

28th SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE POLICY, REGULATIONS AND ECONOMICS (E3)

The space economy: what are the socio-economic impacts? (3)

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HOW LARGE IS THE AFRICAN SPACE MARKET AND WHAT ARE GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES?

Abstract

The African market place most utilises applications offered by the space industry as they relate to broadcasting, communications, navigation and mapping processes. It is important to distinguish between the size of demand in Africa, for these services and the size of the African space sector supplying these services. With this distinction one can begin to analyse space sector and space services demand growth, inter alia, opportunities in Africa. This paper not only seeks to analyse the aforementioned markets but also the full space value chain and wherein that chain the African opportunity for development exists. The requirements for a sustainable space engineering industry stretch beyond space infrastructure and include the need for sufficient ongoing programmes without development and production lags, sufficient technology (Research and Development as well as innovation and adoption) and human capital development programmes. This research also examines the percentage GDP of public expenditure within these requirements that will ensure growth, sustainability and international competitiveness.