Overview of Ethiopian Space Program Development

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History of Space Technology
1957: Sputnik
1958: Explorer
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1959: Soviets launch Luna 1, the first spaceship on the moon
History ...

1957: Sputnik
1958: Explorer
1959: Spaceship on the moon
      NASA is formed
History ...

1957: Sputnik
1958: Explorer
1959: Spaceship on the moon
       NASA is formed
1961: Yuri Gagarin - a Russian Soviet pilot and cosmonaut was the first human to journey into outer space, when his Vostok spacecraft completed an orbit of the Earth on April 12
History ...

1957: Sputnik
1958: Explorer
1959: Spaceship on the moon
      NASA is formed
1961: Yuri Gagarin
      Alan Shepard - became
      the second person and
      the first American to
      travel into space
History ...

1957: Sputnik
1958: Explorer
1959: Spaceship on the moon
       NASA is formed

1961: Yuri Gagarin
       Alan Shepard

1962: John Glenn piloted the
       Mercury-Atlas 6 "Friendship 7"
       spacecraft on the first manned orbital
       mission of the United States. He
       completed a successful three-orbit
       mission around the earth in 4 hours,
       55 minutes, and 23 seconds.
History ...

1957: Sputnik
1958: Explorer
1959: Spaceship on the moon
       NASA is formed

1961: Yuri Gagarin
       Alan Shepard

1962: John Glenn

1963: Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first woman to have flown in space, having been selected from more than four hundred applicants and five finalists to pilot Vostok 6.
History ...

1957: Sputnik
1958: Explorer
1959: Spaceship on the moon
    NASA is formed
1961: Yuri Gagarin
    Alan Shepard
1962: John Glenn
1963: Valentina Tereshkova
2019: ETRSS-1
    Ethiopia launched its first ever satellite into orbit on
    December 20, 2019
Establishment of Ethiopian Space Science & Technology Institute
There were some space related activities, though discontinued for different reasons at the time of Emperor Hailesillassie, in 1957, and during the Derg regime.

2004 - Ethiopian Space Science Society (ESSS)

2012 - Entoto Observatory & Research Center (EORC)

2016 - Establishment of Space Council & Ethiopian Space Science & Technology Institute (ESSTI)

2019 - Ethiopia launched its first ever satellite (ETRSS-1)
Establishment of Ethiopian Space Science & Technology Institute

On October 14, 2016, the Council of Ministers approved the Establishment of ESSTI & ESSTC

The objectives of establishment of ESSTI:-

❖ to enable Ethiopia to fully exploit multidimensional uses of space science and technologies;
❖ to produce demand based knowledgeable, skilled and attitudinally matured professionals that enable the country to become internationally competitive in the area of aerospace science & technology;
❖ to develop and strengthen infrastructures to speed up space science and technology development in the country; and
❖ To enable the country to be robust contributor for the development of aerospace science and technology.
Powers and Duties of the Space Council (ESSTC):

a) provide directions and leadership by evaluating space science policies, plans and strategies in order to contribute to accelerated and sustainable development of the country;

b) approve plans of the Institute, evaluate performance and provide direction for further actions as deemed necessary.

c) provide the necessary guidance and support for the proper and timely implementation of space science and technology plans.
ESSTI’s MANDATE

ESSTI has the following mandates:

✓ Undertake research in the areas of aerospace science and technology;
✓ Formulate and implement space policy and strategy consistent with the present and future needs of the country;
✓ Prepare and implement space science & technology development plans of the country;
✓ Support space science & technology related activities carried out at national level and regulate their alignment with national development needs;
✓ Design, manufacture and launch aerospace products (spacecrafts);
ESSTI MANDATES (Contd...) 

✓ Design strategies that ensure the fulfillment of human resource;
✓ Establish research centers supporting capacity development of the country’s space science and technology;
✓ Support local manufacturing industries in order to produce various equipment to be utilized in space development service;
✓ Gather and compile information supporting aerospace development and carry-on fact-finding missions;
ESSTI MANDATES (Contd...)  

✓ Issue permit to persons/institutions who desire to engage in space activities; control their operation; register space objects and regulate in collaboration with other relevant bodies;  
✓ Works in cooperation with other concerned bodies on space flight and activities that are related with the country`s peace and security matters;  
✓ Establish and strengthen cooperation with different institutions from countries having similar objectives and may provide support to the sector;  
✓ Sign regional and international agreements consistent with the national interest and implement same upon ratification;  
✓ Carryout other related activities necessary for the attainment of its objectives.
Ethiopian Space vision

To ensure Ethiopia’s home-based competence in space science and technology that is capable of responding national development demand.
Ethiopian Space Program Mission

To build national capabilities in space science and technology through human resources, institutional and infrastructural development and practice of a sound regulatory framework that maximizes effective utilization of the sector, thereby aligning with national development programs.

To ensure Ethiopia’s home-based competence in space science and technology that is capable of responding national development demand.
ESSTI’s Governance/Organizational Structure

National Space Council-PM

Ministry of Innovation & Technology- M

Ethiopian Space Science & Technology Institute -DG/ DDG

Aeronautics & Astronautics Research Center-DDG
  - Space Engineering R&D
  - Satellite Operation R&D
  - High Computing Data Administration

Entoto Observatory & Research Center-DDG
  - Astronomy & Astrophysics
  - Space Application
  - Geodesy & Geodynamics
  - Remote Sensing
Facilities & Infrastructures at ESSTI
Twin Optical Telescopes

Entoto Observatory and Research Center is engaged in:

- Taking observations (two identical 1 m telescopes)
- Site-testing projects in the highlands of northern part of Ethiopia (close to Lalibela) to put bigger-size telescopes
- ESSS and Entoto observatory to realize International Astronomical Observatory in the highland of Lalibela.
- Launch MSc and Ph.D. programs: in collaboration with AAU; study programs in the fields of astronomy and astrophysics, space science, remote sensing and geodesy
ETRSS-1 & It’s Ground Station

- 4.5m Antenna
- ETRSS-1 Satellite: Resolution 13.75m
- Earth Observation
Ethiopian Multisatellite Ground Receiving Station

- 7.3m Antenna
- ETRSS-1 Satellite: Resolution up to 0.5m
- Earth Observation
- Receives from 5 different satellites
  - CBERS-4
  - GAOFEN-1
  - GAOFEN-3
  - GAOFEN-5
  - SuperView-1
Currently Run Graduate Programs

MSc Programs in
1. Remote Sensing
2. Space Science & Application
3. Astronomy & Astrophysics

PhD Programs in
1. Remote Sensing
2. Space Science & Application
3. Astronomy & Astrophysics
4. Geodesy

Graduate students have been admitted from Ethiopia and other East African Countries: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, etc.
Planned Graduate Programs

**MSc Programs in**
1. Space Engineering
2. Aeronautical Engineering
3. Space Science & Engineering

**PhD Programs in**
1. Aerospace Engineering
2. Atmospheric & Climate Science
Gaps and Challenges

- Shortage of Professors
- Shortage of Lab facility
- Financing/funding/grants for running the programs
Proposed Solutions

- Creating international collaboration to facilitate staff and student exchange
- Sharing lab facilities
- Running the graduate programs in a sandwich modality
- Looking for financial aids/grants for conducting researches, travel grants, research support, etc
Thank you