



Space geodesy and the emerging SA space programme

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Background to space agency developments

- Background to space agency developments
- Addressing national imperatives
 - Poverty alleviation
 - Addressing MDGs
 - Improving quality of life
- Space Agency Bill
- Agency will be est in 2008
- Space Science & Technology Strategy is under development
 - The geodesy community needs to feed into this process, along with the other disciplines



Space Agency Bill

Objects of the agency

The objects of the Agency are to-

- (a) promote peaceful use of outer space;
- (b) support the creation of an environment conducive to industrial development in space technologies;
- (c) foster research in astronomy, earth observation, communications, navigation and space physics;
- (d) advance scientific, engineering and technological competencies and capabilities through human capital development and outreach programmes; and
- (e) foster international co-operation in space related activities.

The background of the slide is a light-colored, textured surface, possibly representing a planet's surface or a space station window. A large, dark, circular arc is visible on the left side. In the upper left, three small, reddish-brown spheres are arranged in a slight curve. In the lower right, a larger, more detailed sphere resembling Earth is visible.

Space Agency Bill

Functions of the agency

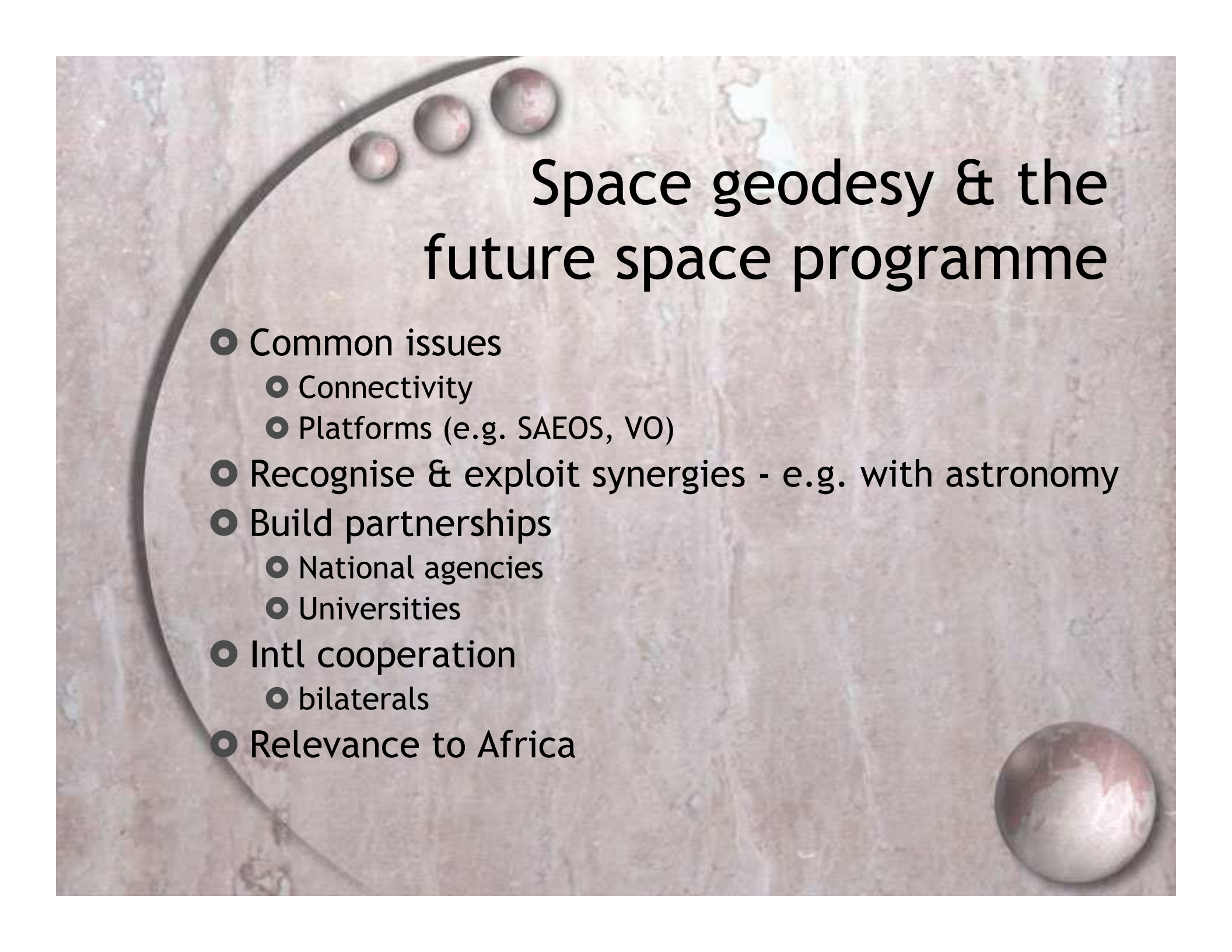
- (a) implement any space programme in line with the Space Affairs Act, 1993 (Act No. 84 of 1993);
- (b) develop and implement the national space science and technology strategy; and
- (c) acquire, assimilate and disseminate space satellite data for any organ of state.

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Space Agency Bill Partnerships

(2) The Agency may, in order to perform any duty contemplated in subsection (1) and in order to achieve its objects -

(a) enter into an agreement with any person, government or administration on the terms and conditions agreed upon by the Agency and that person, government or administration;



Space geodesy & the future space programme

- Common issues
 - Connectivity
 - Platforms (e.g. SAEOS, VO)
- Recognise & exploit synergies - e.g. with astronomy
- Build partnerships
 - National agencies
 - Universities
- Intl cooperation
 - bilaterals
- Relevance to Africa

Some closing remarks

- Recognise the value of a multi-disciplinary approach
 - Become involved with other scientific communities that can be users of your data products
- Take advantage of AGAP to protect site.
- Does space geodesy fit into the future space programme?
 - Absolutely
- Who should drive it?
 - The scientific and user community
 - Synergies with other activities
 - Be closer to the users, who are non-space people
 - > Space technology as a means, not as an end in itself