



NASA's Capability Driven Roadmap for Human Spaceflight

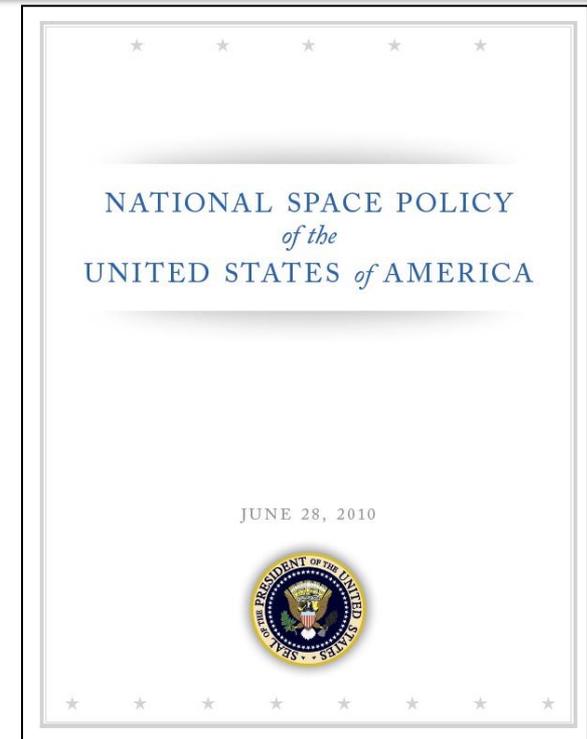
6 Mar 2012
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U.S. National Space Policy Goals



- Energize competitive domestic industries
- Expand international cooperation
- Strengthen stability in space
- Increase assurance and resilience of mission-essential functions
- Pursue human and robotic initiatives
- Improve space-based Earth and solar observation



"NASA has a key role in achieving the goals defined in the new policy. We are committed to working with other agencies, industry, and international partners to achieve national goals in exploration - human and robotic - and technology development that will ensure a robust future for the U.S. and our friends around the world." – *NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, June 28, 2010*

U.S. Law: NASA Authorization Act of 2010, 2012 Appropriations



- **The U.S. Congress approved and President Obama signed the NASA Authorization Act of 2010 (section 202) and 2012 Appropriations Act**
 - Bipartisan support for human exploration beyond low Earth orbit
- **The law authorizes:**
 - Extension of the International Space Station until at least 2020
 - Support for a commercial space transportation industry
 - Development of a Multi-purpose Crew Vehicle and heavy lift launch capabilities
 - A “flexible path” approach to space exploration opening up vast opportunities including near-Earth asteroids (NEA), moon, and Mars
 - New space technology investments to increase the capabilities beyond low Earth orbit



NASA Authorization Act of 2010, Section 202



- **SEC. 202. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.**

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(a) **LONG TERM GOAL.** The long term goal of the human space flight and exploration efforts of NASA shall be to expand permanent human presence beyond low-Earth orbit and to do so, where practical, in a manner involving international partners.

(b) **KEY OBJECTIVES.** The key objectives of the United States for human expansion into space shall be-

- (1) to sustain the capability for long-duration presence in low-Earth orbit, initially through continuation of the ISS and full utilization of the United States segment of the ISS as a National Laboratory, and through assisting and enabling an expanded commercial presence in, and access to, low-Earth orbit, as elements of a low-Earth orbit infrastructure;
- (2) to determine if humans can live in an extended manner in space with decreasing reliance on Earth, starting with utilization of low-Earth orbit infrastructure, to identify potential roles that space resources such as energy and materials may play, to meet national and global needs and challenges, such as potential cataclysmic threats, and to explore the viability of and lay the foundation for sustainable economic activities in space;
- (3) to maximize the role that human exploration of space can play in advancing overall knowledge of the universe, supporting United States national and economic security and the United States global competitive posture, and inspiring young people in their educational pursuits; and
- (4) to build upon the cooperative and mutually beneficial framework established by the ISS partnership agreements and experience in developing and undertaking programs and meeting objectives designed to realize the goal of human space flight set forth in subsection (a).

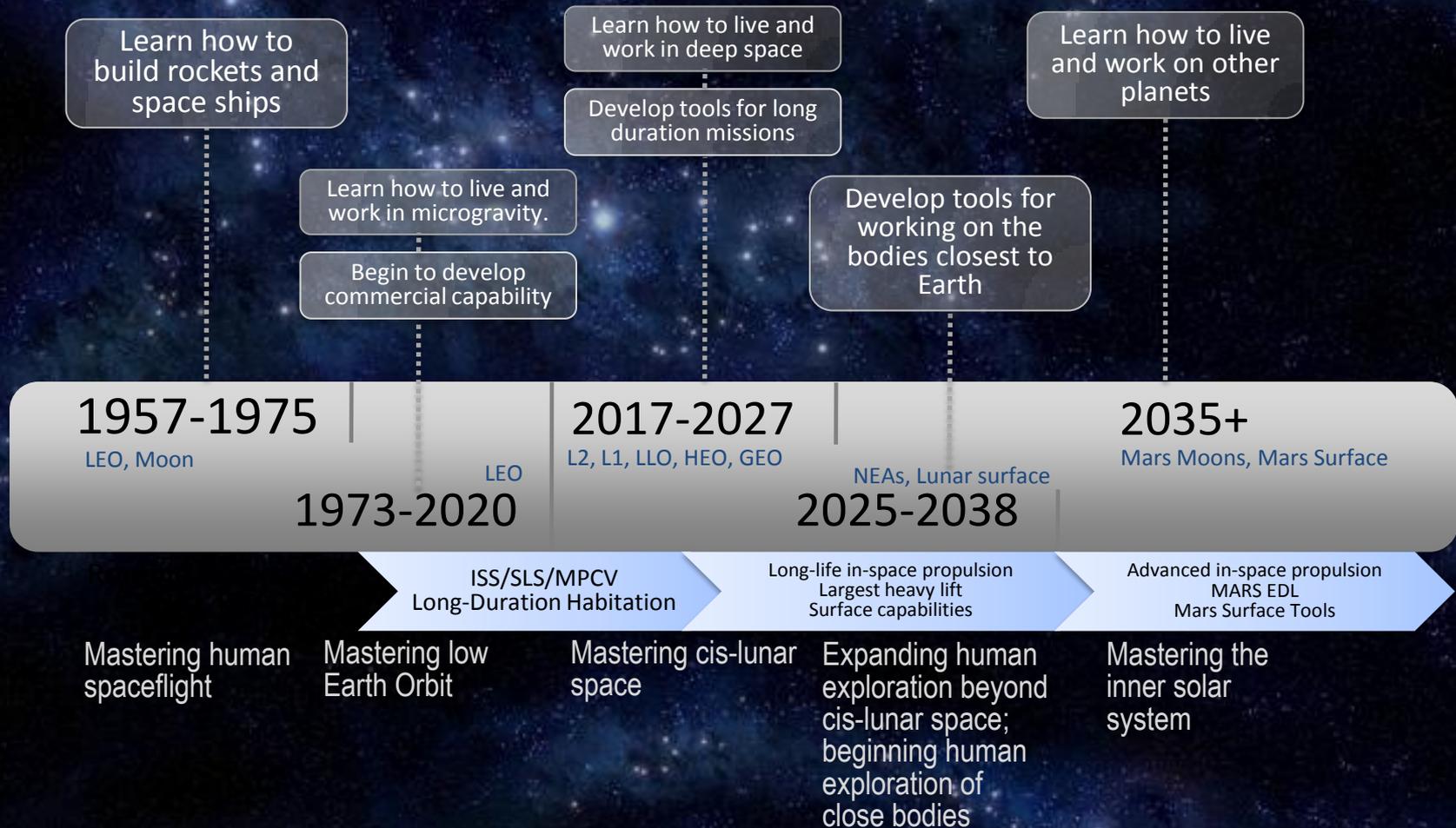


To reach for new heights and reveal the unknown, so that what we do and learn will benefit all humankind.

NASA Strategic Goals

- **Extend and sustain human activities across the solar system.**
- **Expand scientific understanding of the Earth and the universe in which we live.**
- **Create the innovative new space technologies for our exploration, science, and economic future.**
- **Advance aeronautics research for societal benefit.**
- **Enable program and institutional capabilities to conduct NASA's aeronautics and space activities.**
- **Share NASA with the public, educators, and students to provide opportunities to participate in our mission, foster innovation, and contribute to a strong national economy.**

The Story of Human Space Exploration (Animated)

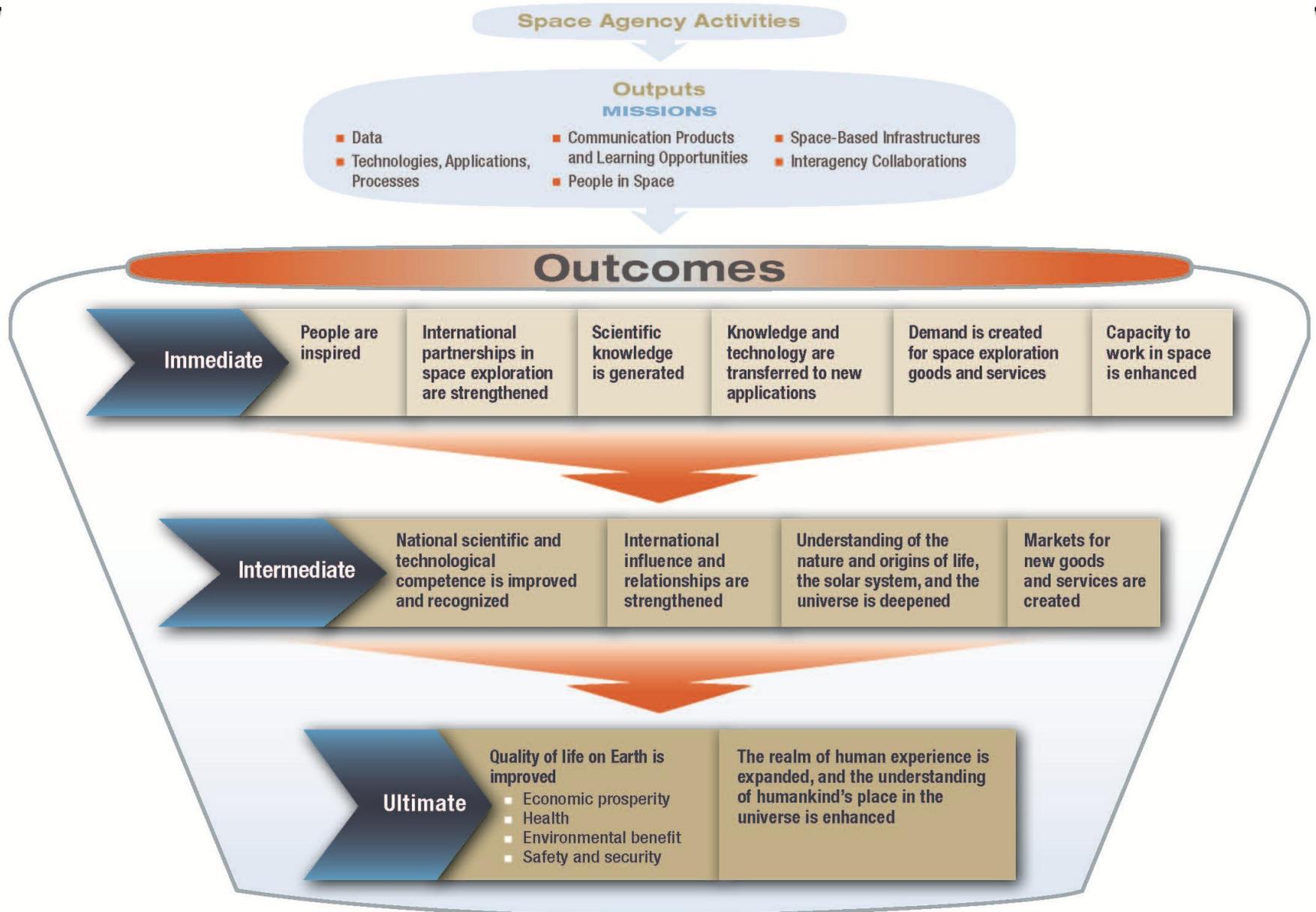


Common International Space Exploration Coordination Group (ISECG) Goals



- Common goals are needed, but recognized individual agency goals are what is important to an agency
 - Search for Life
 - Extend Human Presence
 - Perform Space, Earth, and Applied Science
 - Perform Science to Support Human Exploration
 - Develop Exploration Technologies and Capabilities
 - Stimulate Economic Expansion
 - Enhance Earth Safety
 - Engage the Public in Exploration
- GER reflects common goals and supporting objectives
- These are to be iterated and will reflect agency/national priorities

An Evolving Space Exploration Logic Model



The NASA Context: Some Examples...



Outcomes

Immediate

People are inspired	International partnerships in space exploration are strengthened	Scientific knowledge is generated	Knowledge and technology are transferred to new applications	Demand is created for space exploration goods and services	Capacity to work in space is enhanced
Participatory Exploration	ISS, ISECG	ISS Research: Human Health, etc.	Tech Spinoffs	ISS as anchor tenant for commercial cargo services	Capability-Driven Framework

Intermediate

National scientific and technological competence is improved and recognized	International influence and relationships are strengthened	Understanding of the nature and origins of life, the solar system, and the universe is deepened	Markets for new goods and services are created
More students in STEM careers; Pride/prestige from Apollo	Soft Power	Broad advancement of scientific knowledge	Space transportation, communications, data delivery services

Ultimate

Quality of life on Earth is improved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Economic prosperity ■ Health ■ Environmental benefit ■ Safety and security 	The realm of human experience is expanded, and the understanding of humankind's place in the universe is enhanced
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Tangible Benefits

Aggregate economic multiplier effects, contributions to improved health care, mitigating asteroid collision risk

Extend and sustain human activities across the solar system

Intangible Benefits

"To reach for new heights and reveal the unknown, so that what we do and learn will benefit all humankind." - NASA Strategic Plan

INCREMENTAL EXPANSION OF HUMAN EXPLORATION CAPABILITIES (Initial Version)

Distance

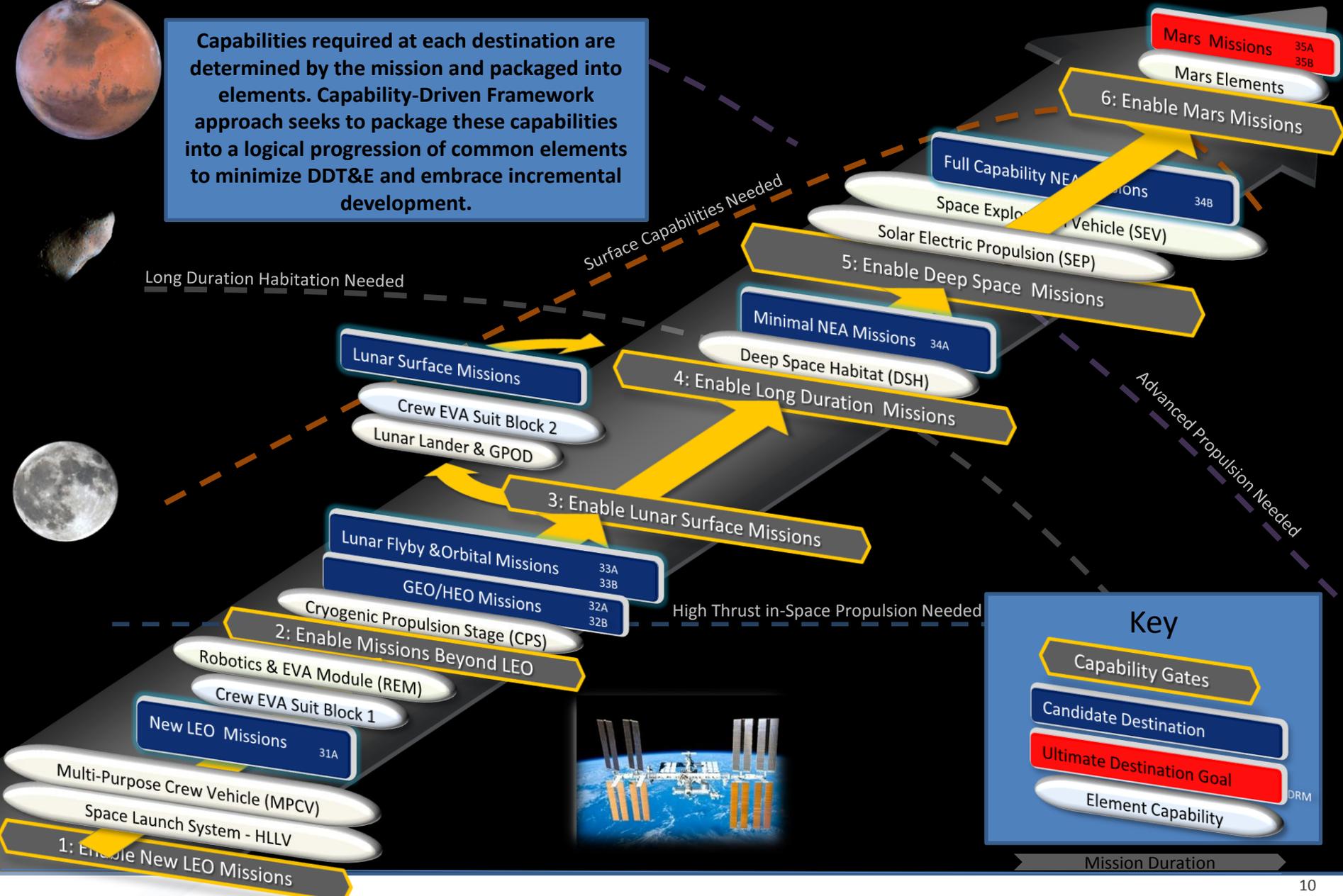
Capabilities required at each destination are determined by the mission and packaged into elements. Capability-Driven Framework approach seeks to package these capabilities into a logical progression of common elements to minimize DDT&E and embrace incremental development.

Long Duration Habitation Needed

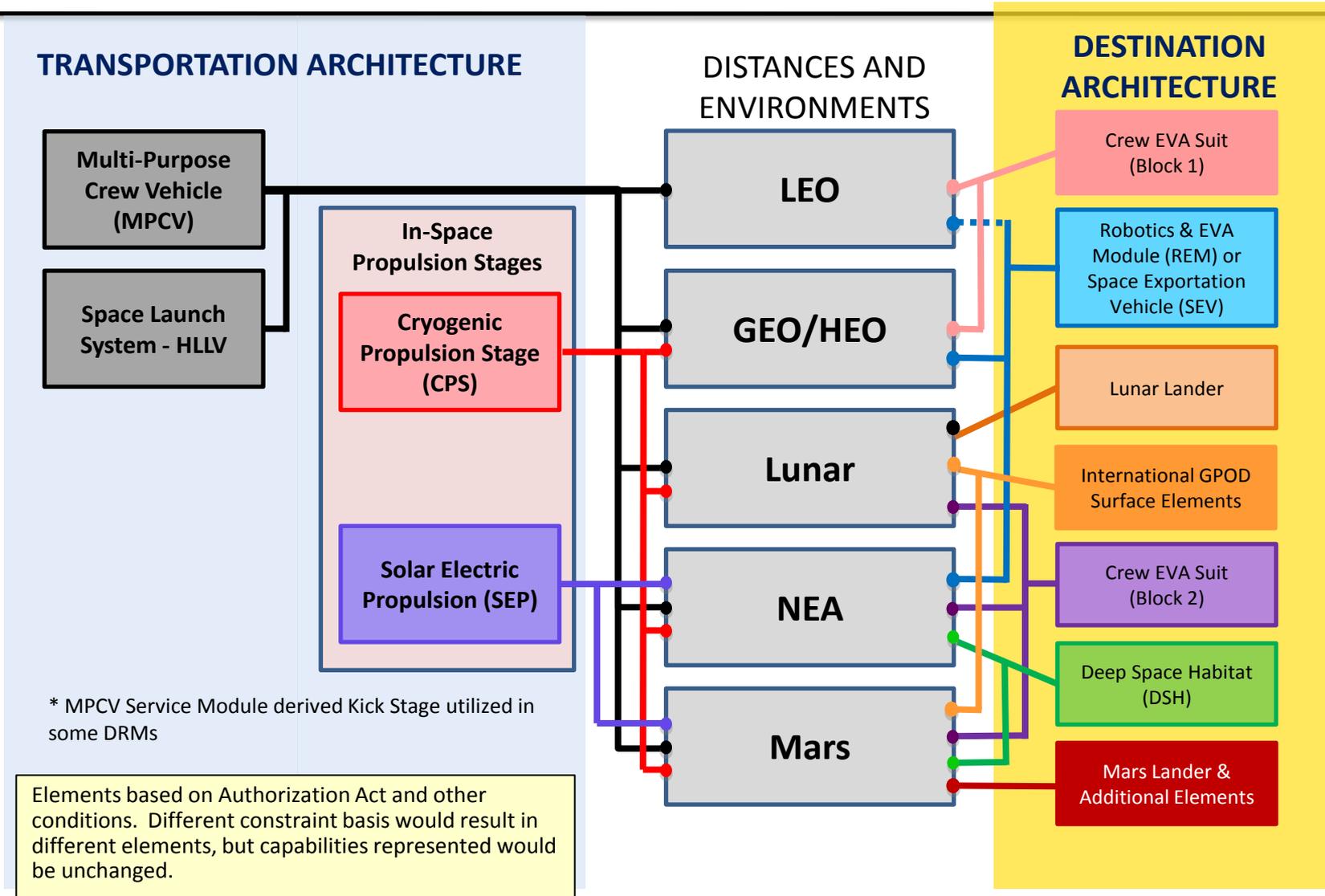
Surface Capabilities Needed

Advanced Propulsion Needed

High Thrust in-Space Propulsion Needed



Transportation and Destination Architectures for Flexible Path (Initial Version)



Capability Driven Human Space Exploration (Current Version)



Incremental steps to steadily build, test, refine, and qualify capabilities that lead to affordable flight elements and a deep space capability.

Mars:
Distance: 33,900,000 mi/54,556,000 km
Travel Time: 6 months

Moon
Distance: 237,000 mi/381,000 km
Travel Time: 3 Days

Into the Solar System

- Interplanetary Space
- Initial Near-Earth Asteroid Missions
- Lunar Surface

Extending Reach Beyond LEO

- Cis-Lunar Space
- Geostationary Orbit
- High-Earth Orbit
- Lunar Flyby & Orbit

Initial Exploration Missions

- International Space Station
- Space Launch System
- Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle
- Ground Systems Development & Operations
- Commercial Spaceflight Development

ISS
Distance: 237 mi/381 km
Travel Time: 2 Days

Planetary Exploration

- Mars
- Solar System

Exploring Other Worlds

- Low-Gravity Bodies
- Full-Capability Near-Earth Asteroid Missions
- Phobos/Deimos

Surface Capabilities Needed

Advanced Propulsion Needed

High Thrust In-Space Propulsion Needed

Long Duration Habitat Needed





- **Objective: Enable a capability-driven approach to human exploration rather than one based on a specific destination and schedule**
- **Rationale: Most viable approach given political and economic dynamics – enables incremental and sustained progress**
- **Evolving capabilities are based on:**
 - Previously demonstrated capabilities and operational experience
 - New technologies, systems and flight elements development
 - Concept of minimizing destination-specific developments
- **Multiple possible destinations/missions are enabled by each discrete level of capability (known by analysis and evolved through experience)**
- **Allows reprioritization of destination/missions by decision-makers without wholesale abandonment of then-existing exploration architecture**

A Capability-Driven Framework enables multiple destinations and provides increased flexibility, greater cost effectiveness, and sustainability.

Common Capabilities Identified for Exploration



Capability Driven Human Space Exploration



ISS



SLS



Orion MPCV

Architecture Common Capabilities (Building Blocks)

Low Earth Orbit Crew and Cargo Access

Human -Robotic Mission Ops

In-Space Propulsion

Adv. In-Space Propulsion

Deep Space Habitation

Ground Operations

Beyond Earth Orbit Crew and Cargo Access

Robotic Precursor

EVA

Mobile EVA and Robotic Platform

Destination Systems

Autonomous Mission Operations

Technologies, Research, and Science

OCT Technology Development Efforts

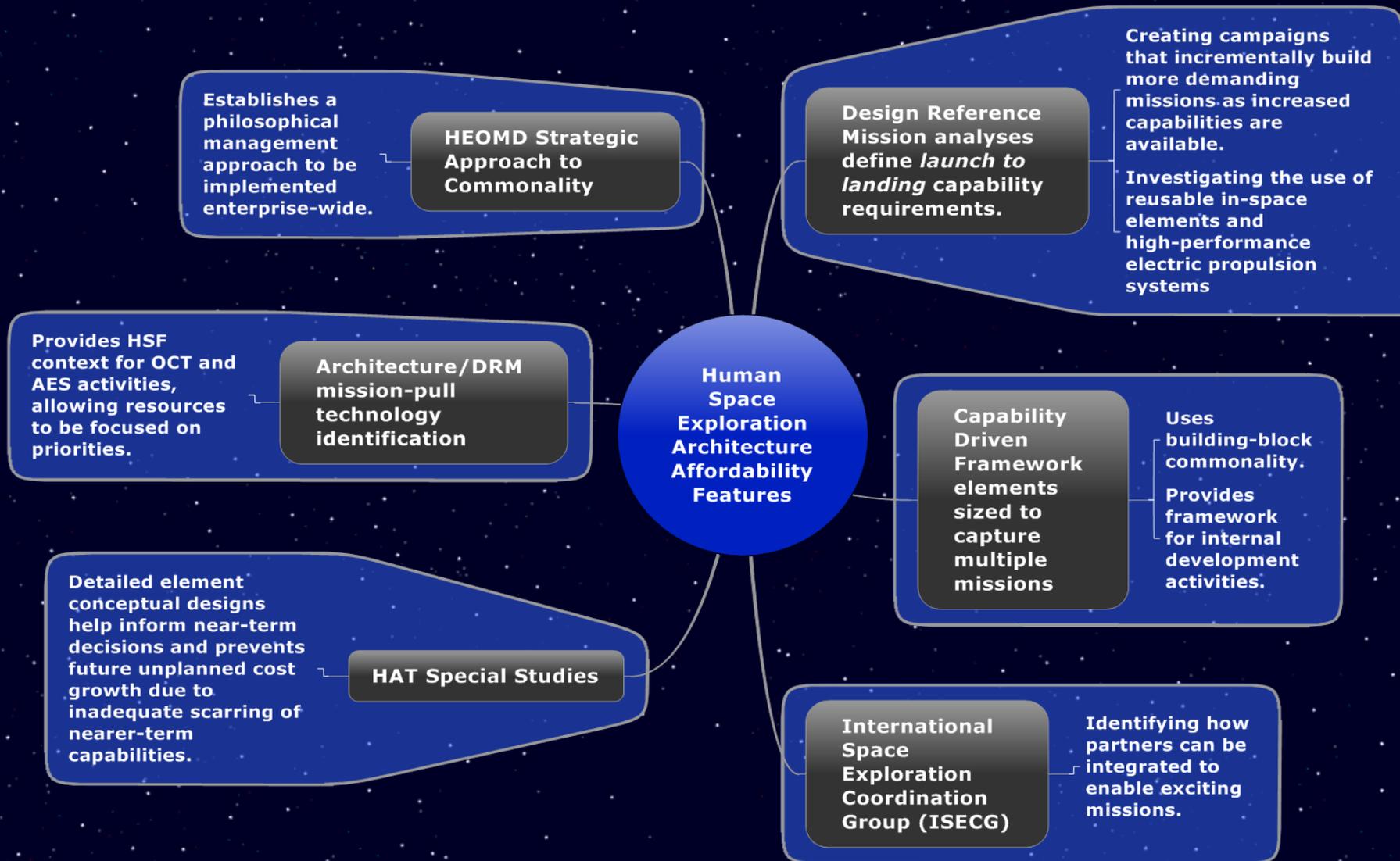
AES Proposals

HEO and SMD Cross Cutting Research & Science

Human Exploration Specific Technologies

ISS, SLS, and MPCV are the cornerstones of the Exploration Enterprise, but concurrent, innovative, and extremely lean Beyond-LEO incremental capability development is vital.

Affordable Human Space Exploration: Key Driver





- **On-going, cross-Agency, multi-disciplinary, study team that conducts strategic analysis cycles to assess integrated development approaches for architectures, systems, mission scenarios, and Conops for human and related robotic space exploration.**
 - During each analysis cycle, HAT iterates and refines design reference mission (DRM) definitions to inform integrated, capability-driven approaches for systems planning within a multi-destination framework.
- **Key Activities in 2011 – Cycles A, B, C, D**
 - Prepared DRMs that frame key driving level 1 requirements for SLS & Orion MPCV
 - Developed technical content & mission definitions for discussion with the international community developing the Global Exploration Roadmap
 - Advanced Capability Driven Framework (CDF) concept including more extended reviews of both capabilities needed and development options.
 - Provided technical links between CDF and level 1 requirements for SLS/MPCV
 - Developed performance data for key decisions on SLS initial capability and upper stage options

HAT Areas of Focus



*Recent Architecture Work
Is Focusing More Here*

*Initial Architecture Work
Focused Here*

*Future Architecture Work
Will Refine Here*

Design Reference Missions (DRMS)

- *Destination DRMS – What is done at the destination: drives mission operations, element functions and transportation needs*
- *Transportation DRMs – How the crew and supporting systems get to the destination and back to Earth: drives element functions for transportation segment, launch vehicle requirements*



Elements Required By Destination

Phase	Required Element	Capability	For Destinations				
			L1/L2	Lunar Surface	Asteroid	Mars Orbit	Mars Surface
Getting There	Space Launch System (SLS)	Launch	X	X	X	X	X
	Cryo Propulsion Stage (CPS)	High Thrust/Near Earth	X	X	X	Option	Option
	Solar Electric Propulsion (SEP)	Low Thrust/Near Earth			Option	Option	Option
	Nuclear Thermal Propulsion (NTP)	High Thrust/Beyond LEO			Option	Option	Option
	Nuclear Electric Propulsion (NEP)	Low Thrust/Beyond LEO			Option	Option	Option
	Depot	In-Space Logistics	Option	Option		Option	Option
	Deep Space Habitat (DSH)	In-Space Habitation	X		X	X	X
Working There	Landers	Descent		X			X
	Surface Hab	Surface Habitation		X			X
	Multi-Mission Space Exploration Vehicle (MMSEV)	Micro-g Sortie			X	X	
	Cargo Hauler	Cargo Mobility	Option	Option	Option	Option	Option
	Robotics and EVA Module (REM)	Logistics/Resupply	Option		Option	Option	
	In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU)	In Situ Resource Utilization		X			X
	Fission Surface Power System	Surface Power		Option			X
	Surface Rover	Surface Mobility		X			X
Coming Home	EVA Suits	EVA (nominal)	X	X	X	X	X
	Ascent Vehicle	Ascent		X			X
	Orion	Crew Return	X	X	X	X	X



Required

Matured Using Cis-lunar Gateway

Increasing Energy From Earth										Increasing Energy From Earth										
	LEO	E-M L1/L2	LLO	Lunar Surface	GEO	E-S L1/L2	NEA	Phobos Deimos	Mars Surface		LEO	E-M L1/L2	LLO	Lunar Surface	GEO	E-S L1/L2	NEA	Phobos Deimos	Mars Surface	
In-Space Propulsion		Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	In-Space Propulsion		Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
DSH - Zero g		Red				Red			Red	DSH - Zero g		Green				Green			Green	Green
DSH - Partial g				Red					Red	DSH - Partial g				Red						Red
Mobile EVA/Robotic				Red				Red	Red	Mobile EVA/Robotic				Red				Green	Green	Red
Fixed EVA/Robotic		Red			Red	Red				Fixed EVA/Robotic		Green			Green	Green				
Adv. EVA for Exploration				Red				Red	Red	Adv. EVA for Exploration				Green				Green	Green	Green
Expl. ECLS (Regen, 8psi)		Red		Red		Red			Red	Expl. ECLS (Regen, 8psi)		Green		Green			Green			Green
Autonomous Mission Ops.			Red	Red	Red	Red		Red	Red	Autonomous Mission Ops.			Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Human-Robotic Mission Ops	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		Red	Red	Human-Robotic Mission Ops	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

Expansion to cis-lunar space and beyond requires confidence in certain capabilities. We need anchor missions that collectively lead to this.

L2 Gateway development opens up cis-lunar space & expands exploration capability

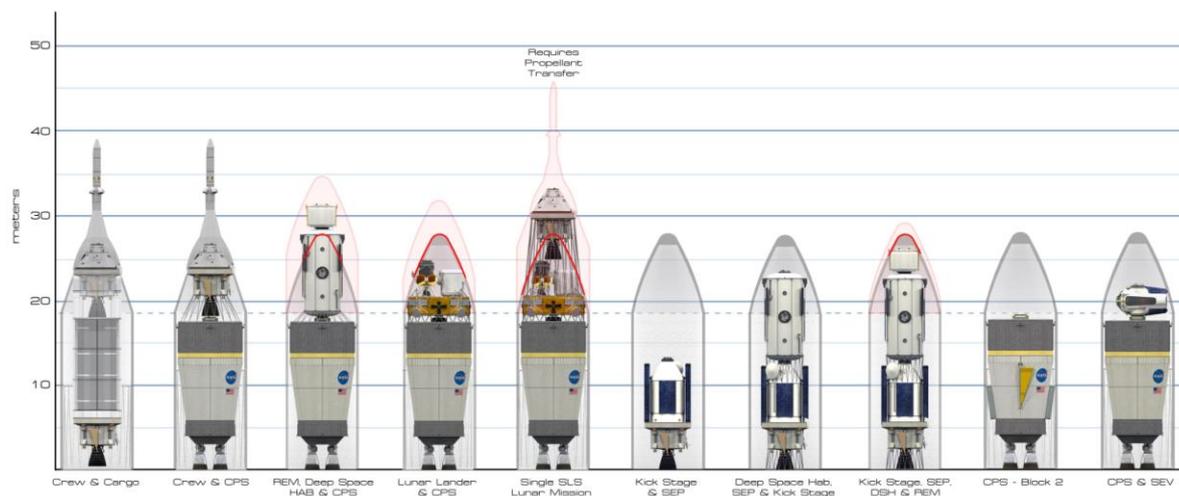
(Red denotes where investments are needed to support missions to that destination)

(Green denotes where capabilities can be advanced)

Key Findings from Multiple Analysis Cycles



- It's important to look at multiple DRMs to understand which cases drive requirements
- SLS Performance
 - 105t to LEO captures majority of DRMs; HAT input to Level 1 requirements
 - Payload volume remains a challenge for more complex missions; Big rocket = Good
- Developed a consistent set of ground rules, assumptions and margins across DRMs that must be regularly coordinated with the programs
- Activities at the destination need as much attention as the transportation components
- A focused technology investment program is needed to enable future missions; integration & dialogue with AES & OCT is critical to ensure priorities are aligned



Exploring Further

NASA is embarking on a new era of space exploration in which humans will travel deeper into the solar system than ever before. The International Space Station is the centerpiece for space operations. Serving as a test bed for research and new technologies, the space station is a steppingstone toward future exploration destinations. The commercial industry will transport cargo and eventually crew to the space station while NASA focuses on developing the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle, Space Launch System, and advanced exploration systems that will enable a sustainable human presence to destinations such as the moon, near-Earth asteroids and Mars.

To learn more, visit <http://www.nasa.gov/exploration>.

The Future of American Human SPACEFLIGHT

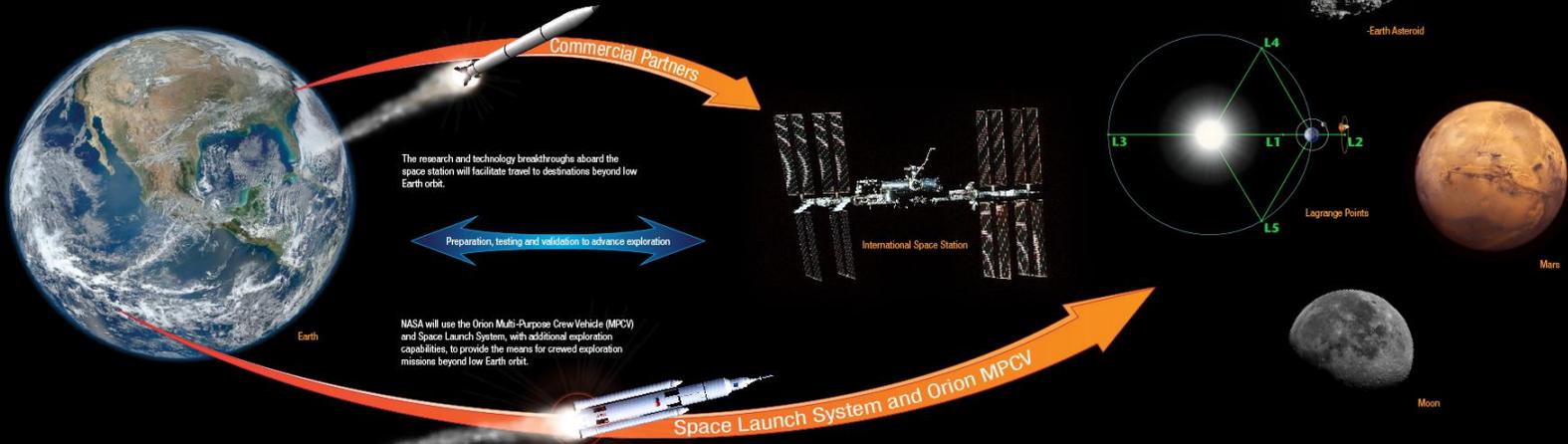
"This is the next chapter that we can write together here at NASA. We will partner with industry. We will invest in cutting-edge research and technology. We will set far-reaching milestones and provide the resources to reach those milestones. And step by step, we will push the boundaries not only of where we can go but what we can do..."

— President Barack Obama

Following NASA's innovative partnership activities and investments in U.S. commercial launch capabilities, the agency has purchased cargo transportation services to and from the Space Station and will continue to partner in the development of crew transportation capabilities to low Earth orbit.

The research and technology breakthroughs aboard the space station will facilitate travel to destinations beyond low Earth orbit.

NASA will use the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV) and Space Launch System, with additional exploration capabilities, to provide the means for crewed exploration missions beyond low Earth orbit.



Destinations

Lagrange Points

Lagrange Points are microgravity destinations beyond low Earth orbit that provide opportunities for construction, fueling and repair of complex in-space systems. These points in space can serve as a gateway to reaching multiple destinations in our solar system.

Near-Earth Asteroids

These near-Earth objects may provide answers to some of humankind's most compelling questions, such as these: How did the solar system form? Where did Earth's water and other organic materials come from?

Moon

Earth's nearest neighbor provides significant opportunities for commercial and international collaboration and has critical resources needed to sustain human explorers.

Mars

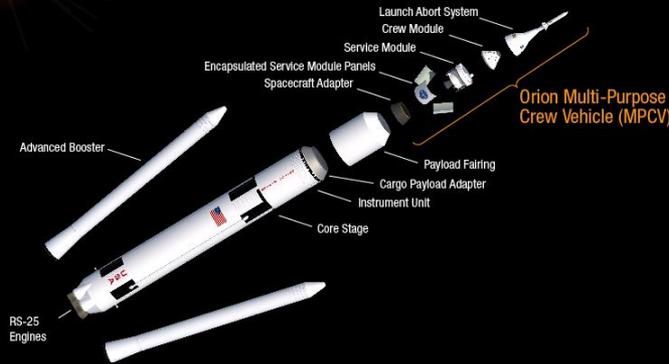
Mars provides the best opportunity to demonstrate that humans can live for extended — even permanent — stays beyond low Earth orbit. The technology and space systems required to transport and sustain explorers on Mars will expand scientific knowledge and drive technological innovation.

Commercial Spaceflight Development

NASA is investing financial and technical resources to stimulate efforts within the commercial industry to develop and demonstrate cargo and crew space transportation capabilities to and from low Earth orbit.

Cargo Partners	Commercial Company	Spacecraft	Launch Vehicle
	Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX)	Dragon (Cargo)	Falcon 9
	Orbital Sciences Corporation (Orbital)	Cygnus	Antares

Funded Crew Partners	Commercial Company	Spacecraft	Launch Vehicle
	Blue Origin	Crew Transportation System	Initial — Atlas V Final — Open Reusable Booster System
	Sierra Nevada Corporation	Dream Chaser	Atlas V
	SpaceX	Dragon (Crew)	Falcon 9
	The Boeing Company	Crew Space Transportation (CST)-100	Initial — Atlas V



Human Spaceflight Capabilities

NASA is developing next-generation spaceflight technology to explore multiple destinations throughout the solar system. New technology systems include the following:



Launch Vehicle	Saturn V	Space Shuttle	Initial Lift Capability	Evolved Lift Capability
Years	1967–1973	1981–2011	First uncrewed launch planned for 2017	to be determined
Height	111 m (363 ft)	56 m (184 ft) (Orbiter 122 ft)	97 m (318 ft)	→ 115 m (376 ft)
Lift Capability to Low Earth Orbit	118 metric tons	28 metric tons (to 28.5° inclination)	70 metric tons	→ 130 metric tons
Crew Capsule/Capacity	Apollo Spacecraft	Orbiter	Orion MPCV	Cargo Configuration Shown



Looking Toward the Future

ISS will be the centerpiece of human spaceflight activities until at least 2020

Research and technology breakthroughs aboard ISS will facilitate travel to destinations beyond low Earth orbit

A capability driven framework will enable affordable and sustained human spaceflight exploration

Destinations for human exploration remain ambitious: the moon, asteroids and Mars

Continue to undertake world-class science missions to observe our planet, reach destinations throughout the solar system and peer even deeper into the universe

Continue to inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers and astronauts by focusing on STEM education initiatives

