SECURE WORLD FOUNDATION Promoting Cooperative Solutions for Space Sustainability

Regional Space Cooperation: Spotlight on Latin America

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About SWF



- SWF is a private operating foundation dedicated to the secure and sustainable use of space
- Why space sustainability? Increasing reliance on space assets coupled with potentially destabilizing trends
- SWF Focus Areas
 - Space Sustainability
 - Space Law and Policy
 - Human and Environmental Security



Screenshot from Stuffinspace.net; cover of Apogeo Spatial spring issue; panelists at "Challenges in Sharing Weather Satellite Spectrum with Terrestrial Networks" event held in Wash. D.C.

Background: Space in Latin America

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- Range of space development across the region, recent emphasis on formalization and diversification
- Development steps vary; active mix of industry, government, and academic activities
- Some programs had military beginnings in the 1960s, others a more recent emergence (2000s)
- Two main trends:
 - Challenge of making the case for space
 - Strong linkage with practical goals of development agenda



Slides from SWF-ACAE workshop in 2015 by representatives from Costa Rica, Cuba, and Mexico.

Snapshot of space nations

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ARGENTINA CONAE

- Since 1960s; civil agency est. 1991
- Latest national space plan for 2004-2015
- Broad range of activities; including Tronador rocket program

BRAZIL **AEB** AGÊNCIA ESPACIAL BRASILEIRA

- Since 1960s
- Civilian agency est.
 1994
- PNAE issued in 10year increments (latest 2013)
- Focus on industrial development, and meeting national needs

COLOMBIA

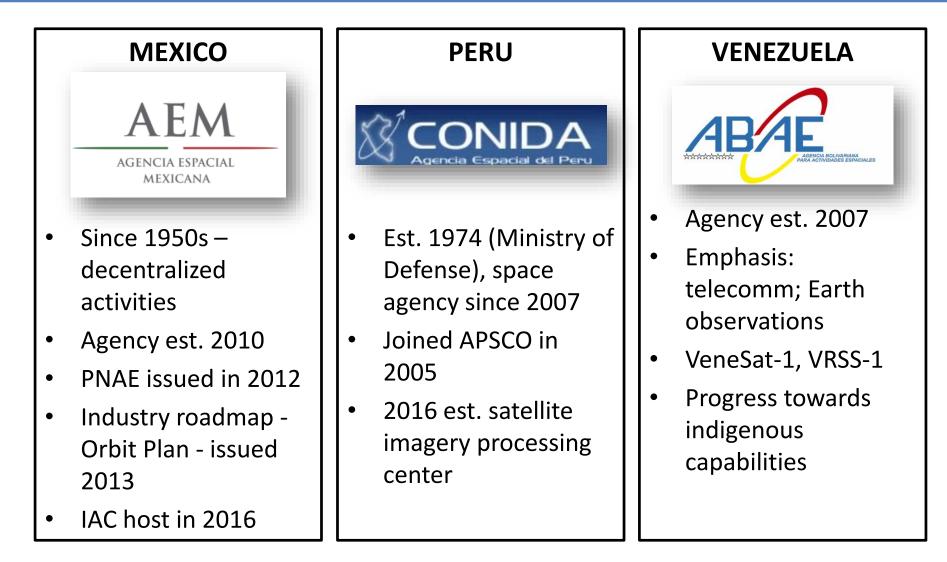


- Momentum with2002 CEA hosting
- Coordinative
 functions under Vice
 Presidency (CCE)
- Academia a primary player, ex. cubesat university programs (Libertad 1)



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A consistent theme

- Captured in the statements and plans of the agencies and country leadership
- Couched as both need (technology transfer) and commitment (political goal)
- Manifest through bilateral, regional, and multilateral (international) engagement

Drivers for regional cooperation

- Shared socioeconomic challenges = drivers for space investment
- Limited resources (financial, institutional, human capital)
- Political commitment to regional development

Regional cooperation mechanisms

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Bilateral agreements and programs

- Range from general statements of shared goals and goodwill to detailed agreements laying out shared tasks and responsibilities
- Examples of bilateral agreements within the region:
 - Brazil: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Peru,
 Venezuela
 - Venezuela: Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia
- Important to note bilateral cooperation is not limited to regional partners





Above: Uruguayan and Venezuelan flags; Japanese and Brazilian flags.

Multilateral

- Within international frameworks, examples of regional structures to promote coordination and develop shared positions:
 - AmeriGEOSS (Group on Earth Observations)
 - GRULAC (United Nations: General Assembly and COPUOS)
- Space-focused regional efforts:
 - Space Conference of the Americas (CEAS) Seven regional conferences since 1990. Latest (VII CEA) celebrated in Nicaragua in 2015
 - Central American Association of Aeronautics and Space (ACAE) based in Costa Rica, focused on Central American sub-region
- Standing regional conferences have also emerged:
 - Latin American Remote Sensing (LARS) Week, International Air & Space Fair (FIDAE), Latin American Cube Sat Workshop, etc.



- Space in the region: Diversity of experiences, common priorities and areas of interest
- Commonalities manifest in consistency of views on space-related issues (e.g. space security and space sustainability)
- BUT group dynamics not just defined geographically (e.g. BRICS); strong partnerships also exist with countries outside of the region (e.g Brazil and China)
- Main shared challenges impacting space efforts/ cooperation:
 - Lack of resources
 - Lack of sustained political commitment
 - Limited institutional coordination
- Real momentum across the region has also manifested itself in innovative partnerships: *space is there to stay*

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THANK YOU!

Questions? Comments? Idelgado@swfound.org