

# EXCELSIOR

ERATOSTHENES:

Excellence Research Centre for Earth Surveillance  
& Space-Based Monitoring of the Environment

## The "Excelsior" H2020 Widespread Teaming Phase 2 Project: ERATOSTHENES: EXcellence Research Centre for Earth Surveillance and Space-Based Monitoring Of the Environment

@excelsior2020eu     

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CONSORTIUM

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 857510.

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# The idea behind Excelsior

To upgrade the existing Remote Sensing & Geo-Environment Lab (*ERATOSTHENES Research Centre*), established within the Faculty of Engineering & Technology of the **Cyprus University of Technology (since 2007)**, into a *sustainable, viable and autonomous Centre of Excellence, the 'Eratosthenes Centre of Excellence'*.

*The Eratosthenes Centre of Excellence (ECoE)* for Earth Surveillance and Space-Based Monitoring of the Environment will provide the **highest quality** of related services both on the **National, European and International** levels through '**EXCELSIOR**' Project under H2020 WIDESPREAD TEAMING.

## EXCELSIOR Consortium



Prof. Diofantos G. HADJIMITSIS -  
Coordinator



Mr. Georgios KOMODROMOS



Dr. Haris KONTOES



Mr. Gunter SCHREIER



Dr. Albert ANSMANN



Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research

## Our Team!



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# External Advisory Board for the Excelsior and Eratosthenes Centre of Excellence

Name	Position	Organisation
Dr. Vincent Ambrosia (M)	Associate Program Manager NASA Applied Sciences Program	NASA/California State University ( <b>USA</b> )
Dr. Marcello Maranesi (M)	International business experience in Geo-Spatial Information and Earth Observation	Independent consultant ( <b>Italy</b> )
Prof. Lena Halounová (F)	Head of the Remote Sensing Laboratory/ IPSRS Secretary General	Czech Technical University ( <b>Czech Republic</b> )
Dr. Peter Zeil (M)	Senior expert in the field of EO services and applications	Spatial Services GmbH ( <b>Austria</b> )
Dr. Simonetta Cheli (F)	Head of Coordination Office	ESA Headquarters
Mr. Daniel Barok (M)	Senior Space Consultant	Consultant ( <b>Israel</b> )



# Why ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence?

- **ERC** is the **only established Centre** in Cyprus for Space-based EO, Remote Sensing and Geo-informatics.
- **Has 13 years** of operation,
- **Participated** in more than 60 research projects
  - **Coordinated** more than 25 research projects.
- **Secured funding** from various competitive sources such as:
  - National,
  - European Union,
  - Industry



## Why Excelsior?



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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 857510.

Space-based Earth Observation where three Continents meet' facing common challenges for making citizens and societies resilient to sustainable development

# Funded under H2020 & Republic of Cyprus

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Pillar: **Spreading excellence and widening participation**

Work Programme Year: **H2020-2018-2020**

Work Programme Part: **Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation**

Call: **H2020-WIDESPREAD-2018-2020**

Topic: **WIDESPREAD-01-2018-2019 Teaming 2**

Type of action: **CSA (Coordination and support action)**

Grant Agreement number: **857510**, Acronym: **EXCELSIOR**

Total Budget: **44,000,000 €**

**(15 millions from EC+ 15 from Republic of Cyprus+ 8 millions from CUT etc.)**

Duration: **7 Years (EC) + 8 years (Republic of Cyprus/RC)**

Start: **1 October 2019** / End: **30 September 2026 (EC) / 30 September 2034 (RC)**

# Launching of the Excelsior H2020 on November 2019

- The public inauguration event of the strategic research project 'EXCELSIOR': ERATOSTHENES: Centre for Excellence in Land Surveillance and Environmental Monitoring was successfully held on the 22nd of November 2019. The event took place at the Cyprus University of Technology under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Nicos Anastasiades



# Eratosthenes Centre of Excellence (ECoE)

## Implementation

### Investment

- 112 Personnel in 7 years, 132 in 15 years
- 2000m<sup>2</sup> offices and Research Laboratories
- State-of-the-art-Remote Sensing Research Infrastructure

### Skills Development

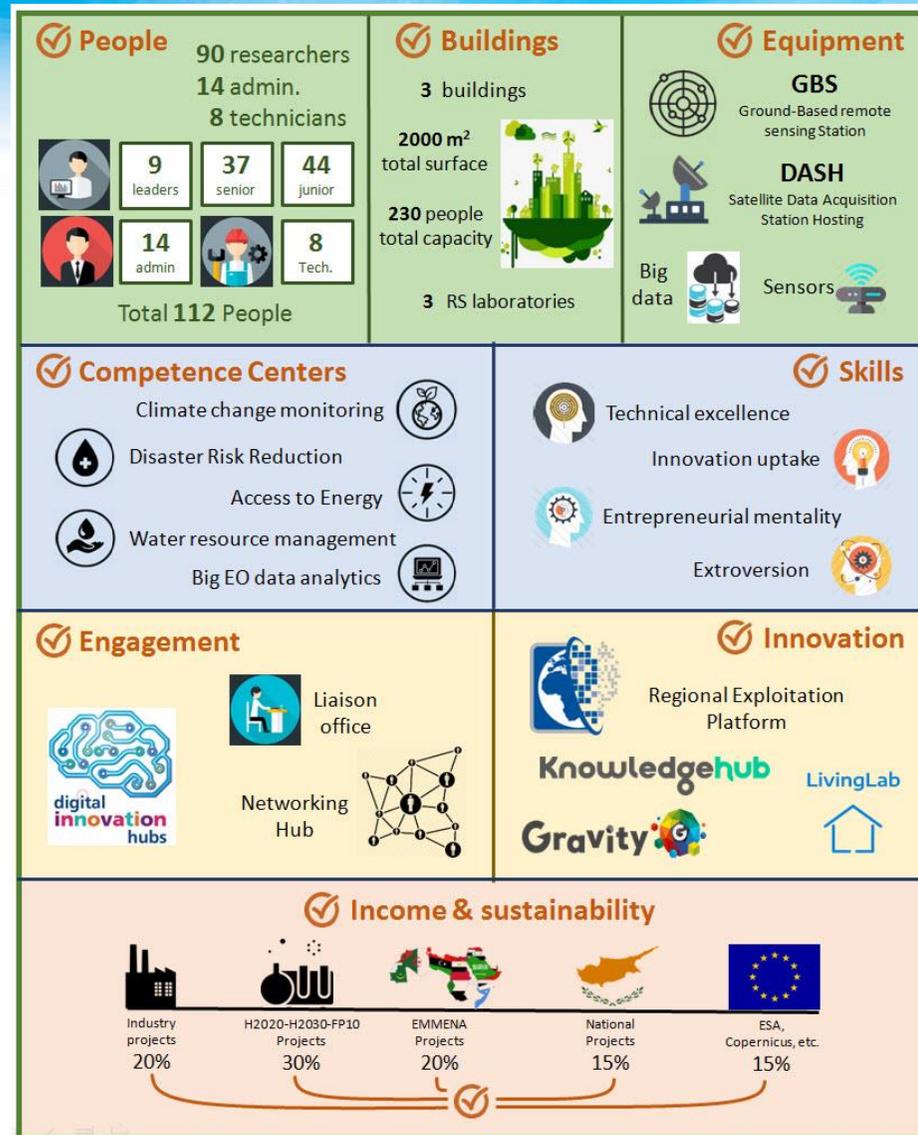
- Technical excellence
- Innovation Uptake
- Entrepreneurial mentality

### Achievement

- World class Research, Innovation, Education
- Digital Innovation Hub
- Living Labs Ecosystem

### Engagement

- Networking Hub
- Liaison Office
- Regional Exploitation Platform



## Main Infrastructure and Partners Contribution

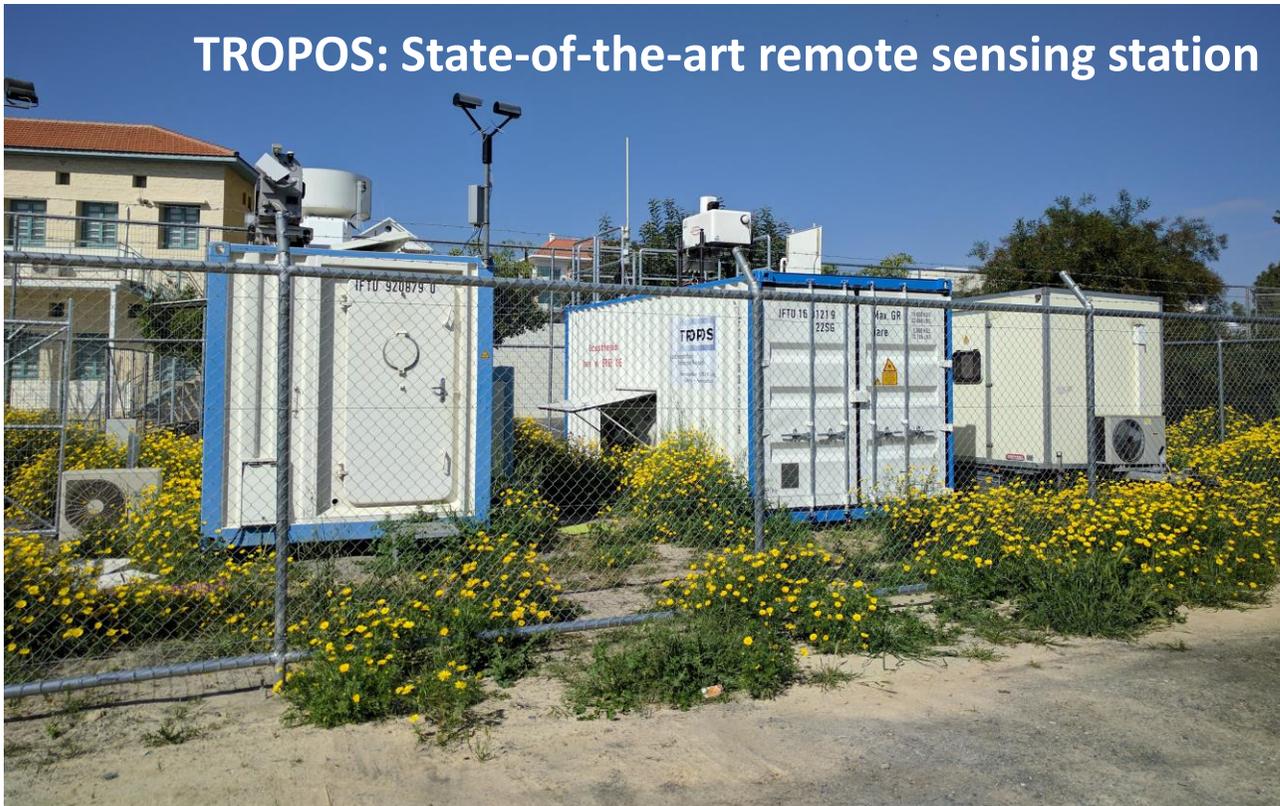
**NOA: Copernicus Hub, Natural Hazards-related Infrastructure**



**DLR: Receiver Antenna**



**TROPOS: State-of-the-art remote sensing station**



## **ECoE Vision:** Within the next 7 years, the ECoE will become a world-class Digital Innovation Hub (DIH) for EO and Geospatial Information becoming the reference Centre in the Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East and North Africa (EMMENA)

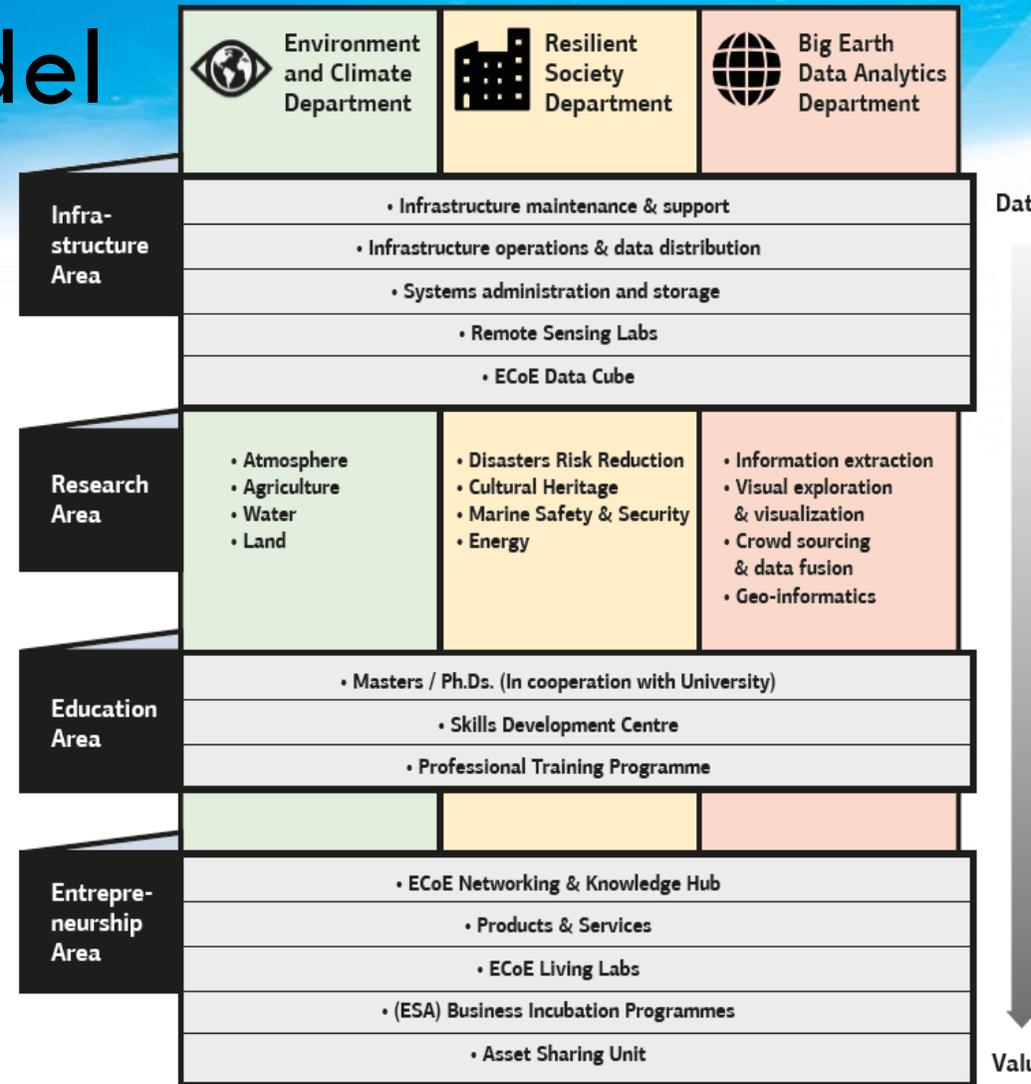


 **Research Excellence: To excel in five domains**



# Two-Axis Model Model

- **Sustainability Model:** To deliver **Open Science and Open Innovation** through Digital Innovation Hub, as a multiplier
- **Regional Growth and Competitive advantages:**
  1. to install and operate a **supersite for aerosol & cloud monitoring and a real time EO data receiving station in the EMMENA**
  2. to become a Gateway for facilitating and enabling International cooperation in the EMMENA
- **Concept:** to adopt a **two-axis model:** three thematic clusters vs four functional areas



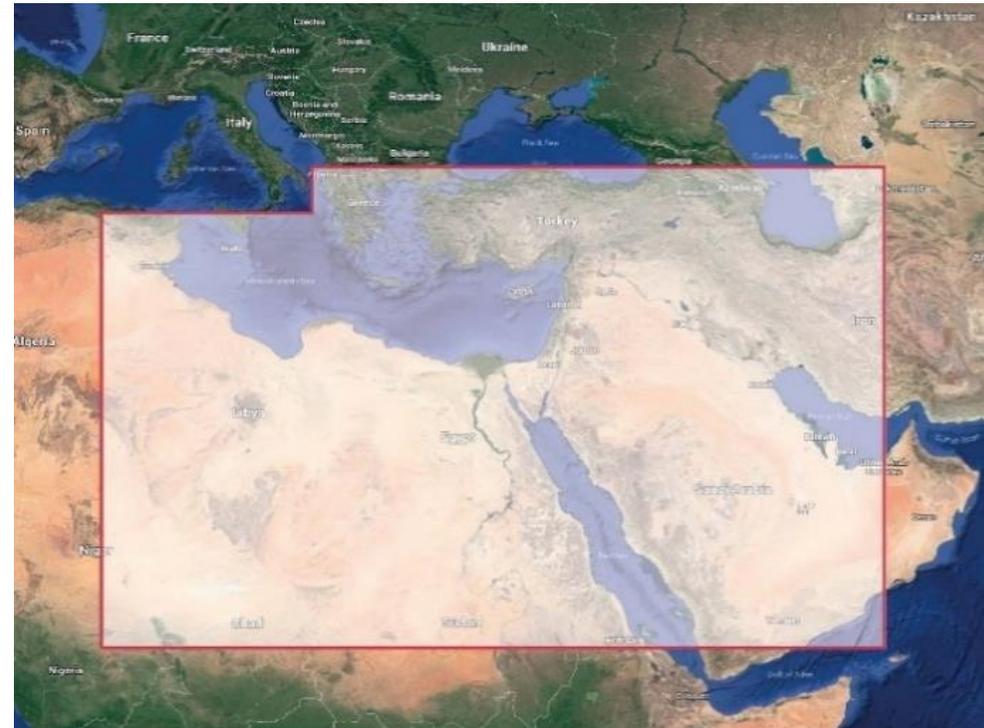
## ECoE Impact

- To provide relevant information for **decision making** to:

- **science,**
- **industry**
- **Governments**

in order to:

- **support policies**
- **business development**
- **improve the quality of life for all citizens**
- **generate economic growth**





## CONTACT US

ERATOSTHENES CENTRE OF  
EXCELLENCE

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# Acknowledgements

Call: **H2020-WIDESPREAD-2018-01**  
Topic: **WIDESPREAD-01-2018-2019 Teaming Phase 2**  
Project full title: **ERATOSTHENES: Excellence Research Centre for Earth Surveillance and Space-Based Monitoring of the Environment**  
Project acronym: **EXCELSIOR**



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