

UNOOSA promotes international cooperation in the peaceful use and exploration of space science and technology for sustainable economic and social development; assists Member States in establishing legal and regulatory frameworks to govern space activities; contributes to the implementation of the recommendations of major United Nations global conferences and strengthens the capacity of developing countries to use space science technology and applications.

UNOOSA develops a long-term strategy around global agendas for sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk reduction. Starting in 2015, this strategy draws a plan first towards 2018, UNISPACE+50. The strategy also looks towards a 15 years horizon, as defined in global agendas for sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and climate change. It builds on several guiding principles, including:

- Integrating space capabilities into national development programmes;
- Capitalizing on space technology-derived solutions;
- Advocating use of and universal access to space-derived geospatial data; and
- Leveraging and forging partnerships.

*The initiative seeks to provide flexible, coordinated and predictable funding to support the actions of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA). The **Multi-Donor Strategic Preparatory Initiative** will allow UNOOSA to prepare, structure, and implement activities in the promotion of space-based applications and technologies for innovative and timely actions.*

Following budget reduction at the United Nations Secretariat, UNOOSA is faced with new operational challenges where funds for its “business development” are close to inexistent. Ear-marked extra-ordinary contributions add to the lack of flexibility for outreach, project development and to seek expertise on science, technology or applications development to increase the efficiency of UNOOSA and raise its visibility on international fora. The Multi-Donor Strategic Preparatory Initiative invites interested parties to contribute to the implementation of UNOOSA’s strategy for 2015-2030.

The areas of action are set with the High Level Forum (HLF, Dubai, Nov. 2015) which defines where Space has relevance and where UNOOSA needs to continuously make efforts: space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy. The Forum aims to become a platform for providing updates and recommendations on the potential of space innovations to address new and emerging sustainable development challenges. Furthermore, the HLF will mark the beginning of UNOOSA’s dedicated work towards 2018 as UNISPACE +50 provides the appropriate opportunity to strengthen UNOOSA’s unique position as a platform to foster international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and to bring the benefits of outer space to humankind.

Autonomy to attend:

- IAA Summit, Mexico, Sept. 2015;
- HLF, Dubai, Nov. 2015 with required UNOOSA staff;
- Global and regional platforms of the working group on indicators for disaster risk reduction;
- COP21 of UNFCCC, Paris, Dec. 2015;
- XII Plenary and Ministerial of Group on Earth Observation, Mexico, Nov. 2015;
- UN coordination for SDGs and post-2015 Development Agenda;
- Meetings of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on TCBMs;
- Space Mission Planning Advisory Group (SMPAG) meetings working on NEOs;
- Meetings of the IAWN
- ...

Autonomy to produce:

- Position paper on space applications for global health;
- Project proposal on integrated Earth observation and GNSS application for disaster management;
- UNOOSA Annual Reports;
- Innovative and targeted outreach material;
- In cooperation with other entities, expert information such as the UNOOSA / ITU hand-out on issues concerning very small satellites;
- Expert material on Space Weather
- ...

This broad agenda leading to UNISPACE+50 needs to be supported financially to allow UNOOSA to foster collaboration and develop partnerships. In particular, UNOOSA must ensure to participate to global and regional platforms where plans of action are drawn. It can, *inter alia*:

- Develop and implement commitments with nations under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and promote space tools and applications to the measuring and monitoring of indicators for disaster risk reduction;
- Contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;
- Promote the socio-economic benefits of space tools and applications to the measuring and monitoring of indicators for adaptation to climate change;
- Strengthen inter-agency coordination under UN-SPACE to develop joint activities and programmes with sister UN agencies in Headquarters such as Bangkok, Bonn, Geneva, New York;
- Take advantage of international summits for “business development”;

- Develop innovative and integrated project proposal for funding;
- Contribute to discussion of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on Transparency and Confidence Building Measures (TCBMs)
- Support international efforts on the issue of Near Earth Objects (NEOs) such as meetings by the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group and the International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN).

How much? UNOOSA estimates that an annual fund under the Multi-Donor Strategic Preparatory Initiative of **100,000USD** will sharply increase the number and relevance of its outputs.

The administration of the Multi-Donor Strategic Preparatory Initiative will be under the coordination of the Director of UNOOSA and the funds will be administrated following the United Nations rules and regulations. Funds will be allocated by the Director following the priorities of work of UNOOSA. For more information, please write to ooosa@unoosa.org or phone +43(1) 26060-4951 referring to “**Preparatory Initiative**”.