

EURAINSAT: EUROPEAN SATELLITE RAINFALL ACTIVITIES AND THEIR POTENTIAL ROLE IN FUTURE RAINFALL MISSIONS

V. Levizzani (1) and all EURAINSAT scientists

(1) CNR-ISAO Institute of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Bologna, Italy
v.levizzani@isao.bo.cnr.it

A research project funded by the European Community within the 5th Framework Programme has recently been launched under the name of EURAINSAT, European Satellite Rainfall Analysis and Monitoring at the Geostationary Scale. Scientists from Italy, Israel, UK and Germany will work together over the next three years on new satellite rainfall algorithms using the coming generation of geostationary satellite sensors, above all SEVIRI on board METEOSAT Second Generation (MSG). The focus is on the increased amount of physical information on clouds and precipitation systems from the new sensors and their combination with the appropriate cloud modelling and microwave algorithms. Rapid-update products and strategies for data assimilation into numerical models are conceived in view of forecasting and monitoring applications. The project is linked to the activities of the international satellite rainfall research community and represents an important step towards the definition of new missions that will necessarily need the geostationary perspective.