

HUMAN SPACE ENDEAVOURS SYMPOSIUM (B3)  
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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ISS INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS' RESEARCH AREAS

**Abstract**

Almost eleven years after the launch of the first International Space Station (ISS) element and nine years after its initial habitation the ISS partners have made great strides in operating this impressive orbiting research facility. Primary emphasis throughout this time period has been on station assembly, and the maintenance of crew and machine. However, the ISS has been, and will continue to be, instrumental to the exploration of space. During the course of the ISS Program all International Partners (IP) have amassed critical insights in many areas crucial to space exploration and will further increase this knowledge as ISS progresses with assembly, operations and utilization. For the post-assembly phase it is necessary to find synergies in agency-based science management and in the tracking and publicize the scientific, technological and educational accomplishments of ISS, and also to manage performance of the following functions: (1) Development of multilateral scientific assessments and recommendations for the ISS Program boards or working groups. (2) Development and implementation of multilateral tracking of plans, accomplishments, and results from ISS utilization, ensuring that summary information and references are integrated via linked databases accessible to the international scientific community and the ISS Program. (3) Development of multilateral communication products for the promotion and publicity of ISS research results and plans at external scientific and technical conferences, press conferences, in written publications and other public venues so that the full international impact of ISS is visible. In order to do this adequately either of the same type of category list for each IP should be used (practically it is insoluble issue; structures of agencies' research areas have been established independently based on their national space research programs' priorities, preferences, and backgrounds), or to set clear cross references in the same areas of research for each IP based on comparative analysis of their research programs. This paper explores the ISS International Partners' areas of research and establishes correlation between IP category lists.