NEAR-EARTH ASTEROID RISK MITIGATION STRATEGY IN THE NEXT DECADE: FROM EARTH-BASED FACILITIES TO DART AND HERA SPACE MISSIONS

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INTERNATIONAL & INTERDISCIPLINARY EFFORT

IAWN was established (2013) as a result of the UN-endorsed recommendations



10s of countries Plus two space agencies

PROTECTION



DISCOVERY – FOLLOW-UP – CHARACTERIZATION - EXPLORATION

DISCOVERY: SURVEYS A NASA EFFORT





 1998: NASA started the NEOO Program following a mandate from congress to detect all the NEOs >1km (potential global devastating effects)

At that monent only about 500 near-Earth asteroids were already known.

• By 2010 NASA (and its partners) had identified more than 90% (of 1K estimated)

Later on, the eyes turned to objects in 140m < D < 1km

Can cause wide regional damage with significant loss of life and complex political, social, and economic problems



• By 2020 Catalogue all the NEOs > 140m





Catalina Sky Survey (CSS): In 20 years has discovered About 10K NEOs . 150 larger than 1 km ((Larson et al. 1998)



PANoramic Survey Telescope And Rapid Response System (PANSTARS) (Kaiser et al. 2002) : 10 years now and more than 5k NEOS

Other: NEOWISE (Mainzer et al. 2011), ZTF (Bellm et al. 2019), and ATLAS (Tonry et al. 2018)





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2/3 of the estimated NEOs in this range have not been discovered

Progress: 140 Meters and Larger Total Population estimated to be ~25,000





Kelly Fast: SBAG January, 2020

WIDE FIELDS SURVEYS TO DISCOVER HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF NEW NEOS



- IR telescope in the L1 Earths point
- 5 years to reach the 2/3rds > 140m
- 10 years to reach the 90%
- In phase III technology development
- Launch: 2025???



- 8-m class optical telescope
- 10-year survey of the sky
- Survey of the southern sky
- ~15k NEOS >140m in 10 years (2/3rds)
- 2020 first-light??

2023 – 2032 Decadal Survey: What remains to be known?

Future Survey and Warning Strategies: the slope of the size-frequency distribution down to tens of meters Should small NEAs turn out to be more numerous than expected, surveys focused on providing short-term warning on timescales of hours or days

Observational Follow-Up Orbit determinations and characterization or refinement of impact corridors.

- Large-aperture ground-based telescopes for optical or radar observations.
- Smaller follow-up assets such as Spacewatch (McMillan 2007)

Characterization

- Remote Sensing
- Research Program
- In Situ Missions
- Characterization and Follow-up with Radar Assets
- Infrastructure and International Collaboration
- What Would We Do If a High-Probability Potential Impactor Was Discovered

What Remains to know?

FOLLOW-UP

Radar astrometry prevents newly discovered objects from being lost while routinely reducing uncertainties on orbital elements by five orders of magnitude impact warning time an average of 4 years compared to optical-only datasets

CHARACTERIZATION

2018 – 23 NASA-NEOO - Arecibo award, including IAC and IAA collaborators

- IAC "The NEO Rapid Observation, Charecterization and Key Simulations – NEOROCKS" H2020-SPACE-2019 WP: J de León, J. Licandro, N. Pinilla-Alonso - 2.5 years starting 2020
- IAC ESA-P3NEOI: Observational Support from collaborating observatories – 2.5y 2 WP: J. Licandro, De Leon, Serra-Ricart



