IAF EARTH OBSERVATION SYMPOSIUM (B1)
Interactive Presentations - IAF EARTH OBSERVATION SYMPOSIUM (IP)

Author: Mr. Anar Gasimov
Azerbaijan

Mr. Ismat Bakhishov
Azercosmos, Space Agency of Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan
Ms. Zahra Gasimova
Azercosmos, Space Agency of Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan

# SDG IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE COMPLETED 2019-2022 STATE PROGRAM ON DEVELOPMENT OF THE SATELLITE EARTH OBSERVATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

**Abstract**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, calls for sustainable transformation of societies around the world with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The importance of the role of Earth Observation in supporting the achievement of SDGs is recognized by the UN through General Assembly resolution A/RES/70/1: Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As an active member of the UN, Azerbaijan has demonstrated its firm commitment towards achieving the 2030 Agenda, prioritizing 17 SDGs, 88 targets, and 119 indicators covering economic, social, and environmental aspects of sustainable development. Under the umbrella of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development, a collective approach to ensure the alignment of the state socio-economic programs and strategies with SDGs has been formed in Azerbaijan. The goal of this study is to evaluate the SDG impact of the "2019-2022 State Program on Development of the Satellite Earth Observation in the Republic of Azerbaijan" (State Program) that was implemented to support the socio-economic and technological development in the country using satellite Earth Observation services. Methodology of this study is based on the SDG Impact Assessment Tool developed by the Gothenburg Centre for Sustainable Development, the multidisciplinary network organization of the Chalmers University of Technology and the University of Gothenburg. Using the reports of the GIS Center of the Space Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Azercosmos), which coordinated the implementation of the State Program, and the Conference on the Outcomes of the State Program held in December 2022, the SDG Impact Assessment of each of 98 actions provided in the State Program Action Plan is separately carried out. Then, summarizing the results, the SDG Impact Assessment of the State Program is provided. It is assessed whether the State Program has a positive or negative impact on each of the 17 SDGs, whether this impact is direct or indirect, which SDGs are not affected by the State Program, and impact on which SDGs cannot be measured due to lack of information. Based on these results, recommendations are made, such as support for which SDGs should be further strengthened; where to eliminate or minimize negative impacts, if any; where to fill an information gap, etc. - as all these can be useful in formulating strategies for the development of Earth Observation services at a national as well as international level.