

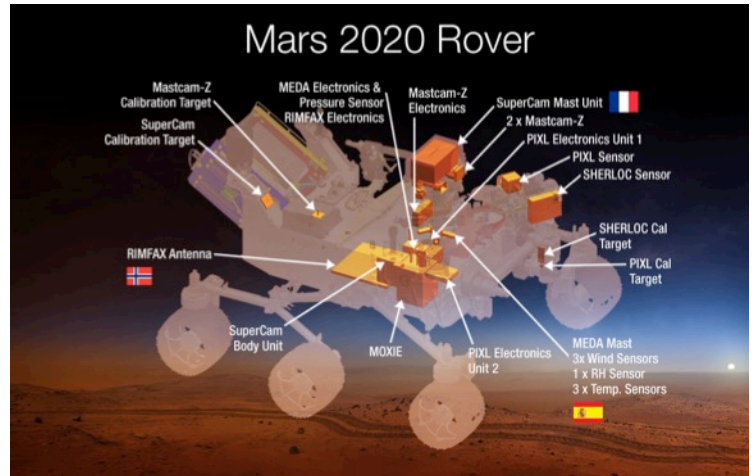
## Decadal Surveys



- Scientific *community sets priorities*, recommending *balanced portfolios* including:
  - **Flagship** missions and large facilities
  - **Competed mid-scale** projects & *New Frontiers* missions
  - **Competed small** research grants, technology development projects, and *Discovery- & Explorer-class* missions

## Revolutionary Flagships

A **Mars 2020** rover will cache samples of the Martian surface—the first crucial step toward returning Martian material back to state-of-the-art labs here on Earth. Flagship-class missions **demonstrate US leadership in science and technology** and **drive technology development**.

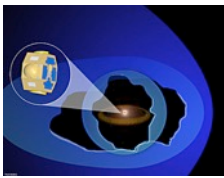


## Small & Mid-Scale Missions

*Discovery | Explorer  
New Frontiers*



Kepler has opened our eyes to the billions of potentially habitable planets in our Milky Way galaxy.



IBEX is helping us to better understand our sun and the boundaries of our solar system.

- Most led by researchers at private institutions
- Cost-capped & competitive
- Broadens participation in space sciences
- Encourages innovation
- Delivers high return on federal investment.
- Develops & maintains technical workforce



*New Horizons* is set to fly by Pluto and its moons July 2015, and on to nearby objects identified with *Hubble*.

## Competed Grants

- Astronomical sciences funded at NASA, National Science Foundation (NSF), and Dept. of Energy (DOE) Office of Science
- Awarded based on the *merit and breadth of impact* of the proposed scientific research
- Research dollars go to *scientists and students throughout the country*.

## Education & Public Outreach

NASA/IPAC Teacher Archive Research Program (NITARP) Educator Jacqueline Barge works on original astronomical research with her high school students.



Large crowds gathered in Times Square, and many other locations, to celebrate the NASA Curiosity Rover's successful landing on Mars.