

Ecsite Space Group pre-conference workshop
OUR SPACE, OUR PLANET

[Esplora Science Centre](#), Malta, 14 June 2023

What role can space play in supporting sustainability and addressing the challenges that our society experiences every day? What answers will European space missions bring to us in exploring our solar system and the Universe?

This workshop, organized by the European Space Agency – ESA – and the Ecsite Space Group, will dive deep into these issues and enrich participants with the latest space developments from ESA and its European space partners. Participants will be encouraged to go beyond their knowledge and expand their understanding of the Universe through current and future exploration missions.

On the other hand, sustainability is one of the pressing challenges ahead of us and a better understanding of our Universe can provide us with the necessary tools to better respond to this common societal goal.

In this context, participants will learn about the latest developments in space science and how these can help support sustainable development on our planet and address the challenges of tomorrow. European museums and science centers will have an opportunity, not only to exchange resources, knowledge, and communication tools to engage the public on these matters, but to explore new approaches, methodologies and strategies. For this purpose, discussions will be fostered on how space applications are supporting economic growth and sustainable development as well as reducing inequalities in society. Concrete examples from practitioners will be presented to illustrate how to increase awareness on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and approaches to communicate not only about the current challenges, but also about the solutions in a hopeful way.

The workshop will combine a series of lectures with practical sessions to facilitate these discussions and allow interaction among the participants, who also will be showcasing the projects developed in their science centers and museums, in a spirit of sharing, inspiring and being inspired by others.

Outcomes:

In line with the main goal of the Ecsite Space Group, the activities proposed aim to improve and extend communication about space science by helping science centres, space professionals and non-specialists to develop collaborative projects and events.

Participants will learn about the latest developments in space science and how these can help support sustainable development on our planet and address the challenges of tomorrow. European institutions, museums and science organizations will have an opportunity to exchange resources, knowledge, and communication tools to engage the public on these matters in an accurate and motivating way.

At the end of the workshop, participants will have the opportunity to enjoy a session in the Planetarium led by the Esplora team and ESA representatives.

Program

09.00-09.15: Welcome to the pre-conference workshop of the ECSITE-ESA Space Group

09.15-09.30: Ice breaker 1

09.30-10.15: Introduction to ESA and its Scientific Program

10.15-10.30: ESA Communication milestones and highlights in 2023

10.30-10.55: ESA Tools for communication in Museums

10.55-11.00: ECSITE-ESA Space Group Newsletter

11.00-11.30: Break

11.30-12.00: “Space for our Planet”, an exhibition in collaboration with international partners

12.00-13.00: Participants’ showcase: cooperation between the ECSITE- ESA Space group members

13.00-14.00: Lunch

14.00-14.15: Ice breaker 2

14.15-15.30: Hands-on session: Human and Robotic Space Exploration for our Planet

15.30-16.00: Break

16.00-16.30: Updates from ESA Education: how to engage with younger audiences

16.45-17.00: The Centennial Celebrations of International Planetarium Society (at the Esplora Planetarium)

17.00-17.30: Planetarium Show

17.30-17.45: Closing remarks and farewell (at the Planetarium)

Announcement of Location and Dates of ECSITE-ESA Space Group Annual Meeting 2023