member who joined a given Survey by invitation (i.e. as an invited member) may have their membership of that Survey revoked at any time at the discretion of the Survey's PI(s), thus ending their ST membership (unless permanent ST membership has been granted) and vacating their invited member position within that Survey, regardless of their membership of any other Surveys. Any of these Surveys may be re-joined by the former ST member as an invited member, as described in Section 6.2.3.

Consortium ST membership is contingent on membership of a Consortium institute (as defined in [RD4]) or of ESO, or on individual Consortium membership. Expiration of Consortium institute membership (e.g. due to relocation to a non-Consortium institute) or of individual Consortium membership shall thus automatically entail the termination of ST membership, and thus the termination of all Survey memberships, unless permanent ST membership has been granted (see Section 6.4). A Survey may also be re-joined by the former Consortium ST member as an invited member, as described in Section 6.2.3.

An ST member who has severely violated the policies set forth in this document may be expelled from the ST (and hence from all Surveys) jointly by the 4MOST PI and ESO upon recommendation by the SCB. The ST member shall be given the opportunity to comment on the issue to the SCB in writing and/or in person before the SCB issues its recommendation on the matter.

6.4 Permanent Science Team membership

Permanent ST membership shall be awarded upon application in reward for important contributions to 4MOST (e.g. fundraising) or significant services rendered to the ST, in particular, but not exclusively, in the form of work done in any of the IWGs. Scientific exploitation of 4MOST data shall not be considered in this context. As a guideline, permanent ST membership shall be granted for a total, cumulative contribution equivalent to at least 0.8 years of full-time work in the case of staff members (tenured or documented tenure-track), 0.4 years in the case of postdocs and 0.3 years in the case of PhD students. Work done by members of the 4MOST project culture WG on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion within the context of this WG shall count double. An application for permanent ST membership may be submitted to the SPB by any ST member who stands to lose their ST membership within the next year. The application (~1 page) should describe the applicant's situation and achievements for the ST and should (not shall) be accompanied by a corroborating and supporting statement from the PI(s) of at least one Survey. If such a statement is missing the SPB shall escalate the case to the SCB immediately. In this case the applicant shall be given the opportunity to address any criticisms of their application before the SCB reaches its final decision.

Permanent ST members shall retain the ST membership type (see Section 6.1) they had when their permanent ST membership was awarded, irrespective of their membership of a 4MOST Consortium institute (as defined in [RD4]), or of ESO, or their individual Consortium membership.

7 Survey strategy policies

The survey strategy shall be decided upon by the SCB, subject to (i) the available resources, (ii) the boundary conditions negotiated between ESO and the 4MOST Consortium, and (iii) the final approval by ESO.

The survey strategy shall satisfy all relevant Science, User and Operations Requirements of the Surveys, satisfy the boundary conditions imposed by ESO, and ensure that the time allocations to the different Surveys are (approximately) respected, wherever possible. In case of conflicting requirements, i.e. in case no survey strategy can be identified that satisfies all requirements, a compromise shall be negotiated among the SCB.

The survey strategy shall be documented in the 4MOST Survey Plan.

The survey strategy shall be designed and optimised by the Survey Strategy IWG using the 4MOST Facility Simulator (4FS).

Every Survey shall define a Figure of Merit (FoM), which, at any given point in time during the execution of the survey programme, shall reflect the current state and scientific usefulness of the Survey. Every Survey shall be free to define its FoM as it wishes, subject to the condition that all parameters used in the definition of the FoM (such as, e.g., the fraction of targets successfully observed) are parameters on which the Survey has placed a Science Requirement. Although it is acknowledged that not all parameters on which a Survey has placed a Science Requirements can be incorporated into the Survey's FoM, it should nevertheless encapsulate as many of the Survey's Science Requirements as possible.

Furthermore, a FoM shall be defined such that a value of 0.5 means that the Science Requirements on the parameters that went into the definition of the FoM have been satisfied, and a value of 1.0 shall mean that the goals for these parameters have been met.

All Survey FoMs, and any changes thereof, shall be subject to the approval of the SCB.

The Survey FoMs shall be the key quantities used in the design and optimisation of the survey strategy. Specifically, the survey strategy shall maximise the value of the overall 4MOST FoM, defined as:

$$FoM_{4MOST} = \min(\{FoM_i\})$$

where $\{FoM_i\}$ is the set of individual Survey FoMs.

During operations, the success of the survey strategy shall be evaluated by the SCB at least annually. The primary evaluation criterion shall be the comparison between the predicted evolution of the Survey FoMs and their actual evolution.

Any changes to the survey strategy and any revisions of the Survey target catalogues shall require the approval of the SCB. However, the SCB has delegated this authority to its 4CAB sub-committee for minor changes (see Section 5.1.2.4). Very substantial changes to the Survey target catalogues, representing significant deviations from the approved Survey proposals, shall additionally require the approval of ESO.

8 Operations requirements

All Surveys shall observe the operational requirements on Surveys as described in [RD2]. In particular, they shall provide their target catalogues in the format and on the timescale required.

Furthermore, each Survey shall provide 2 FTE/yr to the IWGs and participate at least in the activities of the Targeting Support, Survey Strategy, Pipeline Calibration and Science Verification, Selection Functions, and Data Curation and Data Release IWGs. Participation in the activities of other IWGs is only required from those Surveys that will make use of their results.

9 Supplementary target policies

By definition, a supplementary target shall only be observed if the fibre allocated to it cannot be allocated to any uncompleted survey programme targets.

Observations of supplementary targets shall not prevent or obstruct any observations of survey programme targets (which could be caused, e.g., by fibre collisions).

For an object that is both a survey programme and a supplementary target the above implies that the survey programme observations of this object must be completed before any supplementary observations (at the same spectral resolution) can begin. Hence such an object should be thought of as a supplementary target “replacing” a survey programme target upon completion.

Supplementary targets shall have no influence whatsoever on the progress of the survey programme. I.e. they shall not be considered at all when deciding on field positions, field priorities, fibre allocations to survey programme targets, exposure times, etc. Supplementary targets shall thus have no influence at all on the 4MOST selection function of survey programme targets.

Conversely, it shall not be possible to place any requirements on the 4MOST selection function of supplementary targets.

The sample of supplementary targets was defined jointly by the whole ST. Following a call issued by the PSs, ST members submitted proposals for a set of targets to be included in the supplementary target sample. These were evaluated by the SCB, and the final supplementary target sample was approved by the SCB (approval by ESO is not required). Any future changes to the supplementary target sample, which may e.g. result from additional calls for proposals during operations, shall also require the approval of the SCB.

The supplementary target sample shall be treated as a separate Survey, where each accepted proposal for supplementary targets shall correspond to a sub-survey.

The observing time spent on supplementary targets shall be accounted for in the manner described in Section 14.

When a fibre is available for supplementary target observations and more than one supplementary target is available to it, the supplementary target to be observed shall be chosen by first randomly selecting one of the sub-surveys involved and then randomly selecting one of the available targets from that sub-survey.

The data on supplementary targets shall be considered the joint property of the ST and no restrictions shall apply to their scientific exploitation, except that they shall not be used to address the core science of any of the Surveys, in accordance with Section 18.

10 Shared target policies

An astronomical object may be targeted by more than one Survey. An object targeted by multiple Surveys at the same spectral resolution shall be considered a shared target among these Surveys. An object that is targeted by two Surveys at different spectral resolutions shall not be considered a shared target.

The number of shared targets between a Community Survey and a Consortium Survey shall not exceed 20% of the number of the Consortium Survey's targets. The number of shared targets between a Community Survey and all Consortium Surveys shall not exceed 20% of the number of the Community Survey's targets. These policies may be waived jointly by the SCB and ESO if the scientific goals of the Community Survey in question differ substantially from those of the Consortium Surveys.

The observing time spent on shared targets shall be accounted for in the manner described in Section 14.

All data (of a given spectral resolution) obtained for a shared target shall be part of the dataset of every Survey that targeted this object. Whenever a given Survey's dataset is referred to in this document it includes the data of shared targets without any restrictions.

11 Calibration target policies

Calibration targets include targets required for technical or scientific calibration purposes, such as flux standards, radial velocity standards, targets required for the calibration, training and validation of the L2 pipelines, for the cross-calibration with other surveys, etc.

Any set of targets required for calibration purposes by only a single Survey shall be defined by that Survey itself and shall be included among that Survey's survey programme targets.

Each type of calibration target thus addresses the calibration requirements of two or more Surveys. For each type, an appropriate target sample shall be defined collaboratively by the

Surveys involved (e.g. within the framework of an IWG) or by the 4MOST Instrument Scientist in collaboration with the Surveys involved.

The observing time spent on calibration targets shall be accounted for in the manner described in Section 14.

The data on calibration targets shall be considered the joint property of the ST and no restrictions shall apply to their scientific exploitation, except that they shall not be used to address the core Science of any of the Surveys, in accordance with Section 18.

12 Poor Conditions Programme policies

Observations for the PCP shall be carried out entirely separately from regular survey programme observations.

The observing time spent on the PCP shall not be accounted for.

For a shared target between the PCP and the survey programme that is not observed as part of regular survey programme observations, the data (of a given spectral resolution) collected during PCP observations shall be considered part of the dataset of every Survey that targeted this object. If the object is also a calibration target the data collected during PCP observations shall also be considered part of the calibration dataset.

All other data collected as part of the PCP shall be considered the joint property of the ST and no restrictions shall apply to their scientific exploitation, except that they shall not be used to address the core science of any of the Surveys, in accordance with Section 18.

13 Survey Programme Validation data policies

Given the common and shared purpose of SPV observations, SPV data shall be considered a joint resource of the entire ST. In other words, the SPV data of a given target shall not be considered part of any Survey's dataset, regardless of the target's provenance. Furthermore, due to the uncertain state of scientific operations software during SPV, it may not be possible or in the 4MOST Project's best scientific interest to strictly apply the policies of Sections 15 – 19 to the data collected during SPV and their data products. A waiver of any of the policies in Sections 15 – 19 may thus be requested for SPV data from the SPB. A waiver request shall include the exact policies to be waived, an exact description of the data for which the waiver is requested, as well as a justification based on the special circumstances of SPV data.

Since SPV is carried out before the formal start of operations, there is no need to account for the observing time spent during SPV.

14 Observing time accounting policies

Observing time shall be accounted for in order to verify that individual Community Surveys have received the time allocated by ESO, and that the ratio between the time used by the Consortium and by the Community Surveys imposed by ESO has been respected.

Observing time shall be accounted for in units of fibre-hours (fh). One hour of real time thus provides N_{fib} fh of observing time, where N_{fib} is the number of fibres available for scientific observations at that time (i.e. excluding any guide fibres and disabled fibres).

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The amount of observing time in fh provided by one hour of real time shall be independent of environmental and observing conditions. I.e. observing time shall not be adjusted for varying seeing, sky brightness, system throughput, readout noise levels, etc.

Observing time shall be accounted for separately for fibres feeding the high and low-resolution spectrographs. Accordingly, all relevant quantities in this section (such as N_{fib}) should be understood to represent two values, one for the high-resolution fibres, and another for the low-resolution fibres, as appropriate.

Daytime calibrations as well as twilight and night-time Observing Blocks (OBs) that are primarily required for instrument calibration, quality control or maintenance purposes shall not be accounted for. This shall remain true even if such OBs also contain scientific targets.

Thus, only science OBs shall be accounted for. Of the N_{OB} science OBs observed over the lifetime of the survey programme, consider OB i , in which $N_{c,i}$ different fibre configurations are observed, where each configuration j is characterised by the numbers of survey programme targets ($N_{\text{sp},ij}$), calibration targets ($N_{\text{cal},ij}$), supplementary targets ($N_{\text{sup},ij}$) and blank sky positions ($N_{\text{sky},ij}$) being targeted, and by the total exposure time for which this configuration is observed ($t_{\text{exp},ij}$).

The total observing time to be accounted for in OB i is thus given by:

$$T_i = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{c,i}} (N_{\text{sp},ij} + N_{\text{cal},ij} + N_{\text{sup},ij} + N_{\text{sky},ij}) t_{\text{exp},ij} + N_{\text{fib}} t_{\text{oh},i}$$

where $t_{\text{oh},i}$ denotes the total overheads of this OB, including the time required for field acquisition, preset, autoguiding start, active optics starts, fibre reconfigurations, all detector readouts, OB-specific calibrations, etc., and where it is assumed that $N_{\text{sp},ij} + N_{\text{cal},ij} + N_{\text{sup},ij} + N_{\text{sky},ij} = N_{\text{fib}}$ for all i, j .

Each survey programme target k , observed in the j th configuration of OB i , shall be attributed the gross observing time:

$$T_{ijk} = \left(1 + \frac{N_{\text{sky},ij}}{N_{\text{sp},ij}}\right) t_{\text{exp},ij} + \frac{N_{\text{fib}}}{\sum_{l=1}^{N_{c,i}} N_{\text{sp},il}} t_{\text{oh},i}$$

which includes the net observing time spent on target k , its share of the time spent on sky observations in configuration j , as well as its share of the OB's overheads. All sky observations and overheads are hence associated with the observations of survey programme targets (but not with calibration or supplementary targets).

T_{ijk} shall be billed to the Survey(s) that requested observing time for target k in configuration j of OB i . Formally, in the case where only a single Survey m requested time, the time charged to Survey n is given by:

$$T_{ijk,n} = \delta_{nm} T_{ijk}$$

If, on the other hand, k is a shared survey programme target (Section 10) and other Surveys also requested further observations of this target in configuration j of OB i , then T_{ijk} shall be divided among these Surveys. Assuming a set $\mathbb{S} = \{S1, S2, \dots, SN\}$ of N Surveys requested further observations of this object, each with a remaining requested exposure time $t_{ijk,Sl}$, where $t_{ijk,S1} < t_{ijk,S2} < \dots < t_{ijk,SN}$, then Survey $n \in \mathbb{S}$ shall be billed the observing time given by:

$$T_{ijk,n=sl} = \begin{cases} \frac{T_{ijk}}{N}, & t_{\text{exp},ij} < t_{ijk,S1} \\ T_{ijk,S(l-1)} + \frac{t_{ijk,sl} - t_{ijk,S(l-1)}}{t_{\text{exp},ij}(N - (l - 1))} T_{ijk}, & t_{ijk,S1} < \dots < t_{ijk,sm} < t_{\text{exp},ij} < t_{ijk,S(m+1)} < \dots < t_{ijk,SN} \text{ and } l \leq m \\ T_{ijk,sm} + \frac{t_{\text{exp},ij} - t_{ijk,sm}}{t_{\text{exp},ij}(N - m)} T_{ijk}, & t_{ijk,S1} < \dots < t_{ijk,sm} < t_{\text{exp},ij} < t_{ijk,S(m+1)} < \dots < t_{ijk,SN} \text{ and } l > m \\ T_{ijk,S(l-1)} + \frac{t_{ijk,sl} - t_{ijk,S(l-1)}}{t_{ijk,SN}(N - (l - 1))} T_{ijk}, & t_{ijk,SN} < t_{\text{exp},ij} \end{cases}$$

If k is both a survey programme and a calibration target it shall be treated as a survey programme target as long as any Surveys request time for k , and as a calibration target thereafter.

The net observing time spent on calibration targets in OB i is considered a necessary expenditure of the survey programme as a whole. Similarly, the net observing time spent on supplementary targets in OB i represents an inefficiency of the survey programme as a whole. Both shall thus be borne by *all* Surveys, in proportion to their size, and not just by those Surveys contributing targets to this OB. Survey n shall therefore be billed the time:

$$T_{\text{cal+sup},i,n} = T_{\text{cal+sup},i} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{OB}}} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{c},i}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{sp},ij}} T_{ijk,n}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{OB}}} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{c},i}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{sp},ij}} T_{ijk}}$$

for the net observing time spent on calibration and supplementary targets in OB i , $T_{\text{cal+sup},i} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{c},i}} (N_{\text{cal},ij} + N_{\text{sup},ij}) t_{\text{exp},ij}$. The overall inefficiency caused by the calibration needs and the inability of the survey programme to fill all fibres is thus globally shared by all Surveys by increasing the total amount of time billed to each Survey by the same factor.

In summary, the total amount of time to be accounted for in the i th OB, T_i , shall be billed to the Surveys in the following manner:

- The net observing time spent on survey programme targets shall be billed to those Surveys that requested time for these targets, taking shared targets into account appropriately.
- The time spent on sky observations and all overheads of the OB are billed to the same Surveys, in proportion to the number of targets contributed to the OB by each Survey.
- The net observing time spent on calibration and supplementary targets is billed to *all* Surveys in proportion to their size.

Finally, it follows from the above that the total amount of time billed to Survey n , summed over all OBs, is given by:

$$T_n = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{OB}}} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{c},i}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{sp},ij}} T_{ijk,n} \right) \left(1 + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{OB}}} T_{\text{cal+sup},i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{OB}}} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{c},i}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{sp},ij}} T_{ijk}} \right)$$

15 L2 data provision policies

All DL2 data products shall be provided to 4PA on a schedule defined in [RD1].

Since AL2 data products are not part of this schedule, they may be provided to 4PA at any time. Whenever appropriate and possible, they should be provided as soon as their scientific exploitation begins, e.g. when a corresponding scientific project is submitted for registration (Section 18). At the very latest they shall be provided at the time of submission to a refereed journal of any publication making use of them.

All data products shall be delivered in the format required and shall include all required metadata. In particular, a detailed description of the data products shall be included, that enables other ST members to use these data products in a scientific context.

If a Survey repeatedly fails to deliver their DL2 data products on time, the SCB (in consultation with ESO, or at the request of ESO) shall have the right to identify and apply an appropriate penalty, which may include, but shall not necessarily be limited to, the inhibition of the observational progress of this Survey while avoiding detrimental effects on any other Survey.

16 Quality control policies

All L1 and L2 data and data products shall undergo a rigorous quality control process defined by the Data Quality Control IWG before being uploaded to 4PA.

17 Data access policies

All data shall be accessible to all members of the ST in 4PA. In addition, all target catalogues and all selection functions produced by the Selection Functions IWG shall be accessible to all members of the ST. All of these data may be freely used without restriction by all ST members for all purposes except for scientific exploitation, for which some restrictions apply (see Section 18).

18 Scientific exploitation policies

All scientific work that exploits the 4MOST target catalogues, 4MOST data or the work of any of the IWGs shall be compartmentalised into individual scientific projects (equivalent to a work package). This includes in particular: (i) all scientific analyses involving the 4MOST target catalogues or data that lead to a publication in the most general sense (i.e. including papers, conference proceedings and presentations); (ii) all scientific work leading to non-4MOST observations of survey programme targets if these targets were selected from 4MOST target catalogues or data (i.e. non-4MOST observations of survey programme targets selected by some 4MOST-independent means, e.g. from publicly available data, are of course *not* included here).

A project shall be defined by: its leader (normally the first author of the resulting publication), a title, a scientific description (~0.5 pages), a list of the data and data products to be used, an indication of whether the project is part of a PhD, and an indication of whether the project involves external collaborators (see Section 19.1). By definition, each project shall lead to at most one publication in a refereed journal, i.e. each planned refereed publication requires its own project.

All scientific projects shall be submitted to the SPB for registration at their outset using 4MS. Work on projects shall only proceed once their registration has been completed. No scientific

work (apart from initial explorations) shall be carried out outside of registered projects, and no scientific results shall be publicly presented in any shape or form unless they are connected to a registered project.

Any ST member may submit any scientific project using any 4MOST data for registration.

A project shall only be flagged as being part of a PhD project if it is actually led by the PhD student in question. In other words, placeholder projects for future, yet to be recruited students shall not be allowed.

The SPB shall have the right to refuse the registration of the project (but may choose not to exercise this right) if one of the following sets of circumstances are met:

- The proposed project overlaps with an existing project that is flagged as being part of a PhD.
- The data products to be used in the project are the subject of a violation of the policies of Section 15, i.e. they should be available in (the ST internal part of) 4PA but are in fact not (i.e. they are only available to the proposer).
- The proposer is a Community ST member, the project requires data from one or more Surveys they are not a member of, and the proposed project overlaps with an existing project, or it touches on the core science of the Survey(s) concerned.
- The proposer is a Consortium ST member, the project requires data from one or more Community Surveys they are not a member of, and the proposed project overlaps with an existing project, or it touches on the core science of the Survey(s) concerned.
- The proposed project requires data considered to be the joint property of the ST, and it overlaps with an existing project or touches on the core science of one or more Surveys the proposer is not a member of.
- The project proposes non-4MOST observations of survey programme targets selected from the target catalogue(s) or data of one or more Surveys the proposer is not a member of.
- The proposer already leads 2 or more existing projects. Exceptions may be made if the existing projects exhibit good progress.

The SPB shall have the right to defer (but not ultimately to refuse) the registration of the project by up to 2 months if the following set of circumstances is met:

- The proposer is a Consortium ST member, the project requires data from one or more Consortium Surveys they are not a member of, and the proposed project overlaps with an existing project, or it touches on the core science of the Survey(s) concerned.
- The proposed project does not require data from any Survey the proposer is not a member of, and it touches on the core science of a Survey the proposer is not a member of.

The purpose of the deferral is to facilitate a discussion between the proposer on the one hand, and the PI(s) of the Survey(s) concerned and/or the leader(s) of the existing project(s) with which the proposed project overlaps on the other hand. This discussion may lead to, e.g., detailed exchange of information regarding the plans for, and/or the status of both the proposed and the existing project(s); adjustments to the scopes of the proposed and/or existing projects; a clearer delineation between the proposed and existing projects; the integration of the proposed project into an existing project; a collaboration between the proposer and others on comparing competing methods; the alleviation of any concerns regarding the quality of data products; etc.

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The ultimate goal of this discussion is to strike a balance between fostering healthy scientific competition on the one hand and respecting the legitimate interests of Survey teams or individuals in reaping the rewards of previously invested efforts on the other hand, thus finding a solution that is satisfactory to all parties involved.

The result of this discussion shall be reported back to the SPB.

The SPB shall normally reach its decision on a project registration within 3 weeks.

Once a project has been successfully registered, any subsequent changes to its leader, title, scientific description, list of data and data products to be used, PhD project status, and collaboration status shall require a justification and the approval of the SPB. Changing a project from a non-collaboration to a collaboration project (see Section 19.1) shall additionally require the approval of the PI(s) of the Survey(s) of which data are to be shared and/or of the PSs if data considered to be the joint property of the ST are to be shared. In the latter case, the SCB shall be informed prior of any approval.

Once a project has been successfully registered, it shall be announced to the ST. A list of all registered projects shall be available to the ST in 4MS. It shall therefore be possible for every ST member to be aware of all past and present scientific work being undertaken with 4MOST data within the ST.

Any interested ST member may join an existing, registered project by offering and subsequently negotiating their contribution to the project with its leader, who is responsible for managing the project and allocating the work. Provided that a relevant contribution has been offered, a proposal to join an existing project may only be rejected by the project's leader if the proposer's involvement in the project would require access to third-party data which the project leader is not at liberty to share with the proposer due to a formal, written agreement with the originator of said data.

Once a project has commenced, its leader shall provide evidence of its progress at least every 6 months by uploading a report or an updated draft of the intended publication to the project's 4MS page, where it is accessible to all ST members. Failure to do so may result in the project being cancelled by the SPB, unless legitimate reasons (details are TBD) prevent the project from progressing as planned.

A project shall be considered completed upon provision of the ADS bibcode of the corresponding publication.

Projects may also be ended by cancellation or completion without publication.

19 Data sharing policies

4MOST data shall not be shared with anyone who is not a member of the ST. This policy has only three exceptions, as detailed in the sub-sections below.

Scientists who are not members of the ST and with whom 4MOST data are being shared, are termed “external collaborators”.⁴ External collaborators shall be registered in 4MS but shall not be granted access to the ST internal part of 4PA. Scientific projects involving one or more

⁴ Note that this term only refers to non-ST-members with immediate access to non-public 4MOST data. Non-ST-members, who are “just” co-authors of papers, but who do not have immediate access to non-public 4MOST data, are not included in this term.

external collaborators are termed “collaboration projects”. The following policies shall apply to all collaboration projects, regardless of their provenance:

- Collaboration projects shall be treated like any other scientific project, i.e. the policies of Sections 18 and 20 shall be applicable unless specified otherwise.
- Every collaboration project shall be assigned an ST member (termed “liaison”) who shall be responsible for ensuring the observance of these policies and for providing the project’s external collaborators with the 4MOST data they require for the project.
- Collaboration projects may be led either by an ST member (who will then also act as liaison) or by an external collaborator.
- A collaboration project shall be submitted to the SPB for registration by its liaison (on behalf of the project leader if the leader is an external collaborator).
- A collaboration project’s description shall invoke one of the sub-sections below to legitimise the collaboration project and name the MoU under which it is proposed, where appropriate.
- A collaboration project’s description shall include a description of the roles and responsibilities of each external collaborator in the project.
- A collaboration project’s description shall include a precise description of the data to be shared with the external collaborators, e.g. by providing the exact SQL query by which these data are extracted from 4PA. The SPB shall have the right to refuse the registration of the project if this is not the case.
- The SPB shall verify that the data to be shared with the project’s external collaborators may in fact be shared with them according to the sub-section below that is invoked to legitimise the collaboration project.
- Collaboration projects require the approval of the PI(s) of the Survey(s) of which data are to be shared and/or of the PSs if data considered to be the joint property of the ST are to be shared. The SCB shall be informed of any collaboration projects proposing to share data that are considered the joint property of the ST prior to any approval. The right of PIs and PSs to deny their approval may be limited by any applicable MoUs.
- External collaborators shall use the data being shared with them solely for the purpose of carrying out the specified collaboration project. In particular, external collaborators shall not share the data with any third party.
- External collaborators may be added to an existing collaboration project on request of its liaison by providing a description of their roles and responsibilities in the project as above for the consideration of the SPB.
- External collaborators may be added to an existing non-collaboration project, thereby changing the project to a collaboration project, on request of its leader (who will then also assume the role of liaison) by providing a description of their roles and responsibilities in the project and of the data to be shared with them as above for the consideration of the SPB and the PI(s) of the Surveys of which data are to be shared and/or the PSs if data considered to be the joint property of the ST are to be shared.

19.1 Collaborations with individual scientists on individual scientific projects

Surveys may share 4MOST data with external collaborators by entering an informal collaboration with them for the purpose of carrying out a specific scientific project, provided that the 4MOST data to be shared with them only comprise of data of the Survey’s own targets, i.e. are part of their own dataset, and/or data considered to be the joint property of the ST. This

condition shall be verified by the SPB upon registration of the project. Such projects may only be registered by Survey members (implying that either the project leader or the liaison is a Survey member).

19.2 Data sharing agreements with external groups

A Survey, a group of Surveys, or 4MOST as a whole may enter into formal written agreements (MoUs) with other scientific collaborations outside of the ST and the 4MOST Consortium for the purpose of jointly conducting scientific projects that require proprietary data from both partners (which are, by definition, collaboration projects).

- The intent to establish an MoU shall be discussed with the SCB before detailed negotiations are initiated. The purpose of this discussion is to elucidate the scientific and strategic intent of the MoU. Detailed negotiations shall only proceed with the approval of the SCB.
- MoUs shall provide (a subset of) 4MOST ST members with access to a proprietary dataset for which no publicly available equivalent exists, and which is either required for the construction of a Survey’s target catalogue, or which significantly enhances the scientific value of the 4MOST data.
- An MoU shall not involve the wholesale exchange of data. Instead, an MoU shall be a framework in which each partner extends the right to propose, to lead and to participate in joint scientific projects to the members of the other partner (or a specified subset thereof), where a “joint” project is defined as a project requiring proprietary data from both partners.
- An MoU shall specify the members of each partner’s collaboration to which this right is extended or shall specify an alternative means of documenting this set (possibly for ease of maintenance).
- An MoU shall specify each partner’s proprietary data and data products that may be shared with the specified members of the other partner under this MoU.
- An MoU shall specify the scientific exploitation rights of both partners with respect to the other partner’s data. These shall be limited appropriately. At the least they shall be limited to joint projects.
- An MoU shall respect the right of any ST member to join any project registered within 4MOST as far as possible. It is acknowledged that a compromise may be necessary or that this may not be possible at all in some cases.
- In case the external data are required for the construction of a Survey’s target catalogue, the MoU shall state that these data will become available to the whole ST as soon as the target catalogue is submitted and will become public as soon as the corresponding 4MOST L1 data become public.
- The partner shall not be provided with access to the ST internal part of 4PA. The mechanics of the data exchange shall be organised on a project-by-project basis by the project participants.
- An MoU requires the approval of the SPB prior to its final agreement with the partner. The SPB shall verify whether the conditions above have been met based on an application that provides the scientific background of the MoU, addresses the points above as well as any other relevant issues (~1 page), and includes the final version of the proposed MoU.
- Once approved and signed, an MoU shall be made available to the entire ST.

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Once an MoU is established, collaboration projects under this MoU may be submitted to the SPB for registration. The SPB shall verify that the project's proposer, its external collaborators and the 4MOST data to be shared with them all conform to the MoU, and that the project is a joint project.

19.2.1 Survey-level agreements

A Survey-level MoU, which may involve more than one 4MOST Survey, shall be proposed to the SCB, negotiated with the MoU partner, submitted to the SPB for final approval, and signed by the PI(s) of these Survey(s). A Survey-level MoU may only cover 4MOST data that is part of the datasets of the Surveys involved.

19.2.2 4MOST-level agreements

A 4MOST-level MoU shall be proposed to the SCB, negotiated with the MoU partner, submitted to the SPB for final approval, and signed by the 4MOST PI or a nominated delegate.

19.3 Data sharing for special types of targets

Surveys may request the data of specific types of rare targets (e.g. certain types of transients) to be exempted from all data sharing restrictions, under the following conditions:

- The 4MOST data to be shared shall be part of the Survey's own dataset.
- The types of targets included in the exemption shall be restricted to very specific types and shall be clearly defined.
- The need for the exemption shall be scientifically well justified in the sense that the scientific goals cannot be met by adhering to the regular data release schedule or by exercising the policies in Sections 19.1 or 19.2.

The SPB shall verify whether these conditions have been met based on an application submitted by the Survey PI(s). The application should provide the scientific background of the proposed exemption and address the above points as well as any other relevant issues (~1 page).

Following the approval of the exemption, it shall be the responsibility of the Survey to facilitate the sharing of the relevant data. No access to the ST internal part of 4PA shall be granted for this purpose.

20 Publication policies

All ST members shall follow the general rules of good scientific practice when preparing publications. The [Statement of Ethics of the American Institute of Physics](#) shall be adopted.

In particular, fabrication of data or results, and plagiarism (including self-plagiarism) shall be unacceptable.

Every publication of any type based on 4MOST data (in the sense of Section 5.5) shall originate from a registered scientific project (Section 18).

20.1 Papers in refereed journals

In accordance with Section 18, all papers shall be based on data and data products that are available in (the ST internal part of) 4PA.

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All papers shall explicitly name the data products they are using (including version numbers) for the sake of traceability.

All papers shall include the standard [4MOST acknowledgment](#).

As described in Section 18, the leader of a scientific project shall regularly update the draft of the intended publication on the project's 4MS page, where it is accessible to all ST members.

When the draft nears completion, the project leader (who shall normally be the first author of the paper) shall notify the ST of the intention to submit, inviting comments and requests for co-authorship (see Section 20.1.1) at the same time, with a deadline of no less than 3 weeks. This phase shall be considered as an internal refereeing process.

Following comments, the revised draft shall be uploaded to the project's 4MS page, and the ST shall again be notified of the intention to submit in no less than 1 week. During this brief period, ST members may comment on authorship issues, provide details or corrections regarding affiliations, additions of acknowledgements, and provide suggestions for very minor changes. The project leader shall be under no obligation, however, to incorporate major changes to the paper at this stage.

In accordance with Section 15, a paper shall not be submitted for publication unless the actual data and data products used in the paper are available in (the ST internal part of) 4PA.

Upon submission, the submitted version of the paper shall be uploaded to the project's 4MS page and announced to all co-authors.

All referee reports, replies to the reports and revised versions of the paper shall be uploaded to the project's 4MS page, and announced to the co-authors, inviting comments with deadlines of no less than 1 week. The confidentiality of the correspondence between the co-authors and the referee shall be respected by 4MS.

Upon acceptance of the paper, the ST shall be informed.

As a guideline, papers should only be uploaded to arXiv after acceptance.

Upon publication of the paper, its ADS bibcode shall be uploaded to the project's 4MS page.

All published papers shall appear on a public 4MOST web page.

In order to expedite the publication of particularly important or time-critical results, the project leader may exceptionally request a waiver for any of the above policies, and in particular a shortening of the deadlines. This request, to be submitted to the SPB, shall include a brief (~0.5 page), compelling justification.

20.1.1 Authorship policies

The lead author of a paper shall normally be the leader of the project from which the paper originates.

Co-authorship shall be explicitly requested. Requests for co-authorship shall be based on one or more of the following:

- Significant contributions to the concept, design, execution, or interpretation of the research underlying the paper.
- Significant contributions to the preparation of the paper itself.
- Significant contributions to the generation of the L2 data products used in the paper.



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The last point shall be interpreted inclusively for data release papers.

In case the paper involves SPV data, co-authorship requests may also be based on contributions to the SPV observing effort.

Requests for co-authorship shall be decided on by the project leader.

The order of appearance of the co-authors shall be defined by the project leader.

All co-authors shall confirm that they have read the paper and agree to its publication prior to its submission.

20.2 Presentations, papers in conference proceedings and in unrefereed journals

The intention to publish the work performed within a given scientific project in a presentation at a conference or seminar, or in a paper in a conference proceeding or in an unrefereed journal shall be announced to all members of the project as well as to the originators of any L2 products used in this work at least 2 weeks prior to submission. Co-authorship shall be offered at the same time. The order of appearance of the co-authors shall be defined by the lead author.

20.3 Press releases

Press releases or comparable communications shall be coordinated among (i) the members of the project from which the work originated; (ii) the originators of any L2 data products used in the work; (iii) the 4MOST Project Office; and (iv) the SCB.

21 Code of Conduct

All ST members shall observe the [4MOST Code of Conduct](#) in order to generate a safe and productive working environment that fosters open dialogue and the exchange of scientific ideas, promotes the fair treatment of all ST members, and is free of harassment and discrimination.

22 Conflict resolution policies

Any ST member shall have the right to appeal to the SCB in the case of a conflict with another ST member or disagreement with an SPB decision. The appeal shall be filed in writing to any member of the SCB. When receiving an appeal, the SCB shall be required to obtain statements on the matter from all parties involved.

The SCB's decisions are binding on all parties.

In addition, according to [RD3], every SCB member shall have the right to appeal against an SCB decision by requesting that the SCB Chair escalates the matter to the 4MOST Executive Board and/or ESO, depending on the parties involved.

23 Survey-specific policies

Individual Surveys may enact additional policies for internal use. Examples of issues that could be regulated internally include: (i) exploitation of data for the Survey's core science; (ii) introduction of the concept of "builder" status and associated rights; (iii) access to any third-party data that may be available to Surveys or sub-groups within Surveys; membership of a particular Survey should not be presumed to automatically grant access to such third-party data. Regulating these issues is left to the Surveys.

Any Survey-specific policies shall not contradict anything in the present document.

Appendix A List of Acronyms

List of Acronyms	
4CAB	Catalogue Coordination and Change Control Advisory Board
4FS	4MOST Facility Simulator
4MOST	4-metre Multi-Object Spectroscopic Telescope
4MS	4MOST Management System
4PA	4MOST Public Archive
ESO	European Southern Observatory
FoM	Figure of Merit
FTE	Full-Time Equivalent
IWG	Infrastructure Working Groups
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
OB	Observing Block
OpSys	Operations System
PCP	Poor Conditions Programme
PI	Principal Investigator
PS	Project Scientist
SCB	Science Coordination Board
SPB	Science Policy Board
SPV	Survey Programme Validation
ST	4MOST Science Team
TiDES	Time Domain Extragalactic Survey
WBS	Work Breakdown Structure