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Is Space R&D Truly Fostering A Better World For Our Future? (2)

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SPACE R&D TO ENHANCE LIVE IN EMERGING SPACE COUNTRIES IN AFRICA AND LATIN  
AMERICA

**Abstract**

Recently, “middle economy” countries in Latin America and Africa have expressed growing interest in developing indigenous space programs and independent space-fairing capacities. Concurrently, the space sector worldwide is experiencing massive disruption by way of the introduction of commercial players. It is becoming apparent that the presence of commercial space companies, both domestic and foreign, will play a unique role in the advancement of these middle economy countries along the Space Technology Ladder (STL).

This paper will examine the current landscape of commercial space activity in countries in Latin America and Africa as well as the government’s response to the rise of the industry. A survey of the foreign and domestic industry players in each continent will be provided. In addition, this paper will analyze private-public partnerships and policies that can provide insight into the role government is playing in facilitating or hindering the growth of a sustainable space economy. This breakdown of commercial space activities and analysis of the subsequent government response can serve as a useful resource for other countries developing policies for interacting with industry.