GLOC 2023: Democratising data access key to climate action

1 June 2023

The need for easy access to remote sensing data and making them more digestible to the local user community, were take home messages from the first Global Space Conference on Climate Change (GLOC), held in Oslo, Norway, last week.

Taking place between 23 – 25 May in Oslo, GLOC 2023 was the first-of-its-kind forum to put the spotlight on space as a toolbox to help monitor and address the climate crisis.

Under the theme “Fire and Ice – Space for Climate Action”, over six hundred multi-disciplinary experts from 45 countries gathered at GLOC, in Norway’s capital city.

In the final summary session of the conference, leading experts concluded that while the global Earth observation (EO) industry provides vast amounts of data, to make the data useful, the information needs to reach the local user community.

READ MORE

LATEST DATA NEWS

GOCE and GRACE-FO orbit counter data now available on Swarm Dissemination Server

29 May 2023

We are pleased to announce that orbit counter products for GOCE and GRACE-FO satellites are now available on the Swarm Dissemination Server.

Provided in CDF format, the ORBCNT files give a quick overview of altitudes and magnetic local time and can be used for conjunction analysis.

READ MORE
Highlight on:

TPM data help advance plastic litter detection from space
5 June 2023

Several innovative ESA Discovery element projects exploring remote sensing of plastic marine litter lean on commercial satellite data disseminated via the Agency's Third Party Mission programme.

Plastic litter impacts marine ecosystems, human health and maritime safety. Detecting and tracking marine plastic debris using Earth observation (EO) data can help monitor this environmental problem and its mitigation but remote sensing technology and research in the area are in their early stages.

The data can help pin-point major sources of litter, assess in a timely fashion the effectiveness of mitigation policies and interventions to limit waste leaking from into sea, and possibly optimise clean-up strategies.

In the hope of accelerating international research to tackle the issue of marine plastic, ESA launched a call for ideas in 2019 – the first of its kind – for monitoring marine litter from space.

As a result, 26 research projects were initiated by the Discovery element of ESA's Basic Activities, with novel ideas to detect and possibly measure plastic concentrations and help identify the distribution and sources of marine plastic pollution at a global level.

READ MORE

UPCOMING EVENTS

19/06/2023
11th International Workshop on PolInSAR and Biomass
READ MORE

13/11/2023
EarthCARE pre-launch Science and Validation Workshop
Abstract submission deadline is 30 June 2023
READ MORE

27/11/2023
VH-RODA Workshop
Abstract submissions open in July 2023
READ MORE
How to access KOMPSAT data

The Korean Multi-Purpose Satellite (KOMPSAT) series (also known as Arirang) consists of Earth observation satellites owned by Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI), which were created to serve multiple applications.

The KOMPSAT-1 and -2 satellites were launched on 21 December 1999 and 28 July 2006, respectively. KOMPSAT-1 was operational for eight years, until 2007, and KOMPSAT-2 is still operational today after almost 17 years.

The satellites’ optical instruments have provided panchromatic images, and very-high-resolution multispectral images from KOMPSAT-2, that support environmental monitoring, land management, disaster response and other applications.

KOMPSAT-1 and -2 are part of ESA’s Third Party Missions programme, in which ESA has an agreement to promote the availability of data products from the mission.

Data products from both missions are available, with collections offering:

- KOMPSAT-1 images acquired over 50 European cities
- KOMPSAT-2 data products acquired between 2007 and 2014 of global locations
- Images acquired as part of ESA’s TropForest project, which created a database acquired from ALOS-1, GEOSAT-1, and KOMPSAT-2 in 2010 over almost 1900 sites to support a global forest assessment

The data products are freely available to download for anyone with an EO Sign In account.

Learn more about the KOMPSAT collections