Designing space policies in emerging countries: main challenges

Magda Cocco
Vieira de Almeida & Associados | Partner
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Emerging and developed markets

GDP per capita income
Purchasing power parity, 2014 ($'000)

Source: IMF
(Space) emerging countries
Where do emerging countries fall in this equation?
Awareness of full impacts and benefits of space activities

At a Public Level

• There is a somewhat unstructured view of outer space benefits for national development – some ideas, and initial projects but no full breadth awareness

• There is no view that connects space activities with the overall and sectorial goals of the country

• There is sometimes a disconnection between what the country can achieve and its aspirations

At the population / civil society level

• No understanding of the role of outer space in day to day life

• No effective use of space products and applications especially in remote rural areas
Awareness of institutions, initiatives and treaties

**International Level**

- There is **no clear vision of the main international bodies dealing with space affairs**, from the UN to other relevant intergovernmental organizations.

- There is **no awareness of the principles and legal impacts of space activities** (from registry to liability, including responsibility, sustainability and even “peaceful uses of outer space”).

**Continental and regional level**

- In certain situations, there is **no awareness of the work being done in space related matters at the continental/regional level**.
Cooperation between...

National competent entities

- Many countries lack an effective cooperation / dialogue among the different public stakeholders with a role in space activities or that benefit from space activities
- This leads to difficulties in achieving a space policy and goals that are acceptable to all and fit for all

Different goals and objectives

- Lack of coordination between competent entities may also lead to duplication of efforts in achieving certain goals
- In fact, one single investment/project in space may have benefits that extend to all areas of a State’s activity
Typically there are not enough trained and qualified human resources to:

- Structure space activities at a national level
- Be a part of international, continental or regional initiatives and projects
- Effectively use space services and products
Financing space activities

• Many of these countries deal with challenges relating with obtaining financing for their activities.

• Obtaining financing for space activities is an additional challenge.
How to tackle these challenges at a national and international level?
“By Design” Approach
Importance of space policy for emerging countries

• Structure and bring together all stakeholders required for the development of space activities in the country

• Define and allocate actions and responsibilities

• Shows that the country is committed to the development of space activities (confidence building tool for emerging countries to foster dialogue)
UN Bodies play crucial role in Space Governance, Capacity building, Confidence Building, Awareness building, Cooperation, and Coordination. “By design approach”
Some key performance indicators towards Space 2030

• More colorful maps for Outer space Treaty and Space Laws in 2030...

Countries that already have national space laws

Outer Space Treaty map

Source: wikipedia: not updated

Not exhaustive / dated 2015
Thank You!

Magda Cocco
mpc@vda.pt

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