

AGENCY

80 international students attend first ever Fly Your Satellite! Design Booster Training Week

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In brief

12 candidate CubeSat teams have successfully completed the Training Week of the pilot edition the Design Booster Programme. Held at ESTEC, Noordwijk, from 7-11 November 2022, shortlisted teams were invited to follow lectures offered by ESA experts, focused on university CubeSats projects' design.

In-depth

A Fly Your Satellite! spin-off, Design Booster is aimed at CubeSat teams with a preliminary design that want to benefit from support from ESA for the consolidation of their detailed design.

With the Design Booster programme, ESA Academy targets new audiences and enable less experienced teams to progress in the steep learning curve which is a satellite mission. In the call proposals, student teams were invited to reflect how their mission objectives were aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the ESA technological roadmaps. Teams showed great ambition and foresight, proposing missions aligning with new and emerging trends in the space sector, often aiming to address the issues of tomorrow. The FYS programme hopes to foster these teams' aspirations, with the intention that these students go on to perform missions which are both highly educational but also contribute to the future of the space sector.

Shortlisted teams are still in the early stages of design, developing various space missions focused on different applications. Among the pool of candidate CubeSats, mission objectives vary from Earth observation, to space debris, telecommunication, in orbit technology demonstration, artificial intelligence, astrophysics, biology, and many others, often using cutting-edge technologies and components built in-house.

"The training week at ESTEC gave our team lots of useful information for the upcoming weeks and months," explained a participating student. "It also demonstrated once again how many little details actually go into the design and construction of any spacecraft, even 'small and simple' CubeSats."

The participating teams were:

Team	University	Country
6S	Politecnico di Milano	Italy
AlbaSat	Università degli di Studi di Padova	Italy
Antaeus	University of Coimbra	Portugal
AstroJam	University of Nottingham	United Kingdom
BioSat	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway
BIXO	University of Vigo	Spain
Estigia	Universitat Politècnica di València	Spain
LEDSAT 2	Sapienza University of Rome	Italy
ROSPIN-SAT-1	Politehnica University of Bucharest	Romania
SAGE	ETH Zurich	Switzerland
ST3 LAR-Sat1 BOIRA	Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	Spain