

# ACCP/AOS Community Forum

July 29, 2021

# Overview of AOS Mission Concept & Science

- Welcome and thank you for dialing in!
- We are very excited to have the 1<sup>st</sup> Community Forum following Project Authorization
- The Earth System Observatory/Atmosphere Observing System (ESO/AOS) is the preliminary name for the Constellation that resulted from the 2+ year Architecture Study responding to the Aerosol (A) and Cloud, Convection and Precipitation (CCP) Designated Observables called out in the 2017 Earth Science Decadal Survey
  - The name ESO/AOS has not been fully approved and is a working name to distinguish between ACCP Architectures and the specific mission that has been moved into Pre-Phase A
  - AOS is an update from the previous acronym AtmOS

# Agenda

Science Overview (15min)

Scott Braun

Architecture & Instrument Overview (10min)

Jeff Piepmeier

Applications Considerations (5min)

Dalia Kirschbaum

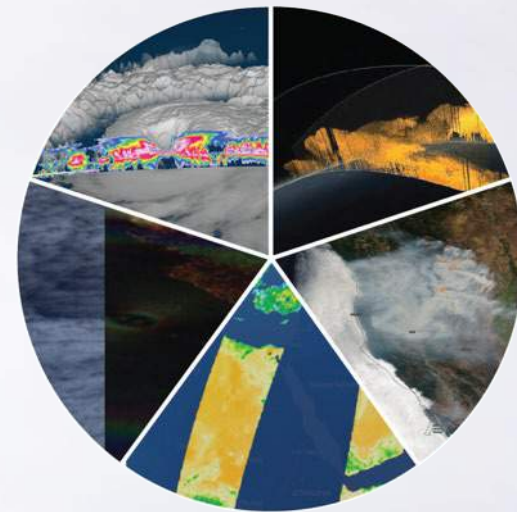
Plan Forward for Mission/Projects (5min)

Vickie Moran

Ways to Stay Informed (5min)

Questions (20min)

# The Atmosphere Observing System: Science Objectives and Activities





The National Academies of  
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

CONSENSUS STUDY REPORT

# THRIVING ON OUR CHANGING PLANET

A Decadal Strategy for Earth Observation from Space



National Aeronautics and Space Administration



# EXPLORE

SCIENCE 2020-2024  
A Vision for Science Excellence

## Earth Science

NASA Earth Science unlocks the mysteries of our planet, exploring, discovering, and responding to the need to understand our planet's interconnected systems, from a global scale to minute processes. This knowledge and understanding serves the fundamental need to improve our lives on Earth, advancing this frontier for all humanity. NASA pursues both curiosity-driven and practically focused Earth science because our ability to thrive on our home planet is undeniably tied to our scientific understanding and predictive capability of its dynamics and phenomena.



Photo Credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center  
NASA's [Global Modeling and Assimilation Office](#) used Earth science data gathered from multiple missions to [visualize](#) several high impact events across the globe between August 2019 and January 2020, including Hurricane Dorian (August to September 2019), major fire events in South America and Indonesia (August to September 2019), and extreme wildfires in Australia (December 2019 to January 2020). The model helps demonstrate how different events interact and the environmental impacts they can have around the globe.

NASA Earth Science explores our rapidly changing world, where natural and human factors interact, following an interdisciplinary, Earth systems approach that examines the interplay among the atmospheric, ocean, land, and ice systems. Using the recommendations of the 2017 NASA Earth Science Decadal Survey, *Thriving on Our Changing Planet a Decadal Strategy for Earth Observation from Space*, as a compass, NASA Earth Science is developing the observing systems that will answer the most important science and application questions of the next decade across the following focus areas:

- Coupling of the water and energy cycles ✓
- Ecosystem change
- Extending and improving weather and air quality forecasts ✓
- Reducing climate uncertainty and informing societal response ✓
- Sea-level rise
- Surface dynamics, geological hazards and disasters



# DS Science Questions Related to ACCP

## Weather & Air Quality Panel

**W-1 (MI): Planetary Boundary Layer Dynamics.**

**W-2 (MI): Larger Range Environmental Predictions.**

**W-4 (MI): Convective Storm Formation Processes.**

**W-5 (MI): Air Pollution Processes and Distribution.**

**W-6 (I): Air Pollution Processes and Trends.**

**W-9 (I): Role of Cloud Microphysical Processes.**

**W-10 (I): Clouds and Radiative Forcing.**

## Climate Variability and Change Panel

**C-2 (MI): Climate Feedback and Sensitivity.**

**C-5 (I-VI): Aerosols and Aerosol Cloud Interactions.**

## Hydrological Cycle Panel

**H-1 (MI): Coupling the Water and Energy Cycles.**

**C-8 (I): Causes and Effects of Polar Amplification.**

**Most Important**

**Very Important**

**Important**

# DS Science Questions Related to ACCP

## Weather & Air Quality Panel

**W-1 (MI): Planetary Boundary Layer Dynamics.**

**W-2 (MI): Larger Range Environmental Predictions.**

**W-4 (MI): Convective Storm Formation Processes.**

**W-5 (MI): Air Pollution Processes and Distribution.**

## Climate Variability and Change Panel

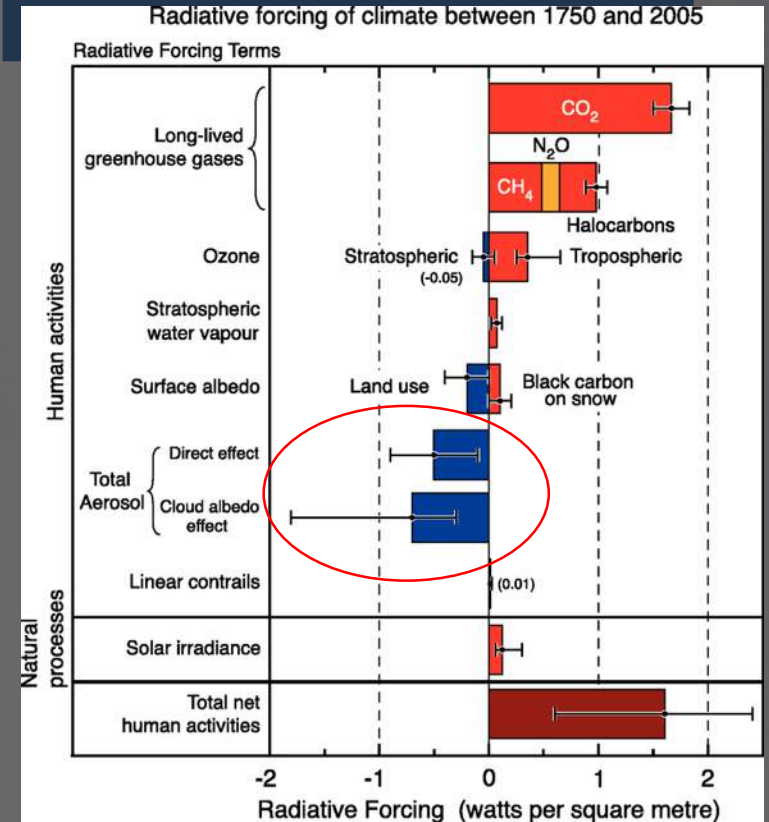
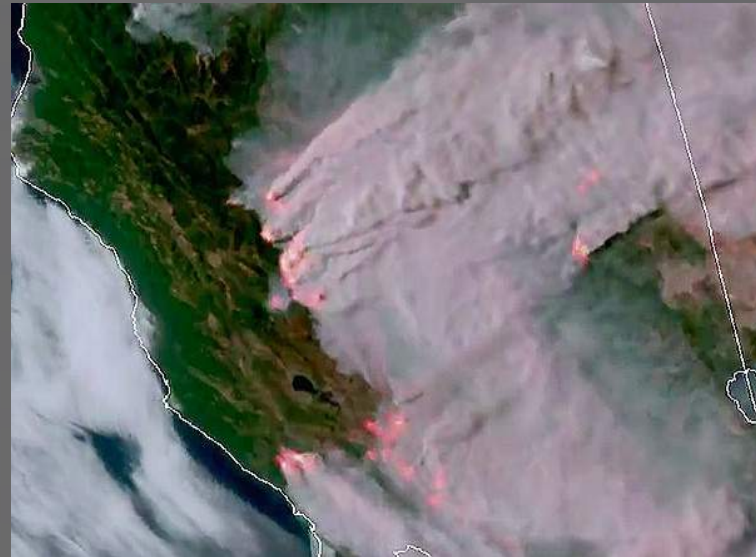
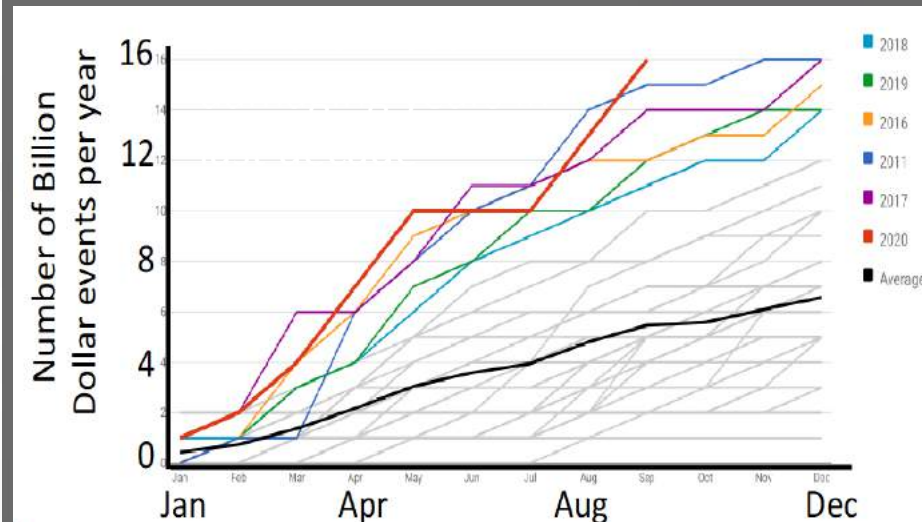
**C-2 (MI): Climate Feedback and Sensitivity.**

**C-5 (I-VI): Aerosols and Aerosol Cloud Interactions.**

## Hydrological Cycle Panel

**H-1 (MI): Coupling the Water and Energy Cycles.**

**C-8 (I): Causes and Effects of**





# ESO/AOS

## One Observing System, Two Synergistic Segments



### Constellation

- Based on prioritization of measurements and balance of the climate, convection, and aerosol DS questions
- Polar and Inclined orbits
- Both have radar, lidar, radiometer, and polarimeter instruments



# ESO/AOS-I

## One Observing System, Two Synergistic Segments



### Inclined Orbit

- Key Features: Information on diurnal variability, Ku radar, tandem stereo cameras
- Emphasizes diurnally varying convective clouds to explore connections between vertical air motion and cloud and precipitation processes
- Targets the dynamics of evolving low clouds are aerosol plumes
- Provides insight on sub-daily processes that influence the distribution of aerosols and their linkage to clouds-precipitation



# ESO/AOS-P

## One Observing System, Two Synergistic Segments



### Polar Orbit

- Key Features: Enhanced W-band Doppler capability, HSRL lidar, radiation
- Significantly advances our understanding of how clouds and aerosols interact with each other and with radiation to influence Earth's energy and water cycles
- Provides critical measurements on aerosol properties that will greatly aid air quality forecasts
- Emphasizes processes critical to aerosol forcing, cloud feedbacks, and air quality



# Earth System Observatory

Interconnected Missions

## SURFACE BIOLOGY AND GEOLOGY

Earth Surface & Ecosystems

## SURFACE DEFORMATION AND CHANGE

Earth Surface Dynamics

CCP

## CLOUDS, CONVECTION AND PRECIPITATION

Water and Energy in the Atmosphere

A

## AEROSOLS

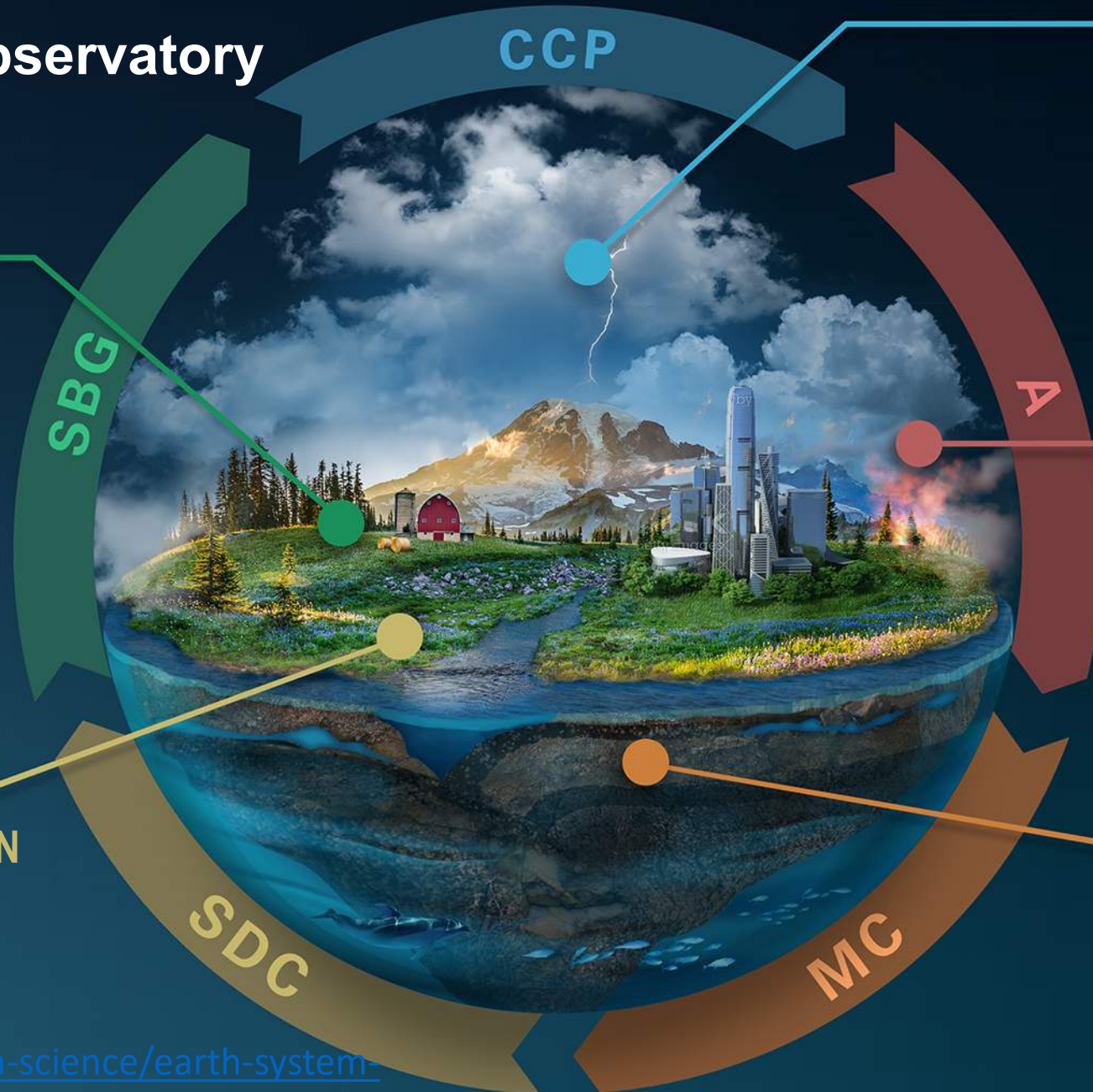
Particles in the Atmosphere

SDC

MC

## MASS CHANGE

Large-scale Mass Redistribution



# Science Team – Activities & Organization

The Science Team is charged with **defining orbital and suborbital requirements and products to implement ACCP science**

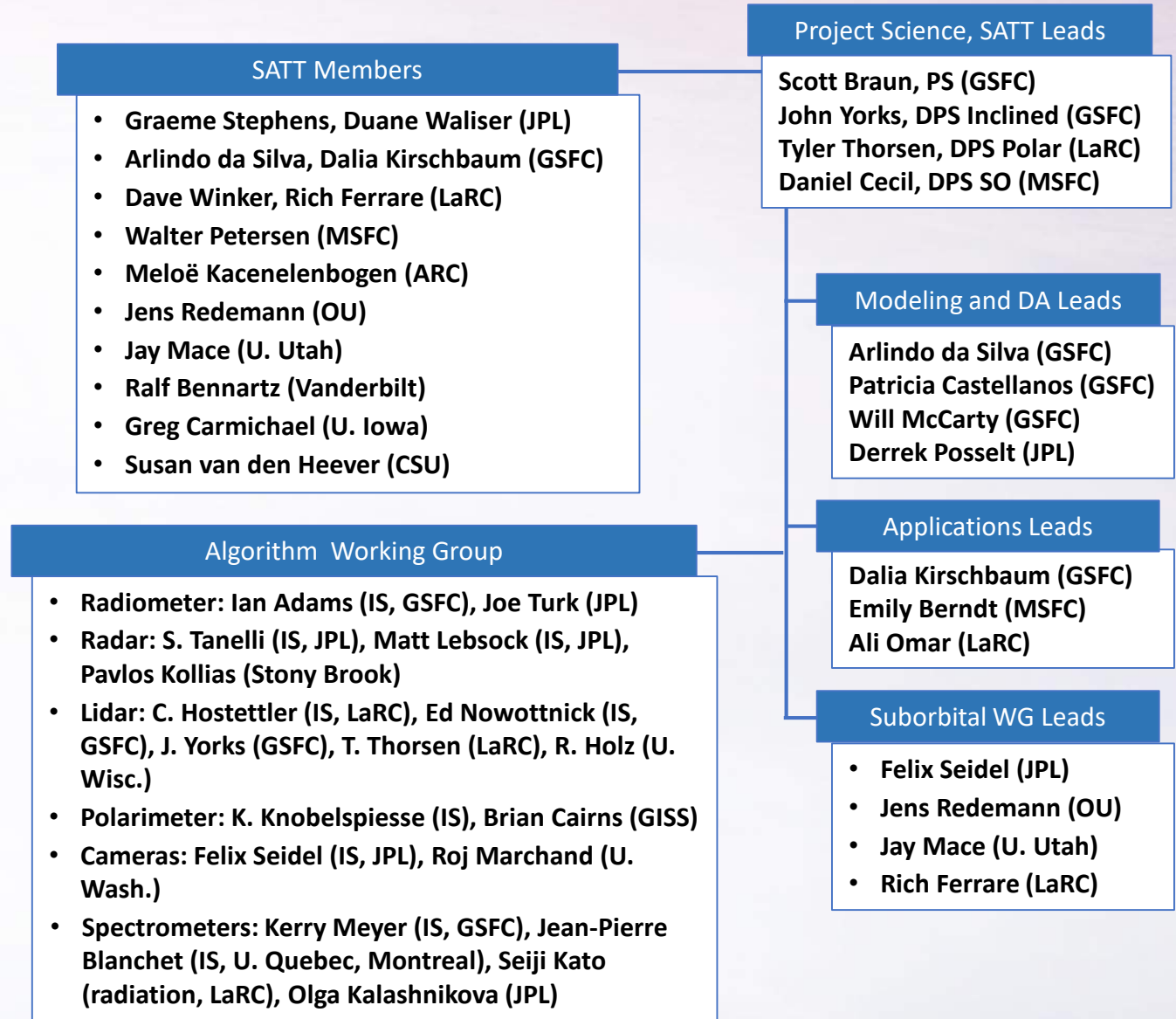
## Teams

- Science and Applications Transition Team (SATT): Science requirements and documentation
- Algorithm Working Groups: Products, algorithms, science traceability
- Suborbital (SO) Working Group: SO requirements definition
- Applications Impact Team: Assess community needs and priorities, latency requirements
- Modeling & Data Assimilation Working Group: Modeling and DA needs, forward models, OSSEs

## Deliverables

- Finalize science traceability matrix
- Input on trade studies
- Program Level-1 Requirements Appendix
- Mission Concept Review package
- Community Assessment Report
- Draft of Project Applications Plan

## Org Chart





# For more information

- ACCP SATM:

[https://vac.gsfc.nasa.gov/accp/docs/ACCP SATM Rel Candidate G.pdf](https://vac.gsfc.nasa.gov/accp/docs/ACCP_SATM_Rel_Candidate_G.pdf)

- ACCP Science Narrative:

[https://vac.gsfc.nasa.gov/accp/docs/ACCP Science Narrative-2021.07.19.pdf](https://vac.gsfc.nasa.gov/accp/docs/ACCP_Science_Narrative-2021.07.19.pdf)

- ACCP Final Architecture Recommendation Review:

[https://vac.gsfc.nasa.gov/accp/docs/Architecture Recommendation Review.pdf](https://vac.gsfc.nasa.gov/accp/docs/Architecture_Recommendation_Review.pdf)

# Extras



# Activities During Pre-Phase A

- Science and Applications Transition Team
  - Development of Level-1 baseline and threshold measurement requirements
  - Minimum success criteria
- Algorithm Working Groups
  - Initial product definition, i.e., types and numbers of products
  - Scoping of potential algorithm approaches
  - Tracing Level-1 requirements to geophysical variables
- Suborbital Working Group
  - Identify priorities/provide recommendations for suborbital science based on 2nd SO workshop
  - Focus on measurements that cannot be made from space

# Activities During Pre-Phase A

- Applications Team
  - Community Assessment Report
  - Project Applications Plan
- Modeling and Data Assimilation Team
  - Assess the potential impact of AOS data on predictive modeling skill
  - Identify feasible Level-4 products
  - Address potential modeling needs
- Trade studies
  - Orbit inclination for inclined, impacts of disaggregation for polar
  - Science enhancements from international contributions
  - Latency requirements



# Mapping Top DS Questions to ESO/AOS Goals

## Key MI DS Questions

## Linked ACCP Goals

**W-4 (MI): Convective Storm Formation Processes.**

**G2 Storm Dynamics**

*Improve our physical understanding and model representations of cloud, precipitation and dynamical processes within convective storms*

**W-5 (MI): Air Pollution Processes and Distribution.**

**G4 Aerosol Processes**

*Reduce uncertainty in key processes that link aerosols to weather, climate and air quality related impacts.*

**C-2 (I-MI): Climate Feedback and Sensitivity.**

**G1 Cloud Feedbacks**

*Reduce the uncertainty in low- and high-cloud climate feedbacks by advancing our ability to predict the properties of low and high clouds*

**G3 Cold Cloud and Precipitation**

*Improve understanding of cold (supercooled liquid, ice, and mixed phase) cloud processes and associated precipitation and their coupling to mid-to-high latitude water and energy cycles*

**G5 Aerosol Impacts on Radiation**

*Reduce the uncertainty in Direct (D) and Indirect (I) aerosol-related radiative forcing of the climate system.*

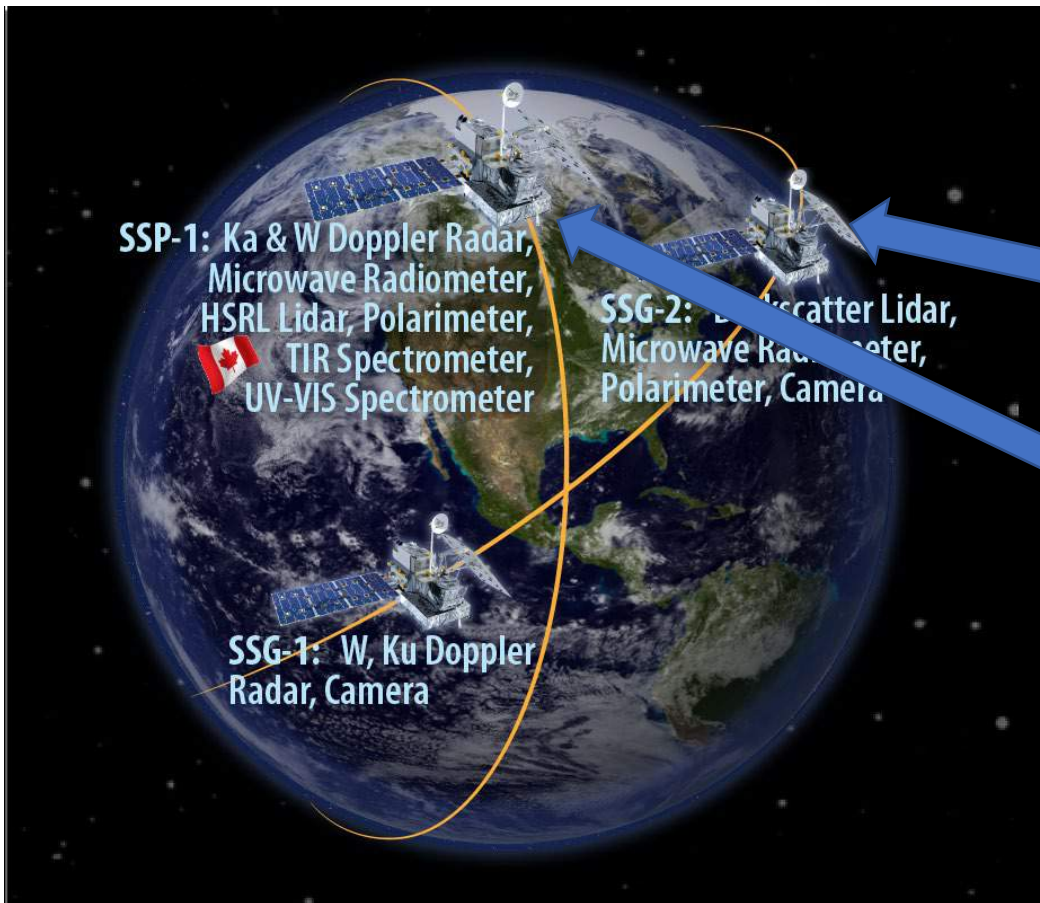
SATM Release G:

[https://vac.gsfc.nasa.gov/accp/docs/ACCP\\_SATM\\_Rel\\_Candidate\\_G.pdf](https://vac.gsfc.nasa.gov/accp/docs/ACCP_SATM_Rel_Candidate_G.pdf)

# Overview ESO/AOS Architecture & Instruments

# Selected Architecture (Architecture Study Reference D1A)

- Launch #1 2028 (**Inclined** Orbit)
  - NASA Spacecraft: SSG-1 and SSG-2
- Launch #2 2029 (**Polar** Sun Synchronous Orbit)
  - NASA Spacecraft: SSP-1



*Cost caps and desire for early launch (2028) forces lower cost/higher maturity for the Inclined orbit*

Inclined Orbit: SmallSat-compatible Radar/Lidar; min of two spacecraft for stereo imaging of clouds (45 sec sep) and delta-time measurements

Polar Orbit: Larger, more-capable Radar/Lidar requiring larger spacecraft and more time for instrument development



# Selected Architecture (PAL Reference D1A)

- Launch #1 2028 (**Inclined Orbit**)
  - NASA Spacecraft: SSG-1 and SSG-2
- Launch #2 2029 (**Polar Sun Synchronous Orbit**)
  - NASA Spacecraft: SSP-1



Inclined Elements	Description
<b>SSG-1</b>	
SmallSat Radar	Ku w/Higher Accuracy Doppler and W Band w/Lower Accuracy Doppler
Stereo Camera	Visible Camera #1 of 2 for Tandem Measurements on 2 Spacecraft
<b>SSG-2</b>	
Backscatter Lidar	532nm, 1064nm
Microwave Radiometer	118-880GHz OR 89-325GHz
Polarimeter	UV/VIS, VNIR/SWIR Narrow Swath
Stereo Camera	Visible Camera #2 of 2 for Tandem Measurements on 2 Spacecraft

Polar Elements	Description
Dual Doppler Radar	Ka w/High Accuracy Doppler and W w/High Accuracy Doppler
Microwave Radiometer	118-880 GHz
HSRL Lidar	532nm HSRL, 1064nm
Polarimeter	UV/VIS, VNIR/SWIR Wide Swath
TICFIRE Spectrometer	LWIR, FIR
UV-VIS Spectrometer	UV, VIS, NIR, SWIR



# ESO/AOS

## One Observing System, Two Synergistic Segments



## International Contributions Under Study

- JAXA wide-swath Ku-band Doppler radar for precipitation mapping and GPM continuity
- CNES tandem high-frequency (89, 183, 325 GHz) passive microwave radiometers for time-differenced measurements
- CSA limb sounders for upper tropospheric/lower stratospheric aerosol and moisture sounding

# Applications Considerations



## Weather Forecasting

## Disaster Modeling/Monitoring

## Health & Air Quality

### Long-term Decisions

#### > 6 hour Latency

- Applied research studies
- Improve algorithms
- Model verification

#### > 6 hour Latency

- Disaster relief & preparedness
- Community planning
- Developing models and studying past events

#### > 6 hour Latency

- Exceptional event demonstrations and aerosol transport
- Health studies/trends

### Short-term Decisions

#### 3-6 hour Latency

- Operational hurricane forecasting
- Operational weather forecasting
- Operational model data assimilation

#### 3-6 hour Latency

- Volcanic disasters/warnings for aviation
- Smoke/dust and air quality warnings for human health

#### 3-6 hour Latency

- Air quality model data assimilation
- Air quality forecasting
- Smoke modeling

### Time-critical Decisions

#### 1 hour Latency

- Weather nowcasting/warnings
- Fire weather/smoke forecasts
- Dust storm warnings
- Ingest in rapid update models

#### 1 hour Latency

- Disaster warning, evacuation, response, mobilization
- Short-term flooding/landslide risk assessment

#### 1 hour Latency

- Air quality forecasting
- Public health warnings (plume or catastrophic releases)
- Chemical weather forecasting

# Recommendations from AIT

- Initial AIT latencies were based on delivery of products to stakeholders
- The engineering team needs to work with ground system latencies to anticipate use of NASA's Near Earth Network (or TDRSS) to determine data rates and desired/required downlinks per day
- These initial recommendations will change based on more information on:
  - expected algorithms and products
  - multi-instrument products

Instrument	Requires baseline ground system latency (aka measurement latency) through LZP within	In order to deliver _____ to end users	with end user data latency of
Radiometer	<1 hour	L1b radiances	1 – 3 hours
Radar	2 hours	L1 – L2 products	3 – 6 hours
Lidar	2 hours	L1 – L3 products	3 – 6 hours
Polarimeter	2 hours	L1 – L3 products	3 – 6 hours
Spectrometer	3-6 hours	L1 – L3 products	≤ 6 hours

# Applications Impact Team – Updates & Engagements

The ACCP Applications Impact Team (AIT) is charged with **ensuring that applications are considered to the greatest extent possible in mission design.**

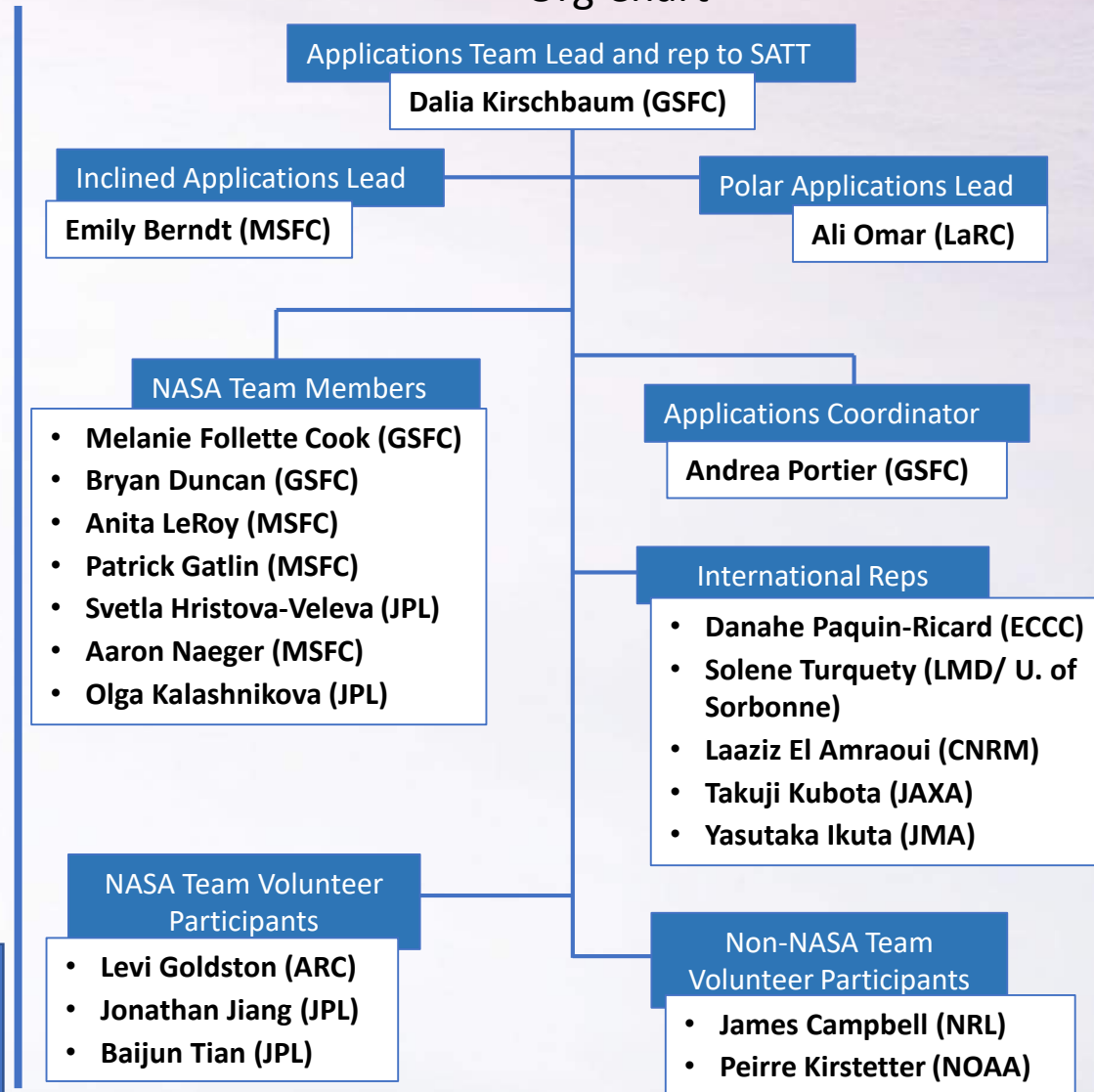
## Activities

- Project Studies: applications-oriented studies on latency, inclination, instruments needs, etc.) that would impact applications value
- Pre-Phase A Working Groups: Participate Science Team on L1-L4 algorithm development and needs to inform L1 science requirements
- Stakeholder outreach: Engage applications communities through workshops, thematic discussions, focus groups, newsletters, etc.
- Coordinate/Collaborate with other DO projects

## Deliverables

- Community Assessment Report (Pre-Phase A Requirement)
- Draft of Project Applications Plan (KDP-A Activity)

## Org Chart



We welcome new members! If you are interested to learn more, please contact Andrea Portier ([andrea.m.portier@nasa.gov](mailto:andrea.m.portier@nasa.gov)) or Dalia Kirschbaum ([dalia.Kirschbaum@nasa.gov](mailto:dalia.Kirschbaum@nasa.gov)).





# Community Assessment Report for ACCP: Enabled Application Areas Covered

Solar Energy

Commerical  
Aviation



Numerical Weather  
Prediction and Tropical  
Cyclone Forecasting

S2S Forecasting and  
Climate Modeling

Air Quality Modeling  
(forecasting)

Environmental Public  
Health and Pollution

Logistics

Wildfires and Smoke

Food and Beverage  
Companies in  
Tropical Climates

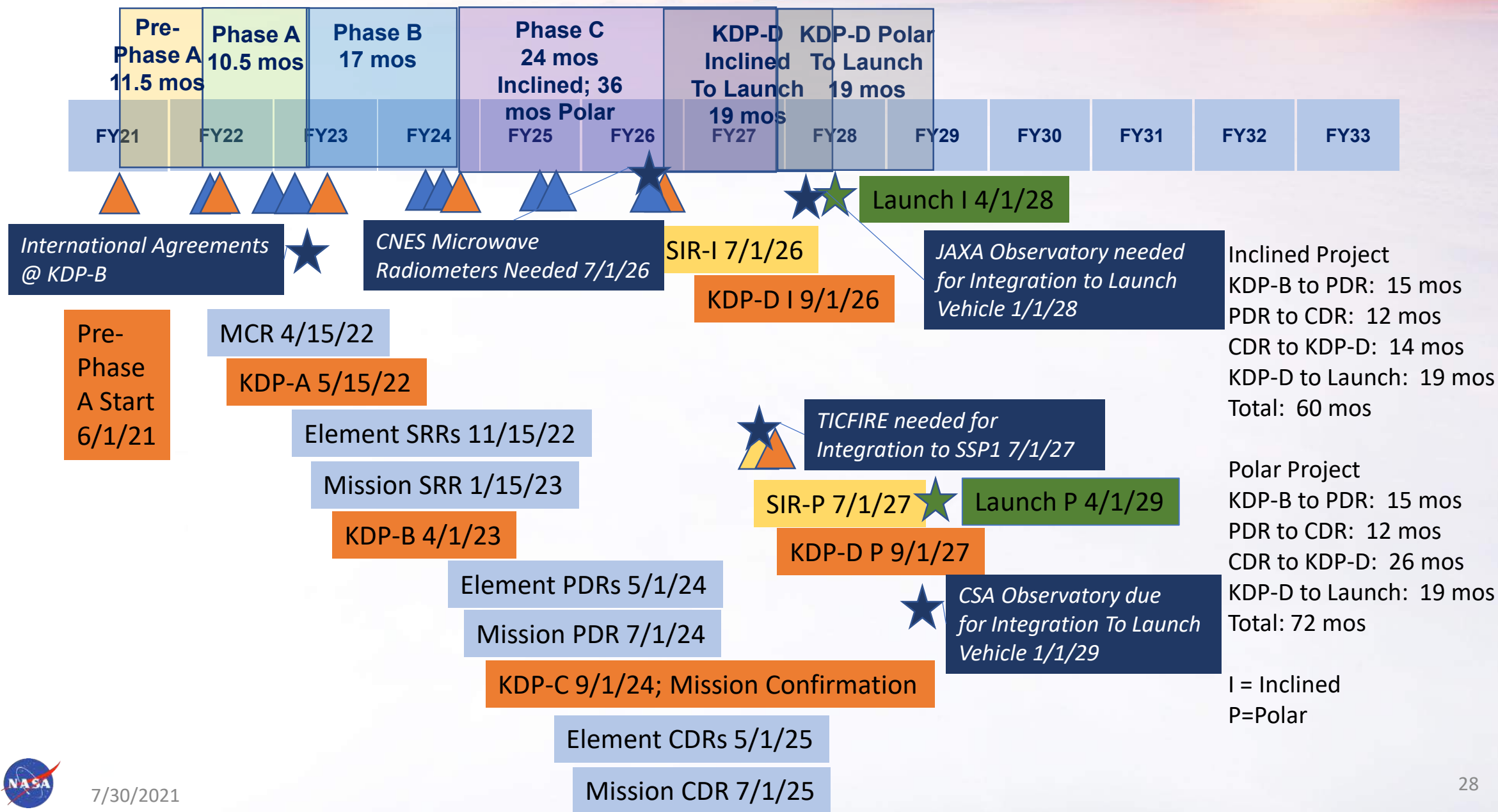
Water Resources

Data Driven  
Agriculture

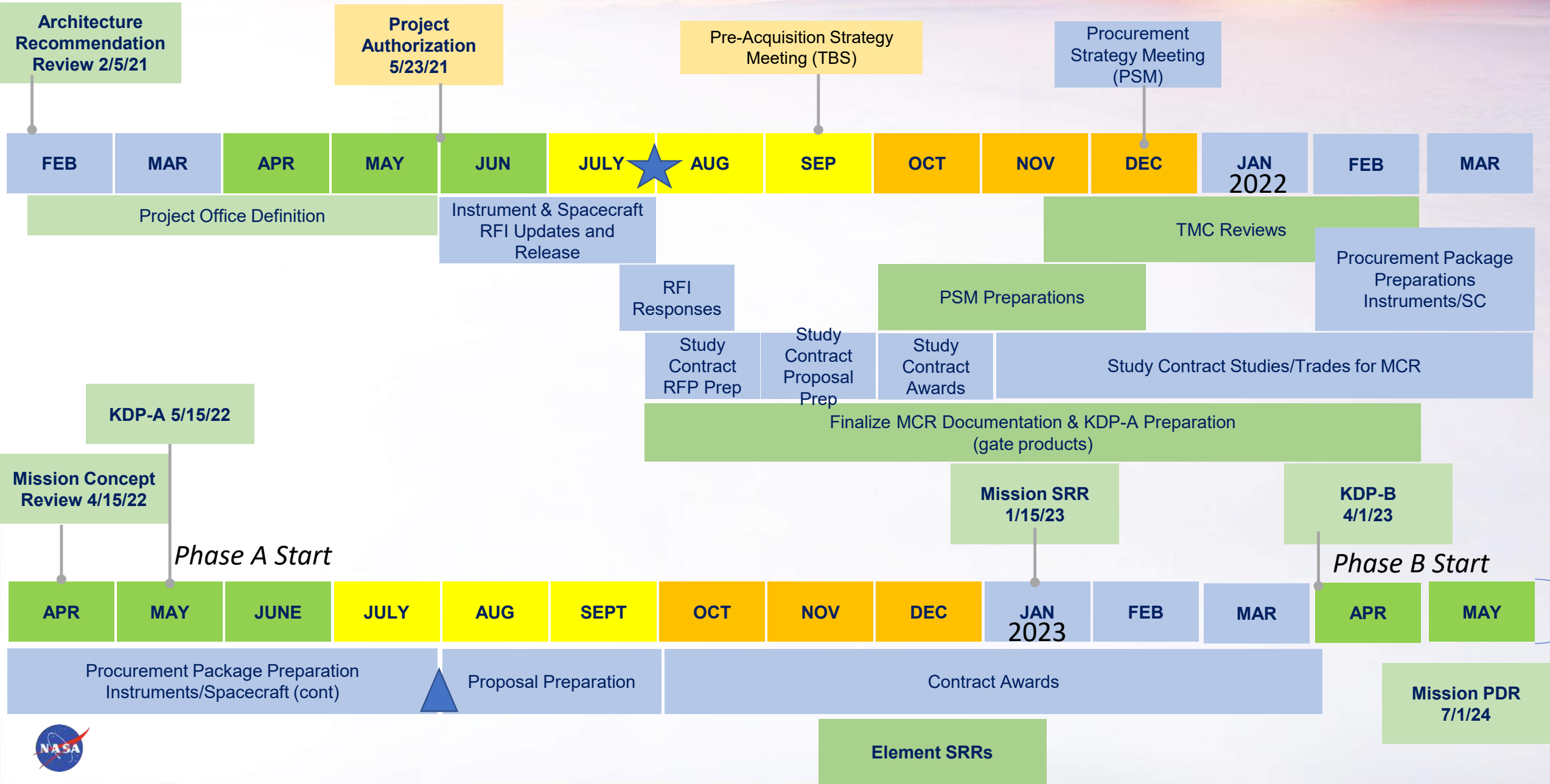
# Plan Forward for Mission / Projects



# ESO/AOS-I and AOS-P Projects “No Earlier Than” Schedule



# Pre-Phase A High Level Schedule—Look Ahead Phase A





# Requests for Information—Instruments & Spacecraft

RFIs on sam.gov—deadlines can be extended upon request

<https://sam.gov/opp/80bae0cd35b54479a775e6eca2ea698f/view> -Polarimeter

<https://sam.gov/opp/c33da7542ec34638b5a637da6e196a55/view> -Radiometer

<https://sam.gov/opp/00f6a5aecc11443b9de3f6d7eb691dff/view> -Stereographic Cameras

<https://sam.gov/opp/61587d141bbe40969e6250da4c657d3b/view> -Spectrometer

<https://sam.gov/opp/b837e19017374319af622320f7724516/view> - Backscatter Lidar

<https://sam.gov/opp/d580ddeae7524a76a5314aa081df2685/view> - HSRL Lidar

<https://sam.gov/opp/641f13bd2bea4b74a119c04889f4014e/view> - Spacecraft RFI (Inclined Orbit)

# Ways to stay informed

- Web-Site (demo to follow)
- Contact Sheri Smith [a-ccp-comments@lists.nasa.gov](mailto:a-ccp-comments@lists.nasa.gov) to get on Community Emails
- Contact Project Team Personnel (high level org chart included)
- Webinars
  - Applications Webinars Starting Fall 2021
- Next Community Forum November 4
- AGU Townhall & Other Sessions December

# Web-Site Demo

Existing ACCP Architecture Study Web-Site In Use

New Mission/Project Web-Site In Development

**Introduction**

The Aerosol, Cloud, Convection and Precipitation (ACCP) study is assessing designs for NASA's next suite of atmospheric observations. The goal is to optimize how we examine links among tiny particles known as "aerosols," clouds, atmospheric convection, and precipitation. ACCP will deliver key data for improved forecasts of weather, air quality and climate. How? By providing unmatched insight into the vertical structure of our atmosphere with observations from space, our skies, and on the ground.

**What's New**

- Key Decision Point (KDP) A (TBD, March 2022)
- Mission Concept Review (TBD, February 2022)
- 5th ACCP Community Forum (29-July-2021)



# Project Organization--Preliminary

Science Requirements  
 Science Data Product Definition  
 Algorithm Identification for  
 Costing

**SCIENCE & APPLICATIONS TEAM**

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT**  
 PROJECT MANAGER (Moran)  
 DEPUTY PROJECT MANAGER RESOURCES (Eakin)  
 Project Scientist (Braun)  
 Deputy PM Pre-/Phase A (Piepmeier)  
 Access To Space Mgr Pre-/Phase A (Caffrey)  
 NASA Payload Mgr Pre-/Phase A (Jacques)

**MANAGEMENT ADVISORY GROUP**  
 Mgr JPL Elements (Vane)  
 Mgr LaRC Elements (Trepte)  
 Mgr CSA Elements (Piekutowski/Micael)  
 Mgr CNES Elements (Deschamps/Cipolla)  
 Mgr JAXA Elements (Oki/Furukawa)

Instrument Technology/Eng Development  
 Conceptual Design  
 Instrument Dev Approach, Plan, Schedule, Cost

**SAFETY/MISSION ASSURANCE**  
 (TBD/GSFC)

**PROCUREMENT** (Keish/Wingerberg/GSFC)

Mission Concept Design  
 Flow down of Payload  
 Accommodation  
 Requirements  
 Early V&V Planning

**SYSTEMS ENGINEERING**  
 MSE (Bidwell/Lounsbury)  
 DMSE (Chrono)  
 DMSE (Schlee)  
 RF Payload (Mclinden)  
 Optical Payload (Cook)

**COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**  
 Jacobs

**PROJECT SUPPORT**  
 Financial Manager (Starr/GSFC)  
 Project Support (Smith/GSFC)  
 Finance (Adamczyk/GSFC)  
 Scheduling (Hartnett/GSFC)  
 Resource Control  
 Config. Mgmt. (TBD/GSFC)  
 Earned Value Mgmt. (TBD/GSFC)

Ops Con Development  
 Ground System  
 Architecture/Concept  
 Science Data System  
 Architecture/Concept

**GROUND SYSTEMS & OPERATIONS**  
 Mops & Gnd System  
 Lead Jamie Pawloski  
 Mission Operations  
 Payload Operations  
 Flight Dynamics  
 Science Data System  
 SDS Leads  
 (Wolfe/Meyer)  
 DAAC  
 Community Support

**Inclined Mission**  
 Deputy Project Manager (TBD)  
 Deputy Project Scientist (John Yorks)

**Polar Mission**  
 Deputy Project Manager (TBD)  
 Deputy Project Scientist (Tyler Thorsen)

**Sub-Orbital**  
 Deputy Project Scientist Sub-Orbital  
 Dan Cecil

SOWG



# Directory

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[jonathon.d.wingerberg@nasa.gov](mailto:jonathon.d.wingerberg@nasa.gov)

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# Questions/Comments

- Open Discussion—Panel include Presenters