

Abstract 36th ISRSE Invited Session on Space Agencies Outlook

Volker Liebig, ESA Director of Earth Observation Programmes

The intervention will present ESA's Earth Observation Programme, which is mainly grouped into three categories: The Sentinel satellites in the context of the European Copernicus Programme, the Earth Explorers and the meteorological missions.

The Sentinels are dedicated to the space component of Copernicus, the operational programme for environmental monitoring and security run by ESA together with the European Union.

The Earth Explorers, divided into core and opportunity missions, are smaller research missions dedicated to specific aspects of our Earth environment whilst demonstrating new technology in space.

As for the meteorological satellites, ESA develops the prototypes and procures the recurrent units on behalf of EUMETSAT. The satellites are operated by EUMETSAT.

Developments, applications and scientific results for the different mission types will be addressed, along with overall trends and strategies.