National Aeronautics and Space Administration





Getting Your Internationalities Straight

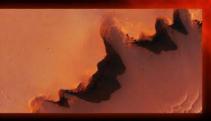
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EARTH SCIENCE





PLANETARY SCIENCE



ASTROPHYSICS



International cooperation at NASA

- Directed by the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 and continues to be part of national space policy
- A cornerstone of NASA's activities throughout its history
- Includes over 3,000 agreements with over 100 nations
- Brings multiple benefits to NASA and its partners
- Pursued for a variety of reasons, through a combination of choice and necessity

Current international cooperation

- Nearly 500 active international agreements
- 8 partners account for 50% of agreements (France, Germany, ESA, Japan, UK, Italy, Canada, Russia)
- By mission area: 2/3 are in science missions
- By region: 1/2 are with partners in Europe



NASA International Cooperation Policy

NASA international partners are generally government agencies due to the significant level of investment and legal requirements

Cooperation must be consistent with U.S. foreign policy objectives

Projects/Partnerships:

- Must have scientific and technical merit
- Must demonstrate a specific benefit to NASA, support Mission Directorate objectives
- Are structured to protect against unwarranted technology transfer
- Are structured to establish clearly defined managerial and technical interfaces to minimize complexity
- Are documented in a formal agreement coordinated with the Department of State and other U.S. government agencies

Each Partner funds its respective contributions

• but contributions need not be equivalent



Principal Investigator

• Science definition and overall responsibility for mission success

Program Executive/HQ

- Programmatic (including budget) and technical oversight
- Interface to Agency support functions

Program Scientist/HQ

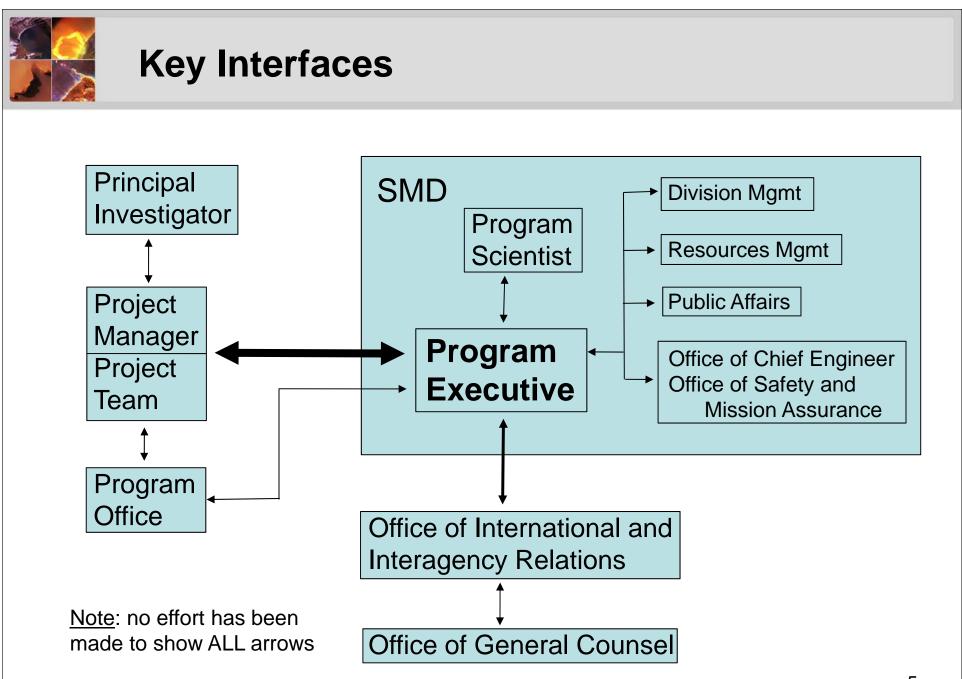
Science coordination

Office of Interagency and International Relations/HQ

- Agency international cooperation policy
- Management of relationships with foreign and USG agencies
- International agreements (and interfaces to agency supporting functions)

Project Office

Project execution





International Agreements

NASA's legal authority flows from Space Act of 1958

Purposes of Agreements

- Define allocation of technical responsibilities
- Document legal provisions of partnership and points of contact
- Assure compliance with export control regulations

Program Executive Responsibilities

- Define respective technical contributions to lay out in the agreement
- Negotiate NASA-partner management structure, including POCs on both sides
- Collaborate with OIIR to assemble the document

OIIR Responsibilities

- Assemble draft agreement by combining PE inputs and legal provisions
- Obtain Headquarters concurrences
- Obtain State Department clearance (if necessary)
- Negotiate and conclude (sign) agreements



Sample Clauses in International Agreements

- Purpose of Cooperation
- Responsibilities
- Rights in Resulting Data
- Financial Arrangements
- Points of Contact
- Liability and Risk of Loss
- Registration of Space
 Objects
- Transfer of Goods and Technical Data
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Release of Results and
 Public Information

- Exchange of Personnel and Access to Facilities
- Customs Clearance and Movement of Goods
- Ownership of Equipment
- Consultation and Dispute
 Resolution
- Investigations of Mishaps and Close Calls
- Choice of Law
- Amendments
- Continuing Obligations
- Entry into Force, Term, and Termination

Principal PE contributions

A few clauses not frequently used for science cooperation are omitted

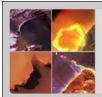


Headquarters Agreements Process

- 1. Starting point is development of "NASA does" and "partner does," identify POCs
 - Introduced in the proposal; details worked out between PE+project and the foreign partner
- 2. PE holds preliminary consultations with OIIR
- 3. PE creates tasking for OIIR via creation of a new record in SPIAD database
 - Project and partner, very brief summary of respective contributions
 - Agreement need date and need date rationale
 - Also: PE provides detailed "NASA does/Partner does" section to OIIR
- 4. OIIR determines type of agreement and choice of law, completes SPIAD record

Begin PERIODIC status reviews by OIIR management and PE/division management

- 5. OIIR drafts agreement, begins HQ concurrence loop (starts at SMD division)
- 6. OIIR submits to DOS for interagency review (if needed)
- 7. OIIR, supported by PE, conducts negotiations on the agreement (as needed)
- 8. OIIR executes, or arranges for execution of the agreement



Agreements Challenges

Negotiations

- Technical negotiations (e.g., data public release policy)
- Choice of law
- Questions of partner legal competence

Press of other business in OIIR

Concurrence routing in HQ

State Department clearance (C -175)

Elapsed time for partner processing

- Partners' unfamiliarity with legal provisions of USG agreements
- Partners' approval processes (also exchange of diplomatic notes, etc.)

Development duration for new agreements since Jan 1, 2009:

• 312 days average, 1806 days worst case



Take-Away

- International agreements are a key element of project management
- Authority to develop and execute international agreements is vested in OIIR
- Headquarters SMD is here to help
- Your Program Executive is your friend
 - Is your advocate at Headquarters
 - Knows what to do and how to do it
 - Knows who to talk to, to get things done
 - Can reduce confusion, save you time, and even keep you out of trouble