

# Earth Observation at ESA: New Developments

Fény-Tér-Kép 13 October 2017, Gárdony, Hungary

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**European Space Agency (ESA ESRIN) Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes Science, Applications and Climate Department** 



**European Space Agency** 



### Purpose of ESA



"To provide for and promote, for exclusively peaceful purposes, cooperation among European states in

space research and technology and their space applications."







### **Activities**

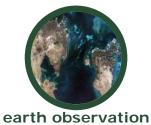
esa

ESA is one of the few space agencies in the world to combine responsibility in nearly all areas of space activity.

















































### **Member States**

#### 22 ESA Member States:

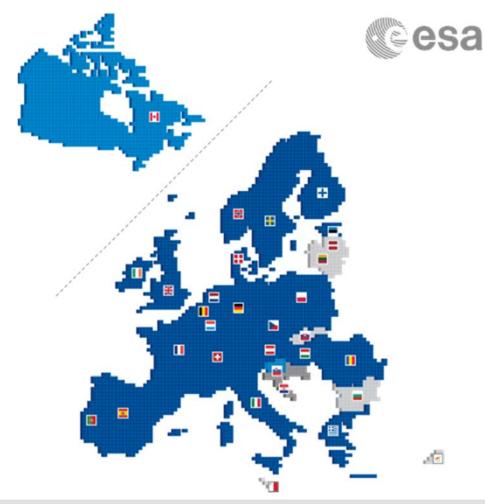
- 20 states of the EU (AT, BE, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, IT, GR, HU, IE, LU, NL, PT, PL, RO, SE, UK)
- Non-EU: Norway and Switzerland

Cooperation Agreements with ESA:

- BG, CY, LV, LT, MT and SK
- Discussions are ongoing with Croatia

**Slovenia** is an Associate Member

**Canada** takes part in some programmes under a long-standing Cooperation Agreement





















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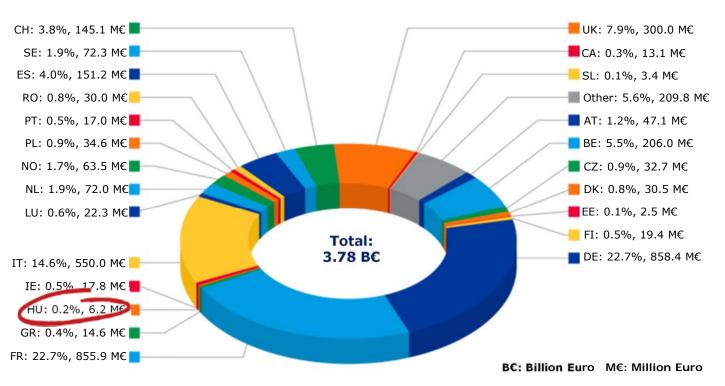
#### esa **ESA's locations** Salmijaervi (Kiruna) Moscow Brussels ESTEC (Noordwijk) ECSAT (Harwell) EAC (Cologne) Washington Santa Maria ESOC (Darmstadt) ESA HQ (Paris) Houston Oberpfaffenhofen Maspalomas Kourou Toulouse New Norcia Redu Malargüe ESAC (Madrid) **■** ESA sites ESRIN (Rome) Cebreros ■ Offices ■ ESA Ground Station + Offices **■** ESA Ground Station ■ ESA sites + ESA Ground Station

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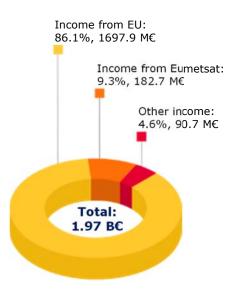
# ESA budget for 2017: 5.75 B€



#### **ESA Activities and Programmes**



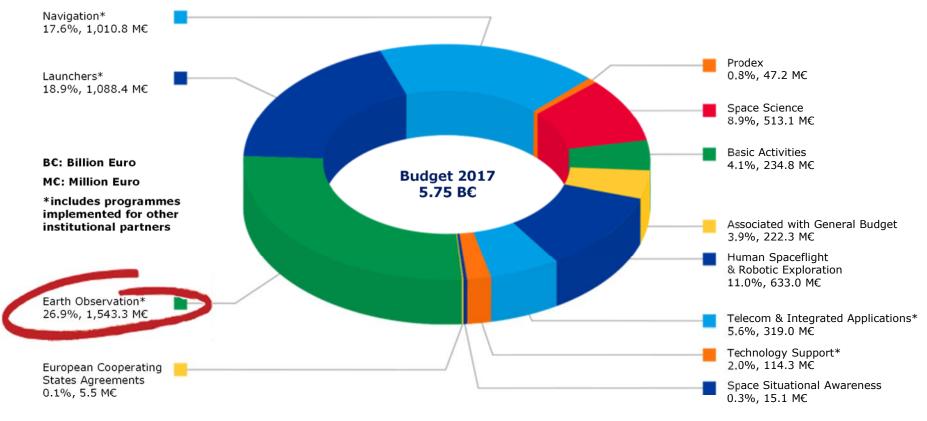
# Programmes implemented for other institutional partners





# ESA budget for 2017: by domain

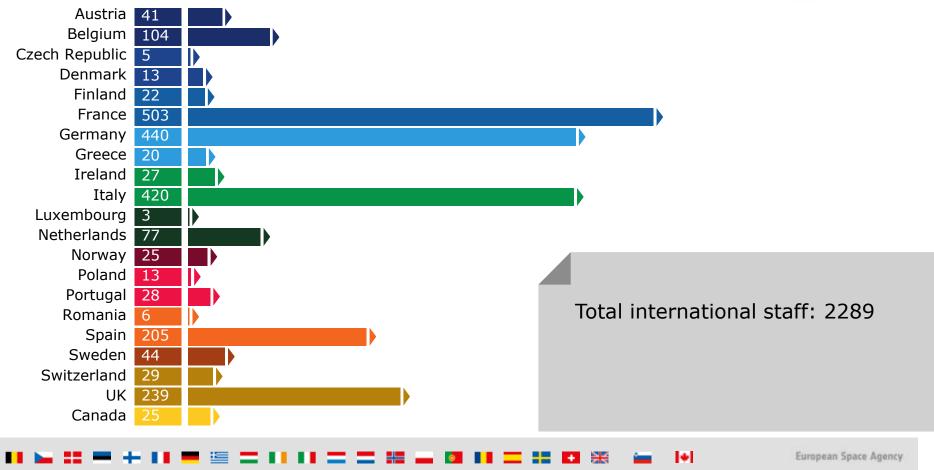






# Staff by nationality in 2016





# ESA's industrial policy





About 85% of ESA's budget is spent on contracts with European industry.

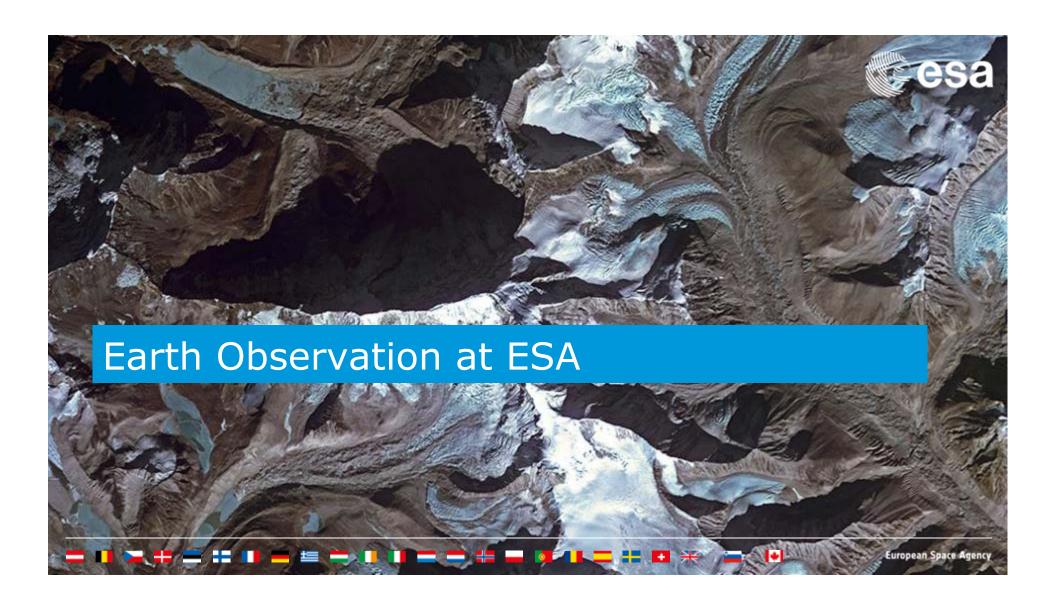
### **ESA's industrial policy:**

- Ensures that Member States get a fair return on their investment;
- Improves competitiveness of European industry;
- Maintains and develops space technology;
- Exploits the advantages of free competitive bidding, except where incompatible with objectives of the industrial policy.















### ESA ESRIN: The Home of (Much of) ESA EO



ESRIN, in Frascati, Italy, is ESA's centre for Earth Observation where operations and exploitation of Earth Observation satellites are managed.

The world's largest database of environmental data for both Europe and Africa is managed from ESRIN.

Personnel on site (May 2017): 774

- 205 ESA staff (incl. YGTs and Fellows)
- 569 contractors

~50,000 visitors in 2016



































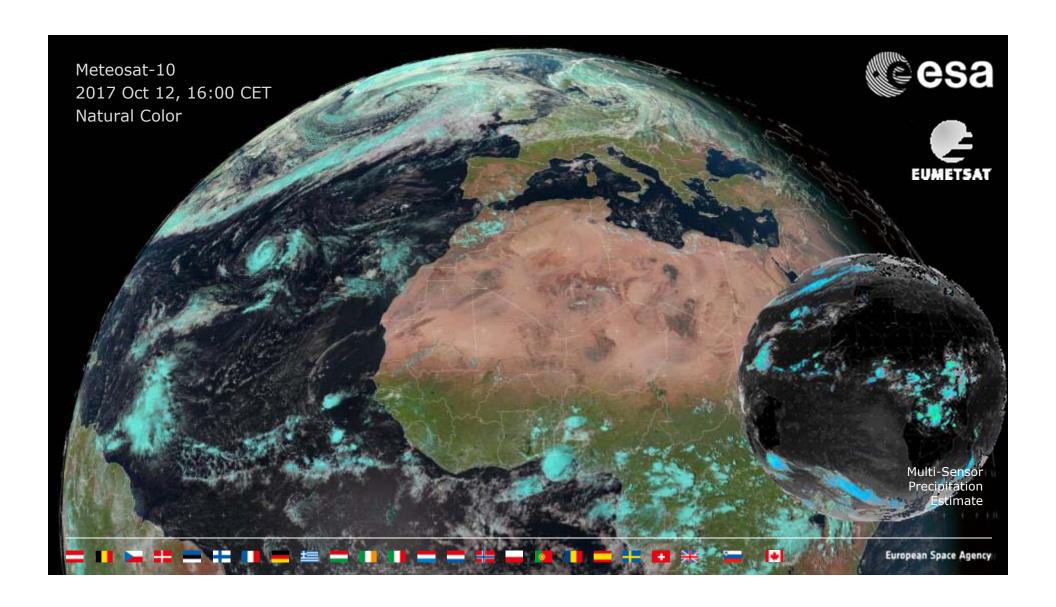
















### Sentinels: A New Generation of Data Source



- Copernicus European space flagship programme, led by the EU
- ESA is responsible for space component, Sentinel development, operation of some Sentinels, data buy from other partners, system evolution
- Sentinels designed to monitor various elements of the Earth System in a fully operational manner
- Free, full and open data policy



Sentinel-1A/B























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#### **Overall programme** coordination:





































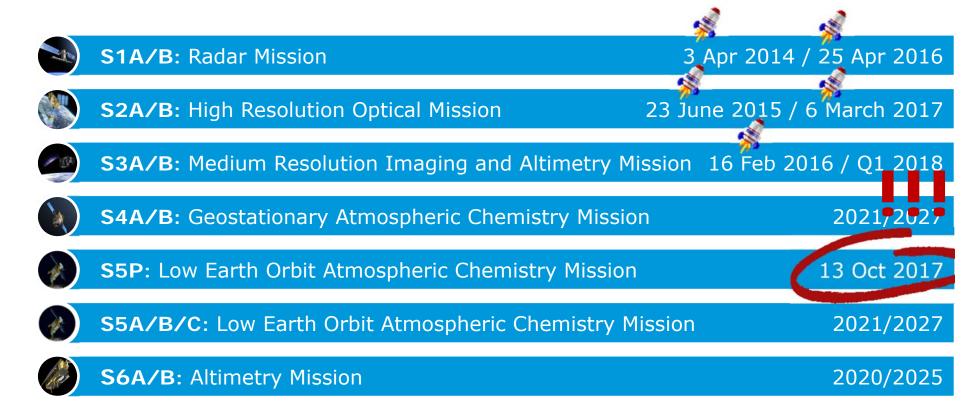


1+1



#### Sentinel Launches





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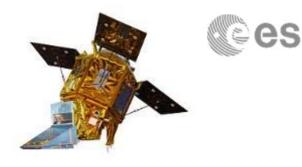
### Atmospheric Monitoring with Satellites

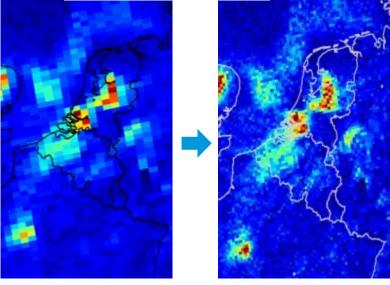
#### **Sentinel 5 Precursor** (S-5P)

- Copernicus atmosphere mission in polar orbit
- Pre-operational mission focusing on global observations of the atmospheric composition for air quality and climate
- Payload: TROPOspheric Monitoring Instrument (TROPOMI)
  - jointly developed by The Netherlands and ESA
- Enhanced radiometric sensitivity and spatial resolution
- Launch: 13 October 2017 (today!)
- 7 year lifetime

#### **Sentinel-5P Products**

- Total column: O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, CO, SO<sub>2</sub>,CH<sub>4</sub>, HCHO
- Tropospheric column: O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>
- O<sub>3</sub> profile
- UV Aerosol Index & Aerosol layer height
- Clouds





Resolution improvement from OMI to TROPOMI (NO<sub>2</sub> simulation)













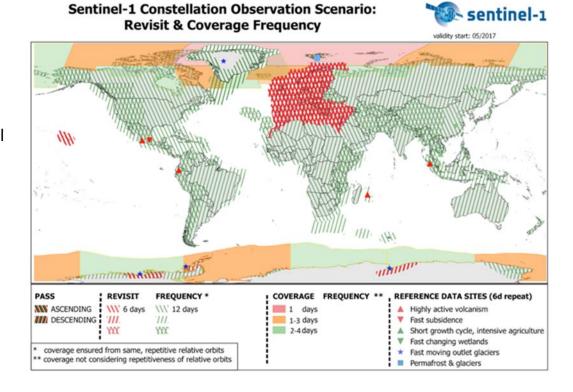




### Sentinel-1 Mission Status



- Sentinel-1A and Sentinel-1B routine operations on-going, overall performance of satellites and ground segment is nominal, with high production throughput (11 TB/day)
- On-going actions for improving the Level 2 product component on Radial Surface Velocity through improved collection of on-board attitude information
- Support provided for various activations from the Copernicus Emergency Management Service and from the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters
- Sentinel-1 data acquisition plan stable





















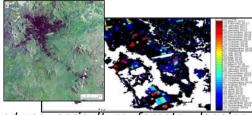




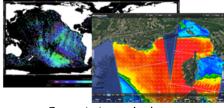
# Sentinel-1 Applications



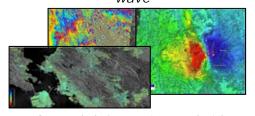
Maritime surveillance: oil spill monitoring, ship detection, illegal fisheries, etc.



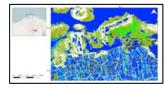
Land use, agriculture, forestry, logging, land classification, urban planning



Sea state: wind, wave



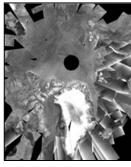
Ground deformation: subsidence, landslides, earthquakes, volcanoes, infrastructure monitoring



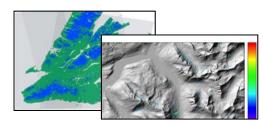
Soil moisture, wetlands



Sea ice and iceberg monitoring

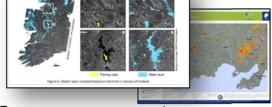


Ice sheets, glaciers, climate change



Snow, permafrost, avalanches,...





Emergency management





















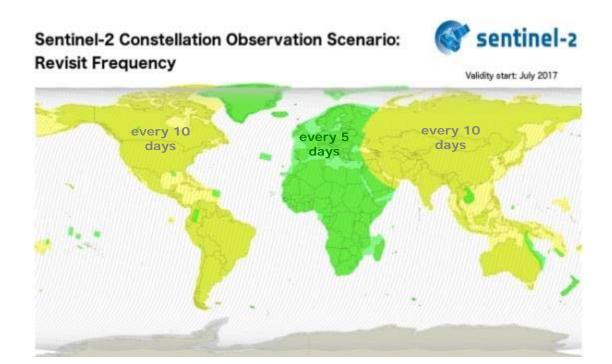
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### Sentinel-2 Mission Status



- Sentinel-2A and Sentinel-2B are operating nominally
- · Successful completion of the Sentinel-2B commissioning phase was followed by opening of data access in early July.
- Sentinel-2B has reached the same observation pattern as Sentinel-2A, resulting in the current combined observation scenario shown on the right
- Feasibility study on Sentinel-2 Level-2A concluded that SEN2COR and MAJA algorithms for atmospheric correction are the most mature in Europe. Preparation for global systematic atmospheric correction with SEN2COR is on-going
- Products evolutions are being prepared with better cloud masks, with use of Global Reference Image and with raster based quality masks



























# Sentinel-2 Applications



Forests & Carbon, Vegetation monitoring

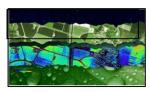


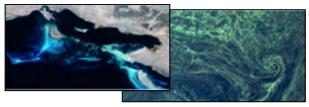
European land cover, human impact, high resolution layers



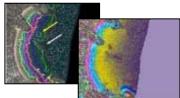
Regional to Urban Applications



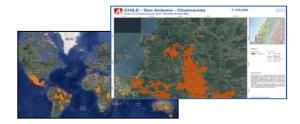




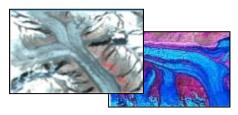
Water quality, Wetlands



Coastal zones/bathymetry



Emergency management



Glaciers & ice



Geology & geomorphology





























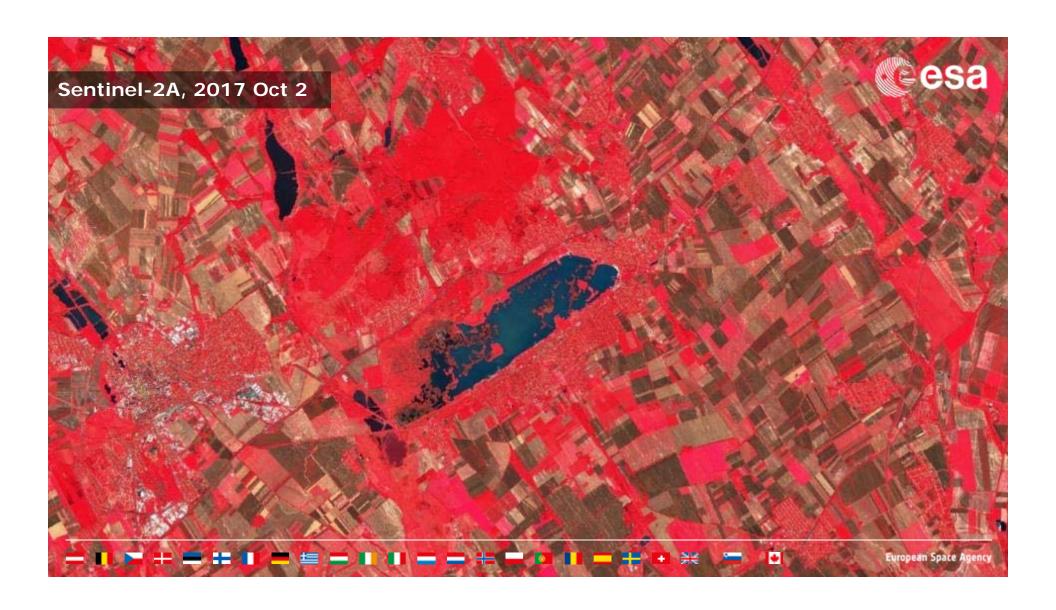








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#### Sentinel-3 Mission Status



- The Sentinel-3A mission is in the ramp-up phase, moving towards full operational capacity. The EUMETSAT-ESA Joint Routine Operations Readiness Review is planned for October 2017 with the aim to confirm the completion of the ramp-up phase and the readiness of the Sentinel-3A mission to start the full routine operations.
- The overall status of Sentinel-3A is **nominal**, with all instruments (OLCI, SLSTR, SRAL, MWR) performing nominally.
- The Payload Data Ground Segment (PDGS) is operating broadly as expected in the ramp-up phase, gradually moving towards full operational capacity. Some outages and data delays occurred due to recent upgrading of the PDGS systems in preparation of full operations and the on-going core data release. OLCI and SLSTR Level 2 core data products over land and ocean were jointly released by EUMETSAT and ESA in July 2017 (all Level 1 and SRAL Level 2 core data products were released earlier in the ramp-up phase).
- Intense on ground validation activities are on-going to ensure the best possible user acceptance of the Sentinel-3A products.
- For Sentinel-3B commissioning phase, ESA and EUMETSAT have jointly elaborated a Tandem phase (agreed with the Commission) whereby Sentinel-3B will fly around 30 seconds apart from Sentinel-3A. The objective of the Tandem phase is to allow the best possible inter-calibration and inter-validation between the two missions. The Tandem phase is planned to last 4-5 months. Then during routine operations, the **orbit phasing** between Sentinel-3A and Sentinel-3B will be 140 degrees (instead of the initially foreseen 180 degrees).











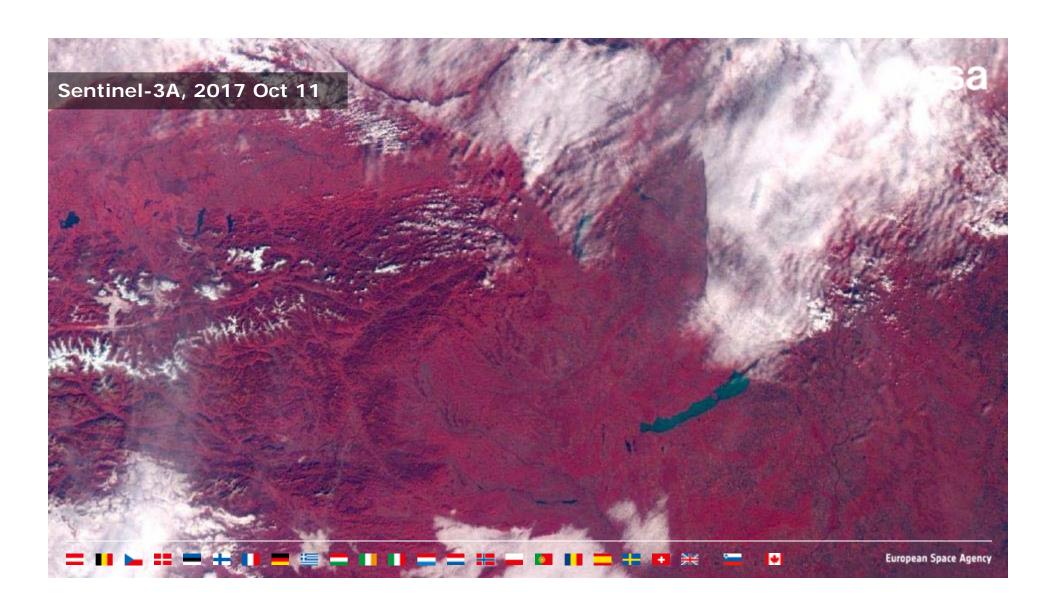
















### Earth Explorers



These missions address critical and specific issues raised by the science community, while demonstrating the latest observing techniques.

- GOCE (2009–13) studying Earth's gravity field
- SMOS (2009– ) studying Earth's water cycle
- CryoSat-2 (2010- ) studying Earth's ice cover
- Swarm (2013- ) three satellites studying Earth's magnetic field
- ADM-Aeolus (2017) studying global winds
- EarthCARE (2018) studying Earth's clouds, aerosols and radiation (ESA/JAXA)
- Biomass (2021) studying Earth's carbon cycle
- **FLEX** (2022) studying photosynthesis
- Earth Explorers 9 & 10 to be selected

























### **CryoSat mission status**



• Overall performance of CryoSat mission is **nominal**: the instrument performance continues to be excellent.

• A **new version of the CryoSat Ocean processor** (Baseline C) will enter in operations before end 2017 with noticeable improvements of ocean geophysical parameters consistent with other altimetry missions (e.g. Sentinel-3).

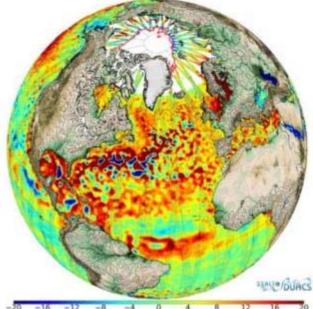
 The data processing of the KAREN validation campaign (Autumn 2016) embarking for the first time Ka/Ku radars, is underway with data quality being assessed.

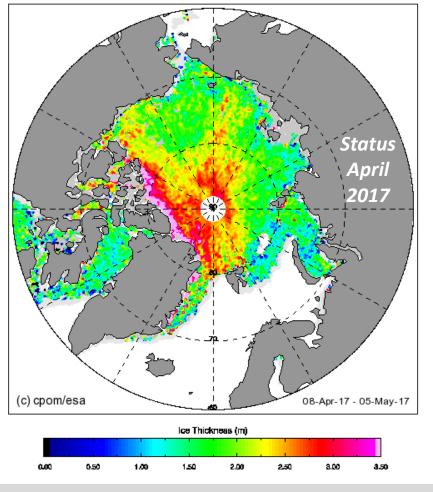
Average sea-surface topography mapped by CryoSat combined with data from other altimetry missions

**Measurements at higher latitudes** only possible thanks to CryoSat which also fills the gaps between ground tracks of other typical synchronous missions.

Red represent higher sea-level up to 20mm while blue represents lower areas up to -20mm.

Credits: Salto/CNES/ESA



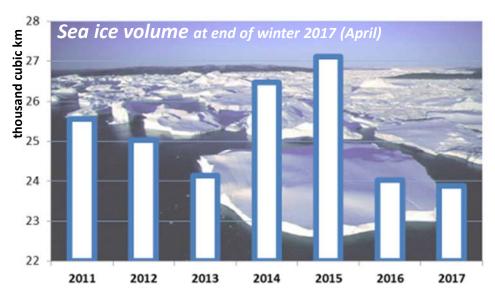






### Arctic sea ice

→ an historical minimum for sea ice volume at end of winter 2017





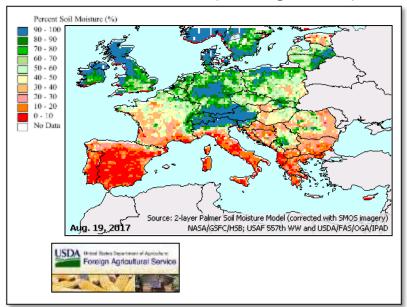


### **SMOS** mission

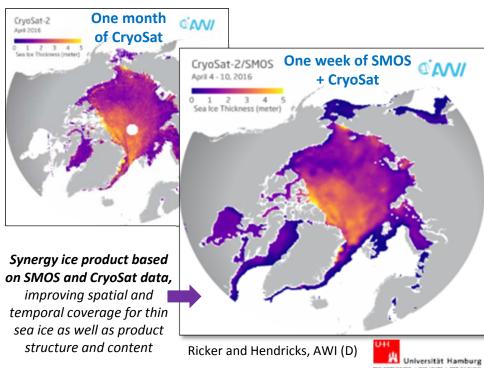




#### Percent soil moisture (mid-August 2017)



#### Combining both SMOS & CryoSat skills







#### **Swarm mission**



#### Changes in strength of Earth's magnetic field

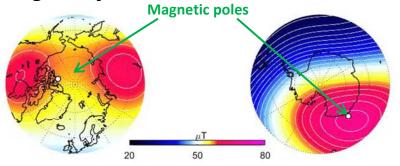
Swarm witnessing the changes in strength of Earth's magnetic field

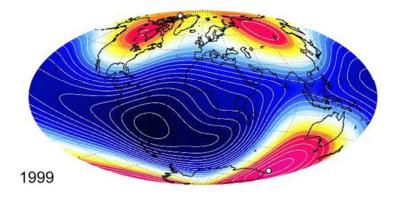
Changes of the strength of Earth's magnetic field between 1999 and 2016:

Blue → weak field Red → strong field

The field has weakened by 3.5% at high latitudes over North America, while it has grown about 2% stronger over Asia.

The South Atlantic Anomaly (region with the weakest magnetic field) has moved westward and further weakened by ~2%.





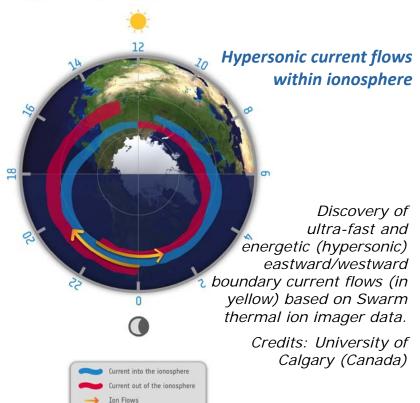
Animation courtesy of DTU Space (Swarm, CHAMP and Ørsted data



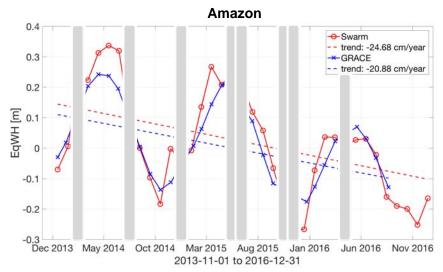


## **Swarm mission**





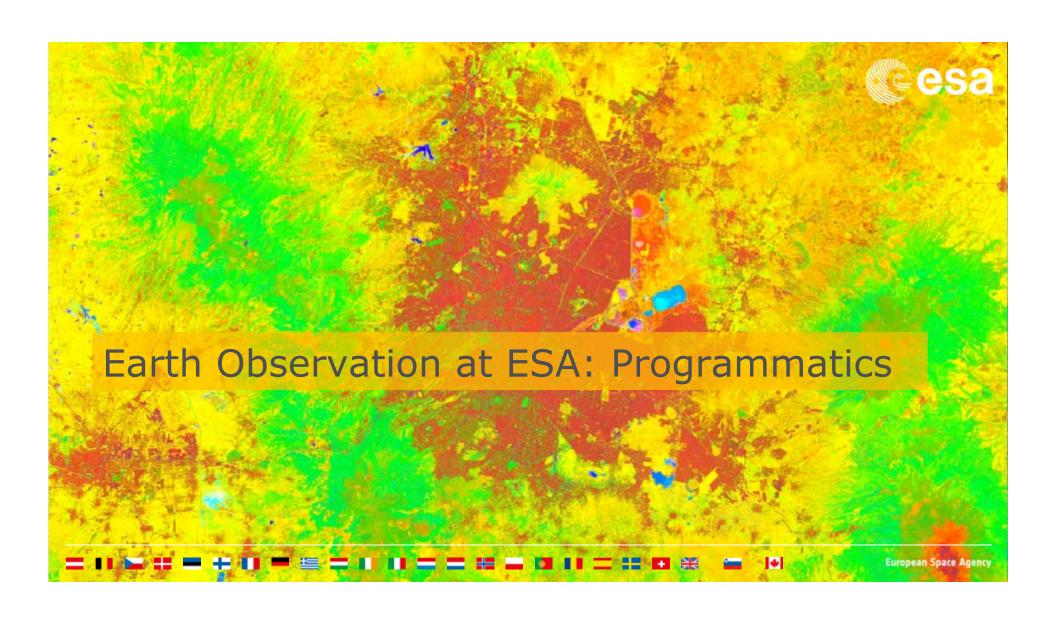
#### 3-years mass transport process for the Amazon basin



Swarm as an observing platform for mass transport processes – comparison with GRACE for the Amazon basin

Credits: J. Texeira, Delft University of Technology (NL)





# ESA's Earth Observation Envelope Programme (EOEP)



"EOEP-5 Block 4" also known as "EO Science for Society" Objectives:

- Foster scientific excellence
- Pioneer new EO applications
- Stimulate downstream industry growth
- Support international responses to global societal challenges

Built on successes of previous exploitation activities:

- adapting them to the new European EO context
- responding to recommendations of EOEP-4 programmatic and scientific review

eo science for society











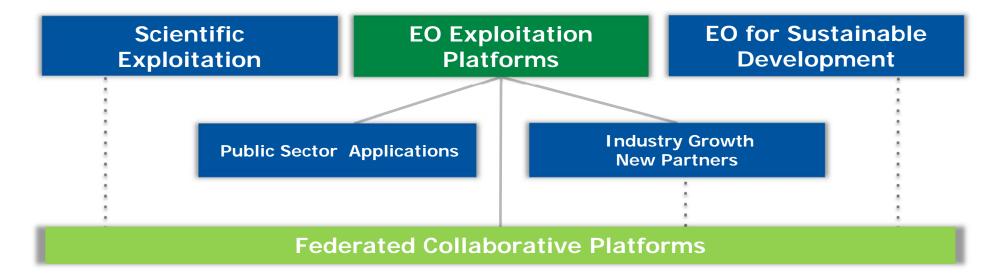






# **EO** Science for Society: Components



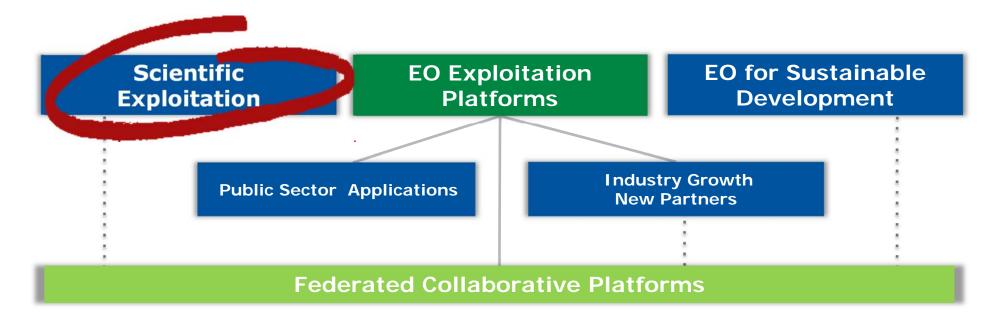


**New:** Some 10% of the budget assigned via **open calls** to support industry/user initiatives.



# **EO** Science for Society: Components





**New:** Some 10% of the budget assigned via **open calls** to support industry/user initiatives.



# Finding and Engaging the (Young) Talents

# initially and Engaging the (Tourig) raterits

 to develop the scientific expertise and technical skills that fuel innovation

Education, training, and capability building

 adapted to take account of the specific needs and priorities of new and/or smaller ESA member states





Cryosphere Training, Svalbard June 2018





OceanTraining, Porto September 2017



EO Open Science, Frascati September 2017 - @EO\_Open\_Science























# Land Training Course 2017, SZIU, Gödöllő



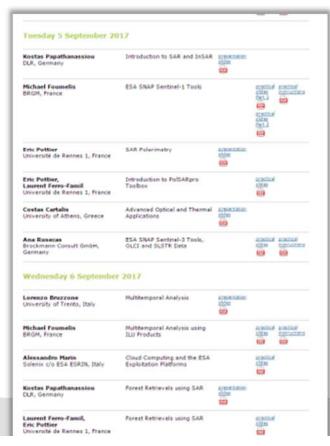
eoscience.esa.int/landtraining2017



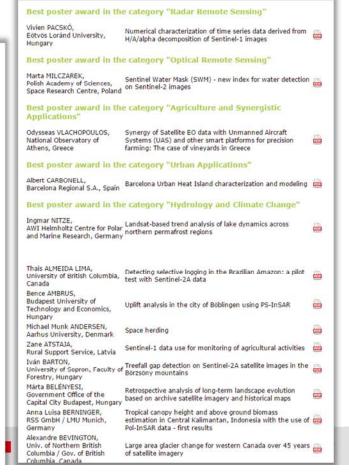
# Land Training Course 2017, SZIU, Gödöllő



#### eoscience.esa.int/landtraining2017



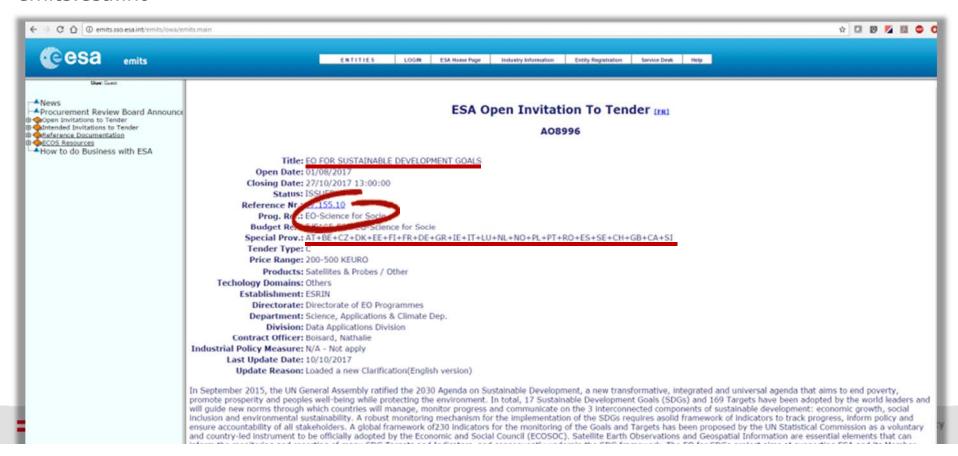




## **ESA EMITS Invitation To Tender System**



#### emits.esa.int



## EO Science for Society: Components





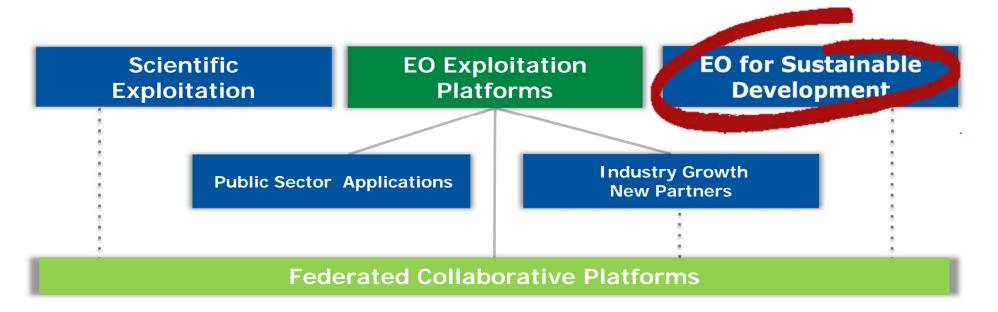
New: Some 10% of the total budget will be assigned via open calls to support industry/users initiatives.





# **EO** Science for Society: Components





New: Some 10% of the total budget will be assigned via open calls to support industry/users initiatives.



#### ESA Collaboration with IFIs in EO

- Since 2008, 65 small-scale demonstrations of EO-based environmental information in support of multilateral bank development projects
- Responding to specific geospatial information needs
  - · Land: urban infrastructure, land cover, forest, crops, soil erosion, inland water
  - Marine: oil spills, fishing, coral reefs, coastal change, sea level height, ocean currents
  - Risk: floods, land motion/subsidence, landslides, seismic
- MoUs and secondments in place with the World Bank and Asian Development Bank



































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# A Dedicated Programme of Work Required: EO4SD



**EO4SD** – Earth Observation for Sustainable Development – An ESA initiative for *large-scale* exploitation of satellite data in support of international development. Engaging various IFIs and their client states. Currently running (2016–2018):









More thematic areas under preparation to start 2017.

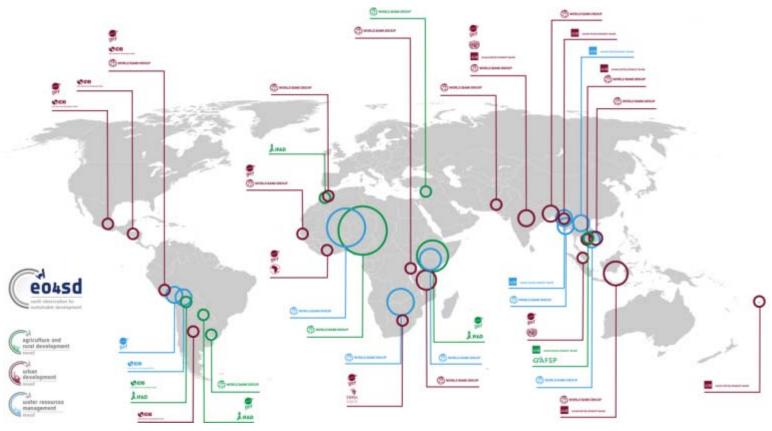
#### Key questions:

- What EO-based information is most needed?
- How can it be used in Official Development Assistance (ODA) activities and working practices?
- What benefits does this information deliver to stakeholders (IFIs and their client states)? Do the benefits justify the costs?
- How can EO-based information be established on a long-term, sustainable basis?



# EO4SD - Presently Active Projects







# Example: Population Distribution Mapping, Mandalay

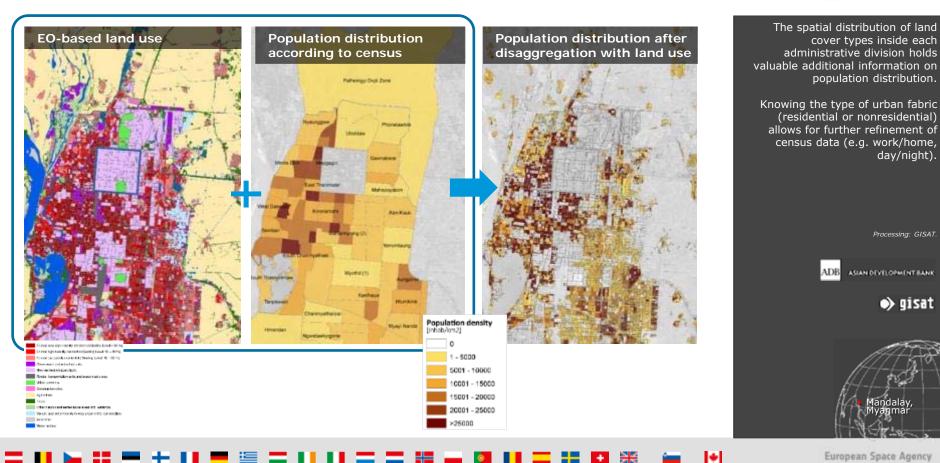


day/night).

Processing: GISAT.

gisat

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



#### Earth Observation and the SDGs



SDGs with major opportunities for EO data

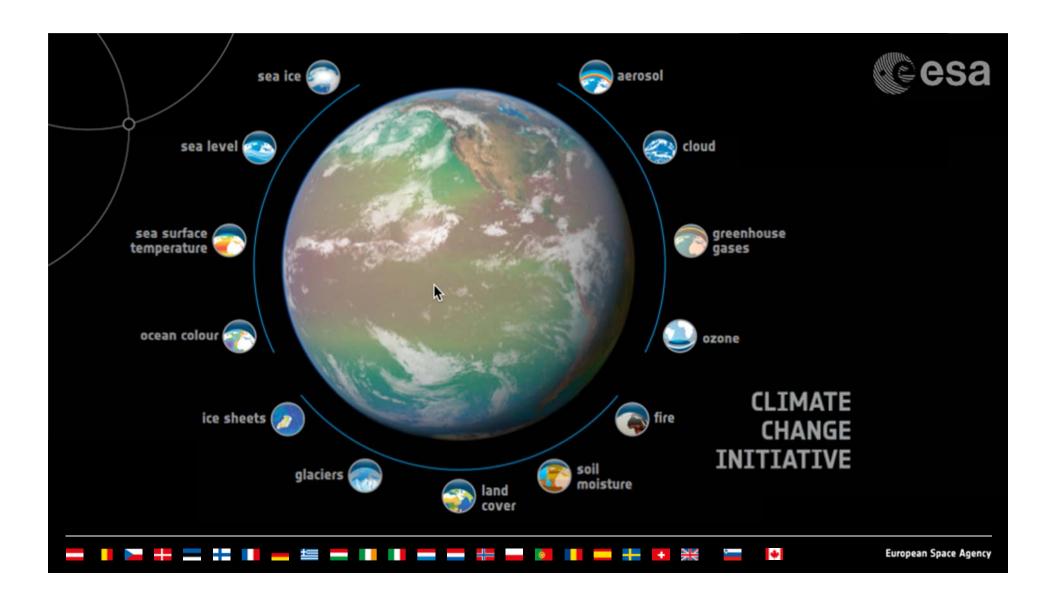
Earth Observation potential contribution to the SDG Targets and Indicators

	Target									Indicator				
	Contribute to progress on the Target yet not the Indicator per se								1	Direct measure or indirect support				
							1.4	1.5	1444	1.4.2				
						2.3	2.4	2.c	-W	2.4.1				
					3.3	3.4	3.9	3.d	1 ₩/- 4 ====	3.9.1				
								5.a	©*	5.a.1				
		6.1	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.a	6.b		6.3.1	6.3.2	6.4.2	6.5.1	6.6.1
					7.2	7.3	7.a	7.b		7.1.1				
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					9.1	9.4	9.5	9.a	4	9.1.1	9.4.1			
						10.6	10,7	10.a	•					
	11.1	11.3	11.4	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.b	11.c	AL.	11.1.1	11.2.1	11.3.1	11.6.2	11.7.
				12.2	12.4	12.8	12.a	12.b	8	12.a.1				
					13.1	13,2	13.3	13.b	•	13.1.1				
		14.1	14.2	14.3	14.4	14.6	14.7	14.a	=	14.3.1	14.4.1	14.5.1		
	15.1	15.2	15.3	15.4	15.5	15.7	15.8	15.9	Marie Marie	15.1.1	15.2.1	15.3.1	15.4.1	15.4.
								16.8	×					
17.2	17.3	17.6	17.7	17.8	17.9	17.16	17.17	17.18	(A)	17.6.1	17.18.1			

Analysis performed by the GEO EO4SDGs initiative

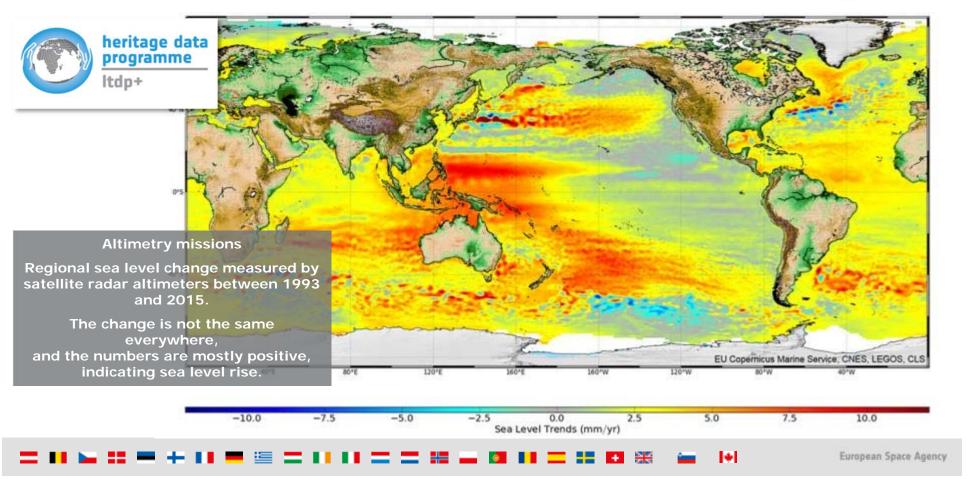






#### Sea Level Trends







# Evolving IT Possibilities: New Developments for EO



- New companies (not traditionally space-related)
   becoming active in space (Google, Amazon, etc.)
- Easy data access
- 7 billion cell phones worldwide
- Social media
- Crowdsourcing
- Cloud computing, big data analytics

#### Time for a paradigm shifts in EO programmes?

- "never say never"
- "fail fast, fast forward"
- Act when 90% ready, risks management
- Time is the only non-renewable resource
- Clear vision-driven implementation
- Access to venture capital

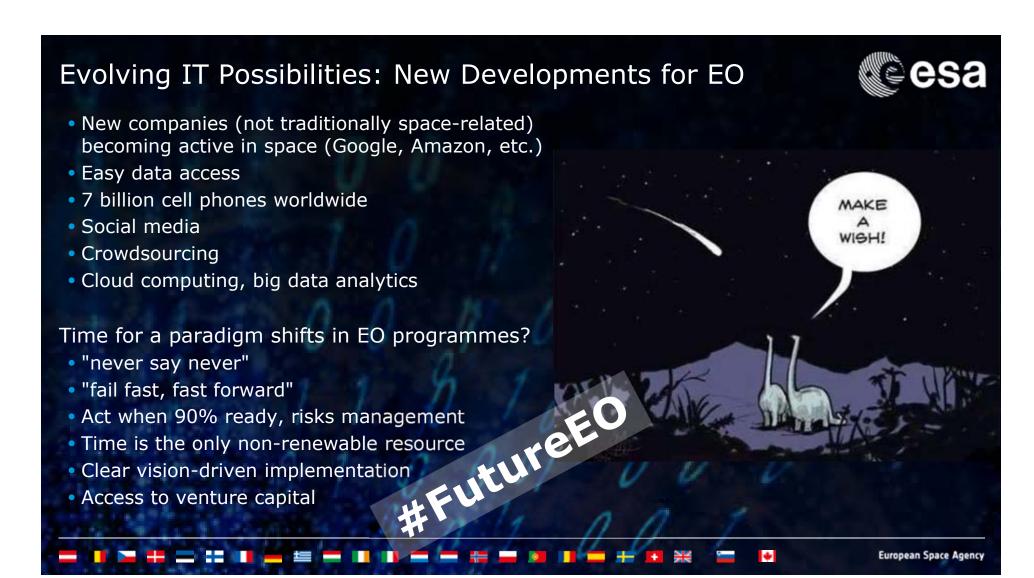


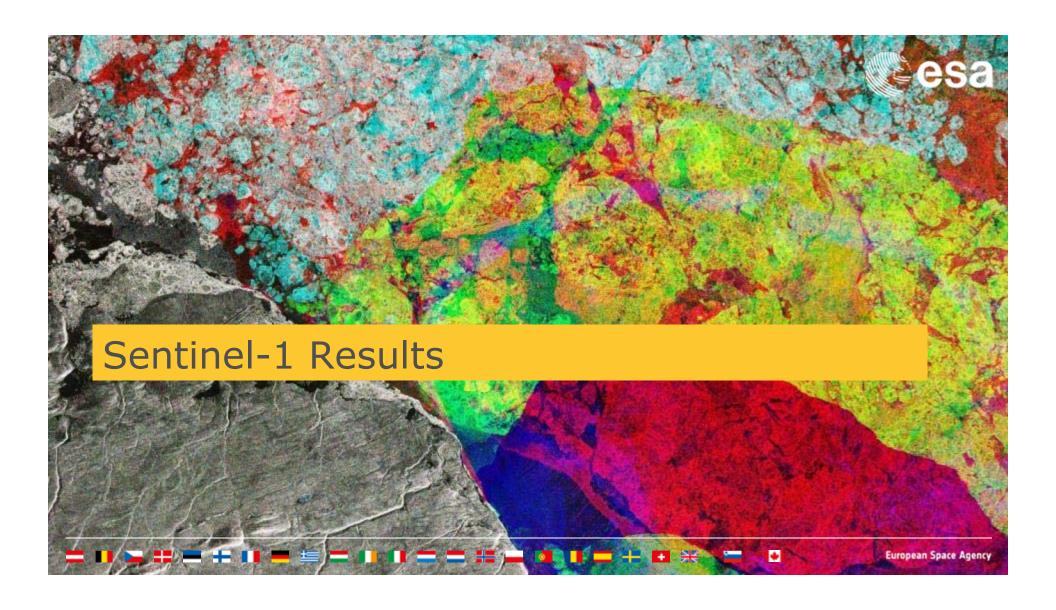
**Election Pope Benedict XVI** 



**Election Pope Francis** 

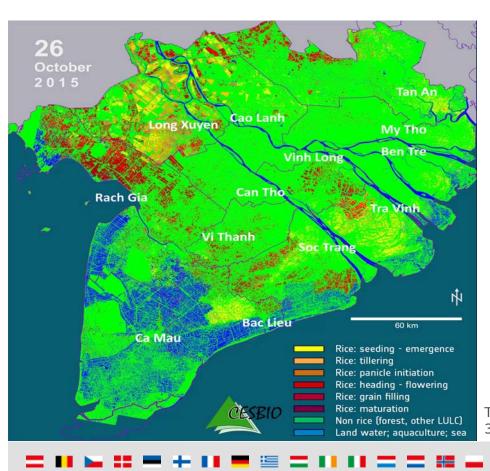






## Monitoring of Crop Stages





#### Winter-Spring Rice 2015/16

- March 2015: 1.7 million ha rice
- March 2016: 1.4 million ha rice
- 16.5% loss in rice area due drought and salt water intrusion caused by El Niño
- 976,000 people affected, 67 million USD estimated damage
- Based on unprecedented Sentinel-1 time series









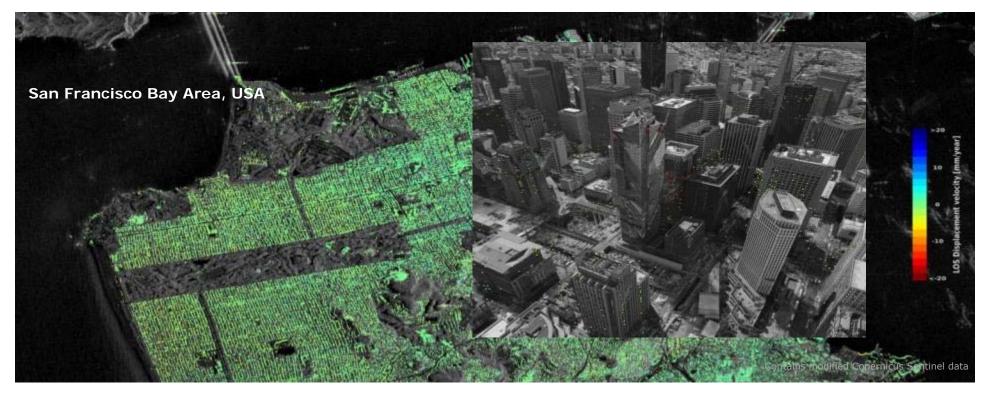
The Mekong Delta, Vietnam 300 km x 300 km, 20 m resolution



European Space Agency

# **Subsidence Monitoring**





http://insarap.org































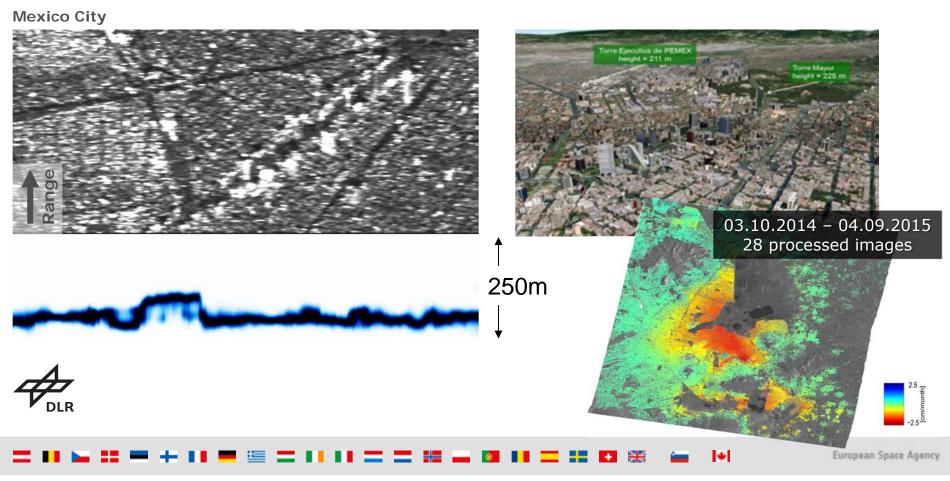




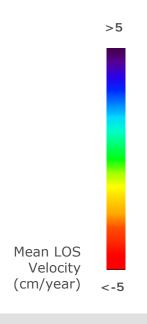
European Space Agency

# **SAR Tomography**





Parallel Small BAseline Subset (P-SBAS) DInSAR algorithm: Towards national-scale DInSAR analysis

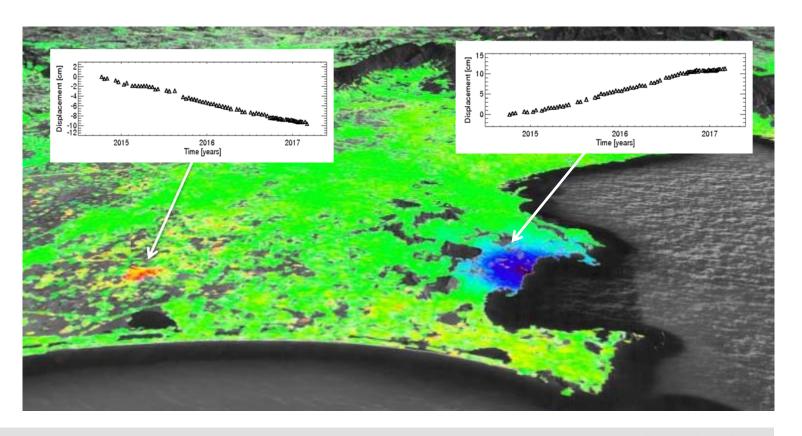




>5



Volcanic activity, Campania









Mean LOS Velocity (cm/year)



















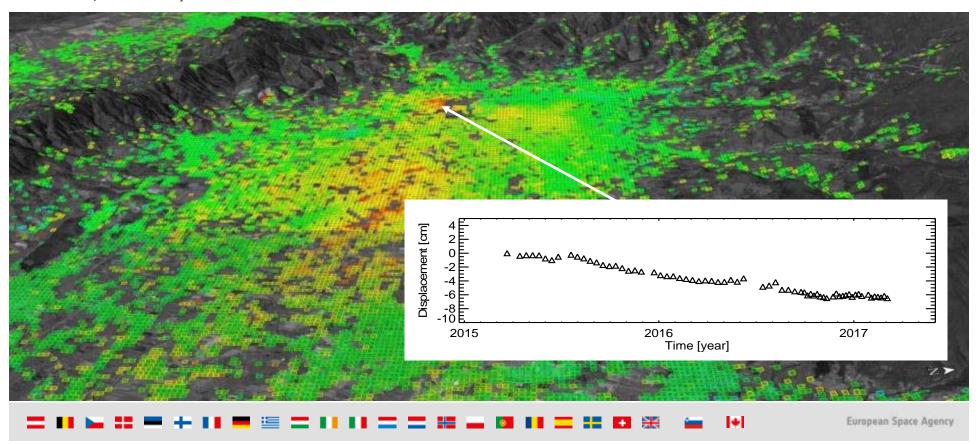






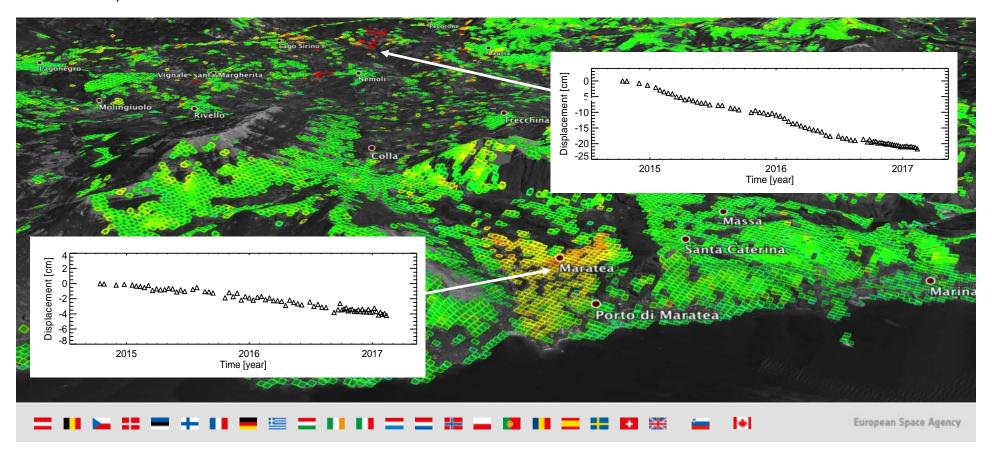


Pistoia, Tuscany: Subsidence due to water extraction





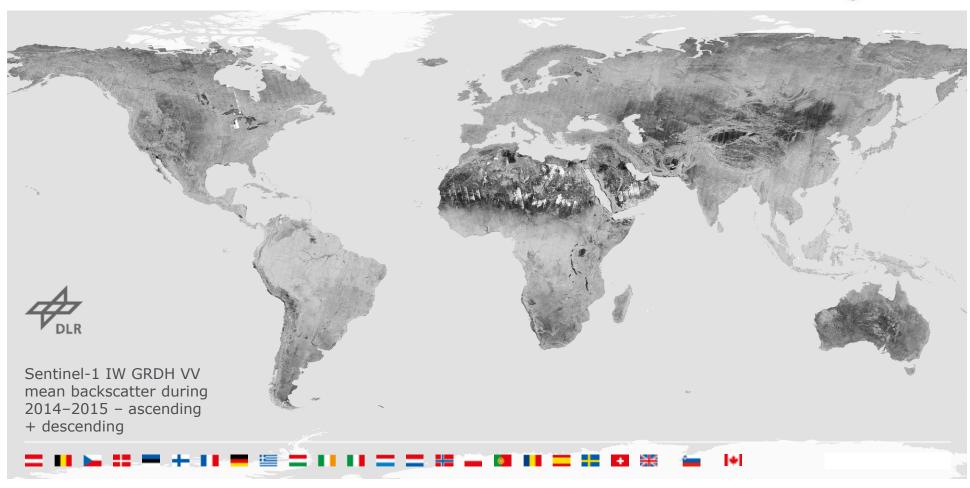
Maratea, Basilicata: Subsidence due to landslides

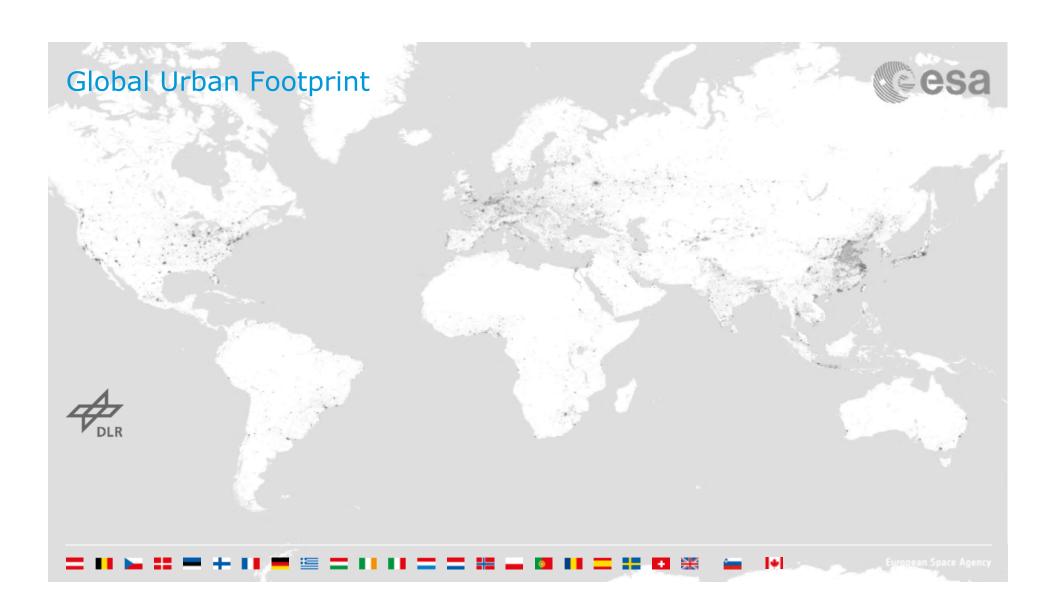


# esa Global Urban Footprint Addis Ababa, Ethiopia $\sigma^0$ max o standard deviation European Space Agency

# Global Urban Footprint



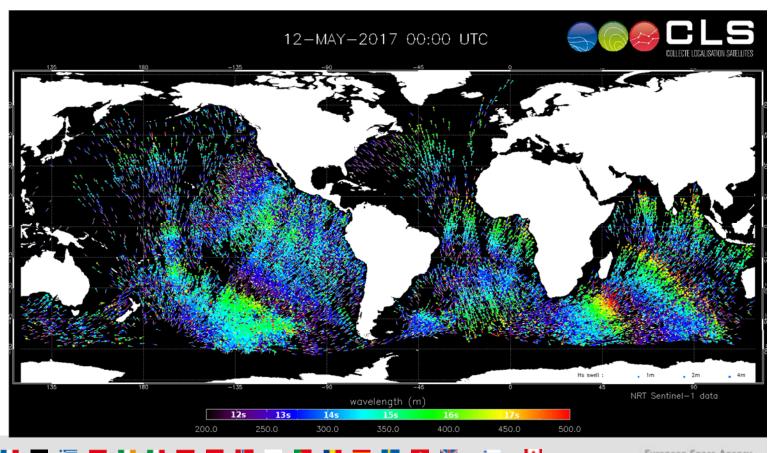




# Global Near-Real Time Swell Tracking

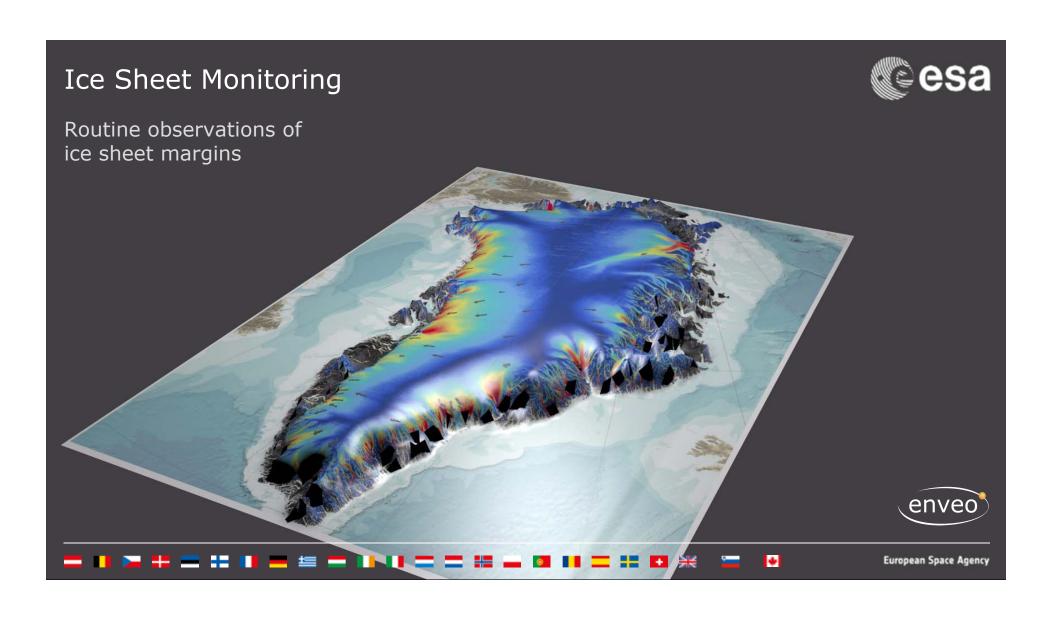


Sentinel-1A and Sentinel-1B Wave Mode over 10 days





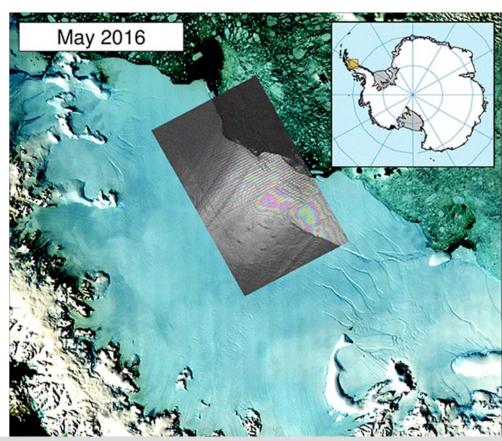




#### Ice Shelf Monitoring: Larsen-C



- Seemed relatively stable until January 2016
- In January 2017 alone it travelled 20 km, reaching a total length of about 175 km
- As the crack grew, it branched off towards the edge of the shelf
- On July 12 part of the ice shelf had finally broken away



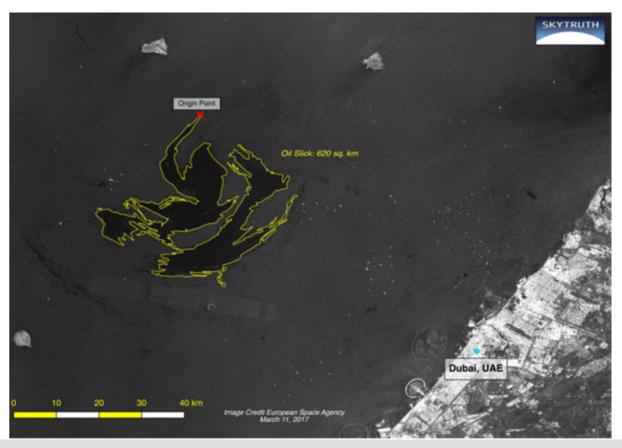






# Oil Spill Monitoring



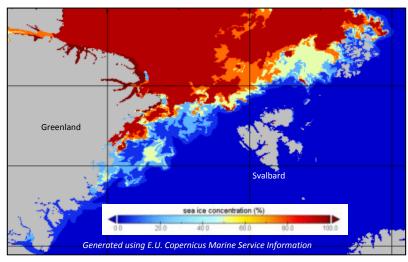




## Sentinel-1: Results from Operational Services

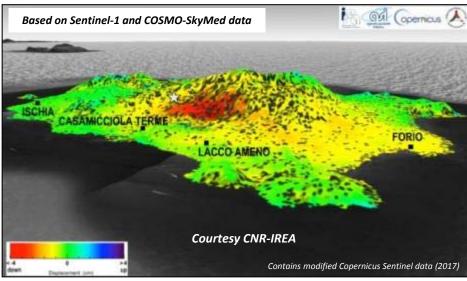


High resolution sea ice concentration charts (early September 2017)



The Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service provides daily high resolution sea ice concentrations derived from Sentinel-1 mission data.

Ischia island (Italy) Map of displacements following the 21 August earthquake (Md 4.0)



One of the objectives of the Italian Civil Protection is to obtain quickly information from its competence centres (in this case CNR-IREA and ASI) on ground movements and deformations due to earthquakes.











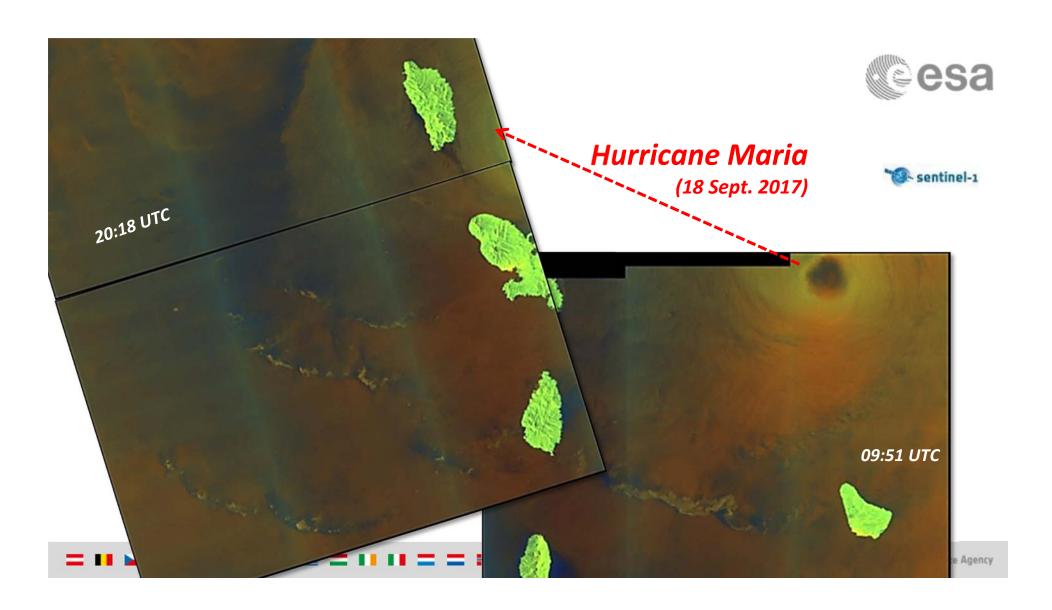










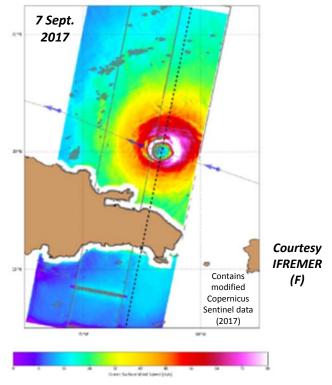


#### Sentinel-1: More Results from Science Teams

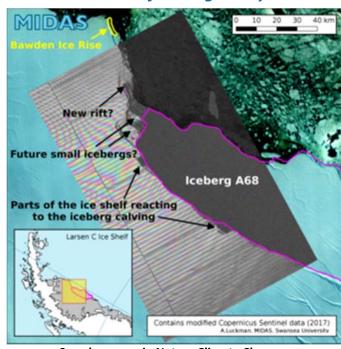


European Space Agency

#### Experimental wind field of Irma hurricane



#### Larsen-C ice shelf calving in July 2017



Courtesy Swansea University (UK)

See also paper in Nature Climate Change:
"Impacts of the Larsen-C Ice Shelf calving event", Univ. of Leeds (UK)

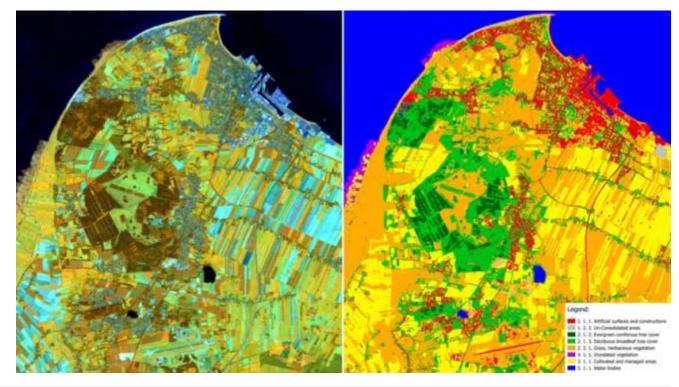




### Global Land Cover

esa

 Advanced land cover classification strategies to exploit the new capabilities of Sentinel-2 in view of generating global land cover maps



Space Research Centre
Polish Academy of Sciences

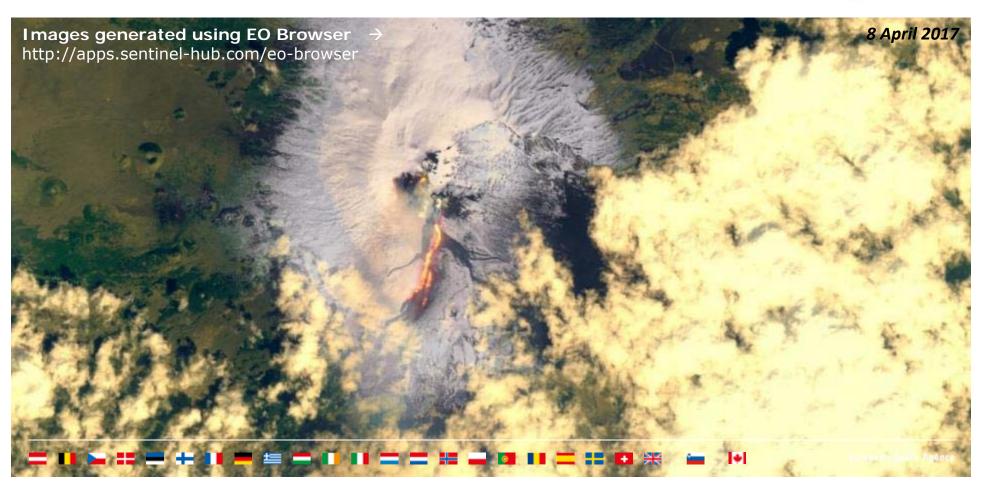






## Mount Etna Eruption, March-April 2017





#### Endorsement of Copernicus for Use within the CAP



• Commissioner P. Hogan: "...already Paying Agencies using data of the Sentinels ... In the near future satellite monitoring of parcels could replace most of the OTSC – this kind of simplification is very much in my plans..."



































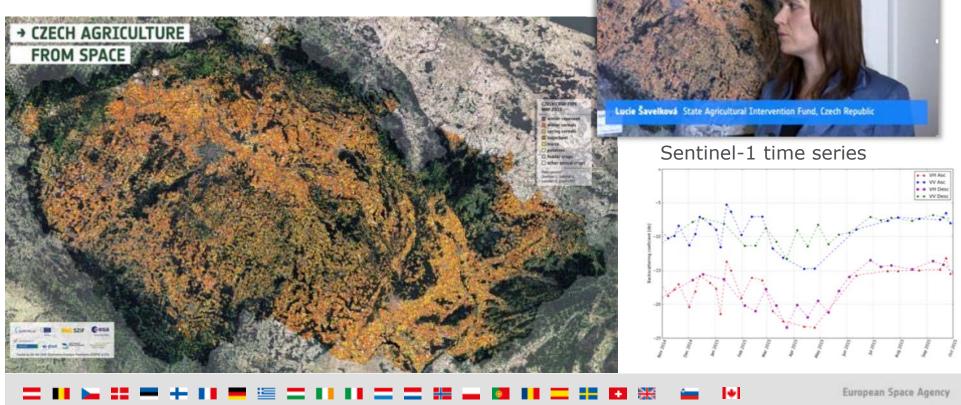


### **Dynamic National Crop Type Mapping**



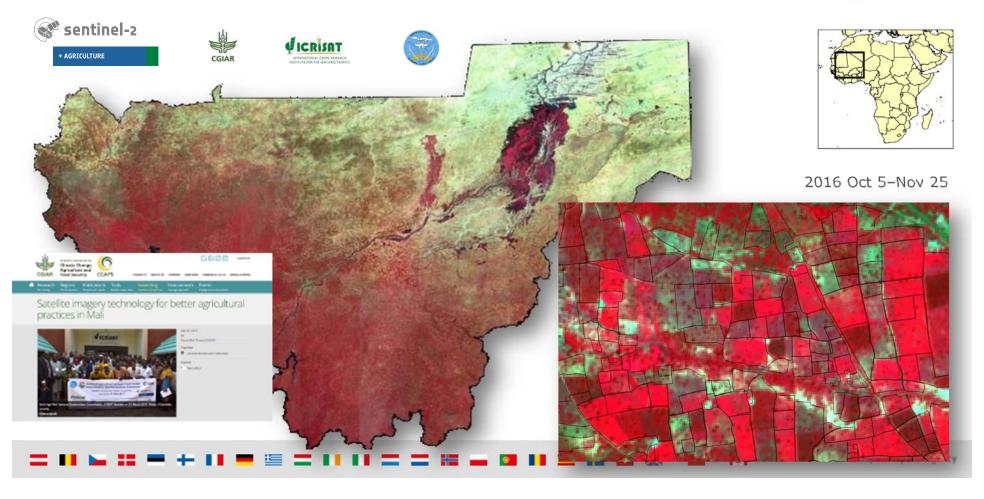
• Sen4CAP – S-1/2 time series for Land Parcel Identification
System of the Czech CAP – machine learning

CZECH AGRICULTURE



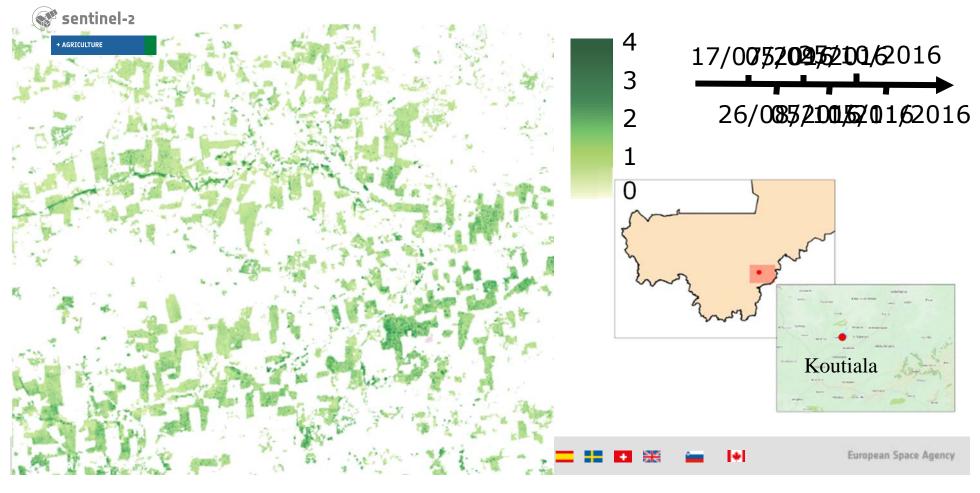
## Mali Food Security: National statistics, Crop Damage





## Mali: Monitoring the Growth of Cotton





## **Coral Reef Monitoring**



Marquesas Islands, French Polynesia February 2017 European Space Agency

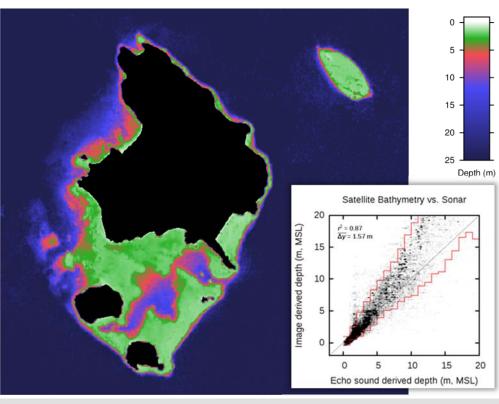
## **Shallow Water Bathymetry**

esa

European Space Agency

Lizard Island, Great Barrier Reef







## Water Quality Monitoring



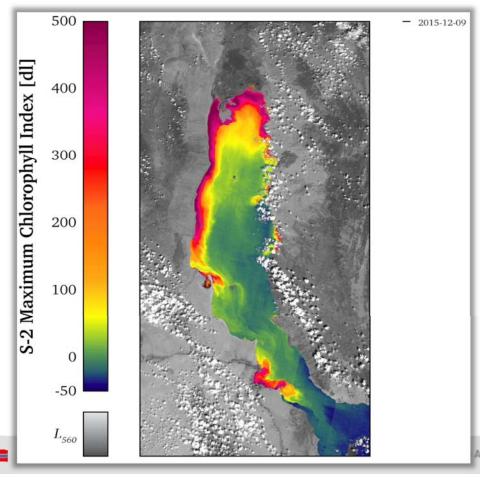
Lake Turkana, Ethiopia









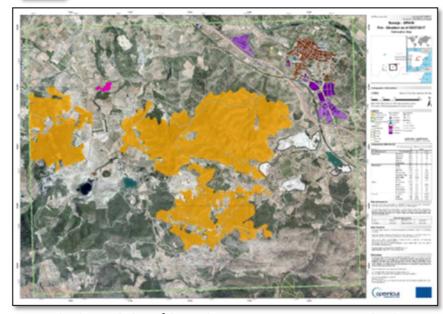


#### Sentinel-2: More Results

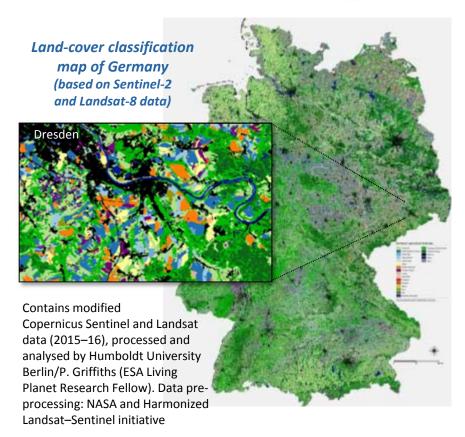




#### Forest Fires in Castellón Province (E)



Activation EMSR211 of Copernicus Emergency Management Service

































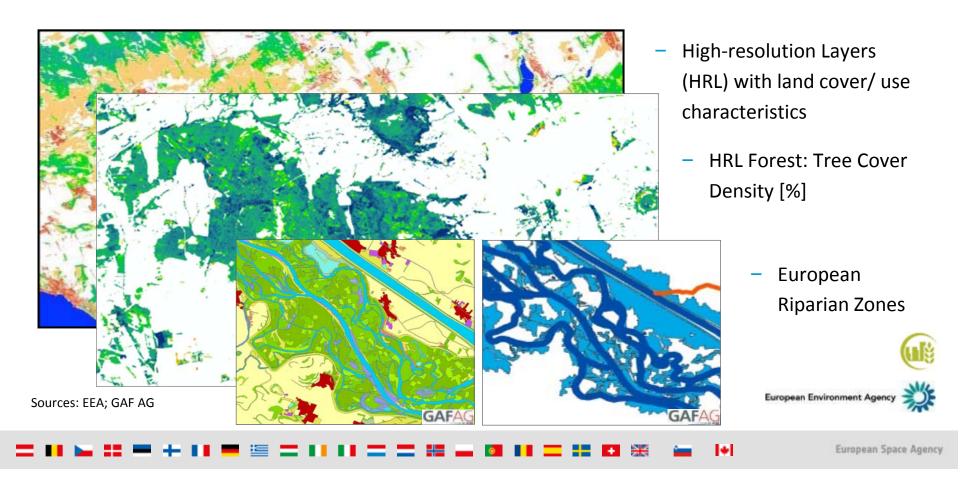






## Sentinel-2: Copernicus Land Monitoring Services







#### Sentinel-2 Time-Series for Agriculture e.g. in Africa

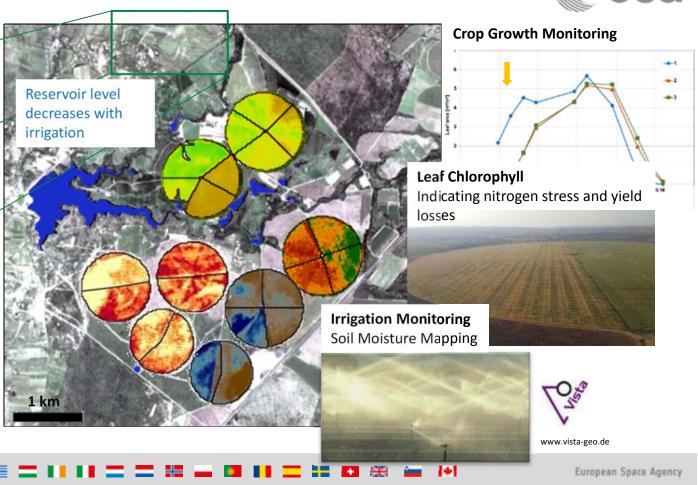




Spatial resolution of S-2 now also allows monitoring of small holder farms.



Free, open and transparent Sentinel data & IT-platforms (e.g. ESA's FS-TEP) promote more sustainable and more productive agriculture everywhere on the Globe, in industrialized and developing countries.



## Sentinel-2: Monitoring Infrastructure



Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge, Istanbul



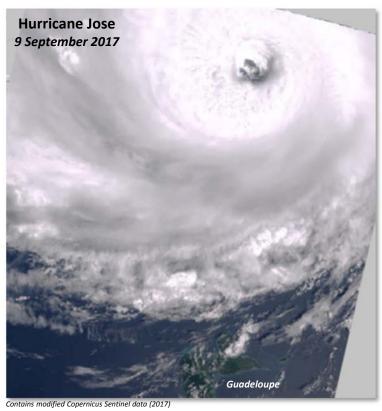


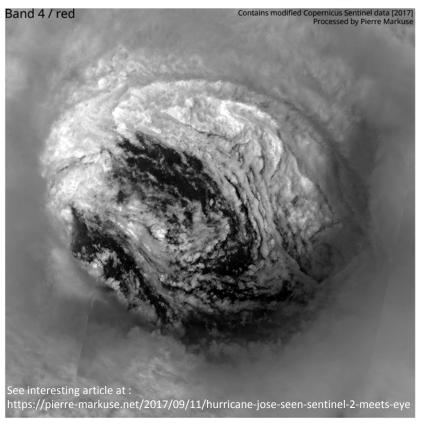




## Sentinel-2: Monitoring Hurricane Jose



















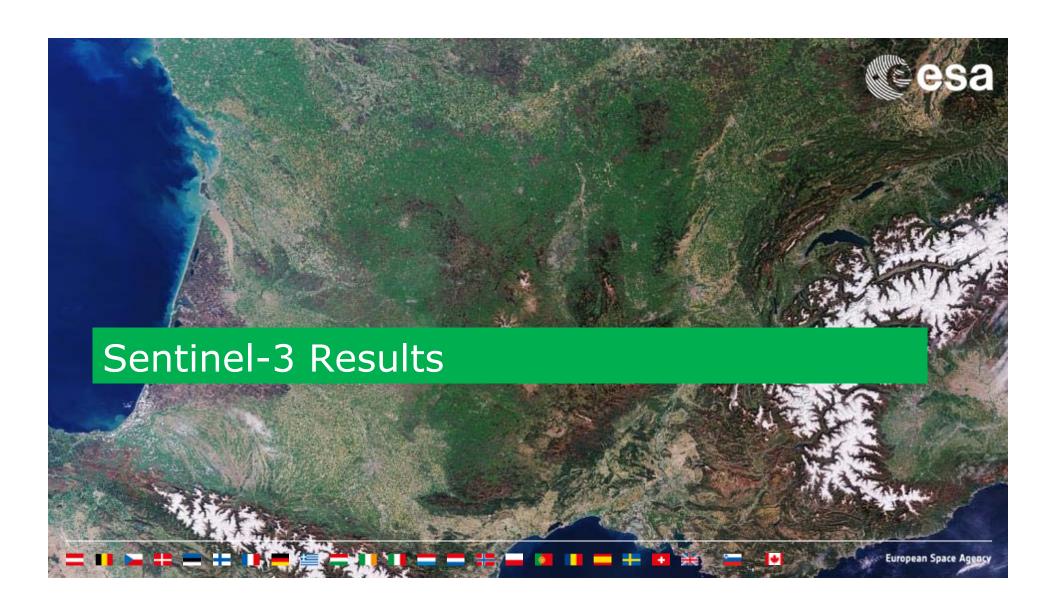


## Sentinel-2: Cloudless World Map





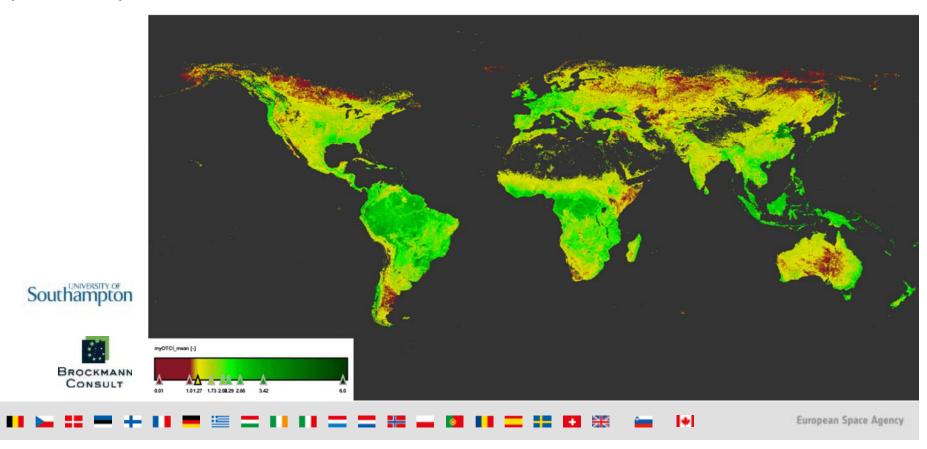




## Monitoring Chlorophyll Index

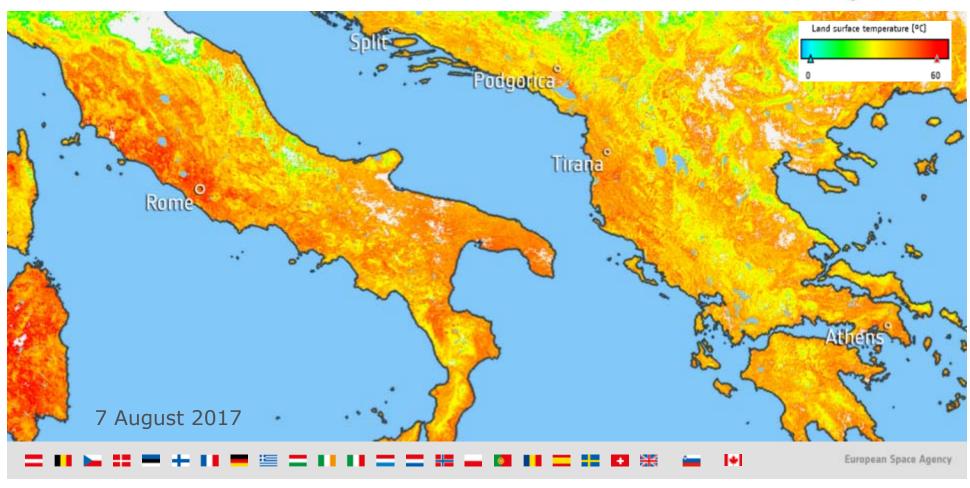


1 April-27 May 2017



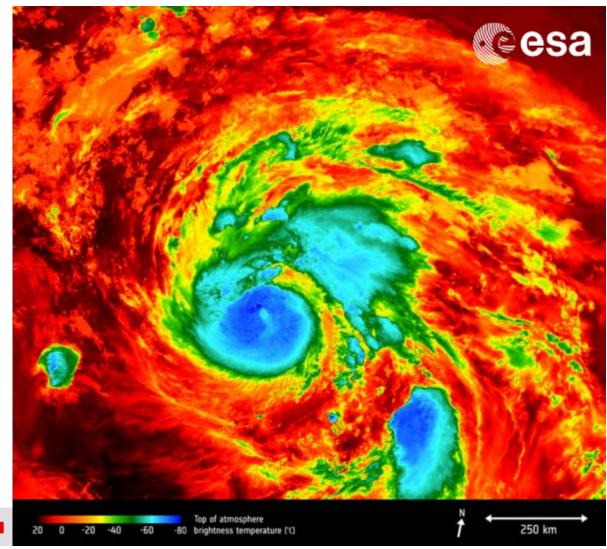
## Monitoring Heatwaves





# Hurricane Harvey

25 August 2017

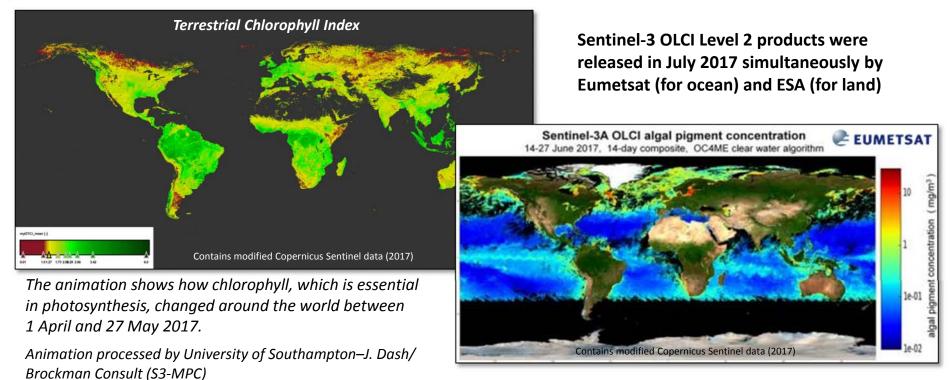






# Sentinel-3 mission Some results from OLCI validation teams



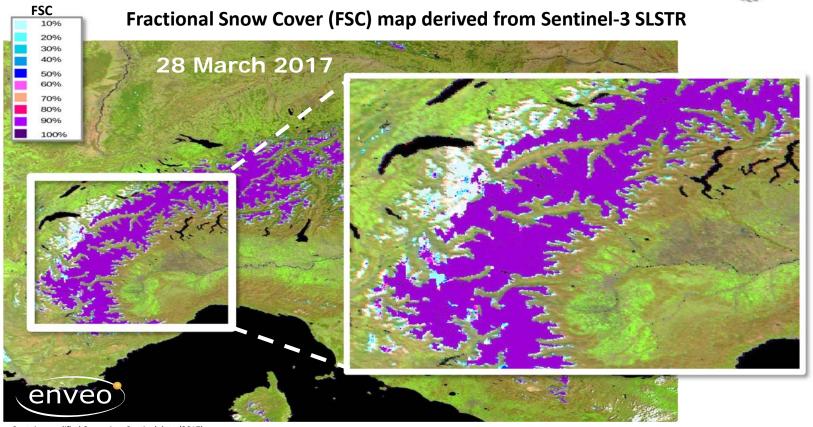












Contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data (2017)

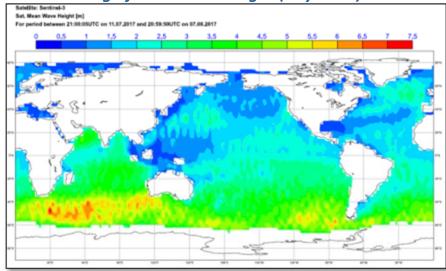




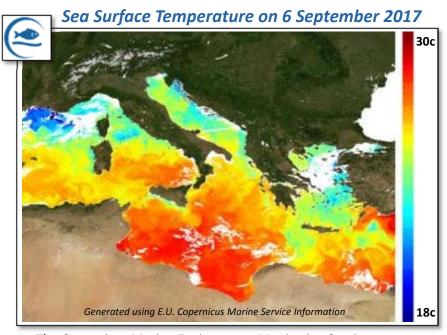
# Sentinel-3 mission Some results from operational services



#### Significant Wave Height (July 2017)



Since July 2017, the Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS) provides a **real-time global wave product** based on satellite altimeter data (**Sentinel-3A** and Jason-3). After assimilation into the numerical real-time models, it allows CMEMS to provide wave forecasts with better accuracy.



The Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS) provides daily Mediterranean Sea Surface Temperature data consisting of **merged multisensor data** to which **Sentinel-3A SLSTR** contributes.

