

**Agency Priority Goal Action Plan** 

# Enable Sustainable Surface Capabilities for the Moon in preparation for Mars

**Co-Goal Leader:** Deputy Associate Administrator for Programs, Walt Engelund, Space Technology Mission Directorate

**Co-Goal Leader:** Deputy Associate Administrator for Exploration Steve Clarke, Science Mission Directorate



### Overview



#### **Goal Statement**

Commence lunar surface science investigations, technology, and exploration demonstrations to enable a sustainable lunar surface exploration strategy. By September 30, 2021, deliver NASA science and technology payloads to the awarded Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) provider(s) for delivery to the surface of the Moon.

#### Challenge

Establish and maintain a robust cadence of lunar surface activities.

#### **Opportunity**

- New commercial services initiative providing low-cost, frequent, and global access to the lunar surface.
- Development of new technologies to test and demonstrate vital capabilities on the lunar surface to enable sustainable lunar presence and prepare for human exploration of Mars.
- Robust pipeline of scientific payloads and investigations furthering decadal science objectives and filling exploration's strategic knowledge gaps.
- Fostering a growing American commercial sector to provide increasingly larger, more capable, more precise, and wider ranging lunar surface access.

# **Leadership & Implementation Team**





Space Technology Mission Directorate is responsible for developing the crosscutting, pioneering, new technologies and capabilities needed by the agency to achieve its current and future missions.

Science Mission Directorate uses the vantage point of space to achieve a deep scientific understanding of our planet, other planets and solar system bodies, the interplanetary environment, the Sun and its effects on the solar system, and the universe beyond.

Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate provides the Agency with leadership and management of NASA space operations related to human exploration in and beyond low-Earth orbit.

# Goal Structure & Strategies



Achievement of this goal will require close coordination between Space Technology Mission Directorate, Science Mission Directorate, Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate. Strategies to support these efforts include:

- Gradual Buildup of Capability: Near-term mission opportunities with a defined cadence of compelling and integrated missions, providing for an incremental buildup for more complex missions over time.
- Scientific Exploration: exploration enables science and science enables exploration;
  leveraging scientific expertise for exploration of the lunar surface
- Commercial Partnerships: Leveraging the unique capabilities of NASA and the private sector, use partnerships to develop safe, reliable, and cost effective space systems.

# Summary of Progress – FY 2020 Q4



#### 2020 Q4 Milestone Progress:

The Systems Requirements Review (SRR) for the Exploration Extravehicular Mobility Unit (xEMU) was completed December 19-20, 2019. Work has continued, with a delta Preliminary Design Review conducted on September 8-11, 2020.

#### 2020 Q3 Milestone Progress Update:

For Q3, NASA did not complete the autonomous mobility field tests of the Autonomous Pop-Up Flat Folding Explorer Robot (PUFFER) on schedule and rated the milestone Yellow. As reported for Q3, the Autonomous PUFFER team conducted the first set of field tests for the new PUFFER and its multi-PUFFER capabilities during Q2. The additional Autonomous PUFFER Mars Yard testing was scheduled to continue through the end of the project in May. This testing has been delayed due to the COVID-19-related closure of the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL). The project submitted a request in June to JPL management to allow them to conduct the additional testing starting in early July. The team submitted a safety plan with the request that describes how the testing can be done outside while maintaining social distancing. Since Q3 reporting, testing has been delayed until no earlier than December 2020.

Because NASA will not complete the Q3 milestone during FY 2020, as discussed above, this agency priority goal is rated Yellow for FY 2020 Q4.

# Key Milestones

Complete VIPER Critical Design Review

mining technology

Prepare hardware for flight demonstration for lunar polar water



#### Progress update for the Lunar Surface Capabilities APG.

	FY 2020 Q1	FY 2020 Q2	FY 2020 Q3	Current Status FY 2020 Q4	Forecast FY 2021 Q1
Quarterly Rating	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	$\hat{\mathbf{T}}$
Milestones Achieved	2 of 1	2 of 2	2 of 3	3 of 4	1 of 4

Milestone Summary

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$\Rightarrow$	Unchanged	Ţ	Improving	<b>☆</b>	Deteriorating

#### **Responsible Mission** Milestone Due **Milestones** Comments **Directorate** Date STMD/SMD/HEOMD Plan strategy for APG coordinated with the President's Budget Release FY 2020 Q1 Completed on Dec. 11, 2019 Complete onramp of additional CLPS providers to enhance lunar FY 2020 Q2 SMD Completed on Nov. 18, 2019 delivery capability While initial testing was completed in Complete Autonomous Mobility Field Test February 2020, the second round of **STMD** FY 2020 Q3 tests was delayed until at least December 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic closure of JPL. Conduct Exploration Extravehicular Mobility Unit (xEMU) Systems Completed on Dec. 19-20, FY 2020 Q4 HEOMD 2019 Requirements Review Complete Precision Landing suborbital demonstration **STMD** FY 2021 Q1 Deliver selected NASA-sponsored instruments to the awarded CLPS **SMD** FY 2021 Q2 providers for integration

**SMD** 

STMD

FY 2021 Q3

FY 2021 Q4

# Data Accuracy and Reliability



#### Verification and Validation

 NASA monitors and tracks its progress towards this goal using various Agency documents and reports, including Directorate Program Management Council (DPMC) materials, reports from the industry partners, and Baseline Performance Reviews (BPR).

#### Data Source(s)

 Press releases and BPR Charts indicating whether or not NASA has initiated its planned science, technology, or exploration demonstrations.

#### Level of Accuracy Required for Intended Use

 Using the documents and reports referenced above, the Agency is able to accurately report at the end of each quarter on whether or not it has met its planned milestones.

#### **Data Limitations**

 NASA has not identified any data limitations that would preclude it from reporting accurate, reliable, and timely performance information.

## Additional Information



#### **Contributing Programs**

- Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD): Within STMD, the primary contributors to this APG are the the Game Changing Development Program and the Lunar Surface Innovation Initiative, the latter of which spans all STMD programs. The Game Changing Development Program advances space exploration technologies that will enable entirely new approaches for the Agency's future space missions as well as capabilities for our nation. The program will focus efforts in the mid Technology Readiness Level (TRL) range of (3-5/6) generally taking technologies from proof of concept through component or breadboard testing in a relevant environment. The Lunar Surface Innovation Initiative funds a broad portfolio of research and development from early stage innovation to technology development and maturation to capability demonstration in order to enable human and robotic exploration on the Moon and future operations on Mars. The activities will be implemented through a combination of unique NASA work and public-private partnerships.
- SMD Lunar Exploration and Discovery Program (LDEP): Through LDEP's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS), NASA is contracting with American aerospace companies for the delivery of payloads to the lunar surface. Early commercial delivery missions will perform science experiments, test technologies, and demonstrate capabilities to help NASA explore the Moon and prepare for human missions. Future landers will also carry large roving instrument kits to locate life-sustaining and mission-enabling resources on the Moon.
- **HEOMD Advanced Exploration Systems (AES):** The AES division is pioneering innovative approaches and public-private partnerships to rapidly develop prototype systems, advance key capabilities, and validate operational concepts for future human missions beyond Earth orbit. AES will work to develop the Exploration Extravehicular Mobility Unit (xEMU) critical for lunar surface exploration by humans.

#### Stakeholder/Congressional Consultations

NASA works with its industry partners to provide updates to Congress on the status of the Commercial Lunar Payload Services contracts. NASA also consults regularly with experts from industry and academia, such as the NASA Advisory Council and the National Space Council User's Advisory Council.