



# EO FOR FORESTRY TRAINING 2024 (BELEM, BRAZIL)

Thanks to all ESA-EOP colleagues for their contributions  
Thibault Taillade, Magdalena Fitrzyk



## 1. Introduction to ESA

## 2. Earth Observation missions

ESA-EOP colleagues

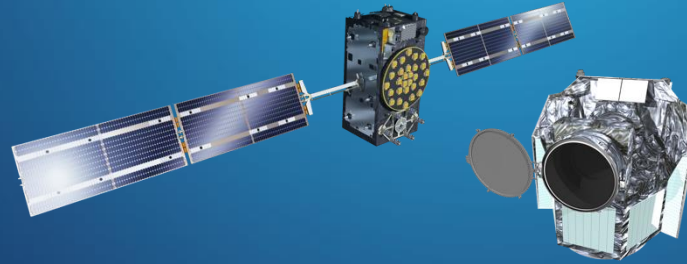
Thibault Taillade, Magdalena Fitrzyk



# What is the European Space Agency, ESA



Make Space  
for Europe



Pushing the limits of  
what is possible in  
space since 1975



5 500+

ESA Workforce

2023-2025 Budget

16.9 billions €

22 Member States

(+ associated & cooperating states)



# ESA Activities and Achievements



All of this is possible thanks to the collaboration of ALL Member States

ESA, unlike many other agencies is active across every area of the space sector

World leader in science and technology

+80  
programmes  
in parallel

Over 80 satellites developed, tested, and operated since 1975

More than 220 launches from Europe's Spaceport in Kourou





# ESA Membership



## 22 Member States

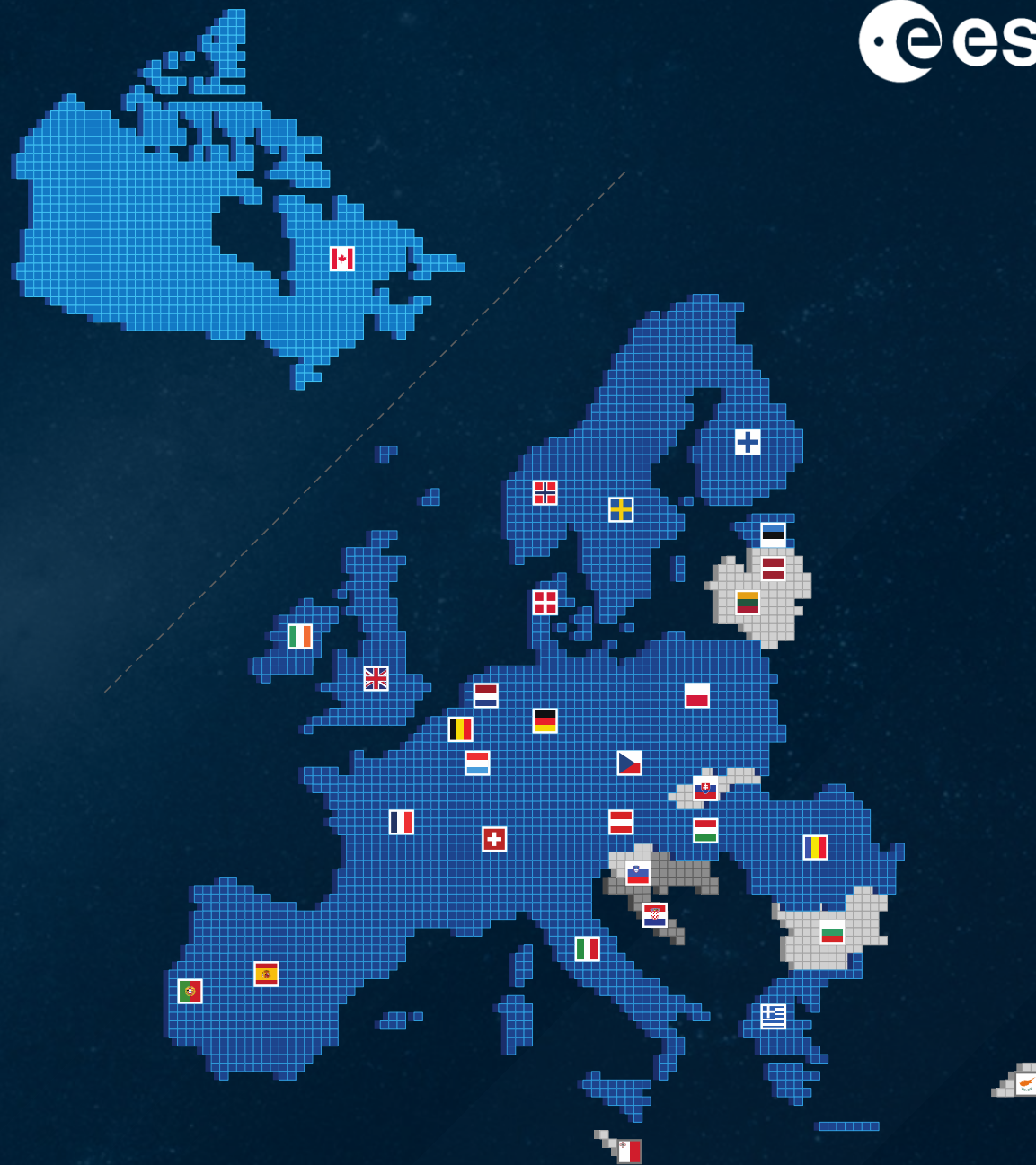
Austria	Italy
Belgium	Luxembourg
Czech Republic	Netherlands
Denmark	Norway
Estonia	Poland
Finland	Portugal
France	Romania
Germany	Spain
Greece	Sweden
Hungary	Switzerland
Ireland	United Kingdom

## 4 Associate Members

Slovenia, Slovakia, Latvia, Lithuania

## Cooperation Agreements

4 other European States: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus and Malta + Canada



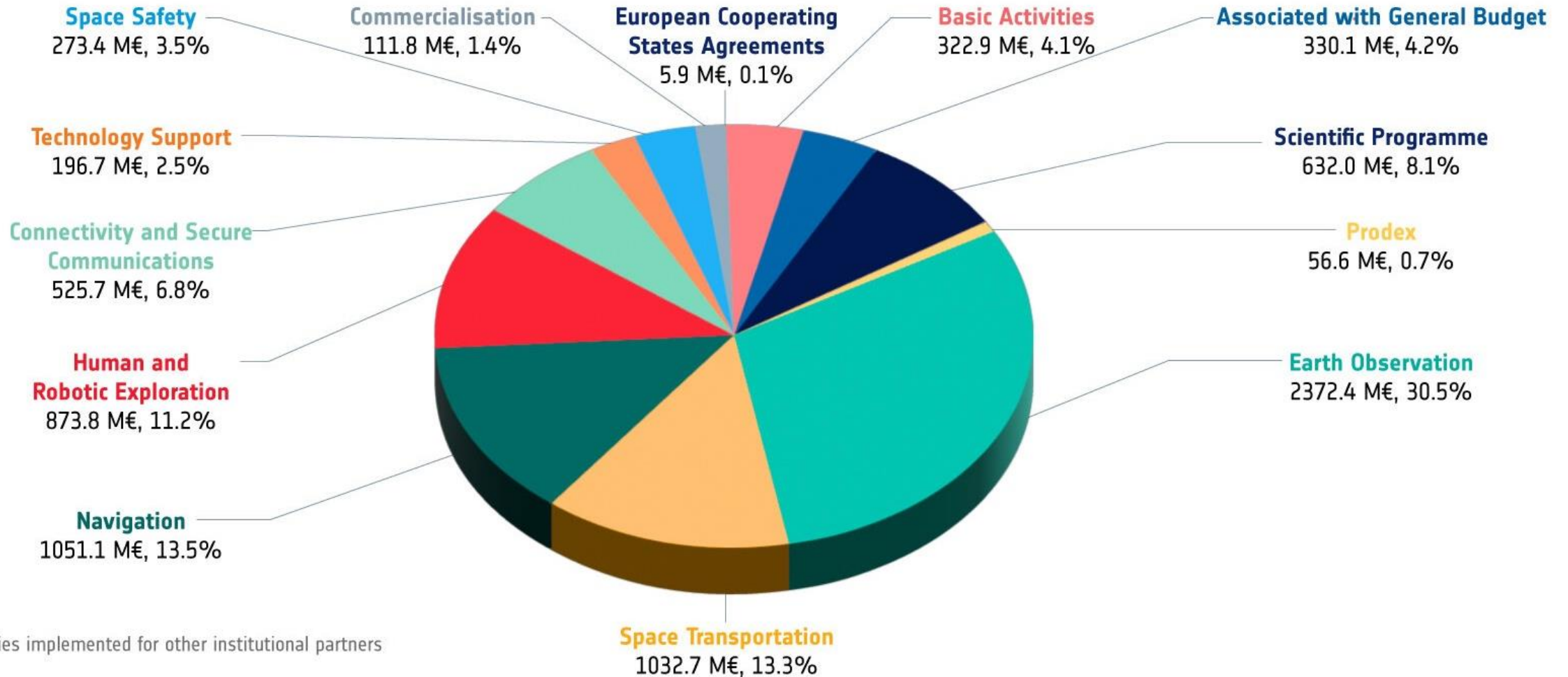


# ESA Locations





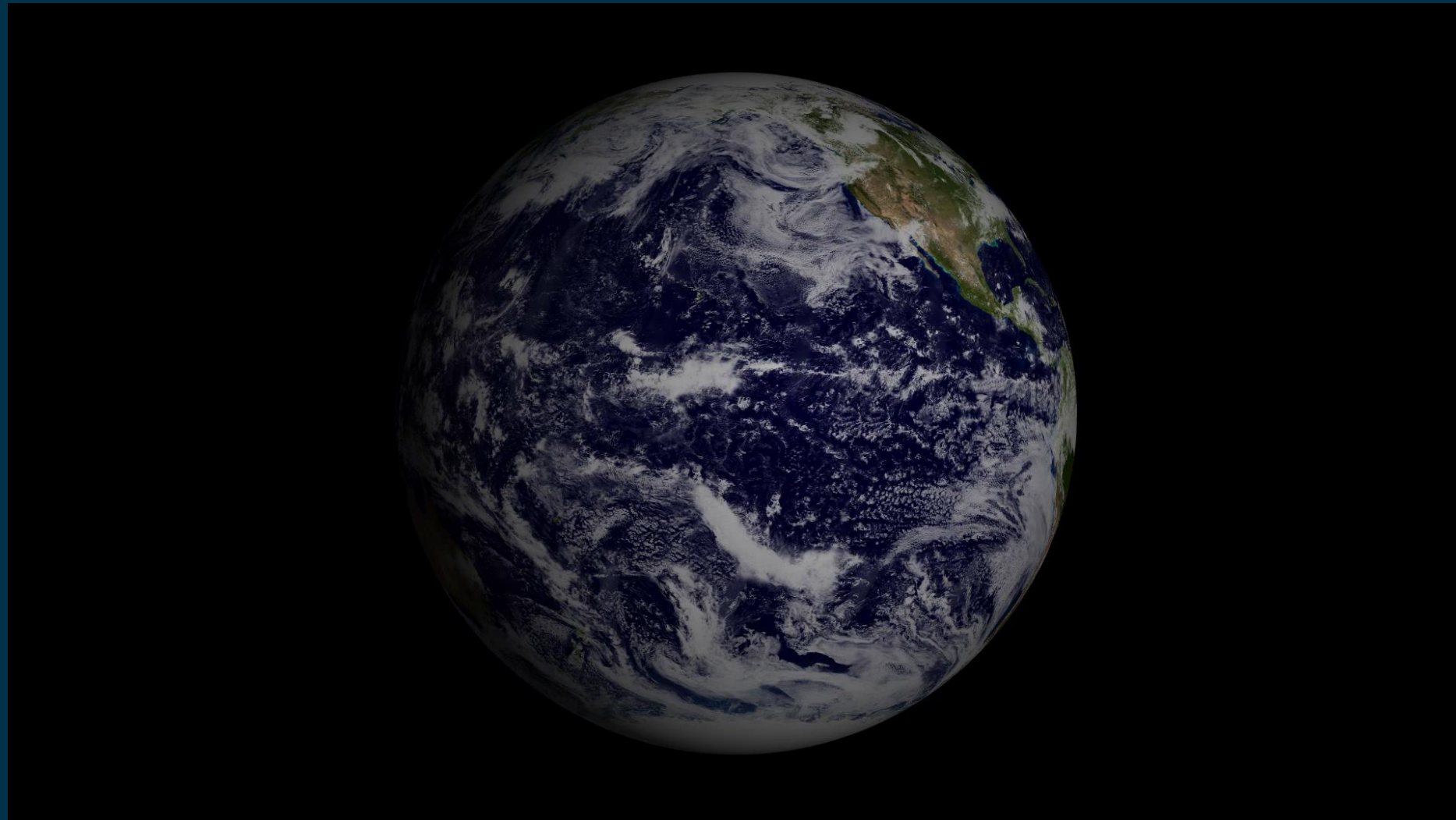
# ESA Budget by Domain for 2024: 7.79 B€\*



\*Includes activities implemented for other institutional partners



# ESA EO Vision: “Building world class satellites”



## Taking the Pulse of our Planet





# ESA ESRIN Establishment



## Activities

- Earth Observation
- Vega Launcher
- Corporate Informatics
- ESA Security Office
- Contracts, Personnel
- Site Management
- Communication

50.000 visitors  
per year

868 personnel  
on the site

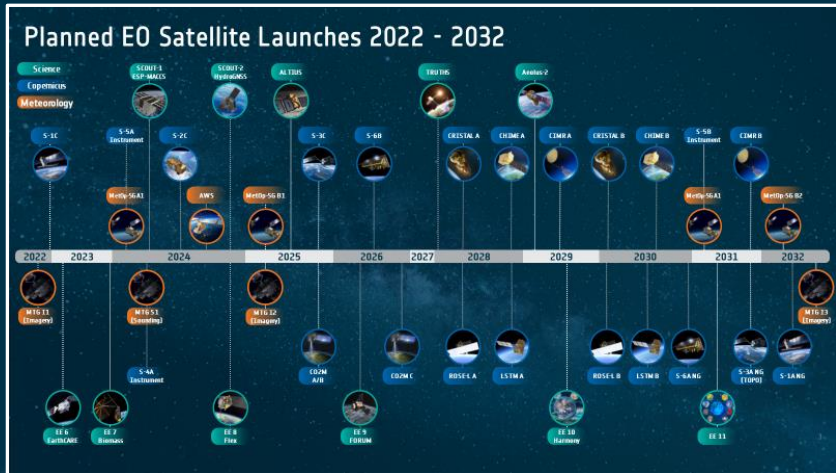




# ESA Activities: Earth Observation



## Building satellites



## Managing Missions



## Cal/Val & Data Distribution

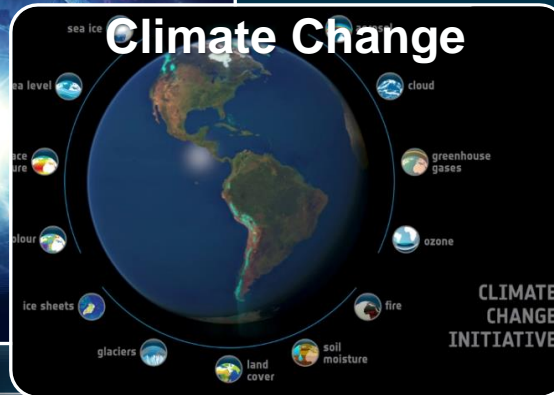


## Earth System Science

### Emergency Response

### Digital Twins

### Climate Change



## Applying the Data

## Innovation

## Commercialisation

### Φ-lab

Accelerate the future of EO with cutting edge research









# Earth Explorers Putting together the puzzle Earth Since 2009

EE-1

EE-2

EE-3

EE-4

EE-5

EE-6

EE-7

EE-8

EE-9

**Goce**  
2009 - 2013

**Smos**  
2009 - present

**Cryosat**  
2010 - present

**swarm**  
2013 - present

**Aeolus**  
2018 - present

**Earthcare**  
2024

**Biomass**  
Q1-2025

**Flex**  
2025

**Forum**  
2027

**Clouds,  
aerosol &  
radiation**

**Forest  
mission**

**Photosyn-  
thesis**

**Thermal  
radiation**

**Geoid**

**Ocean Salinity  
&  
Soil Moisture**

**Thickness  
of ice**

**Magnetic  
Field**

**Wind  
mission**





# Copernicus Global Monitoring with the Sentinels



PROGRAMME OF THE  
EUROPEAN UNION



Copernicus is the **largest producer of EO data in the world**

**All** global  
landmass is  
observed every  
5 days at 10m  
resolution

**30 TB Daily Data  
Production by Sentinels**

**350 TB of Daily Sentinel  
Products Disseminated for  
Services to Society**

**> 750.000  
Registered Users**

Supporting 6  
operational services



Land Atmosphere Ocean



Climate Disasters Security

**Full, Free & Open  
Data Policy\***

\* ESA Sentinel Data Policy (Sep 2013) and  
EU Delegated Act on Copernicus Data and Information Policy (Dec 2013)





PROGRAMME OF THE  
EUROPEAN UNION



co-funded with



**CHIME**  
Copernicus Hyperspectral  
Imaging Mission  
for the Environment

- soil properties
- crop health
- raw materials
- biodiversity
- water quality

**ROSE-L**  
L-band Radar  
Observing System



- geohazards
- polar ice
- forest management
- food security
- maritime surveillance



**LSTM**  
Land Surface  
Temperature Monitoring

- sustainable agriculture
- water resources management
- drought
- urban heat islands



**CIMR**  
Copernicus Imaging  
Microwave Radiometer

- sea-ice concentration
- sea-surface temperature
- polar maritime security
- global ocean and cryosphere
- soil moisture and vegetation



**CO2M**  
Copernicus  
Anthropogenic Carbon  
Dioxide Monitoring

- carbon dioxide and  
methane from human activity

**Combatting  
Climate Change**

**Food Security and  
Water Management**

**Monitoring Land  
and Natural Resources**

**Safeguarding  
the Arctic**

- coastal and inland waters
- polar oceanography
- ice sheets and glaciers
- snow
- sea-ice thickness

**CRISTAL**  
Copernicus Polar Ice  
and Snow Topography  
Altimeter

**Copernicus Sentinel  
Expansion Missions**





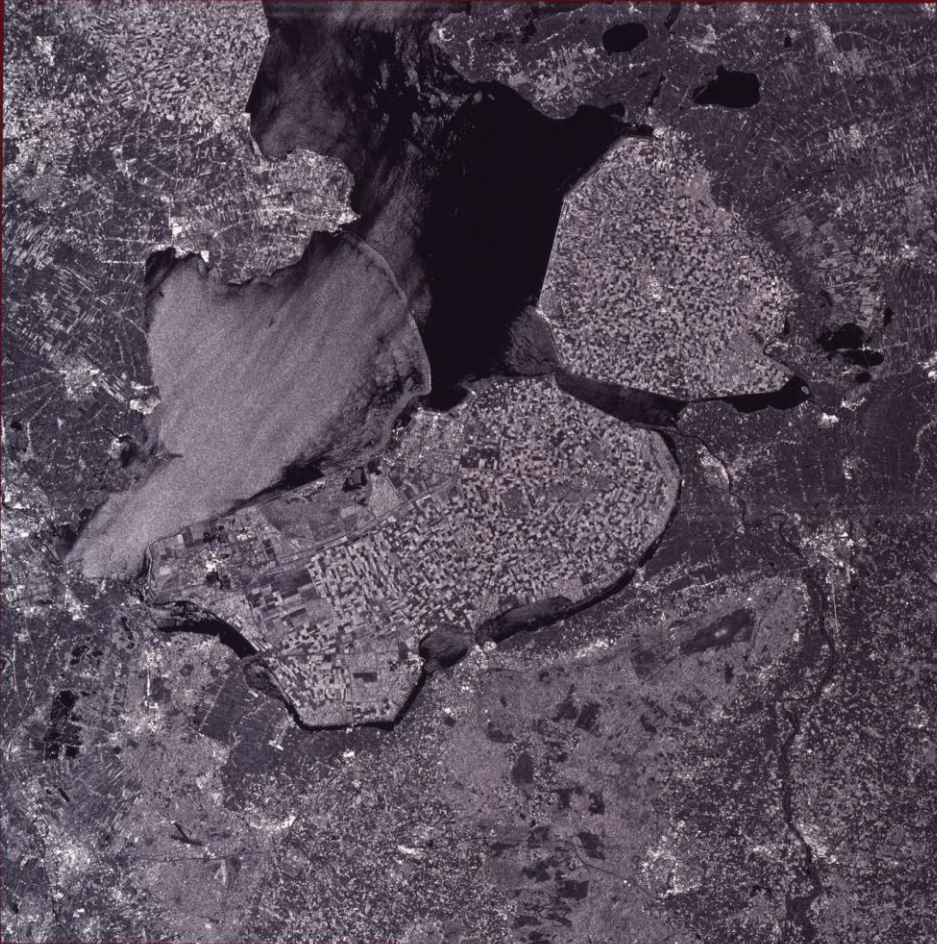
# SENTINEL-1





## ERS 1 FIRST SAR IMAGE

european space agency



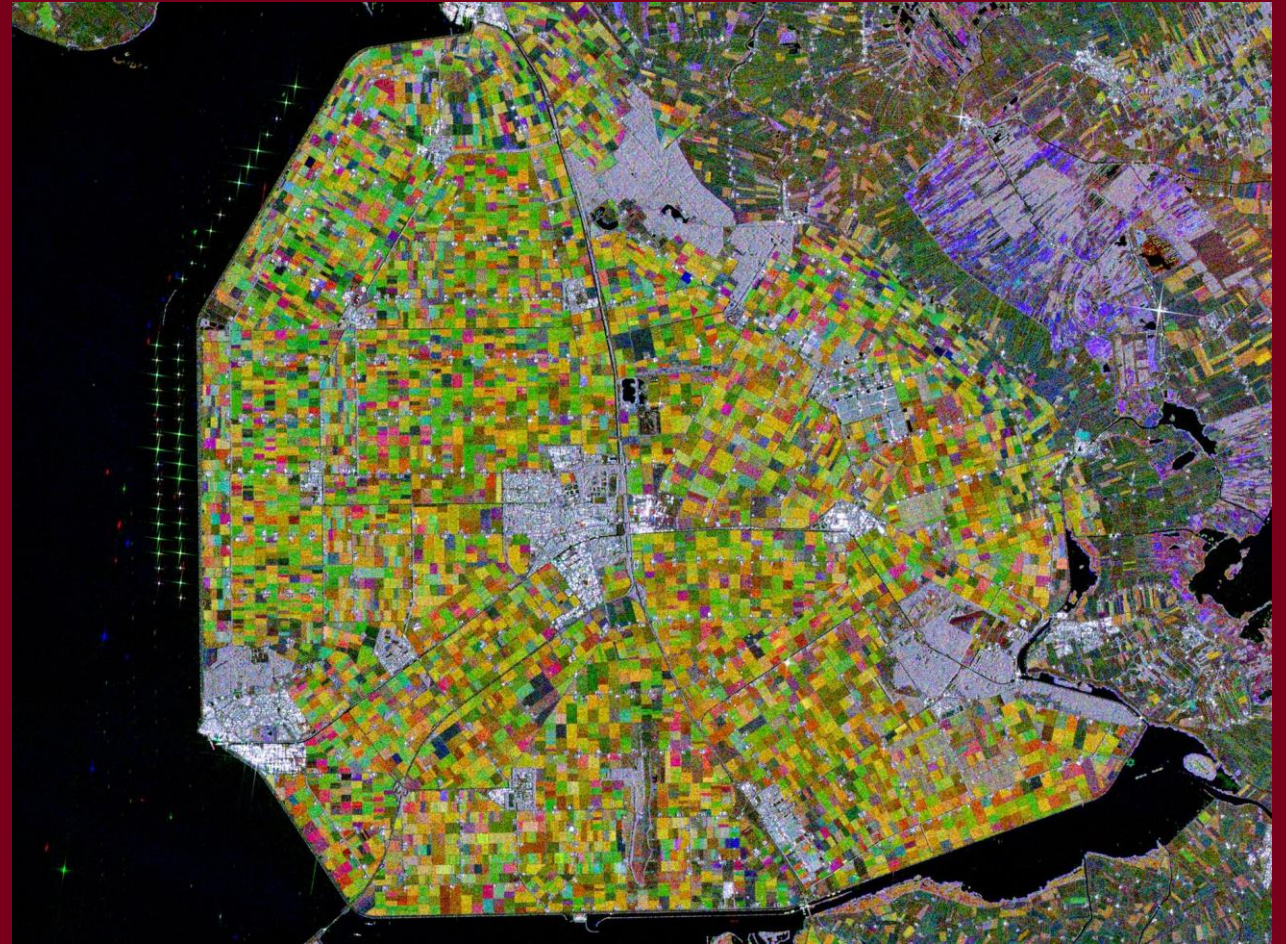
FLEVOLAND POLDER AND IJSELMEER (THE NETHERLANDS)

ACQUIRED AT FUCINO : 27 - JUL - 1991

PROCESSED AT FRASCATI BY ESA/EARTHNET

Copyright esa

## Sentinel-1

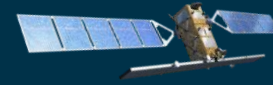


FLEVOLAND (NL), R: 8 May 2018, G: 7 July 2018, B: 5 Sept 2018

contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data [2018], processed by ESA



# Sentinel-1 Mission in a nutshell



## MISSION PROFILE

- ❖ Constellation of two identical SAR C-band satellites: (A & B → C units)
- ❖ Near-Polar, sun-synchronous (dawn-dusk) orbit at 698 km altitude
- ❖ 7.25 years lifetime (consumables for 12 years)
- ❖ 12-day repeat cycle (each satellite), 6 days for the constellation

## PAYLOAD

- ❖ C-Band SAR
  - Centre frequency: 5.405 GHz
  - Polarizations: HH, VV, HH/HV, VV/VH
  - Incidence angle: 20° - 45°
  - Radiometric accuracy: 1 dB (3 $\sigma$ )
  - Radiometric stability: 0.55 dB (3 $\sigma$ ), 0.45 (3 $\sigma$ ) for S-1 C/D
  - NESZ: -22 dB
  - DTAR: -22 dB
- ❖ AIS Instrument marine surveillance (for S-1 C and D)

## OPERATIONS

- ❖ Systematic SAR data acquisition using a predefined observation scenario
- ❖ Instrument duty cycle of max. 25 min/orbit in High Bit Rate modes (30 min outside eclipse) and 75 min/orbit in Low Bit Rate mode (Wave)

## PROGRAMMATICS

- ❖ Sentinel-1C launch 2024
- ❖ Sentinel-1D currently in storage to be launched as soon as possible S-1C



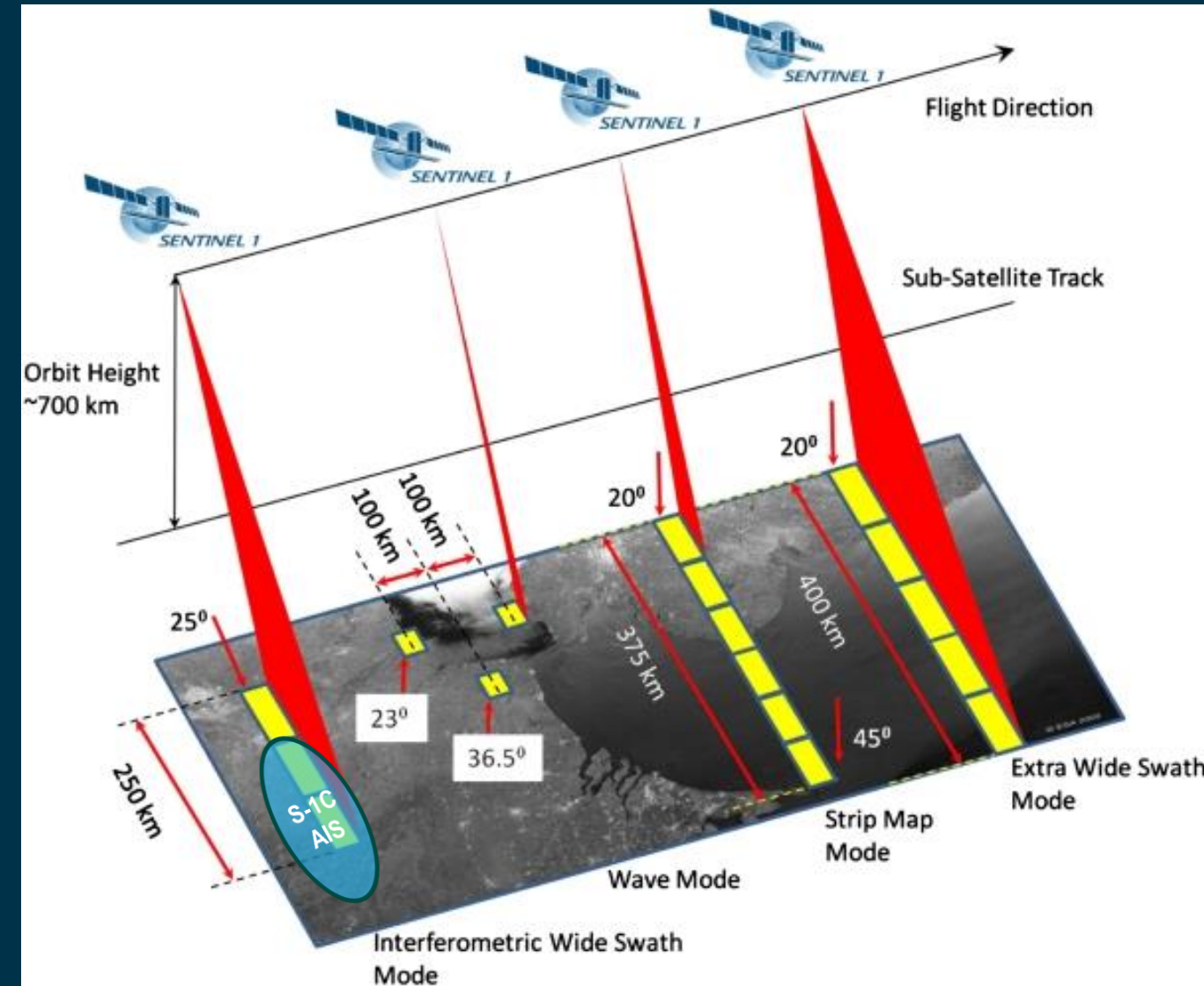
Full, Free and Open Data



# Sentinel-1 Imaging Modes

TOPS	SM	TOPS
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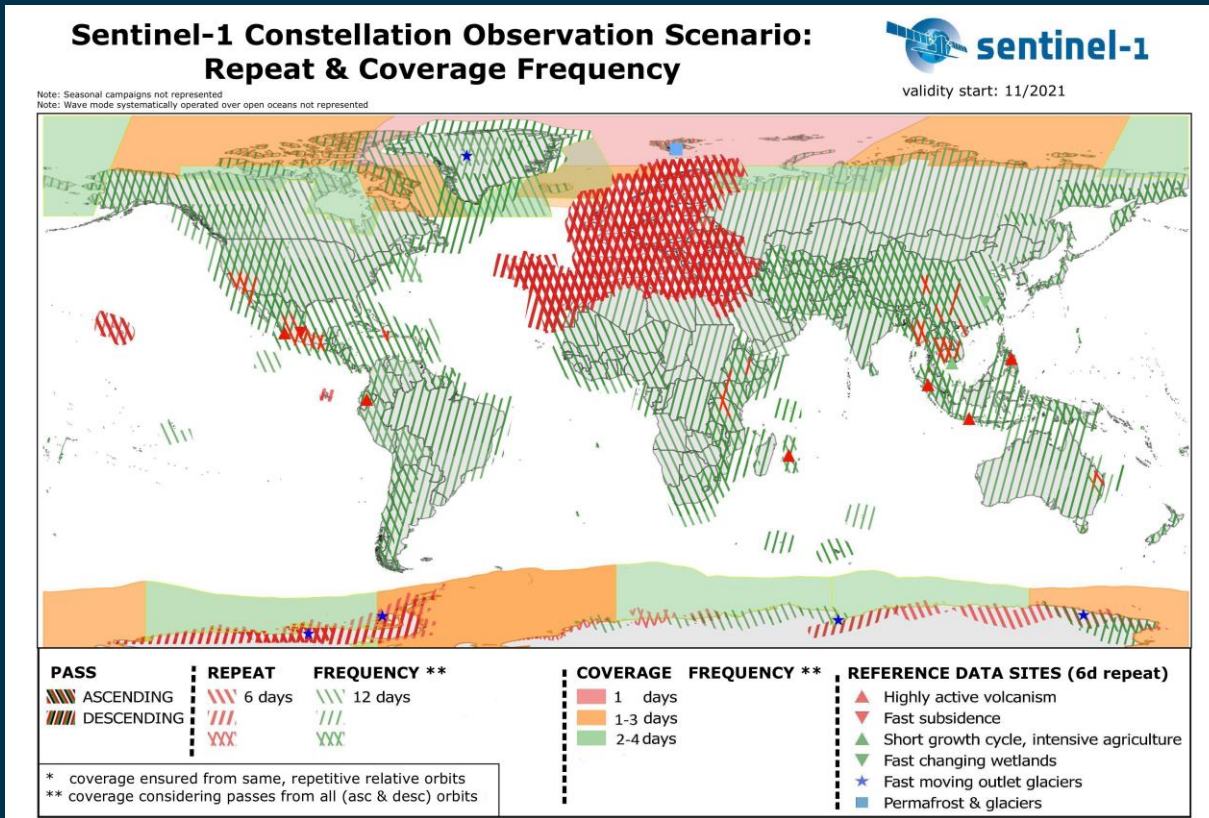
Parameter	Interferometric Wide-swath mode (IW)	Wave mode (WV)	Strip Map mode (SM)	Extra Wide-swath mode (EW)
Polarisation	Dual (HH+HV, VV+VH)	Single (HH, VV)	Dual (HH+HV, VV+VH)	Dual (HH+HV, VV+VH)
Access (incidence angles)	31°–46°	23°–37° (mid incidence angle)	20°–47°	20°–47°
Azimuth resolution	<20m	<5m	<5m	<40m
Ground range resolution	<5m	<5m	<5m	<20m
Azimuth and range looks	Single	Single	Single	Single
Swath	>250km	Vignette 20×20km	>80km	>410km
Maximum NESZ	-22dB	-22dB	-22dB	-22dB
Radiometric stability	0.5dB (3σ)	0.5dB (3σ)	0.5dB (3σ)	0.5dB (3σ)
Radiometric accuracy	1dB (3σ)	1dB (3σ)	1dB (3σ)	1dB (3σ)
Phase error	5°	5°	5°	5°



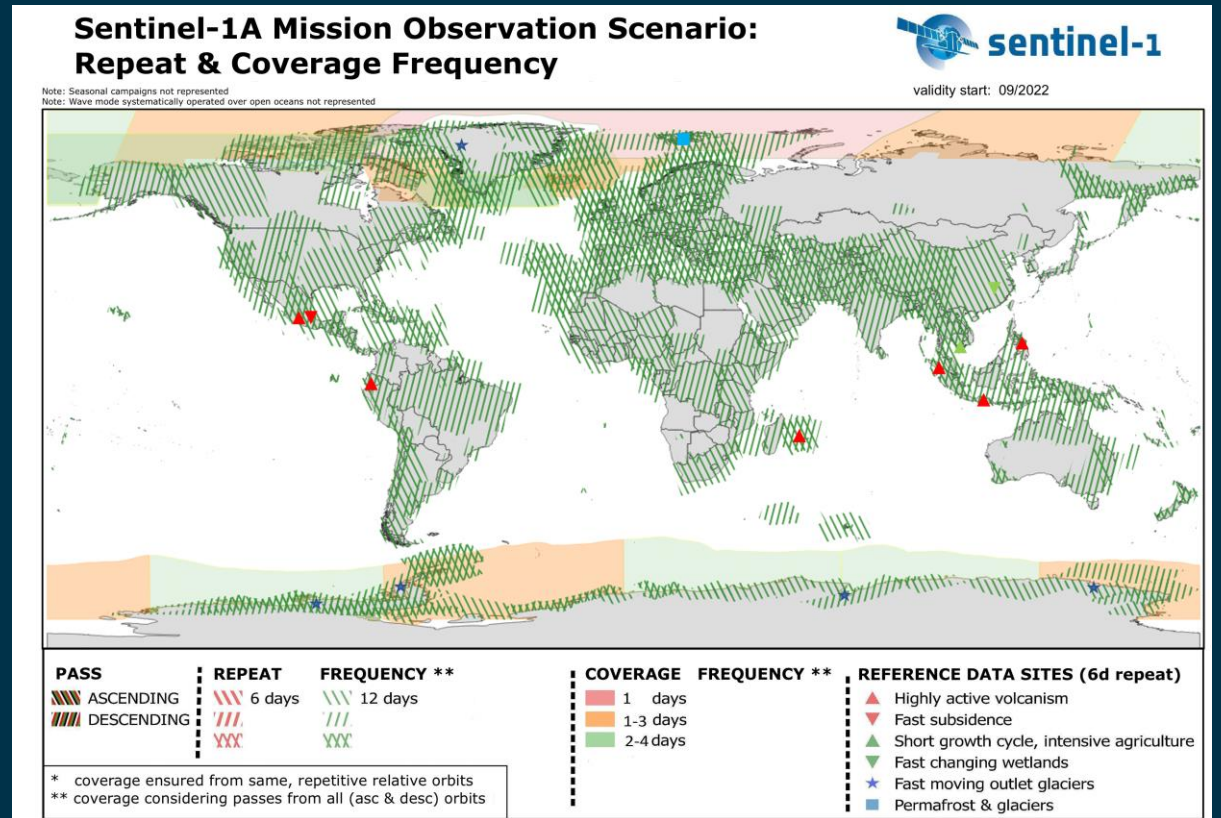


# Sentinel-1 observation plan

The largest provider of SAR data worldwide



S-1A and B

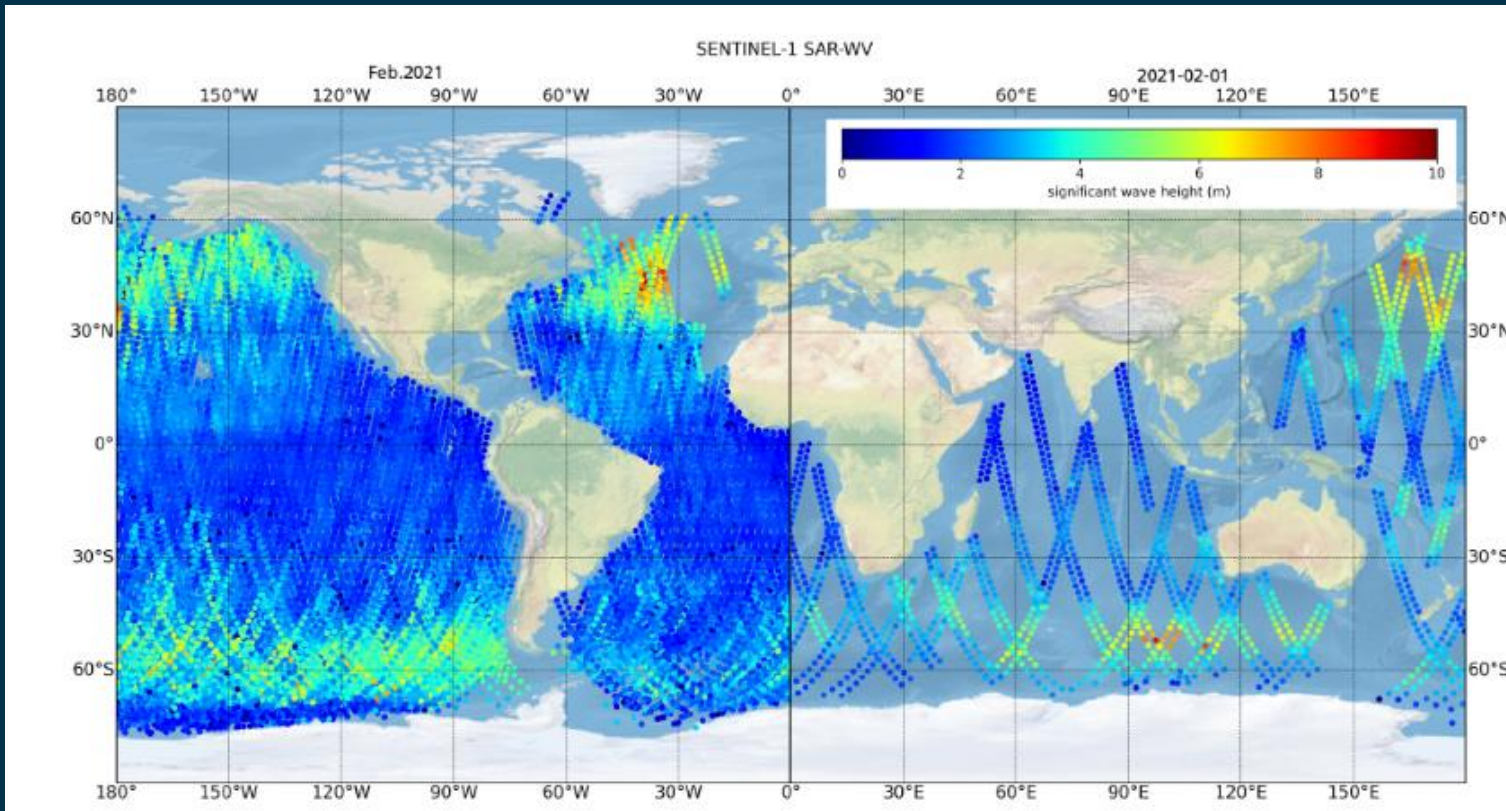


S-1A only (>2021)

Observation plan details available at: <https://sentinels.copernicus.eu/web/sentinel/missions/sentinel-1/observation-scenario/>



# Sentinel-1: An Ocean Mission



1 month

1 day

- Sentinel-1 continues the wave mission started by ERS.
- SAR Wave mode acquires “imagettes” every no other is used over ocean
- SAR Wave mode L2 products are operationally assimilated by met offices to improve wave model
- Sentinel-1 has collected millions of SLC imagettes



# Sentinel-1 is used in most Copernicus Services

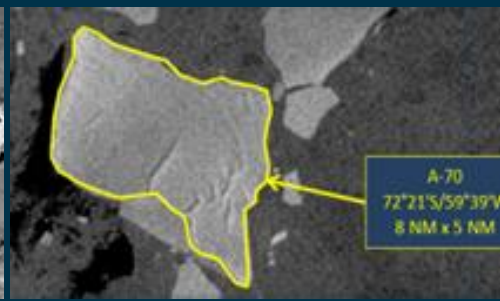
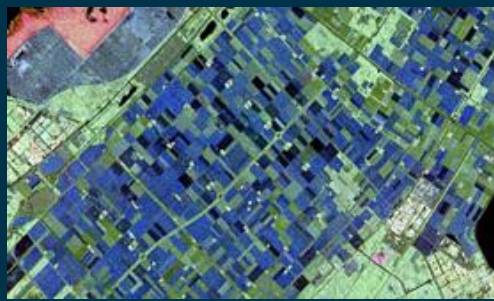
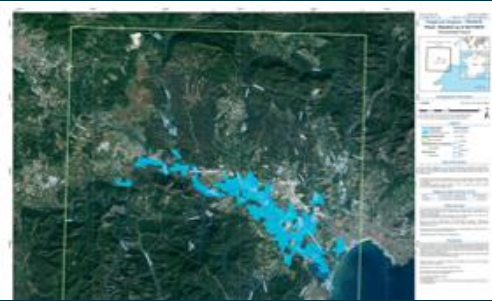
**Emergency Management Service**

**Marine Environment Monitoring Service**

**Land Monitoring Service**

**Climate Change Service**

**Security Service**



- Rapid mapping (flood mainly)
- Risk recovery (e.g. ground deformation)
- Validation (e.g. flood, landslide)
- Automated global flood monitoring (in development)

- Describe and analyse the physical and sea ice state of the ocean at the surface, on global scale or for a specific zone

- Land Cover and Land Use Mapping (HRLs: Wetness and Water, Imperviousness, Tree cover & Forest, Grassland, Snow, River/Lake ice)
- Biogeophysical parameters
- European ground motion service

- Climate datasets and tools for science, policy and industry (e.g. for climate change impact assessment, risk assessment, sustainability)

- Oil spill detection and polluter identification (CleanSeaNet)
- Maritime surveillance (detection, search and rescue, anti-piracy)
- Border surveillance;
- Support to EU External and Security Actions
- R&D for EO Security

**Flooded area**  
 Ground movement  
 Soil moisture  
 Abrupt surface elevation changes

**Sea ice type, concentration and motion**  
**Iceberg location, size and drift**  
 Ocean surface currents  
 Ocean surface wind vectors  
 Swell properties

**Land use and land use change, including agriculture and forestry**  
**Ice sheets & glaciers velocity**  
**Wet snow extent**  
 Ground movement  
 Global Soil moisture

**Sea ice type, concentration and motion**  
 Ice sheets & glaciers velocity, Grounding line  
 Ground movement  
 Ice sheets margins and glacier surface height  
 Ice sheet melt/freeze extent

**Iceberg location, size and drift**  
**Vessel location, size and velocity**  
**Oil spill location and morphology**  
 Feature identification  
 Change Detection

Enhanced continuity by Sentinel-1 Next Generation

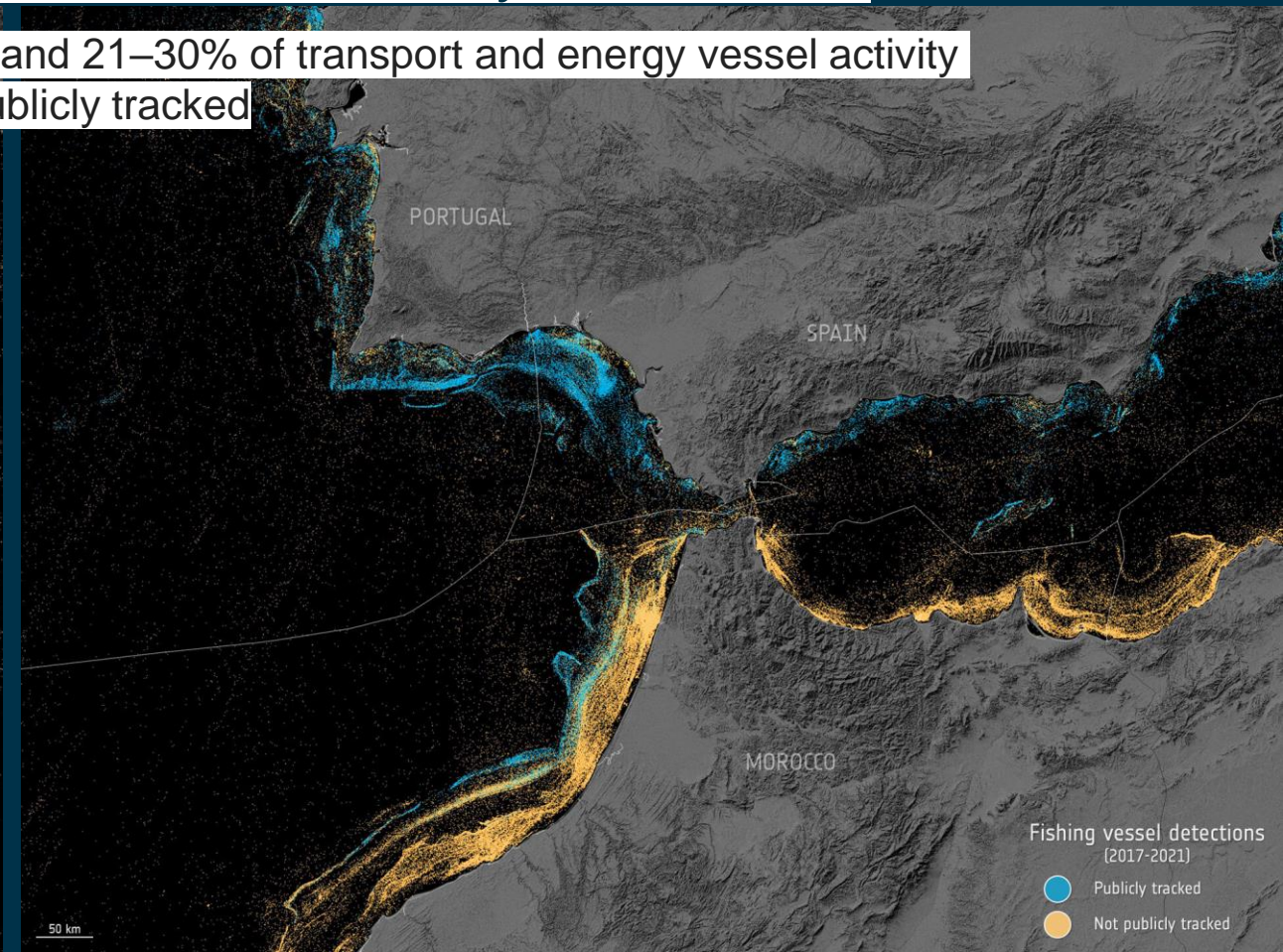
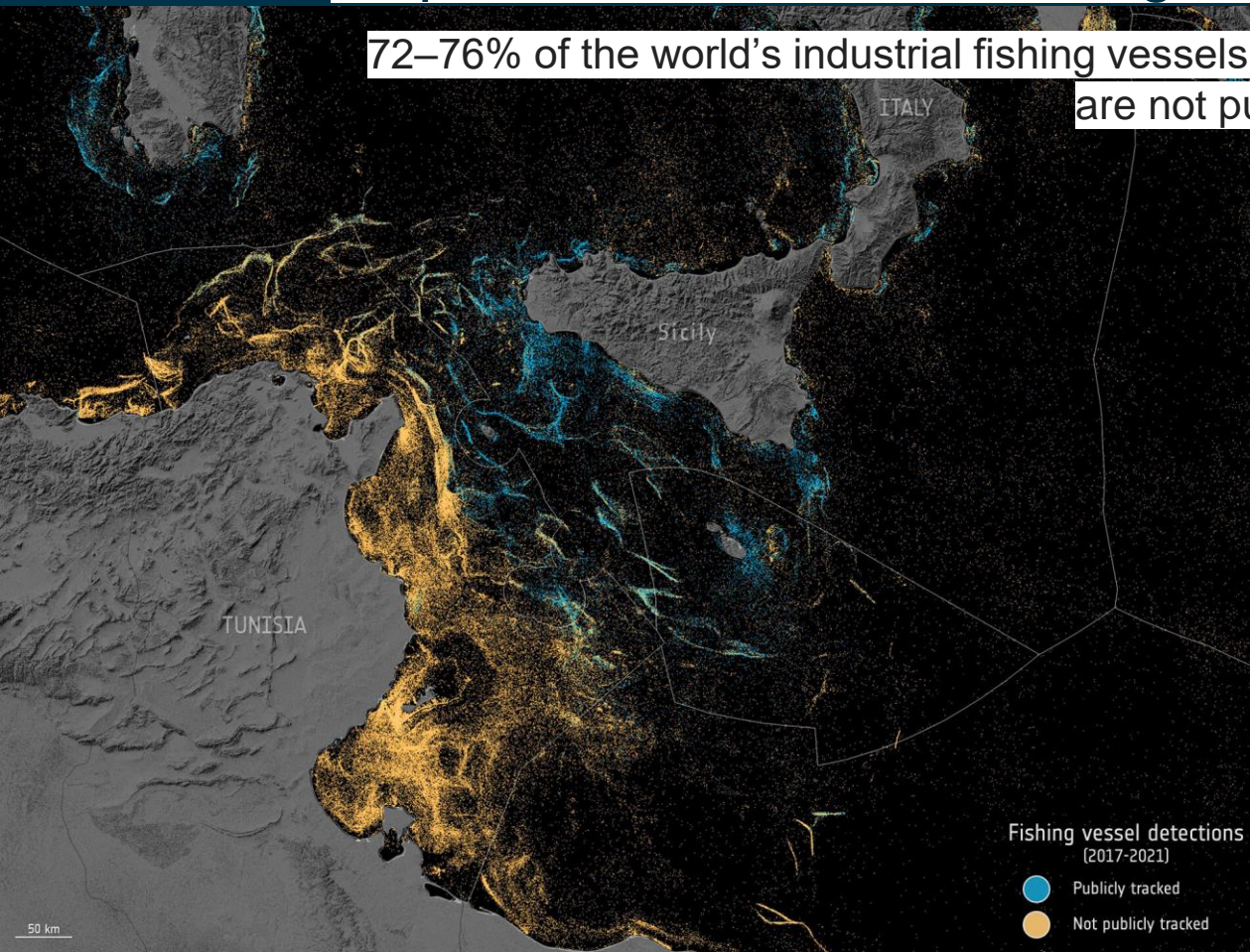


# Mapping untracked fishing vessels with AI

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-023-06825-8>

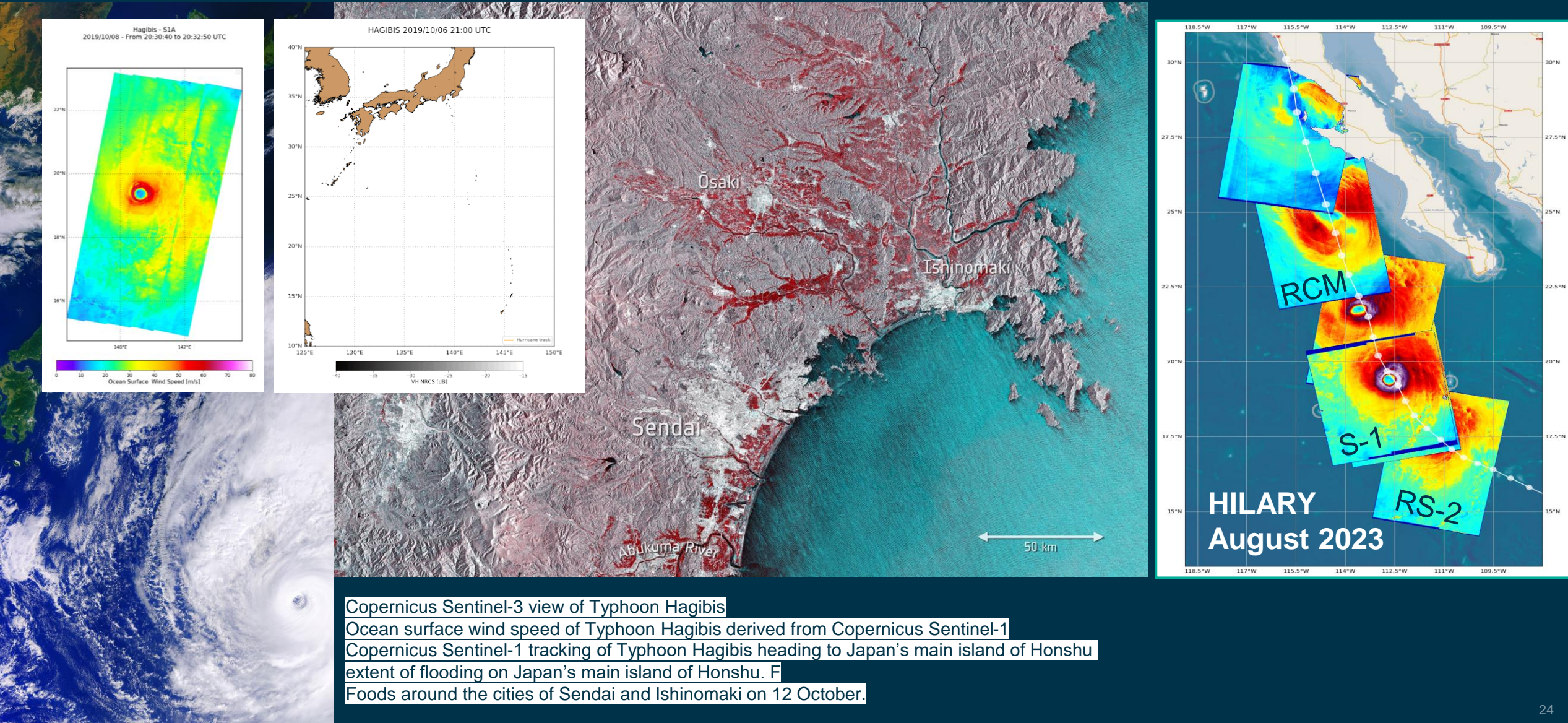
## Map reveals untracked fishing vessels around Sicily and Tunisia

72–76% of the world's industrial fishing vessels and 21–30% of transport and energy vessel activity are not publicly tracked





# Supporting rapid response to crisis



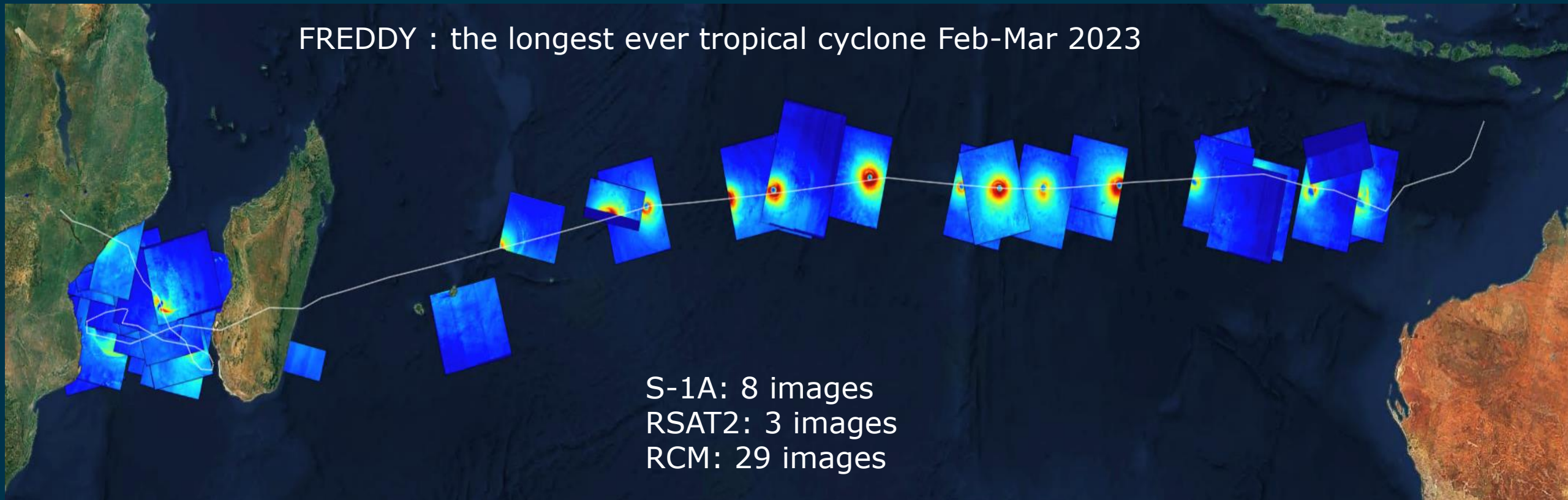


# Tropical Cyclone : An International Joint Effort



- SAR high resolution wind data over TC is key to improve the quality of cyclone and climate forecast
- Freddy is longest-lasting tropical cyclone ever recorded worldwide and it is a good example of the extreme events we will face in the future
- Freddy perfectly demonstrates the need for international coordination and the value of Virtual Constellations
- Further coordination is necessary amongst agencies to support and sustain this effort

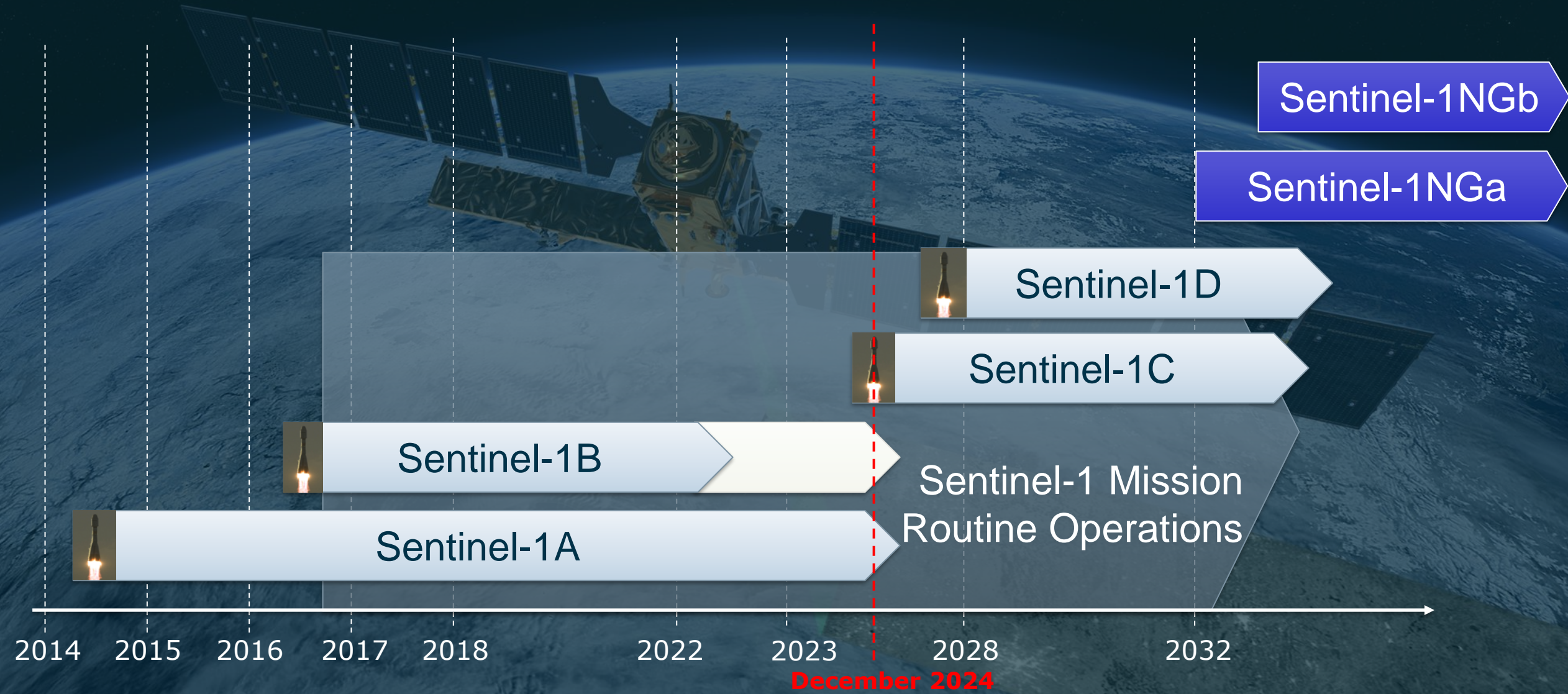
FREDDY : the longest ever tropical cyclone Feb-Mar 2023



S-1A: 8 images  
RSAT2: 3 images  
RCM: 29 images



# Sentinel-1 C-Band SAR Evolution Context





# Copernicus Sentinel-1C/D Status

## Sentinel-1C/-1D to continue and augment Sentinel-1A/-1B services

- ❖ Fully compatible w.r.t. SAR mode characteristics, observation geometry, image resolution and burst synchronization (InSAR)

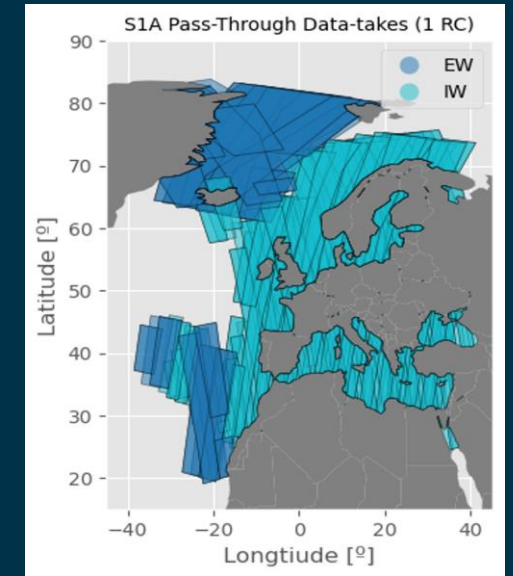
## Sentinel-1C/D built on S-1A/-1B design with *Evolution* and *Improvements*

- ❖ **AIS payload** to provide ship identification data for augmentation of SAR images
- ❖ S-1C/D design compatible with Space Debris Casualty Ratio less than  $10^{-4}$
- ❖ GNSS receiver compatibility with Galileo
- ❖ Interleaved Calibration Noise Pulses for thermal noise correction
- ❖ Improved SAR Instrument Performance (radiometric accuracy)
- ❖ Satellite Manoeuvring (thruster performance)
- ❖ SMU Processing Capability (LEON3 processor)
- ❖ **Vega-C launcher qualification**

## *Sentinel-1C* ready for launch

*Sentinel-1D* went into storage in Oct. 2021

S-1 Overpasses in direct downlink allowing for real time usage



## AIS Instrument for augmentation of SAR maritime services

- ❖ Provides ship identification data simultaneously with SAR images
- ❖ AIS footprint matches IWS for maximising SNR and minimising message collisions
- ❖ AIS observation scenario is under definition (likely 'real-time' scenario over Europe allowing for direct usage at stations. Elsewhere to be defined)
- ❖ AIS Data policy is under discussion with European Commission



# Take home messages about Sentinel-1:

- A fully operational mission
- Mapping land and ocean surfaces globally
- A long term commitment (decades)
- Other missions like ROSE-L, Harmony and S1NG will provide complementary capabilities





# SENTINEL-2





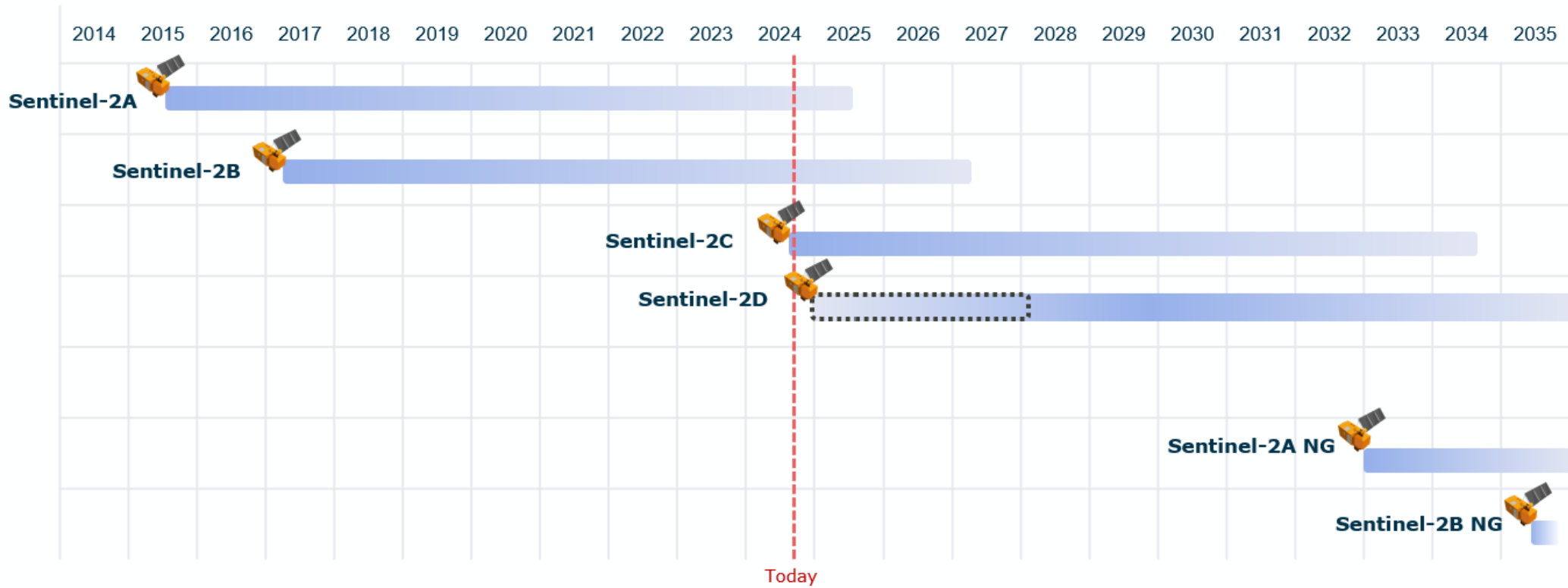


Optical **multi-spectral** sensor for monitoring **land & coastal areas**

- **Geometrical revisit:** 5 days (at the Equator) with 2 satellites
- **Local Time:** 10:30 a.m. descending node
- **Spectral Bands:** 13 spectral bands in the VNIR and SWIR
- **Spatial Resolution:** 10 m, 20 m, 60 m
- **Nominal swath:** 294 km, at 786 km altitude
- **Acquisition system:** Push-broom scanner
- **Data Access:** Free & open for a large range of applications

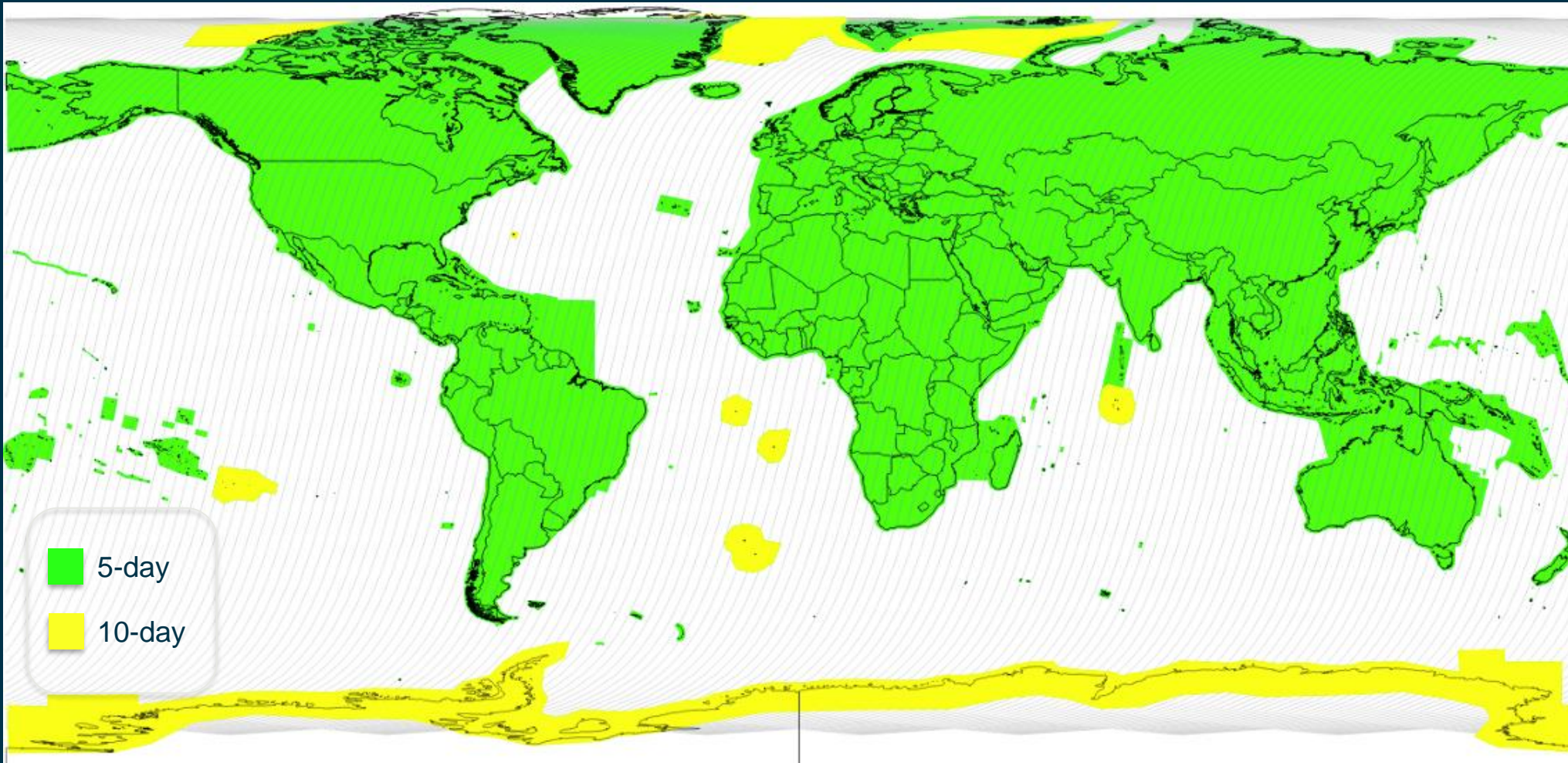


# Sentinel-2 : an Optical EO Mission



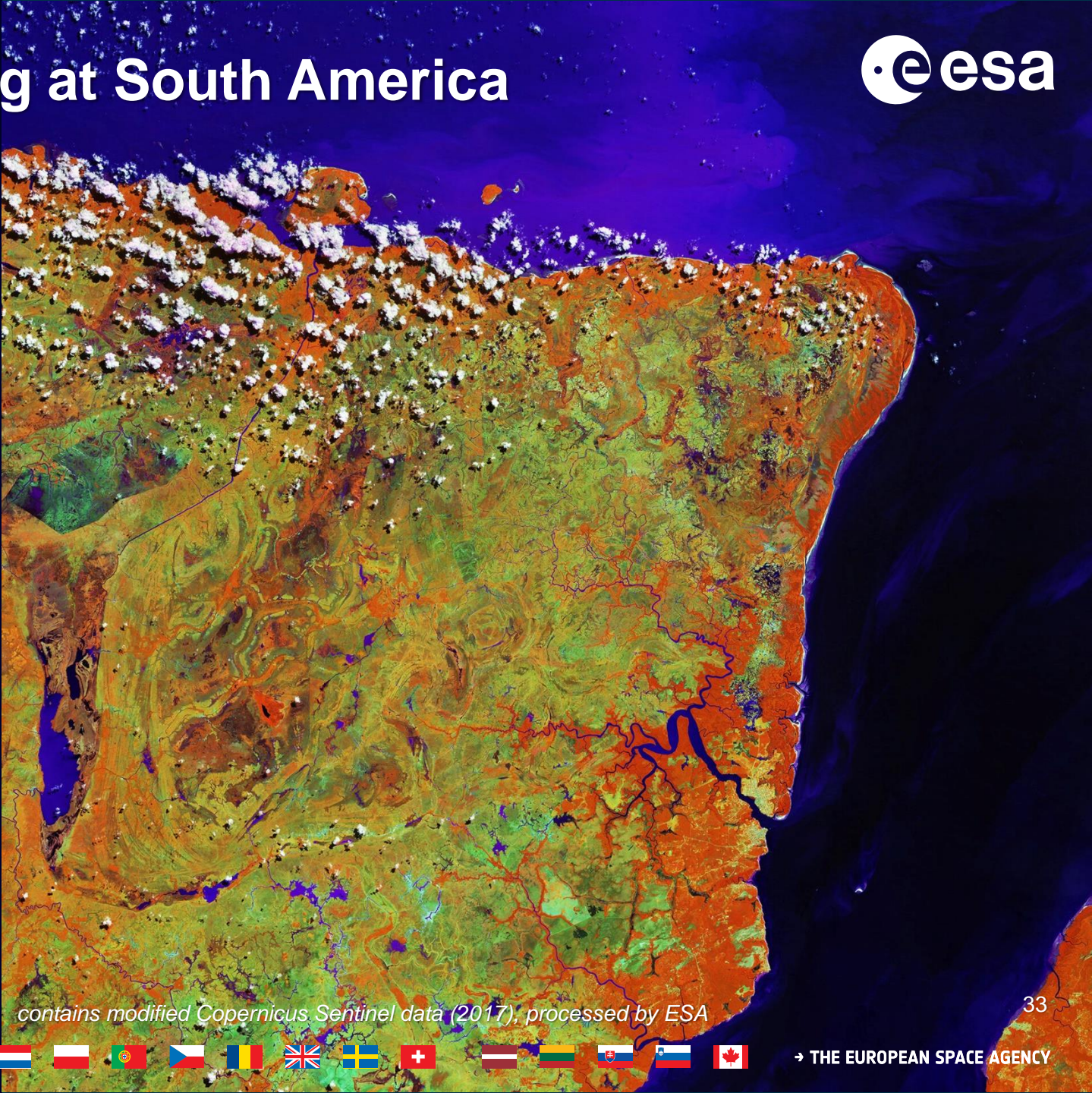


# Sentinel-2 : Observation Scenario





# Copernicus Sentinel-2 Looking at South America

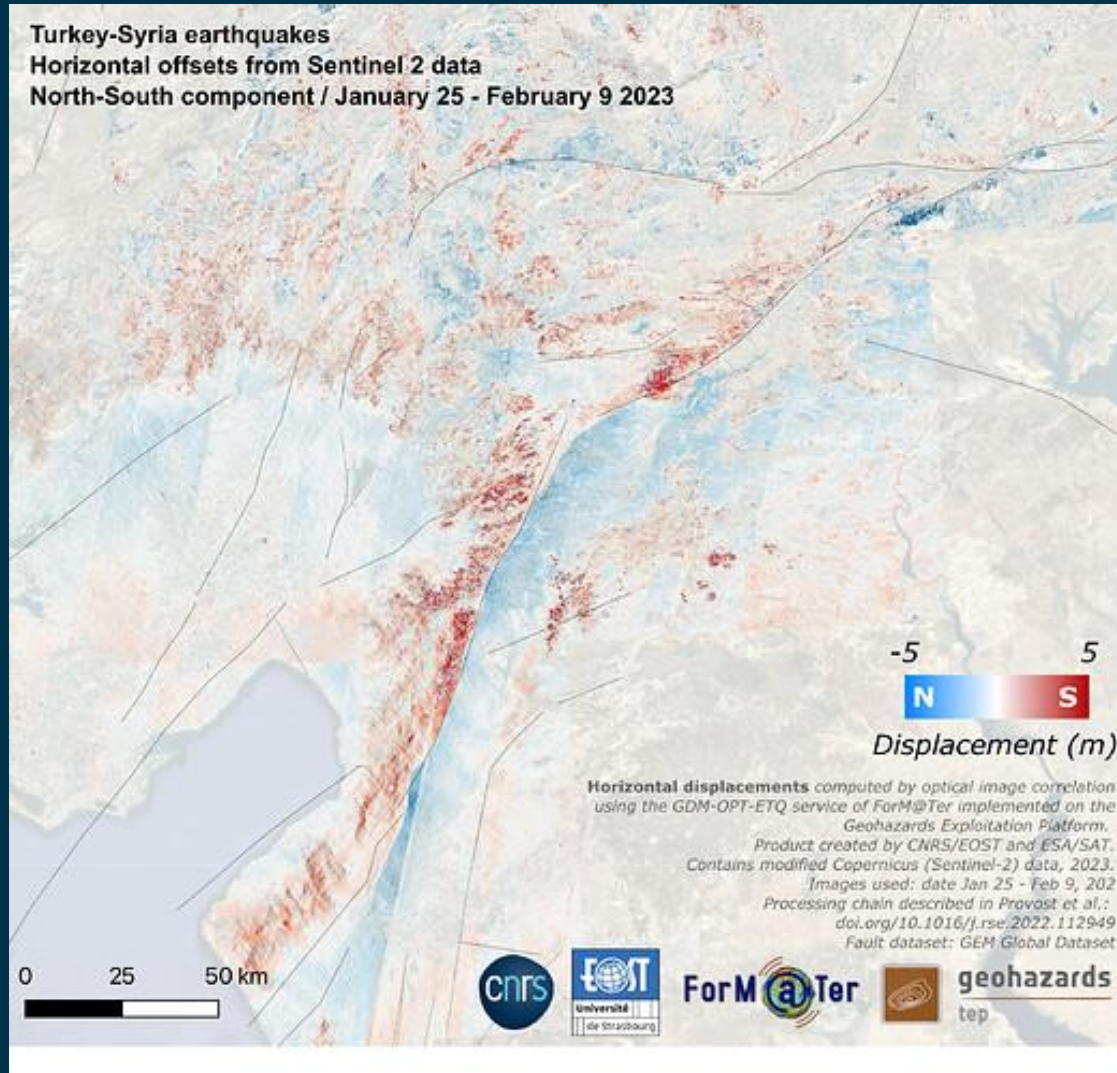


contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data (2021), processed by ESA

contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data (2017), processed by ESA





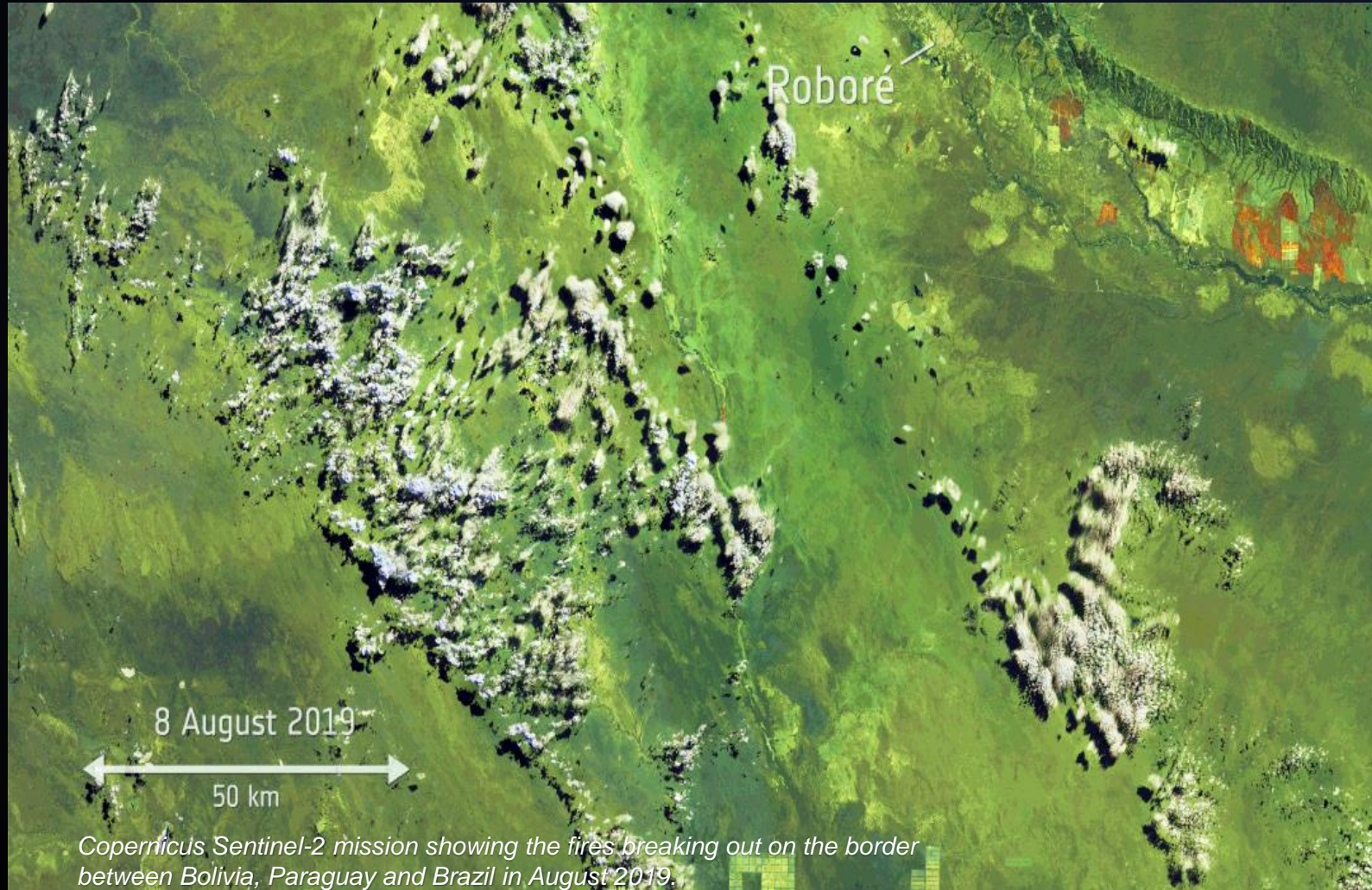


- ✓ North-South component of the deformation following the Türkiye and Syria 7.8 and 7.7 magnitude earthquakes of 6 February 2023 measured using Copernicus Sentinel-2 data.
- ✓ Sub-pixel optical correlation was applied on images of the acquired on 25 January 2023 (pre-event) and 9 February 2023 (post-event).





# Systematic observations of wildfires:



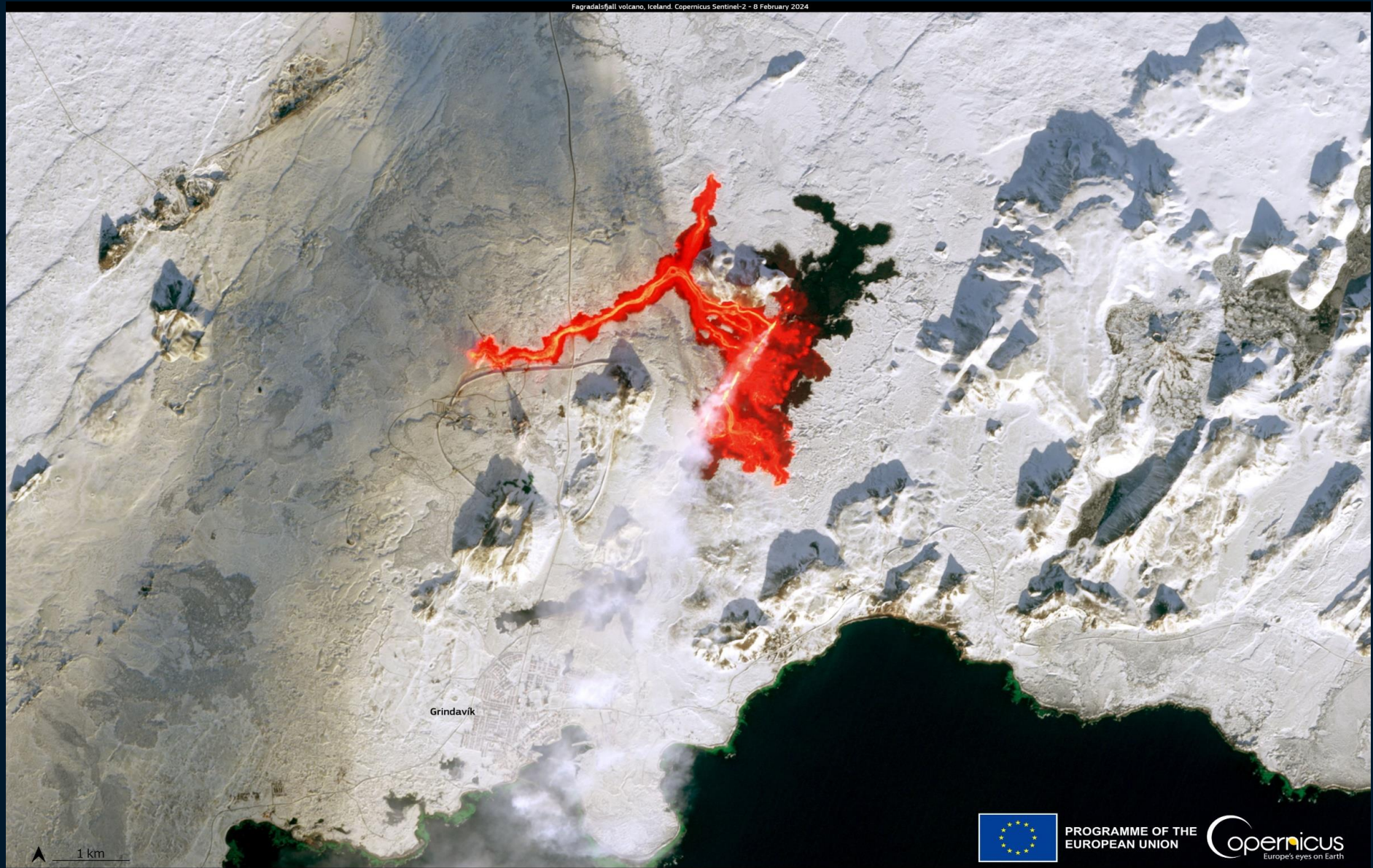
*Copernicus Sentinel-2 mission showing the fires breaking out on the border between Bolivia, Paraguay and Brazil in August 2019.*





# Sentinel-2 observation of lava flows

## January 2024, Iceland's Reykjanes Peninsula





# Take home messages about Sentinel-2:

- A fully operational mission
- Mapping land surfaces globally once every 5 days
- A long term commitment (decades)
- Other Copernicus missions like LSTM and CHIME will provide complementary capabilities



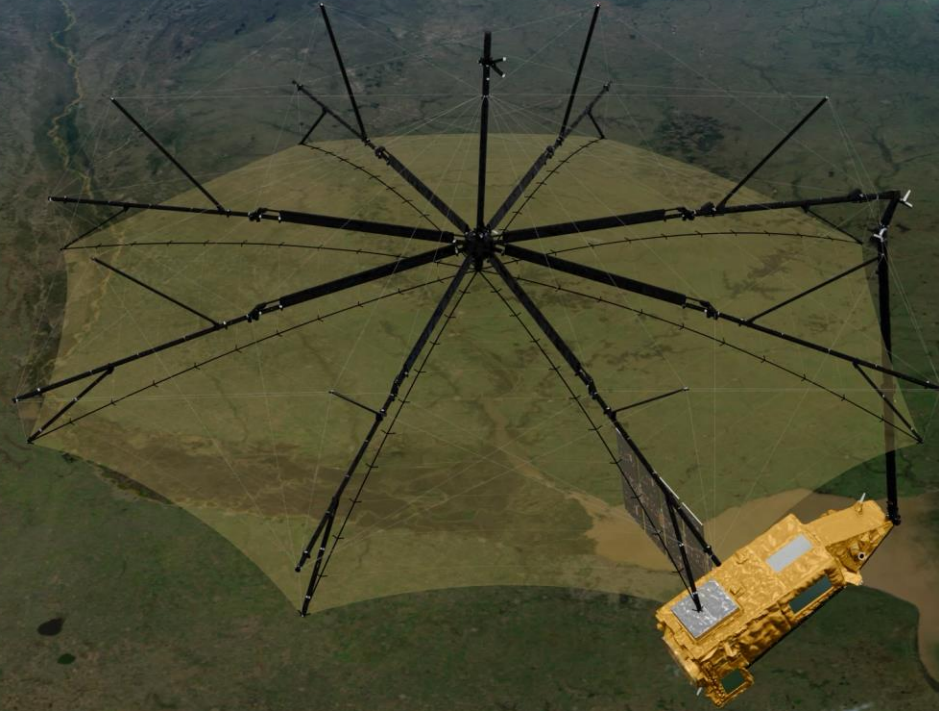


# BIOMASS





# The BIOMASS Mission

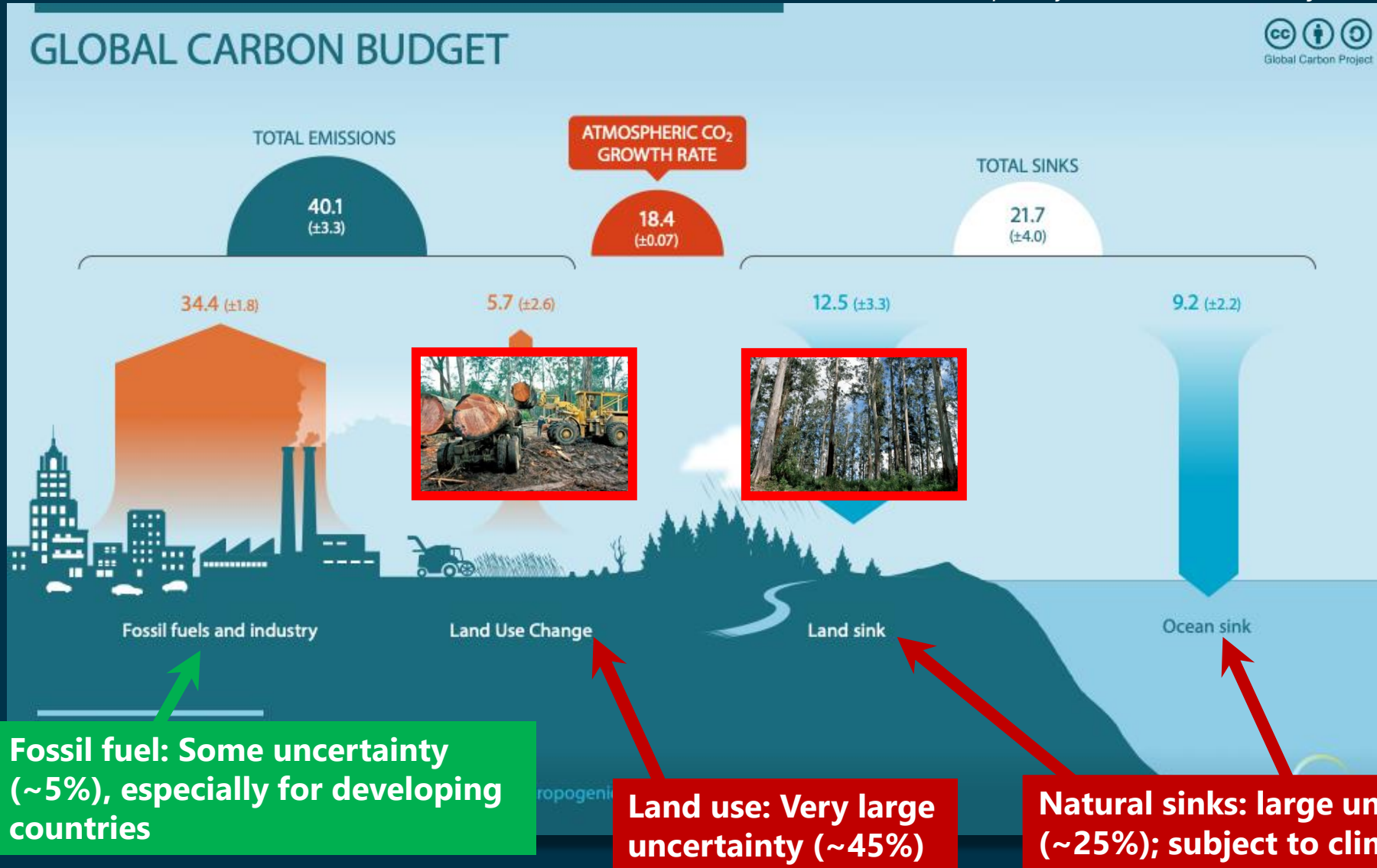


**ESA's 7<sup>th</sup> Earth Explorer to be deployed in 2025**  
**An interferometric, fully-polarimetric P-band SAR**  
**Designed to observe forest height and biomass**



# The Science Question: How well do we understand the CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes ?

(Graphic by the Global Carbon Project)



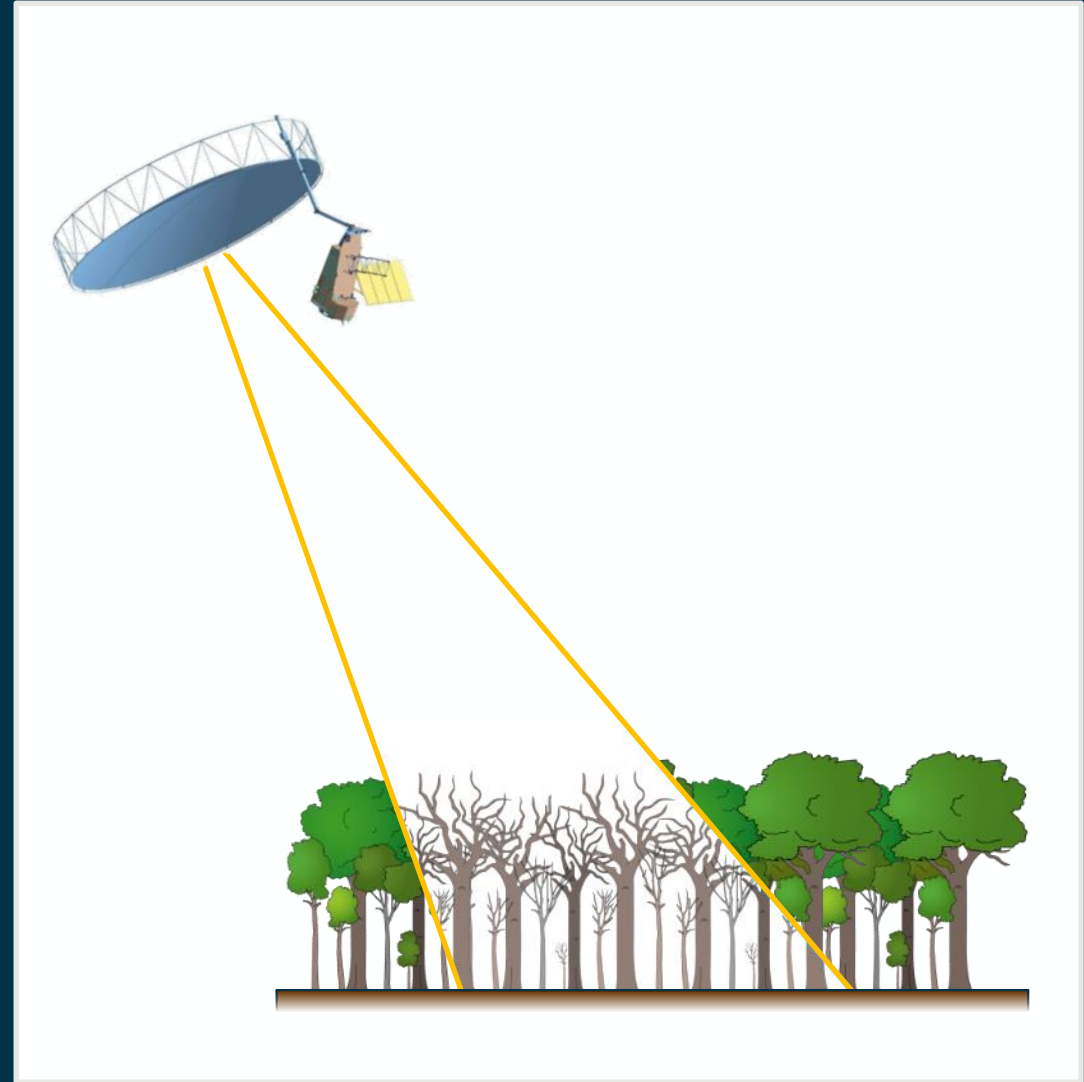


# Why a P-band SAR to measure the world forest biomass?

Mapping forest biomass requires a radar sensor with long wavelength:

1. to penetrate the canopy in all forest biomes
2. to interact with woody vegetation elements
3. so that forest height can be estimated with a single satellite

This implies a radar at P-band, of wavelength ~70 cm, the longest possible from space





# BIOMASS

## Mission

Measure of forest biomass and height (200 m. pixel resolution)

## Payload

P-Band radar

## Orbit

SSO, alt: 666 km;  
LTAN: 6h00

## Satellite

1250 Kg

## Consortium

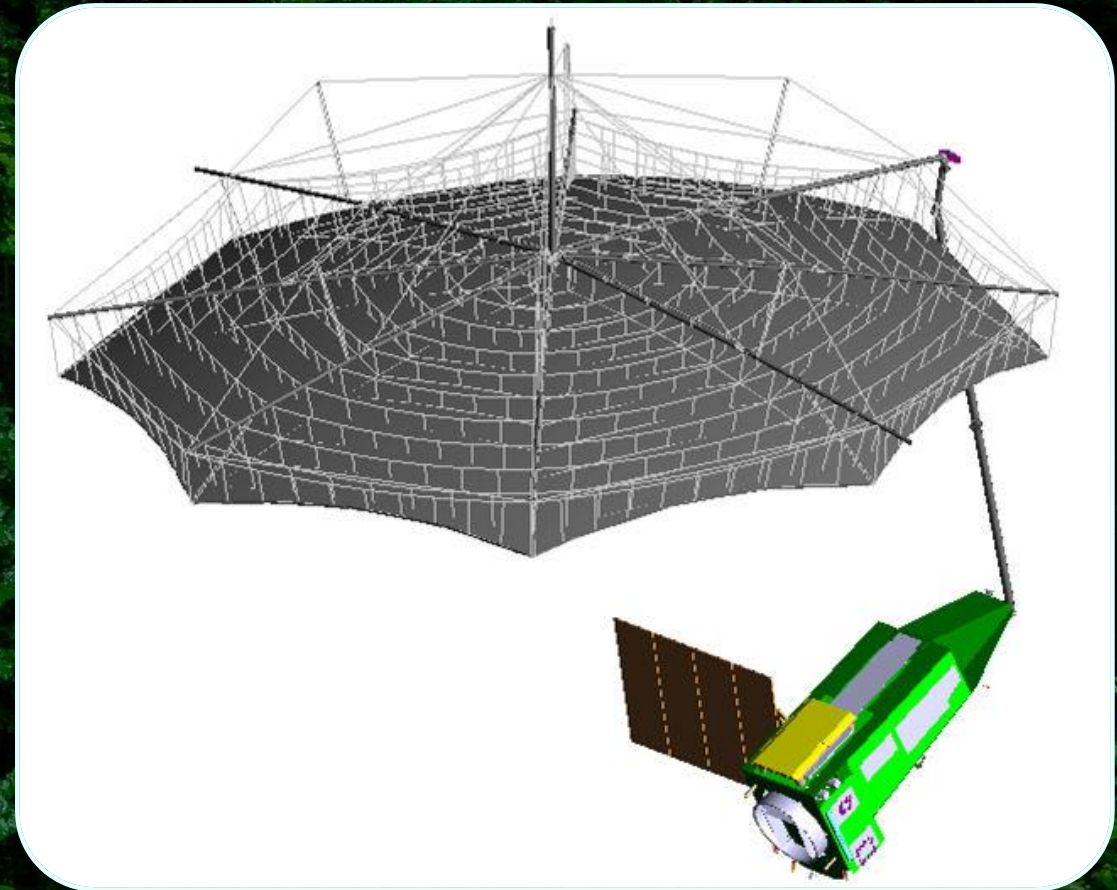
Prime: ADS-UK,  
Instrument: ADS-DE

## Launch date

May 2025

## Lifetime

5.5 years





## Forest biomass



## Forest height



## Disturbances



### Above-ground biomass (tons/hectare)

- 200 m resolution
- accuracy of 20%, or 10 t ha<sup>-1</sup> for biomass < 50 t.ha<sup>-1</sup>

### Upper canopy height (meter)

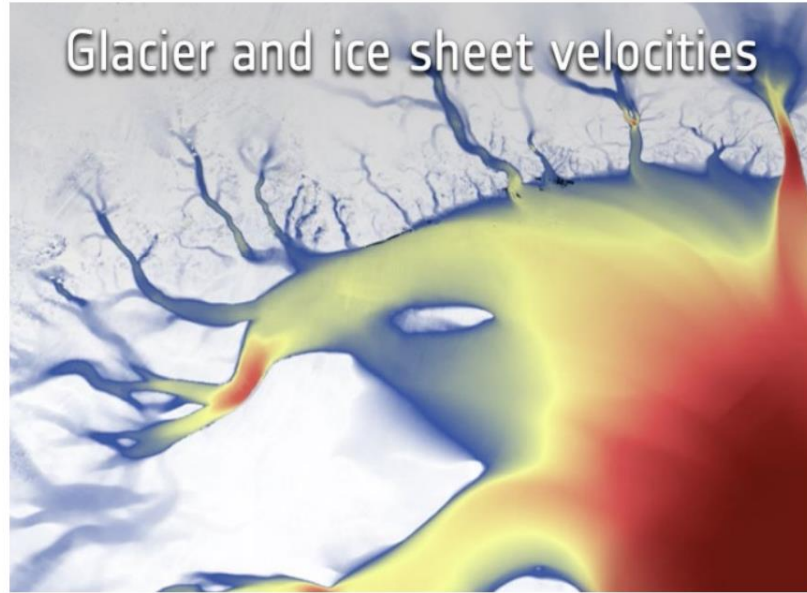
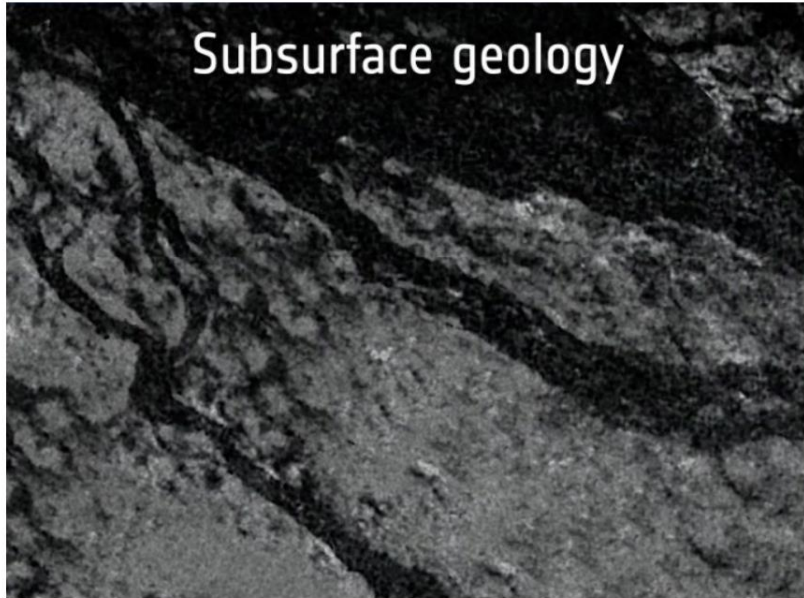
- 200 m resolution
- accuracy of 20-30%

### Areas of forest clearing (hectare)

- 50 m resolution
- 90% classification accuracy

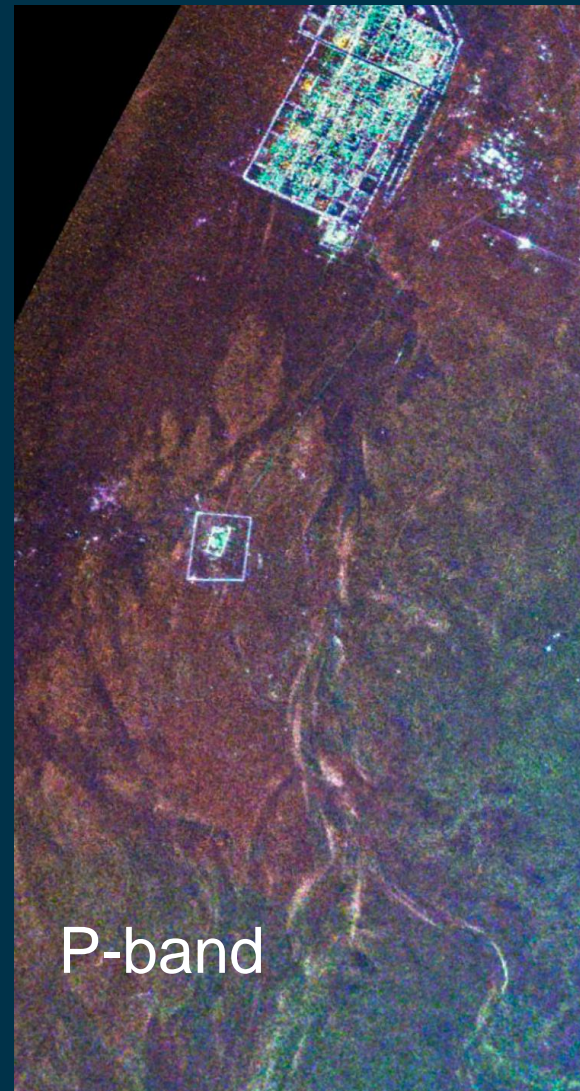
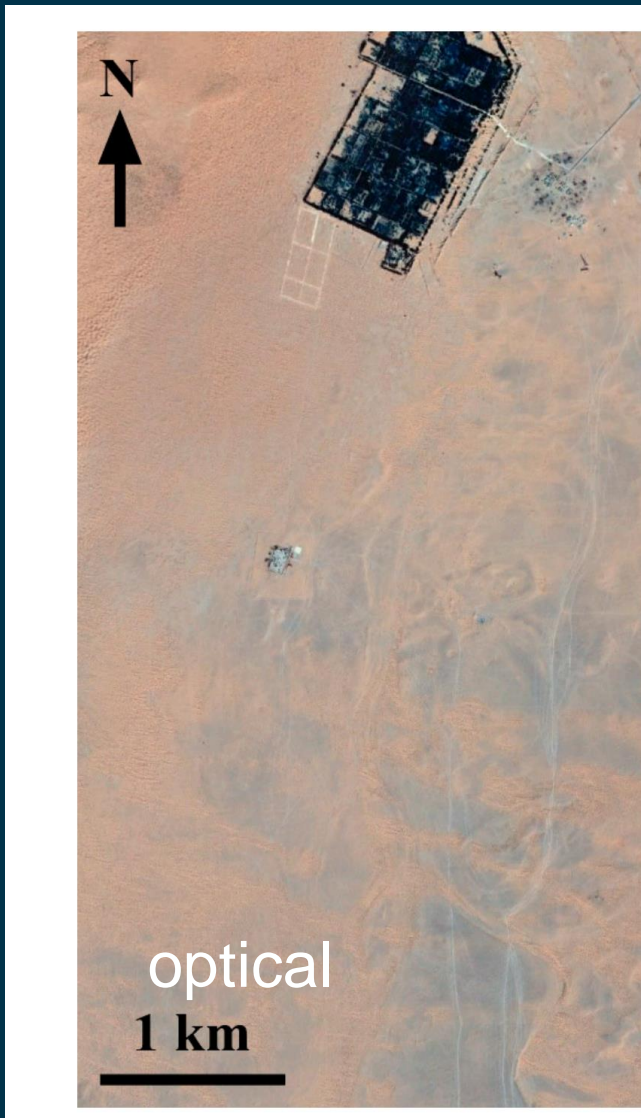
- 1 map every 9 months of all forested areas (excl. SOTR region)







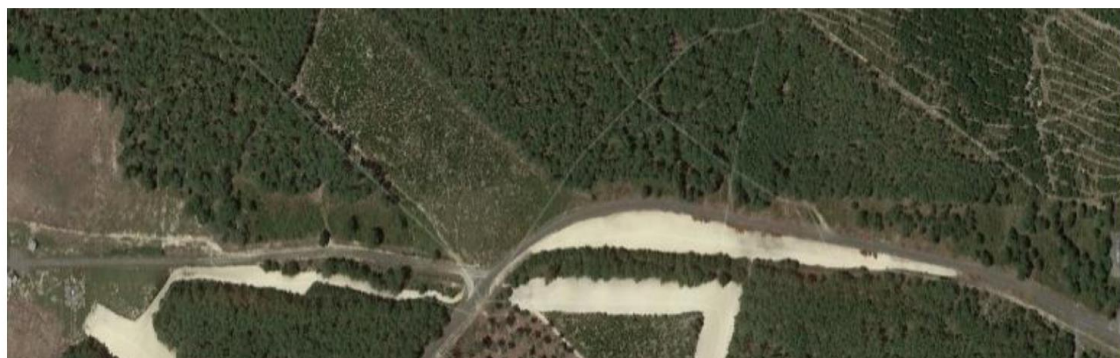
# Some P-band interesting properties



Rémi Baqué, Philippe Dreuillet, Hélène Oriot. Sethi : Review Of 10 Years Of Development And Experimentation Of The Remote Sensing Platform. RADAR 2019, Sep 2019, TOULON, France.



# Some P-band interesting penetration properties



OPTICAL

Cables hidden the sand  
below canopy (50 to 80 cm)

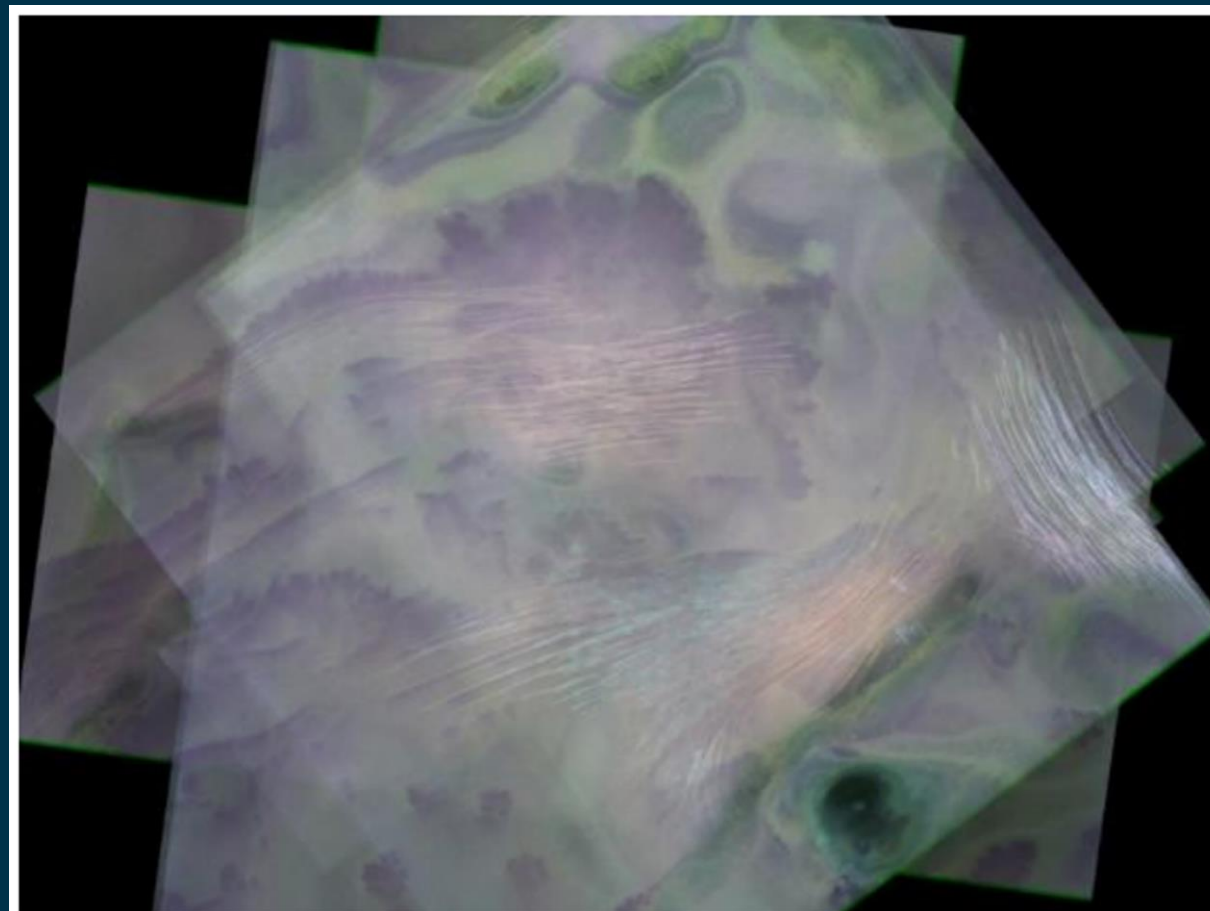
X-BAND wavelength ~ 3 cm

P-BAND wavelength ~ 70cm

R. Baqué, S. Angelliaume, P. Dubois-Fernandez and O. R. du Plessis, "Ground penetrating capabilities of Airborne SAR System SETHI," *2021 18th European Radar Conference (EuRAD)*, 2022, pp. 9-12, doi: 10.23919/EuRAD50154.2022.9784476.



# Some P-band interesting penetration properties



10k  
m

At low radar frequencies, deep penetration in ice/snow → depends upon its state/properties



# Take home messages about BIOMASS:



1. BIOMASS was proposed in 2005. Implementation started in Nov. 2015. The satellite is almost fully assembled and currently in the Test Facility. **We are working towards a launch in March-April 2025.**
2. BIOMASS is the **first P-band SAR and first systematic radar tomographic space mission**; it is a true Earth Explorer with a lot of unknowns and exciting science for global biomass mapping.
3. The new unique vision of Earth from **BIOMASS will extend beyond forests** and into measurements of ice, sub-surface geomorphology in deserts, topography, the ionosphere, ocean...
4. It is the **first Open-Source** Earth Explorer with BioPAL (algorithms), GEO-TREES (in-situ data) and MAAP (platform).





## ROSE-L



## GENERAL

- ❖ Constellation of 2 satellites (PFM & FM2) + options under study
- ❖ Consortium led by Thales Alenia Space Italy (TAS-I), involving 29 companies from 15 countries
- ❖ Service continuity with Sentinel-1 FG and NG

## COVERAGE

- ❖ Coverage of Global Land (excl. Antarctica) and Arctic
- ❖ Revisit with 2 satellites :
  - 6 days Global Land
  - 3 days Europe
  - 1 day Arctic
- ❖ Repeat cycle of 6 days over Global Land (2 satellites)

## PROGRAMMATICS

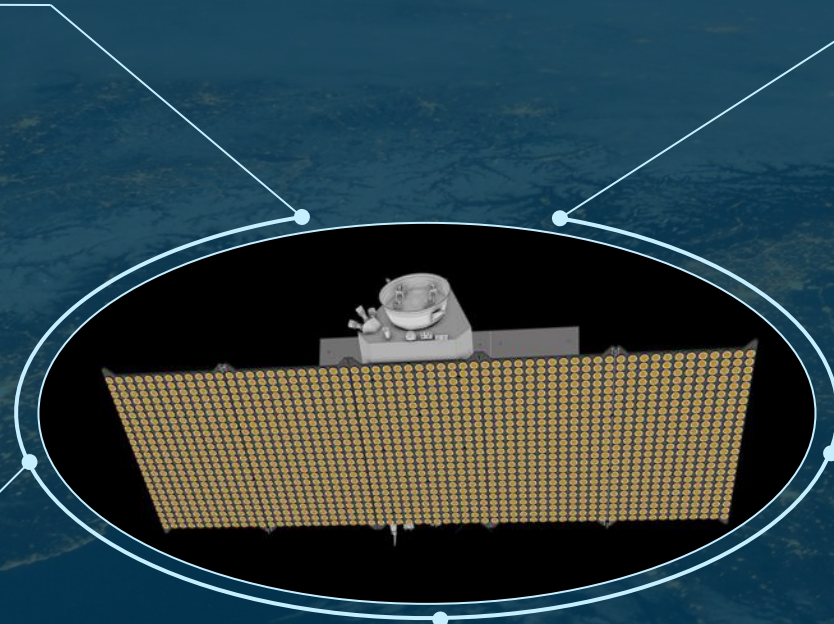
- ❖ Currently at the beginning of Phase C
- ❖ Science Plan activities start in 2023
- ❖ Launch of PFM expected in 2028
- ❖ FM2 delivery expected in 2030

## IMAGING

- ❖ L-Band – 85 MHz ITU allocated band (1.215-1.300 GHz)
- ❖ Dual-Pol and Quad-Pol modes
- ❖ Wave mode capability
- ❖ Resolution < 50 m2 (RIWS mode)
- ❖ NESZ < -28 dB
- ❖ DTAR < -23 dB
- ❖ Swath width > 250 km

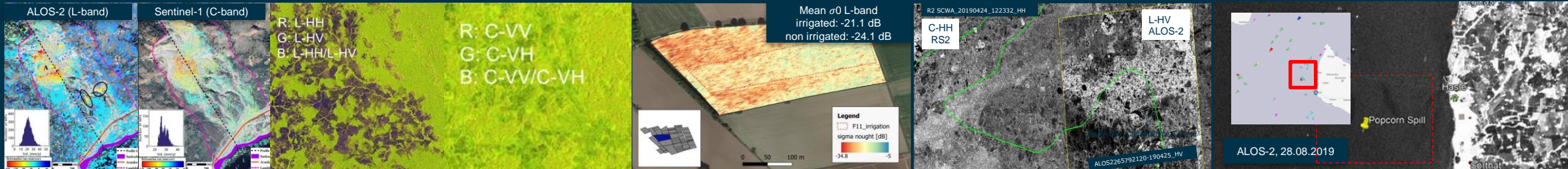
## SYSTEM

- ❖ Synergic acquisitions with Sentinel-1: co-located swaths and support to convoy configuration
- ❖ Low latency
  - 10 min Europe coastal waters
  - 200 min Global
- ❖ Companion friendliness for Single-Pass Interferometry





# ROSE-L Applications



<b>Application</b>	Geohazards: Deformation, Landslides, Urban subsidence, Flooding	AFOLU: <b>New timely information on AGB and biomes structure/type.</b> L-band suitable to forests with AGB up to 100-150 Mg/ha, where it can sense the whole structure	Soil Moisture: <b>High-resolution Soil Moisture tracking in a broad range of crops and vegetated land,</b>	Cryosphere and the Arctic: Sea-ice, Ice sheets and Glacier velocity, Grounding Line, SWE, Permafrost thawing and extent	Marine and Maritime: Ocean surface wind vectors, Swell properties, Iceberg location, size and drift, Vessel location, size and velocity, Oil spill location and morphology
<b>Complement to C-band</b>	<b>Improved coverage</b> and motion information in <b>vegetated and snow-covered areas</b> , due the capability of sensing the ground <b>Enhanced robustness to phase unwrapping</b> in fast deformation scenarios due to longer wavelengths	<b>Enhanced continuity on deforestation monitoring</b> , including tropical forests due to sensitivity to changes/ losses (e.g. by logging) <b>Improved LULC mapping</b> in combination with Sentinel-1, complementary sensitivity	Soil Moisture up to ~5 cm depth complementing the Sentinel-1 SSM products (mainly suitable for bare soils and low vegetation areas, 1 cm depth)	<b>Daily HR information on hazardous sea-ice and icebergs</b> for navigation and weather/climate services <b>Enhanced mapping of sea-ice type and concentration</b> , due to L-band sensitivity to large ice structures (e.g. fractures and ridges) <b>Improved mapping of sea-ice drift</b> flying in close formation with S-1	<b>Added value in vessel detection</b> for maritime surveillance due to reduced sensitivity of sea backscatter at lower wind <b>Improved detection of icebergs</b> thanks to a better sensitivity of L-band to large ice structures <b>Added value in extreme events (e.g. tropical cyclones)</b> as high winds do not saturate the signal
<b>Repeat pass</b>	6 days repeat pass with two satellites	Revisit (6 days Global, 3 days Europe)	Revisit (6 days Global, 3 days Europe)	Revisit (1 day Arctic, 3 days Europe, 6 days Global)	Revisit (1 day Arctic, 3 days Europe, 6 days Global)
<b>Resolution, NESZ</b>	50 m2 Resolution for localized displacement	High resolution	High resolution Low noise level (NESZ, ambiguities)	High-resolution and wide swath Low noise level (NESZ, ambiguities)	High-resolution, wide swath Low latency for European waters (< 10 minutes) Low noise level (NESZ and ambiguities)
<b>Acquisition scenario &amp; latency</b>	ASC and DESC acquisitions for EW motion Low latency for rapid mapping after event	Companion friendliness to support option for forest height retrieval	Integration (downscaling) with Scatterometers and L-band Radiometers for temporal revisit and accuracy	Simultaneous acquisitions with Sentinel-1 for sea ice mapping	Wave mode ATI capabilities (MAPS)



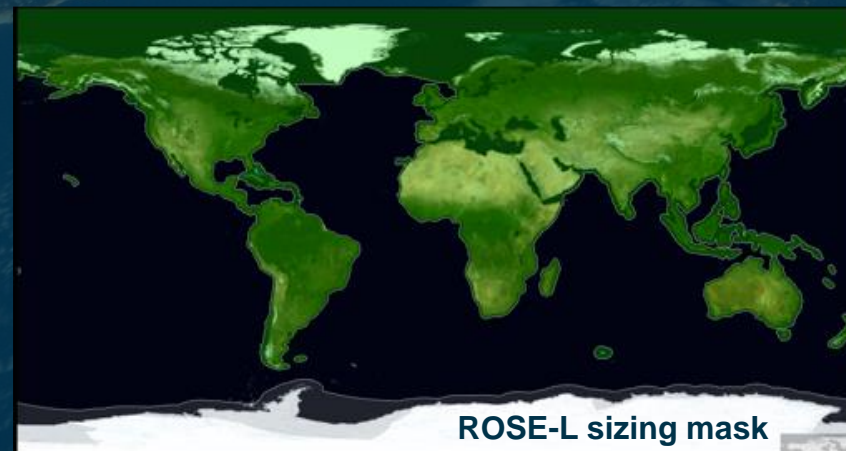
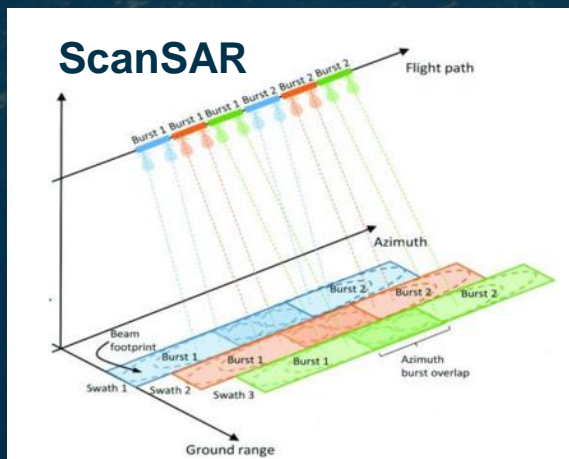


As current baseline the instrument provides **2 *ScanSAR Wide Swath modes*** and a **Wave Mode** over open ocean

ROSE-L SAR Modes	RIWS ROSE-L Interferometric Wide Swath	QWS Quad-pol interferometric Wide Swath	Wave Mode
Polarization	Dual-Pol (HH-HV or VV-VH)	Quad-Pol (HH-HV-VH-VV)	Single-Pol
Incidence angle access	29 – 46 deg Full overlap with S1 IWS swath at all latitudes	Fixed swath within 20 – 45 deg (e.g. 25 – 42.3 deg)	Variable
Swath	260 km	260 km	20 x 20 km
Resolution	50 m <sup>2</sup>	100 m <sup>2</sup>	50 m <sup>2</sup>
NESZ	< -28 dB	< -28 dB	< -28 dB
DTAR	< -23 dB	< -23 dB	< -23 dB

## ROSE-L Sizing Requirements:

- “Always on” over **Europe, Arctic, coastal Antarctica** and **global Tectonic areas** in dual or quad-pol SAR mode
- Full coverage of **remaining landmass** (not included in a)) within **12-day** revisit time , i.e. **6-day** revisit time for entire **constellation** in dual or quad-pol SAR mode
- Wave mode over **Open Ocean**



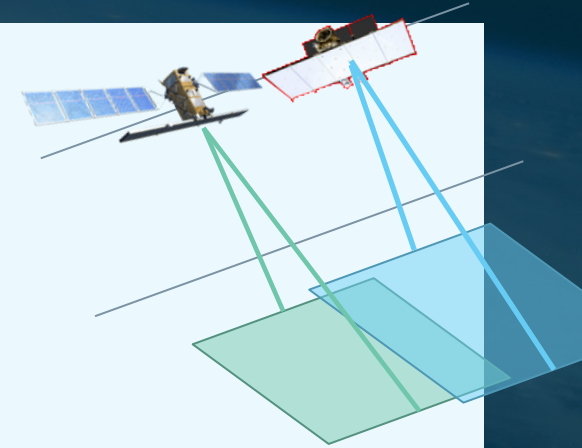
ROSE-L **continuous operations** capability per sliding orbit time window:

- 35 min in **dual-pol SAR mode** or
- 20 min in **quad-pol SAR mode**, and
- for the remaining time in **Wave Mode**

ROSE-L will augment Sentinel-1 by means of a **synergic acquisition plan and mission design**

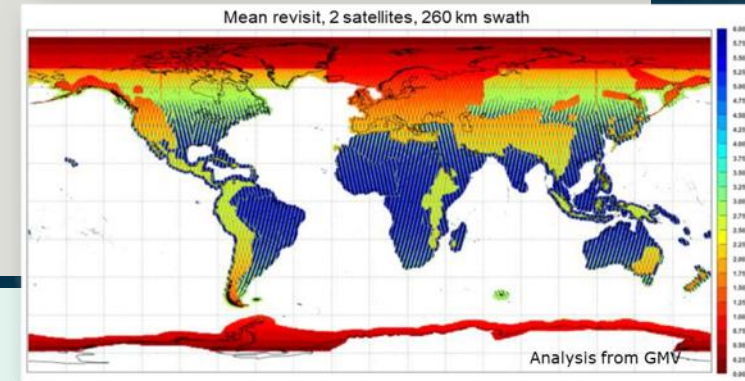
## Collocation with Sentinel-1

- Same orbit configuration of Sentinel-1.
- Phasing of the orbital plane adjusted to follow the **same ground track of Sentinel-1**
- **RIWS mode guarantees full swath overlap with S1 IWS**
- Mission design supports options for: 1) different orbit phasing for optimized revisit  
2) convoy with Sentinel-1 (up to a minimum 1min baseline)



## Extensive Global coverage and consistent long-term archive

- Coverage of Global land (except for South pole). ~ **38 min/orbit duty cycle**
- Consistent acquisitions through years for **long-term coherent data stacks**



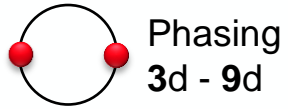
## Free, full and open data policy

Moving towards a **System of Systems concept** and enhanced information products

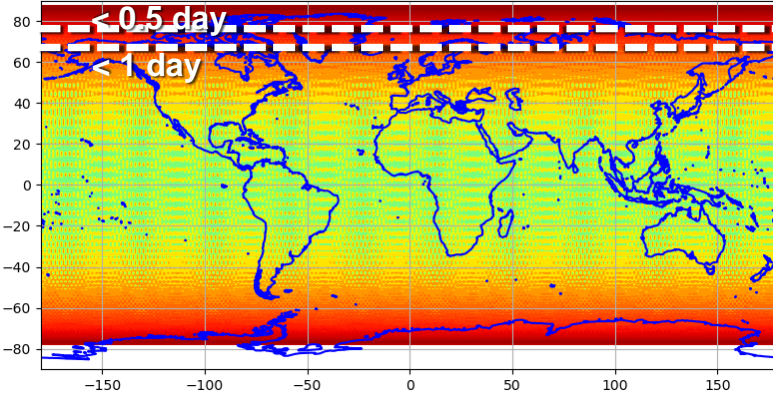


# Joint Access Global (ROSE-L + S1FG/NG)

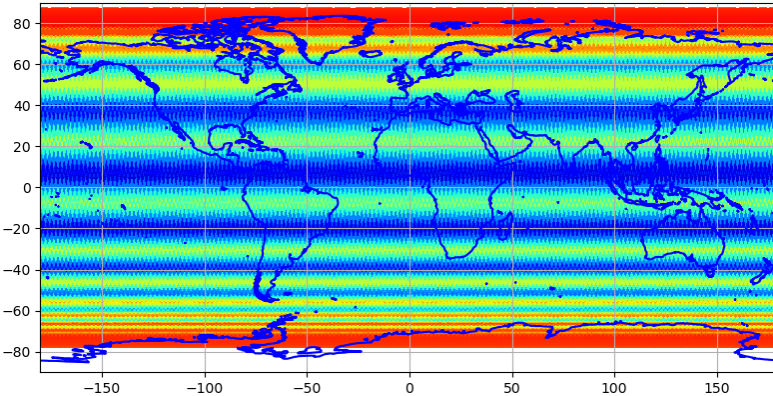
## ROSE-L



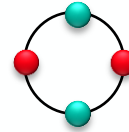
Average revisit [days]



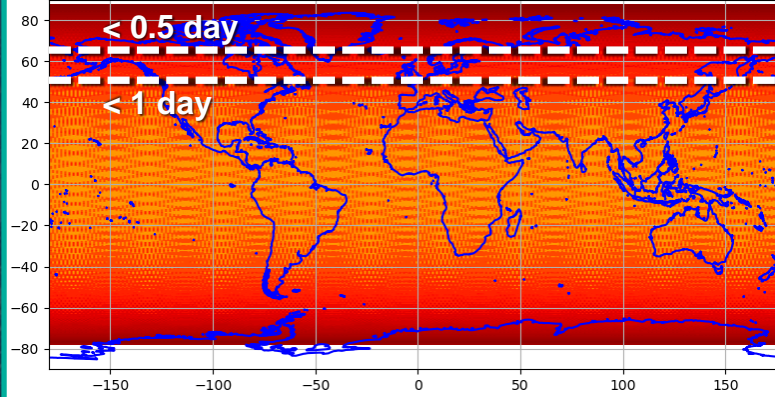
Maximum revisit [days]



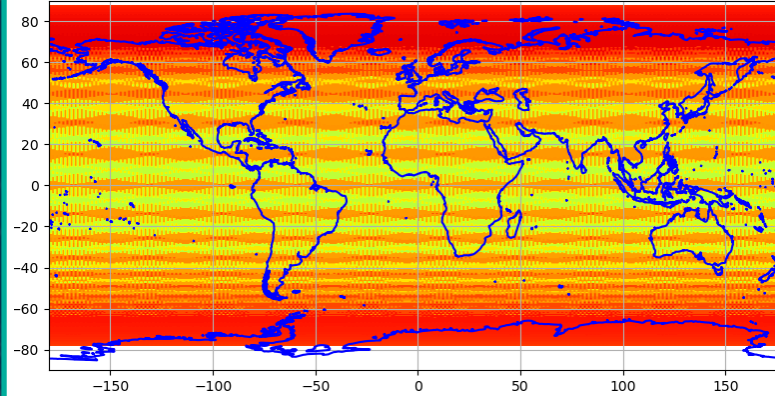
## S1FG + ROSE-L



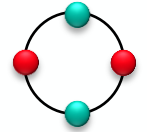
Average revisit [days]



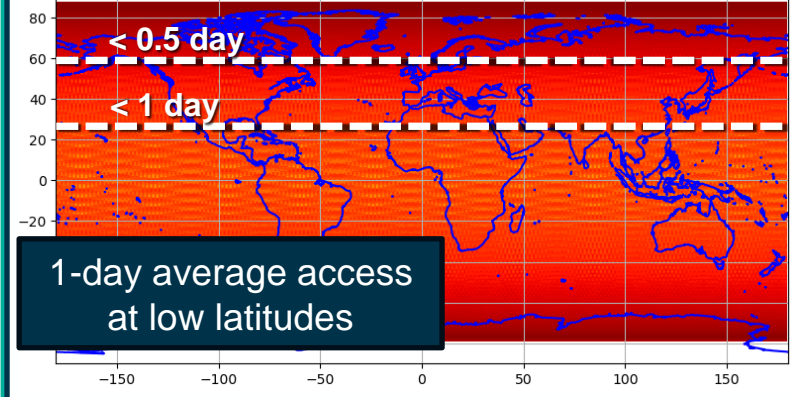
Maximum revisit [days]



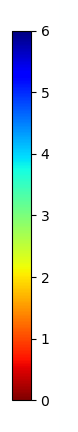
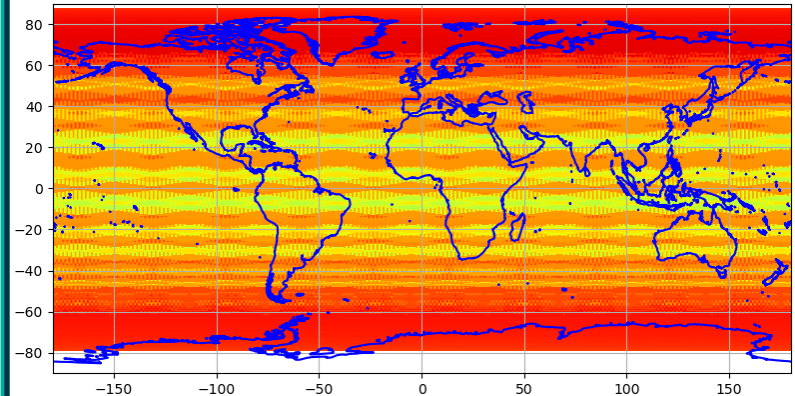
## S1NG + ROSE-L



Average revisit [days]



Maximum revisit [days]





# Take home messages about ROSE-L:

## ESA with industry and together with EC preparing “expansion” of Copernicus SAR missions

- L-band SAR as a Copernicus Expansion mission *to address information gaps* and enhanced continuity

## ROSE-L bring new and enhanced capabilities

- High resolution (50m2 for ROSE-L RIWS)
- Low NESZ and DTAR (-28 dB and -23 dB)
- Wide swath and frequent revisit capability

## Sentinel-1, ROSE-L and Sentinel-1 NG shall be addressed as a system (not in isolation)

- ROSE-L same orbit, swath and acquisition geometry as Sentinel-1 (IWS) providing an operational dual-frequency system
- Synergies between C- and L-band expected to lead to enhanced and new information beyond what can be achieved for each mission taken in isolation
- Synergies with other missions such as Earth Explorer Biomass @P-band also need to be further investigated

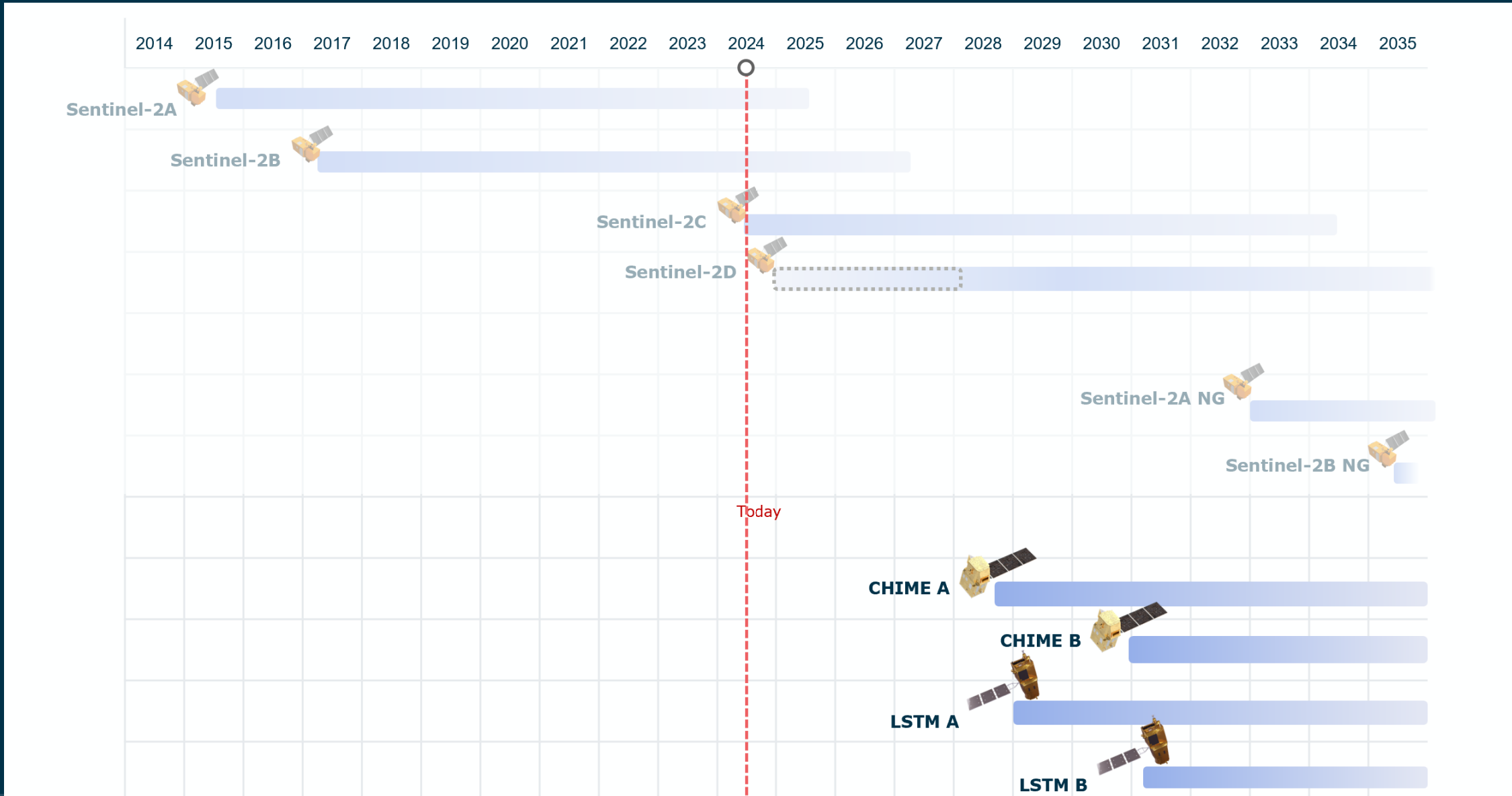
## Work still required to prepare for uptake of ROSE-L by user community (e.g. ionospheric and RFI correction, interferometric error budgets, C- and L-band synergies).

- Synergies and coordination with other space agencies (JAXA, NASA, CONAE) will be key.



## LSTM : Land Surface Thermal Mission

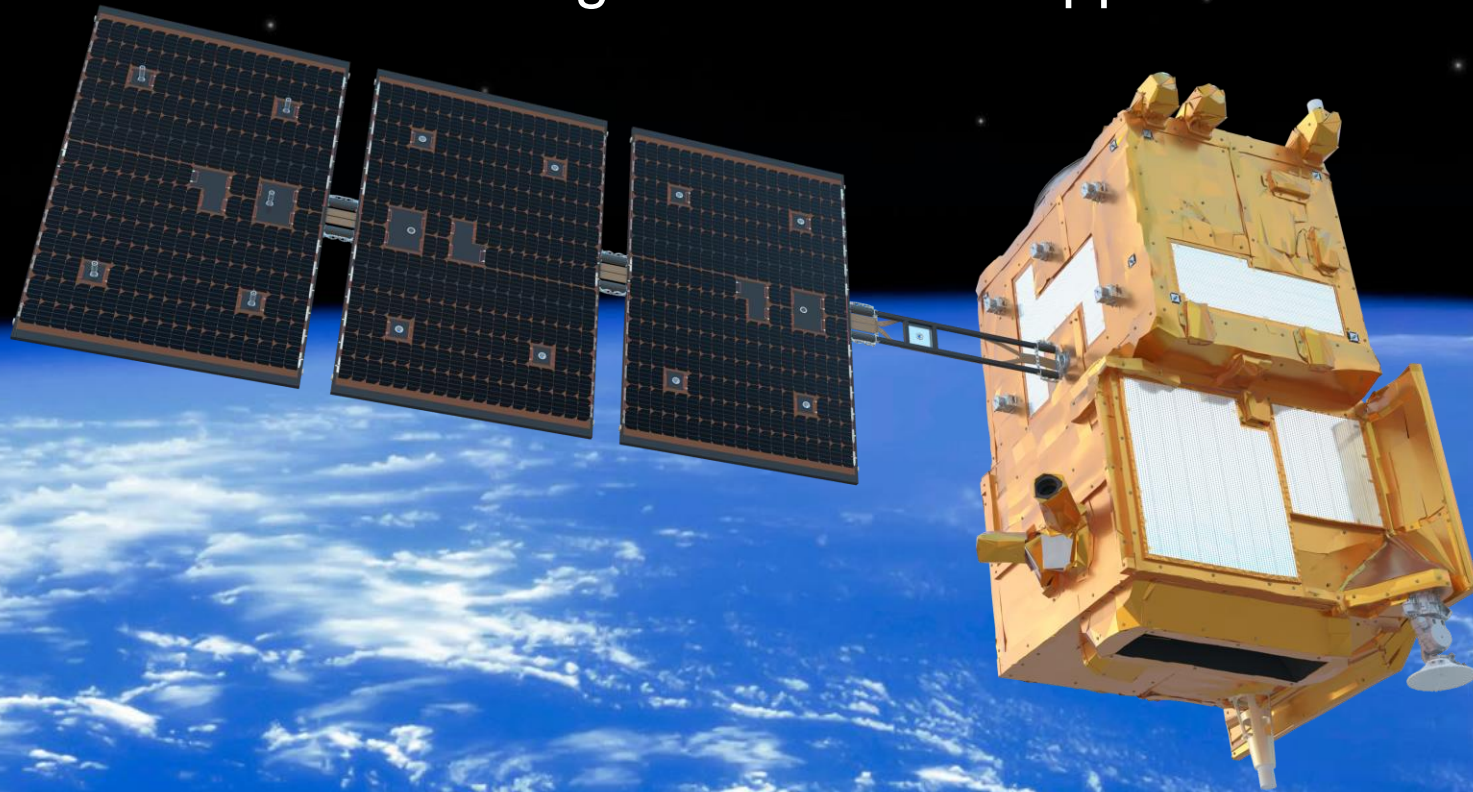
# Schedule Overview





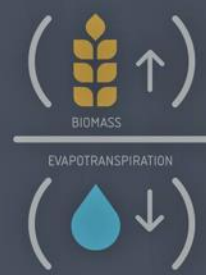
## LSTM Mission Objective:

Provide high spatio-temporal resolution Thermal Infra-Red observations over land and coastal regions *in support of agriculture management services,* and a range of additional applications



$$WP = \frac{\text{BIOMASS}}{\text{EVAPOTRANSPIRATION}}$$

WATER PRODUCTIVITY



# LSTM Mission Key Features & Requirements

Key requirement*	
Geometrical revisit	2 days/2 satellites
Local time	13:00 (Europe) & night observations
SSD	50 m (37m at nadir)
Spectral Bands	5 TIR, 4 VNIR, 2 SWIR
Nominal swath	687 km, at 651 km altitude
Acquisition system	Whiskbroom scanner
Geo-location L1c	0.5 SSD (GCP) / 1 SSD (without GCP)
MTF	0.2-0.3
Data latency (L2)	6-12 hours
NeDT	< 0.15 K
ARA	< 0.5 K

## User requirement\*\*

### Evapotranspiration (goal)

- Accuracy 15% [mm/day]
- Precision 5%
- Field scale [0.5 ha]
- Daily observations

### LST observations\*\*

- 50 meters resolution
- 1-3 days revisit
- 1-1.5 K LST accuracy

\* Copernicus LSTM Phase B2/C/D/E1 System Requirements Document

\*\*Mission Requirement Document V3

[https://www.esa.int/Applications/Observing\\_the\\_Earth/Copernicus/Copernicus\\_Sentinel\\_Expansion\\_missions](https://www.esa.int/Applications/Observing_the_Earth/Copernicus/Copernicus_Sentinel_Expansion_missions)



## The LSTM Level-1c products:

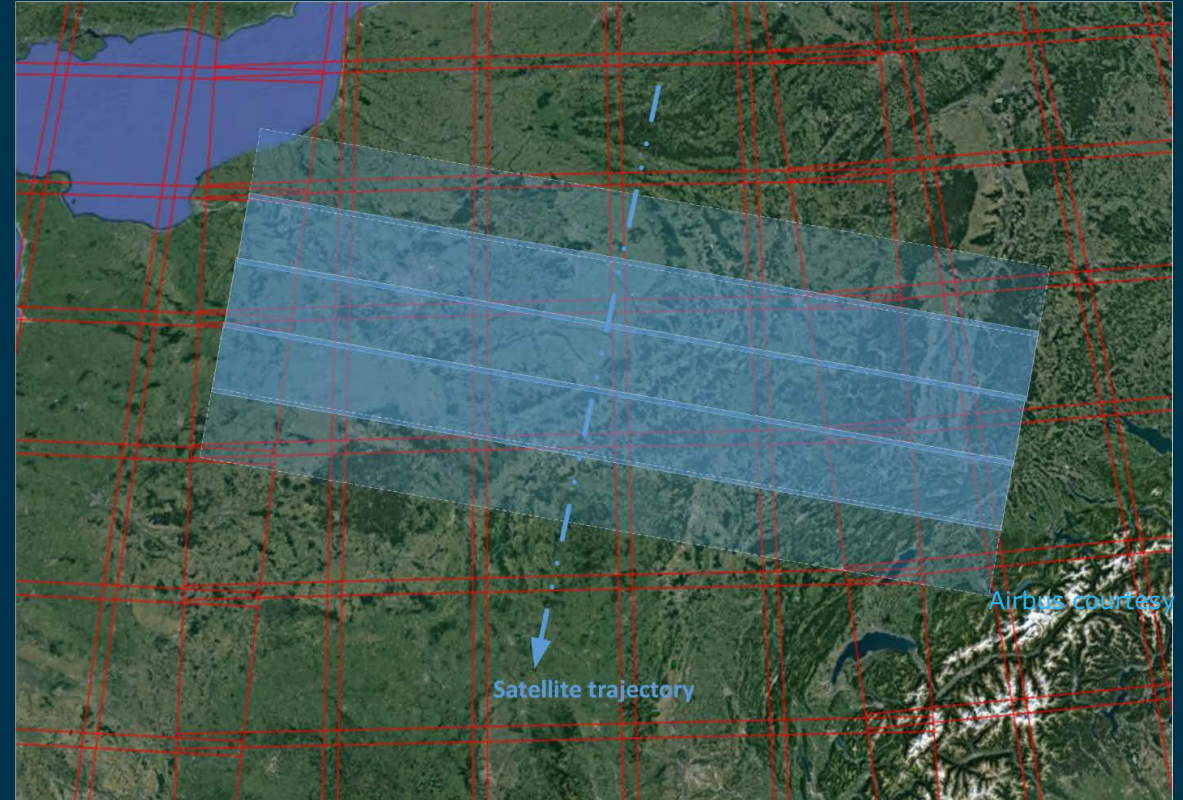
- Radiometrically & geometrically calibrated TOA radiance
- Top of atmosphere brightness temperature

## The LSTM Level-2a products:

- Land Surface Temperature
- Land Surface Emissivity per TIR spectral band
- Bottom of atmosphere surface reflectance
- Total Column of Water Vapor (intermediate product required for LST retrieval)
- Cloud mask (intermediate product provided as a quality flag)

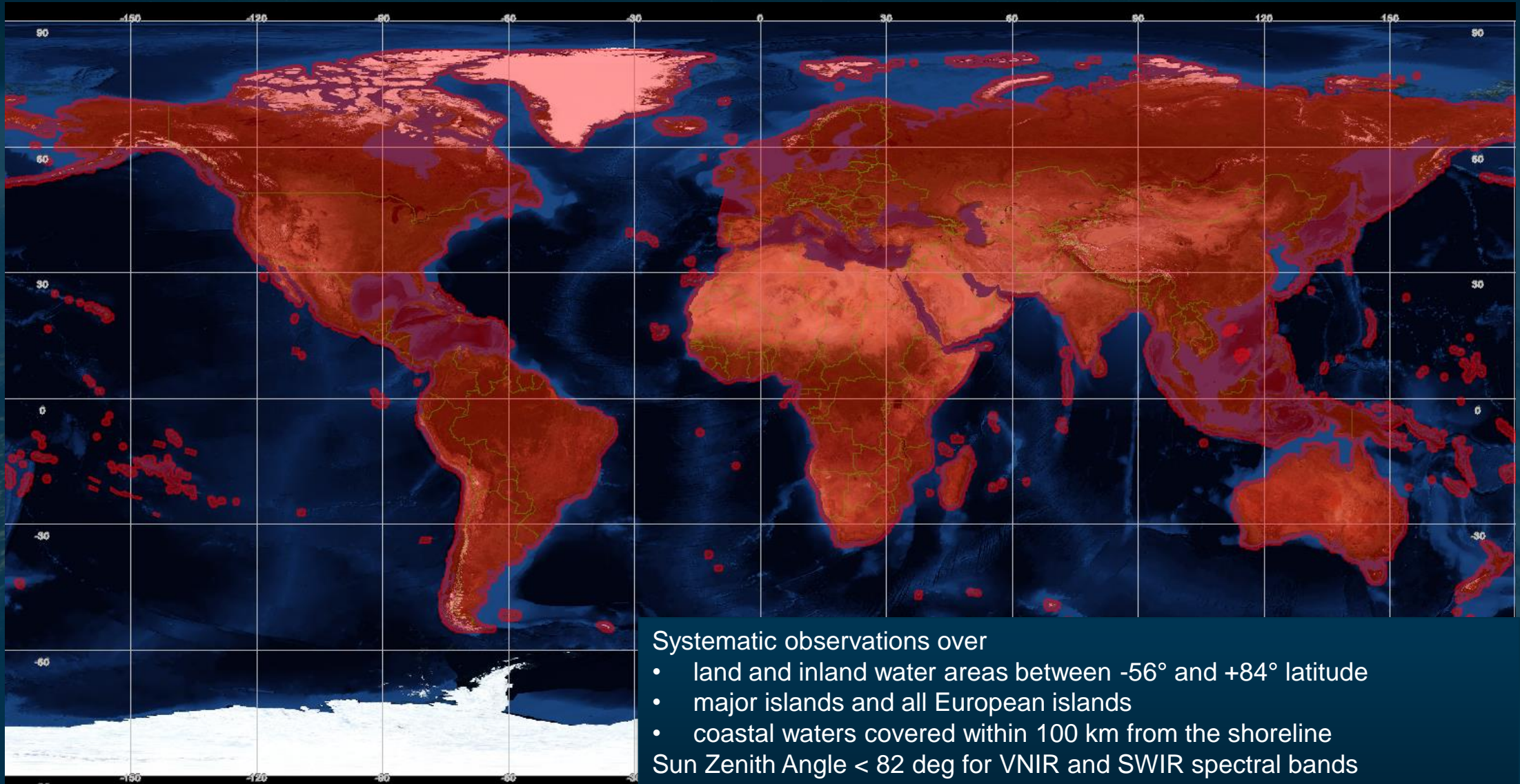
## Maximum Data Latency

- Level-1c: 3 hours (goal) & 6 hours (threshold), highest priority over Europe and Africa.
- Level-2a (LST): 6 hours to 12 hours (TBC), highest priority over Europe and Africa.





# LSTM Acquisition Mask

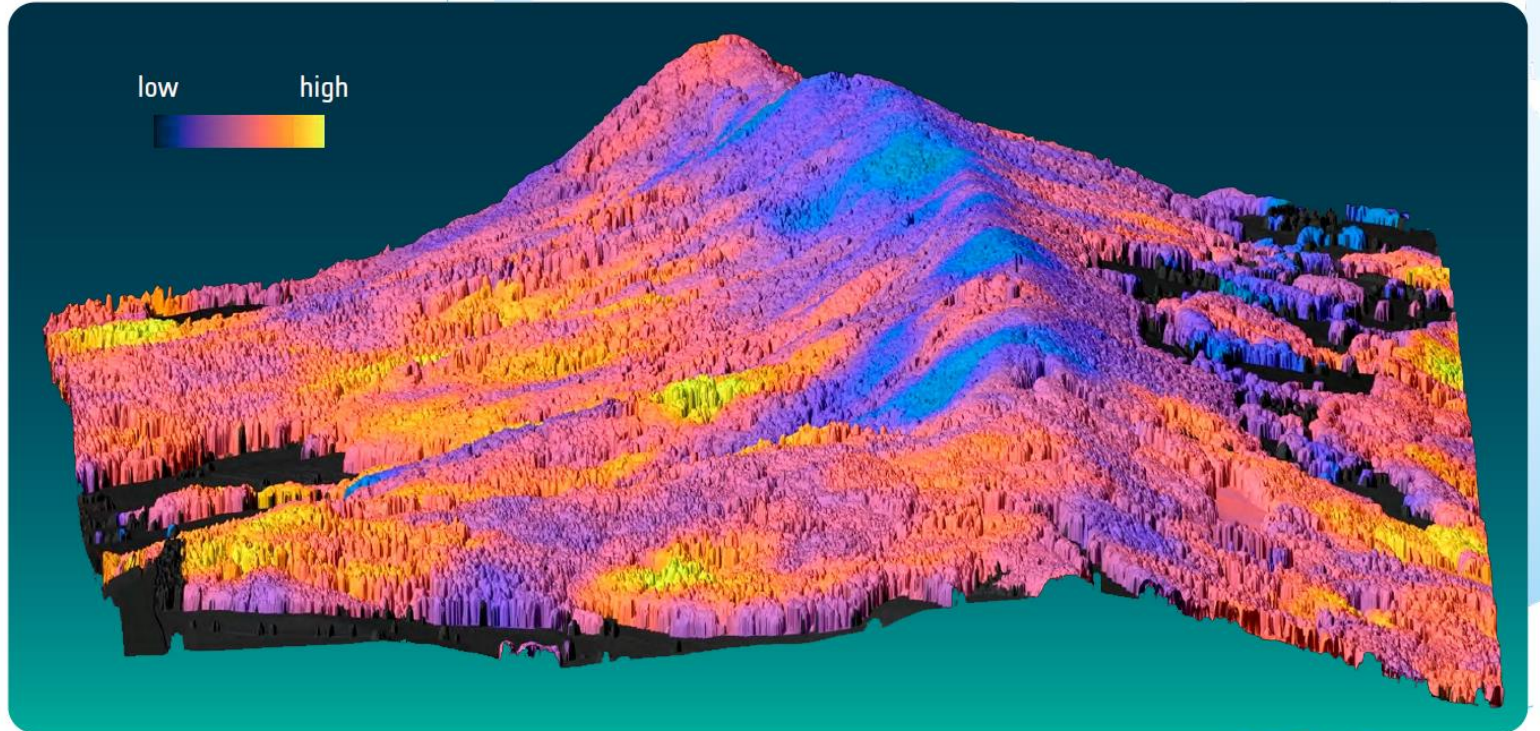
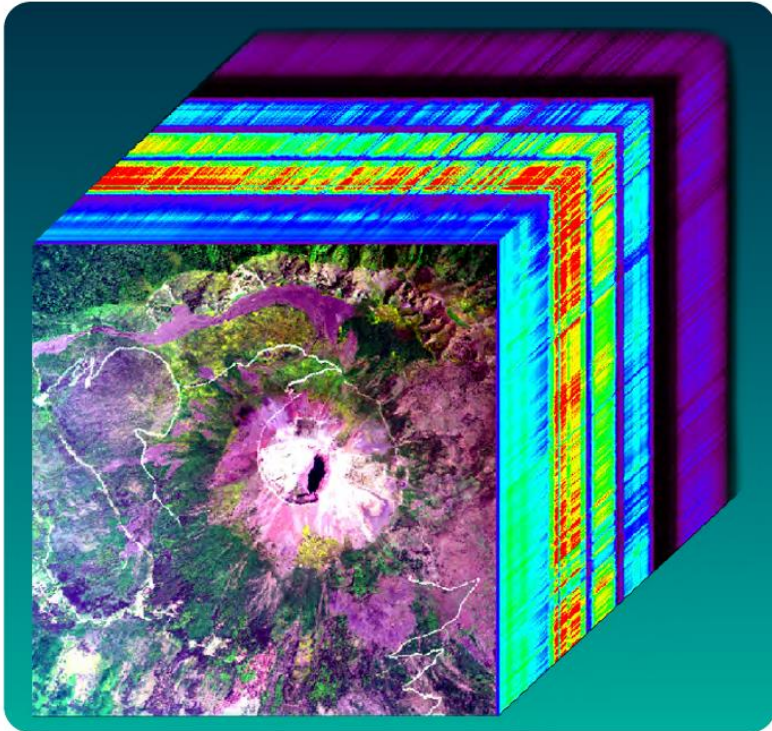




# CHIME : Copernicus Hyperspectral Imaging Mission for the Environment

# CHIME Mission Objectives

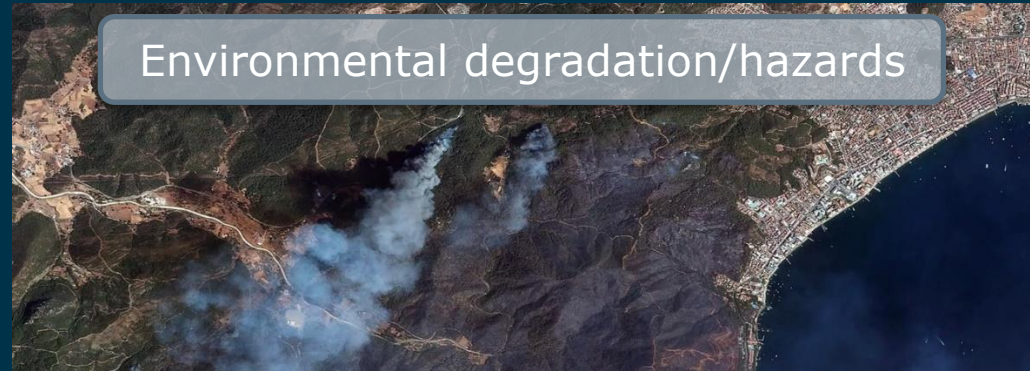
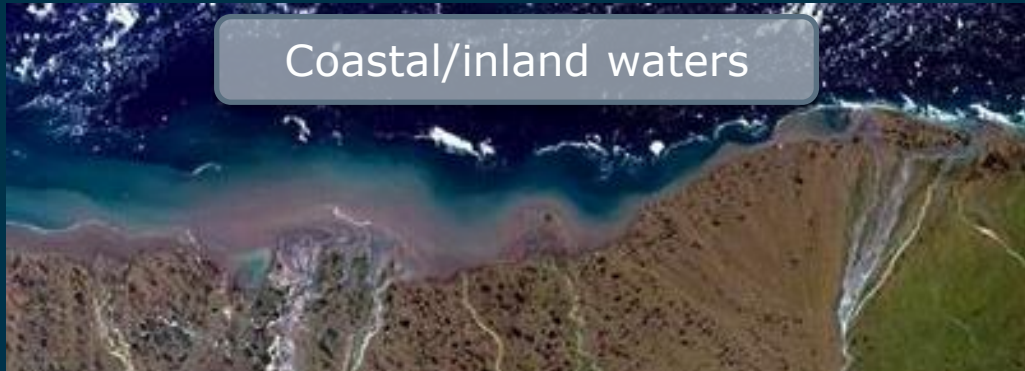
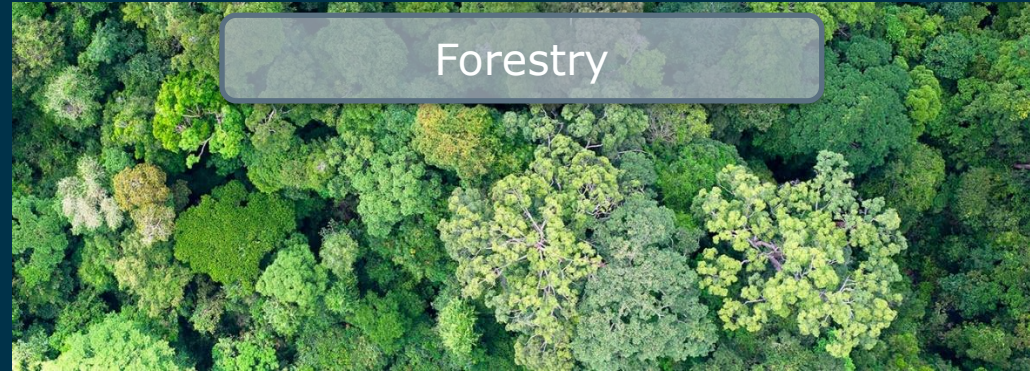
- Provide routine hyperspectral measurements in support of EU- and related policies for the management of natural resources & assets
- Support food security, agriculture and raw materials, soil properties
- Secondary Applications: biodiversity and ecosystem sustainability, forestry management, environmental degradation, lake/coastal ecosystems and water quality, snow grain size/albedo, snow impurities]



Physiological diversity of a temperate forest (Airborne imaging spectroscopy APEX data - Schaepman, Jehle et al. 2015)



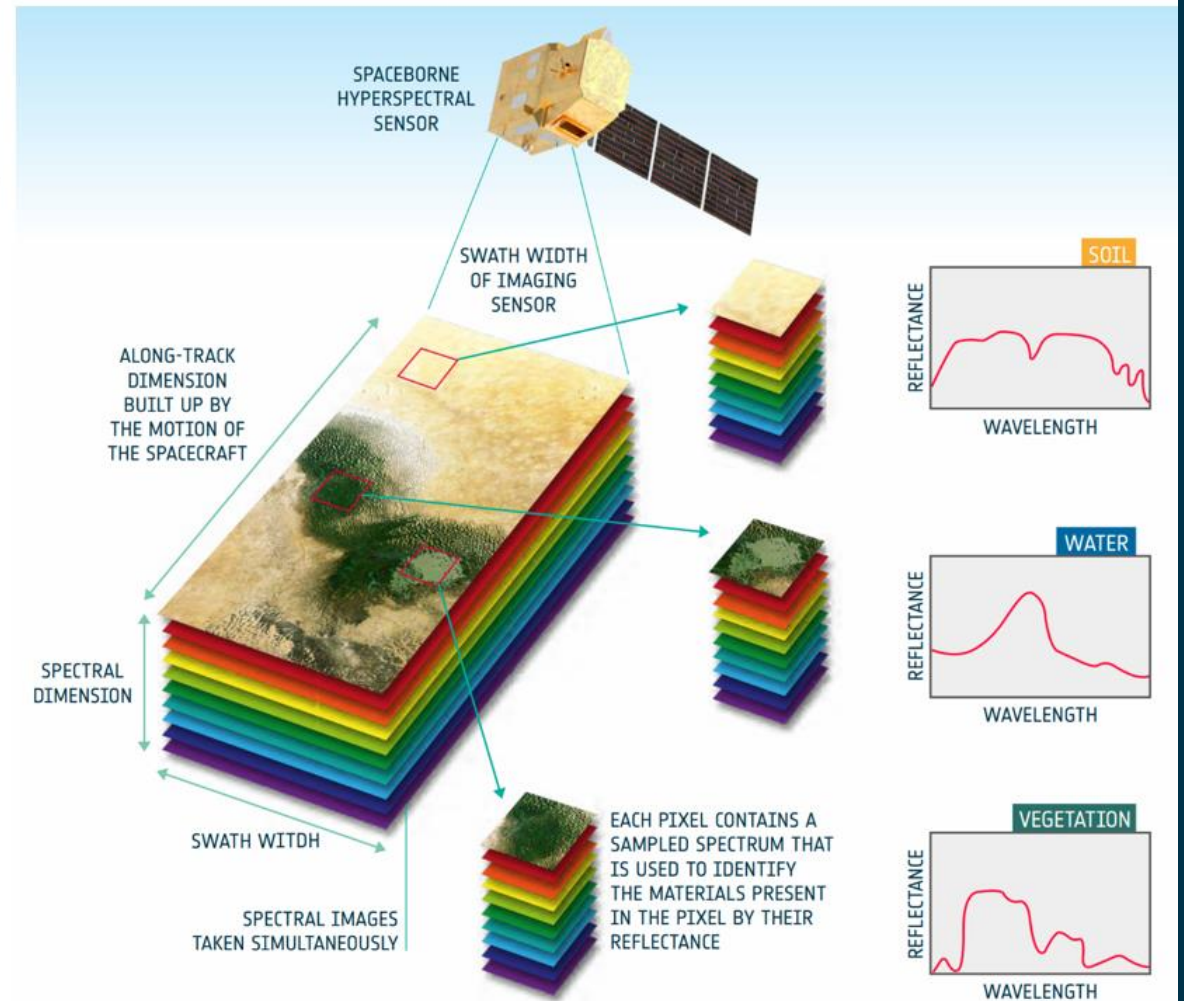
# Not forgotten: secondary applications!








Operational **hyperspectral observations** of land and coastal areas

- **Spectral range:** 400 – 2500 nm
- **Spectral bandwidth**  $\leq 10\text{nm}$
- **SSD (Spatial Sampling Distance):** 30 m
- **Swath:** ~130 km
- **Revisit:** 12.5 days (2 satellites)
- High radiometric accuracy, low spectral/spatial mis-registration
- High SNR matching performance of similar missions (e.g. EnMAP, PRISMA, SBG)





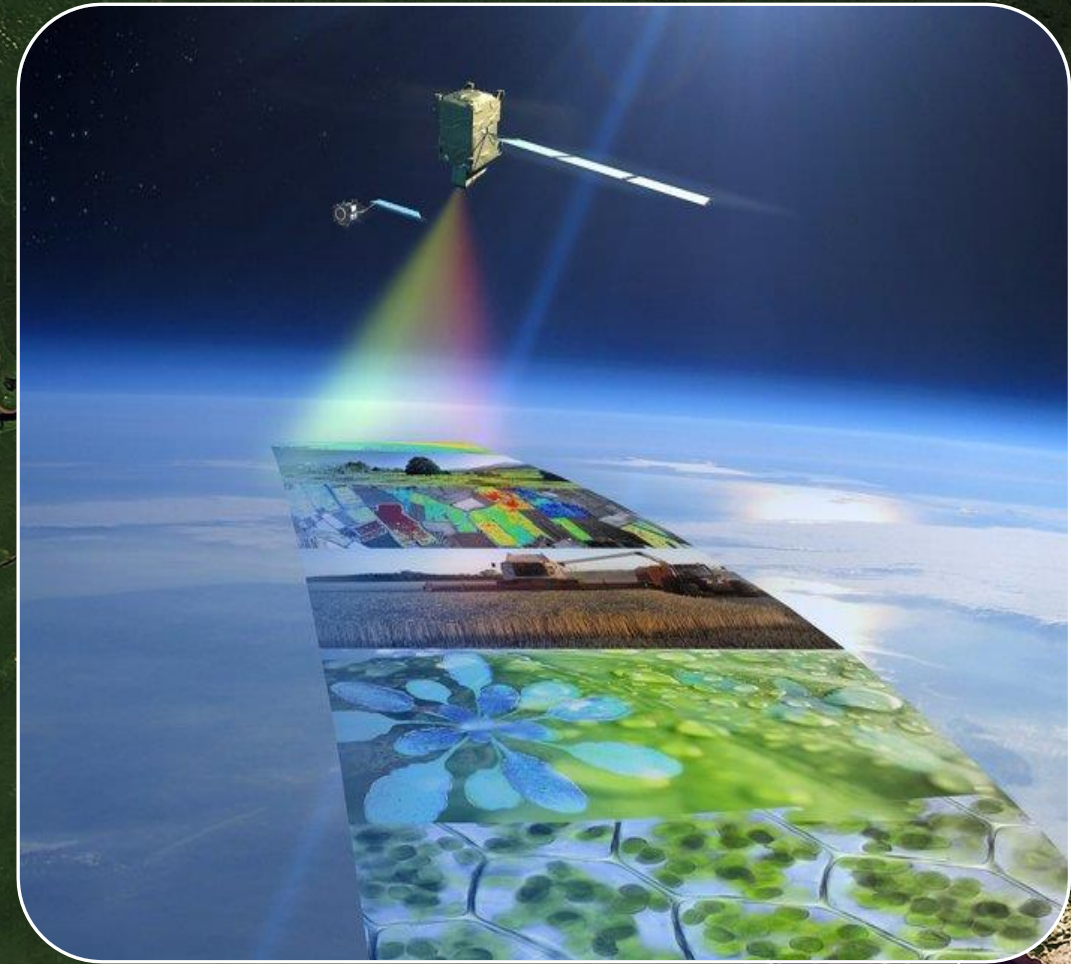
DOMAIN	THEMATIC AREA	VARIABLES CHPPP	CHIME Candidate Algorithms
AGRICULTURE / FOOD SECURITY	 <p>Assessment of biophysical and biochemical variables related to the crops and of agronomic interest</p>	Leaf/Canopy Pigment Content	Semi-empirical modelling based on narrow-band vegetation indices; Hybrid methods based on ANN/LUT or other machine learning algorithms applied to vegetation canopy radiative transfer models outputs (e.g. PROSAIL).
		Leaf/Canopy Nitrogen Content	
		LAI	Narrow-band vegetation indices; Hybrid methods based on ANN/LUT or other machine learning algorithms e.g. GPR methods applied to vegetation canopy reflectance models (e.g. PROSAIL).
		Canopy Water Content	
		Leaf/Canopy Pigment Content	
	Leaf Mass/Area		
	 <p>Topsoil properties</p>	Soil organic carbon content	Chemometrics modelling (e.g. PLSR); Spectral analysis; Spectral indices; Machine learning (e.g. Random Forest)
		Soil texture (clay, silt, sand)	
GEOLOGY & MINERALS	 <p>Raw material detection</p>	Mineral identification and abundances (Kaolinite, Smectite, Jarosite, Dolomite)	Sub-pixel linear unmixing
		Hematite-goethite ratio	
		Ferric oxide contents	
		Kaolin Crystallinity	

# FLEX



# FLEX

<b>Mission</b>	Study & monitoring of fluorescence signal linked to vegetation stress; pixel 300m.
<b>Swath</b>	150 km
<b>Payload</b>	FLORIS, 2 channels spectrometers (O <sub>2</sub> lines)
<b>Orbit</b>	SSO Alt: 814 km; LTDN: 10h00
<b>Satellite</b>	470 Kg
<b>Consortium</b>	Prime: TAS Instrument: Leonardo
<b>Launch date</b>	2025
<b>Lifetime</b>	3.5 years





A central image of the Earth from space, showing the African continent and surrounding oceans. The Earth is overlaid with a glowing blue network of lines and dots, representing a dynamic system. Three circular inset images are positioned around the Earth: top-left shows a large iceberg in a body of water; top-right shows a sandy beach with a cliff edge; bottom-left shows a satellite view of a tropical cyclone. The background features a dark, stormy sky with a large, white, curved shape resembling a wave or a satellite's path, and a turbulent sea with white-capped waves at the bottom.

harmony

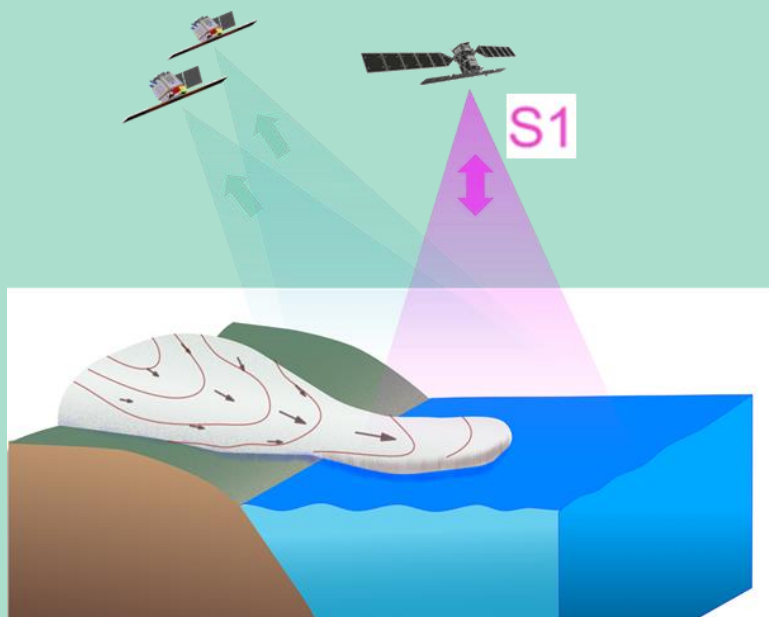
**TO RESOLVE STRESS  
IN THE EARTH SYSTEM**

ESA's dynamic surfaces mission

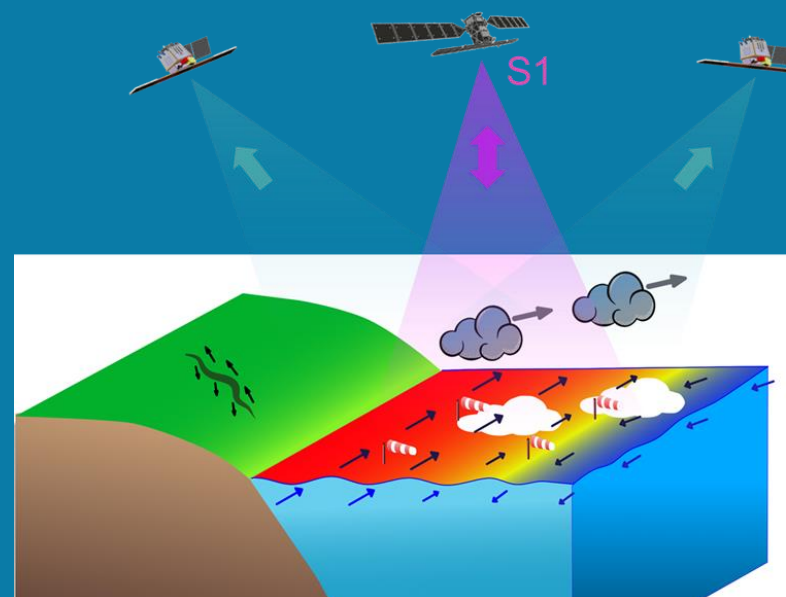


# Harmony in a nutshell

**Harmony** is ESA's Earth Explorer 10 mission, comprised of two companion satellites in a loose convoy with Sentinel-1D (along-track separation  $\sim 350$  km) Its payload suite consists of a passive SAR and a multi-view TIR instrument



Cross-track Interferometric phase covering land applications like glaciers, permafrost, volcanoes.



Stereo phase covering 3-D surface deformation ocean applications: surface motion, surface winds, sea surface temperature, cloud motion.

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

# Harmony – a multi-domain “Earth System” mission



Upper oceans and ocean-atmosphere interactions



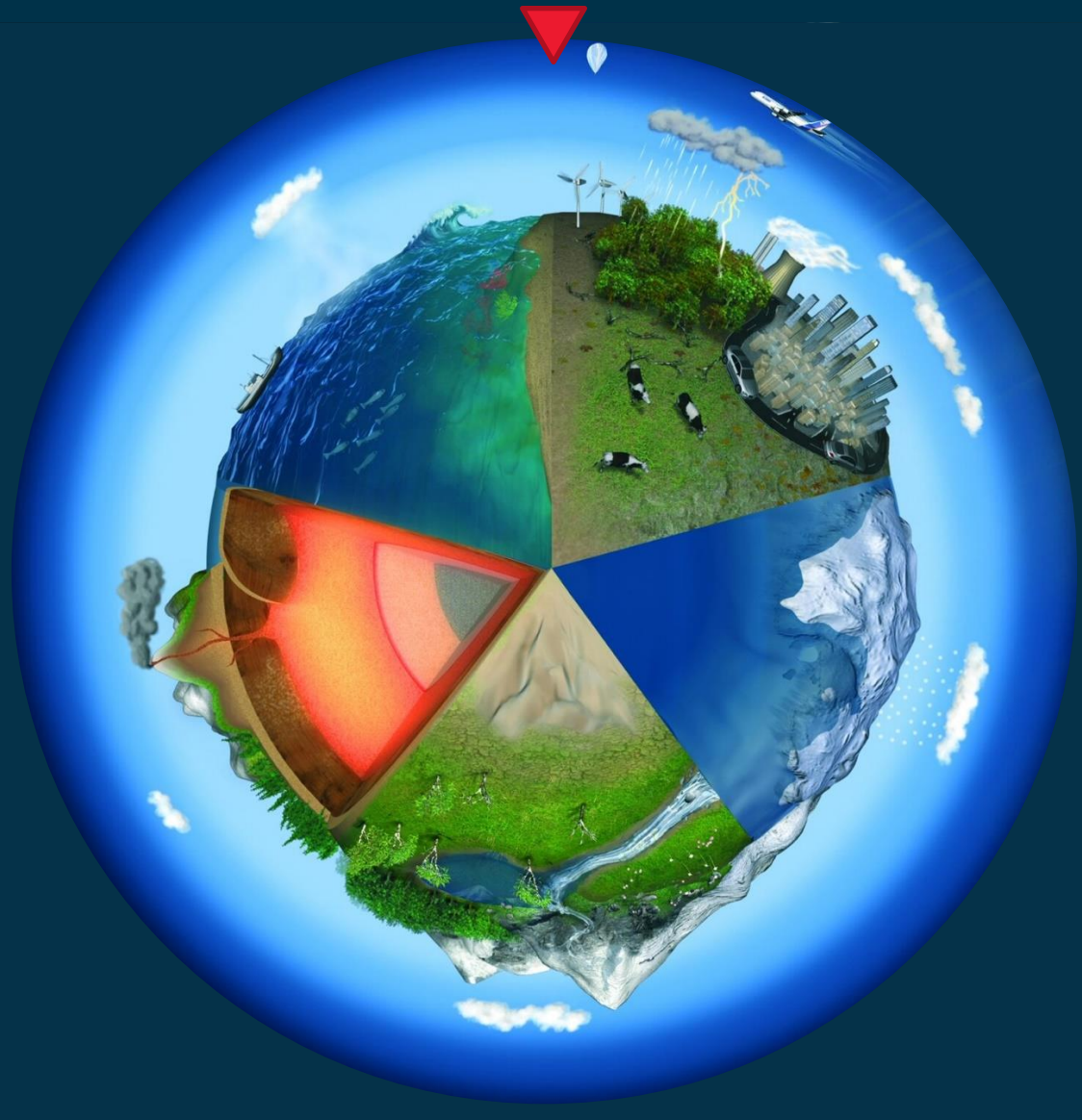
Land ice and sea ice



Tectonic strain and volcanic processes



# Bringing Harmony to a dynamic world



Harmony will resolve (sub) kilometer scale motion vectors and topography changes associated to dynamic Earth System processes:

- heat, gas and momentum exchanges at the air-sea interface;
- the inner structure of ocean-atmosphere extremes;
- gradual and dynamic volume changes of global mountain and polar glaciers;
- instantaneous sea-ice motions to characterise sea-ice dynamics;
- 3-D deformation vectors associated to tectonic strain;
- topographic change at active volcanoes worldwide.

# Contributing to data-driven Earth System Modeling

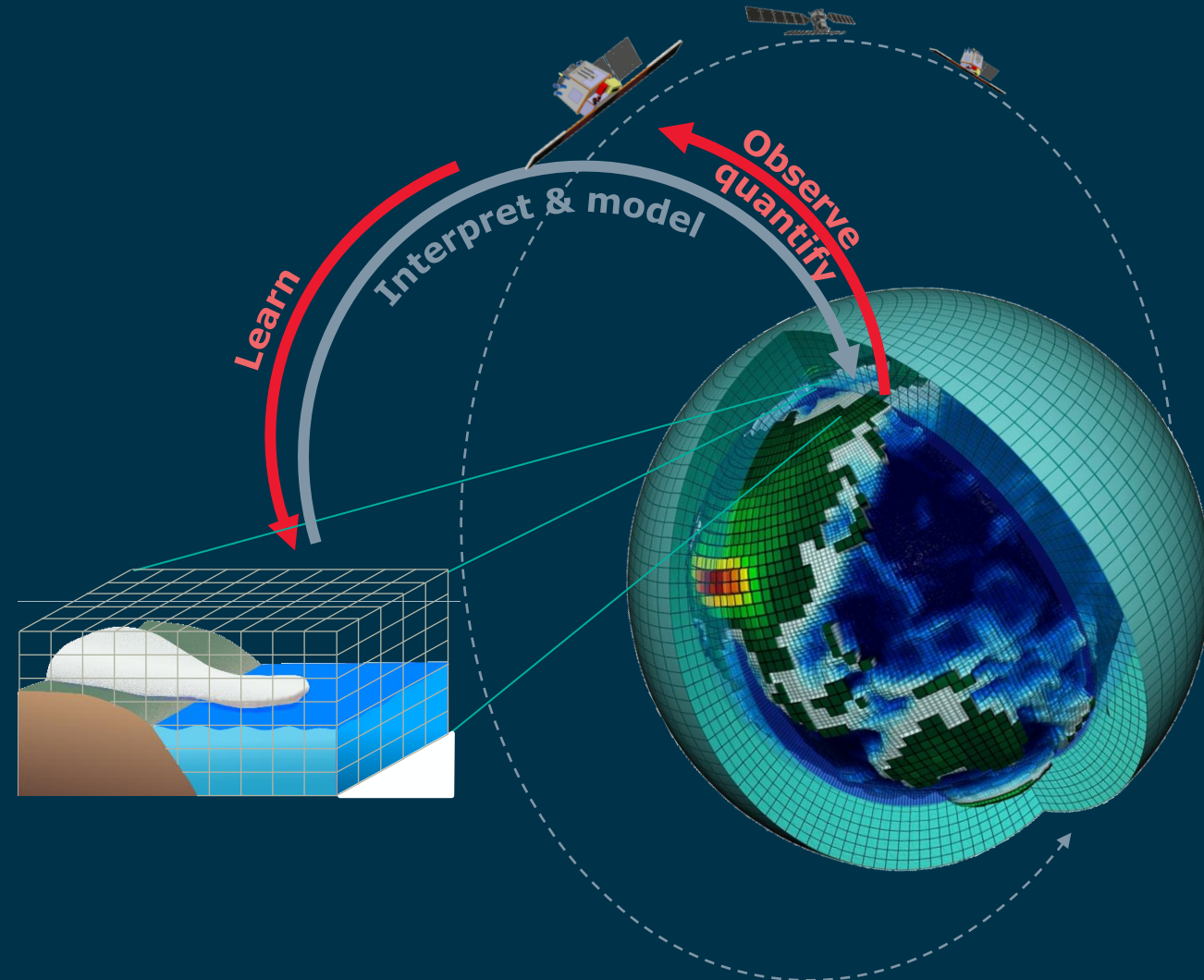
Earth System is highly non-linear → complex couplings and feedbacks between processes at different scales.



Unresolved  $O(\approx 1\text{km})$  processes and couplings in Earth System Models represent major contribution to model uncertainties.



Harmony is set to provide observations needed to develop/train/validate next generations of fully coupled Earth System Models.



[https://esamultimedia.esa.int/docs/EarthObservation/EE10\\_Harmony\\_Report-for-Selection\\_21June2022.pdf](https://esamultimedia.esa.int/docs/EarthObservation/EE10_Harmony_Report-for-Selection_21June2022.pdf)



# GENERAL CONCLUSIONS ON ESA EO MISSIONS



- ESA's Earth Explorer and Copernicus missions play a crucial role in understanding and monitoring the Earth environment and climate
- **Unique contributions of each Mission type:**
  - **Earth Explorer Missions:** Pioneering scientific understanding of specific environmental processes
  - **Copernicus Program:** Ensuring continuous, large-scale monitoring for practical applications and policy support
- **The EO missions needs to be addressed also in Synergy to derive new applications and value added products (Forestry)**

Radar system of system

BIOMASS

S1

ROSE-L

Optical/TIR system of system

S2

LSTM

CHIME

