

Space and Climate Change

COPUOS, STC
Vienna, 6 February 2017

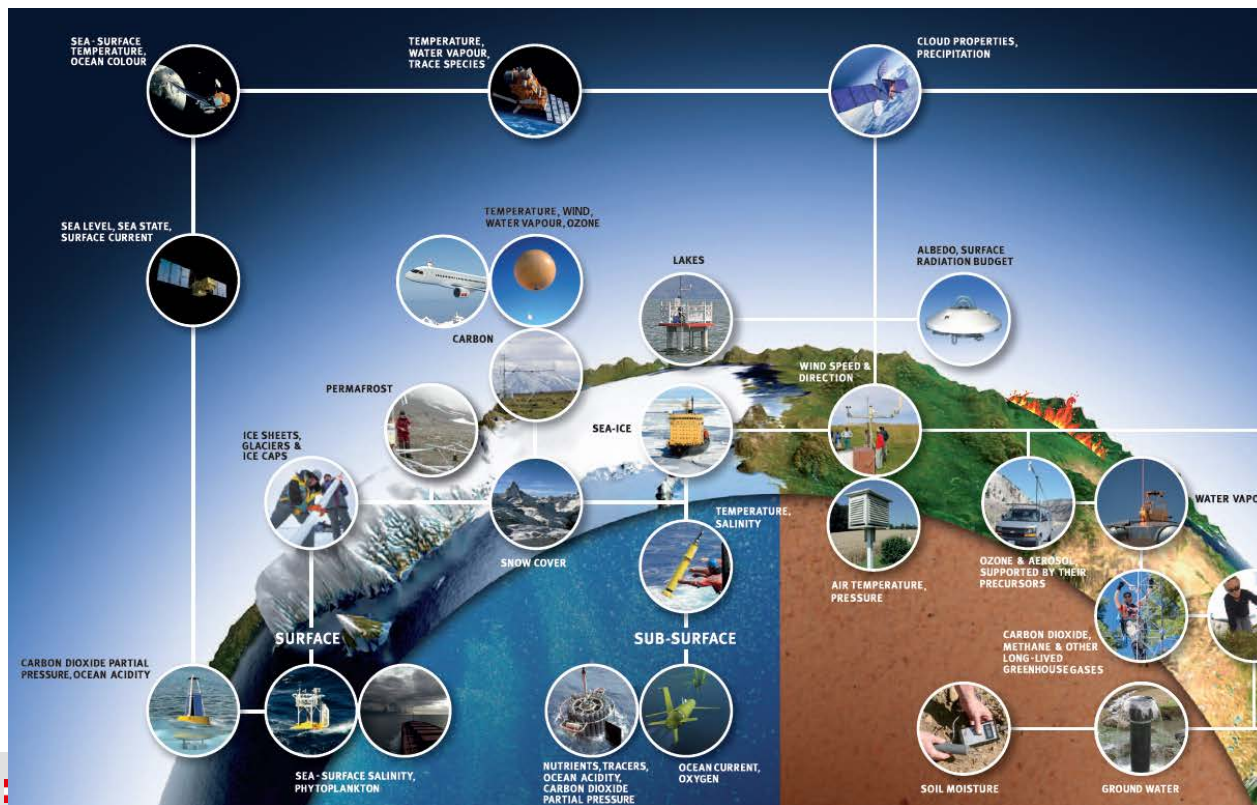
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European Space Agency (ESA)

Space-based EO and Climate Change

- Complete, coherent and long-term measurements of geophysical parameters needed for climate models
- Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) has identified 50 Essential Climate Variables (ECV)
- For half of these satellite EO is the primary data source



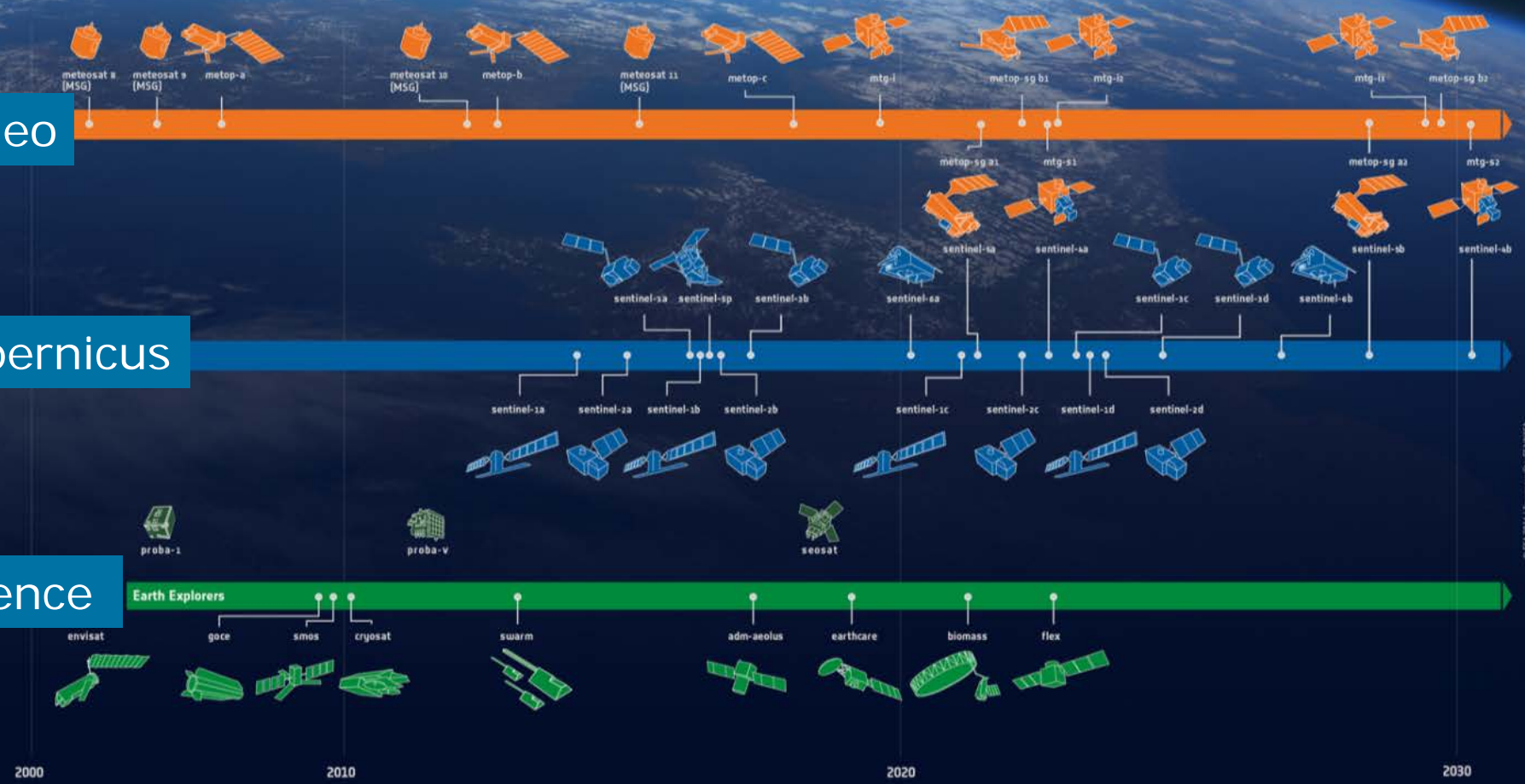
Essential Climate Variables and GCOS



Meteo

Copernicus

Science



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→ **ESA-DEVELOPED EARTH OBSERVATION MISSIONS**



European Space Agency








- Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) in development phase
- ECMWF operates the C3S Climate Change Service on behalf of the European Union
- C3S will provide key indicators on climate change drivers such as carbon dioxide and impacts – for example, reducing glaciers.



Copernicus Sentinel Missions

Sustained "Systematic Observations"



-  **S1: Radar Mission**
A-LAUNCHED 3.04.2014
-  **S2: High Resolution Optical Mission**
A-LAUNCHED 23.06.2015
-  **S3: Medium Resolution Imaging and Altimetry Mission**
B-LAUNCHED 25.04.2016
-  **S4: Geostationary Atmospheric Chemistry Mission**
A-LAUNCHED 16.02.2016
-  **S5P: Low Earth Orbit Atmospheric Chemistry Precursor Mission**
B-LAUNCH 6.03.2017
-  **S5: Low Earth Orbit Atmospheric Chemistry Mission**
B-LAUNCH 04.2017
-  **S6 (Jason-CS): Altimetry Mission**
LAUNCH 02-2017

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Cryosat and the Arctic



Arctic Sea Ice Thickness



Ice Volume

30 thousand cubic km



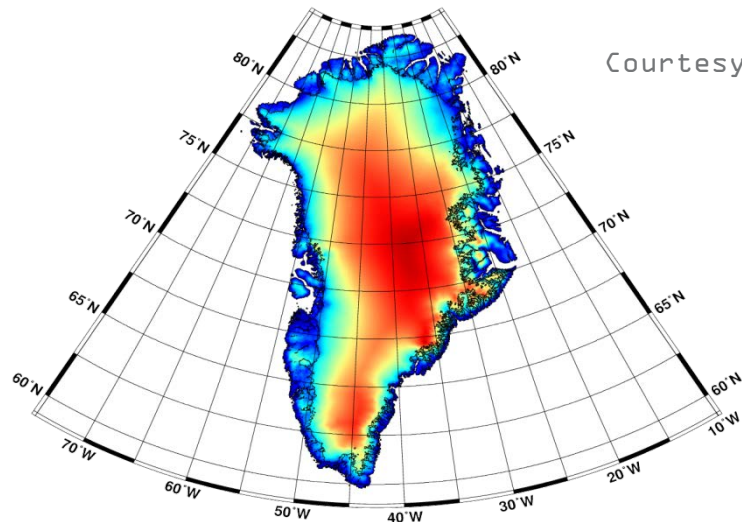


→ **36 YEARS OF GLACIER RETREAT**
southeast Greenland

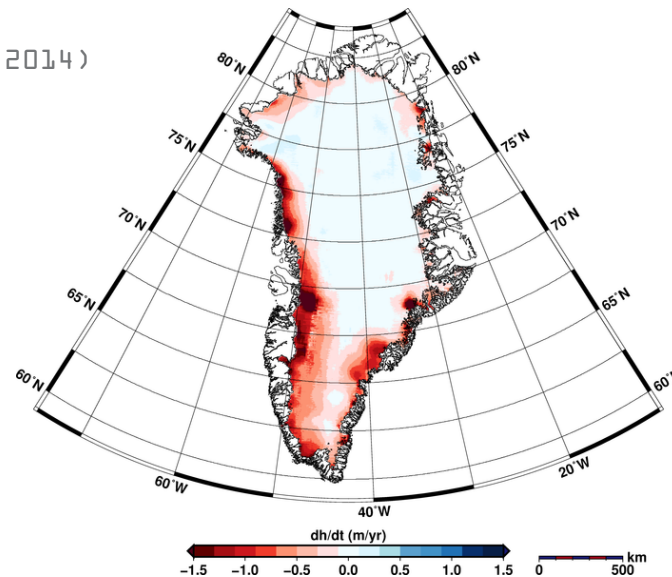
5 km

Cryosat: Greenland Ice Loss

Courtesy: Helm et al. (2014)



Digital Elevation
Model



2003-2008

IMBIE

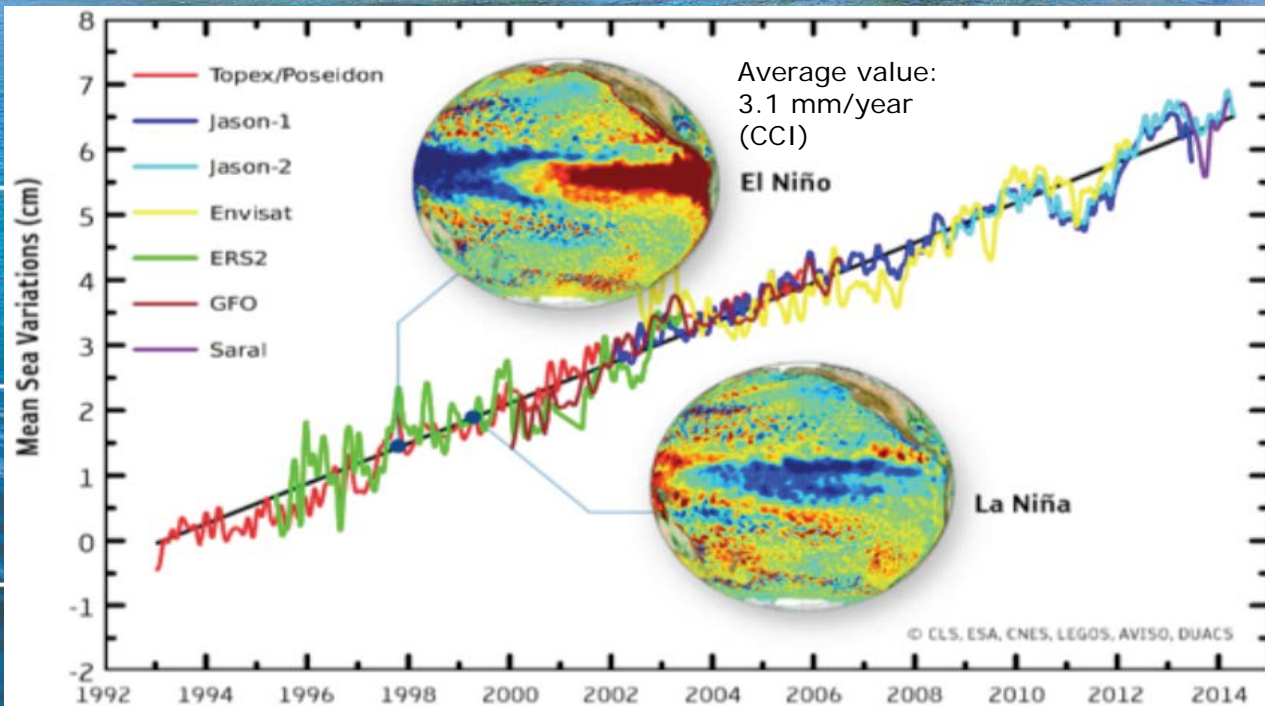
$-189 \pm 20 \text{ km}^3/\text{yr}$

2011-2012

CryoSat

$-352 \pm 29 \text{ km}^3/\text{yr}$

Rising Sea Levels



CoP 21, Paris



Global average temperature increase: limited to $+2^{\circ}\text{C}$; working towards $+1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$

Reporting every 5 years, from 2023 onwards

Key to success: Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC)

The Paris Agreement



Agreement on:

- Climate Mitigation
- Climate Adaptation
- Transparency, Global Stocktake
- Loss and Damage
- Support



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11

ESA Programmes will support key actions

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CO₂ (Simulation of future Sentinel-7, 2025+)



Monitoring and Consequences

→ global cooperation and data exchange essential

ESA's Climate Change Initiative



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Thanks for your attention!
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