

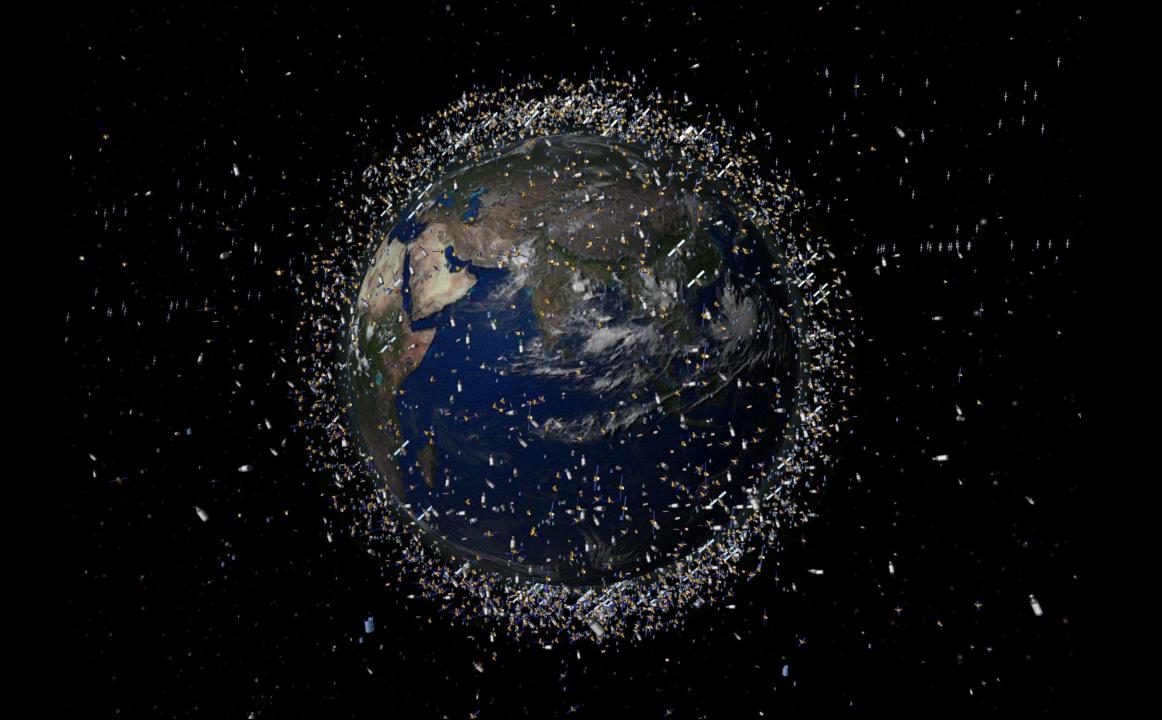
# A systems approach to sustainability in space

Mehta, Neel and Richard, Christopher and Raut, Shubham and Nahar, Praveen

#### Suggested citation:

Mehta, Neel and Richard, Christopher and Raut, Shubham and Nahar, Praveen (2018) A systems approach to sustainability in space. In: Proceedings of RSD7, Relating Systems Thinking and Design 7, 23-26 Oct 2018, Turin, Italy. Available at http://openresearch.ocadu.ca/id/eprint/2681/

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# The Cosmic Calling

Why Space Debris?



# Out of <mark>sight</mark> Out of **mind**



# What is Space Debris ?



# What makes it a Wicked Problem?





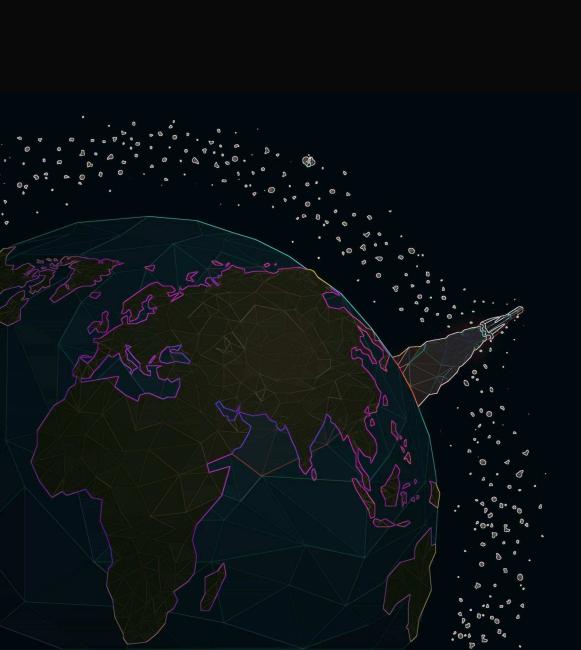
#### 23,000 regularly tracked

7500 tn of space debris

750,000 debris between the size of 1cm to 10cm



### Research Widening our Knowledge base.



NumberLifecycle AssessmentEffect on EnvironmentManufacturingMaterial Selection

Binding RulesIinternational Co-operationRevision of Treaties

Privatization Democratization New Business Models



# Sharing our Journey

Blog, Booklet and Abstract

# Secondary Research

- Current Policies around Space Debris
- Guidelines
- Dual Use Technologies
- Checks & Balances
- Use of Space Tech on Earth
- Spin-Off Tech
- Commercialisation

# Case Studies

- Impact of Gender on Space Exploration
- Impact of Space on UK Economy
- Space Elevator Sustainability
- Handbook of New actors in Space

### Idea Generation

COSMIC

Collo

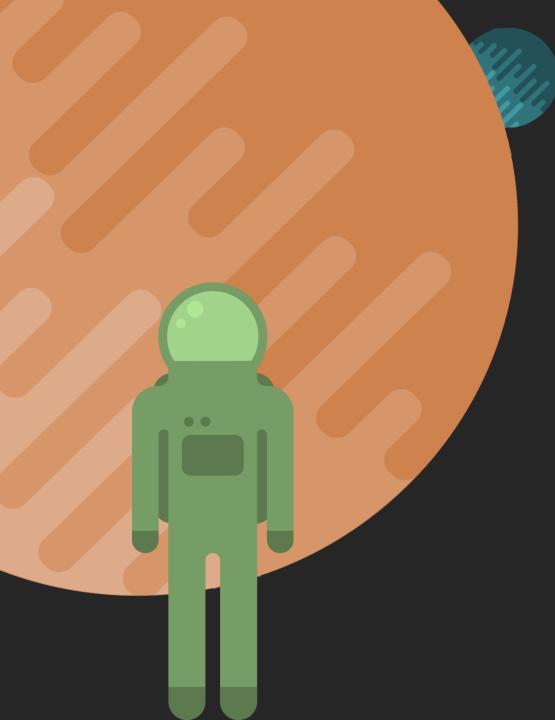
Process Reversal



### Approaches

- Space Debris
- Democratization of Space
- Economics of Space
- Design Approach in Space Industry
- International Policy Framework
- Space & Relatability





## Narrowing down

#### Space Debris

Is burning on re-entry the best way to end a satellites life

#### Democratisation of Space

- Who keeps check on how data from satellites are processed?
- How can treaties be revised for the new Space age?

#### Space & relatability

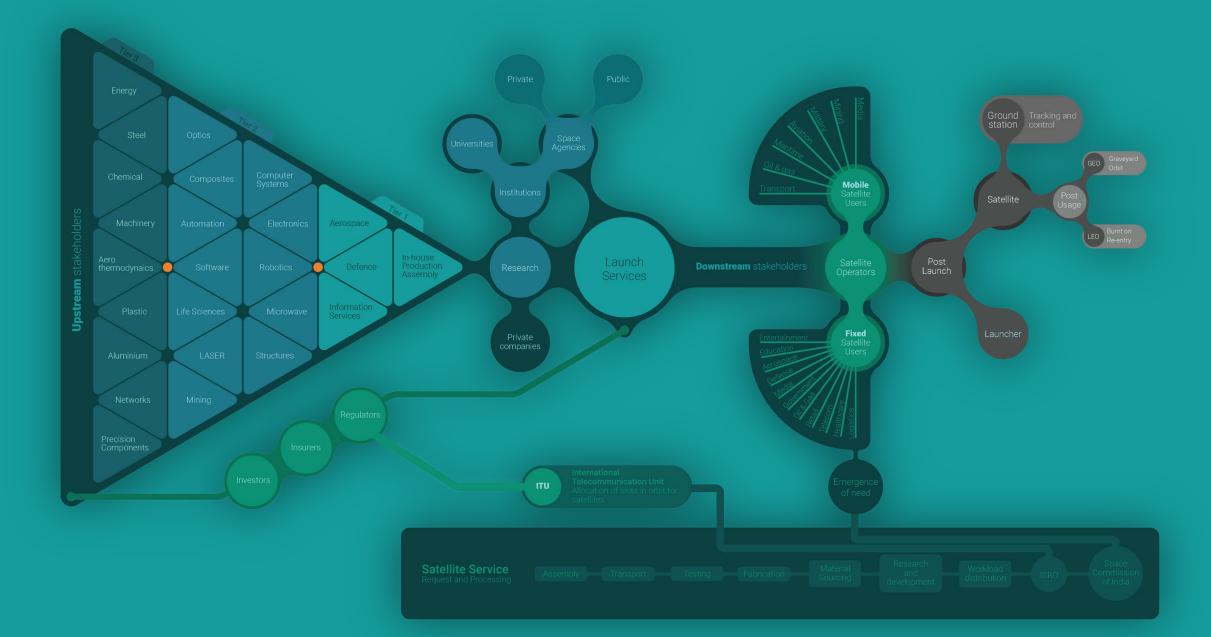
- How can common man relate more to Space?
- How do you kindle interest and fascination on a larger scale towards Space?





# Research & Mapping

- Structured view of the Space industry.
- Finding new problems, opportunity areas and intervention points
- Understanding Upstream and Downstream of the Industry



# Houston! We've made Contact

Primary Research



# Harnessing Wisdom

# Why conduct a workshop with **kids**?

Idea Generation & Awareness Unhindered Creativity





Write down facts about Space and fact about Earth.

Presentation

# Flow of the **workshop**

Make your own superhero/super-heroin

Humanising a Satellite

Teaching them the parts of a Satellite

Make your own Satellite

# Workshop with the **professionals**

# Scenario

Based idea generation

**The Past**: Restart the Space Age with your current understanding.

**The Present:** Deal with present space debris.

**The Future:** How can we mitigate Debris creation?

# Triggers For idea generation

Design for **Collision** 

Design for Modularity

Design for Trackability

Design for **demise** 

Design for **Re-use** 

Design for **Secondary use** 

Design for **Transformation** 

Design inspired from **Nature** 



# Outcomes

Of the idea generation

Past group:-

- Disallowed launching of satellites into the Geostationary orbit.
- Standardisation of satellite parts, and creation of modular buses which could be repaired or replaced easily

Present group:-

- Mitigating space debris using nets
- Increased global co-operation
- Better ground segments to track the orbital debris.

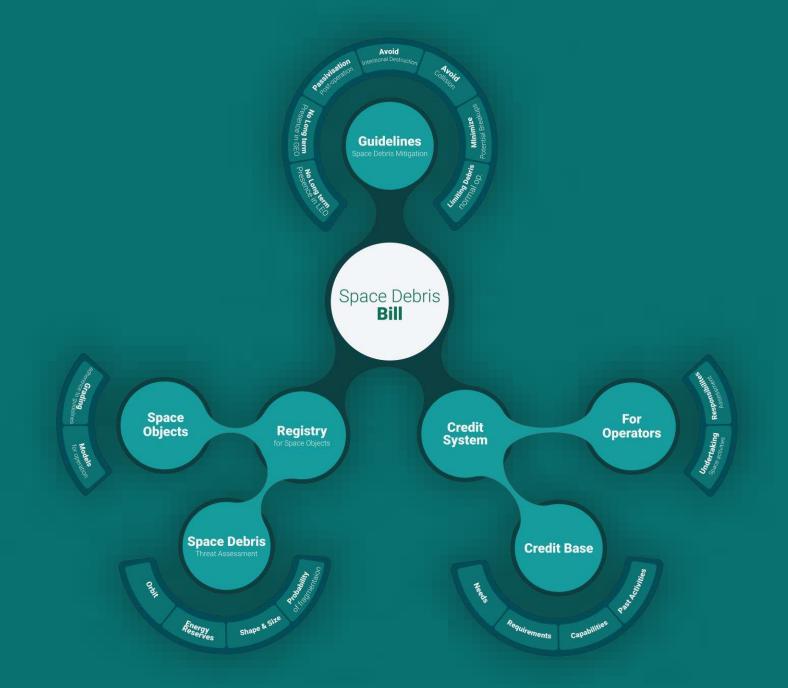
Future group:-

- Artificial envelope of gases that reflect communication signals
- Developing microwave and infrared waves to carry out the function of broadband communication

### Frameworks

LCA Policy Design Octaves





### Awareness

Time capsules

Comic

# Solutions

Developing concepts based on the workshop Satellite designs

