

SPACE for SDGs a Global Partnership

for

the Coordination of the Development, Operation and Utilization
of Space related Infrastructure, Data, Information and Services
in support of the 2030 Development Agenda

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Scope

- Present initial ideas supporting the opportunity to set up a Global Partnership aiming at closing existing gaps that prevent countries to make full use of Space assets for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Identify a set of near term actions for its detailed definition and formal set up.

Index

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Space and SDGs
- Why a new Partnership
- UNISPACE+50, a unique opportunity
- Building on existing initiatives
- Proposed Partners, UNOOSA and COPUOS roles
- Partnership's areas of action
- Organizational aspects
- Near term actions (from now to UNISPACE+50)

A challenging 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The approval of a challenging 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires new approaches to remove existing barriers and to solve issues that prevent countries to make progress towards and finally achieve the agreed 17 Sustainable Development Goals – SDGs.



17 Goals

169 Targets

232 Indicators

Role of Space in achieving the SDGs

- The key role that space activities, technologies and applications play in helping countries in achieving SDGs targets is well acknowledged and specifically recognized in Art 76 of the UNGA resolution on Agenda 2030 :
“We will promote transparent and accountable scaling-up of appropriate public-private cooperation to exploit the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, **including Earth observation and geo-spatial information**, while
- **Earth Observations** from Space directly address almost all SDGs. CEOS and several space agencies have published reports addressing this point.
- The access to **ICTs and to GNSS** services constitute a necessary element of the platform that integrates and accelerates all three pillars of sustainable development: Economic Growth, Social Inclusion, and Environmental Sustainability. They enable provision of services and their connection to people in areas that are key for the achievement of SDGs, such as: healthcare, societal resilience, transportation,
- **Access to space** and associated research and technology are also key drivers for education and innovation.

A challenging 2030 Agenda countries need support

- Space related infrastructure, data, information and integrated services will play crucial roles only if they become an essential and integral part of this whole-society effort that is expected to take place globally and in each country to achieve the SDGs.
- UNOOSA and COPUOS, based on their unique mandate within the UN System, are committed to make this happen by fostering availability and facilitating countries' access to and use of all “needed space assets”.
- A new, global Partnership, under UNOOSA coordination and COPUOS oversight appears to be the most appropriate solution to consider.

Why a new Partnership

- Establish a direct link between Space and SDGs implementation through one authoritative organization;
- Identify countries' needs (“space assets users' needs”) and foster the availability of Space Systems capacity to meet them; this is a critical gap not currently addressed at the right level - global and interdisciplinary.
- Coordinate and complement the on going supporting actions at different levels thus improving the cost effectiveness of the global process.

UNISPACE+50, a unique opportunity

- UNISPACE+50 provides a unique window of opportunity to set up this Partnership, being all the preparatory work (thematic priorities and the programmatic framework defined by the 4 pillars of space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy) directly addressing the needs of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.
- The new Partnership would complete the picture for the next decades by defining an implementation actor.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Main actors for implementation

- Member States' Governments, acting individually and collectively
- The UN System, acting on parallel and concurrent strands:
- Major Groups and other stakeholders (MGoS) representing nine sectors of society), identified as the main channels through which broad participation would be facilitated.
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships & voluntary commitments, including public and private actors, directly addressing SDG 17.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Implementation processes

The implementation Agenda 2030 is country-led and will occur within a well-established framework characterized by the following major processes (that the proposed Partnership should target for participation and contribution):

- The political steering and oversight process,
- A specific process for SDGs Indicators
- The SDGs link with UN Conventions
- The supporting processes for resource mobilization, such as the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) of the 3rd International Conference on Funding for Development, held in 2015

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The political steering and oversight process

The **High-level Political Forum (HLPF)** ensures the political oversight of the overall process and leverages and coordinates the many UN efforts, and those of international organizations and other partnerships.

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>

A specific process for SDGs Indicators

Two other ad-hoc Groups, supported by the UN Statistical Division, provide specific leadership and guidance on SDG Indicators' framework:

- The **High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building** for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (**HLG-PCCB**), provides strategic leadership for statistical monitoring and reporting.
- The **Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)** (<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/>) develops and implement the global indicator framework for the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. The IAEG-SDGs has set up three Working Groups, among which one on geospatial information

Participation of the new partnership to the SDGs process

- making a clear connection with the High-level Political Forum (HLPF), accepting actions and providing regular reporting;
- becoming a key actor in the SDGs indicators process;
- actively participating and contribute to the processes supporting resource mobilization;
- becoming part of collaborative mechanisms such as UN-Water, UN-Oceans, by coordinating the availability of Space Assets.
- working closely with countries on pilot projects and capacity building, enhancing current initiatives such as UN-SPIDER.

The long term perspective would be that the global partnership would become the authoritative entity and the reference for countries for matters associated to countries' access to space assets.

Building on existing initiatives

A, preliminary, non exhaustive list

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

GPSDD -The Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data

Africa space policy and strategy

UN-SPIDER

UNOOSA-Digital Globe agreement

UN-GGIM - UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

UNEP Live

UNOSAT Program

GEO – Group on Earth Observations

BRICS Constellation

The Charter on Space and Major Disasters

CEOS – Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

CGMS - Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites

Radiant (formerly OIN – Open Imagery Network)

ITSO International Telecommunications Satellite Organization

Telecommunications Industry Association

The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

SSDM - Smart Sustainable Development Model Initiative (led by ITU)

ICG- International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems

Proposed Partners

The proposed (initial) Key Partners are:

- UNOOSA - United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
- CEOS - Committee on Earth Observation satellites
- GEO - Group on Earth Observations
- ICG - International Committee on GNSS
- ITU - International Communication Union
- WMO - World Meteorological Organization
- UNITAR - United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

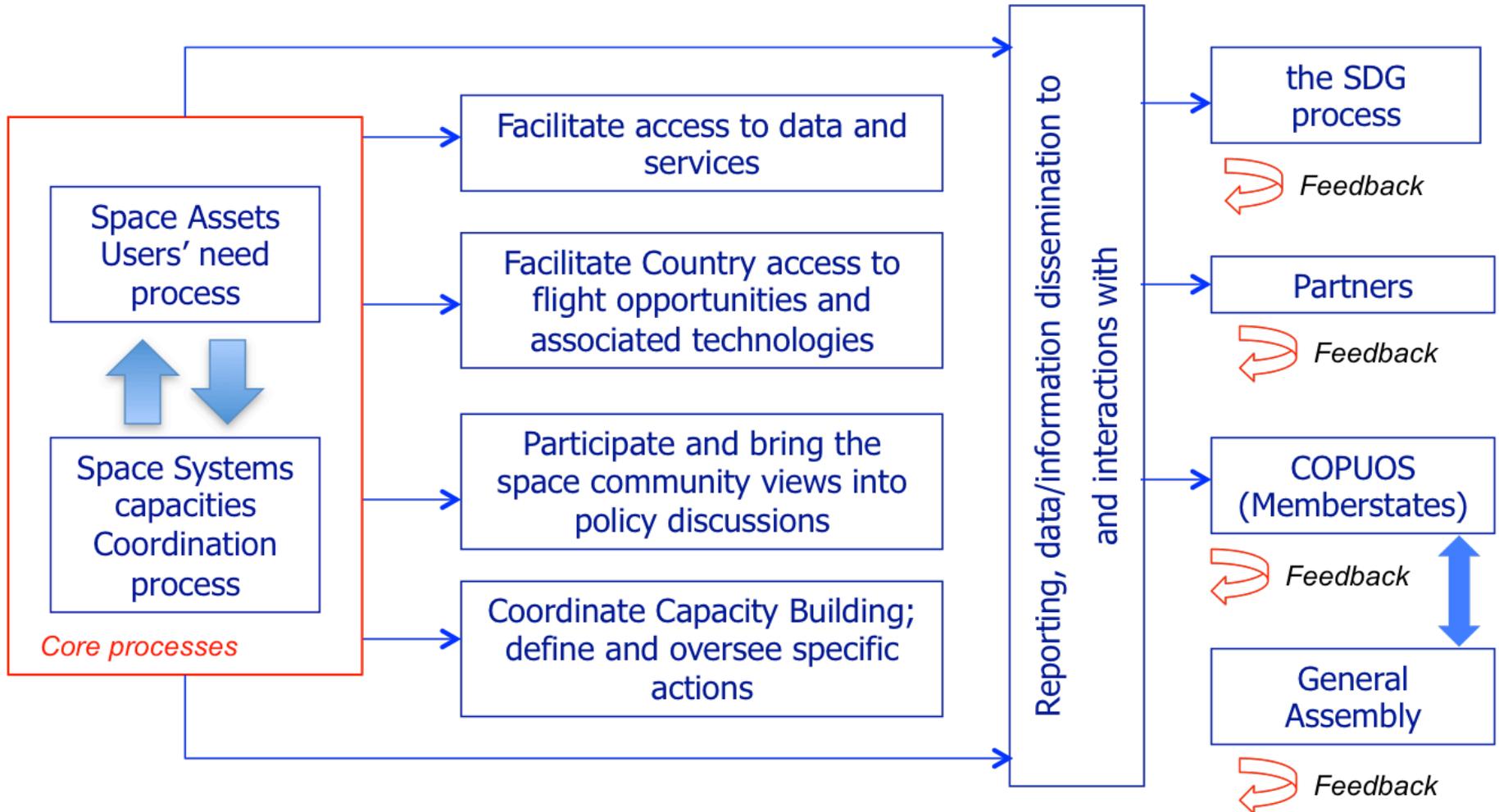
UNOOSA and COPUOS roles

- UNOOSA as the leading Partner and, correspondingly, the COPUOS the “decision making body” of reference;
- Member States direct involvement through COPUOS;
- UNOOSA, as the leading Partner, should acquire the authority and the resources to convene main space actors, public and private, and ask them to work together to identify and develop actions and solutions to meet partnership objectives.

Partnership's areas of action

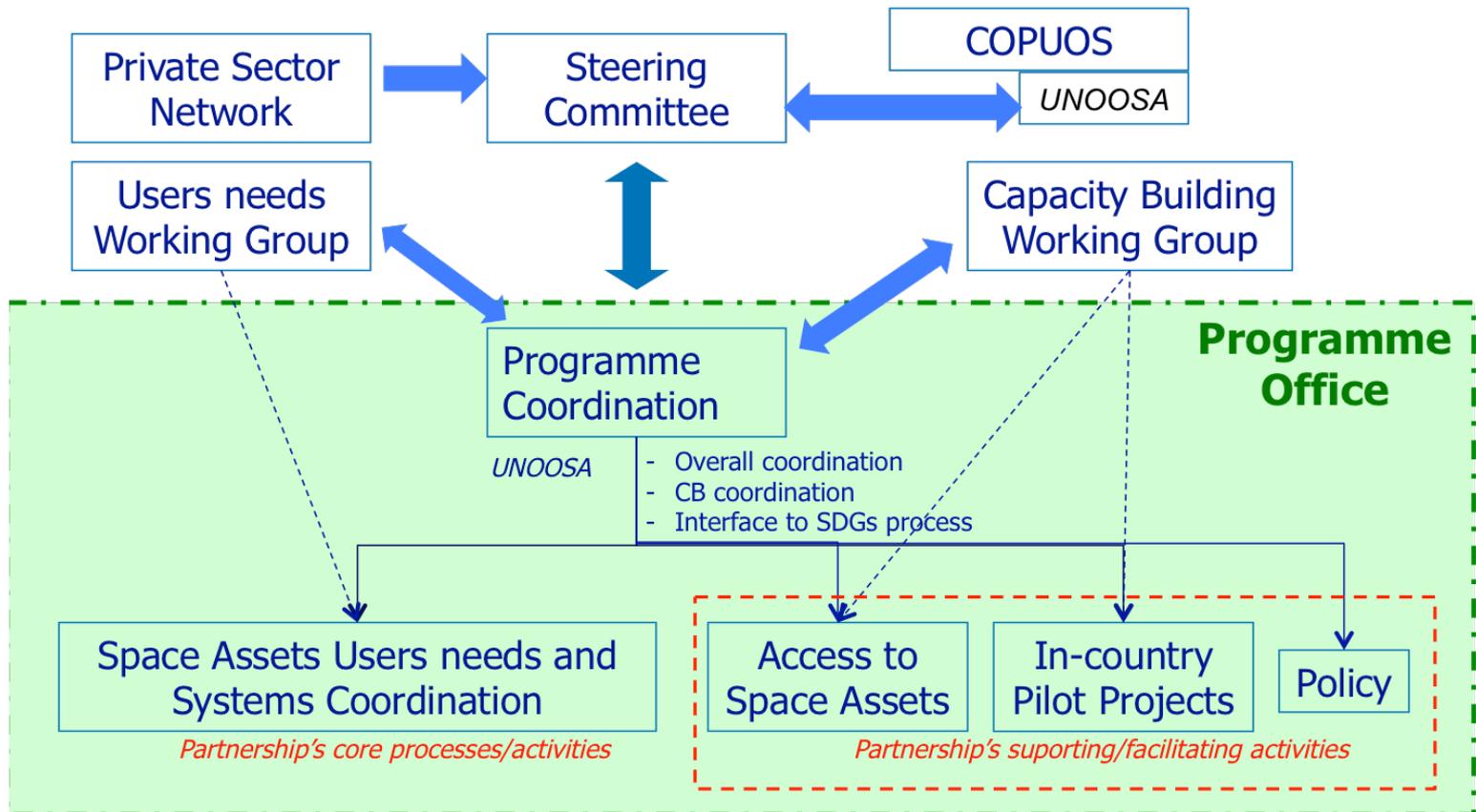
- At the Policy level, that Space Assets are recognized as key components for SDGs implementation and that this is explicitly referred to in high level documents;
- At Coordination & Planning level, active participation to all Fora, Committees, Working Groups and processes dealing with Space Assets contribution to SDGs, making sure that suitable actions are agreed and put in place for their actual use; and
- At Implementation level, delivering the outputs coming from its core processes, improve/complement mechanisms already in place, identify and foster implementation of new ones, coordinate capacity building actions and recommend gap-closure actions.

Schematic Flow of Partnership's activities



Organizational aspects

Possible Partnership's Structure



Near term (from now to UNISPACE+50)

Objective and Actions

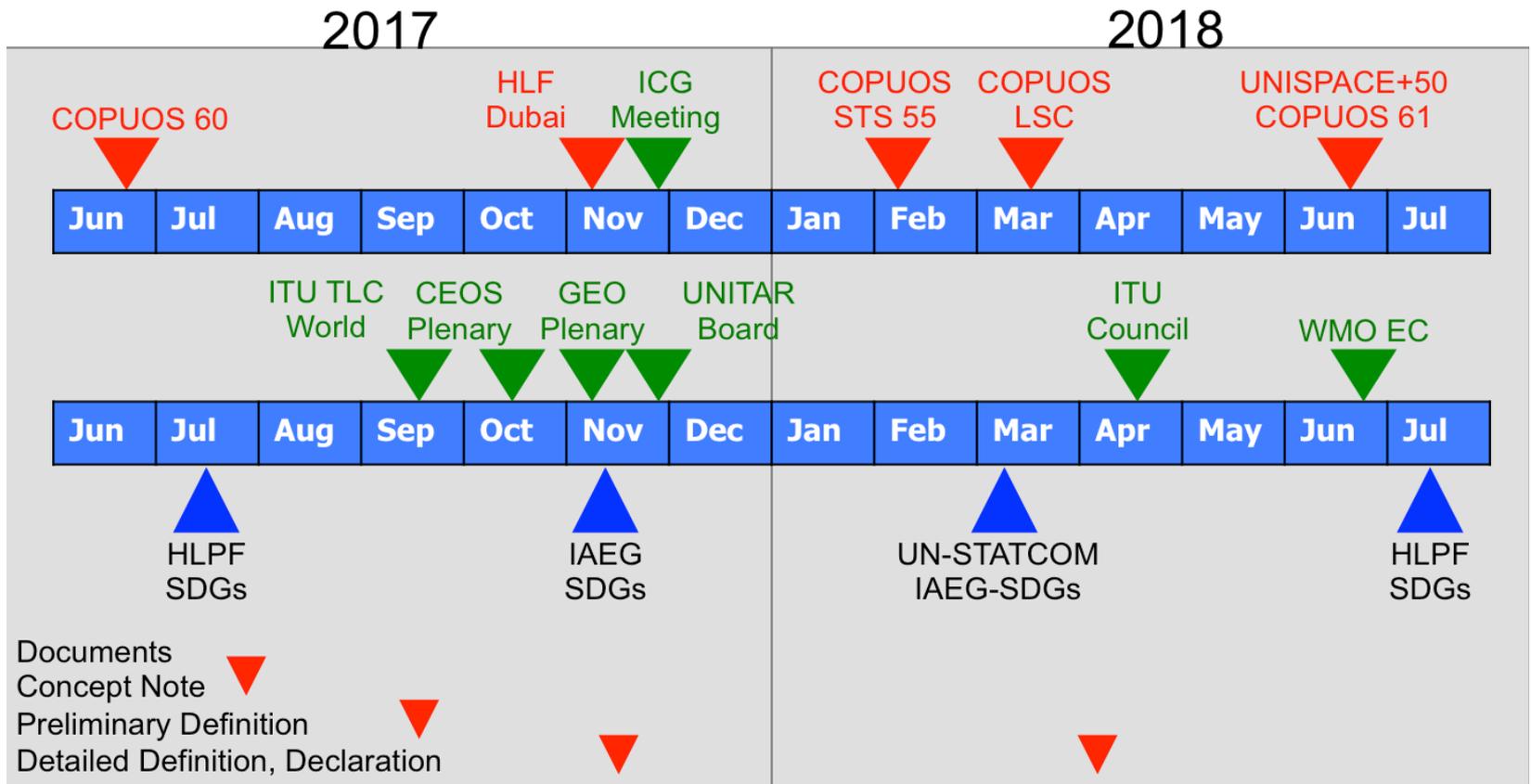
Near term objective

The near term objective would be the approval by the UNISPACE+50 of a declaration on the setup of this new Partnership, which should:

- Reaffirm that Space Assets are key enablers for SDGs achievement;
- Recommend an increased role for UNOOSA (and COPUOS) to ensure that the “space assets users’ needs” are met and that space infrastructure, data and services are actually available and used by the countries;
- Endorse the the set up of the new Partnership (according to the identified Objectives, Partners and Plans) and request UNOOSA to proceed to its implementation.

Near term actions (from now to UNISPACE+50)

Main milestones June 2017 to June 2018



UNISPACE+50 Preparatory Events

Potential Partners Governance Events

SDGs Process main events of interest