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# Newsletter #8

## Technology & Innovation Platform



19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Welcome to this summer edition of the newsletter of the Technology and Innovation Platform (TIP) of the NCCR-PlanetS !

Special focus on Externships in ML/AI and a selection of readings about our Space-related activities. Last but not the least, announcement about future events for industrials and researchers. Enjoy it!



@B. Holl

### From a Machine Learning Externship to running an early-stage Fintech startup

Read the [inspiring story](#) of Berry Holl, from University of Geneva, who was granted a TIP Externship in a Machine Learning start-up and ended-up CEO of his own startup! The turning point? The [Business Concept Training](#) offered by Innosuisse.

The Externship program is one of the funding schemes of the TIP, to support Knowledge transfer with Industry. We currently have several requests from partner companies, interested in our expertise in **Data Science** and in **several other tech field**, find them in the table [here](#).

More info about the scheme, for both researchers and companies, in the box below.

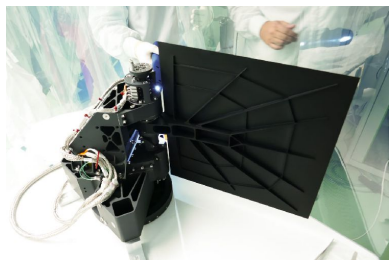


@Uni. Bern, A. Vorburger

### JUICE is on his way to Jupiter's icy moons.

Congratulations to our NCCR PlanetS colleagues at University of Bern, as they celebrated the successful launch of the Ariane 5 rocket carrying JUICE space probe, on April 14<sup>th</sup>. It will be a 8-year long journey to the Jupiter system, where the space mission will use technology from the University of Bern to look for signs of life on three icy moons.

Read [here](#) about the mission and the 3 instrument to which University of Bern contributed to and/or was responsible of.



@Uni. Geneva and @APCO Technologies

### EUCLID is flying to space.

Another successful launch, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, of a SpaceX rocket this time, carrying Euclid, a space telescope that will look for dark matter and dark energy. Colleagues sitting in the office next door at the University of Geneva have a leading role in the science and data analysis and have provided the shutter for one of the two instruments, designed and built in collaboration with APCO Technologies S.A.

The full story is [here](#).



@ NASA, ESA, CSA, and STScI

### JWST completed its first year of science operation.

One year ago, on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022, the first images from the JWST space telescope were revealed! Our NCCR PlanetS colleagues at ETHZ had a leading role in the construction of the MIRI instrument, together with the Swiss industry partners RUAG Aerospace and SYDERAL S.A.

For detailed information, it is [here](#).



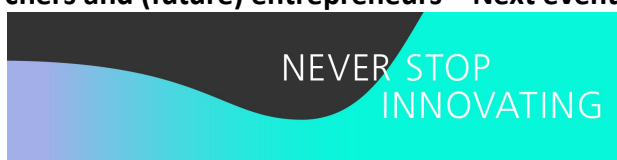
@SXS, A. Herzog/EPFL

### Space eXchange Switzerland (SXS) events

Many of us from the NCCR PlanetS were present at the [Space Community Days](#), April 25-26, in Bern. During the "Space Science and Industry Dialogue" panel, co-organized by PlanetS and SXS, we discussed vision, wishes and needs from both the academia and the private sector.

CHEOPS was represented at the Swiss Pavillon at the International Astronautical Congress, Sept.22, in Paris.

### For researchers and (future) entrepreneurs – Next events:



### Innosuisse Business Concept Training

If you were inspired by Berry's story and want to learn more and apply to the **Fall edition** of the Business Concept Training, it is [here](#).

The training takes place in several locations all around Switzerland, twice per year (Fall and Spring). I'd be glad to learn if you decide to join it!

**bench2biz**

A workshop for young and aspiring entrepreneurs in science and technology  
November 2 – 9, 2023



### Bench2Biz

Last but not least, our favourite! 😊 Together with several other SNS funded NCCRs, PlanetS is supporting and co-organizing a ~1-week training in entrepreneurship.

For those of you who have an idea and want to rapidly test if/how it can be transferred to market.

More info and application is [here](#).

**For professionals**, interested in mentoring a Bench2Biz team and networking with our community, please get in touch!

## Bench2Biz or Innosuisse training? Both!

(personal view) First of all the format is different: 1 (intense) week vs. 1 (intense) semester.

The two are complementary in their objectives:

- Bench2Biz gives you the possibility to work on your own idea and to start brainstorming on all the aspects to bring it to the market.
- Innosuisse teaches you the tools to do so and you don't need to have an idea to join! (...on the contrary, participants are invited to form teams around the best ideas, selected among all)

## For companies – Next events:



## For companies:

[SPiE Conference](#), 15–20 June 2024 in Yokohama, Japan.

Together with the [Swiss ILO Office](#), we are planning a Swiss industry booth, so if you are a SME and are interested to join, get in touch!

## Funding programs of the PlanetS TIP

### Seed Funding - Call for ideas

The TIP proposes a permanent call for seed funding, to strengthen the knowledge and technology transfer between PlanetS Members, industry, technical universities and other research laboratories.

The call is open to every company, institute or research laboratory, and the rules have been kept as simple and flexible as possible. Would you like to know more about the call? Have a look [here](#).

### Externships - Knowledge transfer with a short-term project

The TIP proposes a program for PlanetS Members or Associates (postdoc or engineer) who have developed competences or ideas that could be applied to areas outside their specific research activities. The PlanetS TIP provides financial support in order to pursue your project. More information [here](#).

If you are a company or research laboratory and would like to propose a project, let us know and/or fill out the following form for external partners, [here](#).

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The National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR) are a funding scheme of the Swiss National Science Foundation

