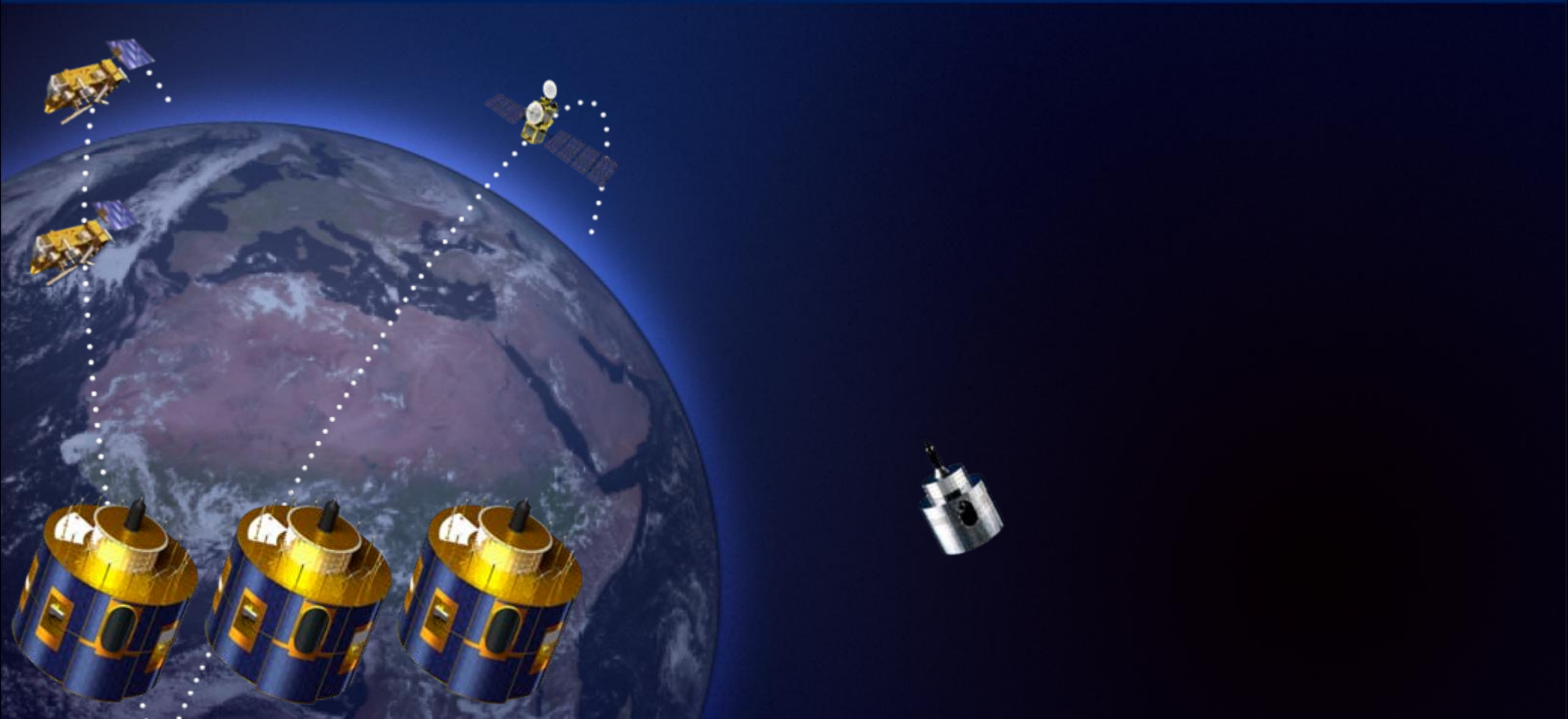


RARS Africa ET-SUP 8



Background

- There are no level 1 data from polar satellites disseminated via EUMETCast-Africa (only level 2);
- The number of users of global level 1 data in Africa is limited (<5);
- Potential to receive direct readout data from several satellites (e.g. Metop/NOAA/SNPP/FY3)
- EUMETSAT MS have agreed that the Secretariat may provide technical guidance & assistance in acquiring funds for a RARS Africa project.

Background

- RARS Africa project funded through European Development Fund (EDF) will be implemented through the African Development Bank (AfDB), as part of a component of the programme aiming at strengthening NMHS and Regional Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction (inc. NWP)
- Where possible re-use of existing infrastructure is to be considered – L-band station in Cape Town operated through a CLS/SAWs agreement

Project outline

- Installation of RARS stations to ensure coverage of Africa and real time access to satellite data;
- Enhancement of the NWP regional capacities in Africa (notably in the RCC);
- Enhance capacities at national level for each sub-Saharan African NMHS to receive NWP model (or alternatively to run national-scale NWP model);
- Training activities related to all points above;
- Support to the Regional Climate Outlook Forum for integrating DRR aspects.

Status of Activities

- Nov 2013 reception tests with Cape Town station identified some issues with the length of the passes, but were considered a useful starting point
- Provision of test data to RA I is being considered prior to the installation of new stations
- Finalisation of the EU-AfDB agreement by mid-2014
- Installation of stations to start in early 2015, project to run for 4 yr period.