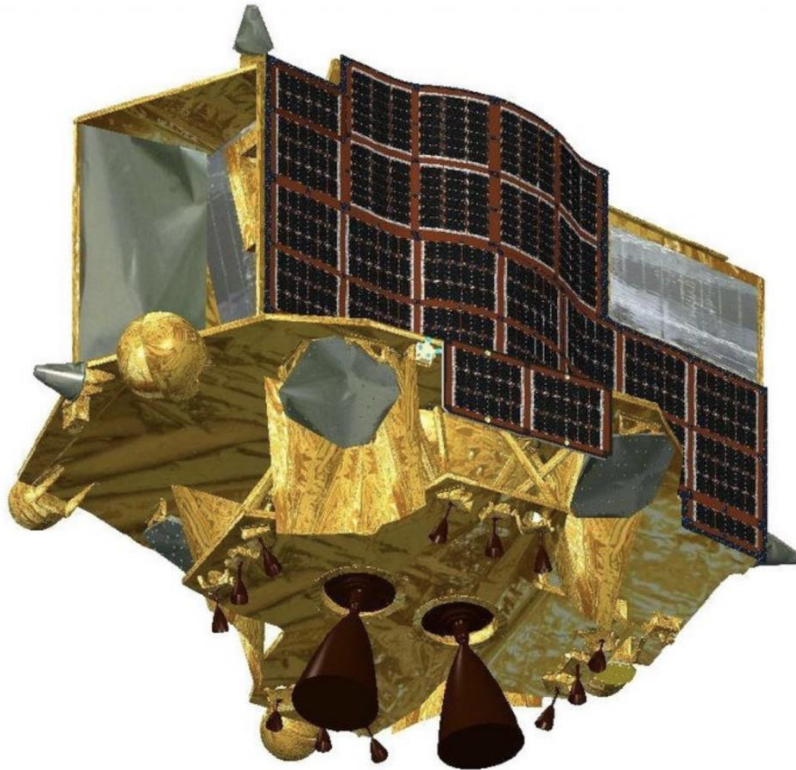


20 January 2024



(Picture credits: JAXA)

SLIM probe lunar landing

Space agency/country: Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency

Mission: *Smart Lander for Investigating Moon*

The Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)'s *Smart Lander for Investigating Moon* ("Moon Sniper") probe was officially launched on 6 September 2023. On 10 January 2024, JAXA confirmed that the probe was starting its preparation for descent. This mission is a collaboration of JAXA and NASA. It aimed to trial pinpoint landing technology, which will help future probes and missions to land safely on the Moon, with high accuracy and even on gentle slopes. Although the probe landed successfully within a small landing ellipse, its power source could not be started, prompting JAXA to declare the mission a "minimum success".

For more information:

[Smart Lander for Investigating Moon \(SLIM\) | Spacecraft | ISAS \(jaxa.jp\)](https://www.jaxa.jp/en/mission/slim/)

[JAXA | Smart Lander for Investigating Moon \(SLIM\)](https://www.jaxa.jp/en/mission/slim/)

<https://edition.cnn.com/2024/01/19/world/japan-moon-sniper-landing-mission-scen/index.html>