

ESA Space Technology for Climate Action

UN/Austria Symposium 2023

12 September 2023

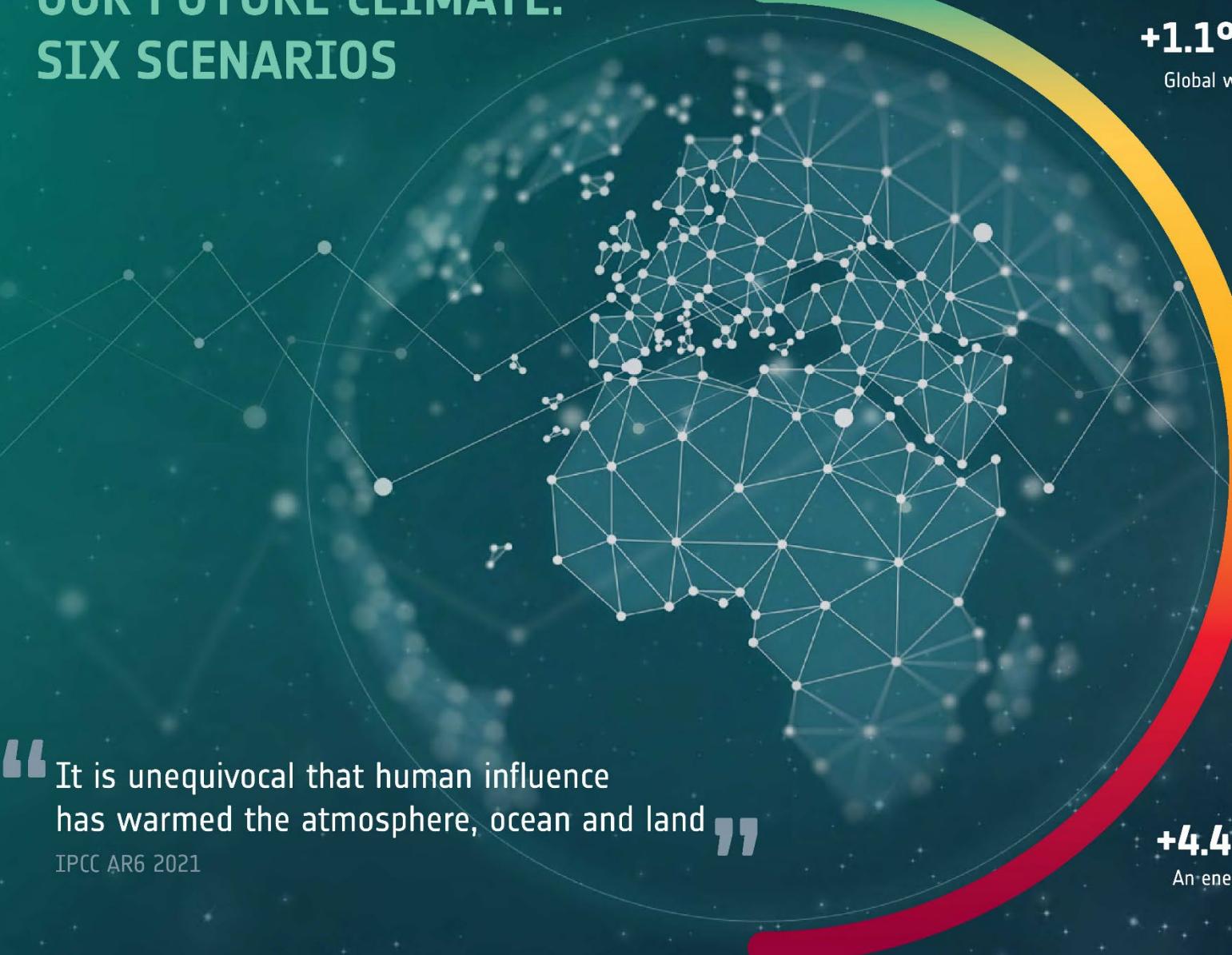
Simonetta Cheli

*Director of Earth Observation Programmes, ESA
Head of ESA ESRIN Establishment*

ESA UNCLASSIFIED – For ESA Official Use Only



OUR FUTURE CLIMATE: SIX SCENARIOS



“ It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land ”

IPCC AR6 2021

+1.1°C WHERE WE ARE NOW

Global warming due to increased human-driven greenhouse gases in the atmosphere

+1.4°C TAKING THE GREEN ROAD

If net zero emissions are achieved by 2050 (SSP1-1.9)

+1.5°C

PARIS AGREEMENT GOAL

+1.8°C LIMITING GLOBAL WARMING

If net zero emissions are achieved in second half of 21st century (SSP1-2.6)

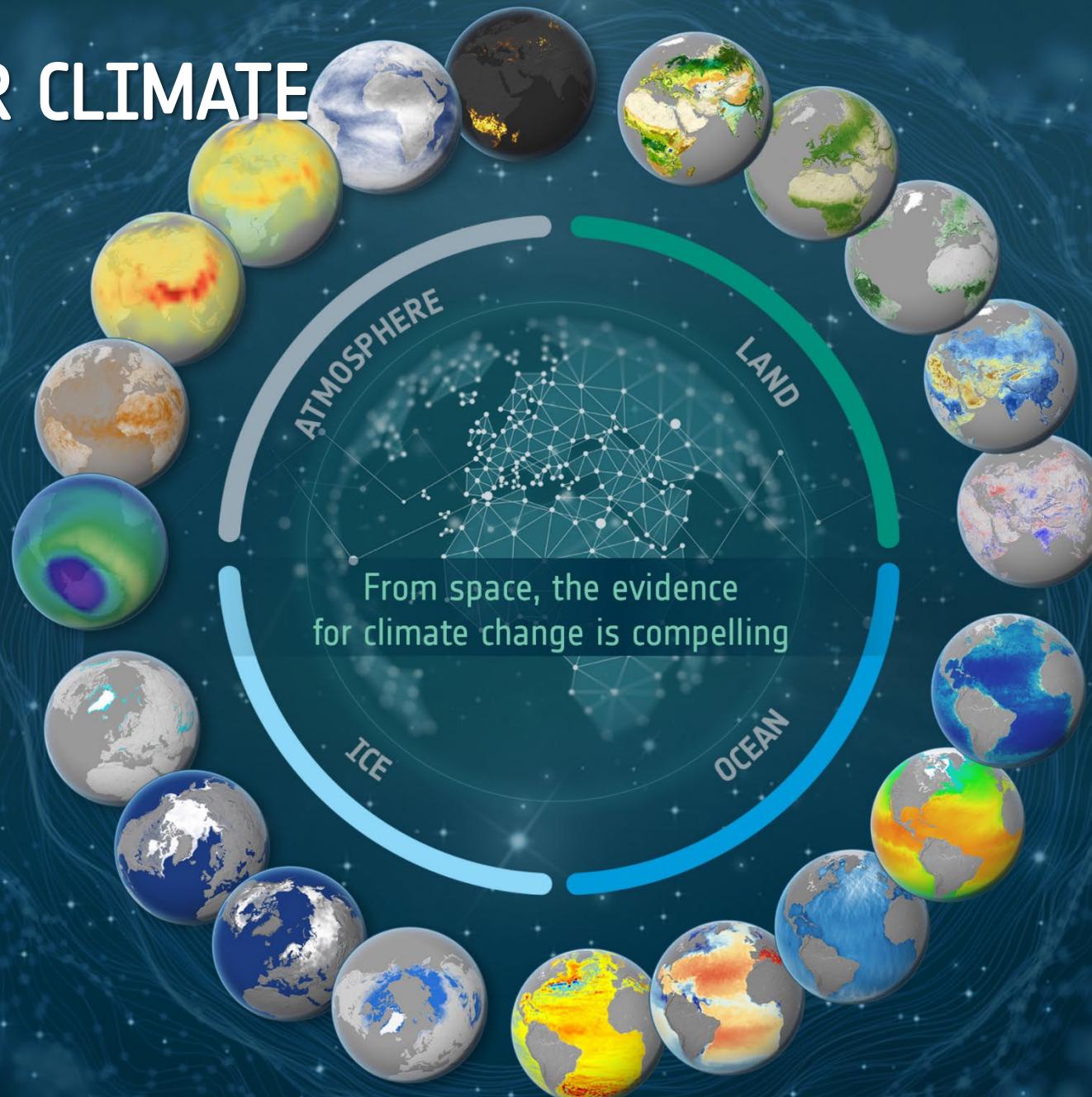
+2.7°C NO EXTRA CLIMATE POLICIES

If current greenhouse gas emissions persist until mid-21st century (SSP2-4.5)

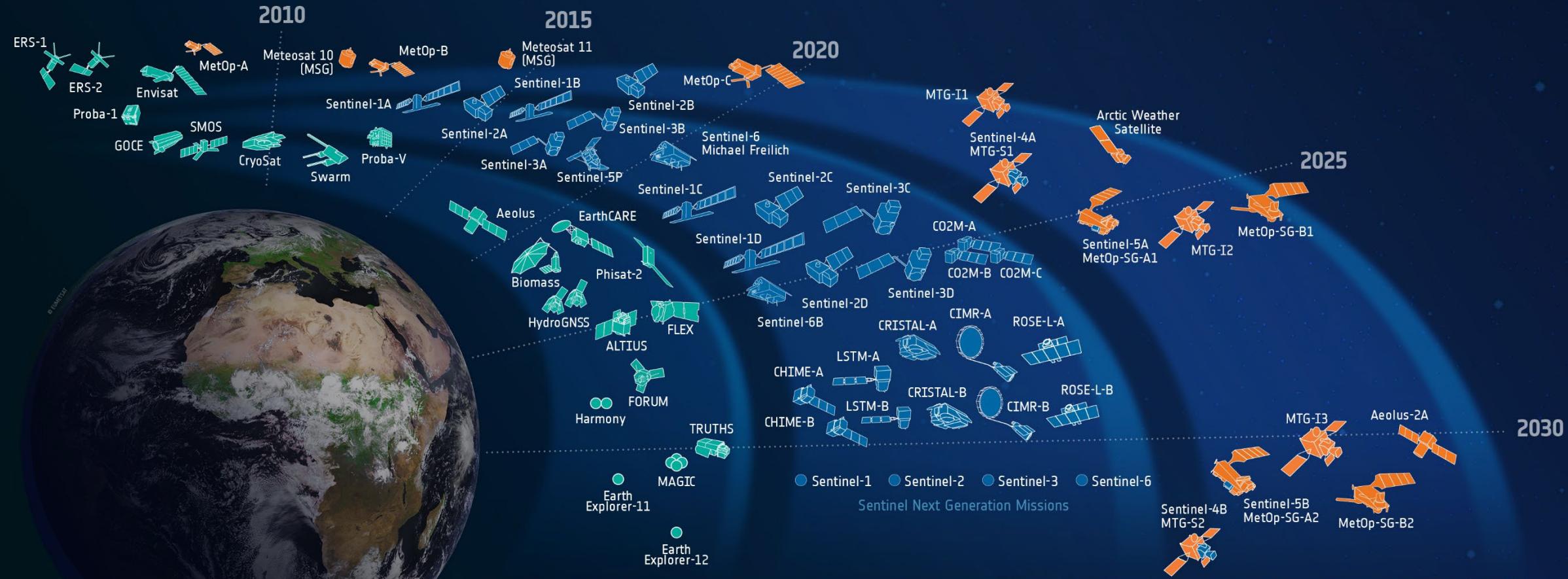
+4.4°C FOSSIL-FUELLED DEVELOPMENT

An energy and resource intensive scenario for the 21st century (SSP5-8.5)

SPACE FOR OUR CLIMATE



ESA's Earth Observation Missions



Science

e esa

Copernicus



Meteorology

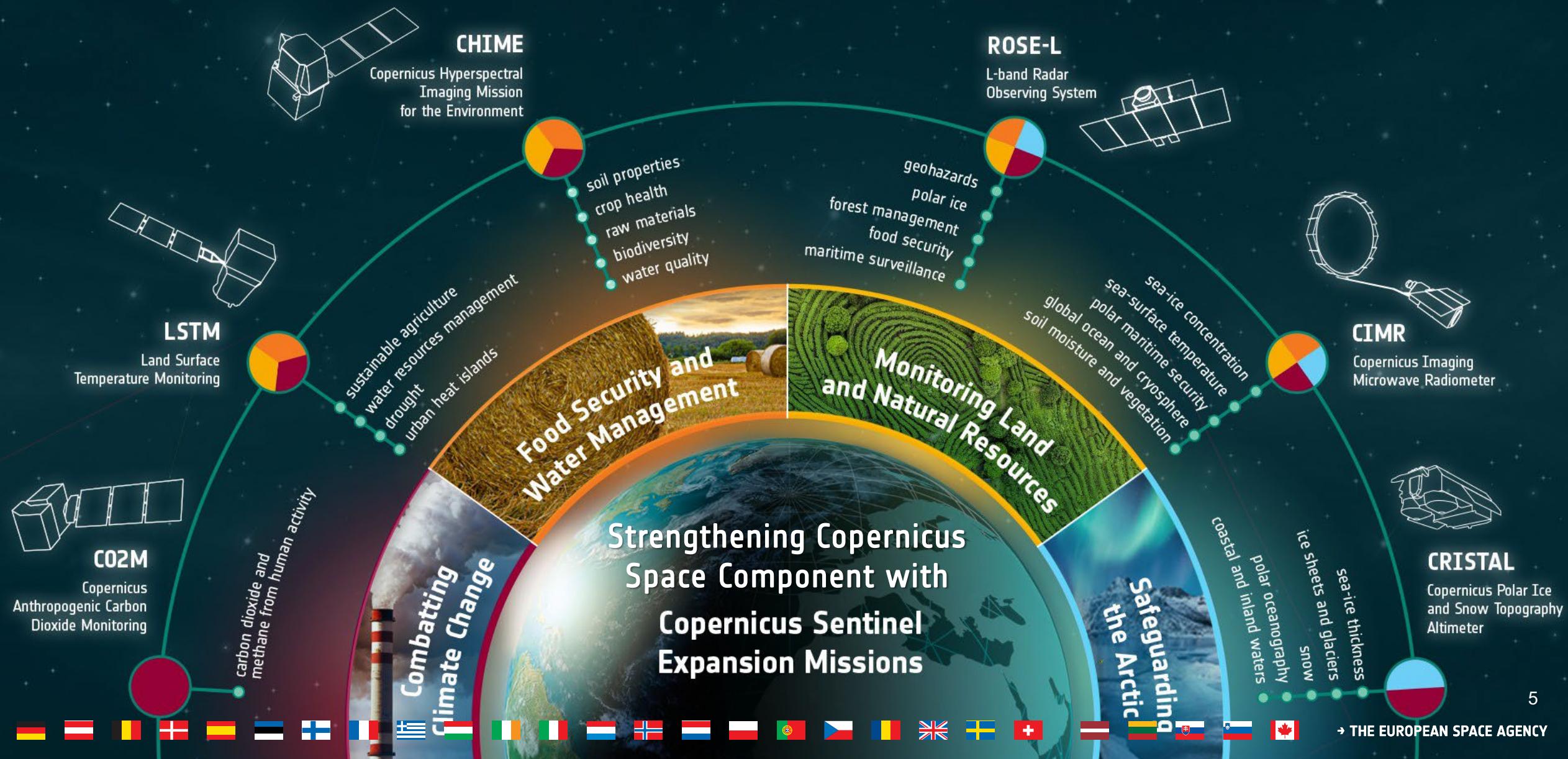
EUMETSAT

Continued and Enhanced Observations

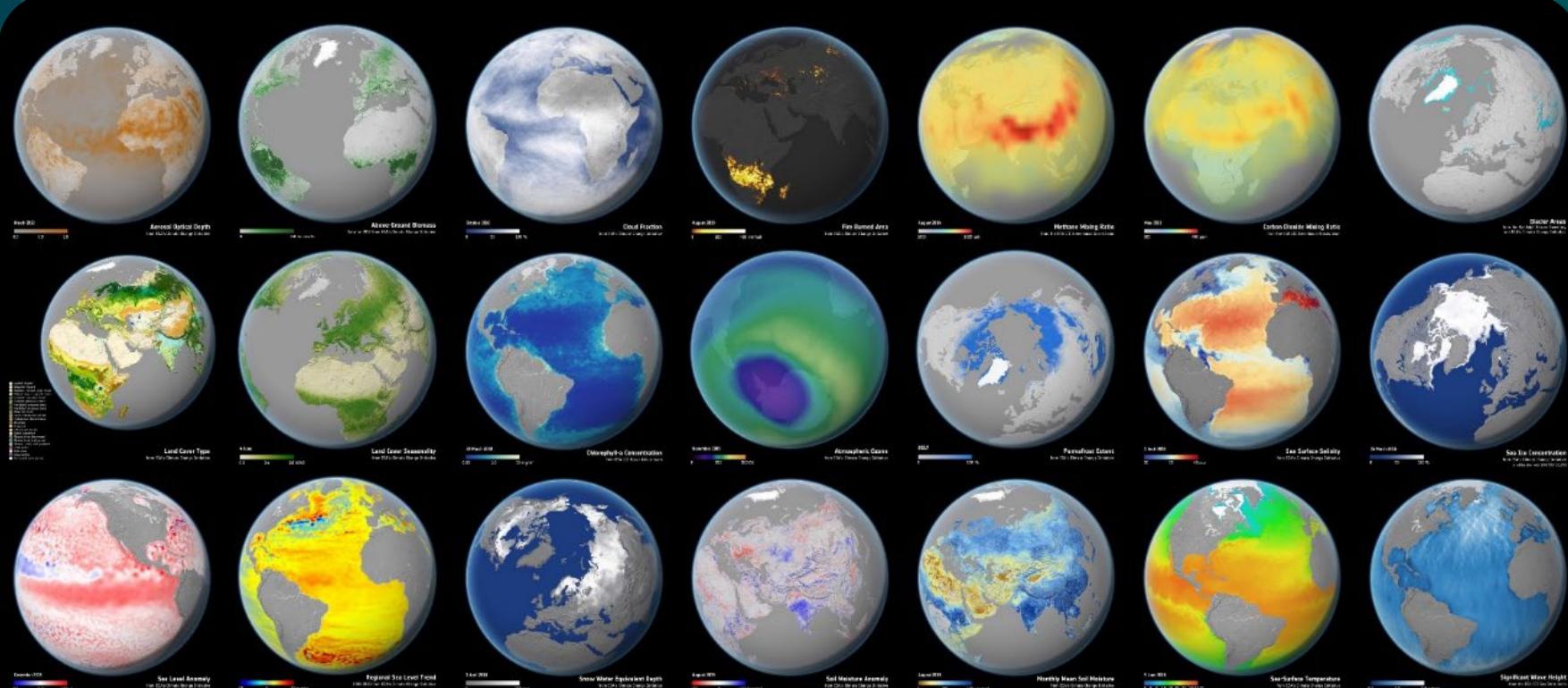


PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

co-funded with



ESA's Climate Change Initiative



climate modelling
user group
cci



sea level
budget closure
cci



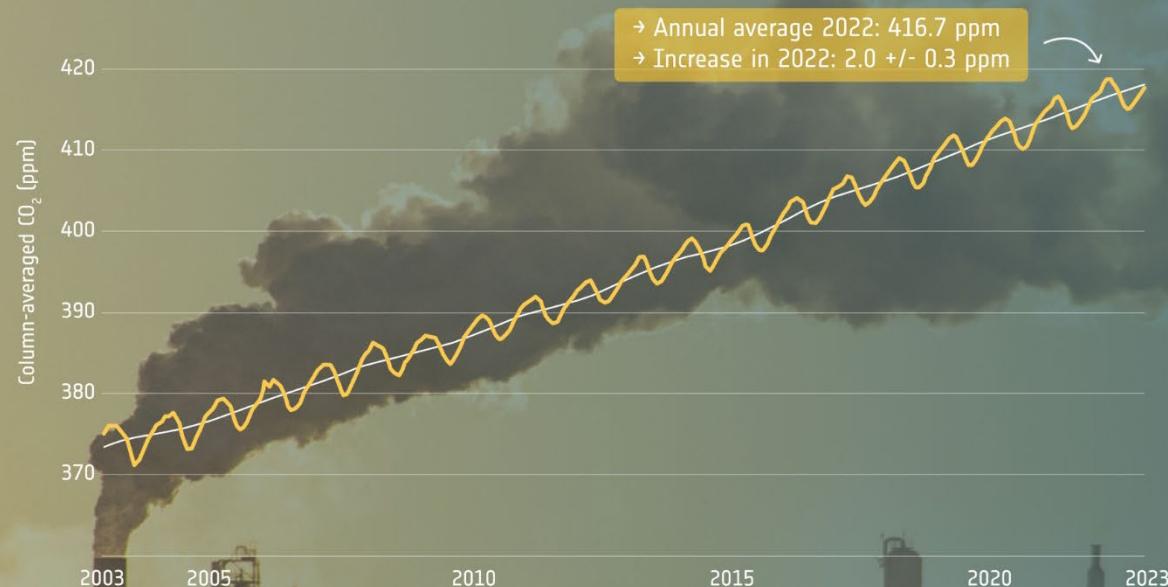
reccap-2
cci

CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE



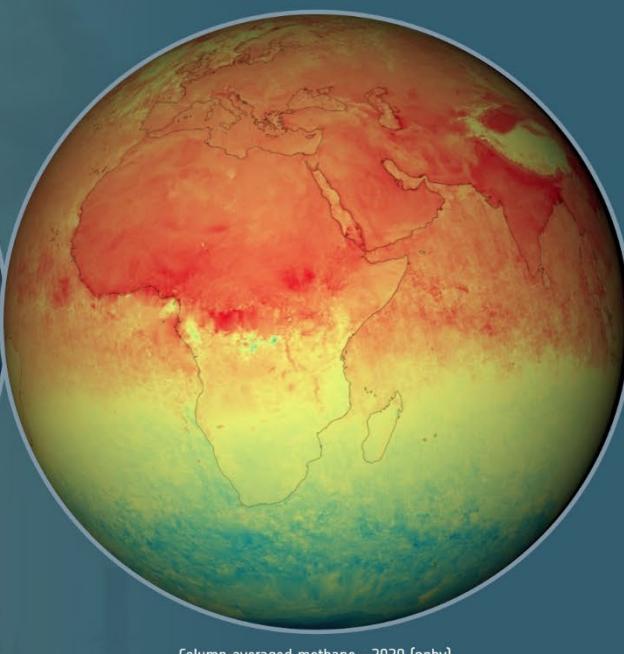
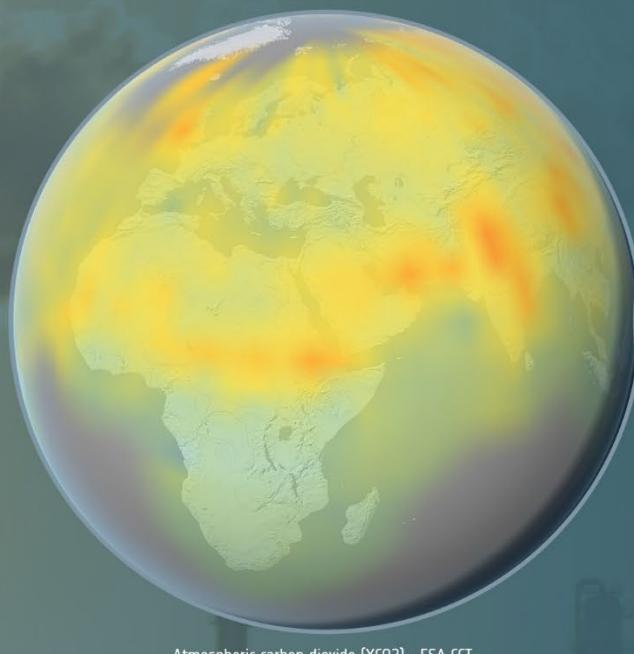
→ THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

GREENHOUSE GASES



Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) from satellites

Copernicus Climate Change Service dataset 2003–2022 (December) using algorithms and brokered products from CCI with data from Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service



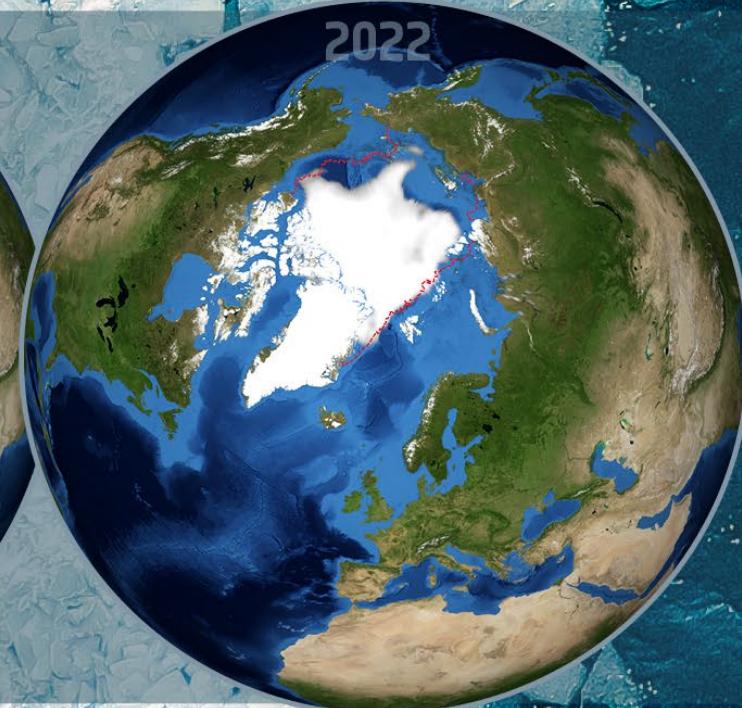
While carbon dioxide is more abundant in the atmosphere and therefore more commonly associated with global warming, methane is around 30 times more potent as a heat-trapping gas, albeit more short-lived.



SEA ICE



Late summer (September) sea-ice extent in the Arctic as measured by satellites 1979–2022
© EUMETSAT OSI SAF data, with R&D input from ESA CCT



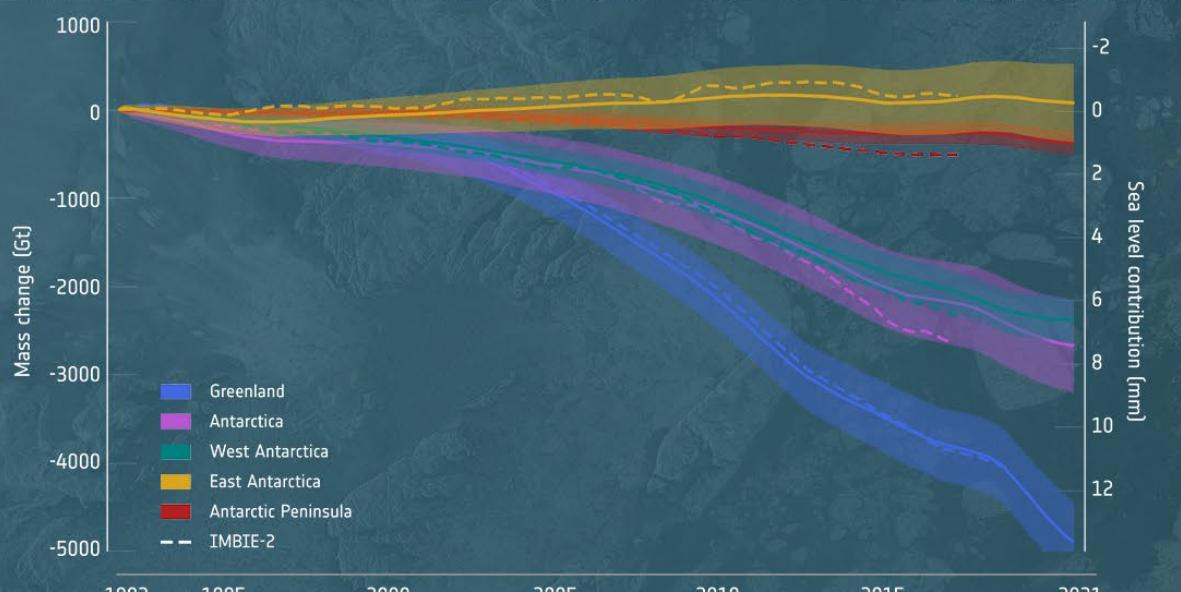
Climate projections, informed by satellite data, show that the Arctic Ocean is likely to experience 'ice free' summers before 2050.

Arctic sea ice extent (September 1979 - September 2022)
Source: OSI SAF data redistributed by CMEMS. © (2022) EUMETSAT

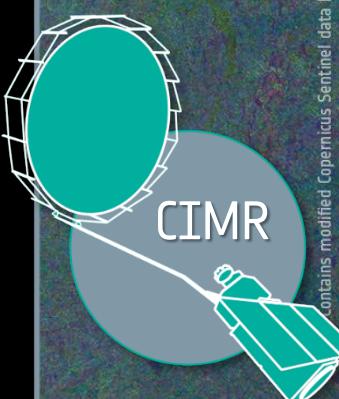
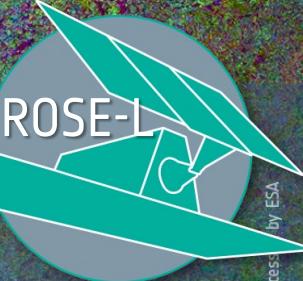
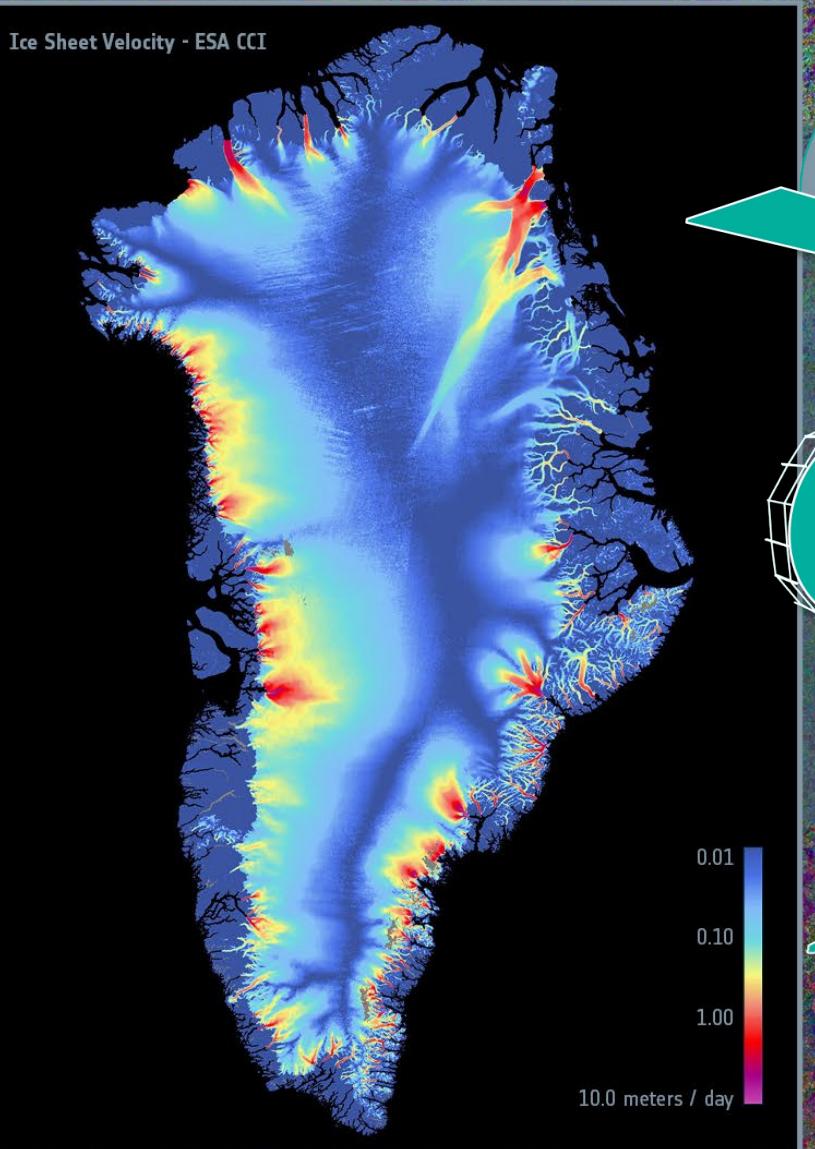
CRISTAL



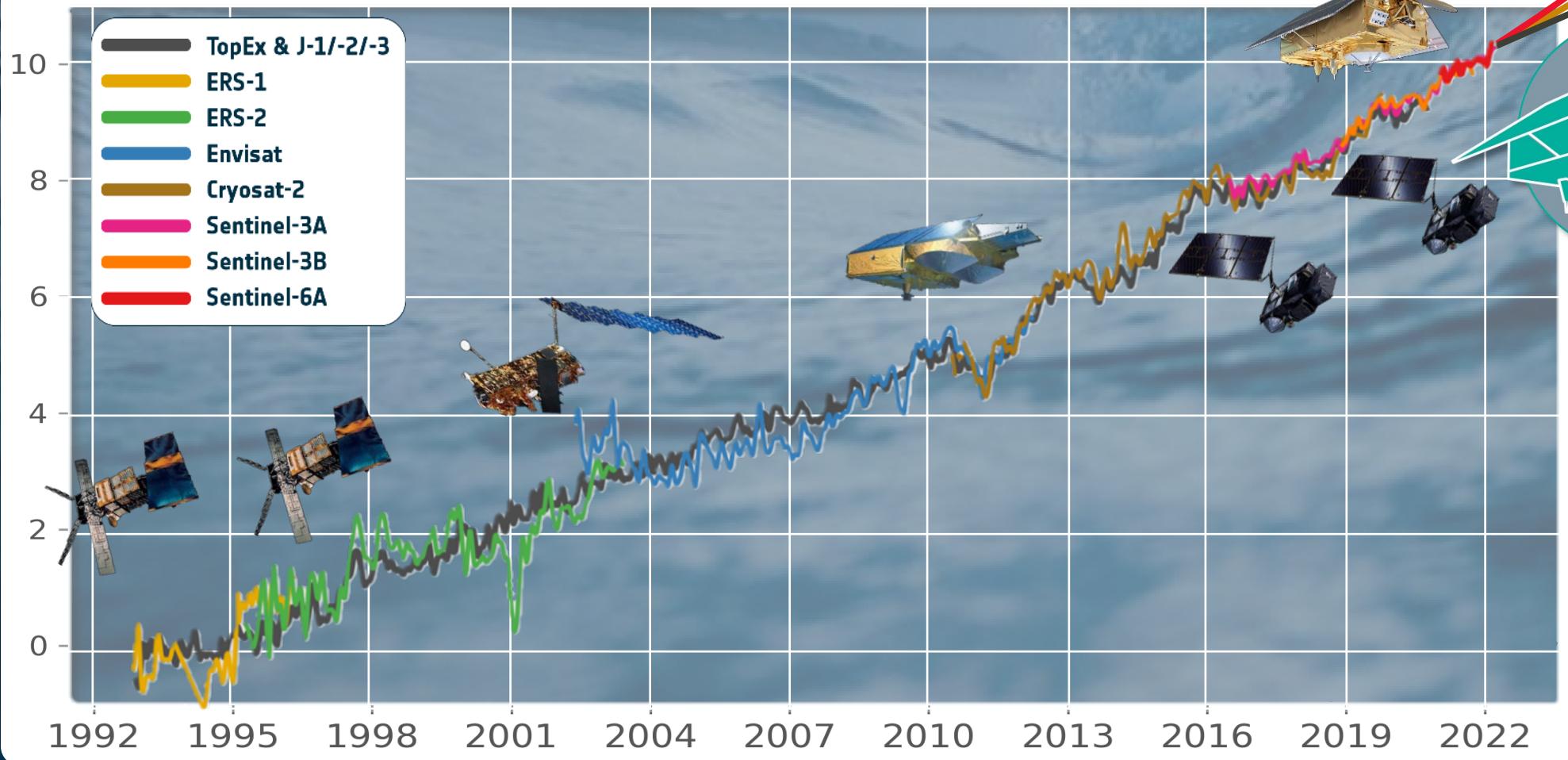
LAND ICE



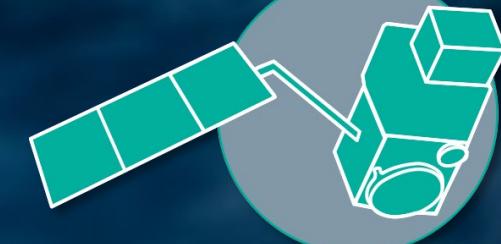
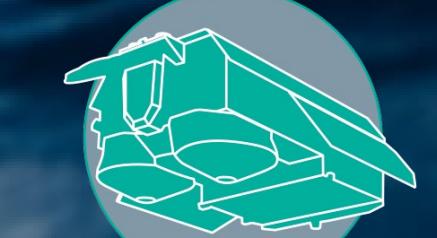
Between 1992 and 2020, the polar ice sheets lost 7560 billion tonnes of ice – equivalent to an ice cube measuring 20 km each side.



Sea Level



esa
?



BIOMASS AND LAND COVER



New and more robust global forest biomass data in the stocktake will help to establish – and quantify – with greater certainty, the net gains and losses of carbon associated with forest growth, loss and degradation.

SPACE FOR A GREEN FUTURE



“ Space offers a vast untapped potential to ramp up the fight for a green future and tackle global climate change ”

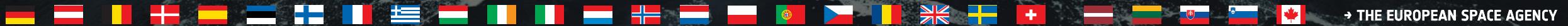
ESA Director General
Josef Aschbacher



MAKE SPACE FOR EUROPE

www.esa.int

ESA UNCLASSIFIED – For ESA Official Use Only



→ THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY