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Thank you for agreeing to take part in the Astrobiology and Habitable Environments Database ([AHED](#)) Pilot, where participants will be guided through the process of gathering data from their projects and curating a dataset with AHED. A webinar will be held **on March 30th at 11:00 am Pacific time**. The webinar will last an hour and a half, at most. You can join the meeting [here](#) (but will also receive a Teams invitation email separately).

If you are unable to join us online, the webinar will be recorded, allowing your participation in the Pilot. We encourage you to start thinking about the data you'd like to curate before the webinar and have attached a document providing some guidance and examples. We'd also recommend non-NASA participants create a NASA Guest account and register it with the AHED Team before the Pilot. The document attached provides details of this as well.

During the first half of the webinar, we will introduce the AHED system, review the scope of the testing exercise, and provide a live demonstration of searching, dataset creation, and labeling using Astrobiology Resource Metadata Standard (ARMS). We will also introduce a 'user acceptance test' UAT document intended to help us gather feedback and prioritize areas for improving AHED.

The second part of the webinar will be more fluid. We may provide guidance and examples for participants in the initial stages of gathering materials for creating an AHED dataset. Some participants may have gathered materials before the webinar and may be ready (and willing) to step through creation their own dataset with the group, while others may wish to do so offline. If you are ready and willing to be a webinar guinea pig, please let us know beforehand.

We hope these activities will foster discussion and questions for the AHED Team. After the webinar, you will be able to either use and test AHED independently or join us for one or more optional virtual open-house sessions where participants will receive one-on-one, or small-group guidance on dataset creation. After this, participants will be asked to complete the UAT document. We'd like to thank you in advance for your participation in the Pilot and look forward to seeing some of you online on the 30th March.

Sincerely,
Thomas Bristow and the AHED Development Team

