

Newsletter n°8-December 2011

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- 1. EUFAR FP7 News
- 2. EUFAR meetings
- 3. Transnational Access
- 4. Education & Training
- 5. EUFAR Dissemination
- 6. COPAL News

▲ EUFAR FP7 News

Ongoing personnel changes in the EUFAR Office

Nadège Nankou, the COPAL project manager, left the Office at the end of October on completion of her contract. We wish her the very best of luck for the future.

Niamh Burke, the EUFAR Technical and Scientific Assistant, is on maternity leave until end of March 2012.

Having enjoyed a short retirement, Bob Wells has returned to Toulouse to work on Transnational Access in her absence.

The EUFAR team is pleased to welcome Yannick Letraublon as web-developer for the next 6 months. He will work with Marion to renovate and improve the EUFAR fleet planning system.

Submission of the EUFAR FP7b proposal

The EUFAR FP7b proposal for the funding of EUFAR from January 2013 was submitted to the European Commission on November 23rd 2011. Proposal material can be found at www.eufar.net/document/report/EUFAR PART-B V8 WEB 20111205120512.pdf

Call for Expressions of Interest in the use of an Airbus A340 for research

This <u>call</u>, which has already received some interesting responses, remains open. If you have a good proposal to exploit this large payload and long duration aircraft then let us know.

RP2 report

The RP2 reporting to the European Commission is ongoing and will not be submitted before January 2012 because of the late arrival of financial statements.

EUFAR meetings

All meeting reports are available at (From top menu, select "Search" / "Documents"; then select "Meeting" in "Links with specific subject"; Choose your meeting).

Meetings since the last newsletter

 EUFAR General Assembly meeting 04, was held on September 19th-21st 2011 in Firenze (Italy), hosted by CNR.

The objectives of the EUFAR meeting were to review the outcome of the networking activities, decide how they should evolve for the next proposal (FP7b) and select suitable Joint Research Activities (JRA) for the future. There were 60 participants.



- ▶ **EUFAR N4EWG joint meeting 10** on Imaging Spectroscopy Sensors, Calibration/Validation and Data Processing was held on April 14th 2011 in Edinburgh (UK) during the 7th EARSeL conference (from April 11-13th, www.earsel2011.com). The objective was to give a state-of-the-art overview of instruments and processing and calibration techniques. There were 37 participants.
- ▶ EUFAR N4EWG meeting 12 on Hyperspectral Applications for Soil A Demonstration and Practical Exercise for Modeling Soil Spectral Information (DePeMossi) was held on August 29th-31st 2011 in Potsdam (Germany) hosted by GeoForschungsZentrum Potsdam (GFZ). The objectives were to demonstrate, teach and train the EWG members in the practical use of state-of-the-art methods (software, algorithms and approaches) to model soil spectroscopy for themathic mapping in the hyperspectral domain. There were 26 participants.
- ▶ EUFAR N4EWG meeting 13 on Polar Research was held on November 23rd 2011 in Cambridge (UK) hosted by British Antarctic Survey (BAS). It was the first workshop on Polar Research. The objectives were to report on the capability of the present EUFAR fleet to operate at high latitudes and produce recommendations for possible future expansion .
- ► EUFAR JRA1 meeting 05: Joint Research Activity (JRA1) on Development and evaluation of new and improved hygrometers for airborne research (DENCHAR).

▲ Next meetings

None

▲ Transnational Access

EUFAR Transnational Access provides access to research aircraft and to hyperspectral remote sensing instrumentation. The aircraft range from lightweight, slow-flying aircraft with restricted instrument payloads, to multi-engined large tropospheric aircraft capable of carrying several tonnes of instrumentation. We have tried to encourage access from researchers in countries that have no access to such facilities via their national funding sources and especially from those researchers that have no previous involvement in airborne research observations. In addition we have attempted to promote the use of the small lightweight T.A. aircraft.

- Some statistics:
 - 82 projects have been submitted in FP7:
 - 45 have been confirmed out of which all but one, COLLAGE which needs a suitable clustering partner project, have been flown.
 - 8 are under evaluation
 - 3 are in pre-review
 - 23 have been rejected or withdrawn
 - 3 were non eligible.

The overall number and quality of applications, especially those for hyper-spectral measurement projects, has been much higher than anticipated. Consequently the T.A. budget is extremely tight and

no further applications for flying in 2012 can be accepted. However, the Transnational Access call remains open to proposals for flying activities after January 2013. We hope this will reduce the hiatus that has occured between previous EUFAR funding cycles.

A major problem for the administration of T.A. is obtaining timely scientific reviews of suitable quality. So far we have made 475 requests and received a total of 168 reviews. 109 requests for reviews remain unacknowledged. If you receive a request to review a T.A. application we urge you to respond quickly and, if appropriate, positively.

Education & Training

EUFAR Upcoming Training Courses:

It is expected that a proposal for a EUFAR Training Course "on organizing and conducting a hyperspectral/thermal multi-angular airborne campaign in the framework of multi-scale ("leaf to ecosystem") land-atmosphere exchange research" will be submitted for evaluation very soon. If the application is approved then the course will be advertised on the EUFAR home page.

▲ EUFAR Completed Training Courses:

- 1st EUFAR FP7 Training Course on "ADvanced Digital Remote sensing in Ecology and earth Sciences Summer School" (ADDRESSS): this training course was organized by the Balaton Limnological Research Institute (BLRI) from August 19th to 28th 2010, in Tihany (Hungary). 20 students have participated to this training course.
 Aircraft: DO228 NERC-ARSF
- 2nd EUFAR FP7 Training Course on "Training & Education for Turbulence Research via Airborne Data" (TETRAD): this training course was organized by the CNR ISAC Institute for Atmospheric Sciences and Climate from September 10th to 18th in Hyères (France). 20 students have participated to this training course. Aircraft: ATR42 - SAFIRE
- 3rd EUFAR FP7 Training Course on "Quality of Airborne Data" (QAD): this training course was organized by the Stockholm University from October 26th to November 5th 2010 in Toulouse (France). 20 students have participated to this training course.
 Aircraft: Several aircraft displayed during ICARE-2010 exhibition
- ▶ 4th EUFAR FP7 Training Course, "School ON Aircraft Techniques for the studies of Atmospheric chemistry (SONATA)": this training course was organized by CETEMPS-University L'Aquila from August 17th to 28th 2011, Pescara (Italy). 20 students have participated to this training course.

Aircraft: BAe146 - FAAM



▲ Some statistics:

- Join an existing campaign:

20 applications have been received. 15 have been accepted and 5 refused.

- Visit an Operator:

1 application received and accepted.

EUFAR Dissemination

EUFAR posters and leaflets have been sent and displayed during the following conferences since the last newsletter:

- ► EGU2011 (3rd-8th April 2011, Vienna, Austria)
- ► EARSeL Workshop (11-13th April 2011, Edinburgh, UK)
- National Congress of Spanish Remote Sensing Association (21st-23rd September 2011, Mieres, Spain)
- ▶ Meteorological Technology World Expo (18-20th October 2011, Brussels, Belgium)
- GEO VIII Plenary Session (16-17th November 2011, Istanbul, Turkey)

In the future:

► EUFAR will have a stand at the <u>EGU2012 conference</u> (April 22nd-27th 2012, Vienna, Austria - booth n°27): come and visit us!

Do not hesitate to contact EUFAR Office at bureau@eufar.net if you want to receive EUFAR posters/leaflets in order to promote the project during conferences.



COPAL NEWS

The COPAL project period ended on October 31st 2011.

A Memorandum of Understanding MoU was signed by the partners in September 2011. It is a temporary, non legally binding understanding, entered into by the partners to achieve a common purpose: to continue promoting European Airborne Research through two separate projects managed under a "soft" governance scheme with two different Working Groups, and with the intention of each project to possibly evolve, in the medium/long term, into a self-standing project with its own defined scope, purpose, participants, legal structure, governance, and existence.

COPAL Meetings

► COPAL MoU Legal Workshop held in Brussels (Belgium) on June 27th 2011, hosted by SJ BERWIN. Beneficiaries who were not represented could follow the meeting via teleconference. The objective of this meeting was to reach a consensus on a version of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), for the partners to have the keys to prepare the transition phase.

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