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Is Space R&D Truly Fostering A Better World For Our Future? (2)

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THE WORLD SPACE FORUM ACTION REPORT: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IN THE  
DECADE OF ACTION

**Abstract**

Humanity faces global challenges demanding concerted and coordinated effort, utilizing relevant data and tools, and ingenuity for devising innovative solutions. In this context, space assets are indispensable for building a desirable future. The growing attention and interest around space activities translate into an ever more democratized and diverse industry, creating countless opportunities. Simultaneously, these developments exacerbate current and give rise to new issues requiring immediate multilateral action to preserve space for future generations. The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) serves a key role in facilitating efforts for ensuring sustainable use of space for sustainability on Earth. By convening and partnering with relevant stakeholders, UNOOSA brokers international cooperation, promotes multilateralism, bridges the capabilities gap, and addresses sustainability issues. In this Decade of Action, UNOOSA endeavours to step up these efforts by leveraging its unique position in the UN system and vis-à-vis the broader space community. The World Space Forum is the next-generation holistic platform offering an apt avenue for convening stakeholders from all corners of society to ensure sustainable use of space assets for achieving the global frameworks. The second edition of the World Space Forum in 2020, organized under the theme Space for our Future, was built around responsibly providing access to space benefits. In this edition, UNOOSA launched the *World Space Forum Action Report*, the central UN publication of actions the international space community has taken under five specific domains: (1) Partnership: Space for Everyone, Everywhere (2) People: Space for Humanity (3) Planet: Space for our Planet (4) Prosperity: Space for Economy (5) Peace: Sustainable Future in Space. Voluntary submission of activities under UNOOSA serves as a means for accounting for actions on an annual basis which subsequently informs and steers discussions in future forums. This unique approach will accelerate peer-to-peer exchange, bridge user needs with provider solutions, initiate cross-sectoral partnerships, and facilitate global action for space safety, security and sustainability. This paper highlights the current gaps in collecting actions undertaken by different stakeholders and establishes the World Space Forum Action Report as a novel instrument for the benefit of the global community. Furthermore, this paper serves to motivate reader and stakeholder involvement by becoming active focal points for the future.