

# About THIRD PARTY MISSIONS PROGRAMME

## What are TPMs?

Third Party Missions are earth observation missions that are not owned or operated by ESA. The agency has an agreement with these third parties to distribute data products from their missions to scientific users

## History?

ESA's TPM arrangement has been operating for over

# 45 YEARS

providing EO data to users in **Europe** and **worldwide** for research and pre-operational applications development

## How many?

TPMs currently include over 60 instruments on more than 50 missions

**<60** INSTRUMENTS  
**50+** MISSIONS

● Atmospheric ● Optical ● SAR ● Reflected Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS-R) and Radio Occultation ● Gravity Field

## How?

TPM datasets are distributed under specific agreements with the owners or operators of the mission – some sets are available under the free dataset policy, requiring only a fast registration, others are part of a restrained data set and require the submission of a project proposal or service request

## Benefits?

Data is offered from a large number of international missions through a single programme. One of the criteria for selecting new missions is that they utilise instruments that offer similar data to those acquired by ESA missions, contributing to a wide range of data that may be used together. Other criteria include degree of innovation, opportunity for new international collaboration and experience to be gained for future missions

## Innovation?

**IN 2018** ESA changed the agreements with the commercial TPM data providers in order to also include start-ups and entrepreneurs in incubators, to access the data. This greatly supports ESA's Technology Transfer Programme Office (TTPO)

## Data Access?

<https://earth.esa.int/eogateway/search?category=Data>