

IAF SPACE EXPLORATION SYMPOSIUM (A3)  
Space Exploration Overview (1)

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THE ISECG SCIENCE WORKING GROUP: INFLUENCING GLOBAL SCIENCE PRIORITIES FOR  
ROBOTIC AND HUMAN SPACE EXPLORATION

**Abstract**

Science plays a leading role in the motivation behind human and robotic exploration of space, resulting in broad social, intellectual, and economic benefits within the global community. The aim of the International Space Exploration Coordination Group (ISECG) is to advance the global exploration strategy through coordination of efforts. 27 member space agencies around the world who contribute to the ISECG form working groups to identify and advocate for space exploration initiatives. The Science Working Group (SWG) recently reformed in 2022 after a brief hiatus, comprising of representative scientists from several ISECG member space agencies, academia, and the private sector. The SWG's primary objectives are to:

1. exchange member countries' scientific interests, plans, and activities in space exploration,
2. form coherent and integrated science strategies,
3. communicate science investigation priorities to space agencies, and
4. collaborate with the other ISECG working groups, to ensure science is informed and enabled by future investments in space exploration architecture and technological advancements.

These science priorities and coordination efforts are captured through publications produced by the ISECG community, including: the Global Exploration Roadmap; the Scientific opportunities enabled by human exploration beyond Low-Earth-Orbit (full) – An ISECG Science White Paper; and the Benefits Stemming from Space Exploration white paper. The SWG expects to provide updates to each of these documents this calendar year, with integrated science input and goals as fundamental drivers for exploration objectives. The SWG intends to deliver support tools that will help identify areas of scientific cooperation and reflect international consensus for advocating science.