

Global Space Connectivity & Sustainability Events

3-Day Integrated Event Programme

Space Sustainability Forum | Connecting the World from the Skies

12 – 14 October 2026 | CST Headquarters, Riyadh and Online

Organised by ITU & CST

Session Key

	Connectivity Focus (presented by Connecting the World from the Skies)
	Sustainability Focus (presented by SSF)
	Combined Connectivity & Sustainability Focus (jointly presented by Connecting the World from the Skies and SSF)
	Standalone Keynote Presentations & Spotlight Sessions (individual presentations / demos / spotlights could be presented by Connecting the World from the Skies and/or SSF or kept separate)
	Special Focus Session

Day 1 – Monday, 12 October 2026

Setting the Global Context: Governance, Sustainability and Responsibility

MORNING	
10:00 – 11:00	Registration opens
11:00 – 12:20	JOINT GRAND OPENING FULL MORNING PLENARY Joint Grand Opening & High-Level Keynotes – "Where Connectivity and Sustainability Meet" Welcome addresses from the Secretary-General of ITU and the Governor of CST. High-level keynote presentations and interventions from key industry and policy leaders will then follow, addressing both the satellite connectivity and space sustainability agendas. All speakers and interventions to represent both event pillars with the aim of setting the scene for the discussions over the 3 days. 11:00 – 11:30 Welcome Addresses H.E. Haytham AlOthali, Governor, CST Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General, ITU 11:30 – 12:20 Keynote Thought Leadership Roundtable: Where Connectivity and Sustainability Meet Satellite connectivity is expanding fast. It is opening up new opportunities across a wide range of different sectors, as well as bringing coverage to remote and underserved communities. That growth also puts pressure on orbits, spectrum and the space environment, which are shared and finite. This opening panel brings together leaders from government, regulators, international organisations and industry to look at how connecting the unconnected can go hand in hand with keeping space safe, secure and sustainable. Topics include: • Balancing rapid constellation growth with the long-term health of the orbital environment • Making sure the push to close the digital divide doesn't come at the cost of space sustainability • Using spectrum and orbital resources efficiently and fairly as demand rises • How regulators, industry and multilateral bodies can work together to align connectivity and sustainability goals Moderator: Frank Salzgeber, CEO and Founder, Altairi Space • H.E. Ambassador Carlos Foradori, Chair, UN PAROS, United Nations • Aarti Holla-Maini, Director, UNOOSA • Philip Marnick, General Director, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), Bahrain • Adel Al-Saleh, CEO, SES • David Marshack, CCO, AST SpaceMobile • Haithem Alfaraj, CEO, Neo Space Group (NSG)
12:20 – 12:35	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION 15 MINS Keynote Presentation: Sustainability and Security in Outer Space: Interconnected Agendas H.E. Ambassador Carlos Foradori, Chair, UN PAROS, United Nations
12:35 – 12:40	SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT 5 MINS Special Announcement
12:40 – 13:35	Break

AFTERNOON

13:35 – 13:50

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION | 15 MINS

Keynote Presentation: Connecting Worlds: IEEE's Role in Engaging Academia and Industry and Developing Non-Terrestrial Networks

Saifur Rahman, 2023 IEEE President, and Joseph Loring Professor, Virginia Tech Advanced Research Institute

13:50 – 14:00

AWARDS | 10 MINS

Awards Ceremony

Presentation of the winners of the 3rd edition of the IEEE "Non-Terrestrial Networks 2026" International Research Competition, and the SpaceUp award ceremony.

14:00 – 14:05

PARTNERS & SPONSORS | 5 MINS

Partners & Sponsors Recognition Ceremony

An opportunity to thank all the sponsors and partners who have supported this event.

14:05 – 15:00

PANEL 1 | CONNECTIVITY FOCUS

From Ambition to Access: The Role of Satellite in Achieving Universal Access

What will it take to connect the billions who remain unconnected, and what role can NTN play in this? This session explores the current state of the global satellite connectivity landscape, the evolving roles of GEO, MEO and LEO operators, the emergence of direct-to-device services, and the technological, commercial and regulatory challenges that will shape the road to universal access.

Moderator: Isabelle Mauro, Director General, GSOA

- **Mohammad S. AlJanobi**, Deputy Governor of Spectrum, CST
- **Gilles Brégant**, CEO, Agence Nationale des Fréquences (ANFR)
- **Badr N. Alsuwaidan**, President & CEO, ARABSAT
- **Mark Rigolle**, CEO, ABS Satellite
- **Timothy Adi Ashong**, Director General, RASCOM
- **Christodoulos Protopapas**, CEO, Hellas Sat

15:00 – 15:15

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION | 15 MINS

Keynote Presentation: From Earth to Space: Integrating Terrestrial and Satellite Connectivity

Ashraf AlTahini, CEO, Aramco Digital

15:15 – 16:10	PANEL 2 COMBINED CONNECTIVITY & SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS Growth Without Compromise: Balancing Connectivity Ambitions with Space Sustainability <i>Scaling satellite connectivity is no longer just a question of capacity and coverage; it is a question of responsibility. This session examines how connectivity ambitions depend on, and must be balanced against, responsible space governance; exploring whether the two goals are in tension or ultimately mutually reinforcing. It will take a broad view of sustainability, spanning not only orbital congestion and debris but also equitable spectrum access, interference-free use, and fair access to space for all nations.</i> It is proposed that interactive live audience polling is used during this session: e.g. ‘Do you see sustainability and connectivity as competing priorities or shared imperatives?’ ‘What is the biggest barrier to achieving satellite connectivity and space sustainability together?’ Moderator: Jorge Ciccorossi, Head, Space Strategy & Sustainability Division, ITU • Martin Fenton, Director, Non-Terrestrial Spectrum, Ofcom UK • Greg Oliveau, Head of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Amazon Leo • Mohaned Juwad, Vice President, Middle East Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Viasat • David Goldstein, Principal Engineer, SpaceX • Yuemei Hu, Principal Expert, Research Institute of Radio Spectrum Development, Utilization and Technological Innovation, China
16:10 – 16:25	<i>Break</i>
16:25 – 16:40	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #1 – Ookla: The Global State of D2D Through Real-World Measurements Salem Askar, Sales Director, MEA, Ookla
16:40 – 17:35	PANEL 3 CONNECTIVITY FOCUS Direct-to-Device (i): Evolving Business Models, Partnerships and the Path to Commercialisation <i>The first of two sessions on direct-to-device (D2D) connectivity will focus on the commercial and partnership landscape shaping the technology's development. It will explore emerging business models, evolving market structures, and the growing partnerships between satellite and mobile network operators. The discussion will examine how these collaborations can support the successful commercialisation and scaling of D2D services, while highlighting the broader social and economic benefits that widespread D2D connectivity can deliver.</i> Moderator: Herman Schepers, Founder and Managing Partner, Policy Impact Partners Speakers: • Luciana Camargos, Head of Spectrum, GSMA • Amy Mehlman, EVP & Chief Global Affairs Officer, Elveo Mobile • Barbee Ponder, General Counsel & VP Regulatory Affairs, Globalstar • Abdullah Aljohani, CTO, NSG • Chafic Traboulsi, Senior Vice President, Direct Sales, EMEA & APAC, Ookla • Majed Al Yazeedy, Space Business GM, STC

17:35 – 18:30	PANEL 4 SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS A Shared Responsibility: Shaping Global Norms and Responsible Behaviour for a Sustainable Space <i>The role of international frameworks, transparency, standards and confidence-building measures. How can global coordination mechanisms foster responsible behaviour across all space actors – from legacy operators to new commercial mega-constellation entrants?</i> Moderator: Hamza Hameed, Member, ITU Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Board Speakers: • Matej Siget, Global Space Law Project, UNOOSA • Kamal Alharbi, Chief Space Technology and Application Officer, Saudi Space Agency • Olga Volynskaya, Assistant Professor, Prince Sultan University (PSU) • Maher Khoury, Senior Vice President, International Sales, LeoLabs • Sandeep Bastola, Chief Operating Officer Satellite Systems Lead, Project-S
18:30	<i>Day 1 Close</i>

Day 2 – Tuesday, 13 October 2026

Seizing the Opportunity: Scaling Sustainable Satellite Connectivity

MORNING	
10:00 – 10:15	DAY 2 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION 15 MINS Keynote Presentation: Fit for Purpose Regulation: Bringing Satellite Connectivity to All Isabelle Mauro, Director General, GSOA
10:15 – 11:10	PANEL 5 CONNECTIVITY FOCUS Satellites and 6G: Integrating Satellite Systems into Future Connectivity Architecture <i>How can multi-orbital and multi-frequency satellite systems be leveraged as part of future 6G architectures to deliver seamless, resilient and globally inclusive connectivity? What regulatory and technical foundations are required?</i> Moderator: Ahmed Alsohaily, Board Director, Sheba Microsystems Speakers: • Rahim Tafazolli, Founder and Director of 5G Innovation Centre & 6G Innovation Centre, University of Surrey (• Mohamed El-Moghazi, Executive Director of International Spectrum Affairs, NTRA Egypt (confirmed) - • Chafic Chaya, Regional Manager, Public Policy and Government Affairs, RIPE NCC • Ali Cheema, Director, Spectrum Regulations, Ericsson • Meshal Alanazi, Technical Planning and Development Director, ARABSAT
11:10 – 12:05	PANEL 6 CONNECTIVITY FOCUS Direct-to-Device (ii): Technology, Spectrum and the Path to Scale <i>Building on the D2D panel from day one, this session shifts the discussion to technology innovation, spectrum authorisation and the regulatory dimension. It examines the enabling technology and the regulatory frameworks required to deliver D2D at scale, including supplemental coverage from space, the IMT versus MSS debate, spectrum authorisation and licensing models, and the role of devices and OEMs. What will it take to scale D2D services globally without harmful interference or fragmentation across borders?</i> Moderator: Hussein Abul-Enein, Director, Head of Middle East, Access Partnership Speakers: • Eric Fournier, Director for Spectrum Planning & International Affairs, Agence Nationale des Fréquences (ANFR) • Satender Yadav, Director - Global Solutions Engineering, Skylo • Amr Ashour, Director, Regulatory Affairs, AST SpaceMobile • Shahbaz Ali, VP of Products & Standards, Sateliot • Abdulhadi AlHarthi, General Manager for Spectrum Planning, CST • Bader Allhieb, VP, Infrastructure, STC
12:05 – 12:25	Break
12:25 – 12:40	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #2 - NSG: From Orbit to Outcome: Space-Based IoT for Mission Critical Operations, Assets & Sustainability Hamoud Zaed Al Shammari, Technology Engineer, Neo Space Group Mutaz Fawzi Sindi, Technology Engineer, Neo Space Group

12:40 – 12:55	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #3 – Project-S: Safeguarding Space Access and Exploration Sandeep Bastola, Chief Operating Officer Satellite Systems Lead, Project-S
12:55 – 13:50	PANEL 7 SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS Sustainable Orbits: Managing Congestion, Mitigating Interference and Preventing Debris <i>Managing congestion, debris mitigation, and the long-term sustainable use of orbital environments – this session will examine the policy levers and emerging technologies that can help achieve this. From active debris removal to green propulsion and responsible disposal, what voluntary and mandatory mechanisms are gaining traction? How do we ensure the orbital commons remains accessible for future generations, and what obligations do today's operators have to those who follow?</i> Moderator: Waleed Alsaleh, Director of Space Ecosystem Development, CST Speakers: • Dr. Yehia Abdul-Aziz, Founder and CEO, ATON • Mishaal Ashemimry, Managing Director, Centre for Space Futures • Araz Feyzi, Co-Founder & CTO, Kayhan Space • Ismael Moreno-Gomez, Principal, Analysys Mason • Abdulaziz bin Hussain, Spectrum Regulation & Policy Officer, ITU
13:50 – 14:05	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #4 – Midana Turki Al Turki, Director of Business Development, Midana
14:05 – 14:50	Break
AFTERNOON	
14:50 – 15:05	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION 15 MINS Keynote Presentation Vinicius Caram, Superintendent of Spectrum and Satellite, National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel), Brazil
15:05 – 16:00	PANEL 8 COMBINED CONNECTIVITY & SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS WRC-27 and Beyond: Spectrum Policy for the Future of Connectivity and Space <i>As we enter the final phase of preparations for WRC-27, attention turns to the spectrum decisions that will define the next era of satellite connectivity and space sustainability. This session brings together representatives working at the heart of the WRC process to examine the key NTN agenda items at WRC-27, and the path that lies ahead as the sector works to align global spectrum policy with long-term space governance. How should stakeholders prepare, and what outcomes are needed to balance connectivity expansion with a sustainable orbital environment?</i> Moderator: Ayman Maghrabi, General Manager for Spectrum Assignment, CST Speakers: • Alexander Kühn, Head of Section, International & National Spectrum Management, BNetzA • Peng Zhao, Vice President of Policy & Regulatory, GSOA • Cessy Karina, Senior Radiocommunication Engineer, ITU • Fatima Karim, Chairperson for ASMG, GSA • Abdulrahman Alnajdi, VP, Regulatory and Standardization, Neo Space Group (NSG)

16:00 – 16:15	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #5 – Arabsat: Software defined satellite will pave the way for 3GPP-NTN implementation Yasir Hassan, Director, Transmission Operations, ARABSAT
16:15 – 16:30	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #6 – Aramco Digital: Enabling Industrial AI Solutions with MCX over Satellite and MCX over Wi-Fi Dr. Fahad Alqurashi, Technology Innovation and R&D Manager, Aramco Digital
16:30 – 16:50	Break
16:50 – 17:45	PANEL 9 COMBINED CONNECTIVITY & SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS The Space Economy: Investment, Manufacturing and the Business Case for Sustainable Growth <i>The global space economy is on course to be worth more than a trillion dollars within the next decade, driven by falling launch costs, industrial-scale satellite manufacturing and a wave of private investment. Connectivity sits at the centre of that growth, with LEO constellations, non-terrestrial networks (NTN) and direct-to-device services attracting the largest share of capital and moving satellite from a niche complement to an integral layer of global telecoms infrastructure.</i> <i>This session will examine where value is migrating across the value chain – from launch and manufacturing to downstream connectivity, data and services – how satellite and terrestrial networks are converging, and how the sector can scale sustainably while remaining commercially viable and globally inclusive.</i> Moderator: Pacôme Révillon, CEO, Novaspace Speakers: • Hazuki Mori, Lead in Space Technology, World Economic Forum • Gregory Smirin, President, Muon Space • Mohammed I. Almajed, Honorary Chairman, AMENA Center, University of California, Berkeley • Abdulaziz Aldhafer, Director of Africa & Middle East, Astranis • Ali Alsheri, CTO, Aramco Digital
17:45 – 18:40	PANEL 10 CONNECTIVITY FOCUS Connectivity on the Move: Air, Sea and Land <i>Aviation, maritime and land mobility are among the fastest-growing segments for satellite connectivity. This session explores how air, sea and land connectivity is being reshaped by new LEO and multi-orbit capacity, flat-panel antennas and hybrid networks. What spectrum, regulatory and technical conditions are needed to deliver seamless broadband to aircraft, ships and vehicles across borders – and how can Earth Stations in Motion (ESIM) growth be accommodated alongside other services without harmful interference?</i> Moderator: Muhanned Alsaif, Satellite Senior Specialist, CST Speakers: • Zeina Mokaddem, Chief Government Affairs and Regulatory Officer, ABS Satellite • Mostafa Mousa, Lead, Licensing & Regulatory Affairs, Amazon Leo • Kendeas Karantonis, Director of Space and Innovation, Hellas Sat • Muhammad Raja, VP Engineering and Services Management, OneWeb NEOM • Mohammed Almutairi, Director of Regulatory Affairs & Spectrum Management, Neo Space Group (NSG)
18:40	Day 2 Close

Day 3 – Wednesday, 14 October 2026

Implementation and the Road Ahead

MORNING

10:00 – 11:30

SPECIAL FOCUS SESSION | 90 MINS | IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNOOSA –

The Legal Framework for Space: International Space Law and the Path to Responsible Governance

A 90-minute session examining the foundations and evolution of international space law and its application to the rapidly changing space environment, including the legal challenges posed by mega-constellations, active debris removal and direct-to-device services. Content and focus developed in partnership with UNOOSA.

Moderator:

Peter Martinez, Director, Secure World Foundation

Opening Presentation:

Rosanna Margarita Hoffmann, Head, Space Law, Policy and Sustainability, UNOOSA **(confirmed – virtual) -**

Speakers:

- **Elina Morozova**, Executive Director, Intersputnik
- **Raeed Al-Maneea**, GM Legal Affairs, Saudi Space Agency
- **Rachael Olore**, Legal Officer, Kenya Space Agency
- **Chehineze Bouafia**, Head, Regulatory Affairs, Space & Telecommunications, Eutelsat Group **(confirmed) -**
- **Aya Iwamoto**, Deputy Director, National Space Policy Secretariat, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan

11:30 – 11:45

SPOTLIGHT | 15 MINS

Spotlight Session #8 – Satellite-Self Broadcasting (SS-B)

Yuemei Hu, Principal Expert, Research Institute of Radio Spectrum Development, Utilization and Technological Innovation, China

11:45 – 12:00

SPOTLIGHT | 15 MINS

Spotlight Session #9 – Sustainability from Space: The Power of Earth Observation Satellite Services

Anthony Rea, Senior Director of the Department of Earth System Data and Predictions, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

12:00 – 12:20

Break

12:20 – 13:15

PANEL 11 | COMBINED CONNECTIVITY & SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS

Space as Critical Infrastructure: Increasing Resilience and Enabling the Next Generation of Space-Based Services

Space infrastructure underpins far more than connectivity. This session examines how space-based systems – spanning communications, earth exploration, navigation, positioning, timing (PNT) and emerging in-orbit data centres – are becoming indispensable to global resilience. As commercial actors such as hyperscalers explore deploying large constellations to support space-based data processing, what are the implications for spectrum use, orbital sustainability and international governance? How can AI unlock the power of earth observation and other space-based systems to help deliver global resilience? How do we ensure that this expanding critical infrastructure remains secure, resilient and equitably accessible?

Moderator: **Muhammad AlRabeiah**, Advisor, CST

Speakers:

- **Muryah Al-Shahrani**, General Manager of Space Systems and Infrastructure, Saudi Space Agency
- **Clémence Poirier**, Senior Researcher, Center for Security Studies (CSS), ETH Zürich
- **Nathan Juglard**, Senior Business Developer, Skynopy
- **Jean-François Morizur**, CEO, Cailabs
- **Connor McSharry**, Business Development Manager, Middle East Region, Slingshot

13:15 – 13:30	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #10 – Regulation and NGSO Constellations Spectrum Monitoring Emmanuel Houdet, Director of Mission Solutions, Kratos
13:30 – 13:45	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #11 – ATON: ATON Addresses a Critical Space Situational Awareness Gap in Africa and the Middle East Dr. Yehia Abdul-Aziz, Founder and CEO, ATON
13:45 – 14:30	Break
AFTERNOON	
14:30 – 15:25	PANEL 12 COMBINED CONNECTIVITY & SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS Shared Space: Expanding Access, Protecting What Matters <i>As more countries, institutions and commercial actors participate in the space economy, access to space brings both new opportunities and shared responsibilities. This panel explores how growing participation can be enabled while managing increasingly contested resources and protecting the scientific and societal value of space. The discussion will examine equitable access to spectrum, responsible growth, the protection of radio astronomy and the frameworks needed to ensure that space remains accessible and sustainable for future generations.</i> Moderator: Mohammed Alsehali, Spectrum Planning Team Lead, CST Speakers: • Muneera Al Malki, Senior Space Engineer and Satellite Design Specialist, Bahrain Space Agency • Gudila Marick, Spectrum Engineer, Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) • Federico Di Vruno, Spectrum Manager, SKAO • Adel Mohamed Darwish, Telecommunications and Digital Policy Leader • Ahmed Alzubairi, Co-founder & CTO, SarSatX
15:25 – 15:40	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #12 – Atenea/Artemis Deep Space Research Project Prof. Fernando Filippetti, University of Buenos Aires
15:40 – 15:55	SPOTLIGHT 15 MINS Spotlight Session #13 – B2 Space: Beyond Satellites: Balloon-Based Platforms for Connectivity and Operations in the Stratosphere Valentin Canales, Co-CEO & CTO, B2Space

15:55 – 16:50	PANEL 13 CONNECTIVITY FOCUS The Space In-Between: HAPS and Stratospheric Systems as the Next Frontier in Connectivity and Earth Observation <i>This panel brings together academics and industry experts to discuss High-Altitude Platform Stations (HAPS) and stratospheric systems as an emerging layer of connectivity and earth observation infrastructure. Panellists will explore how these systems bridge the gap between terrestrial networks and satellite constellations, offering unique advantages in coverage, latency, and cost-efficiency. Discussion will touch on current technical challenges, including platform endurance, energy management, and payload capacity at stratospheric altitudes. Panellists will also address regulatory and spectrum allocation issues that remain barriers to widespread deployment. The panel will highlight promising use cases across telecommunications, disaster response, agriculture, and environmental monitoring.</i> Moderator: Prof. Mohamed-Slim Alouini, Al-Khawarizmi Distinguished Professor, KAUST Speakers: ● Chris Roberts, Head Delivery and Capture, BAE Prismatic ● Alfredo Serrano, Director of EMEA, Sceye ● Srinivas Setty, Founder / Managing Director, BESPIN Technologies - ● Valentin Canales, Co-CEO & CTO, B2Space ● Dr. Islam Mohammad Mahmoud Tanash, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, Prince Mohammad bin Fahd University (PMU)
16:50 – 16:55	CLOSING REMARKS Closing Remarks Abdulhadi AlHarthi, GM, Radio Spectrum Planning, CST
16:55	<i>Day 3 Close</i>