



STATUS OF THE EUMETSAT SATELLITE APPLICATION FACILITIES

The Network of EUMETSAT Satellite Application Facilities (SAF) progresses well. The first 7 approved SAFs started in March 2007 a 5-year Continuous Development and Operations Phase. The SAF on support to Operational Hydrology and Water Management is completing the second year of its development phase.

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1 INTRODUCTION

This paper presents the status of development/operations of the EUMETSAT Network of Satellite Application Facilities (SAF) and provides the relevant medium/long-term planning elements.

There are currently 8 SAF projects running (see figure 1), at different status of development or operations:

- SAF on Support to Nowcasting and Very Short-Range Forecasting (NWC);
- SAF on Ocean and Sea Ice (OSI);
- SAF on Ozone and Atmospheric Chemistry Monitoring (O3M);
- SAF on GRAS Meteorology (GRAS);
- SAF on Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP);
- SAF on Climate Monitoring (CM);
- SAF on Land Surface Analysis (LSA);
- SAF on Support to Operational Hydrology and Water Management (H).

2 STATUS OF ACTIVITIES

Initial Operations Phase (IOP) for the SAFs that started operations of MSG based products since 2002 was completed in February 2007. Large parts of the activities in the IOP were/are dedicated to the scientific validation of the operational products, which has been actively supported by users of the SAF operational services.

In March 2007, the first 7 SAFs started a 5-year Continuous Development and Operations Phase (CDOP), addressing continuation of services implemented in the IOP, deploying the new services based on data from the EUMETSAT Polar System (EPS), also focussing on improvement of existing products and development of new products and services.

SAFs already support each other via the exchange of products, software and expertise, as well as keeping a close contact between SAF managers, engineers and scientists.

The CDOP offers many opportunities to continue and expand the inter-SAF activities for the benefit of the whole SAF Network and its user communities.

The SAF Network Continuous Development and Operations Phase (CDOP), for the period 2007-2012, covers in detail:

- Completion of EPS-based products validation, using real EPS/Metop Data;
- Continuation, with necessary improvement, of the operations of MSG, NOAA-based products (or products based on other approved data sources);
- Operation of EPS-based products and their extended validation, in line with agreed planning elements;

- Development and operation of new products, as agreed by Council;
- Support to the identification and definition of requirements for MTG and Post-EPS, and scientific preparation for the use of data of the future EUMETSAT satellite systems, to the extent required by related plans.

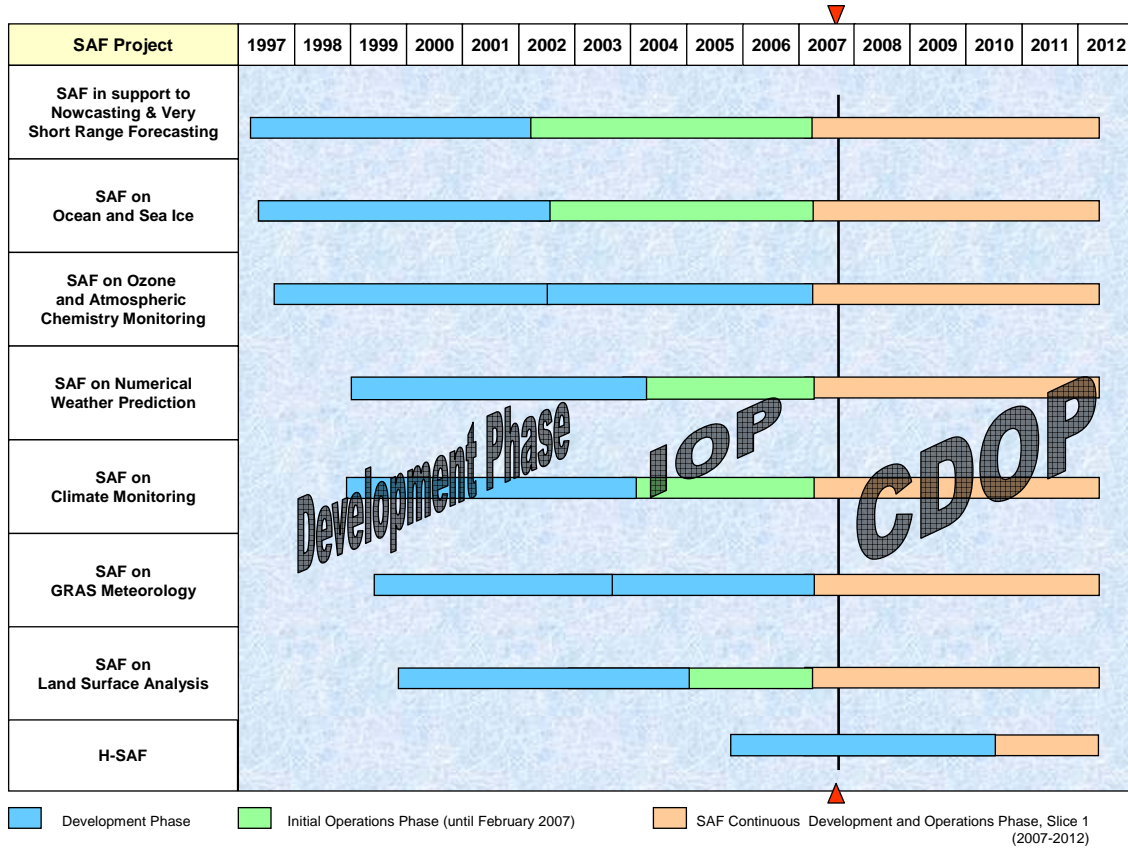


Figure 1 SAF Network Phasing and Planning

3 MEDIUM/LONG-TERM PLANNING

The following main planning elements are applicable to the SAF Network:

- SAF CDOP: 2010-2012
- Following CDOP slices: 5 years, first starting in March 2012

4 CONCLUSIONS

CGMS is invited to take note of the progress of activities and operations of the SAF Network at EUMETSAT.

Detailed information on the status of the SAF projects and of distributed products is available on the EUMETSAT Web.