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Space Arts and Science in the first SpaceLand in Africa

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Abstract

Science and Arts belong to each other, and Space is their ideal domain for a joint development towards the new frontiers of humanity.

Merging such disciplines can best support planetary exploration, outreach and dialogue with the society; in this context, we deem that the SpaceLand city being developed in Mauritius perfectly implements such a call.

Through a live-performance with videos and music staging a live "cover-version" of the soundtrack composed by the author for the Italian State TV "SpaceLand Gaia" science documentaries aired on prime Saturday evening time, this presentation will show the SpaceLand city being built in Mauritius, with its unique business, arts and techno-science research "Moon & Mars analogs"; in this marvellous tropical destination there will be room for space-art exhibits within low-gravity ground and underwater environments and infrastructures for Moon-gravity & Mars-gravity research, featuring new multi-disciplinary tools also for space-bound art & educational projects opened to the public.

SpaceLand will help implement new policies to increase the "space awareness" for the world's citizens, at any age and with any socio-cultural background; this development will contribute to turn that myriad values and spin-off applications for everyday's life stemming from Space exploration, including microgravity science research, technology innovation and arts in weightlessness, into permanent assets for the society, at any level, to democratize Space.

As this multimedia video-musical performance will comprehensively address, SpaceLand is focused on emerging and developing Countries, in particular of Africa and Asia, to facilitate their involvement into new Moon & Mars-bound policies whereby such projects can be carried out together with the general public in ad-hoc facilities, studying and working to enhance the quality of life, with the creation of new jobs and culture in a high-tech eco-sustainable fashion.

Enabling a permanent and exciting engagement of the people, at any age, into such a new *Space rush*, over 20.000 m2 of land near some of best financial services, tropical nature and beaches, the SpaceLand city in Mauritius will provide valuable exhibits room for paintings, sculptures and multimedia space-themed arts together with techno-science R&D laboratories in low-gravity test conditions, benefitting in particular the people of Africa and the Indian Ocean into this unique "*weightless-knowledge hub*".

Inter alia, SpaceLand will enable users to get hand-on involved into learning about, preparing and making business of experimental and development microgravity-related programs, especially for innovative arts, biomed/life & material sciences research and technology development, providing new educational and business opportunities.

The SpaceLand city enjoys the hand-on experience of a design team of Italian engineers and architects led by the author, with the valuable support of Managing Architect Celeste Petraroli (former design supervisor of mass media buildings for the Winter Olympic Games in Italy); recently presented in invitational talks at two United Nations events (High Level Fora on Space, respectively in Dubai/UAE and in Changsha/China) and at the first Global Conference on Space for Emerging Countries in Morocco, SpaceLand also relies on the direct involvement of the Head of State and the Government of Mauritius.

The SpaceLand City will help the local economy to thrive for a new, eco-sustainable "Space-rush", with

the by-product of reducing the need for African and Indian Ocean citizens to leave their territories and migrate abroad; such a result, in turn, will also contribute to offset those increasing social tensions which are building up at international level, while helping people enjoy the fascinations of new Space-Arts and Techno-Sciences at the edge of the unknown, to ameliorate life on this beautiful planet.