

IAF BUSINESS INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM (E6)  
Entrepreneurship Around the World (5-GTS.1)

Author: Dr. Annamaria Nassisi  
Thales Alenia Space Italia, Italy

Ms. Isabella Patatti  
Thales Alenia Space Italia, Italy

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND A DIVERSITY APPROACH TO SPACE ECONOMY

**Abstract**

The paper aims to draw the attention on the Entrepreneurship dynamics through an analysis of the economic factors with a focus on the gender-based issues within the space economy evolution and new challenges that entrepreneurs face and some of the barriers encountered in relation to the local different cultures. In the last decade, the space arena is changing with new actors shaping new business modeling, and the new space economy phenomenon calling for new commercial and economic competencies. The space sector is experiencing unprecedented transformation and developments in the different countries and regions around the world, since major technological advances put the industry under the spotlight on the global innovation stage. Global competition is increasing with new entrants bringing ambitions and increasing commercial space business, as public and private investors look for new sources of economic growth, especially in the form of talent and creativity. Space is becoming closely linked to other sectors and diversity is driving teamwork approaches, business models, technology and other means but it's yet to be seen in the workforce. Enhancing the diversity is important to exploit different skills, ideas and perspectives as key drivers of space innovations. Particularly, gender diversity has been recognized to have a wide and reverberating impact across all pillars of businesses and has significant economic implications, hence it is critical to minimize the gender gap across all sectors of the space ecosystem: according to the OECD 2019, for example, female employment in space manufacturing hovers around 20