

# Workshop Format

We have adopted a non-traditional agenda to facilitate the emergence of new ideas and the critical evaluation of current directions in the science. The meeting is divided into a set of introductory and programmatic talks followed by 5 consecutive Working Group sessions and a final plenary session. Each WG session will consist of 1 hour of invited presentations that review the state of the art in the topic area. The presenters will be appointed by the program committee. The presenters are expected to solicit contributions to their presentations from the community at large, and the body of published literature available prior to the meeting. We will ask that a rough draft (or outline) of their presentation be made available on the IWSSM website at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting to enable feedback from the expected workshop participants and the non-attending community who may notice omissions that should be included or have corrections to misconceptions. A short workshop-wide discussion will take place following the formal presentations at the Workshop.

Following the formal presentations, the Workshop participants will be divided into small (~ 10 people per group) breakout groups by the Program Committee that will meet for 1 hour in separate rooms to conduct a formal discussion of the topic. Each breakout group will be assigned a group leader to facilitate the discussion and encourage participation. Also, recognized experts in the topic area will be distributed throughout the groups to help facilitate the discussions. The breakout groups will be responsible for answering specific questions asked by the Program Committee and Group chair(s) and also for contributing any new ideas that may not have been brought up. The breakout group rapporteurs will submit the findings of each breakout group to the WG chairperson.

At the end of the Workshop, the WG chairs will present a short final report and final recommendations of the WG to the whole Workshop, based on input from the breakout sessions. The WG Chairs and Rapporteurs will be responsible for submitting a final (concise) white-paper report, summarizing their session. This report will be compiled with the other WG reports into a Workshop white paper that will be submitted to the IPWG. In addition, all Workshop presentations and the final white paper will remain available on the IWSSM website indefinitely following the workshop.