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International cooperation in using space for sustainable development: The "Space2030" agenda (1)

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THE ROLE OF SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGIES IN ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

Abstract

Sustainable development is a common agenda for global concern. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations (2015) consist of 17 global goals with 169 targets. These include ending poverty, improving health and education, and promoting prosperity and well-being by considering environmental sustainability. The last decades, especially the space sector, have experienced vast changes. Space science, technologies and data have the high potential to achieve the SDGs by providing crucial valid data, monitoring capabilities, and communication infrastructure. Space plays a significant role in supporting sustainability priorities, but the potential is even greater. Through strong international cooperation and partnerships, space can make a big difference in achieving all the SDGs. The United Nations initiative Space4SDGs determines how space-enabled technology and applications can support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. According to a recent study conducted by UNOOSA and the European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency (GSA) found that the use of space European Global Navigation Satellite Systems (EGNSS) and Copernicus applications provide direct benefits to nearly 40 per cent of the 169 targets of the SDGs. If telecommunications were included in this list, which depend on space, this percentage would increase substantially. This study provides an overview of how the space industry generates potential opportunities to strategically address issues associated with the SDGs to ensure a sustainable future. Qualitative research methods were used in this research. The analysis of the concept by means of a conceptual and theoretical framework to comprehend the impact of space technologies on economic growth and sustainability is outlined in the paper. The research will also discuss multiple case studies of countries, which can leverage space-enabled technologies to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By mapping the linkages between the space industry and the SDGs, the study aims to encourage the space industry to further incorporate relevant SDGs into their businesses and operations, validate their current efforts and trigger ideas.