



Preparations for MEPAG #36 Meeting April 3-5, 2018

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Topical agenda for the meeting

April 3:

- NASA Planetary Science Division/Mars Exploration Program Reports
- Potential MEPAG Goals Revision: Polar Science
 - **Forum: Mission Concepts for the 2020's and beyond**

April 4:

- Decadal Survey Preparations
- Summary of Mars Mission Concepts Forum
- Reports from Mars Missions in Development

April 5:

- Updates from Ongoing Mars Missions
- Human Exploration & Commercial Space
- Conference Reports
- Future MEPAG Plans

Preparing for the next Planetary Decadal Survey:

Building on discoveries of past/ongoing missions and new technologies

- ✓ The return of samples prepared by NASA's Mars 2020 rover continues to be a priority
- During the Mars Sample Return (MSR) era (~2023-2032) what are the additional high-priority science questions that could be addressed via mission concepts in all classes?
- Forum concept: Provide the community opportunities to discuss...
 - High-level science objectives or questions
 - Importance of specific types of observations/measurements/analyses
 - Science or technology strategies (e.g., multiple small rovers or subsurface access)
 - Mission concepts in all classes
 - Small satellite missions/secondary payloads enabled by strategic mission launch capabilities
 - Competed missions (Discovery, New Frontiers, Large strategic missions)
 - Follow-on flagship capabilities
- ❖ Goal of Day 1 Forum: Identify concepts and collaboration opportunities for serious consideration by the next Planetary Decadal Survey
 - Which would most benefit from studies/workshops organized by MEPAG or MEP to facilitate maturation of concepts and/or technological areas?

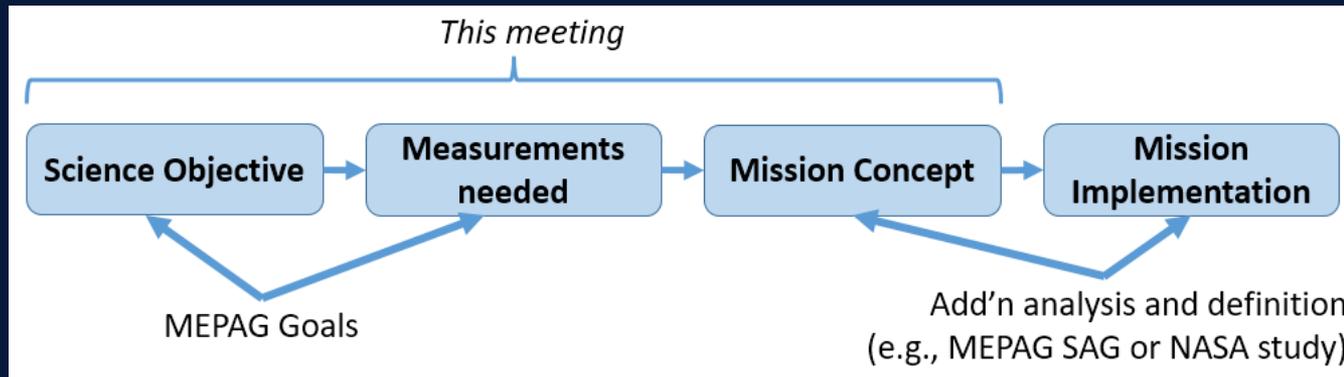
Preparing for the next Planetary Decadal Survey: Forum Configuration (1/2)

See first circular for details (including travel support for early career scientists):
<https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meeting/2018-02/MEPAG%2036-1st%20Information%20Circular.pdf>

- To request a presentation spot at the MEPAG meeting forum, please submit a 1-page abstract outlining your concept to mepagmeetingqs@jpl.nasa.gov by Thursday, February 22.
 - Received > 30 responses to initial indication of interest for presentations
- Forum presentations will primarily consist of posters
- Ample time to discuss and share concepts with colleagues across multiple disciplines!
- Following the poster session, there will be a facilitated discussion
- The forum key results will be summarized the next day's discussion about future MEPAG planning activities
- To facilitate discussion at the meeting and beyond, accepted abstracts will be posted on the MEPAG meeting website beforehand along with the meeting agenda (and posters, if desired)

Preparing for the next Planetary Decadal Survey: Forum Configuration (2/2)

- To best facilitate the presentations and discussion, we suggest that presenters:
 - focus on the science question(s) and measurements that their concept would address, rather than implementation specifics (see Figure below)
 - provide a zeroth-order mapping to specific portions of the 2015 MEPAG Goals document (or identify a gap in the MEPAG Goals, if you think one exists)
 - identify the type of information needed to mature the concept for consideration by the next Planetary Science Decadal Survey Committee





Preparing for the next Planetary Decadal Survey:

Draft plans for Day 1 agenda (April 3)

- NASA Planetary Science Division and Mars Exploration Program updates will precede the forum to help set the context for forward-looking discussions
- Day 1 will also include discussion of Mars Polar Science community work regarding potential MEPAG Goals revisions and relevant forward-looking studies (including concepts)
- Forum presentations will mostly occur within a poster session in the afternoon, allowing for widely-varying topics to be explored and discussions to occur within small groups
- The poster session would be followed by a full group discussion at the end of Day 1
- A summary and identification of key ideas will be generated based on both the small- and full-group discussions
 - This summary will be presented on meeting Day 2, and would be an input (along with other meeting agenda topics) for further discussion about future MEPAG plans (such as potential studies)