

Europlanet TransNational Access 1 Activity(TNA1)

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Abstract

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At present Europe's state-of-the-art planetary RI's are accessed individually and all synergetic effects of using them together are lost. The major objective of the Europlanet RI is to overcome this fragmented and scientifically wasteful situation by providing integrated access to the full set of RIs needed for planetary research. Three focussed TNA services will provide transnational access to a unique and comprehensive set of analogue field sites, laboratory simulation facilities, and extraterrestrial sample analysis tools. The aim of the present abstract will be the presentation of the TNA1 activity which is focused in several well known analogue field sites.

TNA1 Planetary Field Analogues will offer access to well-characterized terrestrial field sites that have been selected so as to provide the most realistic analogues of surfaces of Mars, Europa and Titan, to which planetary missions have either recently been directed or are planned. They include desert, permafrost,

acidic environment and hydrothermal sources. These locations are Rio Tinto (Spain) (INTA-CAB), Chott El Jerid (Tunisia) (INTA-CAB), Ny-Ålesund Svalbard archipelago (FFI coordinated), The Ibn Battuta Centre near Marrakech in Morocco (IRSPS coordinated) and the Kamchatka Peninsula (IKI-RAS coordinated).