## IAF BUSINESSES AND INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM (E6)

Innovation: The Academics' Perspectives (3)

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## ENTREPREUNERSHIP IN SPACE

## Abstract

This academic paper explores the world of space entrepreneurship and investment, focusing on the perspectives of practitioners in the industry. The field of space entrepreneurship is rapidly evolving, with new ventures emerging and the sector attracting increasing interest from investors. However, the space industry poses unique challenges and opportunities that require a deep understanding of the technical, regulatory, and financial aspects of the sector.

Drawing on interviews with experienced space entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, and other industry experts, the paper provides valuable insights into the dynamics of space entrepreneurship and investment. The practitioners interviewed emphasized the need for a long-term investment horizon and a willingness to take on significant risk in the pursuit of potentially high returns. They also highlighted the importance of understanding the regulatory environment, which can be complex and subject to change.

The paper explores the role of government policies and funding in shaping the landscape of space entrepreneurship and investment. Public-private partnerships, for example, have been crucial in supporting the growth of the space industry, with government agencies providing funding and regulatory support for private ventures. The practitioners interviewed also discussed the potential for collaboration between private investors and public entities, which could create new opportunities for innovation and growth in the sector.

The study highlights the importance of technical expertise in the space industry, as well as the need for innovative approaches to financing and business models. The practitioners interviewed emphasized the importance of working closely with technical experts to understand the feasibility of space-related ventures, and the potential for disruptive technologies to transform the industry.

Overall, this paper provides a valuable resource for aspiring space entrepreneurs and investors seeking to navigate the complex landscape of the space industry. The insights and perspectives of experienced practitioners provide valuable guidance for those seeking to invest in this exciting and rapidly-evolving sector. By understanding the challenges and opportunities of space entrepreneurship and investment, practitioners can develop innovative strategies to support the growth of the industry and drive forward the frontiers of space exploration and discovery.