



Multi-instrument platforms for investigating the aerosol-cloud-dynamic interaction in Eastern Mediterranean

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EXCELSIOR Project

- The EXCELSIOR project, standing for "ERATOSTHENES: Excellence Research Centre for Earth Surveillance and Space-Based Monitoring of the Environment," is a Horizon 2020 Widespread Teaming Phase 2 initiative.
- The project's objectives include
 - To upgrade the Remote Sensing and Geo-Environment Lab at the CUT into a sustainable and autonomous Centre of Excellence, now known as the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence (ECoE).
 - enhancing scientific and innovation potential,
 - promoting the uptake of innovative scientific outputs,
 - achieving sustainability through diversified funding,
 - positioning Cyprus as a focal point for advanced Earth Observation research,
 - establishing strategic partnerships, and addressing societal challenges through research.

CONSORTIUM



AFFILIATED ENTITIES



This project has received funding from the European Union's "Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme" under Grant Agreement No 857510".



This project has received funding from the Government of the Republic of Cyprus through the "Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and and Development".



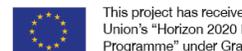
This project is co-funded by the Cyprus University of Technology.

EXCELSIOR Project

- The EXCELSIOR project has a total of six partners, including institutions from Cyprus and Europe. The partners are
- 1- **Cyprus University of Technology (CUT)** – Coordinator of the project and home of the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence.
 - 2- **German Aerospace Center (DLR)**
 - 3- **National Observatory of Athens (NOA)**
 - 4- **TROPOS Institute (Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research)**
 - 5- **University of Twente (UT-ITC, Netherlands)**
 - 6- **Department of Electronic Communications (DEC) of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy of Cyprus**



Affiliated partners



Cyprus Atmospheric Remote Sensing Observatory (CARO)

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Who we are?	EXCELSIOR
	ERATOSTHENES centre of Excellence (ECoE)
	Cyprus Atmospheric Remote Sensing Observatory (CARO)
	National Facility
	ECoE-CARO
What are the most unique advantages of the ECoE-CARO GBS?	Cyprus <u>climate conditions</u> that are strongly affected by a mixture of aerosols originated from different sources.
	Using <u>multi-instrument platforms</u> to investigate the aerosol-cloud-dynamic interaction

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<p>Why synergistic <u>multi-instrument platforms</u> must be employed in the top-level of atmospheric sciences?</p>	<p>The exact impacts of aerosol particles on the evolution of the different types of clouds, precipitation, and radiation budget are still unknown.</p>
	<p>Passive and active remote sensing instruments on ground-based, airborne, and spaceborne platforms provide different pieces of information on atmospheric aerosols.</p>
	<p>Vertically resolved aerosol and cloud information (dual-FOV lidar and cloud radar) together with different vertical wind scenario (Doppler wind lidar) must be utilized to investigate the aerosol and cloud interaction and its impact on cloud evolution.</p>

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- Active sensors performing continuous measurements in the CARO observatory includes:

A) A multi-wavelength dual field of view Raman polarization Lidar >> [Dual-FOV PollyXT](#)

B) A 35-GHz scanning polarimetric cloud Doppler radar >> [Mira-35](#)

C) A Streamline-XR Doppler lidar >> Halo Lidar [Snoopy](#)

D) A 1064-nm ceilometer >> [CHM 15kx](#)

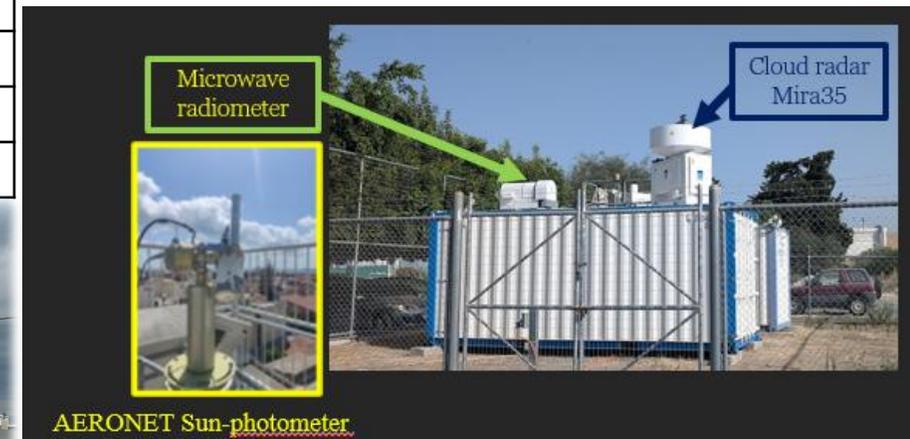
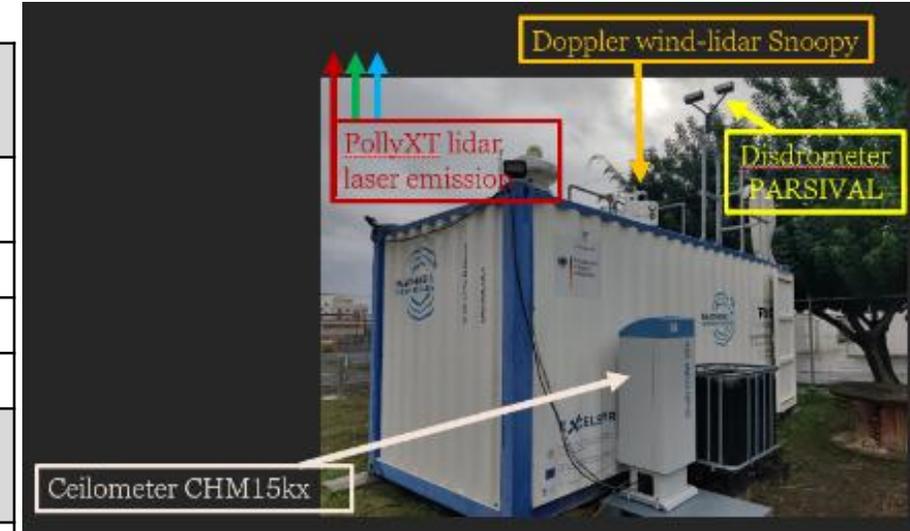
- Passive sensors performing continuous measurements in the CARO observatory includes:

E) A 14-channel microwave radiometer >> [HATPRO G5](#)

F) An optical 1-d precipitation disdrometer >> [PARSIVEL](#)

G) A CUT-TEPAK AERONET Sun-photometer >> [CUT-TEPAK CE318](#)

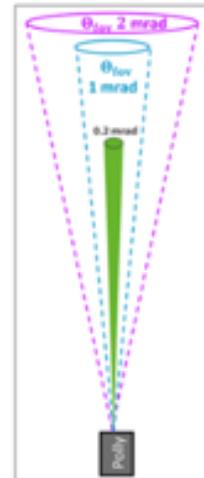
H) A Radiation station >> [Sun-traker STR22G](#), [Pyrgeometer](#), ...



What are the main advantages of the new Dual-FOV Polly^{XT} lidar at ECoE-CARO?

1- Measuring the cross and total signal components at 532 nm at two different FOVs

2- Measuring of two volume linear depolarization ratios at two different FOVs.



4- Retrieve aerosol microphysical properties such as CCNC, INPC from Polly lidar

3- Derive microphysical properties of liquid water clouds

3- 1 Droplet effective radius ($R_e(z_{ref})$)

3- 2 cloud Extinction Coeff., ($\alpha(z_{ref})$)

3- 3 cloud liquid water content (LWC)

3- 4 Droplet number concentration $N_d(z_{ref})$

3- 5 cloud droplet number concentration, (CDNC)

Cyprus participates in the CAL\VAL activities by the EVID39: CORAL project.

Suborbital Data Collection

Locations: California, USA; Atlantic Ocean; Leipzig, Germany; Cabauw, NL; Dushanbe, Tajikistan; Antikythera, Greece; Limassol, Cyprus; Mindelo, Cabo Verde.

Logos: NASA, DLR, NATIONAL OBSERVATORY ATHENS, ERATOSTHENES CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE, TROPOS, OSCM Ocean Science Centre Mindelo, KNMI.

2nd ESA-JAXA EarthCARE In-Orbit Validation Workshop | 17 – 20 March 2025 | ESA-ESRIN, Frascati, Italy

CARO ERATOSTHENES IN WMO's GLOBAL ATMOSPHERE WATCH

Enhancing Global Weather and Climate Data



ERATOSTHENES CARO National Facility

Cyprus Atmospheric Remote Sensing Observatory National Facility [CARO NF] located in the Eastern Mediterranean, Limassol, Cyprus [34.7N°, 33E°] with its 24-7 continuously operating instrumentation, contributes its expertise in aerosol remote sensing, capturing the atmospheric changes.

CARO NF [GAWSIS-LIM] contributes to the GAW through the provision of its advanced remote sensing measurements in a unique and representative area for the Eastern Mediterranean.

What is the GAW?

Global Atmosphere Watch Programme [GAW] of the World Meteorological Organization [WMO] is a global network that delivers essential data for assessing and comprehending atmospheric composition, including air quality, greenhouse gases, and pollution.

CARO NF in GAW

CARO NF contributes to global efforts aimed at mitigating the impacts of climate change through accurate, real-time and near-real time data helping to enhance the overall accuracy of satellite and ground-based observations.

ERATOSTHENES
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



ATARRI

ATARRI is a Horizon Europe Twinning project funded by the European Union, focused on Atmospheric and solar Research and Innovation in the Eastern Mediterranean

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