

Europe's community for planetary science

Europlanet links laboratories active in planetary research in Europe and around the world. Since 2005, Europlanet has provided Europe's planetary science community with a platform to exchange ideas and personnel, share research tools, data and facilities, define key science goals for the future, and engage stakeholders, policy makers and European citizens with planetary science.

The European Commission has funded Europlanet through successive framework programmes, including €2 million under FP6, €6 million under FP7 and €9.97 million under Horizon 2020.

Europlanet is committed to widening participation from under-represented communities. By building closer ties with between academia, industry and SMEs, Europlanet aims to expand and enhance the impact of planetary science and innovation in the European Research Area.

Through outreach activities, Europlanet engages the public with planetary exploration and inspires a new generation of scientists and engineers.

Europlanet 2020 Research Infrastructure (RI)

Europlanet 2020 RI addresses key scientific and technological challenges facing modern planetary science by providing open access to state-of-the-art research, data, models and facilities across the European Research Area. The project was launched in September 2015 and will run until August 2019. It is led by the Open University and has 33 beneficiaries from 19 European countries.

Europlanet 2020 RI provides:

- Transnational access to world-leading laboratory facilities and field sites that simulate conditions found on planetary bodies, e.g. Mars, Europa and Titan.
- Virtual access to diverse datasets and visualisation tools needed for comparing and understanding planetary environments in the Solar System and beyond.
- Networking activities to build a pan-European community that maximises use of facilities, personnel, data and intellectual property across national boundaries.



Researchers on Europlanet 2020 RI Transnational Access field trip to the Danakil Depression planetary analogue site in Ethiopia, January 2018. Credit: Alex Pritz

Europlanet Society

In September 2018, Europlanet is launching a new Society that will be open to personal and institutional membership. Through the Society, Europlanet aims to support planetary science with a sustainable, active community for decades to come.

- The Europlanet society will be the parent organisation of the European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC), Europe's largest annual meeting on planetary science.
- The new Europlanet Society will be hosted by the European Science Foundation (ESF) in Strasbourg.
- Membership will be structured around Regional Hubs to develop communities and regional networks.
- Europlanet Society Committees will support Early Careers Researchers and Diversity in the planetary science community.
- Institutional members can become designated 'Europlanet Facilities' and 'Europlanet Services' to provide sustainable transnational and virtual access programmes.
- The Society will provide a platform to build consortia for applications for funding e.g. in the final calls of Horizon 2020 and the future Framework 9 Programme.

www.europlanet-eu.org