

- **Date sent:** 20 April 2020, 12:04
- **From:** IAU Office for Astronomy Outreach team
- **To:** Division A Fundamental Astronomy (1734 recipients), Division B Facilities, Technologies and Data Science (3859 recipients), Division C Education, Outreach and Heritage (2226 recipients), Division E Sun and Heliosphere (1297 recipients), Division F Planetary Systems and Astrobiology (2243 recipients), Division J Galaxies and Cosmology (3504 recipients)
- **Subject:** IAU outreach program: Meet the IAU Astronomers! call for interest to IAU members

As the world struggles to contain the spread of COVID-19 we are adapting many of our IAU outreach programs to a fully online framework, doing whatever we 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 we intend to implement is "Meet the IAU Astronomers!". Where we 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 implement this programme we would like to start by building an IAU-members database of astronomers interested in participating.

Expressions of interest can be sent directly to the IAU Outreach team by filling in [this form](#). If you experience any issues accessing the form, please send an email to [lina.canas@nao.ac.jp](mailto:lina.canas@nao.ac.jp) and cc. [public@oao.iau.org](mailto:public@oao.iau.org). You can also read more about the project on our IAU.org website here: <https://www.iau.org/public/meettheiauastronomers/>.

We thank you in advance for your time.

Wishing you all our best, on behalf of the IAU Office for Astronomy Outreach team,

Lina Canas