

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)  
CALLING PLANET EARTH - SPACE OUTREACH TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC (3)

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DEVELOPING SPACE IN DEVELOPING NATIONS

**Abstract**

Developing nations strive towards nation building and the development of a strong economy with a necessity to improve the education and lives of the people in their country. Investing time, skills and money in providing employment and improving the quality of life for young people is improving education through an investment in one's own burgeoning community and the next generation. Giving people the means to improve their lives has a direct impact on the entire economy. Through opportunity, skilling and support, the people invested in may become active participants in research, development and a growing economy. It is essential in these new economies to reach out to the public and educate them on space and more specifically on how space directly impacts their lives. Space has become an integral part of everyday life and economies as a whole could not operate without their reliance on space and thus awareness thereof is key. The Space Arena provides important resources in particular to developing areas. Consider surgery via satellite . . . live surgery sessions broadcast via satellite to remote hospitals provide a firsthand view of some of the most recent practices and procedures. Satellites are integral to urban planning, disaster management, navigation, food security and remote communication. By creating awareness and support for these projects one can play an active role in improving the standard of living for people in all remote areas of a land. The application of space technology is becoming an increasingly important element that affects all arenas from policy to transport, agriculture, the environment, safety and security. How does a developing nation implement a model for outreach and communication with and about the space arena and what are the inherent difficulties faced within these economies? These are the questions this paper endeavors to answer with a case study on current developments within the new space arena of South Africa and its implementation.