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Space Applications, the Solution to Overcome Today's and Tomorrow's Challenges

The second day of GLAC 2018 started with a fundamental question: How are we going to produce food and energy for a constantly increasing population of more than 7 billion people? "By wisely using natural resources of all kinds" claimed **Gerardo Richarte**, Co-founder and CTO of Satellogic. **Gunter Schreier**, Deputy Director of German Remote Sensing Data Center (DFD) at German Aerospace Center (DLR) confirmed that "Earth Observation is the tool of choice to best monitor our food resources".

On the following panel, **Christina Giannopapa**, Head of Political Affairs Office at the European Space Agency (ESA) asserted that "space data open up a vast amount of possibilities and space applications can truly help in monitoring air and ground activities". More generally, a self-evident observation emerged from the discussions: building space applications must be a common effort undertaken by all space nations to overcome the challenges faced in various fields such as transportation, agriculture, navigation or security.

Health is another domain where space applications can improve people's lives. For instance, as explained by **Beatrice Barresi**, Applications Engineer at the European Space Agency (ESA), "through the use of multiple space assets, it is nowadays possible to provide significant advances for breast screening services in Europe and beyond".

In addition to improving the monitoring of individual's health, space applications can also have a direct impact on ensuring the safety of specific areas and cities which regularly suffer from natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes. **Oleg Ventskovsky**, Yuzhnoye's European Representation Director explained how Yuzhnoye State Design Office "is actively engaged in the fight against earthquakes and looks deeply into a way to forecast them".

The last day of the conference focused on the topic of space data democratization. **Jean-Pascal Le Franc**, Director of Planning, International Relations and Quality at the French Space Agency - CNES explained that CNES is focusing on disruptive ideas and are currently working on innovations such as reusable rockets and more powerful satellites that will help the fight against digital divide.

Overall, GLAC 2018 provided detailed insights on the current space applications' efforts carried out by agencies and industries. The 200 people from 24 countries that attended GLAC 2018 left the conference with a clearer view and knowledge of the future of space applications and their concrete benefits in our daily lives.

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