



## **REXUS/BEXUS - The Swedish-German Rocket and Balloon Programme for European Students**

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In autumn 2007 the DLR Space Agency and the ESA Education Office issued for the first time an annually announcement of opportunity for student experiments to be flown on sounding rockets and stratospheric balloons, launched from Esrange near Kiruna in Northern Sweden. Selected student teams will have the chance to design and build an experiment suitable for flights on the BEXUS balloons (launched in autumn every year), or the REXUS sounding rockets (launched in March every year). Each flight will carry a payload consisting solely of student experiments. Half the payload is available to students from German universities through a German Aerospace Center (DLR) Announcement of Opportunity and the other half is made available to students from all other ESA Member States and Co-operating States by the Swedish National Space Board (SNSB) through collaboration with ESA. The selected teams will be invited to a student training week in Kiruna or München to get instructed in the design and building of balloon and rocket experiments. In the following months, DLR and Esrange experts will provide technical support in the design, integration and testing phase, as well as providing campaign management and operations. The announcement is open for proposals from all science and engineering research fields. Due to the flight regime of the balloons and ballistic sounding rockets (apogee around 100 km) this programme could also attract students in the field of atmosphere physics and

chemistry.