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Working at ESA (English)

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Maike Lieser , Experiment System Engineer at European Space Agency

I am a System Experiment Engineer at the European Space Agency (ESA) in the Netherlands. How did I end up there? I studied physics in Hannover and did my PhD at the Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Wave Physics. Already there I looked towards space and did my research on the instrument to measure gravitational waves with the LISA mission (Laser Interfermeter Space Antenna). Afterwards I went into industry - to Airbus, who we also worked together during my PhD project. Although I worked in a different part of the company, in the UK as a Mission System Engineer for science and earth observation missions. From there I went to ESA and now I work on science mission instrumentation. At Airbus, all our ESA projects had a Technical Officer, and now I am the Technical Officer! My work is to implement and follow national contributions from member states, usually these are scientific instruments or instrument sub-systems. My projects cover a very wide range of missions within the ESA Science programme: including astrophysics, fundamental physics and planetary exploration! I work together with scientists, but also with industry partners and of course with my colleagues at ESA.

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