



The 8th

**Mission Idea Contest**

for Multiple Nano-satellites



**Monitoring the greenhouse gases on the  
terrains of Continental Collision Plates and  
warning system of glacial lake outburst  
floods over the Hindu Kush Himalayan range**

# Team Members



Bhawana Pokharel  
IOE



Bibek Yonzan  
IOE



Simonkrith Lamichhane  
IOE

# Outline

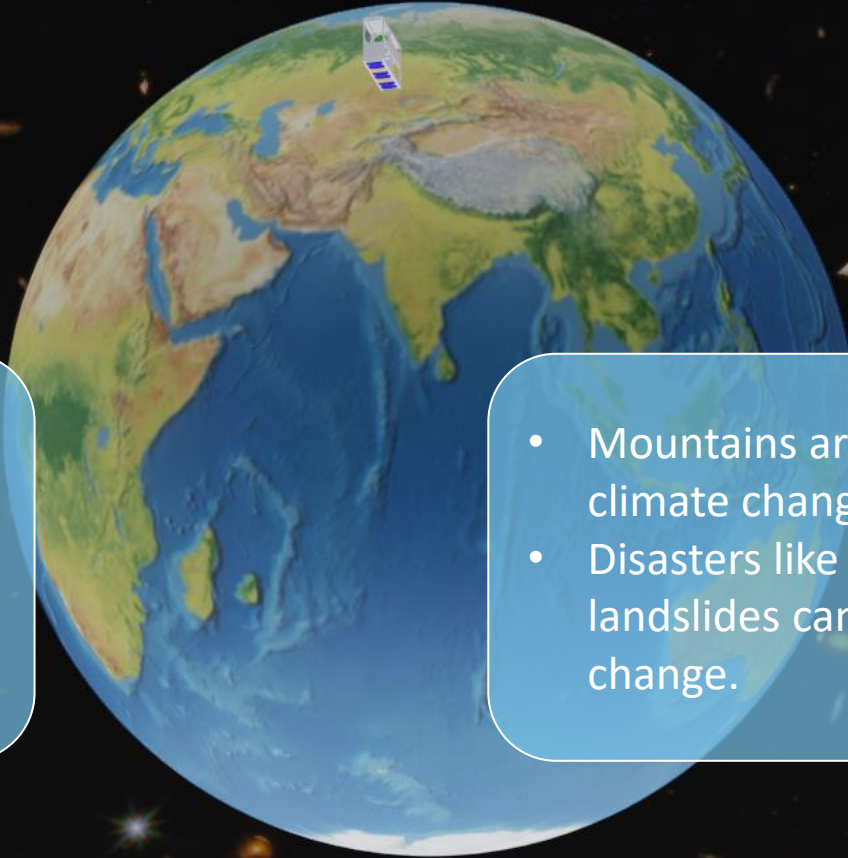




# INTRODUCTION



# INTRODUCTION



- Climate change
- Increase in global mean temperature by  $0.18^{\circ}\text{C}$  per decade
- Climate change is sensitive to altitude.

- Mountains are particularly sensitive to climate change.
- Disasters like outburst floods and landslides can be attributed to climate change.



# INTRODUCTION



*Fig 1: Flash-flood at the site of the Namche Small Hydel Plant, on August 4, 1985.*



*Fig 2: Massive mudflows in the mountains of Nelson County due to Hurricane Camille, 1969.*



*Fig 3: Imja Glacial Lake in 2007 (a) and in 2014 (b).*



*Fig 4: Avalanche in Galtur, Austria, 1999.*



# INTRODUCTION

## Greenhouse gases

- Predominant indicators of atmospheric climate change.
- Tipping elements like loss of major ice sheets, disruption of tropical monsoons and ecosystem shifts can be directly or indirectly correlated.

## Glaciers

- Another key indicator of climate change in continental collision terrain.
- Disastrous events like outburst floods, landslides and avalanches can be attributed to climate change in the region.

**At present, there is a data gap relating the two phenomena, due to a lack of comprehensive and excessive data.**



**MISSION**





# MISSION

Remote sensing over the terrains formed by continental plates collision

HKH region as an early indicator of climate change

Reduce potential damage from glacial lake outburst floods

Possible relation between greenhouse gases and geographical terrain



# MISSION

## Primary Objective

To monitor greenhouse gas levels in terrains formed by continental plates collision.

## Secondary Objective

To monitor and analyze glacial lakes in the areas of interest.



**CONCEPT OF  
OPERATIONS**



# CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

## SPACE SEGMENT

- Constellation of 3 satellites in a hybrid SSO/LEO
- Satellite in LEO in 35° inclination will monitor data over the HKH region.
- Satellite in LEO 65° in inclination will monitor other continental collision plates terrain, as well.
- Satellite in dawn dusk SSO will capture data for auto correlation.

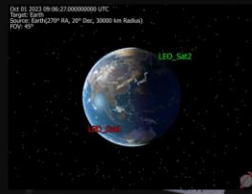


Fig 5: Constellation Orbit

## LAUNCH SEGMENT

- The satellites will be launched from Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and deployed from the Dhruva Space Orbit Deployer.
- After deployment, the satellite will start the detumbling mode, while sending beacons for communication.
- The satellites can be tracked using Two-Line-Element (TLE) set.



Fig 6: PSLV rocket

## GROUND SEGMENT

- Ground station
  - The primary ground station selected for the mission is National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), India.
  - The ground station at Kyutech University which supports communication in S band, will be used to downlink the data.
  - The ground stations that are part of the BIRDS ground station network will be used to downlink data, if upgraded to X/S band.



Fig 7: NRSC, India

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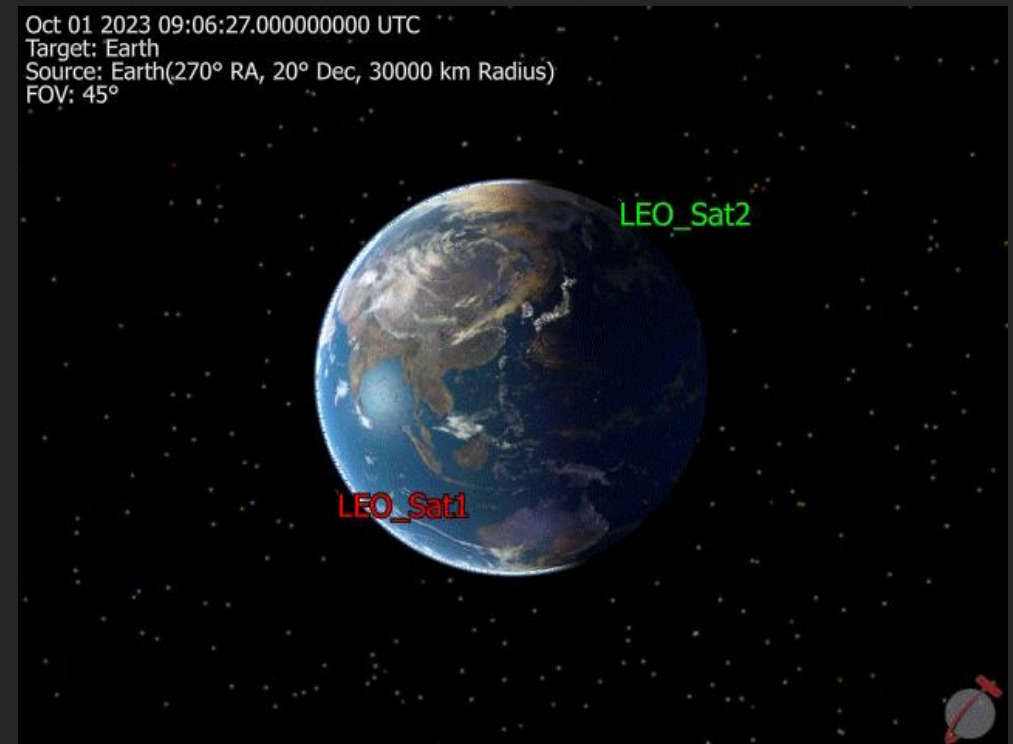


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*Fig 7: NRSC, India*

# GROUND SEGMENT

- Post-processing
  - Using Argus GSE, the captured greenhouse gas data will be analyzed.
  - The images, once downlinked, will be processed using ArcGIS to calculate the NDWI.
  - The data, raw and processed, will be made available via a web-portal for further processing or research.

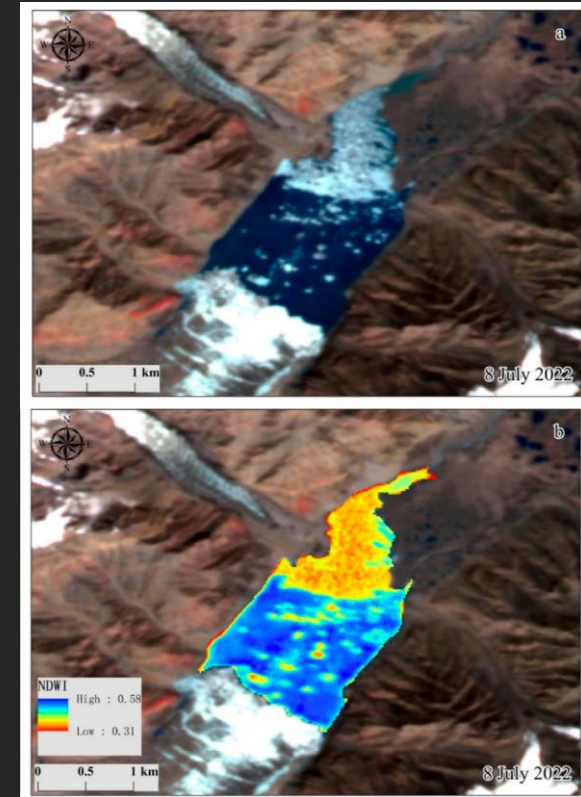


Fig: 8 Satellite image before and after calculating NDWI



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

Fig: 9 Food and Agriculture  
Organization

ICIMOD

Fig 10: International Centre for  
Integrated Mountain Development





**KEY PERFORMANCE  
PARAMETERS**



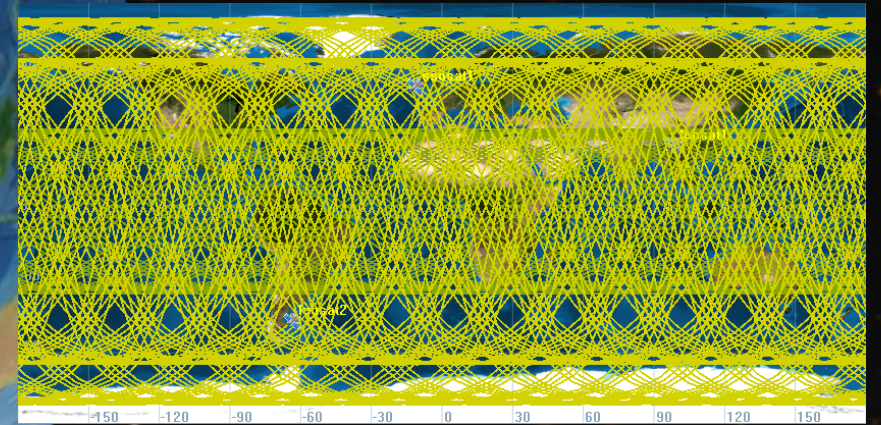
# KEY PERFORMANCE PARAMETERS

Constellation

Data Acquisition

# Constellation

- The mission will have 2 6U satellites in Bender constellation with an additional satellite in  $35^\circ$  inclination.
- Due to greater spatial coverage, the Bender constellation was selected for this mission.



*Fig 11: Bender constellation, ground track(4 days).*

# Data acquisition

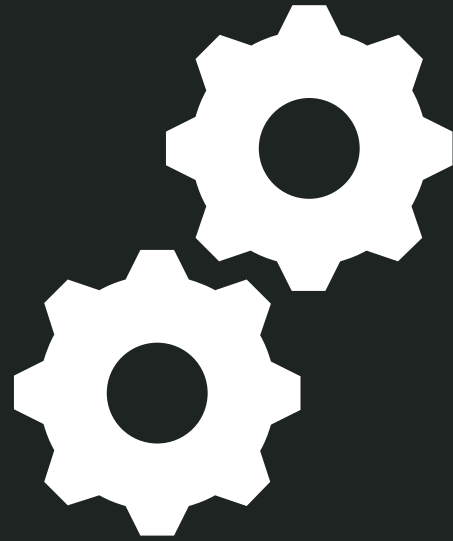
- To map the spatial variations in greenhouse gases, Argus 2000 IR spectrometer will be used.
- To capture the glacial lake data, Multiscape 100 CIS imager will be used.
- A hybrid NADIR/Spinning configuration will be used for optimal data acquisition.



*Fig 12: Argus 2000 IR Spectrometer*



*Fig 13: Multiscape 100 CIS imager*



**SATELLITE  
DESIGN**

## Payloads:

Spectrometer and Imager

## ADCS

3 reaction wheels, 3 magnetorquer and a star tracker

## Communication system

X-band transmitter and an S-band transceiver

## Command and Data-handling system

On-board computer with a combined mass memory

## Power system

3U solar panels on the sides

6U-XL solar panels on the front and the back

Maximum generated power = ~55W

50 W-h Li-Po Battery

## Structure

6U-XL Aluminum structure

Projected cost = <\$500,000 per satellite

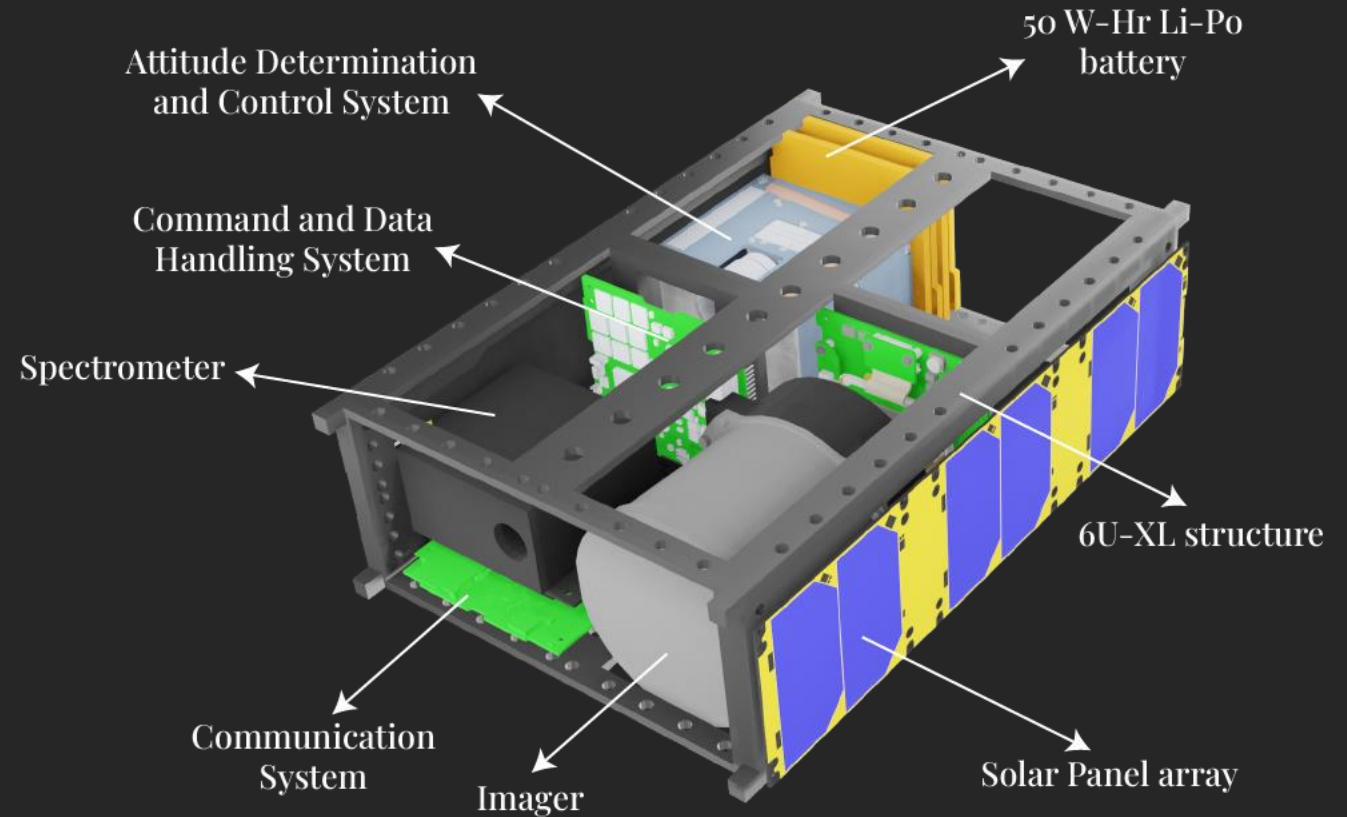


Fig 14: Bus design



# SATELLITE

# DESIGN

# Risk

## RISK

Insufficient  
Solar Power

## CAUSE

Satellite configuration

## MITIGATION

Power optimization mode for  
satellites in LEO

Data  
Downlink

Frequency band  
incompatibility

Using leased compatible ground  
station network



**IMPLEMENTATION  
PLAN**





# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

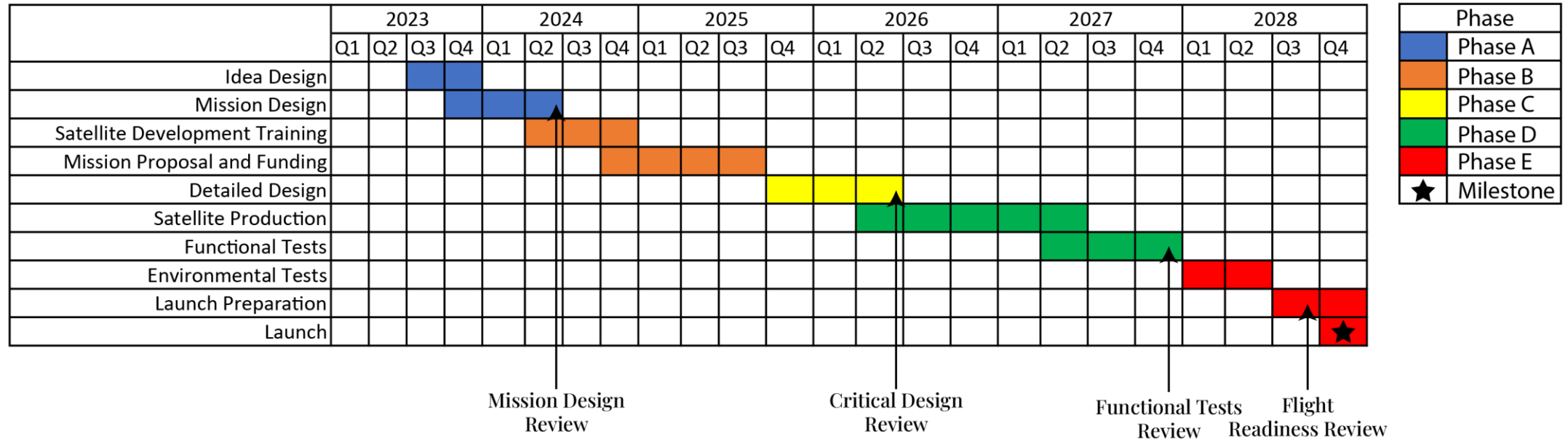


Fig 15: Gantt chart

# Conclusion

Lack of data in GHG induced climate change

Possible relation between greenhouse gas and outburst flood occurrence

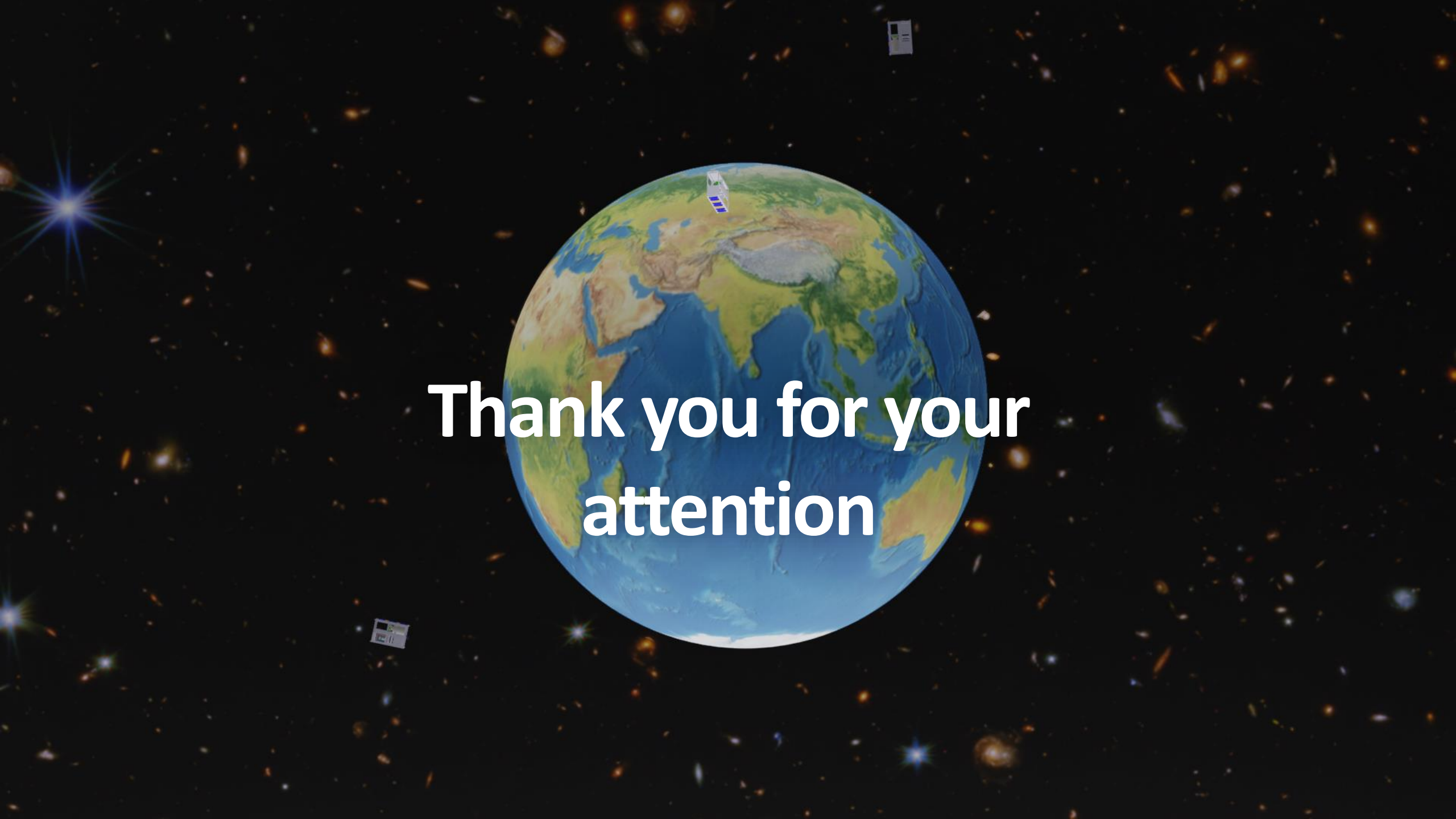
Constellation of three 6U satellites

Mitigate the effects of outburst floods in the downstream communities

Fill the data gap that has been missing

Use the relevant findings for a credible scientific assessment



A 3D rendering of the Earth from space, showing the continents of Asia, Australia, and parts of Africa and Europe. A small satellite with blue and white panels is orbiting the Earth. The background is a dark field of stars and galaxies. The text "Thank you for your attention" is overlaid in white, bold font.

**Thank you for your  
attention**

A 3D rendering of Earth from space, showing the continents of Asia, Australia, and parts of Africa and Europe. The Earth is set against a dark background filled with numerous stars and galaxies. Three small satellite icons are visible in the upper and lower portions of the frame. The word "Questions?" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the center of the Earth.

Questions?

# Appendix

| Subsystem  | Mass                          | Power                                 | Size  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Spectrometer – Argus<br/>2000 IR</b>  | 280 gm                        | < 1W                                  | 46*80*80mm <sup>3</sup>                                     |
| <b>Imager – Multiscape<br/>100 CIS</b>   | 1600 gm                       | 2.5 W – readout<br>5.8 W – imaging    | 98 x 98 x 176 mm  |
| <b>ADCS – iADCS400</b>   | 1300 gm                       | 2-5 W                                 | 95.4 x 95.9 x 67.3 mm                                       |
| <b>Communications</b>  |                               |                                       |   |
| <b>mini-X-band<br/>transmitter</b>   | 300gm                         | <10W                                  | 96*90*24 mm <sup>3</sup>                                    |
| <b>microTTC S-band<br/>transceiver</b>   | N/A                           | <10W                                  | 96*90*24 mm <sup>3</sup>                                    |
| <b>Command and Data<br/>handling – Sirius<br/>Command and Data<br/>Handling System</b> | 130 gm                        | 1.3W                                  | 230*155*37 mm <sup>3</sup>                                  |
| <b>Electrical Power<br/>Subsystem</b>  |                               |                                       |   |
| <b>Solar Panels</b>  | 390*2 + 146*2 gm<br>= 1072 gm | 19.2*2 + 8.4*2<br>Orbital Power - N/A | 226.3*366*1.6mm <sup>3</sup><br>100*366*1.6 mm <sup>3</sup> |
| <b>Battery</b>   | 210 gm                        | 50 Whr                                | 89*95*7 mm <sup>3</sup>                                     |
| <b>Structure</b>   |                               |                                       |   |
| <b>6U-XL Aluminum<br/>structure</b>  | 908 g                         |                                       | 100 x 226.3 x 366 mm <sup>3</sup>                           |

*Table 1: Mass and Power budget*

# Appendix

| <b>Orbital Parameters</b>     | <b>LEO SAT 1</b> | <b>LEO SAT 2</b> | <b>SSO SAT 3</b> |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Semi major axis (km)</b>   | 6978.14          | 6978.14          | 6978.14          |
| <b>Eccentricity (deg)</b>     | 0.0007           | 0.0007           | 0                |
| <b>Inclination (deg)</b>      | 35               | 65               | 97.8             |
| <b>Angle of perigee (deg)</b> | 280              | 280              | 0                |
| <b>RAAN (deg)</b>             | 250              | 250              | 82.5             |
| <b>True Anomaly (deg)</b>     | 0                | 180              | 0                |
| <b>Pointing</b>               | NADIR            | Spinning         | NADIR            |

*Table 2: Orbital parameters and pointing configuration*

# Appendix

| Ground Station | Transmitter 1 |              | Transmitter 2 |              | Transmitter 3 |              | Average  |              |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
|                | Duration      | No of Access | Duration      | No of Access | Duration      | No of Access | Duration | No of Access |
| KyuTech        | 698.492       | 7            | 628.858       | 6            | 697.162       | 4            | 673.602  | 6            |
| UPD            | 637.927       | 9            | 586.477       | 5            | 661.72        | 4            | 586.477  | 6            |
| DITT           | 662.623       | 8            | 563.822       | 6            | 579.324       | 5            | 609.502  | 6            |
| UiTM           | 639.345       | 7            | 532.601       | 5            | 695.39        | 4            | 604.999  | 5            |
| NRSC           | 640.995       | 9            | 705.908       | 4            | 528.697       | 5            | 624.226  | 6            |

Table 3: Ground station access times

# Image Credit

Background Credit: James Webb Space telescope, NASA

Earth: <https://www.istockphoto.com/photo/earth-map-gm172263073-2870355>

Fig 1: Dig Tsho (4,400 m a.s.l.), the pear-shaped glacial lake lies embedded in the uppermost Langmoche valley, one of the tributary valleys of the Bhote Kosi valley, above Thame, Khumbu Himal. Photograph by Tj. Peters, 14 October 1982.

Fig 2: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2019/08/19/virginias-deadliest-natural-disaster-unfolded-years-ago-hurricane-camille/>

Fig 3: Watanabe, Teiji & Byers, Alton & Somos-Valenzuela, Marcelo & Mckinney, Daene. (2016). The Need for Community Involvement in Glacial Lake Field Research: The Case of Imja Glacial Lake, Khumbu, Nepal Himalaya. 10.1007/978-3-319-28977-9\_13. , photographs by Alton Byers

Fig 4: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidbressan/2016/12/20/evaluating-avalanches-danger-in-a-warming-world-lessons-from-past-climate-change/?sh=4ad4aa33594a>

Fig 6: <https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/isro-pslv-c54-mission-oceansat-eos-06-nano-satellites-sriharikota-2301072-2022-11-24>

Fig 7: NRSC, ISRO.

Fig 8: Gu, C. et al. *Monitoring Glacier Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) of Lake Merzbacher Using Dense Chinese High-Resolution Satellite Images*



# Image Credit

Fig 9: Food and Agricultural Organization, <https://www.fao.org/home/en>

Fig 10: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), <https://www.icimod.org/>

Fig 11: NASA General Mission Analysis Tool (GMAT)

Fig 12: <http://thothx.com/getmedia/4c0d3242-b4fb-4e9d-abf7-85dbb5c6653f/20180815-Argus-2K-Owners-Manual,-Thoth-Technology,-rel-1-03.aspx>

Fig 13: <https://catalog.orbitaltransports.com/multiscape100-cis/>