Private Sector Space Exploration Activities: Policy & Governance in the U.S. Context

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- Secure World Foundation is a private operating foundation that promotes cooperative solutions for space sustainability
- Why space sustainability? Increasing reliance on space assets coupled with potentially destabilizing trends
- Our mission: SWF works with governments, industry, international organizations and civil society to develop and promote ideas and actions for international collaboration that achieve the secure, sustainable, and peaceful uses of outer space for the socioeconomic and environmental benefits to Earth



"Non-traditional" Space Applications

Rapid expansion in the number & types of commercial space applications is challenging existing policy context for space activities

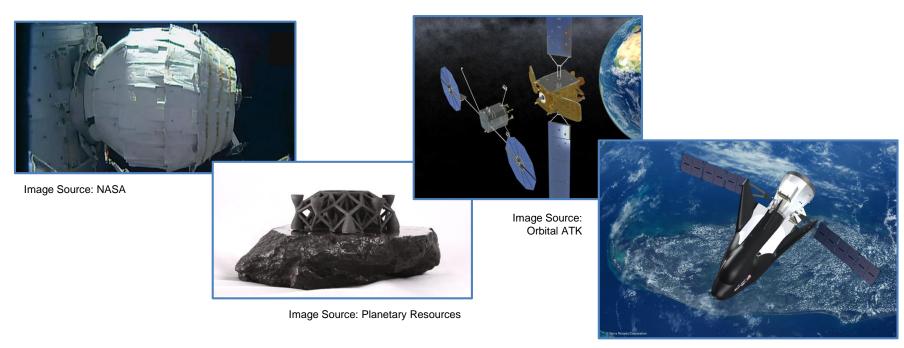


Image Source: UNOOSA / Sierra Nevada Corp

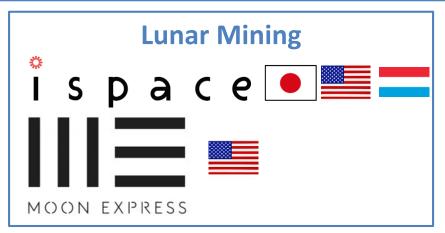
Governmental policy and regulation must be developed to support these activities, in manner that is consistent with international obligations, and the provides for benefit.

Workshop on "Space Policy Perspectives for 'Governance in Space" APRSAF-24 – Bangalore, India – November 13, 2017



Example Case: Space Resources















- Coordination of national and international law will help states establish the conditions under which socio-economic benefit might result from space resources development
- Resource access rights balancing "non-appropriation" vs. "freedom of exploration and use"
 - Authorization and supervision procedures
 - Non-interference provisions



Market Development and Policy Choices

Promoting Cooperative Solutions for Space Sustainability

HUMAN EXPLORATION





SPACE ACCESS & PARTICIPATION





- What role does a 'choice of destination' play in coordination?
- How can lessons learned from prior large scale partnerships inform future efforts?
- How can public-private partnerships be leverage?

- Do private sector capabilities developed in response to commercial markets – offer access to new space participants?
- Can capabilities developed for government needs serve a broader audience?



A Stable, Predictable, and Sustainable Operating Environment in Space

Promoting Cooperative Solutions for Space Sustainability

How can governments and the private sector work together to ensure sustainability of the domain?

Issues/Topics

- Policy context for identifying and obtaining benefit
- Regulatory authority, structure & process
- Space traffic management
- Norms of behavior
- New actors & best practices
- Government role as both customer & operator

Example Efforts

UNISPACE +50 and High Level Fora

Agenda-setting for future multilateral discussions

The Hague Space Resources Governance Working Group

 Multilateral, multi-sectoral effort to define policy and legal "building blocks"

SWF Handbook for New Actors in Space

 Overview of fundamental principles, norms, and best practices for safe, predictable, and responsible activities in space

