

# e-shape solutions: Earth Observation for biodiversity and water management

14 - 15 February 2023

9.30 – 17.00 CET

The Hague - NSO Headquarter

*Centre Court*

Emmanuel Pajot,  
EO market trends and future perspectives



e-shape

An event co-organised by

eurisy  
ACTING COLLECTIVELY TO  
BRIDGE SPACE AND SOCIETY

Netherlands  
Space  
Office

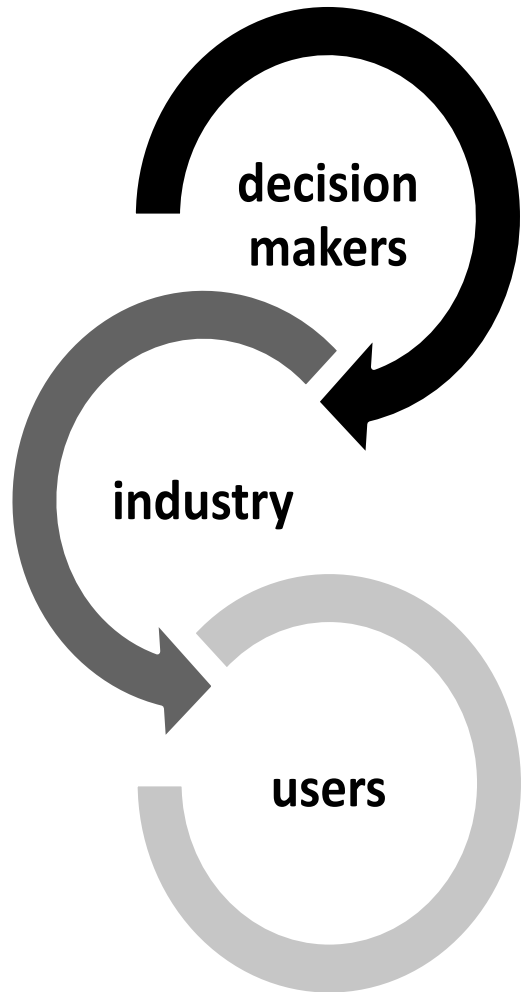
# EARSC members

European Association  
of Remote Sensing  
Companies



130+ members from 25 countries  
covering whole Earth Observation downstream value chain

# EARSC Activities



1 Representing the Members



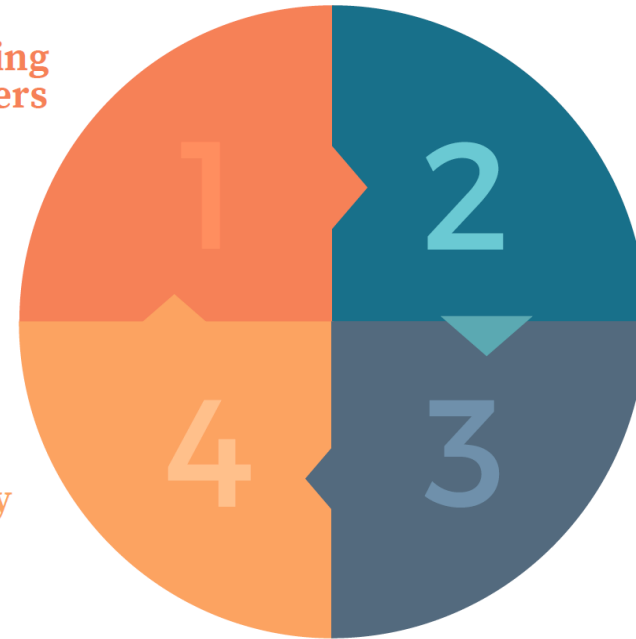
4 Tools for promoting the industry



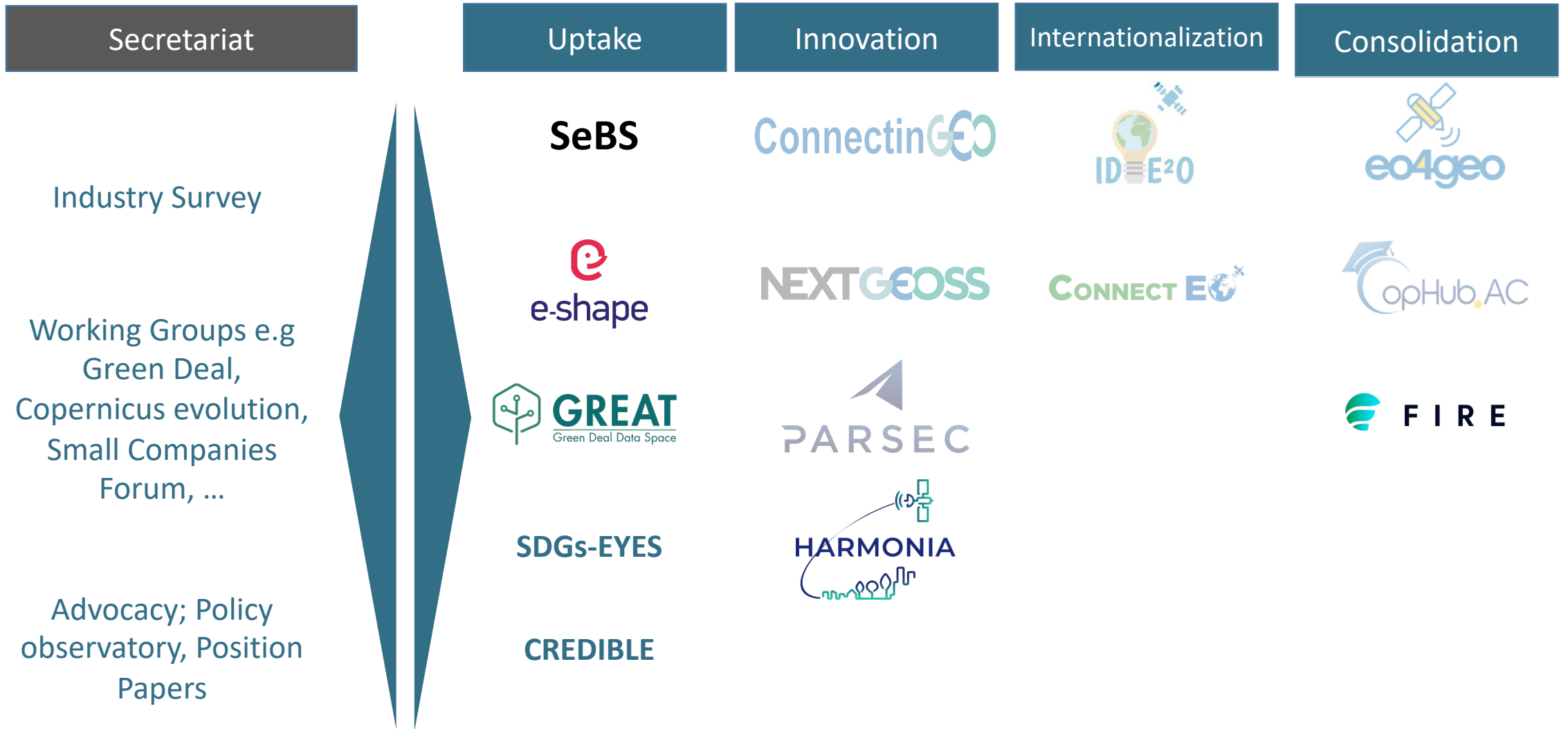
2 Market development & Internationalization

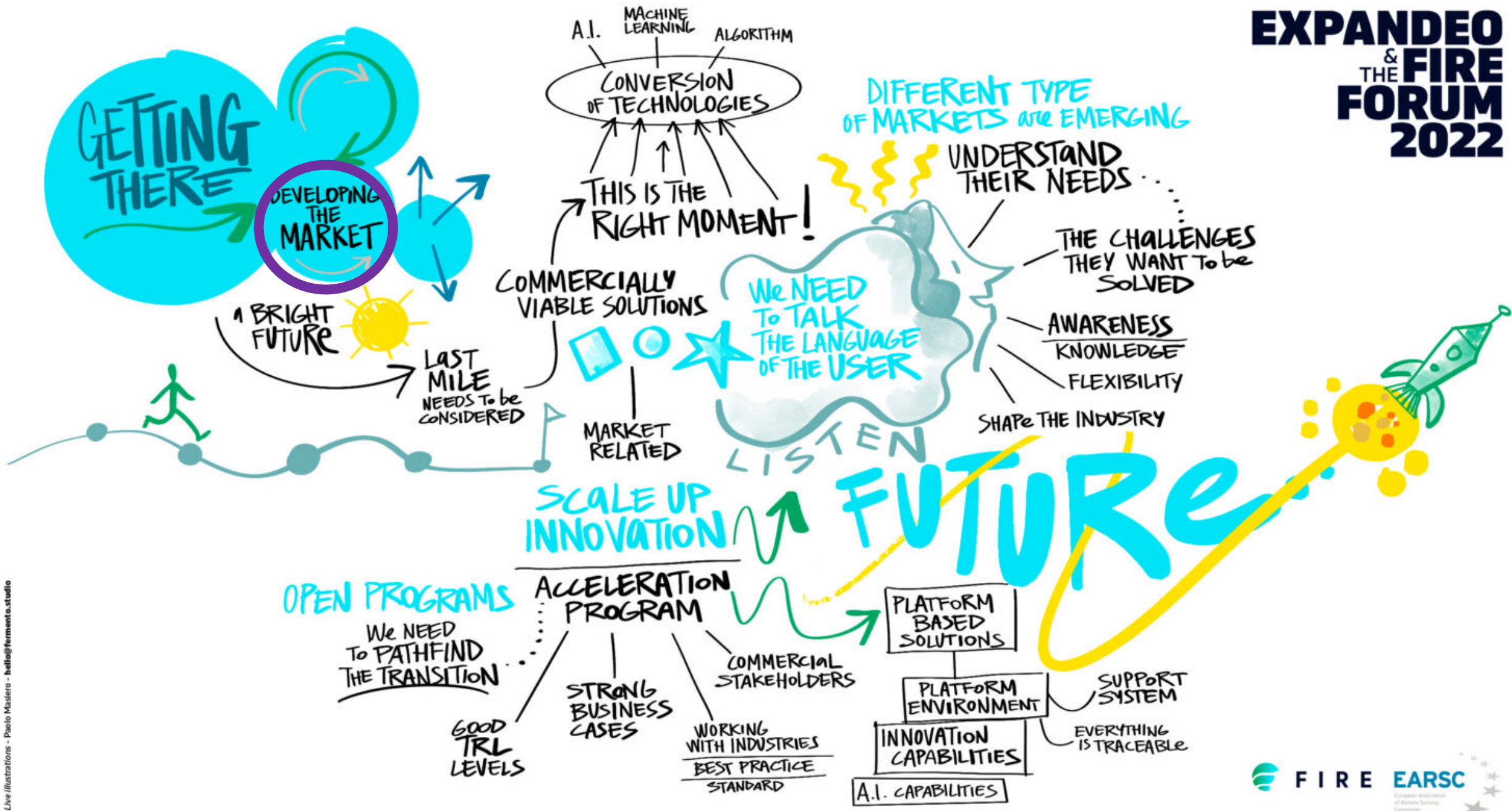


3 Showing the value of Earth Observation



# EARSC Projects





# Industry Survey : Facts & Figures



**746**  
Companies



**12085**  
Employees



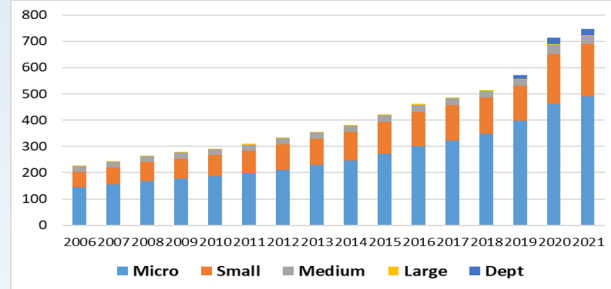
**€1.61 b**  
Revenues



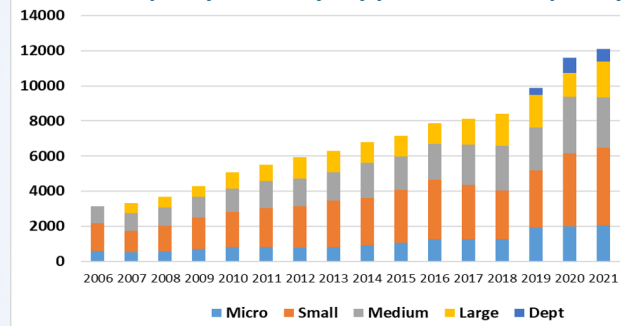
**7,5% growth\***

\* CAGR over 5 year

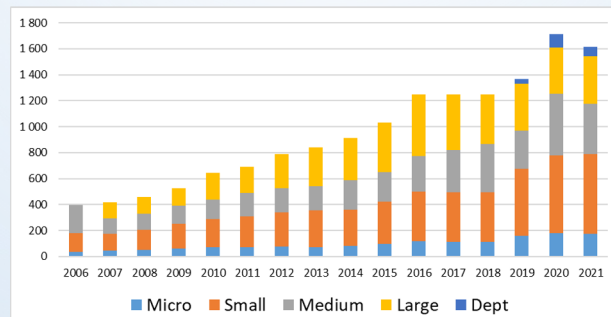
Evolution of EO service companies



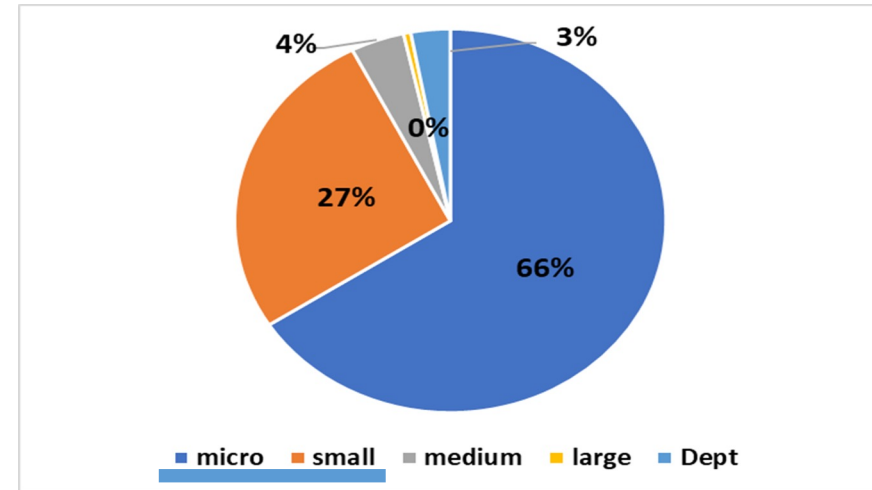
EO employees by type of company



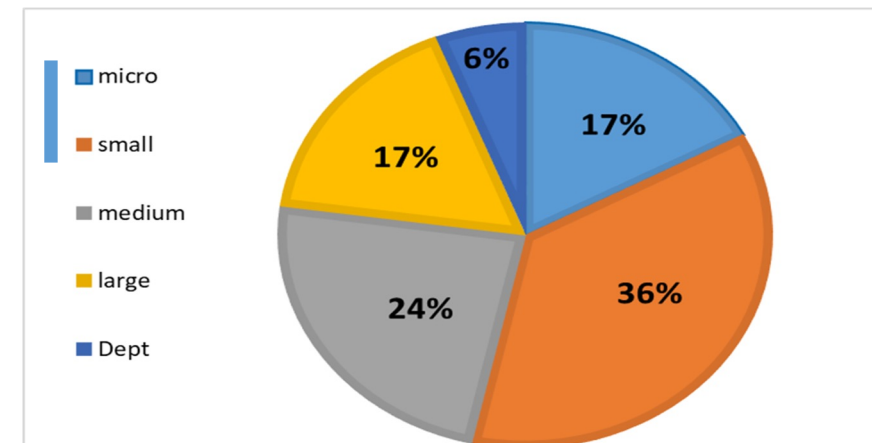
Revenues



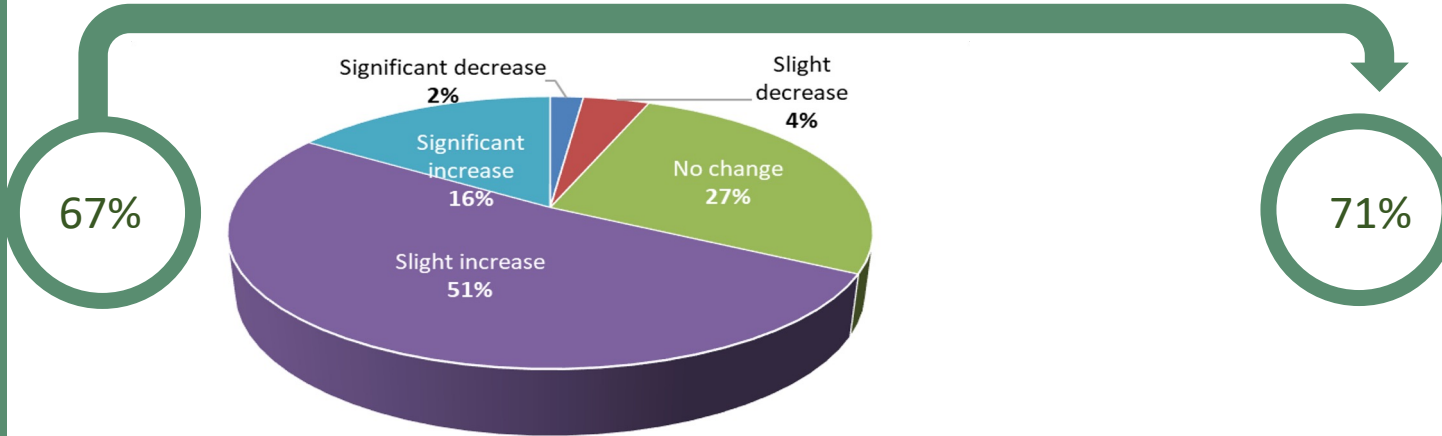
Breakdown of companies by company class in 2021



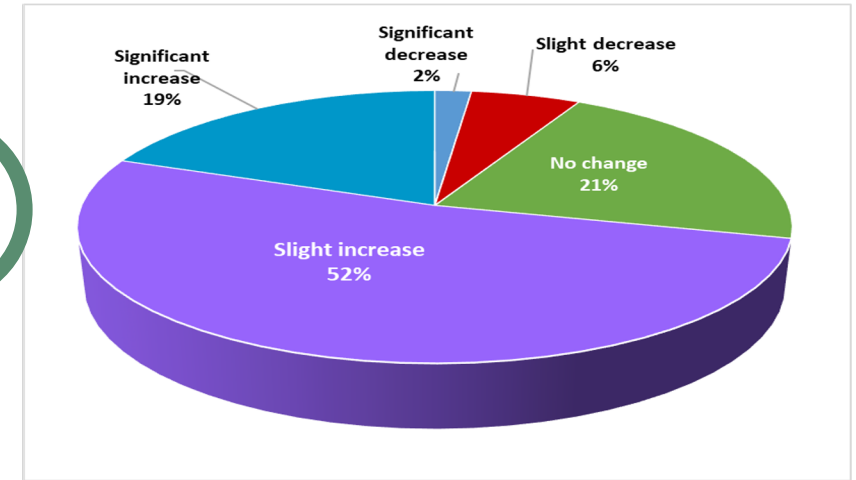
Employee breakdown by company class in 2021



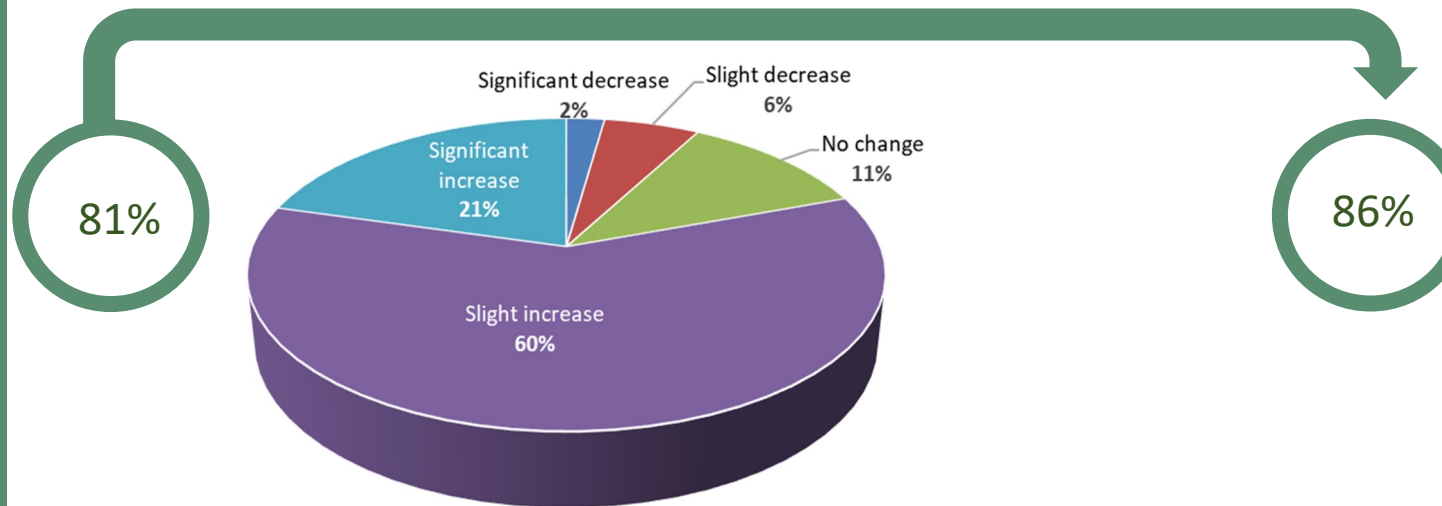
# Industry Survey: Employment & Revenues



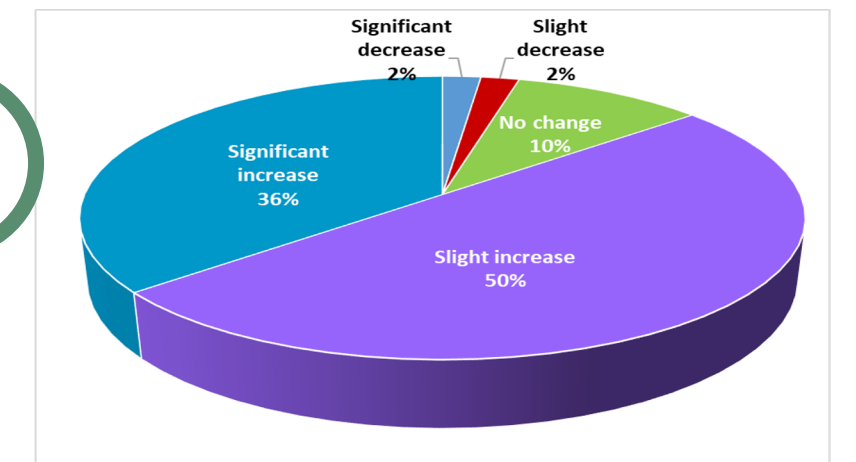
Employment outlook over the next 12 months (2020)



Employment outlook over the next 12 months (2021)

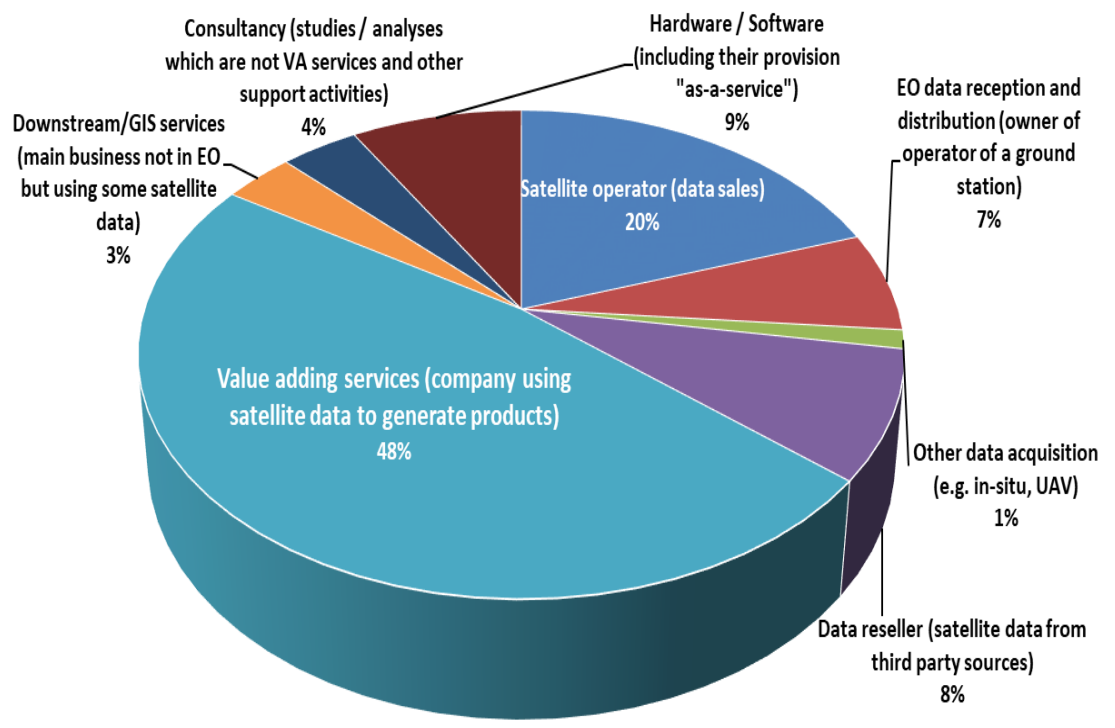


Revenue outlook in the next 12 months (2020)

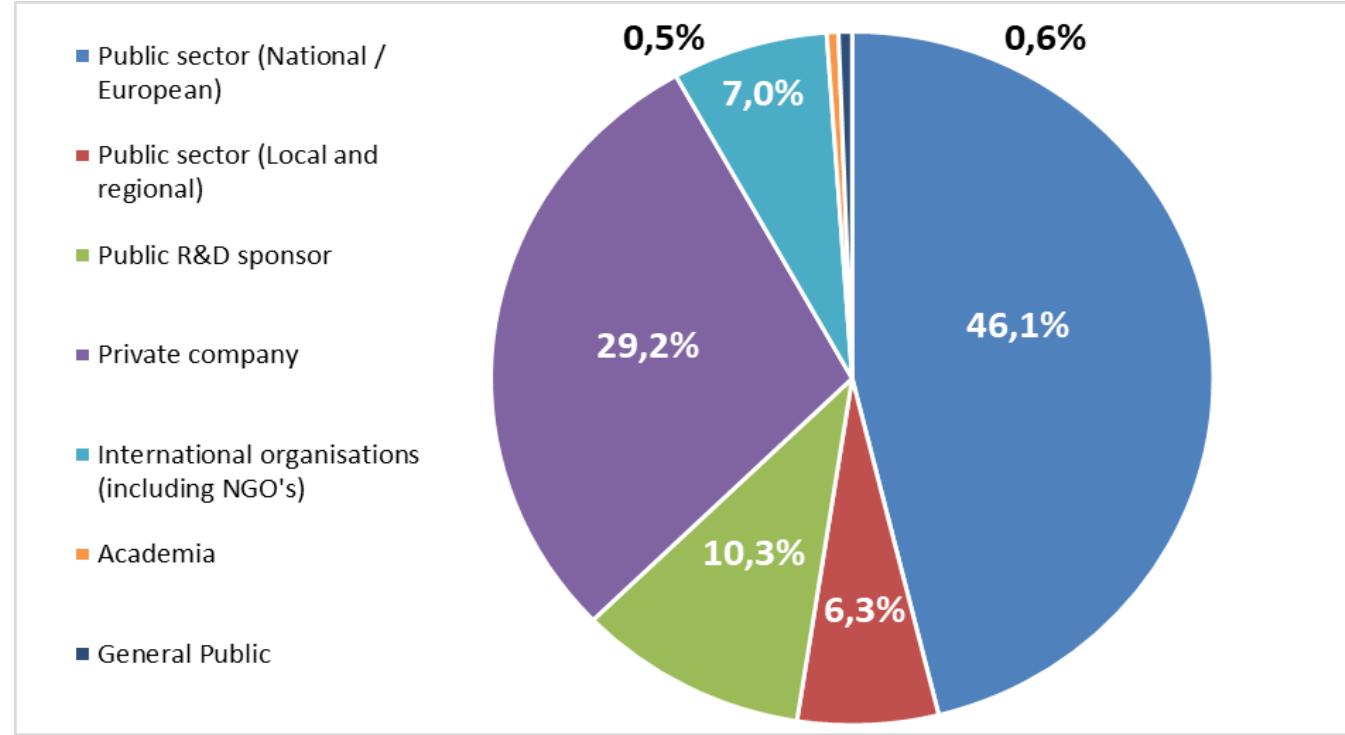


Revenue outlook in the next 12 months (2021)

# Industry Survey : Activities & Users



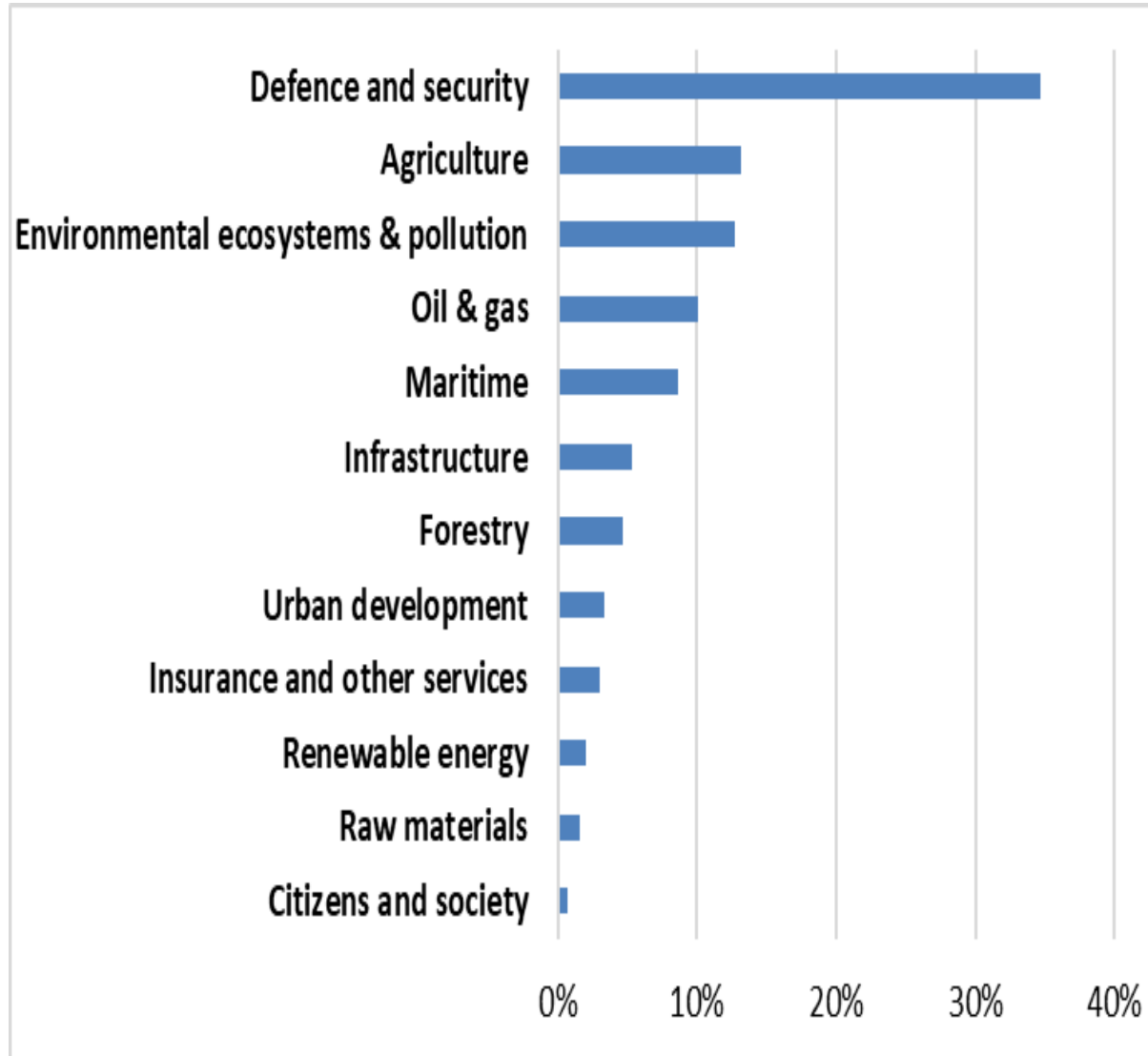
Companies using satellite data to generate products (from 26% to 48%)



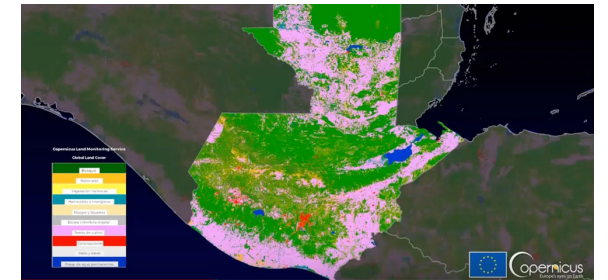
Public sector representing approx. 50% of industry revenue



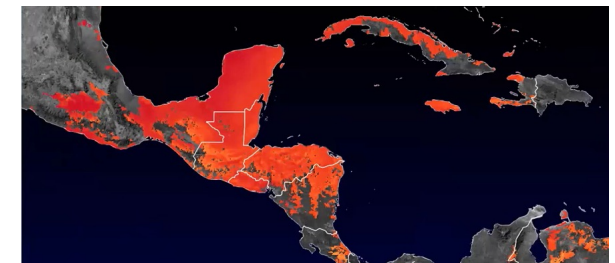
# Industry survey: Market Sectors



Flood Risk



Land use maps for agriculture



Surface T maps  
> drought, biomass studies



# Green Deal working group

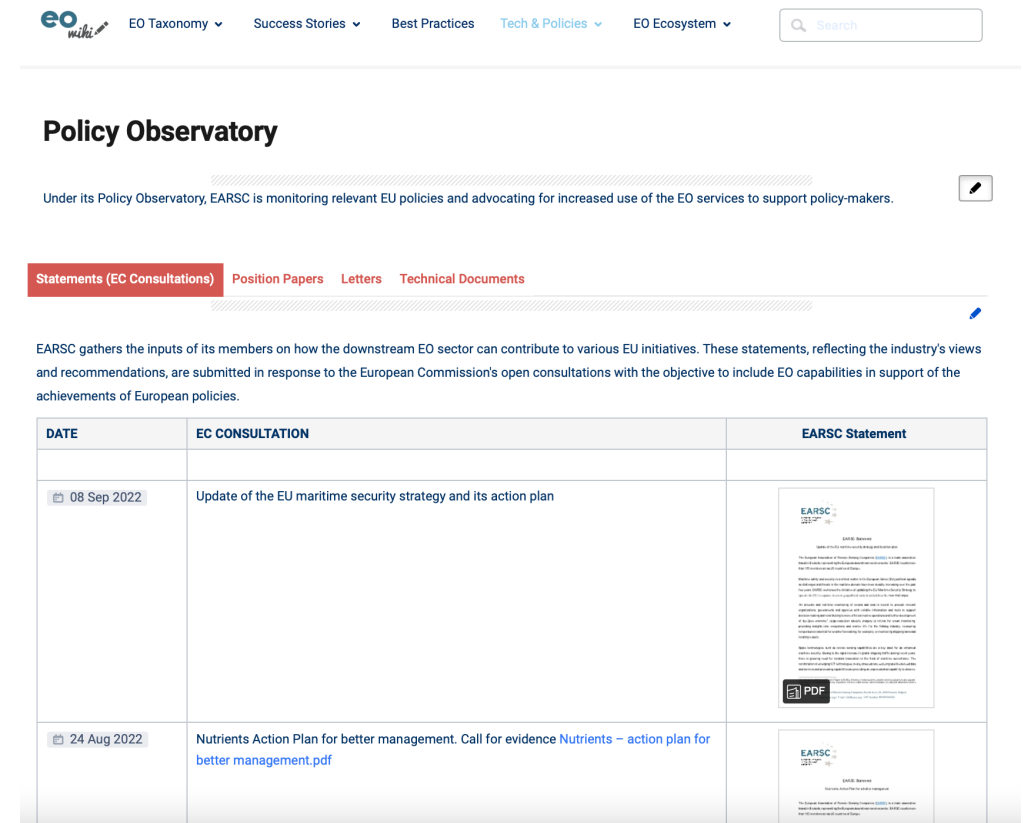
**Advocate increased use of EO** for the Green Deal strategy encouraging the EU to adopt EO solutions through statements, position papers, showcases, ensuring awareness of the industry contribution responding to the monitoring needs for the **Green Deal implementation**

### 3 subgroups:



- methane monitoring
- forest management
- carbon farming (also working on soil health)

+ other topics such **biodiversity**

Policy Observatory: Monitoring relevant policies:  
<https://earsc-portal.eu/display/EOwiki/Policy+Observatory>



The screenshot shows the 'Policy Observatory' section of the EO Wiki website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'eo wiki' logo and menu items: 'EO Taxonomy', 'Success Stories', 'Best Practices', 'Tech & Policies', and 'EO Ecosystem'. A search bar is located on the right. Below the navigation, the 'Policy Observatory' title is displayed, followed by a description: 'Under its Policy Observatory, EARSC is monitoring relevant EU policies and advocating for increased use of the EO services to support policy-makers.' A red navigation bar highlights 'Statements (EC Consultations)', with other options being 'Position Papers', 'Letters', and 'Technical Documents'. Below this, a paragraph explains that EARSC gathers inputs from members on how the downstream EO sector can contribute to various EU initiatives, with statements submitted in response to European Commission consultations. A table follows, listing two consultations:

| DATE        | EC CONSULTATION  | EARSC Statement   |
|-------------|--|---|
| 08 Sep 2022 | Update of the EU maritime security strategy and its action plan  |  |
| 24 Aug 2022 | Nutrients Action Plan for better management. Call for evidence <a href="#">Nutrients – action plan for better management.pdf</a> |  |

# EU Biodiversity strategy

Under the **EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030**, part of the **European Green Deal**, the European Commission committed to put forward a proposal for legally binding **EU nature restoration targets** to restore degraded ecosystems.

## Key measures announced:

- decisive role in reaching the Strategy's headline objective of putting **Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030**.
- aims to contribute to the continuous, long-term, and **sustained recovery of EU habitats and species across land and sea**.
- implement **restoration measures** on at least 20% of the EU's territory by 2030.

Nature Restoration Regulation



# Proposed EU Nature Restoration Regulation



Brussels, 22.6.2022  
COM(2022) 304 final  
2022/0195 (COD)

Proposal for a  
REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on nature restoration

(Text with EEA relevance)

{SEC(2022) 256 final} - {SWD(2022) 167 final} - {SWD(2022) 168 final}

The goal of nature restoration is to assist in the **recovery of ecosystems** that have been degraded or destroyed, as well as **conserving the ecosystems** that are still intact.

➔ Effective **monitoring and reporting** are needed to ensure that planned restoration measures are implemented and are delivering their expected biodiversity restoration benefits on the ground.

**Progress towards the objectives** will be monitored and reported by Member States and EU-wide reports will be prepared based on this

**Adoption** of this proposal would mark a historic turning point for EU nature conservation. There is enormous potential for **public and private** actors to work together to reverse biodiversity loss.

How EO is playing a role into the regulation?



# Technical feasibility articles Regulation

Objective: effective and area-based **restoration measures in place on at least 20%** of the EU land and sea areas by 2030 (Art.1)

Tracking the state of biodiversity requires:

- **access** to data needs to be **trusted, reliable, and timestamped** to generate insights to drive action in protected areas
- **operational** monitoring systems that provide information on specific indicators

Satellite derived data is crucial for **long-term global coverage** (wide-scale), **objective, comprehensible, repeatable and timely** collecting **accurate** data regularly and at various resolutions (inc. high resolution) to support the biodiversity strategy.

Satellite-derived data is **cost-effective** (increase **efficiency, impact, transparency and accountability**) providing **globally consistent** across the entire globe offering harmonized and comparable information facilitating the reporting process.

# Technical feasibility articles Regulation

Restoration of high quality nature, with time-bound area-based restoration targets - Art. 4, 5, 7 & 9(4)  
 Restoration of terrestrial, coastal, freshwater and marine ecosystems - Art. 4,5

## EO services contributing to SDGs Mapping mangroves

- User: National and regional authorities, NGOs
- Challenge/Needs: Mangroves are critical ecosystems coastal protection from storm surges, control flood coastlines and enhance biodiversity. Furthermore, mangrove extent, structure and dynamics is key to inform conservation and restoration planning and management
- Initiative: Commercial product as a result of several years of applying supervised machine learning algorithm on satellite data. The mangrove extent product provides a detailed characterization product provides added information on species compositions and/or mangrove structures (e.g. biomass).
- Service Provider: DHI GRAS



Reference: <https://www.dhi-gras.com/http://maps.eo4sdg.com/projects/ea04sdg/>



## EO services contributing to SDGs Sargassum detection for operational and seasonal planning

- Users: public administrations, tourism, fisheries, maritime transport
- Challenge: massive strandings of sargassum (Sargassum fluitans and Sargassum natans) in the Caribbean region
- Initiative: synergy of 8 satellite sensors: 3 wide-swath ocean color sensors, 3 optical HR sensors, +2 SAR HR sensors. 1) Qualitative and quantitative monitoring by calculation of sargassum index > Develop specific index (NFAI (Normalized Floating Algae Index) 2) Detected raft drift modeling and landing estimation.
- Results: Prediction of immediate landings, Coastal management and clean-up operations, Seasonal prediction of Sargassum influxes for the Lesser Antilles, Expected impact on fishing and tourism, Daily satellite detection to help sailors avoid Sargasso mats, maritime safety
- Service Provider: CLS



References: <https://e-shape.eu/index.php/showcases/pilot5-4>

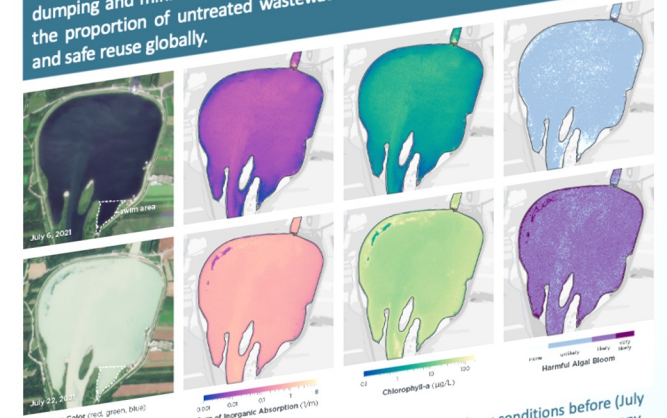


## Monitoring and Detecting Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs)

- User: public authorities – water management
- Challenge/Needs: Monitoring and detecting harmful algae blooms fast and accurately is essential as they are extremely harmful to the environment and human life.
- Initiative: EOMAP leverages the value added of Planet's near-daily SuperDove satellites' green and yellow spectral data to monitor and detect HAB outbreaks fast with greater accuracy.
- Results: Integrating Planet's SuperDove data, EOMAP's HAB Indicator classifies the probability that toxic bacteria are present in water bodies to create a daily dashboard
- Service Provider: EOMAP



Target 6.3: By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.



Derived measurements from 8-band data courtesy EOMAP. These show conditions before (July 6, 2021) and during (July 22, 2021) a harmful algal bloom in Mandichosee, Bavaria, Germany. PLEASE DO NOT SHARE WITHOUT CONSENT.



# Investments to support biodiversity

The EU Taxonomy is a classification system for sustainable economic activities. Its overall goal is to create transparency and disclose the impact of investments.

| Environmental objectives established by the EU Taxonomy regulation | EO services   |
|--|---|
| Climate change mitigation  | e.g. identification of surface <b>water resources</b> for the mitigation of climate change risks in the agricultural sector                               |
| Climate change adaptation  | e.g. EO based <b>soil monitoring</b> services to secure national CAP inventories, habitat loss fragmentation & degradation                                |
| The sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources   | e.g. EO data for quantification of <b>suspended sediment</b> in rivers and water bodies in the costal watersheds as well as coastal areas.                |
| The transition to a circular economy                               | e.g. EO to provide <b>analytics</b> and evidence regarding assets and the environment such waste management   |
| Pollution prevention and control                                   | e.g. EO to monitor and assess the status of, and <b>changes</b> in, the natural and manmade environment   |
| The protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems      | e.g. improve through EO data the acquisition, coordination and delivery of biodiversity observations,... <b>vegetation productivity and leaf cover...</b> |

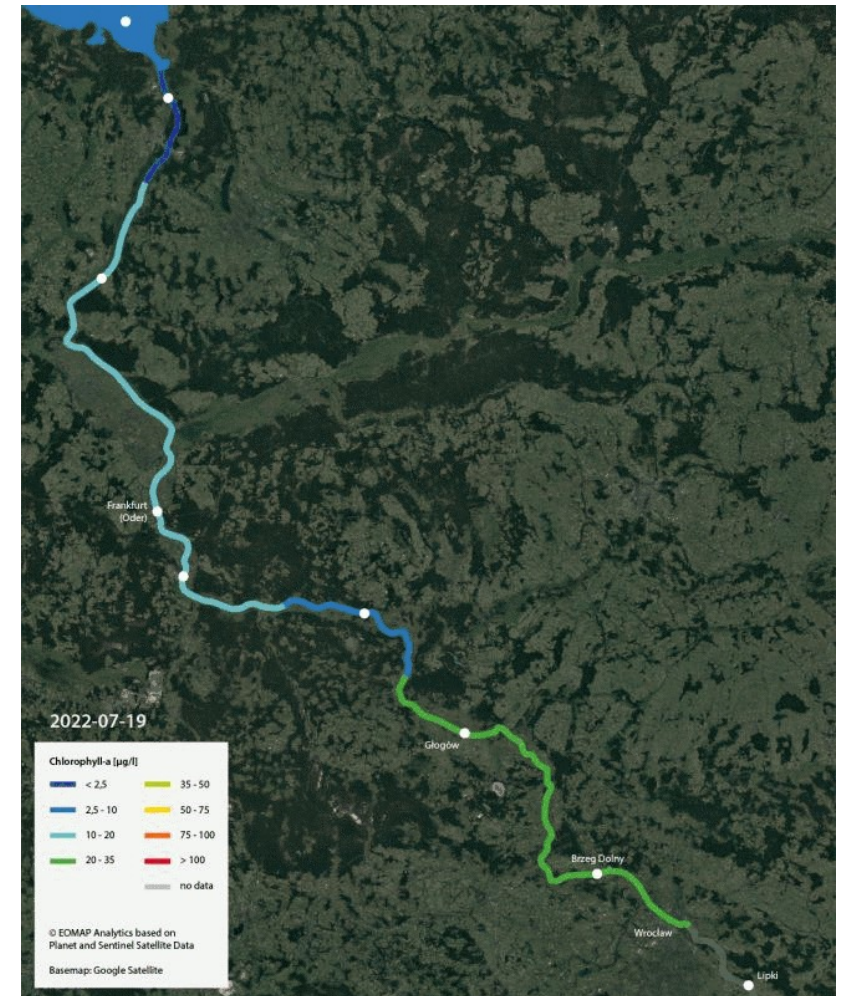


# EO services contributing to Biodiversity



Services contribution to support restoration targets such restoration of...  
**Water ecosystems**

- **Users:** public authorities – water management
- **Challenge:** water quality monitoring is essential, in order to prevent disasters that can then take decades to restore e.g. the disaster in the Oder river in summer 2022 as well as stop, reduce or remediate pollution in the water.
- **Initiative:** With frequent and precise satellite measurement data available (PlanetScope combined with Sentinel), EOMAP works with some environmental agencies to develop and put into operation an online visualization and early warning system for water bodies.
- **Service provider:** EOMAP
- **References:** [Link](#) to analysis over the Oder river



Development of the algae bloom at several sections of the Oder River between Lipki (Poland) and Szczecin Lagoon (Germany).

# EO services contributing to Biodiversity



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- **Service Provider:** CLS

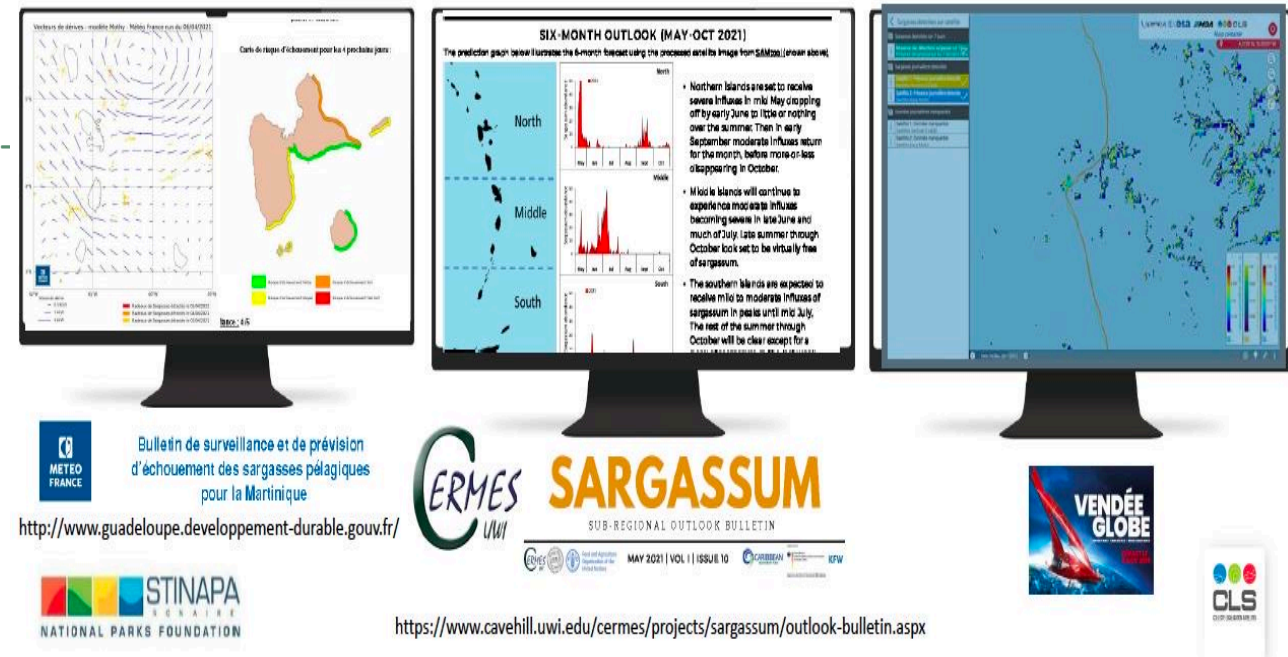


Fig. <https://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/projects/sargassum/outlook-bulletin.aspx>

# Tools supporting the EO awareness and market uptake



## Develop Your Knowledge On Earth Observation

provided by [European Association of Remote Sensing Companies](#)

120+ SDGs case studies



### EO Taxonomy

This area provides the top-level structure of the taxonomy of Earth Observation services,

### Success Stories

This area provides a consolidated list of success stories for interested user

### Best Practices

This section provides comprehensive insights into user-related challenges and geo-

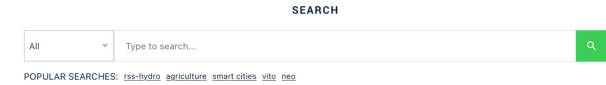
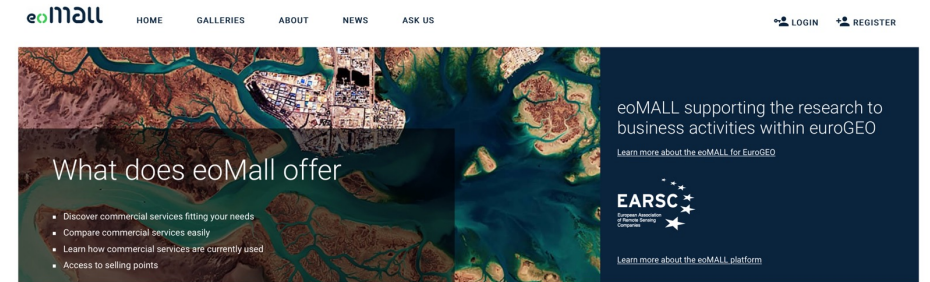
### Technology & Policies

The Technology Watch keeps you up to date on the latest technology supporting the

### EO Ecosystem

This area provides a mapping of the EO ecosystem including:

- Service Providers



## What Can Earth Observation Do for My Organisation?



20+ reports

# What's the state of the EO industry in Europe?

Your **feedback is crucial** to help us identify the key issues that companies are facing today.



**FILL IN EARSC 2023 INDUSTRY SURVEY!**



e-shape

# Thank you!



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