

# ISWI Data Coordination & Usage

Shing F. Fung

ISWI Data Coordinator

ITM Physics Laboratory, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center  
Greenbelt, Maryland USA

Presented at the  
United Nations Workshop on the International Space Weather Initiative: The Way Forward  
Vienna, Austria, June 26-30, 2023

# Abstract

The **International Space Weather Initiative (ISWI)** is a program of international cooperation to advance the space weather science by a combination of instrument deployment, analysis and interpretation of space weather data from the deployed instruments in conjunction with space data, and to communicate the results to the public and students. To enable open data access and effective use of ISWI data by the international community, careful and deliberate coordination and collaborations between data providers are essential. This presentation will consider the challenges confronting users in accessing and using ISWI instrument data and how those challenges might be mitigated in the future.

# Outline

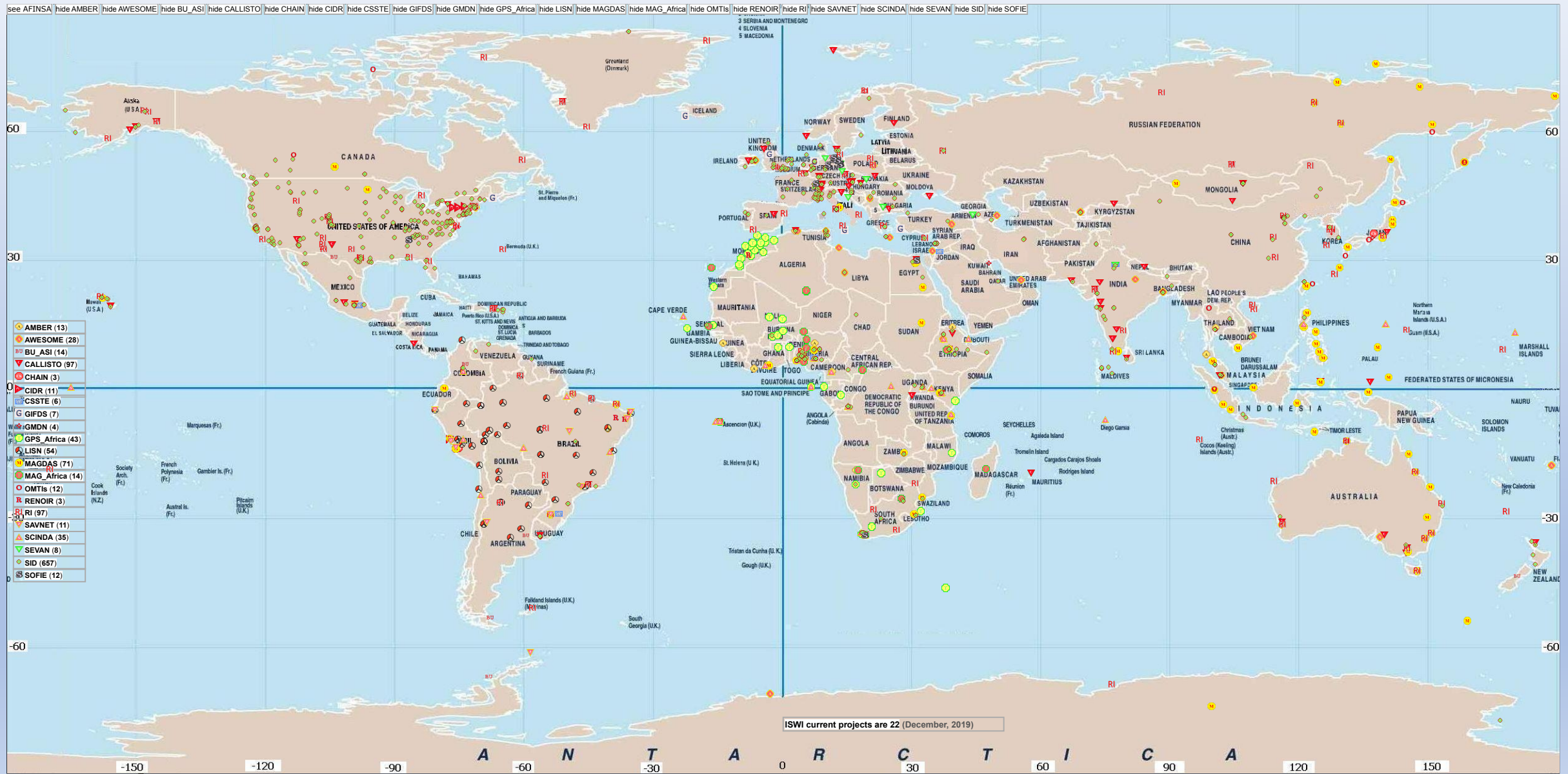
- ISWI Instrument Networks as rich data sources
- Data coordination requirements
  - ISWI open data policy
  - Current status of ISWI data access
- Broadening ISWI data Use
  - Adopting FAIR Principles for data
  - Adopting a standard metadata model
  - Middleware: a common interface to data services
  - Dataset citation and referencing
  - Increase data use through collaborations
- Summary

# ISWI Instrument Networks (<https://iswi-secretariat.org/home-page/projects/>)

ISWI Instruments	Measurements	Science Objectives
<b>AFINSA</b>	Atmospheric electric field	Atmosphere-ionosphere coupling
<b>AMBER</b>	Ground magnetic perturbations	Low-latitude plasma dynamics; ULF waves at low latitudes
<b>AMMA</b>	TEC, atmospheric water vapour	Atmospheric and ionospheric studies; Geodesy
<b>AWESOME &amp; SID</b>	ELF & VLF emissions at 300 Hz - 50 kHz	Lightning-induced radio events (sferics, whistlers, chorus, hiss); Track changes in ionosphere caused by solar activity
<b>BU_ASI</b>	14 all-sky imagers, each with up to 6 different airglow emissions from the upper atmosphere	Magnetically conjugate processes in the thermosphere-ionosphere from low latitudes to sub-auroral latitudes
<b>CALLISTO</b>	Radio spectrograms, 45-870 MHz	Solar radio bursts
<b>CHAIN</b>	Solar images in H-alpha	Solar activity, flares, filaments, filament eruptions
<b>CIDR</b>	Relative TEC profile along the path of a beacon satellite	Tomographic reconstruction of ionospheric structures
<b>GIFDS</b>	Ionospheric effects on VLF propagation	Solar flare detection

ISWI Instruments	Measurements	Science Objectives
<b>GMDN</b>	Cosmic ray muon detection	Detection of cosmic ray intensity decrease ~ one day prior to ICME-driven shock arrival at Earth
<b>LISN</b>	GPS, magnetometers & vertical ionosondes	Low-latitude ionospheric irregularities & scintillation conditions in South America
<b>MAGDAS</b>	Magnetometers	Geospace plasma dynamics during geomagnetic storms & substorms; ionosphere-magnetosphere responses to solar wind variability; penetration & propagation of DP2-ULF disturbances
<b>OMTIs</b>	Nocturnal airglow emissions	Upper atmospheric dynamics
<b>RENOIR</b>	Ionospheric imaging system, Fabry-Perot interferometry (FPI), a dual-frequency and single-frequency GPS receivers	Storm-time response and irregularities of equatorial/low-latitude ionosphere/thermosphere system
<b>RION</b>	Ionosonde coordinated network providing near-real-time, low-latency measurements of subpeak ionospheric plasma density	Nowcast of the 3D global plasma density distribution in the subpeak ionosphere
<b>SAVNET</b>	Propagation of VLF waves (amplitude and phase velocity) in the Earth-ionosphere waveguide	Study of the SAMA region at low ionospheric altitudes, its structure and dynamics during geomagnetic perturbations
<b>SCINDA</b>	Scintillation intensity, ionospheric drift velocity, TEC	Specification and prediction of ionospheric scintillation in the earth's equatorial region
<b>SEVAN</b>	Changing secondary cosmic ray fluxes from different altitudes and latitudes; Particle bursts from thunderclouds	Provide short and long-term forecasts of dangerous consequences of space storms; Thunderstorm Ground Enhancements
<b>SOFIE</b>	Ionospheric effects on VLF propagation	Solar flare detection

# ISWI Ground Instrument Distributions





# Data Coordination Requirements

- A network dataset needs
  - To have sufficient temporal and spatial (global) coverage
  - To be calibrated with measurement errors characterized across network
- Data are collected continuously and made generally available
  - Data should flow freely across international boundaries to support research
- Data obtained across the globe should generally follow the [FAIR Principles](#):
  - **Findable**, so required data can be found/discovered
  - **Accessible**, so data can be accessed & retrieved
  - **Interoperable**, so data can be served, processed, or analyzed along with other datasets
  - **Reusable**, so data is well-documented to support independent use

# ISWI Open Data Policy

- Established since November 2017, the policy stipulates that
  - ISWI data are openly shared, exchanged, accessed and used
  - All ISWI instruments agree with policy by providing their project data management plans (PDMPs)
  - ISWI will promote international collaborations & coordination to facilitate space weather research and capacity building
- Latest version 1.3.9 revised on January 3, 2023
  - Posted on ISWI website (<https://iswi-secretariat.org/>) under both Steering Committee and Projects



# Current Status of ISWI Data Access

- As per [ISWI data policy](#), ISWI instrument data should be freely accessible from instrument team websites (see [ISWI Projects page](#)) as described in instrument PDMPs.
- Several instrument PDMPs are still missing; some instrument websites are also not current/available.
- ISWI instrument data are not generally **FAIR**-compliant.

# Broadening ISWI Data Use

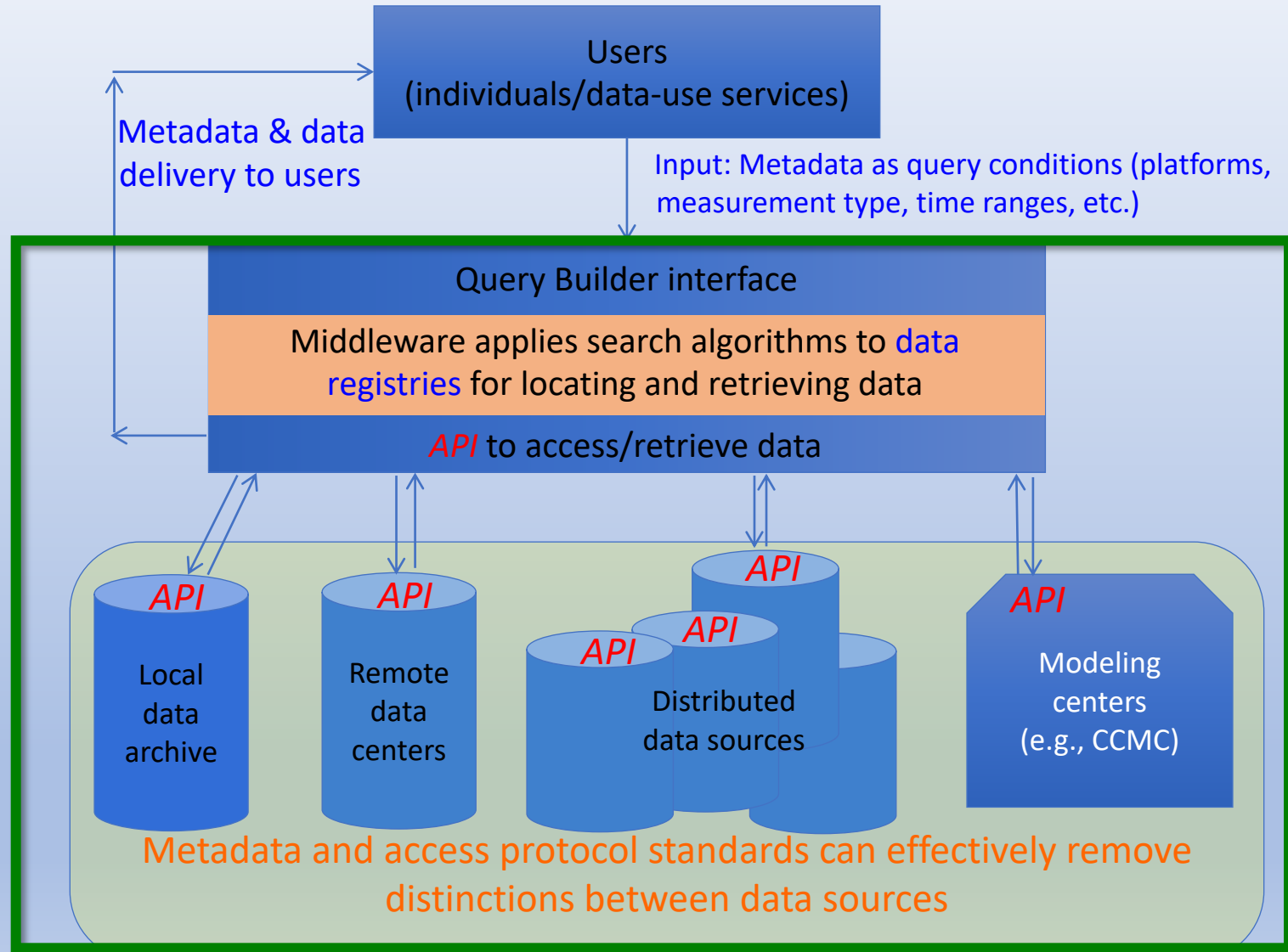
- ISWI data utilization can be broadened if instrument data become FAIR-compliant.
  - ISWI data can become interoperable with other data
- This can be facilitated by adopting a standard metadata model, enabling the use of a common data service interface
  - Useful in supporting cross-disciplinary research and capacity building
- The [\*Space Physics Archive Search and Extract \(SPASE\)\*](#) is a metadata model
  - Developed specifically for describing heliophysics and space weather resources (data, model, model data, software, etc.).
  - [Recommended as a metadata standard by COSPAR Panel on Space Weather](#)

# Middleware: A Common Interface to Data Services

All resources described in SPASE can leverage middleware data services, such as

- [NASA Heliophysics Data Portal](#)
- [NASA Heliophysics Digital Observatory](#)

designed to expose/serve data from distributed data sources or repositories.



# Dataset Citation & Referencing

DOI can be minted and used as a persistent reference to a dataset.

AWESOME Example: SPASE registry landing page,

<https://hpde.io/ISWI/NumericalData/AWESOME/LF/PT0.000001S.html>

DOI URL,

<https://doi.org/10.48322/fwte-dv13>

Both **AWESOME** & **e-Callisto** are now SPASE-registered with DOI references.

HPDE.io

**Data Access**

- Worldwide Archive of Low-Frequency Data and Observations (WALDO) Broadband Data

**AWESOME receiver system broadband VLF/LF data**

Cohen, M. B. (2020). AWESOME receiver system broadband VLF/LF data [Data set]. Worldwide Archive of Low frequency Data and Observations (WALDO). <https://doi.org/10.48322/fwte-dv13>. Accessed on 2022-December-24.

**ResourceID**  
spase://ISWI/NumericalData/AWESOME/LF/PT0.000001S

**Description**  
The Low Frequency Atmospheric Weather Electromagnetic System for Observation, Modeling, and Education, or LF AWESOME is a high-sensitivity radio receiver for the frequency band 0.5-470 kHz. The receiver is an upgraded version of the VLF AWESOME, which provided high sensitivity to transmitting beacons, and radio emissions from the near AWESOME allow detection of radio atmospherics from all around the world. It also allows monitoring of transmitting stations. Most of the data is collected on two air-core loop antenna components of the magnetic field. The north-south, or N-S, antenna is oriented from the south direction, meaning it picks up the magnetic field from the north or the other side of the antenna. The east-west antenna, which is the opposite of the N-S antenna, is oriented from the north or the other side of the antenna. Broadband data contain direct samples of the receiver output. Files essentially contain everything that the receiver records. For instance just one minute of VLF data will produce a ~12 MB file. For example, 35 GB per day if you have two antenna channels.

**Details** [View XML](#) | [View JSON](#) | [Edit](#)

Version:2.3.2

**NumericalData**

**ResourceID**  
spase://ISWI/NumericalData/AWESOME/LF/PT0.000001S

**ResourceHeader**

**ResourceName**  
AWESOME receiver system broadband VLF/LF data

**DOI**  
<https://doi.org/10.48322/fwte-dv13>

**ReleaseDate**  
2021-05-31 12:34:56.789

**RevisionHistory**

**RevisionEvent**

**ReleaseDate**  
2021-05-31 12:34:56.789

**Note**  
Updated to SPASE Version 2.3.2 if needed, Applied quality control for DOI usage, LFB

**Description**  
The Low Frequency Atmospheric Weather Electromagnetic System for Observation, Modeling, and Education, or LF AWESOME is a high-sensitivity radio receiver for the frequency band 0.5-470 kHz. The receiver is an upgraded version of the VLF AWESOME, which provided high sensitivity to transmitting beacons, and radio emissions from the near AWESOME allow detection of radio atmospherics from all around the world. It also allows monitoring of transmitting stations. Most of the data is collected on two air-core loop antenna components of the magnetic field. The north-south, or N-S, antenna is oriented from the south direction, meaning it picks up the magnetic field from the north or the other side of the antenna. The east-west antenna, which is the opposite of the N-S antenna, is oriented from the north or the other side of the antenna. Broadband data contain direct samples of the receiver output. Files essentially contain everything that the receiver records. For instance just one minute of VLF data will produce a ~12 MB file. For example, 35 GB per day if you have two antenna channels.

Data access protocols

Dataset citation with access date stamp for version tracking

Detail SPASE description of dataset

DOI and ReleaseDate

Screenshot

# Increase Data Use Through Collaborations

- [Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics \(SCOSTEP\)](#)
  - ISWI shares similar goals in science, international collaboration, and capacity building.
  - ISWI instruments are valuable data resources for [PRESTO](#), the current SCOSTEP project (2020-2024).
- [COSPAR International Space Weather Action Teams \(ISWAT\)](#) initiative
  - Community-driven, self-guided efforts to form a global hub for collaborations to address challenges across the field of space weather
  - Basis and framework for formulating the next COSPAR space weather roadmap
- [NASA Geospace Dynamics Constellation \(GDC\)](#) and **other space missions**
  - Launch no earlier than 2029
  - Studying processes that govern the dynamics of upper atmosphere, mesosphere, thermosphere, and ionosphere (~80-450 km)
  - Expects to collaborate with international ground-based observational community



# Heliophysics Missions

## Heliophysics Mission Fleet

Heliophysics missions are strategically placed throughout our solar system, working together to provide a holistic view of our Sun and space weather, along with their impacts on Earth, the other planets, and space in general. NASA's heliophysics mission fleet includes 19 operating missions using 26 spacecraft, 13 missions in development, 1 mission under study, a robust sounding rocket program and a variety of CubeSat missions.

- ESA = European Space Agency
- JAXA = Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

\*Numbers in parentheses indicate how many spacecraft each mission includes.

- **UNDER DEVELOPMENT**
  - AWE (ISS)
  - Carruthers Geocorona Observatory
  - ESCAPADE (2)
  - EUVST (JAXA)
  - EZIE (3)
  - GDC (6)
- **PRIMARY OPERATION**
  - Parker Solar Probe
  - Solar Orbiter (ESA)
- **EXTENDED OPERATION**
  - ACE
  - AIM
  - GOLD (SES-14)
  - Hinode (JAXA)
  - IBEX
  - ICON
  - IRIS
  - MMS (4)
  - RAD (Curiosity)
  - SDO
  - SOHO (ESA)
  - STEREO
  - THEMIS-ARTEMIS (2)
  - THEMIS (3)
  - TIMED
  - Wind
  - Voyager (2)



science.nasa.gov/heliophysics

# Summary

Coordination is needed...

- For resources, personnel, and instrument sites to ensure that all ISWI instrument networks operate continuously as planned.
- For cross calibration and measurement error characterization of all instruments across a given instrument network.

To broaden data use, coordination & collaboration are needed to adopt

- A metadata standard (such as SPASE) for data documentation
- The FAIR Principles, so that all ISWI data can be served freely
  - By common (middleware) data services
  - Along with other space-based and ground-based datasets
  - Across international boundaries