

SPACE ACTIVITY AND SOCIETY (E5)
Technology Transfer Trends (1)

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A SURVEY OF NASA TECHNOLOGIES BENEFITING THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

Abstract

NASA has a long history of seeking public benefits from the knowledge gained by its pursuit of advances in aeronautics and space. These benefits or Spinoffs contribute to many industrial sectors including: Health and Medicine; Transportation; Public Safety; Consumer, Home Recreation; Environmental and Agricultural Resources; Computer Technology; and Industrial Productivity. While benefits from these spinoffs are focused on the U.S., many have spanned the globe including numerous applications that are providing many benefits to the developing world. This paper will provide a survey of some of the NASA technologies providing benefit to developing countries around the globe. Examples range from water purification in the Dominican Republic, Iraq and Pakistan, telemedicine and wireless networks in Vietnam, Ethiopia and the Pacific Islands, and satellite imagery to improve environmental decision making in Central America and Kenya.