1.2 Non-Financial Information

1.2.1 The Company's Approach to Responsibility & Sustainability

The Company and its Main Stakeholders

Airbus is an industrial company operating in businesses with long product lifecycles and corresponding returns on investment. There are significant costs and risks in programme development and cyclical markets. These features define the Company and shape its relationships with all stakeholders. For a description of the Company's business model, see "— 1.1.1 Overview".

The Company is engaged in stakeholder dialogue at various levels. Thanks to an update to its materiality assessment in 2019 it had a privileged opportunity to capture the voice of 12 key stakeholders as to which environmental, social and governance topics were of most importance for them (see "Materiality Assessment" below). This included the following stakeholder groups: customers, suppliers, partners, NGOs, investors, employees, authorities, governments, industry associations, MRO providers, airports, and the community at large. While such opportunities are run centrally, the responsibility for stakeholder engagement, as a general rule, is decentralised and employees are encouraged to initiate, develop and maintain relationships with their respective stakeholders. The Company often seeks a sectorial approach in order to strengthen the impact.

The Company's main purpose, its missions and the objectives resulting from them, are defined in relation to these stakeholders. The Company has defined the following objectives:

- generate long-term value by developing a sustainably profitable portfolio of aeronautics, helicopter, defence and space businesses. For its shareholders, lenders and other financial counterparts, the Company must meet its obligations and foster its standing of creditworthiness and profitability;
- be a provider of choice, offering superior value-for-money products and services to customers;
- engage employees to share its goals and rise to its challenges.
 Within the confines of applicable laws and regulations, the Company must respond to their expectations about development, people management and values;
- build sustainable relationships with its suppliers based on mutual interest to satisfy its customers to encourage responsible practices. The Company promotes the Supplier Code of Conduct as standards consistent with its own Code of Conduct, and also develops and implements adequate mechanisms to monitor supplier performance;
- play a key role in society and towards local communities. The Company is committed to responsible business practices in terms of respect for human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption. In addition, the Company encourages initiatives that contribute to tackling societal challenges whether through its products and services, skills and resources or via key partnerships. In 2019 this has been reinforced with the "Next Chapter" transformation platform, launched by the Company's new CEO, in which one of the six strategic streams is dedicated to the role of Airbus in society, putting responsibility and sustainability ("R&S") at the heart of the Company's priorities.

The Airbus "Next Chapter"

A new team, under the leadership of CEO Guillaume Faury, took the helm of the Company in April 2019. This team is composed of both Airbus veterans and newcomers. Drawing widely on many sources of expertise, it will need to plot the course for the Company over the coming years, ensuring the Company is best equipped to overcome intrinsic challenges while navigating a rapidly evolving environment externally (heightened competition, multiple new technologies, geo-political uncertainty, environmental imperatives, etc.). It will be the role of this new team to reaffirm/adapt, formalise and champion a coherent purpose, vision, mission, objectives and culture for the Company and to bring them to life. The Next Chapter team and project has been set up, as a first step, to support the new CEO and team in providing them with input to inform their decisions with a diversity of views and ideas coming from individuals from all parts of the Company.

This company-wide, cross functional transformation platform is designed to support, prioritise, accelerate and connect efforts across the Company. Next Chapter aims to create the right conditions and environment to deliver both short and long-term priorities, with a mind-set of Safety, Quality, Integrity and Compliance and to build a capacity for continuous improvement. It connects employees across the Company to encourage creativity and answer the simple question: What should Airbus of tomorrow look like and how can we make it a reality?

Ideas and initiatives have been structured around seven main streams:

- Purpose and Story;
- People@Airbus;
- Competitiveness;
- Customer@Heart;
- Governance;
- PeopleSafety@Work;
- Airbus in Society.

As seen in the above streams, R&S is at the core of the next chapter of the Company and with that a unique momentum has emerged. This is most obvious in the "Airbus in Society" stream, which has gathered ideas and projects aimed at ensuring Airbus drives its business in a responsible and sustainable manner and contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs").

Next Chapter has also led to the reorganisation of the R&S team and governance model that will be taking place in 2020. The changes will reflect the ambition to fully embed R&S into the business and its performance management systems, to engage the most senior leaders of the Company and the Board of Directors, to drive our most material topics, while developing a strong R&S culture across the Company and developing greater engagement with the Company's stakeholders.