

55th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SAFETY, QUALITY AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT IN SPACE
ACTIVITIES (D5)

Quality and Safety, a challenge for all in Space (1)

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DEVELOPING A CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY FOR THE
EUROPEAN UNION SPACE PROGRAMME AGENCY

Abstract

The European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA) has as its mission to implement the EU Space Programme and to provide reliable, safe and secure space-related services, maximising their socio-economic benefits for European society and business. By fostering the development of innovative and competitive upstream and downstream sectors and engaging with the entire EU Space community, EUSPA is driving innovation-based growth in the European economy and contributing to the safety of EU citizens and the security of the Union and its Member States, while at the same time reinforcing the EU's strategic autonomy.

In fulfilling its mission, in order to ensure appropriate corporate responsibility and sustainability, the agency is developing a related policy using the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS). The EMAS is an instrument developed by the European Commission for organisations to evaluate, report and improve their environmental performance. EMAS can help an organization identify direct and indirect environmental issues and assess them. The direct impacts include: (a) air emissions, (b) releases to water, (c) production, recycling, reuse, transportation and disposal of solid and other wastes, (d) use and contamination of land, (e) use of energy and natural resources, and (f) local issues like noise and odours. Indirect impacts include issues related to product lifecycle, capital investments, administrative and planning decisions, and the environmental performance and practices of contractors and suppliers.

This paper will provide an overview of the development of EUSPA corporate responsibility and sustainable policy through the use of EMAS.