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BRINGING SPACE SOLUTION TO NATIONAL NEEDS THROUGH NATIONAL MICROSATELLITE
PROJECTS

Abstract

Microsatellites over the past years have been specified as work efficient, productive and promising. They have shown the ability to not only be used for technology evaluation but also to respond to real user needs. Nations that have limited budgets and limited experience in space look for economically effective solutions to respond to their national needs of sectorial policies such as agriculture, maritime, disaster management, security.

Greece over the past years due to the economic crisis had to find new ways in responding to national needs including its engagement in space. In 2017 it adopted a national space law and moved all civilian space competences and coordination actions under one Ministry. In 2019 it was decided to set up a national microsatellite project in cooperation with the European Space Agency and signed a related agreement. This project is targeting in responding to national needs in particular in the field of earth observation.

This paper will provide an insight of the Greek strategy in space activities over the recent years. The current Greek space ecosystem will be presented and analysed. Additionally, an overview on national needs in a number of policies where space can be used a tool to respond to them will be provided.