

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

A new year is well underway, and with less than 12 months to go, the INCOM project is in very good shape; by and large the project so far has delivered on time and within the approved budget. Thank you to all the INCOM partners for your active involvement in the project. The extra effort and hard work you put in the project help to complete the project as per schedule. Evaluating the initial impact of COVID-19, the project fortunately has not been affected seriously by the pandemic. Hopefully, 2021 will be a turning point in general, for tackling the pandemic where a swift deployment of effective vaccines soon will reach the scale of having global impact. Wishing everyone a happy and safe new year!

## PUBLICATIONS

Two INCOM papers have been accepted for Optics Express and oral presentation at Photonics West Digital Forum, March 2021.

The first paper written by Lars Grüner-Nielsen et al. reports on the new methods for characterization of photonic lanterns and other few mode components developed in T1.3. The paper was highlighted as an Editor's Pick. Congratulations to Lars Grüner-Nielsen and his team 😊

- 1) Lars Grüner-Nielsen, Neethu Mariam Mathew, and Karsten Rottwitt; Characterization of Few Mode Fiber Components and Connected Systems; Optics Express, Vol. 29, No. 2, pp. 1140-1146; 2021.  
(Editor's Picks serve to highlight articles with excellent scientific quality and are representative of the work taking place in a specific field.)

The second paper written by Parisah Akrami et al. reports on the progress in long period grating fabrication in the INCOM PoC-1A project.

- 2) Parisah Akrami, Lars Grüner-Nielsen, Lars Søgaard Rishøj, and Karsten Rottwitt; Fabrication of heat induced long period gratings for mode conversion in few mode fibers; accepted for oral presentation at the Photonics West Digital Forum, March 2021.

## ANNUAL FINANCE REPORTING

The second annual reporting to IFD is approaching and Charlotte will contact all partners primo February 2021 with a reporting template and instructions. Deadline for all partners to submit will be February 25<sup>th</sup> 2021 in order for the DTU Finance Department to be able to consolidate the input and obtain approval from the Steering Committee before submitting to IFD by the end of March 2021. If a partner has received more than DKK 500.000 in the reporting period, please remember that the financial statement needs to be audited.

## ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC REPORTING

Once again, all the task leaders have been asked to update a spreadsheet detailing the specific results on each task obtained in 2020 as stipulated in the INCOM Investment Agreement. They have also been asked to update the plan for their task for 2021 detailing Schedule, Milestones, Deliverables, and KPIs. Finally, the task leaders have been asked to update the list of proposed INCOM peer-reviewed publications composed in 2020. This material will form the backbone of the INCOM annual scientific report to IFD which also is due for submission end of March 2021.

## FINANCE

Thank you to all task leaders for your efforts to populate the rebudgeting spreadsheet with your best estimates. The budget has now been approved by IFD and with this all partners now must act in compliance with the revised budget for the rest of the project.

## PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and the main items of the agenda are:

- Progress and finance reports, December 2020
- Re-planning of the budget
- Update on procurement of the Spirent timing tester
- Annual IFD reports
- Next steps towards an INCOM-II proposal