

Luxembourg: a pioneer in space

BCFL meets Luxembourg Space Cluster

Luxembourg Embassy in Paris

21 June 2017



Luxembourg space landscape

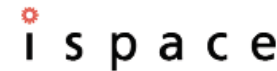
Luxembourg has been active in space for more than 30 years

- 1985: Creation of Société Européenne des Satellites (SES)
 - First launch in 1988 (ASTRA 1A)
 - 2001 acquisition of GE Americom
 - 2006 acquisition of NewSkies
 - Today, one of the largest geostationary satellites operators
- 2000: Cooperation agreement with ESA to participate in the ARTES programme (telecom)
- 2004: Signature of the adhesion agreement
- 2005: Luxembourg becomes the 17th Member State of ESA
- 2008: First National Action Plan for Space R&D
- 2012: ESA co-Presidency with Switzerland
- 2014: ESA Ministerial Council in Luxembourg
- 2015: Presidency of EU Council



It has developed a solid industrial and research landscape ...

- SES, worldwide leader in satcom and one of the largest geostationary satellites operators
- ~30 private companies active in the space, ground and downstream segments
- Several R&D laboratories within the Public Research Organisations LIST and Uni.lu
- Industry group for the aeronautic and space industry: GLAE
- Luxembourg Space Cluster



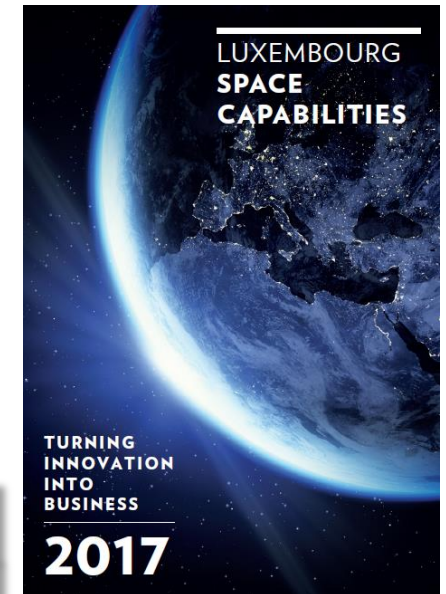
... with competencies along the whole space value chain

Space Segment
<p>Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structures (satellite, instrument) • Support panels for solar arrays • Heat exchanger / radiator panels • Solar Sail Material • Electric propulsion <p>Sub-systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIS & ADSB receivers • Telemetry, Telecommand & Ranging sub-systems <p>System level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro-satellites (<100 kg) • Satellite simulator <p>AIT means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical and Electrical Ground Support Equipment

Ground Segment
<p>Ground Stations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground station elements (reflectors, drive system, Monitoring & Control, radome) • Ground stations • Telemetry Tracking & Control, In-Orbit Testing & Uplink Stations • Fixed & Mobile / Limited & Full Motion • Deployment & commissioning • Maintenance services <p>Flight operation & payload data ground segment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Operation Center • Security • Data hubs

Services / Applications	
<p>Satellite services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satellite engineering & Launcher procurement • Flight Dynamics • Transfer Orbit Services & In-Orbit Testing (IOT) • Hosting & Teleport Services • Satellite Broadband services 	<p>Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental monitoring & Management (Land & Forest; Atmosphere; Floods) • Transport Management & surveillance • Satcom for Crisis Management & Humanitarian Aid • Location based services

Catalogue on space capabilities
Full information on:
www.spacecluster.lu



The national space action plan defines strategic policy objectives and defines a few key thematic priorities

National space policy objectives

- Contribute to the **diversification** and **sustainability** of economic activities in Luxembourg
- Consolidate and valorise the **existing competencies in the domain of media and telecommunications**
- Contribute to **reinforce the competitive position** of industry and public research organizations in the space sector
- **Expand competencies** in the sector
- Integrate Luxembourg entities in **international networks**

Key thematic priorities:

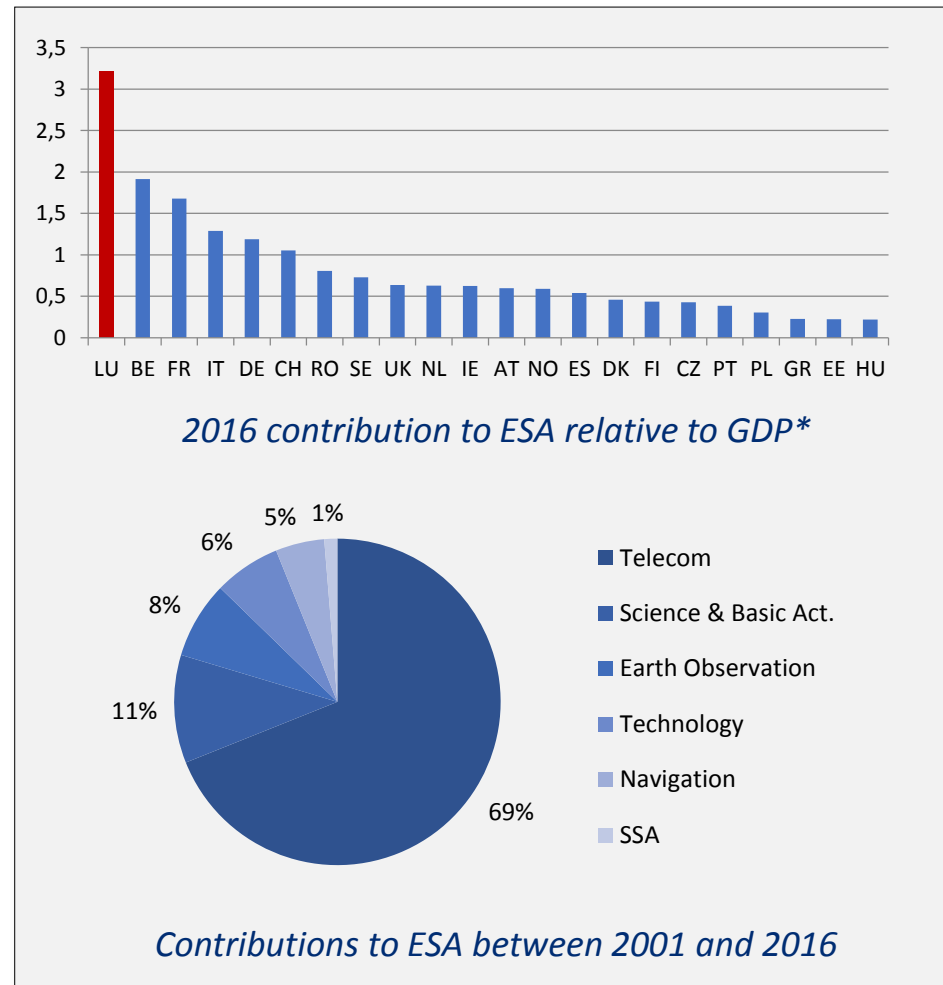
- Value added services using satellite data & infrastructures
- Ground equipment (Stations, MGSEs)
- Satellite equipment (Structures, Electric propulsion)
- Microsatellites (Platform and payloads)
- Utilization of space resources

Instruments:

- **National Programme LuxIMPULSE**
- **ESA programmes**
- **ESA Young Graduate Trainees**
- **EU space programmes**
- **EU Horizon 2020**
- **Bilateral and multilateral cooperation**

Luxembourg is an active member of ESA

- 6 May 2004: Signature of the adhesion agreement
- 30 June 2005: Luxembourg becomes the 17th Member State of ESA
- 20 Nov. 2012: ESA co-Presidency with Switzerland
- 2 Dec. 2014: ESA Ministerial Council in Luxembourg
- 1-2 Dec. 2016: ESA Ministerial Council in Lucerne



* Total contribution to ESA compared to the contribution to the mandatory programmes (based on GDP)



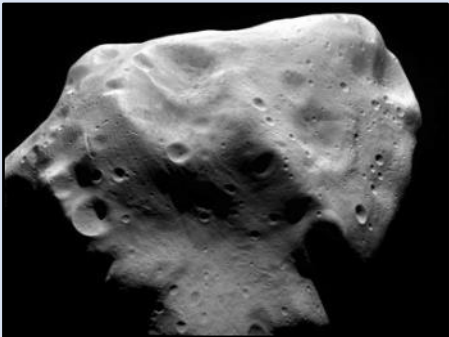
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Luxembourg Space Resources Initiative

In February 2016, Luxembourg announced its intention to study and promote the utilization of space resources

Space resources can be found on many celestial bodies...

- Abiotic materials that are present on asteroids, the moon or other celestial bodies, and that can be extracted (e.g. metals, gas, water, ...)
- More generally, space resources can also include solar energy, radiations, gravitational waves, etc.



Images: NASA: RecentlySpotted Asteroid NoRiskforEarth | File:Full Moon Japan.jpg-Wikipedia



... and be used on Earth

Rare metals (e.g. Pt, Pd, ...), gases (He-3)

- To guarantee the continuous access to rare materials once the resources on Earth will be exhausted
- Positive environmental impact on Earth



... as well as in space

*Water, Fuel/propellant
Building materials*

- To support the current space industry
- To support robotic and human exploration of space
- To enable a new economy in space



Images: Whole world -landandoceans.jpg-WikimediaCommons /media/images/Channel4/c4-news/2014/March/27/27_solar_system_r_w.jpg

Current space activities are limited by the launchers... Space resource utilisation will break this limit!



Launcher-related limitations to activities in space

- Current satellites / spacecrafts have to fit into the fairing of rockets
 - Limits the size to a diameter of around 5 m
 - Need of mechanically complex deployment mechanisms (e.g. for solar panels)
- Current launch costs are extremely high
 - Launch costs, typically ~10 000 \$/kg
 - Heavy launcher: ~100 M\$
- This is also true for propellant (for living, for propulsion)

... and how utilization of space resources might help

- No need to launch everything from Earth
- Manufacturing of structures in space
 - Size becomes quasi unlimited
 - No need for complex mechanisms
 - Micro-gravity allows structures that are not possible on ground
- Water can be sourced from asteroids or the Moon, and used for life support and as propellant (O₂ & H₂)

Newly developed technologies can bring short-term business opportunities in the current space and terrestrial markets

Space applications

- Higher performance
- Lower costs
- Miniaturization
- Mass / Power optimization
- More autonomy & flexibility
- In-orbit servicing
- ...



Image : ESA

Technologies needed for space resources exploration and utilization

- Robotics, autonomous systems
- Artificial intelligence
- Failsafe systems
- Telecommunications (Optical, data relay)
- High-performance computing / Data analysis
- Remote sensing
- In-situ sensing
- Propulsion systems
- Innovative energy systems
- Innovative Materials
- 3D printing/ Additive manufacturing
- ...

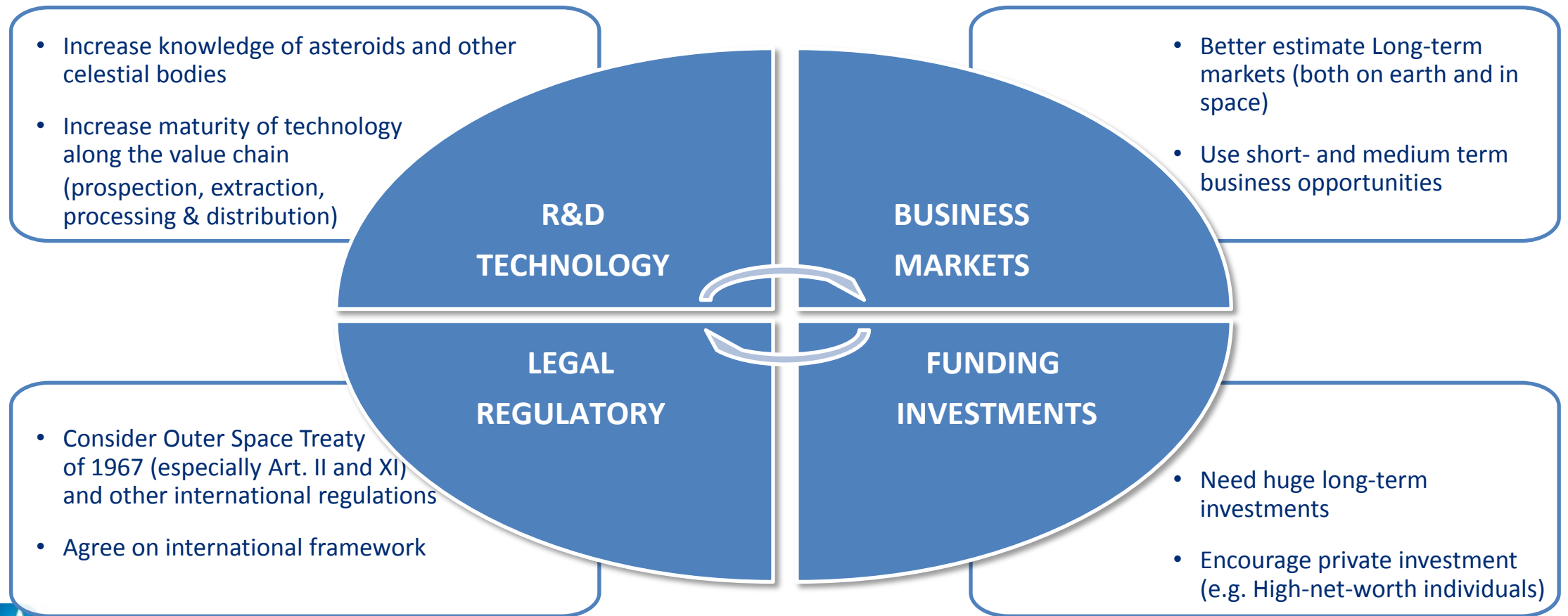
Terrestrial applications

- Mobility
- Transport
- Agriculture
- Manufacturing
- Insurance
- Security
- Energy
- Oil&Gas, Mining
- Infrastructure
- ...

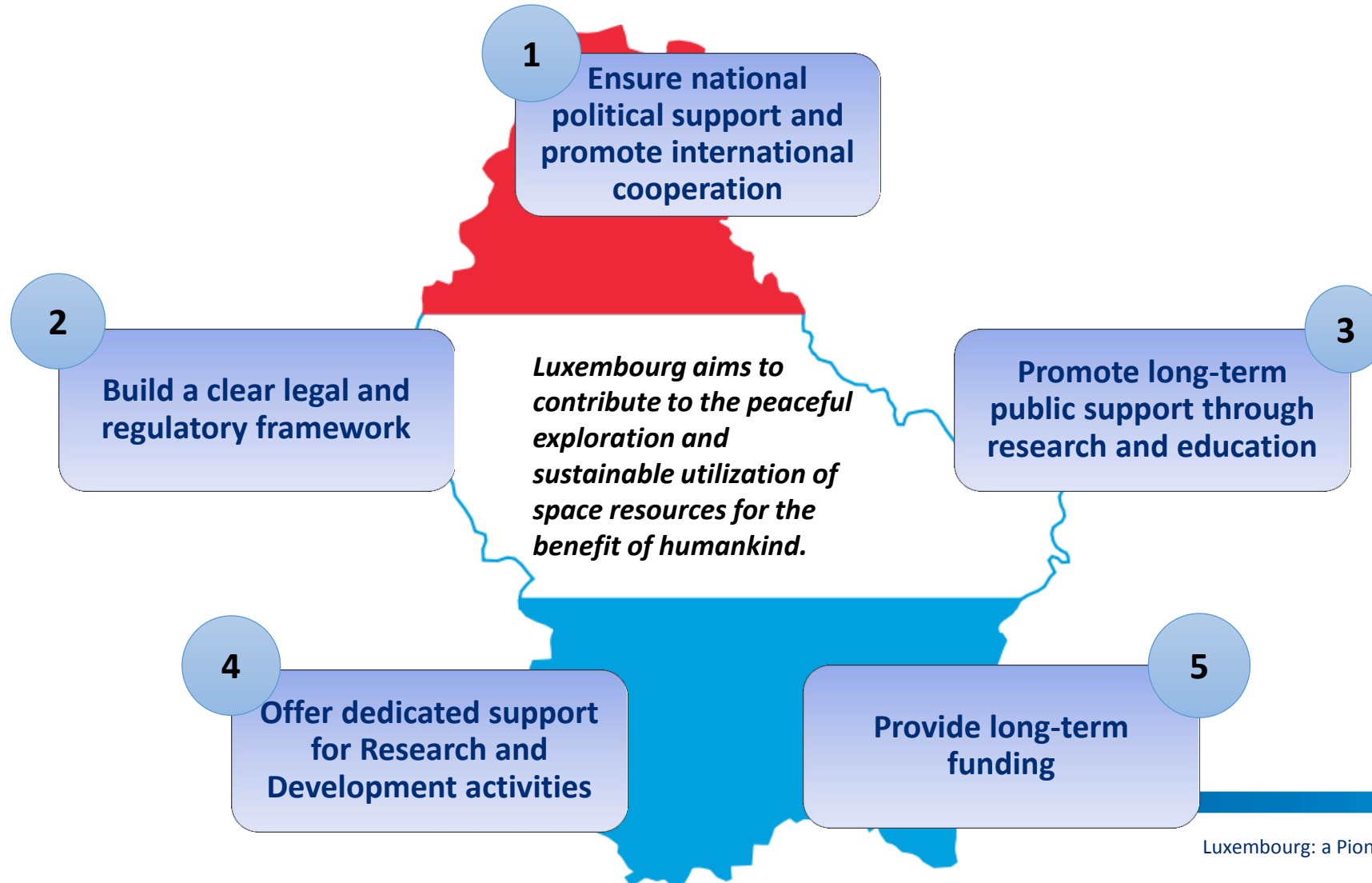


Image: Whole world -landandoceans.jpg- WikimediaCommons

Many challenges need to be tackled for an operational use of space resources at an industrial and commercial scale



Luxembourg aims to position itself as a European hub for the utilization of space resources, working along 5 main pillars



Space resource utilization: let's make it happen!

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Thank you
for your attention

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