

Paris, 7 July 2015
PR136-2015

CNES in the spotlight at conference on “Our Common Future under Climate Change”

CNES President Jean-Yves le Gall was a speaker at yesterday’s Icebreaker for the conference on “Our Common Future under Climate Change”, which is being held in Paris until Thursday 10 July.

“Our Common Future under Climate Change” is a scientific conference being held at Paris’s UNESCO headquarters and Pierre and Marie Curie University until Thursday 10 July. Drawing on the results of the 5th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the aim of the conference is to present the latest scientific advances relating to climate change and to address the key resulting issues.

CNES is contributing significantly to this event, by participating in its High-Level Board, holding conference sessions and scientific presentations, and organizing a Side Event on the Climate Observing System, in order to highlight the importance of space-based observation in helping us to tackle climate change.

Satellites are unique tools for studying and understanding climate change and for aiding efforts to mitigate and cope with its effects. Today, of the 50 essential climate variables defined by GCOS, the Global Climate Observing System, more than half are measured from space. The latest IPCC report underlines the major contribution of satellite measurements to climate system monitoring, in combination with other methods.

No single nation can tackle these major challenges alone. International cooperation is vital, and this is particularly true for space. That is why all CNES missions are developed in close cooperation with our partners—with Europe (ESA, Eumetsat, the German space agency DLR), but also with the United States (NASA and NOAA), India (ISRO) and China.

In his speech, Jean-Yves Le Gall said: “Three weeks ago, during the 51st Paris Air Show, CNES organized a panel discussion involving the world’s main space agencies, in order to highlight just how important it is that we all work together to meet the various challenges relating to climate change. With France set to host this year’s COP21 at the end of December, CNES is proving itself to be one of the driving forces behind France’s determination to combat global warming.

Contacts

Pascale Bresson
Alain Delrieu
Julien Watelet

Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 75 39
Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 74 04
Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 78 37

pascale.bresson@cnes.fr
alain.delrieu@cnes.fr
julien.watelet@cnes.fr