

35th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE AND SOCIETY (E5)
Interactive Presentations - 35th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE AND SOCIETY (IP)

Author: Mr. Louis Le Breuilly
Maldives Space Research Organisation (MSRO), United Kingdom, louis.le.breuilly@msro.mv

ANALOGUE MISSIONS IN THE MALDIVES: CONCEPTS, LIMITATIONS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

Abstract

As of 2024, analogue missions designed to simulate a diverse set of space environments have been hosted in a multitude of countries across the world. Owing in part to their geography, relative physical isolation, and underwater topography, small island nations such as the Maldives offer specific potential opportunities for the field of analogue space missions. However, several of these opportunities have not yet been fully utilised. The development of domestic analogue missions represents a key element of the Maldives Space Research Organisations' roadmap for contribution to and the provision of research opportunities within both national and international contexts. This paper presents an overview and assessment of multiple analogue mission concepts for conducting land-based, underwater, and hybrid format missions within the Maldives or similar small island nations, as well as the respective limitations, potential risks, and specific opportunities that missions within such nations may present to the field.