

Outreach and education from EuroGeoMars Campaign

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Abstract

The goal of the mission (from 24 January to 28 February 2009) was to demonstrate instruments from ExoGeoLab pilot project [1], support the interpretation of ongoing lunar and planetary missions, validate a procedure for surface in-situ and return science, study human performance aspects, and perform outreach and education projects [2].

EuroGeoMars campaign

The EuroGeoMars campaign was organised as follows:

- a technical preparation week (24-31 Jan): instrumentation deployment and technology field demonstration;
- 1st rotation – crew 76 (1-15 Feb): further deployment and utilization;
- 2nd rotation – crew 77 (15-28 Feb): further utilization and in depth analysis.

The EuroGeoMars campaign included four sets of objectives:

- 1) Technology demonstration aspects: a set of instruments were deployed, tested, assessed, and training was provided to scientists using them in subsequent rotations
- 2) Research aspects: a series of field science and exploration investigations were conducted in geology, geochemistry, biology, astronomy, with synergies with space missions and research from

planetary surfaces and Earth extreme environments.

3) Human crew related aspects, i.e. (a) evaluation of the different functions and interfaces of a planetary habitat, (b) crew time organization in this habitat, (c) evaluation of man-machine interfaces of science and technical equipment;

4) Education, outreach, communications, multi-cultural & public relations

Outreach, education and inspiration:

We produced written, pictures, and video materials that can be used for education, outreach and public relations. Daily reports were posted on the MDRS website.

We had during the Technical crew preparation, the visit of film producer Mark Arabella and film crew for a Moon related National Geographics documentary.

Two film crew visitors stayed also in the Hab: Jeanette Groenendaal and Zoot Derks (The Netherlands) on 22-24 Feb to film our activities documenting the operational, research, human, simulation, imaginative and fantasy aspects of Moon-Mars-extreme Earth exploration. They contributed a journalist report, and even performed an EVA outreach filming sortie to Hanksville village on Earth.

Other film and journalists visited the EuroGeoMars crew for interviews and exchange.

Specific crew reports were also prepared for some national and international communication channels, including Planète Mars, RTBF, ILEWG, COSPAR, IAF, IAA.



Fig.1: Habitat geochemical laboratory with training session on XRD and Raman spectrometer



Fig.2: Extra Vehicular simulation testing instruments and sampling methods



Fig. 3: artists in residence Jeanette and Zoot make an EVA outreach visit down to Earth

References

- [1] Foing, B.H. et al . (2009) LPI, 40, 2567.
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- [3] Foing, B.H. et al . (2009) ESLAB 2009 abstr., 84.