



Takeaways from the Space Generation Fusion Forum

Lindsey Wisser, Anja Sheppard, Sunny Narayanan, and SGFF Delegates
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The U.S. Task Force was honored to host a breakout session at the 2023 Space Generation Fusion Forum (SGFF) in Colorado Springs, CO. Young professionals and students from around the world applied to be SGFF delegates for this three day event, which included three hours of breakout group discussion. The U.S. Task Force hosted a discussion on government, industry, and community collaborations for environmental stewardship in the space community. Ultimately the group chose to focus on sustainability of the space environment, also recognizing the benefits this subject has for the Earth environment.

Summarized delegate takeaways:

- Delegates prioritize ensuring open access to space, as the common heritage of all humankind, through sustainable actions and incentives benefitting both existing organizations and new market entrants. The goal is to provide long-term and reliable benefits to Earth. Future generations will depend on sustainable access to space for research and discovery, and ultimately the expansion of humanity beyond Earth.
- Sustainability of the space environment requires: (1) debris management, (2) managing orbital slots to ensure access to Low Earth Orbit, Medium Earth Orbit, and Geosynchronous orbits, (3) clear band and frequency allocations, and (4) anticipation and mitigation of future environmental damage resulting from commercial development on celestial bodies.

- Global organizations, countries, and companies should adopt positive measures for ethically sustainable acts through various mechanisms, including regulations, tax incentives, and other means available to national governments in partnership with relevant organizations and communities.
- Contracts for space operations should include requirements for sustainable space operations. Contracts should also include mandatory and binding Environmental Impact Assessments. The group also suggests further consideration of international arbitration as a method of dispute resolution.
- Sustainability actions should be normalized, standardized, and transparent.

Sustainability of the space environment is critical if we are to continue utilizing it for the benefit of Earth. In just three hours, SGFF delegates touched on key elements of this challenge. We look forward to engaging with the broader SGAC community more in the future!