

**Joint activity  
together with ISSI and NA1/WP12**

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## ISSI: History

- The international Space Science Institute (ISSI) is a nonprofit organization set up in Bern, Switzerland, in 1995.
- ISSI is a foundation under Swiss law with an initial endowment by the leading Swiss space company Contraves Space AG, later Oerlikon Space AG and now a part of RUAG.
- The European Space Agency (ESA), the Swiss Confederation, the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) and the University of Bern provide the financial resources for the operation of ISSI. Since 2010 the Space Research Institute (IKI) of the Russian Academy of Sciences is also supporting ISSI with an annual financial contribution.

## ISSI: Mission

- The International Space Science Institute (ISSI) is an Institute of Advanced Study where scientists from all over the world meet in a multi- and interdisciplinary setting to reach out for new scientific horizons.
- The main function is to contribute to the achievement of a deeper understanding of the results from different space missions, ground based observations and laboratory experiments, and adding value to those results through multidisciplinary research in the framework of

**International Teams, Workshops, Working Groups, Forums or as individual Visiting Scientists.**

## ISSI: Basic Modes of Operation

- ISSI's operation mode is fivefold: International Teams, multi- and interdisciplinary Workshops, Working Groups, Visiting Scientists and Forums
- **International Teams** are composed of about 8-15 (not less than 3) scientists from different laboratories, nationalities and expertise. They hold a series of two to three one-week meetings over a period of 12 to 18 months.
- **Workshops** are selected by the ISSI Directors in consultation with the Science Committee and the Science Community. Up to 50 invited scientists meet to exchanging their views on a scientific theme, typically during a week's duration.
- **Working Groups** are set up by the ISSI Directorate for specific tasks
- **Forums** are informal and free-ranging debates among some fifteen to twenty-five high-level participants on open questions of a scientific nature or on science policy matters.

## EP NA1 has two forms of joint activity

### Thematic workshops:

- **WS #1** on “Role of Sample Return Missions in the Exploration of the Inner Solar System”,  
*Mahesh Anand*
- Proposed format: one week in Bern as an ISSI-Europlanet (- ISSI-BJ) workshop, followed one
- year later by one week in Beijing as an ISSI-BJ/ISSI workshop.
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- **WS #2** on “Comparative study of the atmospheres of planets and exoplanets”, *O. Korablev and K. Szego*
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- **WS #3 (5)** on “Reading terrestrial planet evolution (Venus, Earth, Mars, Titan) in isotopes and noble gases measurements” *H. Lammer*

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ISSI-Europlanet forum was convened in Bern, Switzerland on September 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 by ISSI and Europlanet. The forum identified the key questions and representative planetary missions.

The report is a contribution to Horizon 2061

See session MT15