

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NIGERIAN SPACE PROGRAMME

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In 1999, the Federal Government of Nigeria approved the Nigerian Space Policy and the implementation of the Space programme as outlined in the policy commenced with the establishment of National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), under the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology. The mission of NASRDA is to vigorously pursue the attainment of space capabilities and the enhancement of the quality of life of its people. The space policy has a 25-year programme tailored towards the development of Space Science and Technology in Nigeria through Research and Development (R&D), as well as capacity building in the fields of science, engineering, space law and administration for sustainable national development. The policy has both short-term and long-term space mission programmes. The implementation of the programmes focus on the actualization of the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) and other regional and national socio-economic development objectives as highlighted by the New partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and National Economic Empowerment & Development Strategies (NEEDS).