

Smallsat missions/instruments for future EO in the ESA landscape

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(*Aurora Technology B.V for ESA)

- **Earth Observation Programme (EOP) Technology Vision**
- **ESA EO missions – programmatic and examples**
 - **Small Sats in ESA EOP**
 - **Corporate Small Sats and EO**
 - **Technology**
- **Conclusions**

Higher performance / cost ratio

- **New Measurements/instruments** (enabler)
 - **Higher spatial, temporal, radiometric** resolution
- **Lower recurring cost**
 - **Platform Standardisation** & multi source suppliers
 - **Spin-in** techno: e.g. COTS
 - **Lifetime & flexibility** (FPGAs)
- **Big Data** (AI enabler) & **Data continuity**



Miniaturisation and Constellations

- More **autonomous** platform & operations & synchronisation
- **Distributed** Ground Segment

ESA EO Satellites

Science + Copernicus + Meteo

16 in operation

38 under development

14 under preparation



Living Planet Programme (user driven)

Research Missions

EE, Scouts

Earth Watch Missions

Copernicus, Meteo, CustomisedEO (InCubed, National-driven)



Science

Copernicus

Meteorology



→ THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Fast development cycle

Affordable Constellations

Miniaturisation

Scout missions: 30 M€ range

- demonstrate novel Earth Observation techniques in Earth science and related non-commercial applications (open data policy);
- Mission selection through competitive ITT – then consolidation + implementation phases

InCubed (Investing in Industrial Innovation) Programme & missions:



- to invest in European industrial competitiveness → commercial driven
- **co-funded scheme** with 3 clear procurement steps
- wide scope : development of (sat, ground system) and also end-to-end missions
- see <https://incubed.phi.esa.int>

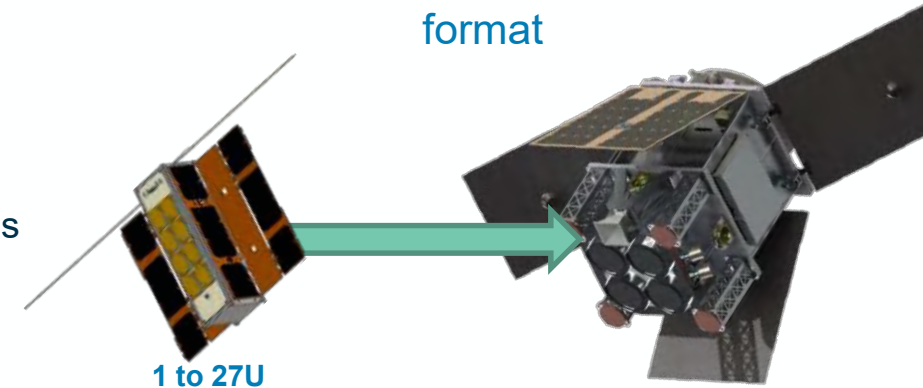
Φ-sat missions: 2-3 M€ range

- to develop missions for fast demonstration of EO new techniques
- to showcase innovative/disruptive technologies such as on-board AI
- open data policy
- Mission selection through Calls or competitive ITT
 - then consolidation + implementation phases

Technology:

- FutureEO and Corporate programme (TDE, GSTP) funding
→ objective is to enable candidates for new Calls

No specific requirement on size or format



ESA EO requirements driven by functionality and performance within cost limit

SCOUT – First Missions

Status of Scout-1:

- 2x Mission Implementation (3 yrs development + Launch in 2024 + commissioning)

Earlier ESA contracts with SSTL, NOC, and other scientists for precursors: TDS-1, DoT-1



ESP-MACCS

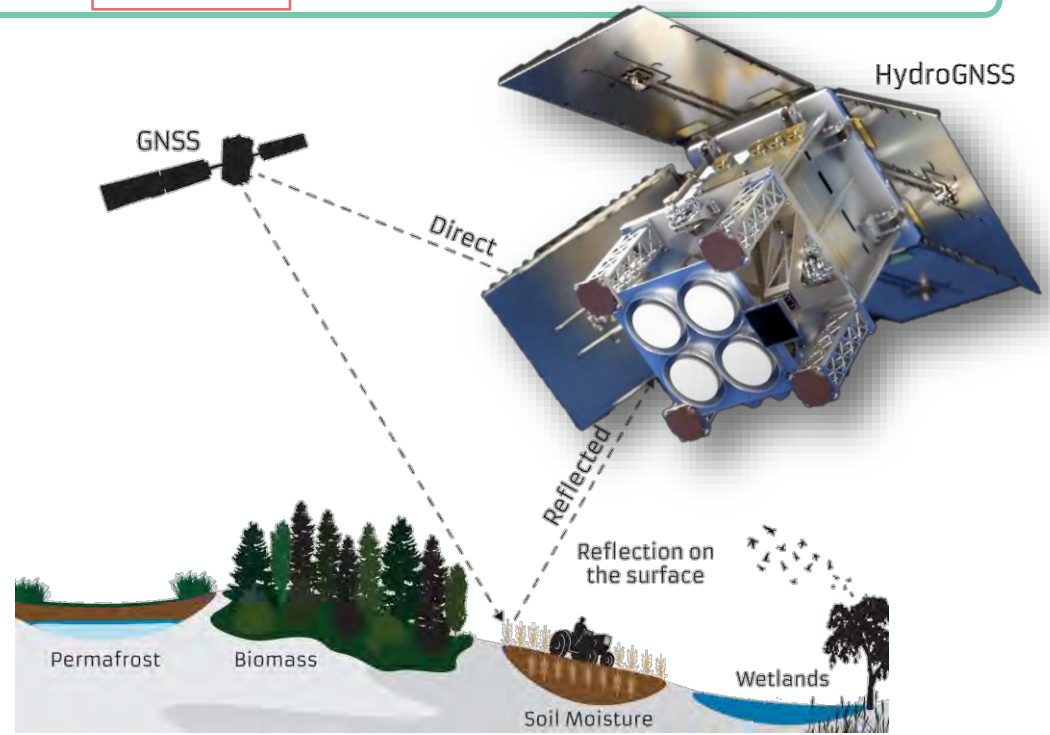
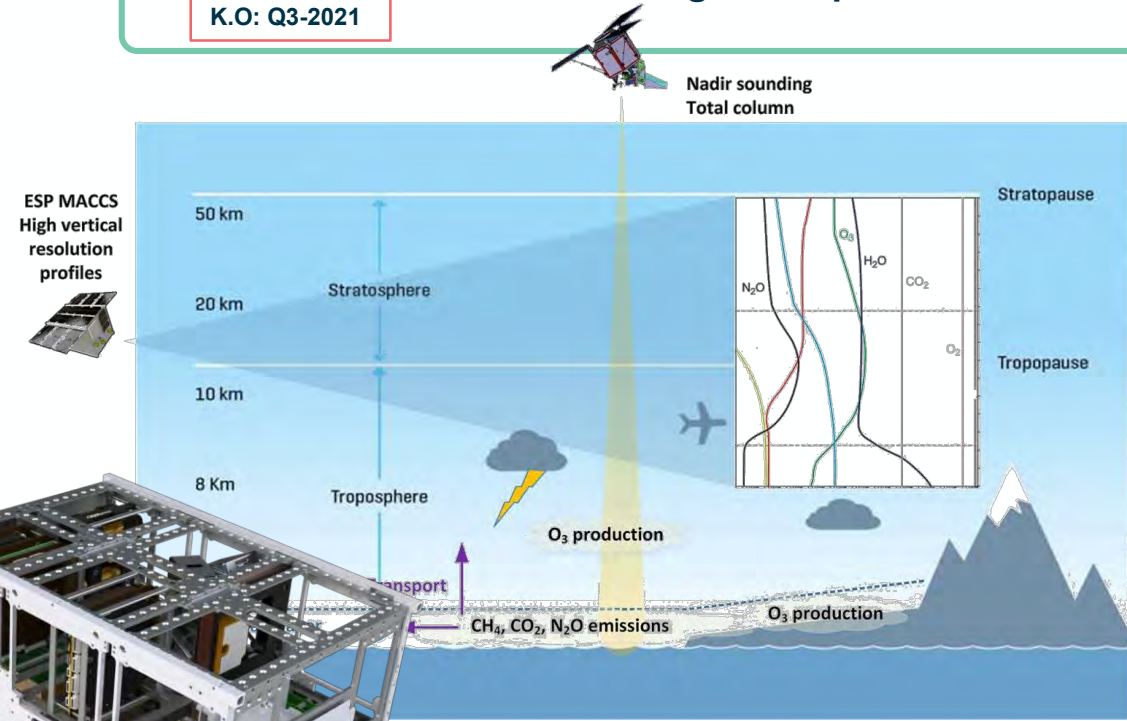
3 x 12U Cubesats
Monitoring Atmospheric Processes

K.O: Q3-2021

HydroGNSS

1 x 40 kg Sat with GNSS-R
Biomass, Soil Moisture, Ice

K.O: Q4-2021



SCOUT – RR Activities from Scout-1

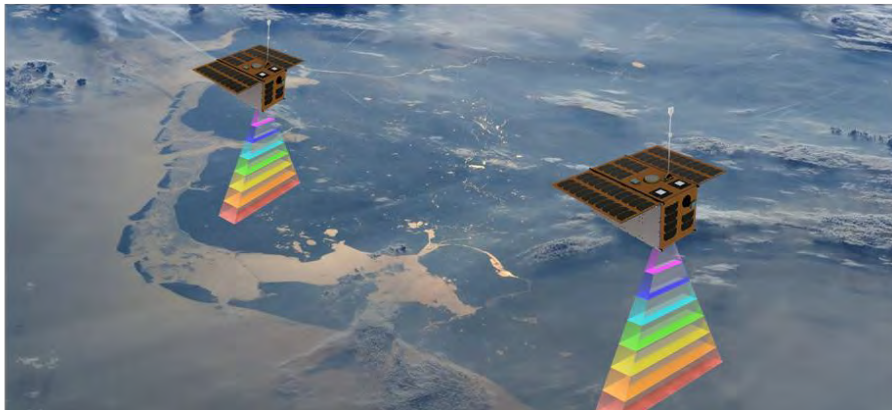
Scout-1 (missions not to be implemented):

- 2x Risk Retirement (RR) activities To be initiated in Q4-2021

TANGO
2 x 16U Cubesat
Anthropogenic
Greenhouse

Activities list:

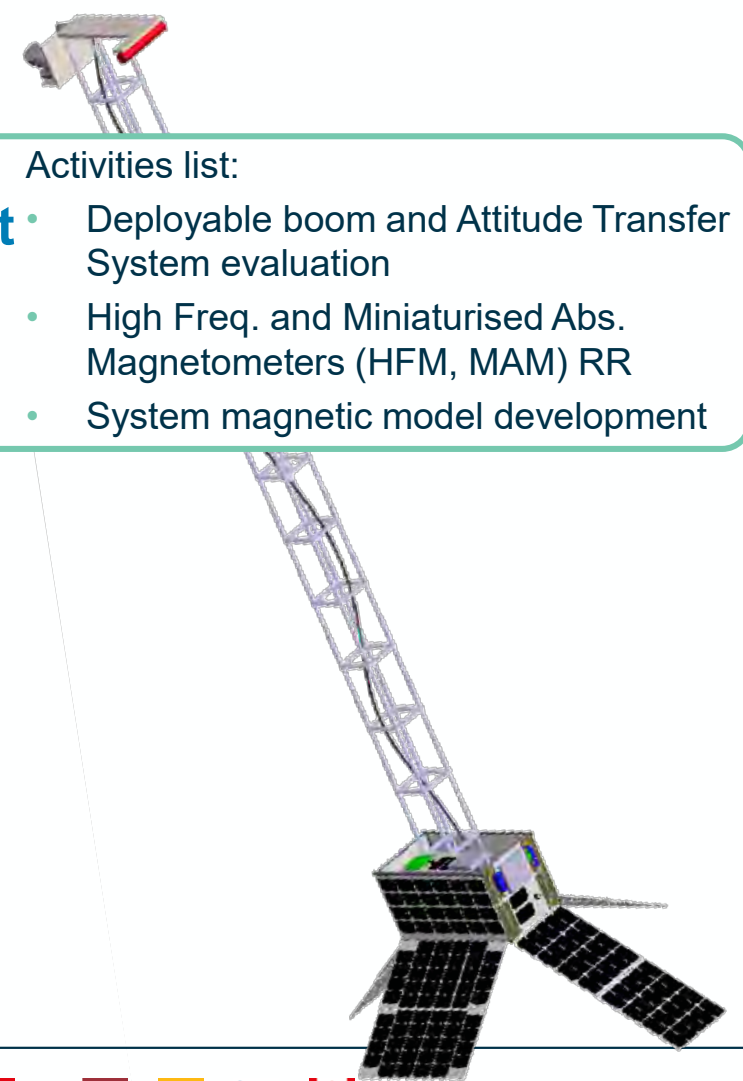
- Customized MCT type detector
- Performance testing detector candidates and gratings
- Spectrometer test-bench Breadboard



NanoMagSat
3 x 16U Cubesat
Magnetic Field,
Plasma, GNSS
Reflectometry

Activities list:

- Deployable boom and Attitude Transfer System evaluation
- High Freq. and Miniaturised Abs. Magnetometers (HFM, MAM) RR
- System magnetic model development



There will be a Scout-2 Call

AWS PFM - (Arctic Weather Satellite , Protoflight Model)

AWS PFM Part of Earth Watch Programme: 12 countries subscribed in ESA CMIN19

- Ph. B/C/D/E KO in 2021: incl. development, launch, ≥ 1 year operations
- OHB Sweden Satellite Prime, Omnisys Instruments Payload Prime, TAS Ground Segment Prime
- First AWS PFM : Launch in 2024

AWS PFM conceived:

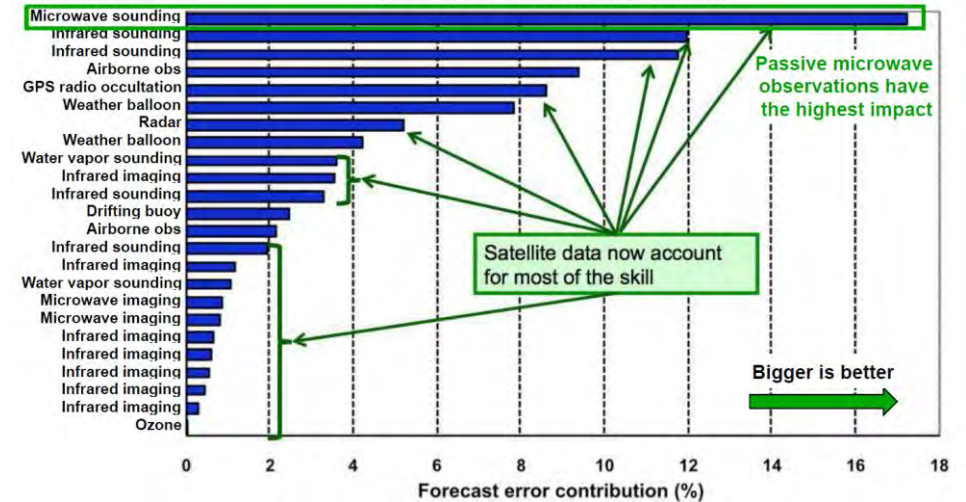
- As a prototype satellite providing all-weather microwave sounding of the global atmosphere
- for a future Constellation, to be implemented in cooperation with EUMETSAT, to complement MetOp, MetOp-SG and JPSS satellites

Microwave sounding is the top contributor to NWP

PFM:

- Final orbit depends on launch opportunities. Likely launched into 600 km SSO.
- ~120 kg, ~120 W, 1.1 x 0.7 x 0.8 m.
- Electric propulsion, provides collision avoidance and orbit maintenance capability
- 19 channels, total power microwave radiometer.
- 50 GHz – 325 GHz using four sets of feedhorns:

Impact of GOS components on 24-h ECMWF Global Forecast skill (courtesy of Erik Andersson, ECMWF)



Mission and Agile Nanosatellite for Terrestrial Imagery Services

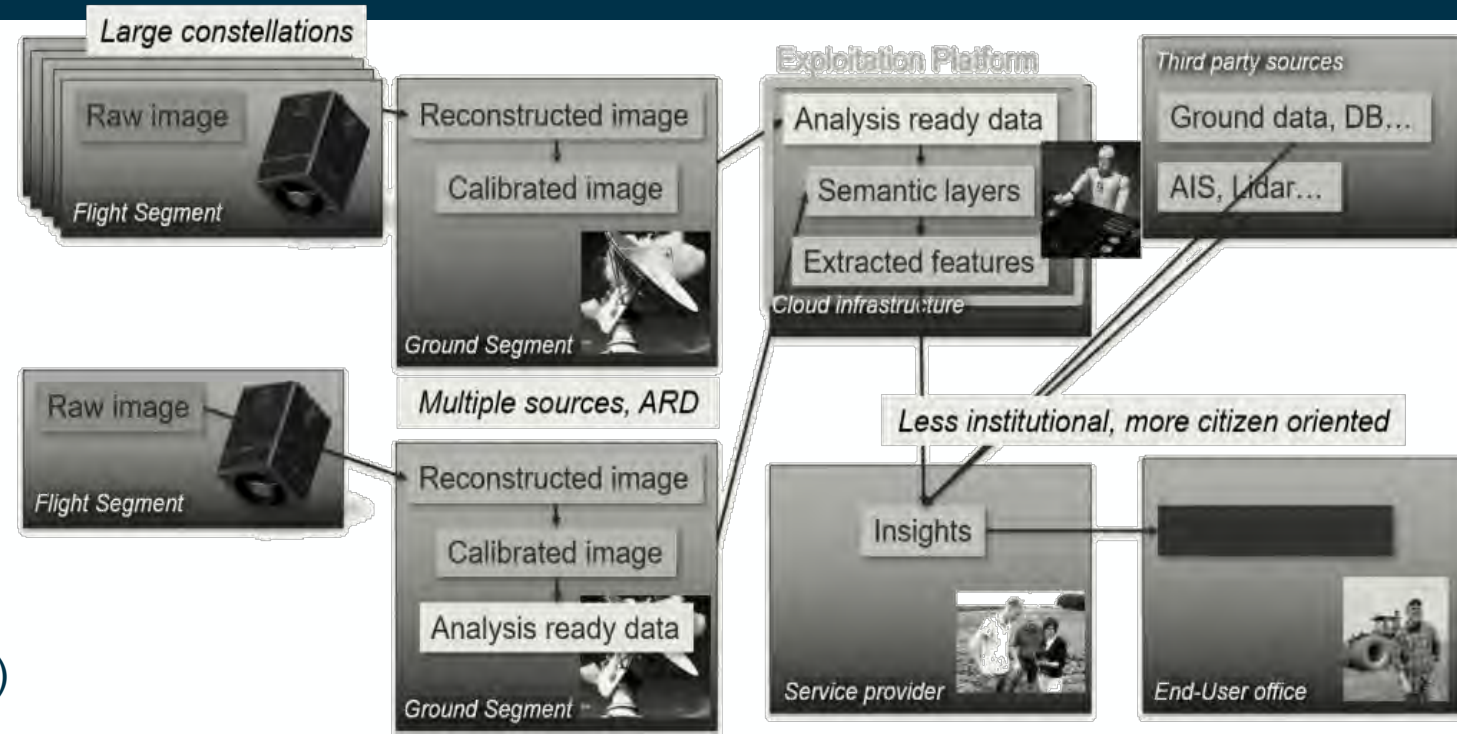
- Specific focus on energy sector
- 3m GSD (SR)
- 12U Cubesat with VIS-NIR Push broom Multispectral 4 bands Dual Telescope
- Onboard Super Resolution
- Onboard Cloud Detection
- **Launch in 2022**

incubed.phi.esa.int/portfolio/mantis



SAT4EO Critical Elements

- Development of a 100-200 Kg S/C AOCS Suite for state of art EO Small Satellites
- Development of a compact VIS-NIR VHR Telescope (**SSTL PRECISION**)
 - Use of the TE2V CIS 125 (developed under **CEOI** funding)
 - 0.6 m native GSD @ 500 Km
 - Super Resolution capabilities (up to 0.3 m GSD)
- Integrated Exploitation Platform (already operative)



incubed.phi.esa.int/portfolio/sat4eoce/

