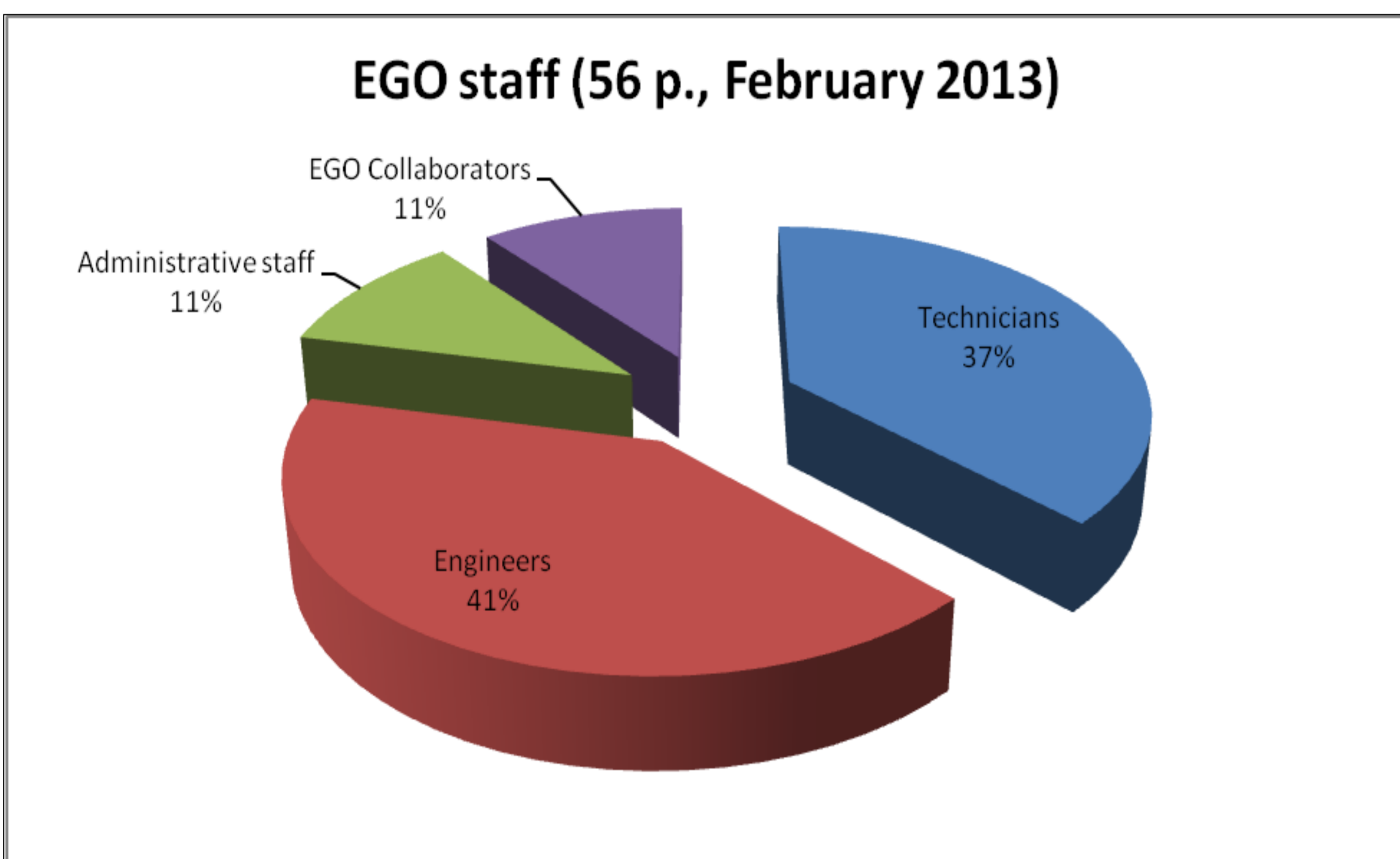


## General information

In order to ensure the long term scientific exploitation of the VIRGO interferometric antenna for gravitational waves detection as well as to foster European collaboration in this upcoming field, the VIRGO funding institutions (CNRS for France and INFN for Italy) have created the EGO consortium, located in the countryside near Pisa in the Comune of Cascina.

VIRGO is a 3-km long interferometer built in the framework of a French-Italian collaboration. Today, this collaboration involves 19 laboratories with more than 270 scientists in France, Italy and also in the Netherlands, Poland and Hungary as well.

## Facts and figures



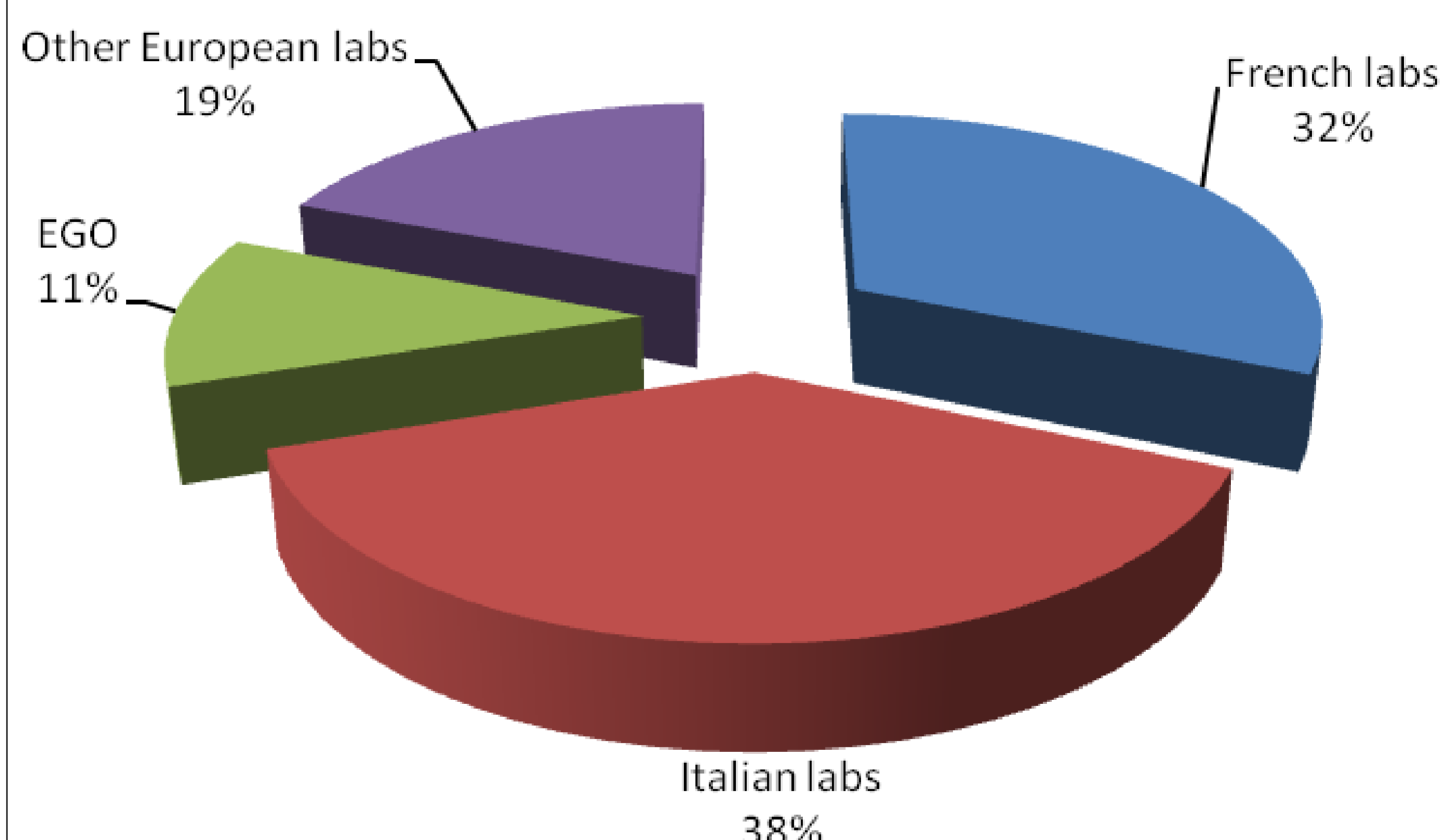
## Budget 2012 (in k€):

Personnel	3800
Functioning & Maintenance	3900
Investments & Fellowships	1100
Advanced Virgo Project	5500
<b>Total</b>	<b>14 300</b>

## Milestones

- 2000:** Creation of the EGO Consortium
- 2003:** Civil and experimental parts constructed
- 2004-2007:** Commissioning period
- 2007:** First science-run
- 2008:** Start of the first upgrade (Virgo+)
- 2009:** Approval of the second upgrade (Advanced Virgo)
- 2011:** ET design study
- 2012:** Advanced Virgo Technical Design Report
- 2015 (expected):** Completion of all the upgrades

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE VIRGO COLLABORATORS AMONG THE LABS (274 p., February 2013)



## HSE

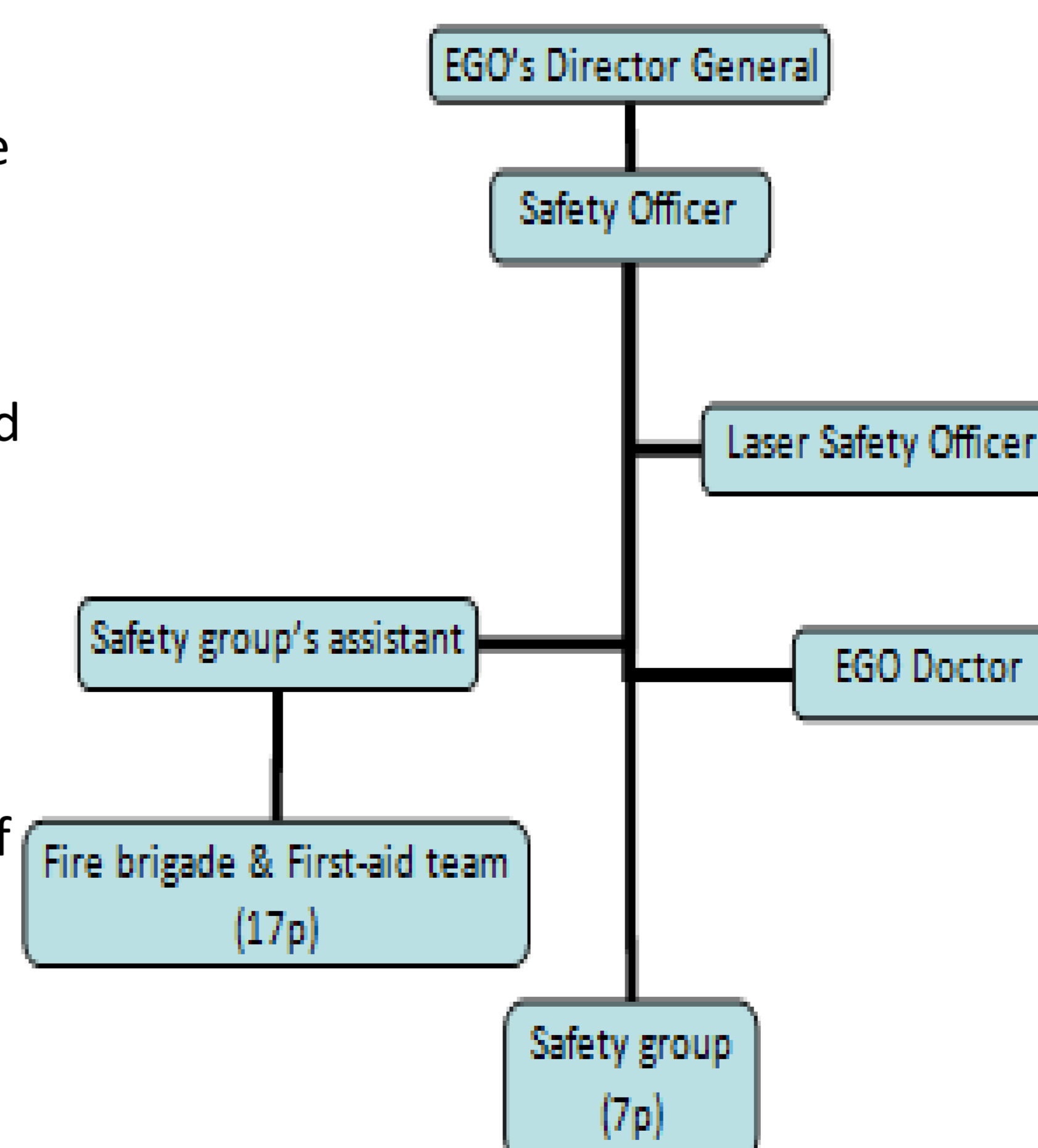
Safety at EGO is under the direct responsibility of EGO Director. The person in charge of the implementation and enforcement of the safety rules is the Safety and Security officer.

A formal delegation of power and legal responsibilities is signed between the Director General and the Head of Infrastructure department for the responsibility of the works under the safety aspect during the realisation of the upgrading programme.

In order to ensure the safety and security on site it has been established the EGO Safety Group. Its mission consists in:

- Defining a policy for the elimination and prevention of dangers and risks in order to improve working conditions
- Contributing to the awareness of dangers
- Participating in the elaboration of new technical projects that include safety aspects
- Ensuring that the law is enforced

The Safety Group deals with all matters of safety. The Safety Group's is made of people from EGO that are called to intervene whenever necessary to tackle safety issues as a Laser Safety Officer, a Doctor plus a responsible for the EGO global security system (fire detection, intrusion, video surveillance)



## Safety hazards

EGO has to cope with a very wide range of safety hazards related to the use of very powerful laser beams, huge cryogenics plants and very large vacuum chambers (>8000 m3).

Serious safety issues include also confined areas, isolated work places, necessity to work at height and outside normal working hours within a vast site (40 ha).