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**Copernicus for Biodiversity Workshop**

**BIOSPACE, February 2025**

# Copernicus for Biodiversity Workshop Agenda

- 15.00 Introduction, Michel Massart, European Commission, Directorate General JRC
- 15.05 Copernicus, EO Space Flagship Program, Michel Massart, EC DG JRC
- 15.15 EO Nature protection: an EU policy perspective, Bruno Combal, EC DG ENV
- 15.30 Copernicus Services and Copernicus In Situ component

State of play of the Copernicus services, the products and their interest for biodiversity monitoring.

Andreas Brink, DG JRC for Copernicus Land Service, Tina Silovic, MOI for Copernicus Marine Service, Laurence Rouil, ECMWF for Copernicus Atmosphere Service, Samuel Almond, ECMWF for Copernicus Climate Change Service, Jose Rubio, EEA for Copernicus In Situ component.

- 16.30 Coffee Break
- 17.00 Panel discussion

Relevance of the Copernicus service products for biodiversity monitoring, the potential evolution of the products towards new challenges and the strengthening of user uptake.

Jillian Campbell (UN-CBD), Alice Hughes (GEOBON), Pavel Milenov (EEA), Enrique Montes (NOOA), Steven Ramage (CEOS-GEOBON), Andrea Taramelli (ISPRA), Victor Martinez Vicente (PML)

- 18.30 End





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# COPERNICUS IN A NUTSHELL

Copernicus for Biodiversity WS

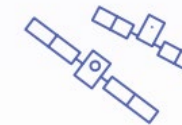
BIOSPACE, February 2025

# The EU Space Programme

## EU SPACE PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

<p><b>COPERNICUS</b> Earth Observation (EO) and monitoring based on satellite and non-space data</p> <p><b>Nr.1 world provider of space data and information</b></p>	<p><b>GALILEO</b> Global satellite navigation and positioning system (GNSS)</p> <p><b>10% of the EU GDP enabled by satellite navigation</b></p>	<p><b>EGNOS</b> Reliable navigation signals for safety of life use</p> <p><b>Operational in 360+ airports &amp; helipads in 23 countries</b></p>	<p><b>SSA</b> Space situational awareness monitoring and protecting space assets</p> <p><b>Providing surveillance and tracking services to 210+ satellites</b></p>	<p><b>GOVSATCOM</b> Secure satellite communications for EU security actors</p> <p><b>Delivering rapid support over crisis areas</b></p>
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## AN INVESTMENT IN A FUTURE READY EUROPE



### Competitive edge

Completing current satellite constellations, developing and launching the next-generation of satellites



### Research innovation

Ambitious research and innovation programme benefiting from Horizon Europe



### Fighting Climate Change

Monitoring biodiversity, environmental compliance and CO2 emissions (Paris Agreement)



### EU as a global actor

Supporting disaster relief, humanitarian assistance and security operations



# Copernicus History

**1998**

Baveno Manifesto

**GMES**

**1999**

“Global Monitoring for Environment and Security”

**2004**

EC-ESA agreement  
On space component  
“the Sentinels”

**GMES IO**

**2005**

GMES EU’s main  
Contribution to GEOSS

**2011**

GMES Initial Operations  
Phase begins

**2012**

GMES renamed to Copernicus,  
Start of CLMS, CEMS

**2013**

EU Regulation:  
full, free and open  
data policy.

**Copernicus 1.0**

**2014**

launch of Sentinel-1A  
Copernicus Regulation  
adopted

**2015**

launch of Sentinel-2A,  
Start of CMEMS and CAMS

**2016**

launch of Sentinel-3A and S-1B  
Start of CSS

**2017**

launch of Sentinel-2B,  
Launch of S-5P,  
global air quality monitoring

**2018**

launch of Sentinel-3B and S-1B  
Start of C3S

**2020**

launch of Sentinel-6,  
topography of the global ocean.

**Copernicus 2.0**

**2021**

EU Space Programme Regulation

**2023**

Launch CDSE

**2024**

Celebration Copernicus 25 years  
Launch of Sentinel 2-C and S-1C

**Copernicus 3.0**

**Copernicus Evolution**

MPF 2028-2032

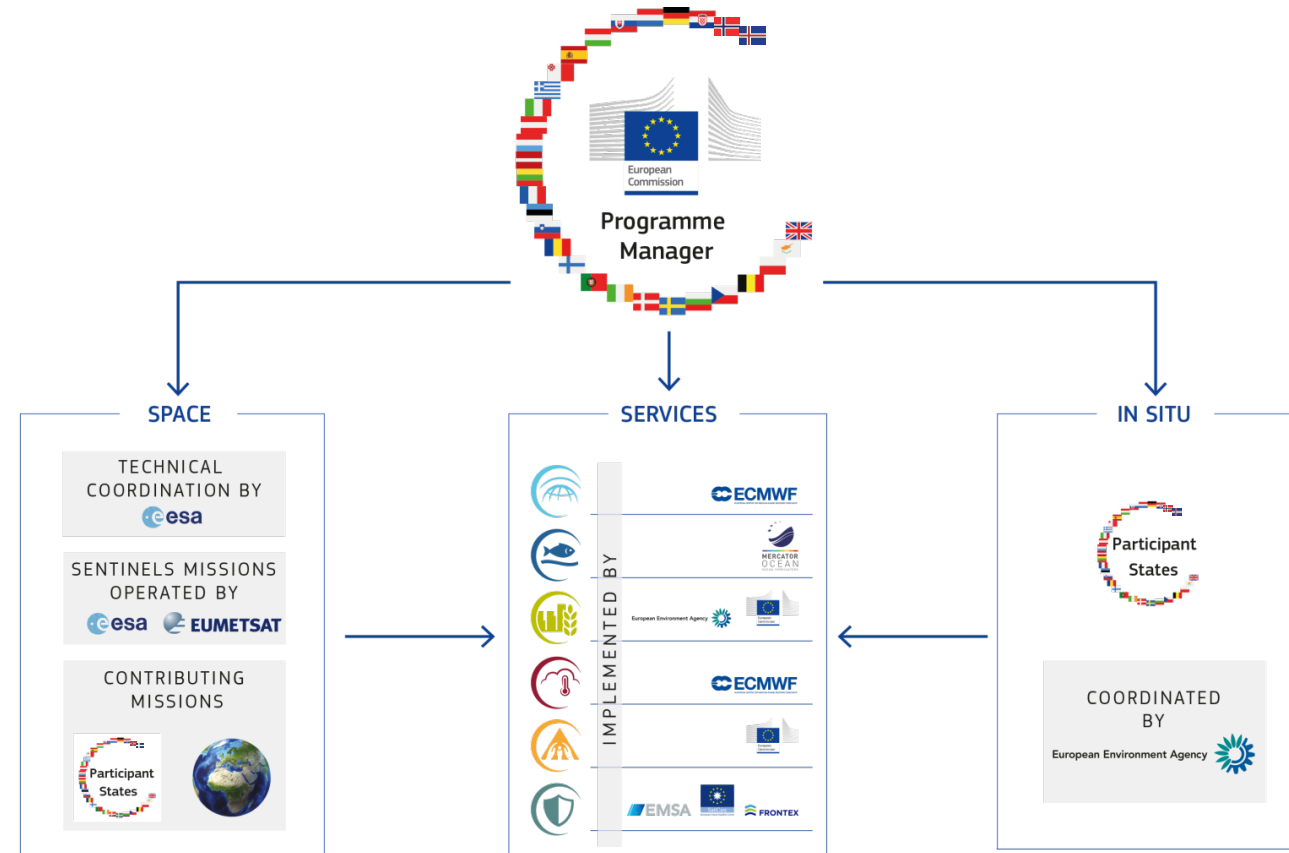


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# Copernicus Overview

- Copernicus is the European Union programme aimed at developing European information **services** based on satellite Earth Observation and in situ data
- Copernicus is coordinated and **managed** by the **European Commission**
- Copernicus is **implemented in partnership** with the Member States, ESA, EUMETSAT, ECMWF, EEA, EC JRC, Mercator, EMSA, SatGen, Frontex
- Copernicus **Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 > 5 billion €**
- Tool for **economic growth**
- **Operational, Sustainable, Free and Open**



# Copernicus Components



Sentinels



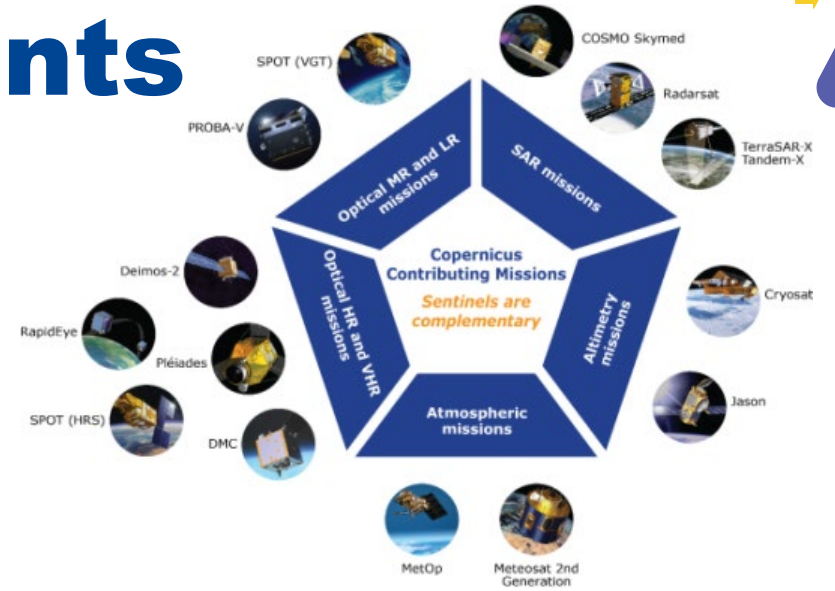
**FULL, FREE AND OPEN**

## Six Copernicus Services

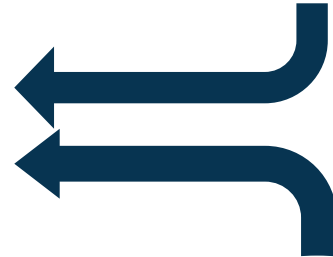


Value-added

Services



Contributing missions



In situ data



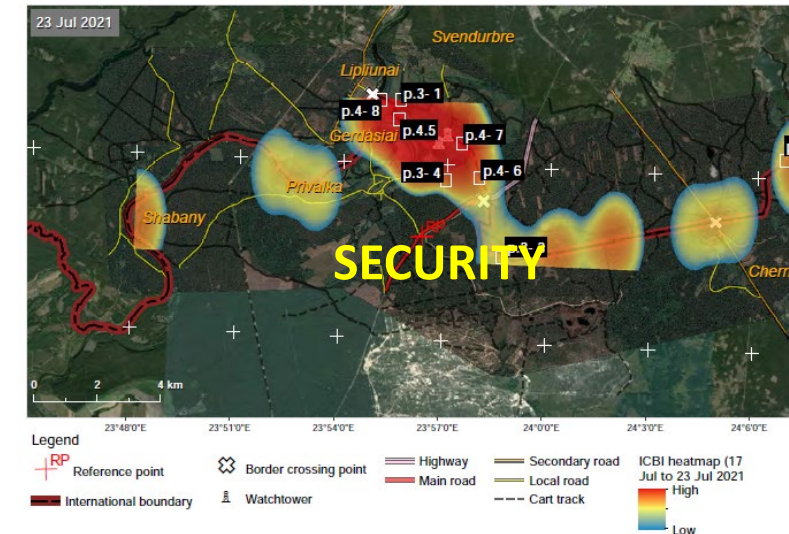
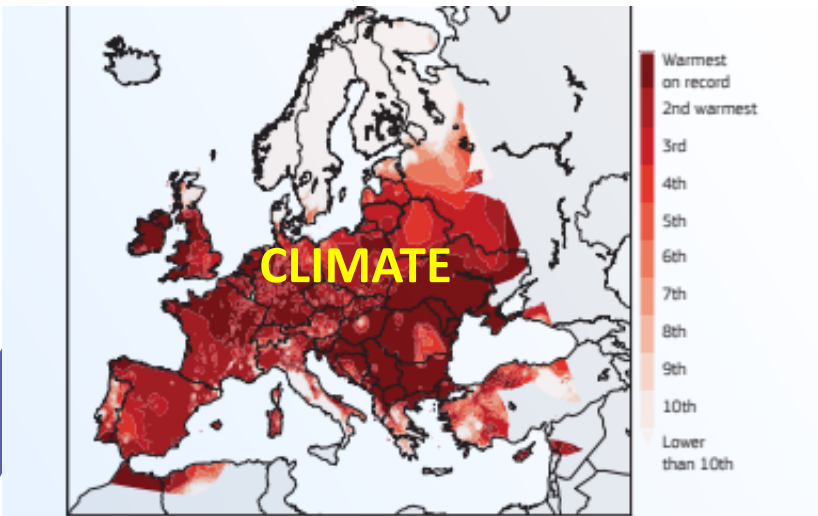
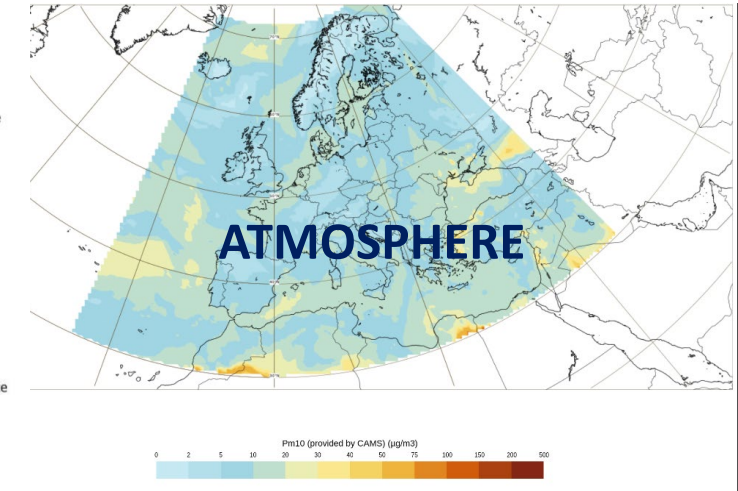
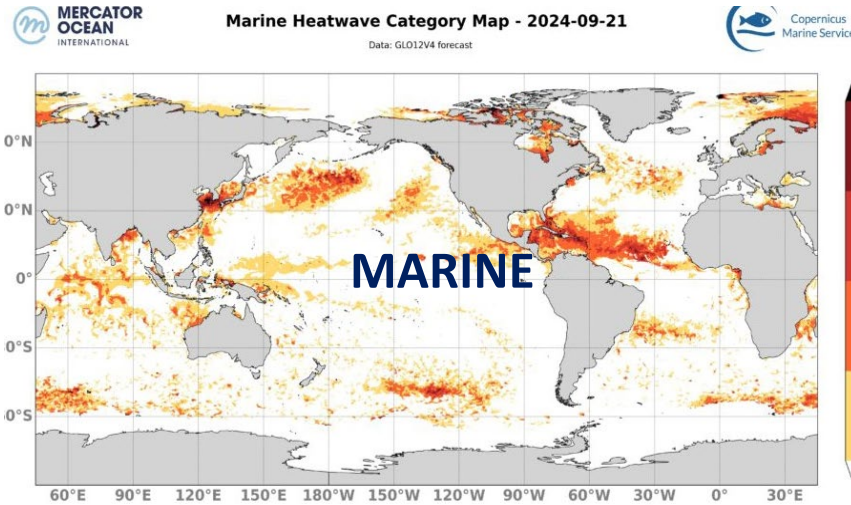
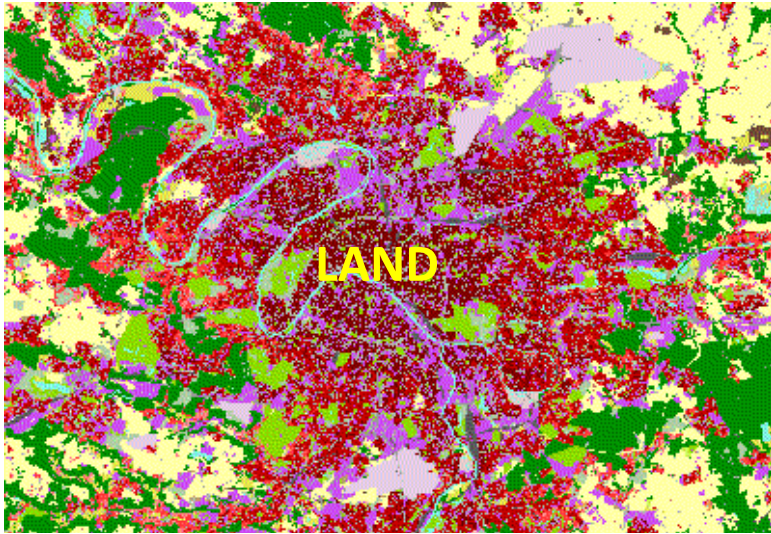
# Building on existing expertise

## Copernicus Land Service : 65+ industry partners / 350+ experts





# The Copernicus Services



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# The Copernicus Sentinels

## *Sentinel Mission and Status*

## *Key Features*



**SENTINEL-1:**  
4-40m resolution, 6 days revisit at equator

Polar-orbiting, all-weather, day-and-night radar imaging



**SENTINEL-2:**  
10-60m resolution, 5 days revisit time

Polar-orbiting, multispectral optical, high-res imaging



**SENTINEL-3:**  
300-1200m resolution, <2 days revisit

Optical and altimeter mission monitoring sea and land parameters



**SENTINEL-4:**  
8km resolution, 60 min revisit time

Payload for atmosphere chemistry monitoring on MTG-S



**SENTINEL-5p:**  
7-68km resolution, 1 day revisit

Mission to reduce data gaps between Envisat, and S-5



**SENTINEL-5:**  
7.5-50km resolution, 1 day revisit

Payload for atmosphere chemistry monitoring on MetOp 2<sup>nd</sup>Gen



**SENTINEL-6:**  
10 day revisit time

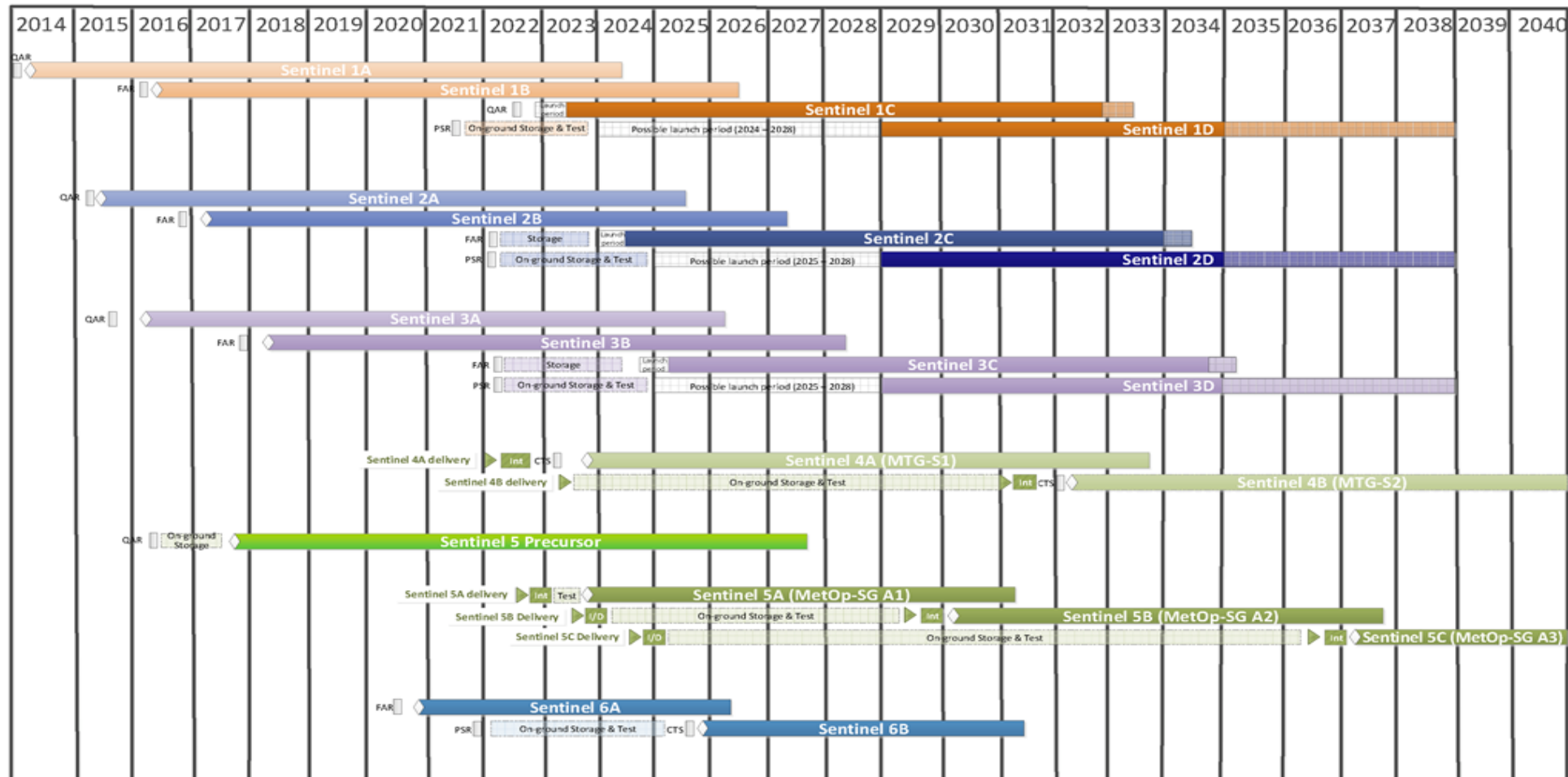
Radar altimeter to measure sea-surface height globally



# Sentinel Satellite Deployment



## Indicative Copernicus Constellation Deployment Schedule



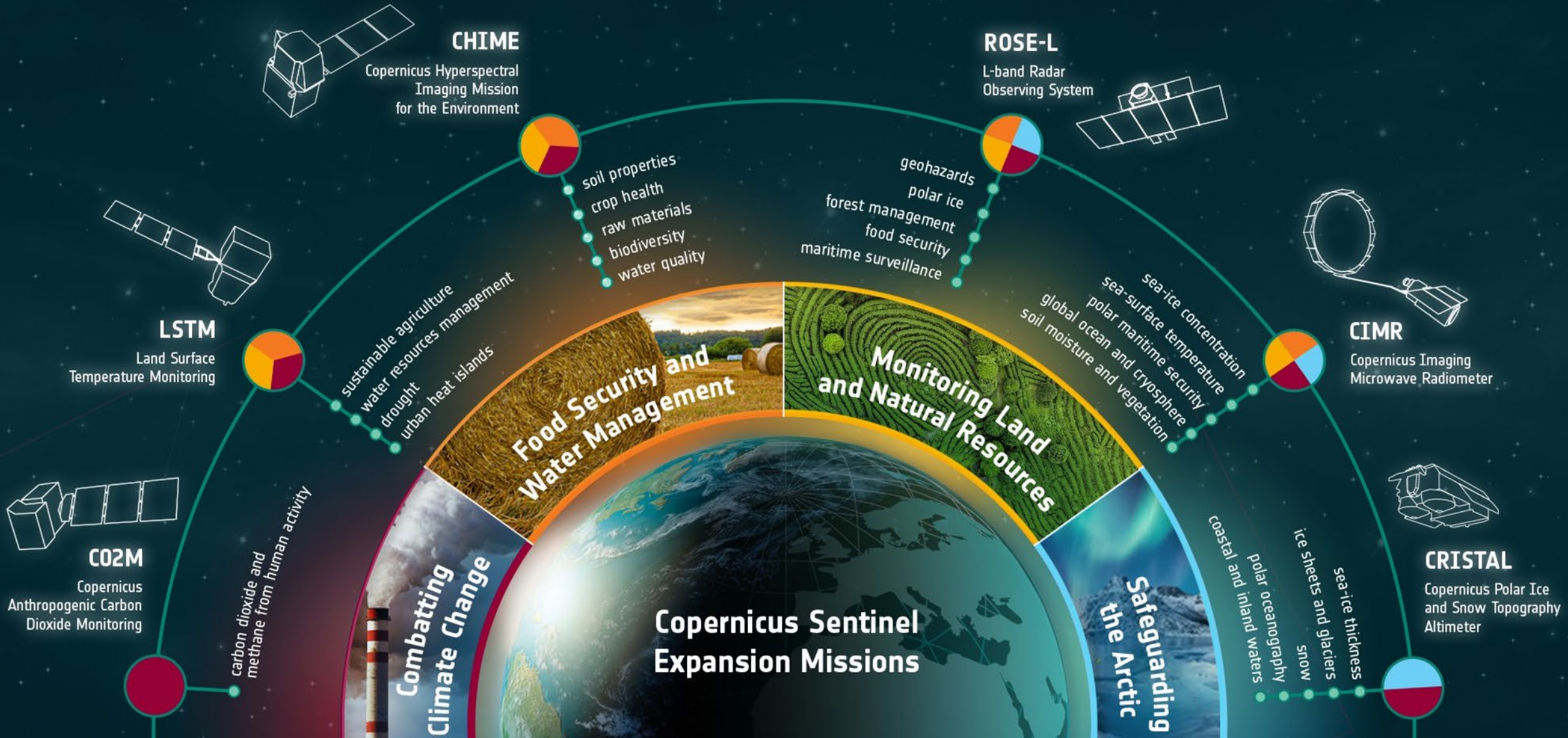
- Legend:**
- Qualification Acceptance Review (QAR)
  - Flight Acceptance Review (FAR)
  - PreStorage Review (PSR)
  - Consent to Ship (CTS)
  - On-ground Storage & Test
  - Satellite Test
  - Satellite On-ground Storage & Test
  - Satellite Assembly, Integration & Test
  - Integration
  - Integration & disintegration for Satellite AIT (I/D)
  - Tentative Launch Date

Date: 18 Jan 2022



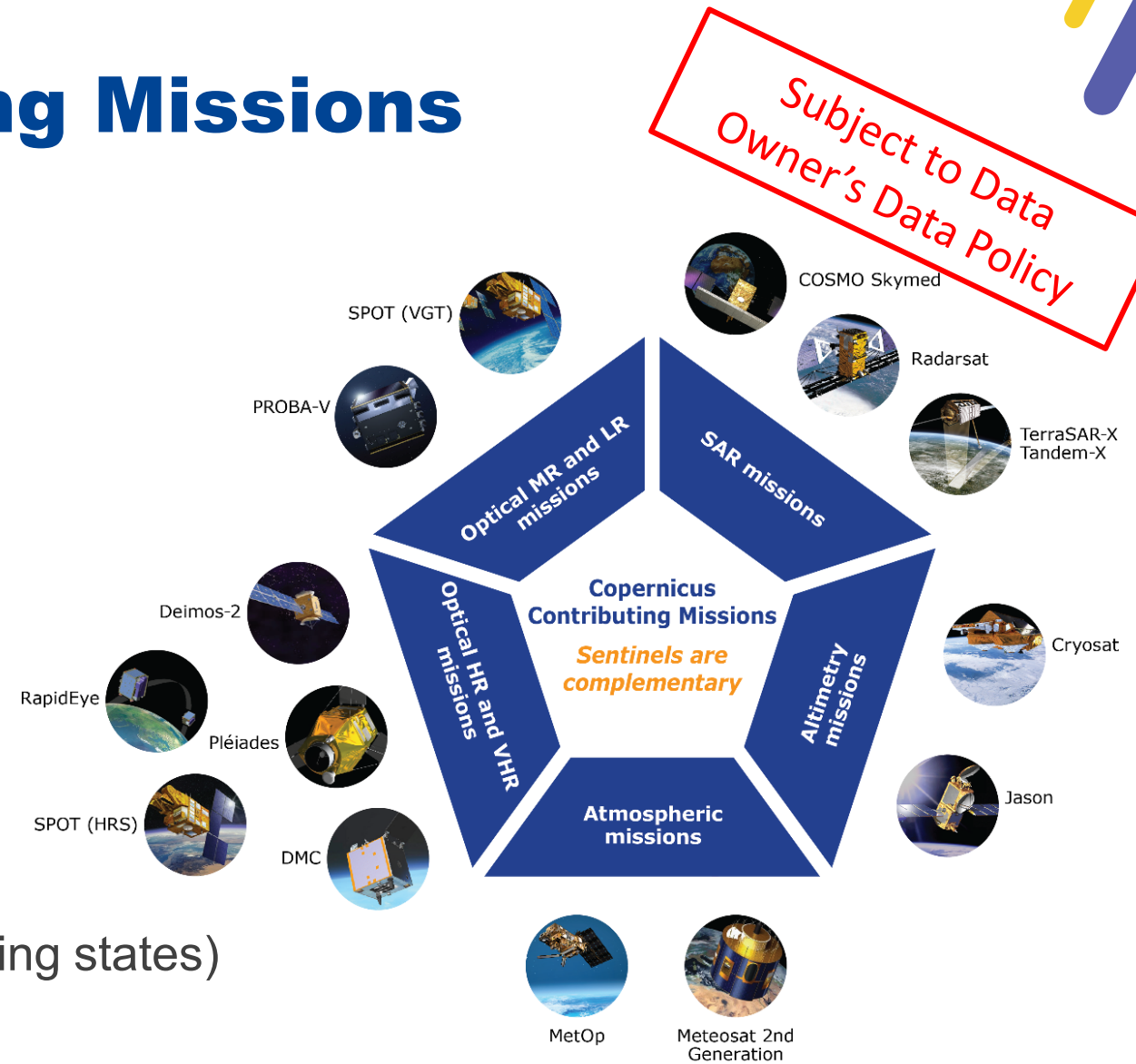
PRC  
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# Copernicus Expansion Missions



# Copernicus Contributing Missions

- Emerging Companies  
(EU and Copernicus participating states)
- Established Companies  
(EU and Copernicus participating states)
- Non-EU Companies (Copernicus cooperating states)

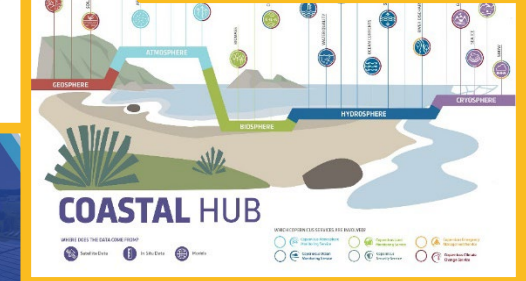
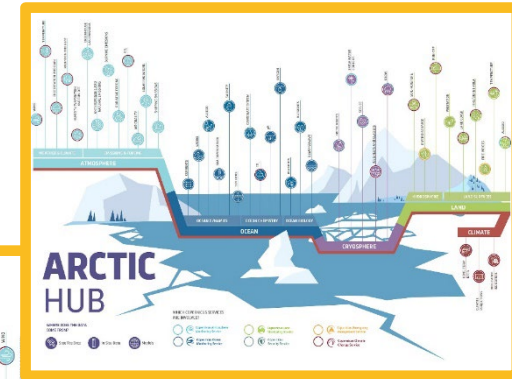


# How to access the Copernicus data and products

## Copernicus services' portals



## Thematic Hubs



<https://dataspace.copernicus.eu>

Copernicus Data Space Ecosystem (CDSE) Portal

<https://www.wekeo.eu>

WEKEO Portal



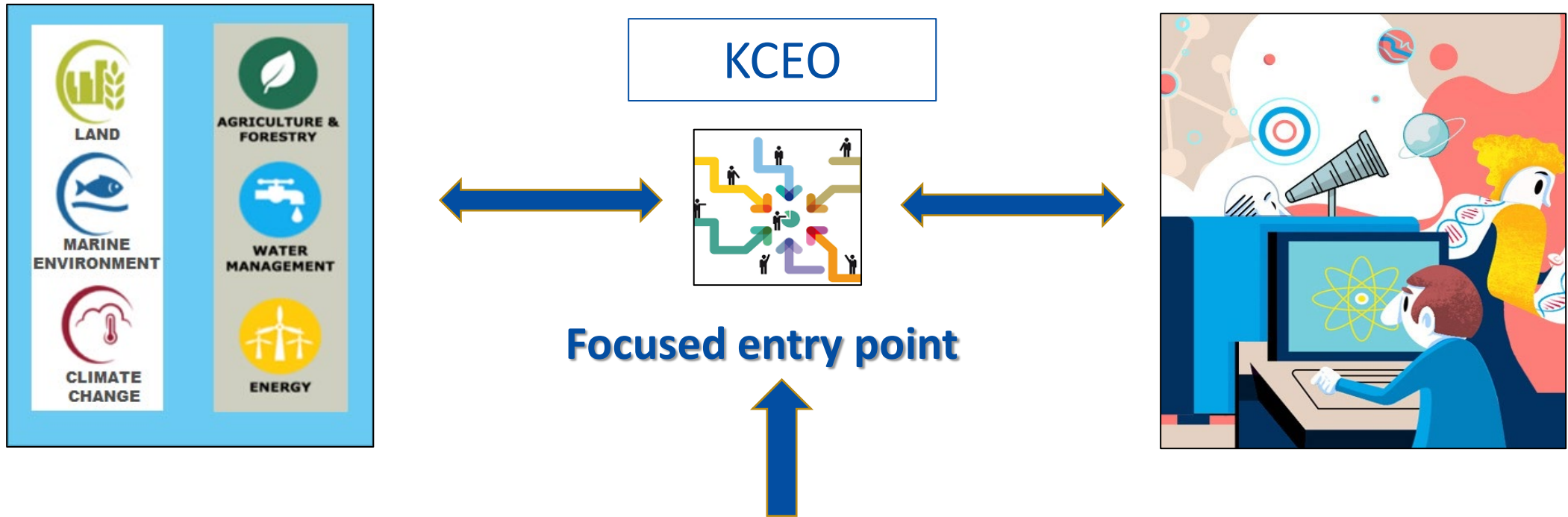
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# Knowledge Centre on Earth Observation

**Pillar 1:** Policy Needs, Uptake & Coherence

**Pillar 2:** Mainstreaming R&I



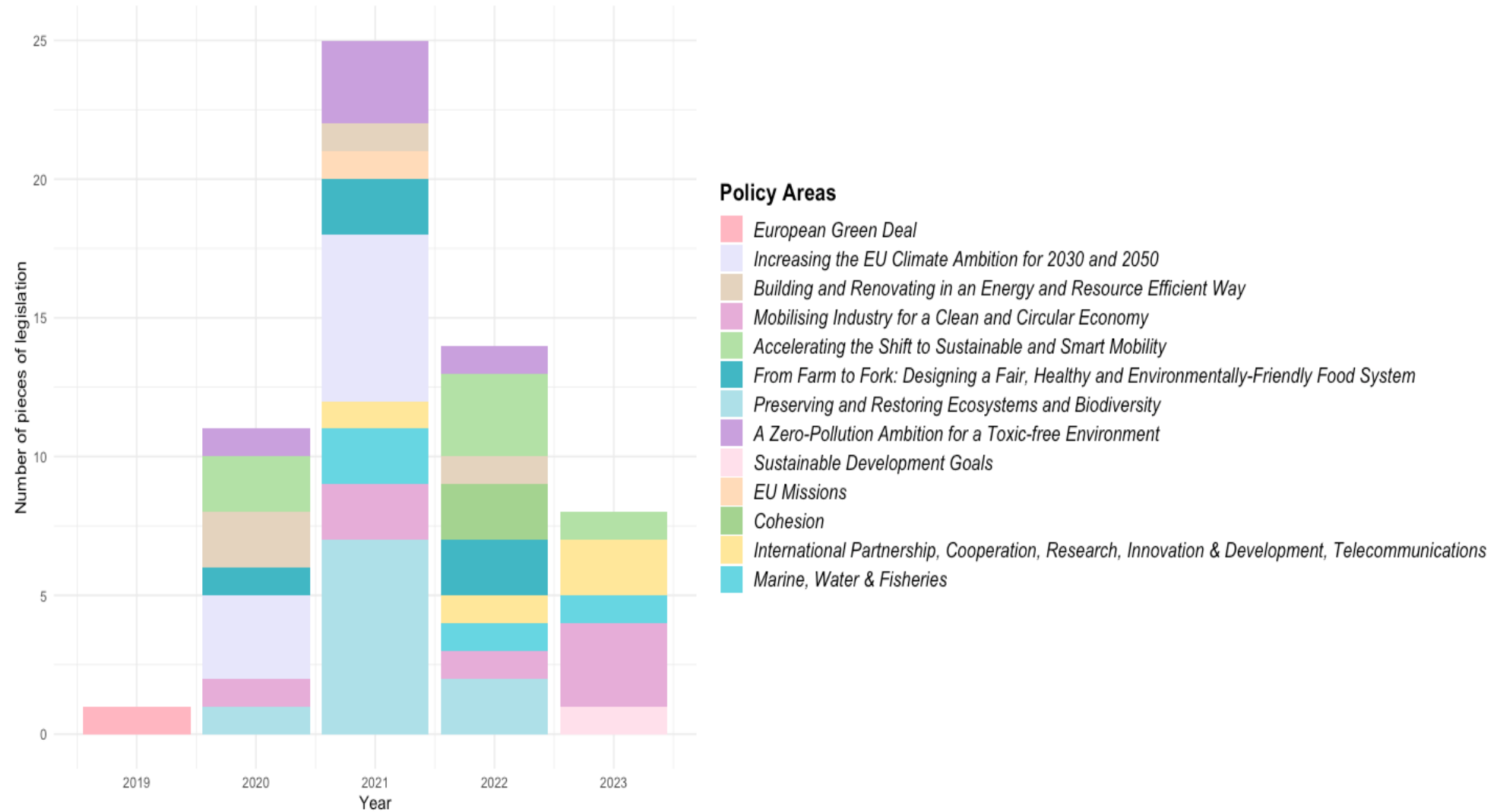
Inclusiveness & Transparency: Dialogue with external partners; international organisation; society



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## European Green Deal Legislation including Copernicus by policy area over time

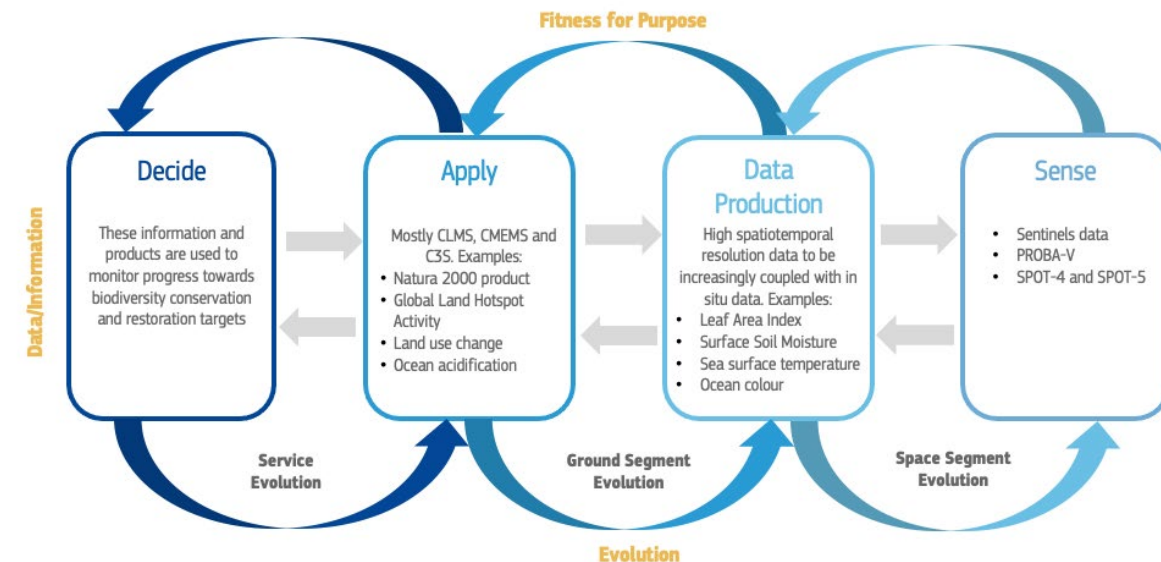
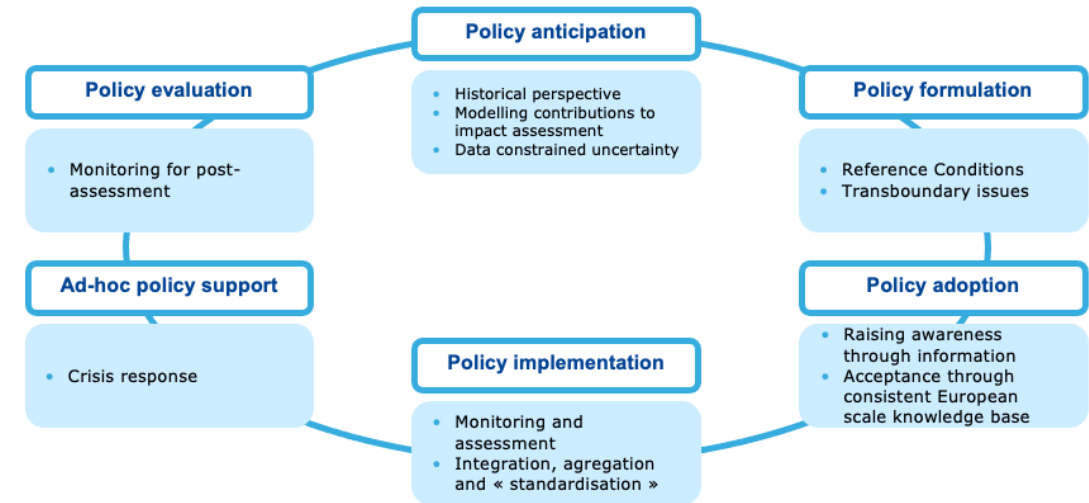




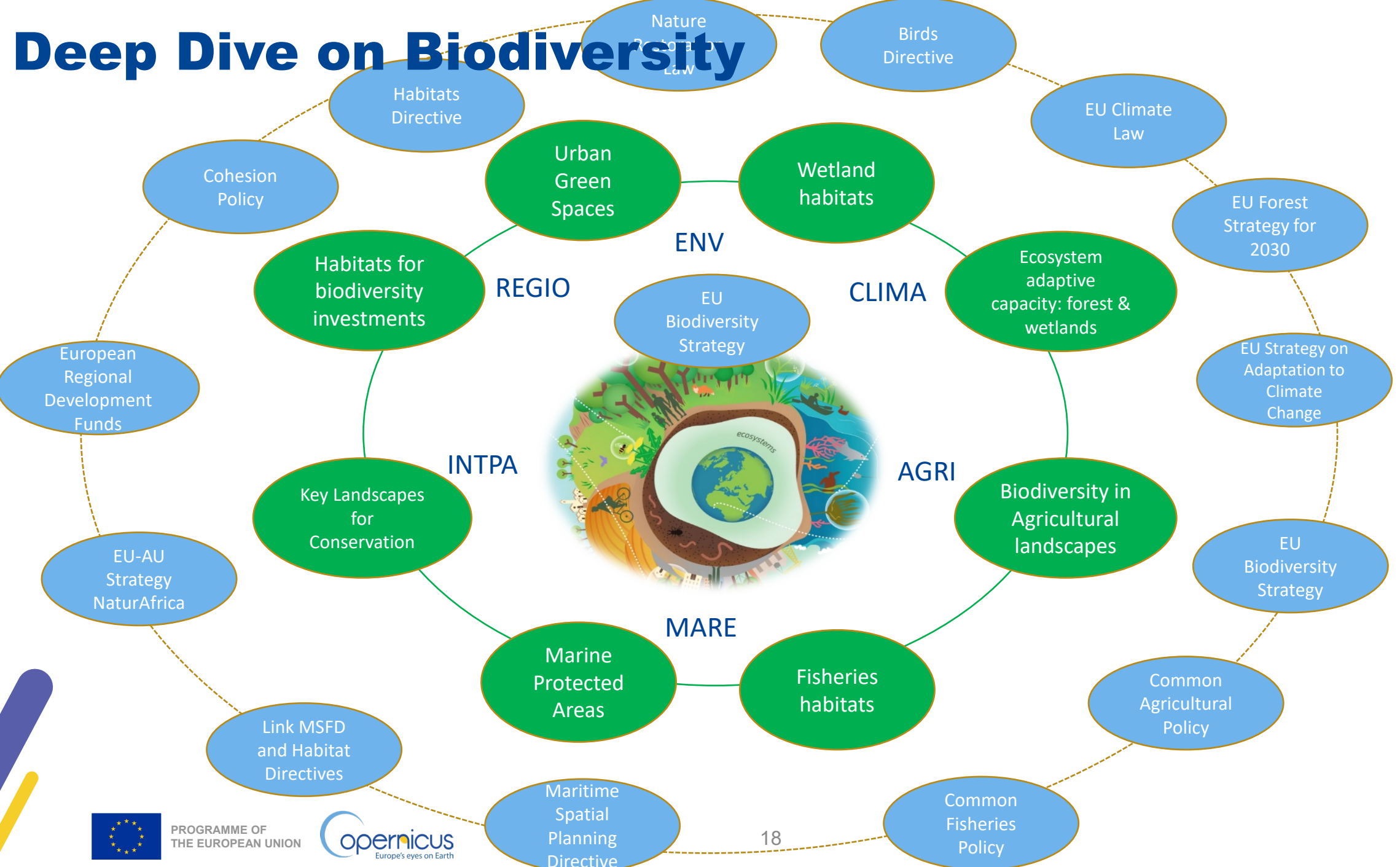
# Thematic Deep Dive Methodology

## Summary of steps

1. Policy needs assessment
2. Earth Observation Value Chain
3. Translation of needs into quantitative requirements
4. Assessment of fitness for purpose with regards to existing products, services, infrastructure, capacities
5. Gap analysis and recommendations for evolution



# Deep Dive on Biodiversity



### MONITORING OF THE EU BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY (BDS) TARGETS

**NEEDS:** High-resolution (HR) and long-term indicators on a yearly basis to effectively monitor progress towards the targets outlined.  
**STATUS:** Two online tools for tracking and reporting the progress of the BDS implementation: [Actions tracker](#) and [Dashboard](#).

**GAPS:**

- Lack of yearly HR maps to track changes.
- Absence of suitable ground-based biodiversity data for training and validation.

### MONITORING OF URBAN GREEN SPACES

**NEEDS:** Multitemporal HR maps covering various types of urban green infrastructures.

**STATUS:** [Urban Atlas](#) and [Small Woody Features \(SWF\)](#), among others, partially fulfill the need.

**GAPS:**

- Inadequacy of temporal frequency, thematic granularity, and spatial coverage.
- Geometric inaccuracy.

### MONITORING WETLAND HABITATS

**NEEDS:** HR maps of delineating wetland habitats and long-term indicators for assessing overall conditions and changes.

**STATUS:** [Land cover map on riparian zones](#), a dataset on [long-term dynamics of surface water](#), and [in-situ soil moisture observations](#).

**GAPS:**

- Lack of common definition for wetlands, based on generalized, objective, and measurable criteria.
- Insufficiency in geographic coverage, thematic granularity, spatial and temporal consistency, and a lack of a long-term record.
- Absence of a user-friendly platform to facilitate products accessibility.

### BIODIVERSITY MONITORING IN KEY AFRICAN LANDSCAPES FOR CONSERVATION (KLCs) FOR CONSERVATION (KLCs)

**NEEDS:** Detailed indicators, encompassing performance monitoring and accountability measures to support ecosystems conservation while supporting livelihoods and human development.

**STATUS:** EO products integrated in the [AKP](#) provide a baseline for monitoring across the selected KLCs.

**GAPS:**

- Insufficiency in integrating ancillary data, including socio-economic information derived from UNESCO and EU Delegations.
- Absence of a user-friendly platform to facilitate products accessibility, analysis and reporting.

### BIODIVERSITY MONITORING IN AGRICULTURE LANDSCAPE

**NEEDS:** Indicators for biodiversity monitoring and evaluation to meet the 10% target for High Diversity Landscape Features.

**STATUS:** [SWF](#) and [LUCAS](#) Landscape Features module partially address the needs.

**GAPS:**

- Lack of integration between SWF and LUCAS module.
- Absence of independent and traceable quality assessment of SWF with respect to policy requirements.
- Inadequate frequency and latency of available products.

### MONITORING SHIFTS IN GEOGRAPHIC RANGES, DISTRIBUTION AND CONDITIONS OF SPECIES POPULATION AS A FUNCTION OF CHANGING CLIMATE

**NEEDS:** Assessment of the impacts of Climate Change on ecosystems' functions and structures, on species abundance and distribution.

**STATUS:** Climatic data products are suitable for bioclimatic models.

**GAPS:**

- Low spatial resolution of available products.
- Lack of operability in combining bioclimatic modelling technologies with bioclimatic products (under development by C3S).
- Insufficiency in parametrising biological processes to be included in models.
- Inaccuracy and lack of performance assessment of bioclimatic models.

### ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING OF EU FOREST HEALTH

**NEEDS:** A forest monitoring system to alert on disturbances, assess the impact of climate changes on biodiversity, and predict disturbance risks.

**STATUS:** Copernicus [CLC+ Backbone](#) and [High Resolution Layer Forests](#), among others, partially address the needs.

**GAPS:**

- Lack of HR yearly maps on forest status and changes.
- Insufficiency in delineating forest types.
- Deficiency in integrating ground and satellite data.
- Limited access to and use of training and reference data for accuracy assessment of Copernicus products.

### MONITORING ESSENTIAL FISH HABITATS AND VULNERABLE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS, & MARINE BIODIVERSITY

**NEEDS:** HR maps for assessing marine protected areas (MPAs), characterising fisheries resources and identifying vulnerable ecosystems.

**STATUS:** [EwODnet](#) and the [Copernicus Marine Service](#) partially address the needs.

**GAPS:**

- Lack of centralized and easy access to satellite and in-situ national data.
- Absence of informative indicators on species richness and abundance hotspots, overlaps between hotspots and MPAs, and areas impacted by cumulative impacts.
- Insufficient spatial and temporal resolutions.

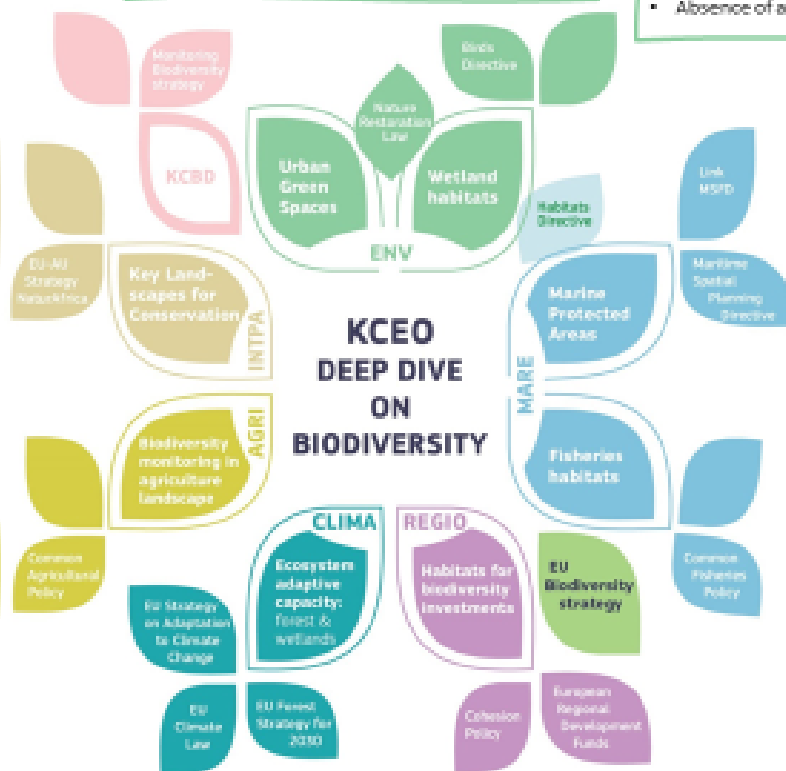
### MONITORING ECOSYSTEMS HEALTH TO SUPPORT BIODIVERSITY INVESTMENTS

**NEEDS:** Monitoring system to guide and assess EU investments in biodiversity and ecosystems.

**STATUS:** Available EO products partially address the needs.

**GAPS:**

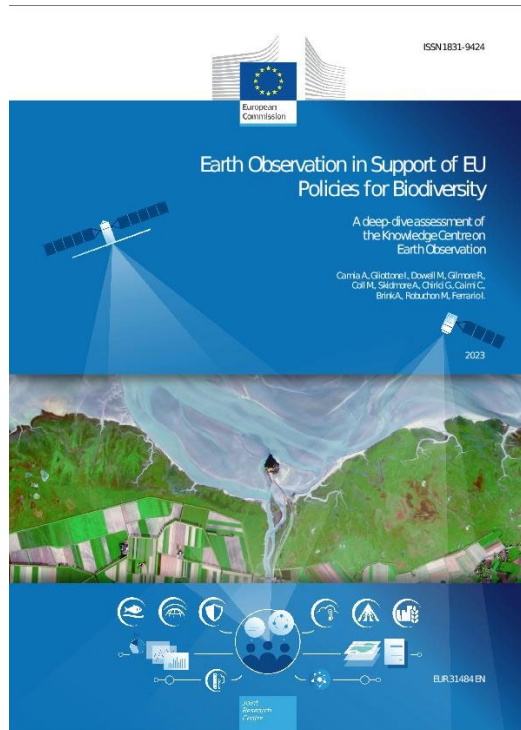
- Insufficient generation of targeted indicators, such as phenology or productivity indices.
- Lack of operability.
- Inconsistencies and gaps in the time series.
- Coarse thematic granularity of land cover maps, limiting a comprehensive understanding of ecosystems.



#	RS - Biodiversity Product (*)	EU Biodiversity Strategy Targets																Copernicus Product
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
1	Biological effect of fire disturbance	x	x	x	x													Burnt Area
2	Biological effect of irregular inundation	x	x	x	x													Soil Water Index
3	Leaf Area Index		x		x													Leaf Area Index
4	Land Cover	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x							Land Cover
5	Ice Cover habitat	x	x	x	x													RLIE S1+S2
6	Above ground biomass		x		x													NA
7	Foliar NPK Content						x						x					NA
8	Net primary productivity							x	x									Net primary productivity
9	Gross primary productivity							x	x									Gross primary productivity
10	FAPAR		x		x													FAPAR
11	Fraction of vegetation cover							x	x									Fraction of vegetation cover
12	Plant area index profile		x		x													NA
13	Urban habitat														x			1. Urban Atlas, 2. GHS BUILT, 3. GHS SMOD
14	Vegetation canopy height	x	x	x	x													NA
15	Habitat structure				x													NA
16	Ecosystem Fragmentation	x			x													Corine Land Cover
17	Ecosystem structural variance	x			x													Corine Land Cover
18	Land surface phenology peak							x	x									Vegetation phenology and productivity suite HR VPP
19	Land surface phenology green-up							x	x									Vegetation phenology and productivity suite HR VPP
20	Land surface phenology senescence							x	x									Vegetation phenology and productivity suite HR VPP
21	Carbon cycle		x		x													NA
22	Chlorophyll content and flux	x		x														Chlorophyll content and flux

(\*) RS products prioritized as EO biodiversity metrics in Skidmore et al. (Nature ecol & evol, 2021)

# General recommendations on EO support to EU biodiversity policy



- Sustained assistance to cover the “**last mile**” for an efficient uptake: products need to be tailored
- Efficiency potentially gained addressing **cross-policy needs**
- **Spatial resolution and thematic detail** more important than high time frequency
- **Time series** length, consistency and regular updates to improve e.g., for benchmarking and observing evolutions over time
- **Improving thematic details** of EO products; standard land cover classes not sufficient for many biodiversity applications. Need of a harmonised ecosystem typology classification (other communities are going in this direction).
- Integration of **in situ data** and models is key but far from operational
- **Availability of in situ data** is still a challenge
- **Access to EO products** and services for decision makers to improve

<https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC132908>



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# THANK YOU

Michel Massart  
European Commission  
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