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Strategies for Rapid Implementation of Interstellar Missions: Precursors and Beyond (4)

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THE NEXT TEN YEARS: 100 YEAR STARSHIP'S SECOND DECADE

Abstract

The next ten years of the 100 Year Starship (100YSS) are poised to be transformative, driven by ongoing advancements in space propulsion technology, public-private partnerships, and the development of life support systems for long-duration space missions. However, 100YSS is not just about technological advancements; culture, purpose, and the human experience are increasingly important areas of focus.

At the recent Nexus Nairobi 2023 event, leaders from various fields came together to explore the intersection of culture, purpose, and space. The event emphasized the ways in which space exploration can inspire new approaches to cultural and societal challenges. The tagline for Nexus Nairobi 2023, "Space. Radical. Vital. Down to Earth," reflects the idea that developments in space technology have the potential to improve our lives here on Earth.

Health technologies developed for long-duration space travel could have applications for improving healthcare in remote or underserved communities on Earth. Remote imaging and sensing technologies developed for space exploration can be used to address environmental issues on Earth, such as deforestation, water scarcity, and climate change. Education programs developed for space missions can inspire and engage students around the world in STEM fields. Moreover, the cultural impact of space exploration cannot be overstated. Art, music, and literature inspired by space exploration can promote a sense of wonder, curiosity, and imagination, which can inspire innovation and creativity in other fields.

The next ten years of 100YSS will be a time of rapid change and innovation, driven by advancements in technology and the intersection of culture, purpose, and space. By fostering collaboration and dialogue across disciplines and cultures, we can build a more inclusive and holistic vision of the future of space exploration, one that recognizes the potential of these developments to improve our lives here on Earth. Ultimately, 100YSS can inspire a new approach to space exploration, one that recognizes the importance of culture, purpose, and the human experience.

As we look ahead to the next ten years of 100YSS, it is clear that the intersection of culture, purpose, and space will be increasingly important. By working together across disciplines and across borders, we can build a brighter future for all of humanity, one that is rooted in a deep sense of wonder, curiosity, and imagination.