



Background Document

Space4Women: Landmark Study on Gender Equality in the Space Sector – Phase 2

The Space4Women Project:

The Space4Women project is an initiative led by the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) that aims at closing the gender gap in STEM and the space sector by promoting the inclusion of women in the field and supporting policymakers in building an enabling gender-equitable environment. Over the past years, the Space4Women project has achieved significant milestones, developing research, raising awareness, undertaking capacity-building and mentoring activities, and establishing a solid network of committed individuals and organizations. The project includes the organization of annual expert meetings.

The United Nations/Republic of Korea Space4Women Expert Meeting in 2022 had, as objective, to examine and review the status of women in the space sector, in particular measuring their participation. A series of challenges were identified, including the limited availability and accessibility of data, the lack of standardization and comparability of information across countries, and the complete absence of data for some regional areas. Such challenges prevent a full picture of the participation of women in the space sector to be captured. Without global data on gender diversity in the space sector, it is not possible to recognize trends and gaps, and to understand where and how interventions need to be made.

The Landmark Study on Gender Equality in the Space Sector:

The objective of the Study is to: (i) gain a better understanding of women's participation in the space sector; (2) provide a global baseline to measure progress towards achieving gender equality in the space sector; and (3) support solutions to promote the inclusion of women and girls in STEM and space fields.

Implemented in three successive phases, the first segment has focused on surveying quantitative aspects of women's participation in the public sector and has provided a first landmark that was presented at the sixty-seventh session of COPUOS. The second phase of the study will focus on the qualitative aspects of the experience of women while entering and progressing in the Space sector. The scope of the analysis has been expanded to cover the private sector, including women entrepreneurship.

More specifically, the study will seek to collect:

- Gender representation data in space organizations;
- Qualitative data on women's experience in the space sector, their pathway to and within the sector, and their workplace conditions.

To collect this information, UNOOSA has developed two surveys to be circulated throughout the space sector globally:

1. **Space4Women Survey for Private Organizations:** Private space organizations from all Member States are voluntarily invited to complete the survey includes a set of questions seeking to understand women's participation in the private space sector at global level. Multiple space-related private sector organizations from the same Member State may submit data, which will be aggregated at a country level. Data will only be shared in aggregate at a regional/global level

and will not specifically link back to any organization. The survey can be accessed [[here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M2PGPVT)] (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M2PGPVT>).

2. **Space4Women Survey on Women's Experiences in the Space Sector:** women working in the space field, in both public and private sectors, and including women entrepreneurs, are voluntarily invited to complete the survey which includes questions seeking to understand their experience in the space sector, their pathway, and their workplace conditions. The survey is strictly anonymous. The survey can be accessed [[here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FGN633N)] (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FGN633N>).

Both surveys will close on 1 May 2025.

The results of this survey will be published in a public report by UNOOSA, with participating private organizations listed.