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Author: Mr. Diego Greenhalgh
France, diego.greenhalgh@community.isunet.edu

Mr. Nicolas Peter
International Space University (ISU), France, nicolas.peter@isunet.edu

Ms. Sabrina Alam
SES, Luxembourg , sabrina.alam@community.isunet.edu

ESG AND SPACE: UNDERSTANDING ESG TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - AN
SES CASE STUDY

Abstract

The space sector is experiencing rapid growth, and ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) considerations are becoming increasingly important. ESG can help ensure that companies operate in space responsibly and sustainably, treating their employees, customers, and stakeholders fairly, protecting data, preventing cyberattacks, sharing the benefits of space exploration equitably among others. Companies prioritizing ESG will be better positioned to navigate the challenges and opportunities the space sector presents, including financial ones.

As new regulations are being introduced worldwide requiring corporations to comply with ESG considerations, this paper will offer valuable insights for the space industry looking to adapt and thrive in an increasingly ESG-focused business environment. By proactively addressing ESG concerns, companies can meet regulatory requirements and create positive social and environmental impact, drive innovation, and attract responsible investment.

This paper highlights the critical need for the space industry to address ESG concerns and inspire positive change in the space sector. In a collaboration between the International Space University (ISU) with SES S.A., an international satellite operator, a study was conducted using two different surveys to compare the understanding and evolution of ESG among the general public, members of the space sector and SES employees. The study aims to encourage green and responsible investments in the space industry by identifying improvement areas and innovation opportunities.

This paper also presents insights into the current state and future direction of ESG practices and provides a comprehensive analysis of the current state and prospects in the space industry.