NASA also has the goal to protect its assets, on Earth and in space, as well as our home planet and better understand the use of technologies that improve the quality of life in space and on Earth. By investing in space research and by collaborating with other agencies, industry, and academia, NASA has the opportunity to contribute to the creation of a more secure environment in space and on Earth. By leveraging resources in support of research in the unique environment of space, NASA goals and national priorities, such as security, as well as market needs, may be achieved. This dual use with good potential for commercial product development is strongly encouraged. Following are some example areas for which proposals are sought:

- Sensors and detection systems to improve processes and operations in support of NASA space research and exploration goals, national security, and industrial processes.

- Improved communication systems to effectively and efficiently gather information from space-based research and provide better communication capabilities in support of NASA; its space and ground-based research and exploration goals are a priority. These systems could also be used to disseminate warnings and other critical information, in the event of a national disaster.

- Innovative devices and procedures for the use of technologies to protect NASA's personnel and assets as well as citizens from various threats to their personal security and/or property. These devices and procedures for the use of technologies would also provide protection to personnel carrying out NASA space research and exploration operations, both in space and on Earth.

- Countermeasure systems and/or devices to better effect rescue, recovery, treatment, and environmental safety during and after the occurrence of a disaster or a related accident.