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International cooperation in using space for sustainable development: Towards a “Space2030” agenda (1)

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FORGING PARTNERSHIPS AMONG USERS AND SPACE SOLUTION PROVIDERS

Abstract

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), in its capacity as a capacity-builder, a facilitator and a gateway to space, is leading global efforts in the promotion of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space and in the utilization of space science, technology and applications for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Besides establishing partnerships with external entities, UNOOSA is also working to facilitate the creation of partnerships among users and space solution providers to support countries, especially developing countries, in achieving the SDGs. The space user needs study and the space solutions compendium are dedicated activities to enhance communication between users and providers, and to raise awareness on needs and solutions. UNOOSA is exploring innovative ways to forge partnerships among users and space solution providers and thus contribute to the implementation of global agendas, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The “UN/China Forum on Space Solutions: Realizing the Sustainable Development Goals ” held 24-27 April 2019 in Changsha, China, with the objective of bringing together users and solution providers to forge new partnerships, creates a new platform for UNOOSA to enhance its role as a global facilitator. Through dedicated sessions on needs, solutions, international space cooperation, policy, role of non-public entities and in particular the specially designed match-making event, the Forum proves to be an efficient way to establish global space partnerships. Recommendations and the Changsha Declaration, as outcomes of the Forum, are introduced. New ideas and visions on how to build upon the success of the Forum and further expand global partnerships to make needs meet solutions are elaborated.