

IAF SYMPOSIUM ON SECURITY, STABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF SPACE ACTIVITIES
(E9)Interactive Presentations - IAF SYMPOSIUM ON SECURITY, STABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY
OF SPACE ACTIVITIES (IP)

Author: Ms. Sabrina Alam
Luxembourg

THE LANDSCAPE OF SUSTAINABILITY IN THE SPACE SECTOR

Abstract

This paper examines the landscape of the space industry with regards to the current state of sustainability, the challenges to fully embracing it and whether or not it has adopted a strategy around it in the form of ESG (environmental, social and governance) as best practice principles go. With increasing trends in sustainability in the form of ESG, this paper addresses the need for the sector to further their efforts to align to today's standards. Incorporating evidence from case studies and interviews with experienced space industry professionals, it argues that in order to truly tackle sustainability, strategic thinking is required in the form of development of an ESG strategy. Training for employees and stakeholders at all levels was identified as a crucial mechanism to tackle the change management aspect of such a transition, with the biggest barrier to making this level of impact, is the scarcity of understanding and prioritisation of sustainability amongst the industry. Therefore, this paper provides recommendations for best implementation practices and additional areas of research.