



Mission Status Report 173

Reference Period: June 2021

sentinel-2

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Mission Status

- Despite the situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sentinel-2 mission operations remained nominal.
- The mission is sensing systematically all land and water areas indicated [here](#), and the detailed mission acquisition plans are regularly published [here](#)
- The observation scenario has been optimised over the Maldives to cover all small islands and atolls that were not part of the mission baseline and removing an acquisition segment that was fully over water.
- An ad-hoc acquisition campaign has been started to provide an extended coverage over the Seychelles till March 2022 for supporting scientific studies aiming at better estimate the in-situ carbon stock in seagrass soils.
- Level-1C (top-of-atmosphere reflectance) and Level-2A (surface reflectance) products are available on [Copernicus Open Access Hub](#) and on [Data and Information Access Service \(DIAS\) platforms](#).
- A Sentinel-2A collision avoidance manoeuvre was executed on 27 June which affected the acquisitions around at 14:07 UTC.
- Information on data quality is available in two reports, one for [L1C products](#) and one for [L2A products](#).
- Since 30 June, Level-1C and Level-2A products are subject of a minor update in the 'manifest.safe' file packaged at the root of every product bundle. In the 'manifest.safe' file, while every other file included in the product structure is listed together with a corresponding checksum code to verify its integrity, the algorithm used to derive the checksum will evolve from the current MD5 algorithm to the more resilient SHA3 (Secure Hash Algorithm 3) with SHA3-256 instance hash codes. The Sentinel-2 products featuring this update are tagged with the new Processing Baselines 03.01 for both Level-1C and Level-2A products. More details and test data available [here](#).
- Some Data Hub anomalies and outages impacted the availability of the data access during the period. Please refer to the [news](#) page for the list of the single events.
- A contingency at ground segment level occurred on the evening of 17 June, preventing the generation of several Copernicus Sentinel-2 products. The issue has been fixed early in the morning on 18 June and nominal operations has resumed.
- The following articles related to Sentinel-2 were published during the reporting period:
 - [Satellites reveal cause of Chamoli disaster](#)
 - [Save the date: Living Planet Symposium 2022](#)
- Sentinel-2 videos and images have been published and are available [here](#).
- Sentinel-2 remained in 2020 as the top European mission in terms of scientific peer-reviewed publications (1200 during 2020) and data volume distributed to users.

Outlook

- To extend the provision of geometrically refined products over all regions worldwide during Q3 2021.