

International Cooperation at NASA



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Agenda

- **International Cooperation**
 - Overview
 - Guidelines
 - Challenges

- **International Cooperation by Mission Directorate**

- **Looking Forward:**
 - Some International Issues
 - “Non-traditional” partners

- **Summary**



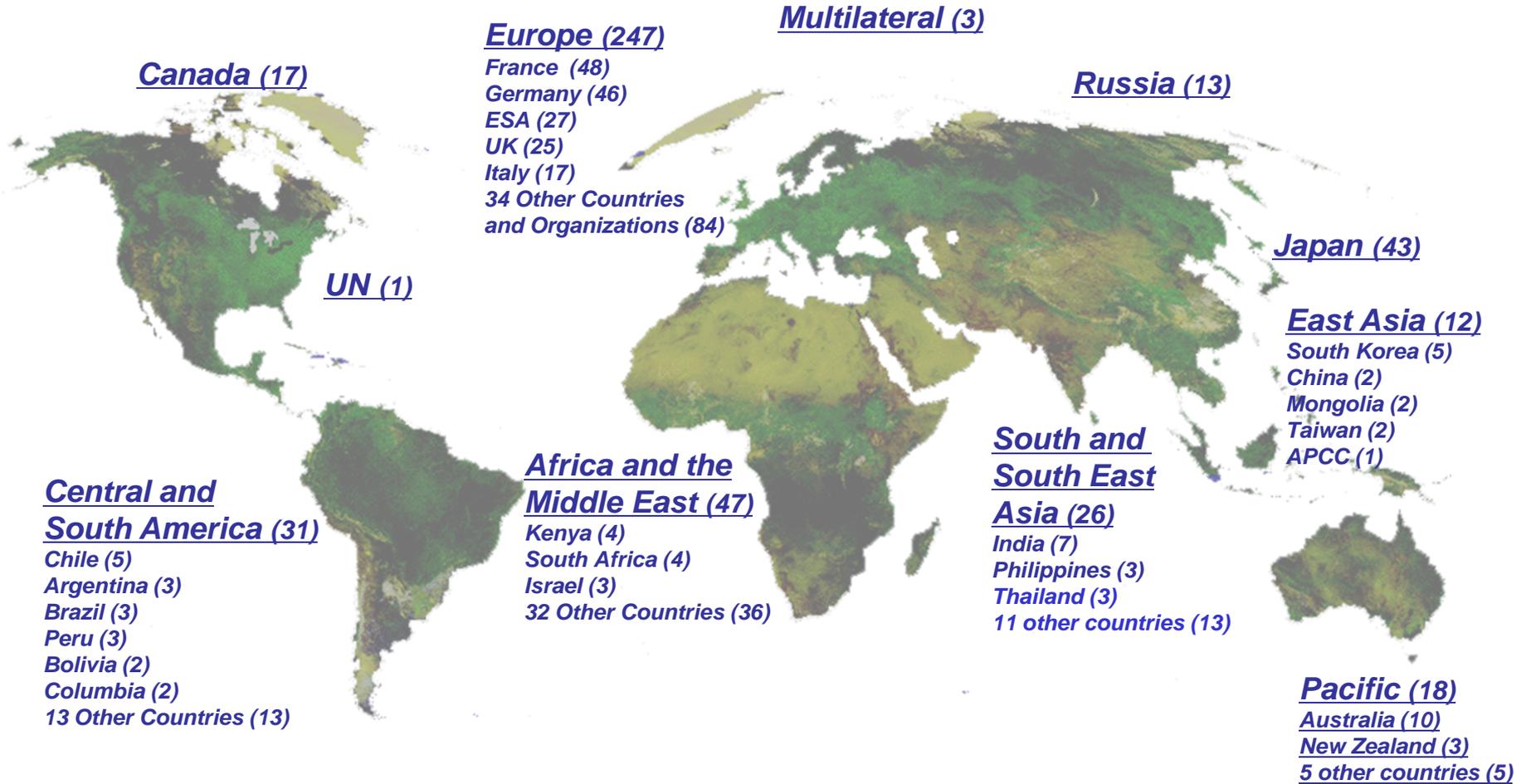
International Cooperation: Overview

- **International cooperation at NASA:**
 - Is directed by the National Aeronautics and Space Act that created NASA in 1958 and continues to be part of national space policy
 - Has been 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
 - Is developed through a combination of choice and necessity
- **Current international cooperation:**
 - 458 active international agreements, 118 countries
 - 10 partners account for 50% of the agreements (France, Germany, ESA, Japan, UK, Italy, Canada, Russia, Australia, Spain)
 - By mission area: 2/3 are in the NASA science missions
 - By region: 1/2 are with partners in Europe



Current International Cooperation

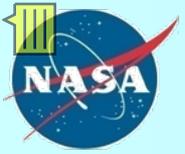
Total International Agreements = 458, total countries = 118





Guidelines for International Cooperation

- **NASA's international partners are generally government agencies**
- **Each Partner funds its respective contributions, but contributions need not be equivalent**
- **Cooperation must be consistent with U.S. foreign policy objectives**
- **International Projects/Partnerships:**
 - Must have scientific and technical merit
 - Must demonstrate a specific benefit to NASA
 - 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 written, binding agreement, closely coordinated with the U.S. Department of State and other U.S. government agencies



Challenges to Cooperation

- **Management Complexity**

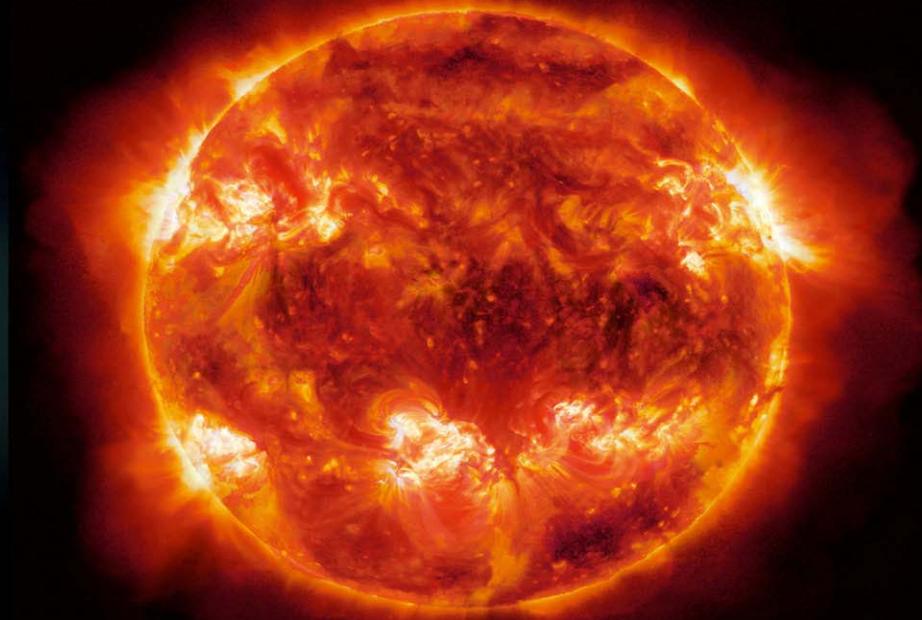
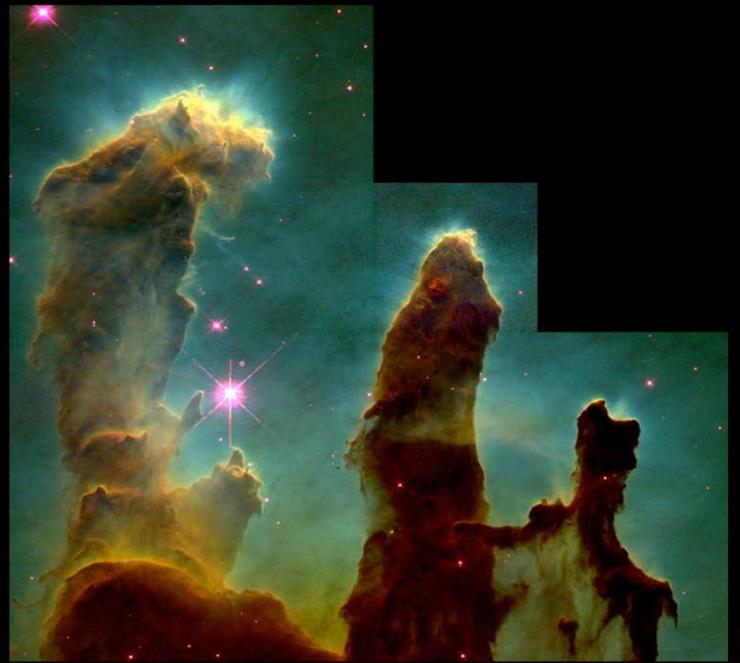
- Decision-making
 - complexity grows with number of partners
 - timing of decisions
 - who is in charge?
- Communications difficulties
- Differing specifications, standards and assumptions

- **Technical and Programmatic Risk**

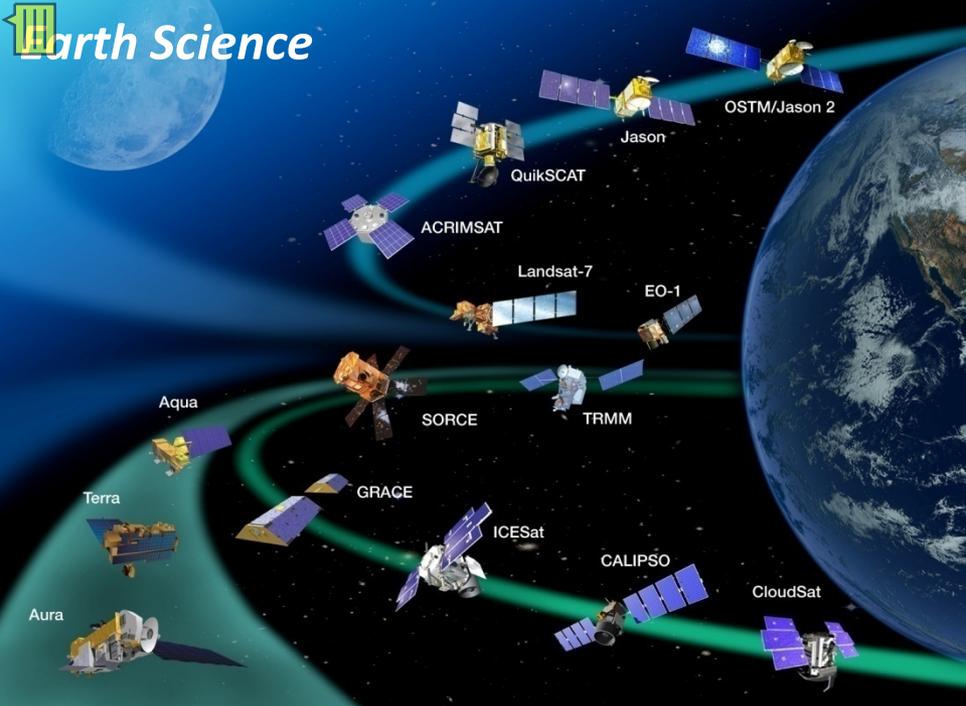
- The “critical path” – open for discussion
- Interfaces difficult to manage at a distance
- Difficult to monitor progress and get early warning of problems

- **Political Risk**

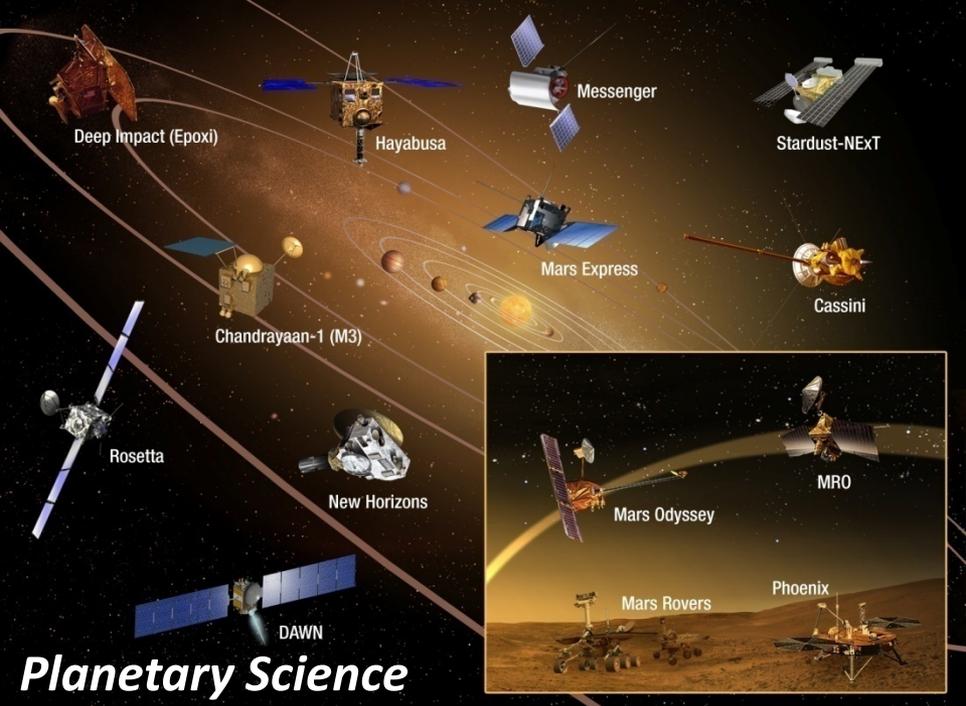
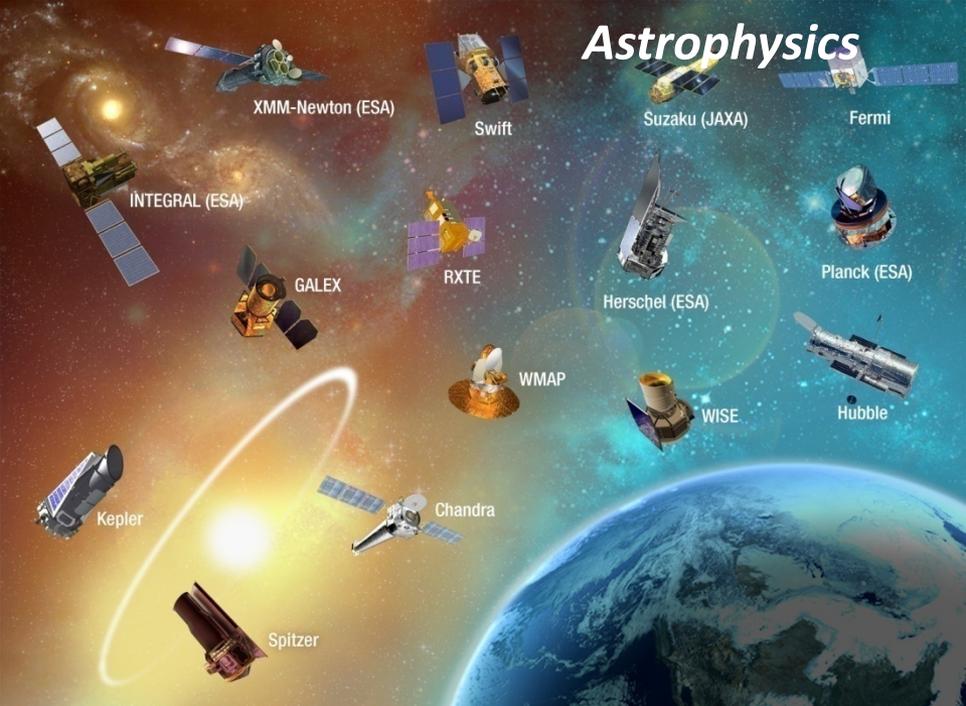
- Budgetary and bureaucratic uncertainties
- Potential linkage to political activities unrelated to the cooperation



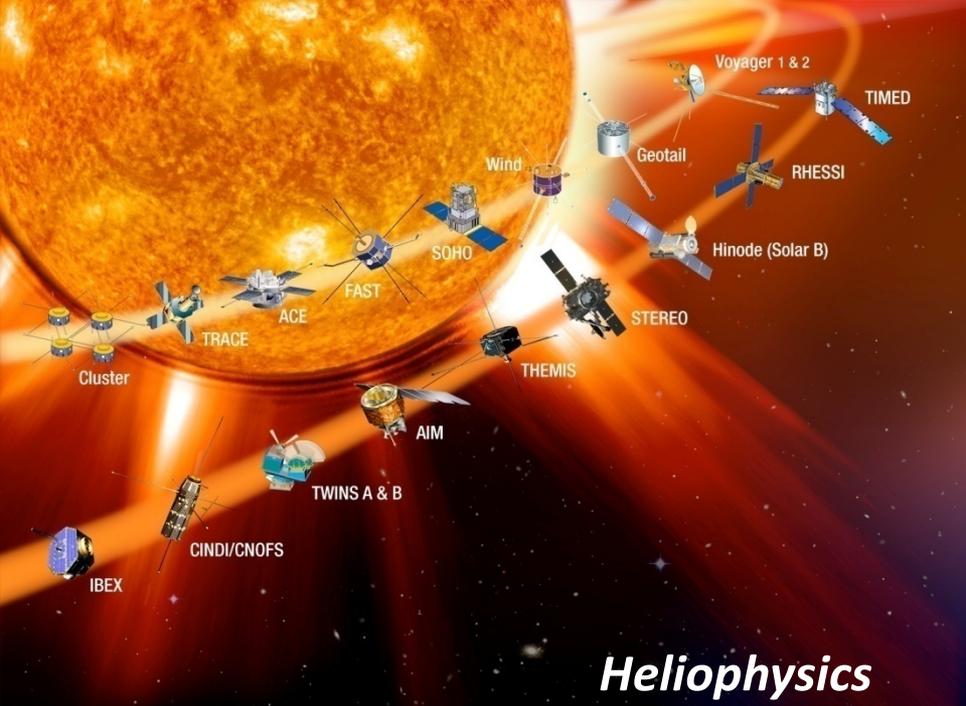
Earth Science



Astrophysics



Planetary Science



Heliophysics

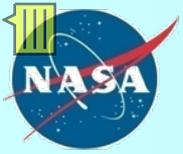




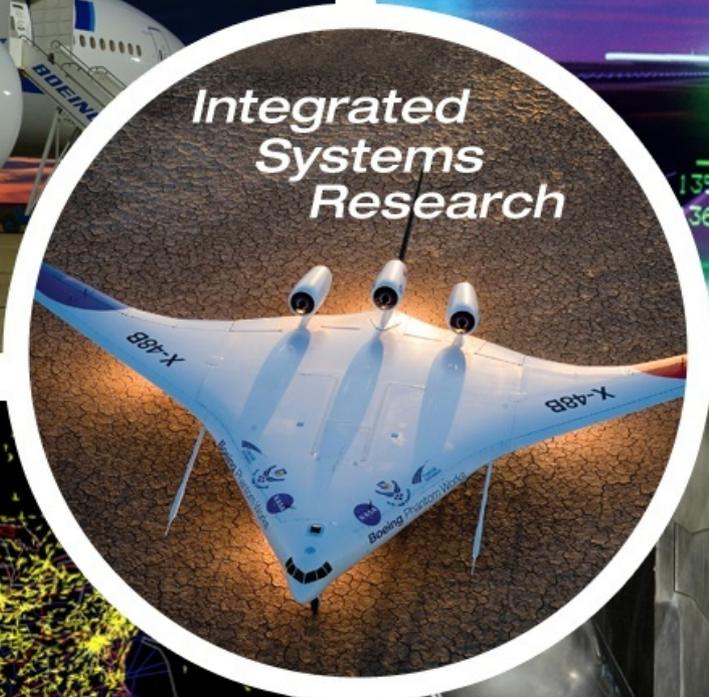


Exploration: Future Systems





NASA Aeronautics Research





Looking Forward: Some International Issues

- **International Space Station**

- Several ISS partner Heads of Agency gave presentations to the Augustine Committee: some credit those presentations with the Committee recommendation to continue ISS operations beyond 2016
- Utilization of ISS
- Crew transportation and rescue
- Resupply (future US capability, HTV, ATV, Russian “Progress” vehicles)

- **Exploration**

- Strong international interest in changes to the U.S. space program -- in some cases, the U.S. program will have direct implications on international partner planning and budgets
- How will cooperation evolve in the new environment?
- The Global Exploration Strategy dialogue will continue via the International Space Exploration Coordination Group as we work through the implications of the U.S. FY 2011 budget request



Looking Forward: Some International Issues

- **Meeting existing commitments**
 - Successful implementation of existing international cooperation is important for NASA credibility
 - Open and transparent dialogue as NASA plans evolve is a critical component of that credibility
- **“Non-traditional” partnerships**
 - We are reaching out to non-traditional partners in Africa, the Middle East, Asia
 - Generally such cooperation will likely initially focus on mutually beneficial activities that are easy to implement at a low cost, yet have high impact results and benefits to society
 - Examples of areas of potential cooperation include scientific research, earth science applications and education initiatives, but cooperation in all programmatic areas is welcome
 - Specific Examples: Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE), Aerosol Robotic Network (AERONET), SERVIR



Summary

- **International cooperation will remain very important to NASA in all of its program areas**
- **Well structured international cooperation can contribute significantly to national goals of each partner**
- **We anticipate continuing opportunities for international cooperation, particularly with our traditional partners**
- **NASA also welcomes discussions with potential new partners in areas of mutual interest, particularly in regions of the world in which NASA currently has little cooperation**