

United Nations/United Arab Emirates
World Space Forum 2020
"Space for our Future"

#WSF2020

As of today, 70 UN Member States have established space agencies and in 2017 the world launched a record number of satellites. Research shows that around 40% of the 169 targets behind the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) benefit from the use of geo-location and earth observation satellites. With the inclusion of telecommunication satellites, this statistic rises substantially. Today, innovative space-based science and technology is accelerating achievement of SDGs in many parts of the world.



#WSF2020 | Background

The **WORLD SPACE FORUM** is a new event series being hosted by the United Nations that is built on the recommendations generated at three high-level fora held from 2016 to 2018. The sequence of fora demonstrated the growing interest of an increasing number of actors in discussing the future of space and of international cooperation along the pillars of *space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy*.

Thanks to the growing interest of the international space community in the work of the Office and especially the constant increase of attention for the high level forum and also to the remarkable success achieved during UNISPACE+50 the new event series: **WORLD SPACE FORUM** is the next step in offering a holistic platform for the governmental and non-governmental space actors to discuss the future of space and its benefits for everyone, everywhere in an integrated manner.

UNOOSA, as the only Office in the United Nations system dealing exclusively with the peaceful uses outer space, is in a unique position to bring together all relevant stakeholders to make a difference and to ensure that the benefits of space are available to the widest variety of possible users in all countries around the world.

The **United Nations/Austria World Space Forum in 2019** focussed on "**Access to Space4All**" and was held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), Vienna, Austria, on 18 - 22 November 2019.

<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/hlf/2019/world-space-forum-2019.html>

#WSF2020 | Setting the Stage

The stage is set to establish a coherent and coordinated approach on the use of space science and technology to accelerate the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development implementation. Building on the current momentum, UNOOSA proposes the WORLD SPACE FORUM 2020, targeting the world's space agencies, renowned space experts and private sector entities to step up our efforts and ensure such benefits of space are brought to everyone, everywhere.

Under the leadership of UNOOSA, the only UN Office mandated to deal with the peaceful uses of outer space, the World Space Forum will provide a central stage for stakeholders to showcase the many activities they are already undertaking in line with the SDGs. This unrivalled gathering of experts will also facilitate the exchange of best practices and more inter-agency collaboration in support of the SDGs.

#WSF2020 | Targets

- Bring heads of space agencies together to advocate for #space4SDGs
- Raise awareness of space activities and space tools for the achievements of the global agendas
- Present new space technologies that are enabling progress and driving cooperation and partnership in Outer Space
- Position the UN as a unique forum for Space Agencies to collectively shape the future
- Discuss global governance of outer space activities
- Bring together space actors to exchange "space4SDGs" best practice and explore ways to collectively address challenges to humanity and sustainable development
- Facilitate fundraising for #space4SDGs
- Showcase a possible United Nations driven Space Agencies Action Agenda

#WSF2020 | Taking action towards 2030

1. Building on the UAE experience and persuasive power to attract high-level representation and esteemed experts the proposed United Nations/United Arab Emirates World Space Forum should offer a platform for showcasing concrete national, space agency, private sector or civil society actions in support of the work of the United Nations
2. The World Space Forum 2020 should be bringing together space agency leaders, space experts and policymakers from regional and local institutions, private organizations, academic institutions, non-governmental and international organizations.
3. The World Space Forum is designed to function as platform of exchange for the different stakeholders from governmental representatives, civil society and academia as well as the private sector to jointly progress on the discussion on the future of Space including Space Accessibility, Space Society, Space Economy and Space Diplomacy.

#WSF2020 | Set-up

The duration of the virtual #WSF2020 will span over 2 days with a maximum of 180 minutes per day.

#WSF2020 | Target Groups

UN member states	Relevant non-space actors
UN system and other international organizations	Civil society organizations
Private sector entities	Research institutions and universities
Space agencies	

#WSF2020 | Objectives

As we embark on the Decade of Action to deliver the global goals, space agencies all over the world continue to achieve remarkable ends in pursuit of the SDGs. UNOOSA, as the gateway to space in the United Nations, is well placed to bring this range of global activity into one place to encourage the coordinated direction needed to maximise the impact of such efforts:

- Position the UN as an enabling forum for Space Actors to collectively shape the future
- Promote the importance private sector and entrepreneurship enablement in fostering innovation and assuring sustainable growth in Space Activities.
- Raise awareness of space activities and space tools for the achievements of the global agendas
- Present new space technologies that are enabling progress and driving cooperation and partnership in Outer Space
- Exchange on the need to ensure long-term sustainability of outer space activities
- Discuss global governance of outer space activities and its contribution towards the future of space
- Bring together space actors to exchange on best practice and explore ways to collectively address challenges to humanity and sustainable development issue to launch a:

"World Space Forum Action Report"

- ✓ **Space solutions** to promote broader inclusion of space solutions and generate more resources for the achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals
- ✓ **Economic Development Action** by enabling private sector, entrepreneurship, and investment in space activities that foster innovation and economic growth.
 - ✓ **Global action** for space safety and sustainability
- ✓ **Partnership action** to jointly develop effective programs to overcome the growing "space divide"