



The science of Mars today for the scientists of Mars tomorrow

Olga Muñoz¹, Karolien Lefever², Emilio García¹, Daniel Guirado¹, Lucie Lamort², Stephanie Fratta², Arianna Picialli², Teresa Jardiel³, Nathalie Kalb², and Ann C Vandaele²

¹Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía - CSIC, Granada (Spain)

²Royal Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy (BIRA-IASB), Brussels, (Belgium)

³Instituto de Cerámica y Vidrio - CSIC, Madrid (Spain)

RoadMap (ROle of and impAct of Dust and clouds in the Martian AtmosPHERE: from lab to space) is a H2020 project led by a consortium of European scientific institutions which aims to improve our multidisciplinary understanding of the Martian atmosphere. The topics investigated by RoadMap will ensure that a large public will be reached and questions related to life emergence and space exploration will be addressed. The key audiences for our project are the scientific and education community, the specialized public, the general public (including students) and the media; local and national geographical groups.

Raising awareness about Mars, Space Exploration, Solar System and ESA activities among teachers, students and general public is an important objective of the RoadMap Communication, Education and Public Outreach plan. We will present some of the EPO activities/tools developed in RoadMap. Such is the case e.g. of Mars in a box an educational project aiming to introduce European secondary school students to fundamental science through cutting-edge research on Mars. Mars in a box combines the classic "experiment box" format with the power of online applications and the excitement of accessing, visualising and managing scientific data from cutting-edge space missions and ground-based laboratories, as well as the possibility of contacting professional researchers in the field of planetary science.

The RoadMap consortium is composed of the Royal Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy (BIRA-IASB, Belgium), Aarhus University (AU, Denmark), the Duisburg & Essen University (UDE, Germany), the Instituto de Cerámica y Vidrio (ICV-CSIC, Spain), and the Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía (IAA-CSIC, Spain) belonging to the Spanish Research Council (CSIC).