National Aeronautics and Space Administration

EXPLORE SCIENCE

Office of International and Interagency Relations (OIIR)

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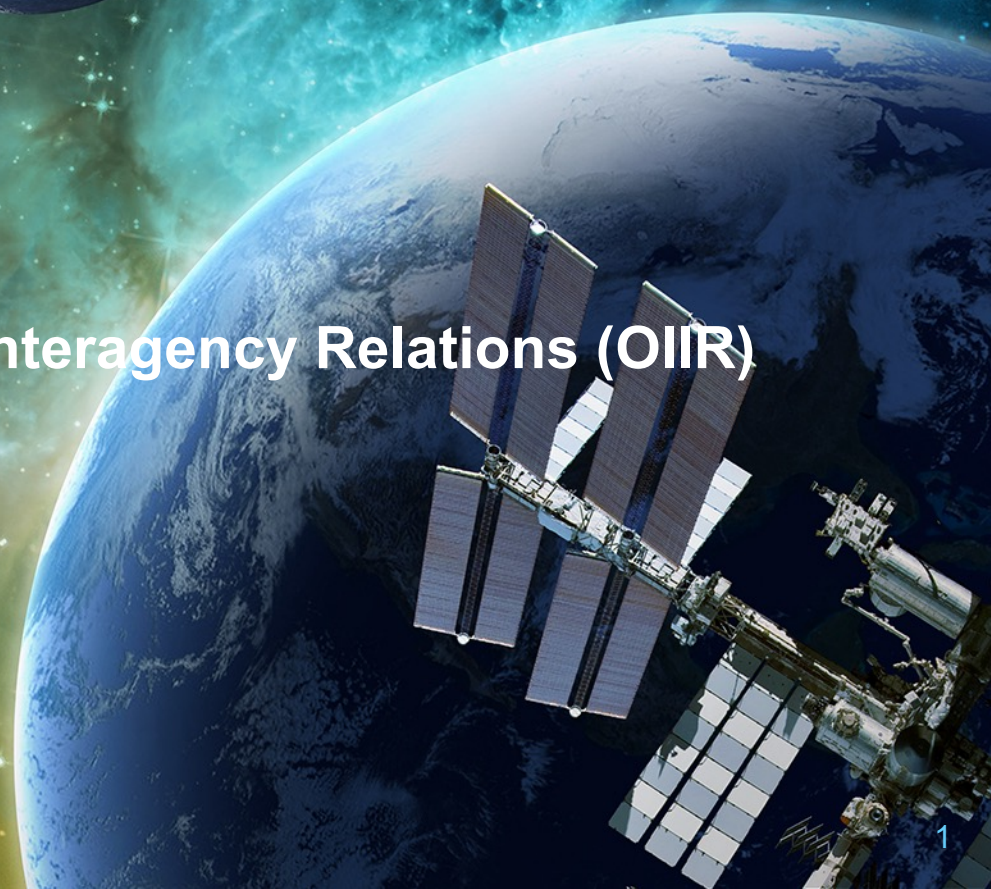

International Cooperation Overview for HE22 SMEX

The goal of this briefing is to:

- Provide a brief introduction to international cooperation at NASA
- Provide a brief overview of guidelines for international cooperation
- Introduce the purpose of International Agreements, some basic requirements, and the relation of International Agreements to the AO process

OIIR
NASA OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AND INTERAGENCY RELATIONS

Overview of International Cooperation at NASA

- International cooperation at NASA is:
  - Part of NASA's foundational legislation
    - Since 1958, NASA has concluded over 6000 agreements with over 150 nations and international organizations
  - Actively operating in every region in the world
- NASA's international Partners:
  - Are generally government agencies due to the significant level of investment and legal requirements for scientific cooperation
    - ~20% of recent new activities were with first-time Partners
  - Fund their contributions
    - Each Partners' respective contributions need not be equivalent
    - Exchange of funds is not permitted in cooperative activities

Overall Guidelines for NASA's International Cooperation

- Projects/Partnerships generally must:
  - Have scientific and technical merit and be mutually beneficial
  - Be based on non-exchange of funds
  - Make scientific results available to the general scientific community as soon as possible
  - Establish clearly defined managerial and technical interfaces to minimize complexity
  - Be structured to protect against unwarranted technology transfer
  - Be documented in a written, binding agreement, closely coordinated with the U.S. Department of State and other U.S. government agencies
- Cooperation must also be consistent with the foreign policy objectives of each Partner

What International Agreements Accomplish

- International agreements are tools that:
  - Clarify responsibilities of the partners
  - Confirm commitments and terms
  - Document the exchange and benefits of the cooperation for each partner
  - Protect investment and interests, such as:
    - Technical data rights
    - Intellectual property rights
    - Allocation of risk and cross-waiver of liability
  - Allow import/export of technical data and goods
  - Confirm arrangements to meet international obligations, such as UN Registration Convention, as needed

Getting Started on International Agreements

- International agreements are:
  - Drafted *after* final selection are made
  - Not typically drafted for Phase-A Studies
  - Not required for proposals or Concept Study Reports
- The NASA Office of International and Interagency Relations (OIIR) conducts the international agreement process
  - International agreements can take several months to over a year!
- Need Date: Program Design Review OR No later than Key Decision Point-C.

Other Requirements Regarding International Participation

- Non-U.S. Participation Requirements are detailed in the Announcement of Opportunity (AO)
- For foreign participation, a Letter of Commitment is needed from the foreign partner's government agency or funding institution acknowledging the activity and preferably indicating sufficient funds will be made available

SMD Rules for PI-initiated International Partnerships

- The NASA Science Mission Directorate (SMD) has new guidelines for PI-initiated international partnerships:
  - A PI *can* develop international partnerships as part of the mission proposal for a PI-led *NASA mission or instrument development* when partnership:
    - Is a contribution to a PI-led mission or instrument development AND
    - The contribution is consistent with the limits of the AO or NASA Research Announcement (NRA), which is generally less than 1/3 of the payload and/or less than 1/3 of the mission
  - A PI *cannot* develop international partnerships as part of the mission proposal for a PI-led *international partner mission or instrument development*

Export Controls Rule

- NASA's International agreements do NOT trump export control laws and regulations
- An International agreement does not replace a contractor's need for a Technical Assistance Agreement

Post Selection: Advice for Getting Started

You've been selected. Now what? A preview of the next steps for the international agreement:

- Get in touch with the NASA Headquarters Program Scientist and/or Program Executive; include in conversations international contributions
- Provide the Office of International and Interagency Relations (OIIR) with (#1) any Letters of Commitment from international partners
- OIIR will assist in determining if an international agreement is needed. If so:
  - Provide (#2) a couple-paragraph program description and (#3) the list of responsibilities for the U.S. side and the international partner side for each participating country. Templates are available, and OIIR will assist.
- Start at no later than KDP-C minus one year.
- OIIR will lead the agreement process from there.

Questions?

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Thank You and Good Luck!