

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Enabling the Future - Developing the Space Workforce (5)

Author: Ms. Serena Crotti
Space Renaissance International, Italy

Prof. Bernard Foing
ILEWG "EuroMoonMars", The Netherlands
Mrs. Jara Pascual
ILEWG "EuroMoonMars", The Netherlands
Ms. Vilma Puriene
Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Lithuania

THE EUROSPACEHUB PROJECT: BUILDING THE SKILLS OF THE NEXT GENERATION OF
SPACE ENTREPRENEURS AND ASTRONAUTS

Abstract

EuroSpaceHub is a European funded project under the EIT HEI initiative, led by EIT Manufacturing and Raw Materials, as part of the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation. The project was founded by five partners: Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, the International Space University, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Collabwith Group and the Lunex Foundation. With a wide range of innovative educational initiatives, the mission of the project is training young people for entrepreneurship in aerospace. Also, EuroSpaceHub facilitates the creation of new collaborations between academia, startups, companies and researchers, breaking down existing barriers.

The educational program of EuroSpaceHub includes courses, resources, masterclasses and classes that are accessible via a dedicated digital platform. Here, each subscriber can not only take advantage of the training sessions, but also form new partnerships and network with other users. The digital content offers practical tools - designed by EuroSpaceHub partners - to improve the skills that are essential to collaborate on innovative projects, to forge new collaborations in the aerospace ecosystem, and to foster an entrepreneurial mindset in the young generation. The digital medium offers great potential to make knowledge sharing more inclusive and open to all. Users can subscribe from any part of the world and access content virtually. The courses cover the topics of Innovation, Space Technology, Collaboration, Emotional Intelligence and Entrepreneurship for the aerospace sector. Also, users can learn about existing opportunities on the market for collaborations, events, conferences or special calls in aerospace.

Complementing the theoretical training taking place digitally, EuroSpaceHub is committed to training future Space Entrepreneurs with hands-on activities, in the field. As part of its efforts to train the leaders of tomorrow, EuroSpaceHub supports the participation of young students, researchers and PhD graduates in analogue missions, thanks to the expertise in the field of one of its founding partners, Lunex EuroMoonMars. Analog missions replicate the conditions of life in space, thus exposing students to unusual and extreme settings. In such unique contexts, students develop strategic skills in two areas. Firstly, they learn technical notions related to equipment and instrumentation. They test new technologies and innovative concepts in Space-like settings, they design and conduct their own experiments. Secondly, they develop strategic soft skills. In isolation and in the extreme context of analogue missions, they develop interpersonal skills within the group, leadership capacity and resilience. These characteristics are essential for young professionals to succeed in the industry.

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