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# EUFAR – future developments in access to airborne research infrastructure in Europe.

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There is a long history of airborne observational research contributing incremental developments in the scientific understanding of atmospheric processes. These developments have proceeded in parallel with similar developments in the capabilities to observe these processes on a global scale from space and to model them in operational Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) and climate models. Maintaining access to a range of airborne observing facilities is critically important to our future ability to study atmospheric processes and to develop and use the models that are used to, for example, to study mitigation strategies in a changing climate.

EUFAR (the European Facility for Airborne Research) has been supported for several years by funding from EC Framework Programs to coordinate activities amongst the leading operators of research aircraft in Europe. Now, a number of consortium partners have agreed to establish EUFAR as an international non-profit association (AISBL) with a view to continued collaboration in airborne science beyond the perimeter of EC funding. The AISBL, which comes into formal existence early in 2018 has as its objectives to:
• develop open access to national facilities, broadening the scientific user base and providing users with access to the facility best suited to their scientific requirements;
• improve the quality of the services provided by aircraft and instrument operators by strengthening expertise through knowledge exchange;
• develop and maintain a central database of airborne data and the standards for this database to be interoperable with other environmental science and Earth observation databases;
• support joint instrumental research activities centred on the development of improved data processing and calibration techniques;
• promote the use of research aircraft and instruments by providing education and training courses on airborne research topics;
• support innovation in airborne research, working with industry to transform airborne research instruments, methodologies and software into new products and services.

This presentation will describe parts of the work plan for EUFAR towards these objectives and some of the key airborne facilities and their capabilities that are available through members of the AISBL. In addition, it will give brief details of some recent and forthcoming field campaigns being undertaken using these facilities and the possibilities for scientists and students to be involved in these.