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TOSCA symposium sees rich harvest of results from research proposals over last five years

Bringing together some 300 researchers, the symposium organized by CNES's TOSCA solid Earth, ocean, land surfaces and atmosphere committee took place on 21 and 22 March. The event highlighted notable progress towards an integrated analysis of the Earth system.

CNES's TOSCA solid Earth, ocean, land surfaces and atmosphere committee organized a symposium at the Maison des Océans in Paris on 21 and 22 March, bringing together some 300 researchers to review the results of Earth science work undertaken for space projects in this domain that CNES has funded since 2012, from more than 200 research proposals a year.

The symposium was designed to provide an overview of research work and to share results, identify advances, sticking points and issues, and to enable progress towards an integrated analysis of the Earth system.

More than 30 presentations and 40 poster sessions outlined the way space-based remote sensing is furthering knowledge of how the Earth system works, showing how it is being used to track climate change, study biogeochemical cycles, keep an eye on the status and health of natural resources and monitor environmental risks. The symposium also identified the main challenges that lie ahead and highlighted the work being done by data and services hubs, as well as the quality of results obtained and scientific advances accomplished.

The work done during the two-day event will help CNES to set out its Earth science strategy and priorities at both national and European level, and to lay the groundwork for its next space science planning seminar in 2019.

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