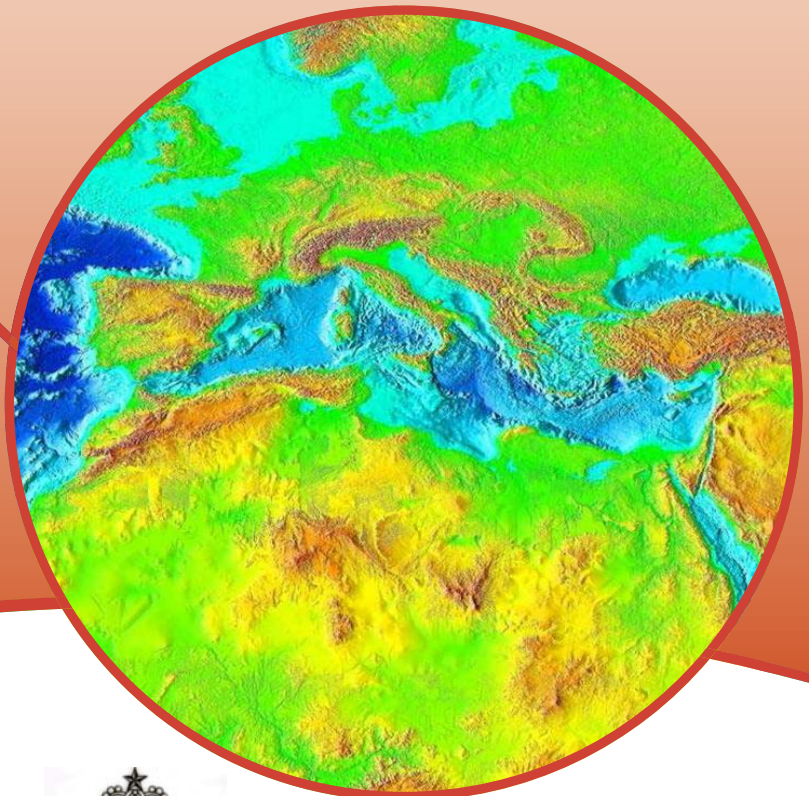




**CONFERENCE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**

# Development and cooperation in the Mediterranean region using satellite services

**RABAT, 14-15 OCTOBER 2010**



Co-organised with



Centre Royal de Télédétection Spatiale

## Conference objectives

The Mediterranean basin is a crossroads of different cultures and civilizations; nevertheless the region as a whole faces a series of common challenges. The effects of climate change, the management of scarce natural resources (in particular water), sustainable urban and territorial development, green modes of production and consumption are some, as indicated by the Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme and the strategy of the Union for the Mediterranean.

This conference will focus on the potential of satellites to help tackle some of these challenges, and support speedier, sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. Indeed, satellites offer innovative solutions for monitoring and managing fresh water resources, forests and valuable biodiversity habitats. Satellite information enables the effective management of urban sprawl and desertification. They offer indispensable means to improve infrastructure and transport, harness renewable energies and intervene in crisis situations.

In this framework, this conference aims to:

- raise awareness of potential users of satellite service solutions
- support good practice sharing among users of satellite information and services from around the Mediterranean
- facilitate exchanges and cooperation between user communities and satellite service providers
- provide bottom-up feedback to policy makers on current barriers to further implementation and use of satellite services around the Mediterranean basin, and on ways to overcome them.

This Conference will take place in the framework of the ESPI-Eurisy project "Fostering European-African Partnership for Sustainable Development in Africa through the Use of Satellite Applications" and will strive to implement the findings of the ESPI study and of the recommendations of the Belgian EU Council Presidency Conference (September 2010.)

## Target audience

- development experts, decision-makers from all levels of governance
- Businesses and civil society representatives from fields other than space, interested in how to benefit better from satellite information and services
- Satellite information and service providers

## Programme Outline

### Thursday, 14 October 2010

**OPENING SESSION:** Welcome addresses & keynote speech

#### 1. (a.m.) DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION: HOW SATELLITE INFORMATION AND SERVICES CAN HELP

Users of satellite information and services from around the Mediterranean share their good practices, explaining how they have benefitted from satellite information and services in a number of areas.

#### 2. (p.m.) ACCESSING SATELLITE SERVICES: CHALLENGES FOR USERS

Potential and experienced users of satellite services discuss existing gaps in the availability of satellite services in the region. Users provide feedback to decision-makers on facilitating mechanisms for an easier access to satellite services as tools for sustainable development.

### Friday, 15 October 2010

#### 3. (a.m.) PROVIDING SATELLITE SERVICES: CHALLENGES FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

Satellite service providers and decision-makers discuss the prerequisites to sustainable satellite services in the region, in terms of infrastructure, governance and support mechanisms for service provision.

#### 4. (p.m.) COOPERATION AS MEANS TO ENSURE MEDITERRANEAN USERS MAKE THE MOST OF SATELLITE SERVICES

Opportunities in further diffusing satellite service use, through experience sharing between the more and less experienced users and closer relations between them and service providers, will be discussed.

#### 5. WRAP-UP: Conclusions and Recommendations

## Practical details

[Register online](#) or [download registration form](#).

Simultaneous English-French interpretation will be provided. Further practical details will be shortly made available on [www.eurisy.org](http://www.eurisy.org)

