



## Space for the Great Reset

### Boosting sustainable economic growth for a resilient COVID-19 recovery

United Nations Science, Technology & Innovation Forum for Sustainable Development

[Wednesday, 5 May 2021, 12:30 EST/18:30 CEST](#)

Science, technology and innovation are driving forces behind services and products that have become indispensable in our daily life. The COVID-19 pandemic not only confirms but reinforces this trend.

Space technologies such as Earth Observation, Global Navigation Satellite Systems and satellite communications have played a key role in addressing the pandemic. Tele-health, tele-medicine, remote working arrangements and contact tracing were strongly supported, if not completely reliant on satellite technologies.

With the impact on the global economy, this crisis represents an opportunity to re-think our future, identify and act on those priorities that will help us bringing forward sustainability, equality and innovation, as proposed by the Great Reset Initiative of the World Economic Forum. As the world builds back better, maximizing both the direct and indirect contribution that a strong space sector can make to the Sustainable Development Goals goes to the heart of the event.

Technology, innovation and science must be leveraged to achieve new discoveries and frontiers that benefit humankind. In these endeavours, outer space represents an incredible asset.

The space industry is worth more than \$400 billion, and several analysts expect further growth, seeing space becoming a trillion-dollar industry by 2050. With its so many positive spill overs, the global space sector is boosting economic growth and accelerating sustainable development. Space activities drive innovation, create new markets and industrial capabilities, and provide job opportunities. Space critically helped Member States in addressing the COVID-19 challenge. It is a crucial element to support a sustainable and resilient COVID-19 recovery, and effective pathways of inclusive action towards the sustainable development.

In this context, UNOOSA examines how the global space sector boosts economic growth to support the COVID-19 recovery. The event includes a panel of high-level experts invited to share their insights and success stories and engage in a moderated discussion.

#### Speakers

- Simonetta Di Pippo, UNOOSA Director
- Aarti Holla, ESOA Secretary General
- Nick Shave, UKSpace Chair



- Abimbola Alale, NIGCOMSAT CEO
- Mohamed E. Al-Aseeri, Bahrain National Space Science Agency CEO
- Representative of Luxembourg (TBC)

## Space for the Great Reset Series

Through a series of virtual events, UNOOSA looks at the role of space in the Great Reset. The series will see experts providing their insights on three topics: Economic Growth, Climate Action and Access to Space.

1. [Space for the Great Reset: Boosting Sustainable Economic Growth for a Resilient COVID-19 Recovery \(5 May, 18:30 CEST\)](#)

2. [Space for the Great Reset: Harnessing the Power of Space Technology for Climate Action \(date TBC\)](#)

Climate change is the defining issue of our time. Global temperature rise, warming oceans, shrinking ice sheets, glacial retreats, sea level rise and extreme events are part of the evidence that planet's climate has changed. Space technology provides a full picture of our planet and its climate on a global scale. The event will look at how space technologies are critical to measure Earth's wellbeing, verifying emission reductions and monitoring our changing planet. Simply put, space must be at basis of Climate Action policy-making.

3. [Space for the Great Reset: Towards a fair, responsible and sustainable Access to Space \(date TBC\)](#)

Inequality is a key element that the Great Reset aims to address. For many years, space has been dominated by few players. Recent developments showed that access to space has increased. More countries than ever are involved in space activities with over 80 national space programmes now established around the world. Space has become more accessible, and its benefits must reach everybody, everywhere. As we look at increasing Access to Space, we aim to bridge the divide between nations and contribute to the Great Reset's purpose to erase inequalities.