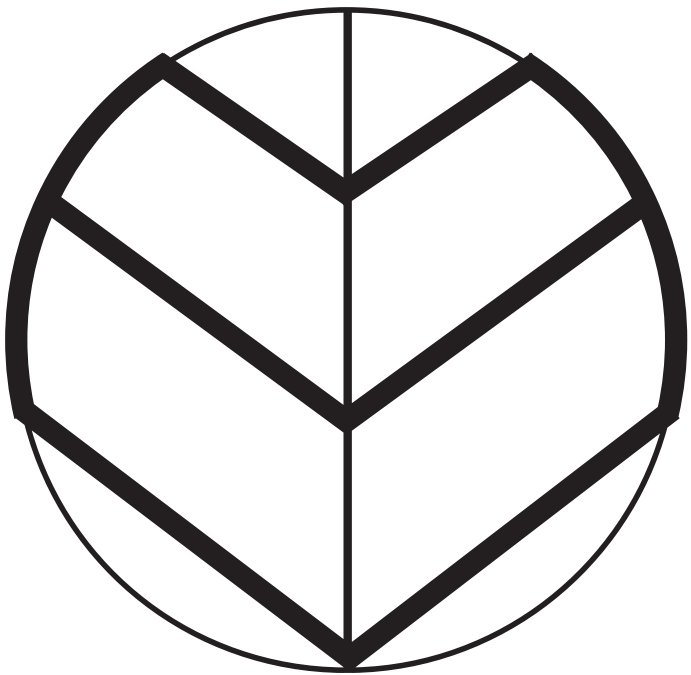


love
planet
earth

2026

THE ROOTS OF THE FUTURE

From Space, we protect the cradle of crops in the Mediterranean

Ten thousand years ago, on the shores of the eastern **Mediterranean Sea**, agriculture was born. Since then, the relationship with the land has **transformed the fate of communities**, ending nomadism, fostering **permanent settlements**, and enabling the rise of organised economies and societies. The Mediterranean has long been a **cradle of agricultural innovation**, from irrigation and crop rotation to mechanisation and modern science. Today, its agriculture embodies ten millennia of evolution, where tradition and technology intertwine to shape one of the world's richest diets.

The 2026 edition of **Love Planet Earth** offers a journey over the Mediterranean's agricultural lands through twelve images captured by the **COSMO-SkyMed satellites**, a Program of the Italian Space Agency (ASI) and the Italian Ministry of Defence. The view from Space reveals beautiful territories that are becoming increasingly fragile. It tells stories of resilience and innovation, where communities, research and technology work toward sustainable and accessible food. Alongside satellite imagery, it showcases the most typical crops of the regions, blending beauty, flavors, and a deeper understanding of the Mediterranean.

We embark on this journey alongside **Med-Or Italian Foundation**, which promotes international dialogue and cooperation between Italy and the countries of the Enlarged Mediterranean. Through projects that involve institutions, companies, universities and research centres, Med-Or supports innovation, sustainability, energy, health and safety, with the common goal of strengthening the Mediterranean identity and building bridges for collaboration.

Love Planet Earth reflects the COSMO-SkyMed vital mission: to provide geospatial solutions to understand how the Earth is changing and to **drive more effective action**. Satellites make it possible to monitor crops and soils, optimise the management of water resources, analyse the effects of drought or extreme events and support sustainable farming practices. Earth Observation thus offers fundamental tools to combine the traditional knowledge of farmers with the most advanced solutions, contributing to productive and sustainable food systems.

Finally, the Calendar reaffirms our commitment to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**. In particular, the second Goal calls for innovation to sustainably increase agricultural production and highlights the links between resilient farming, smallholder empowerment, gender equality, poverty reduction, healthy lifestyles and concrete actions to mitigate climate change.

Bring the images to your desktop

Scan the QR Code to download the COSMO-SkyMed images from the Love Planet Earth 2026 Calendar, available in desktop wallpaper format. A simple way to keep the view from Space with you every day, turning your screen into a window onto the Earth's beauty.

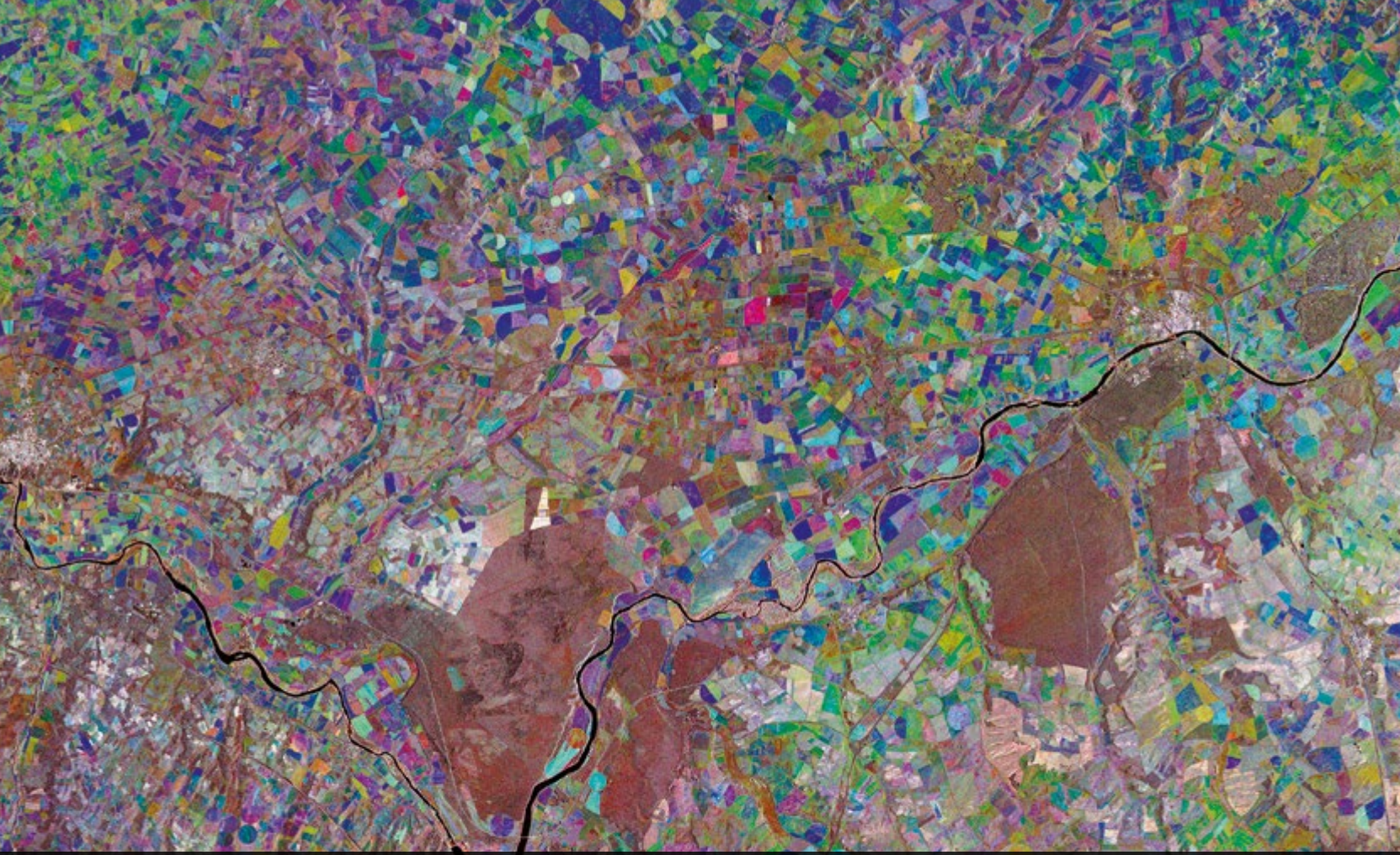
The appropriate steps have been taken to minimise this calendar's environmental footprint.
All materials used comply with environmental regulations.

- The paper used is 100% FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified;
- The pages have not been coated with plastic, so they are fully recyclable;
- We have selected a spiral design that enables us to save one kilometre of metal.

FSC

GREEN CERTIFIED love planet earth GREEN CERTIFIED

The Langhe in Piedmont. Aerial Image, CGR/e-GEOS production © e-GEOS. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS



T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JANUARY 2026

Tordesillas, Castile and León, Spain. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

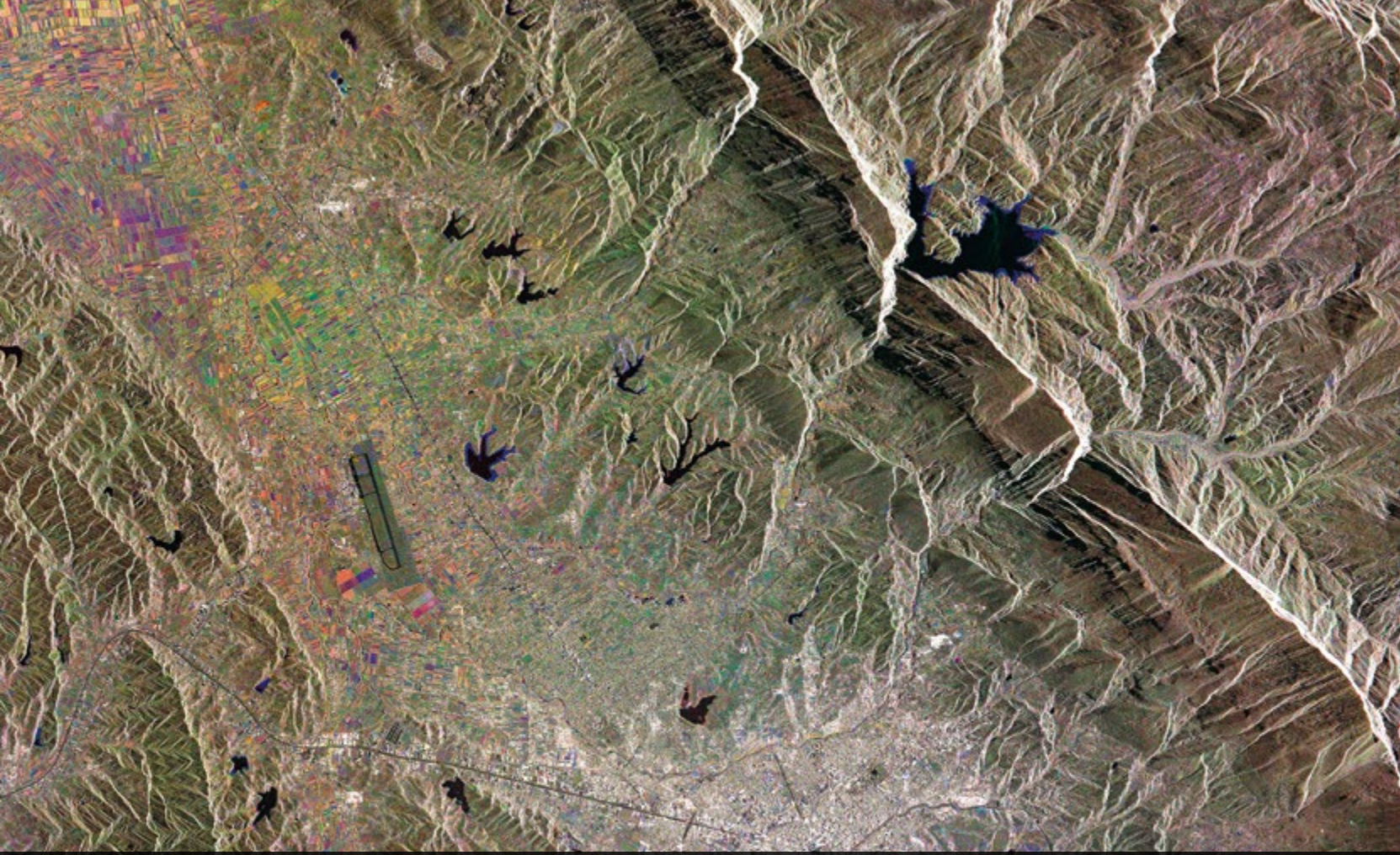
2026 is the **International Year of the Woman Farmer**, proclaimed by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to highlight the role of women in agri-food systems and overcome the barriers that still limit their opportunities. In Castile and León, a region with a strong agricultural identity, rural development projects and European investments **support female entrepreneurship** and **strengthen the role of women** at the helm of cooperatives and farms. Their presence in key sectors such as cereal farming, viticulture and livestock breeding is an example of how **innovation** can arise from **inclusion**. These empowerment pathways not only increase economic and social resilience, but also help to tackle depopulation and build a more equitable and sustainable agricultural future.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

FEBRUARY 2026

Prijedor, Bosnia and Herzegovina. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

Innovative projects aimed at increasing **resilience to extreme natural events** such as droughts and floods are being promoted in many areas of the Mediterranean to support long-term agricultural sustainability. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, Prijedor is one of the rural communities involved in awareness-raising initiatives promoted by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). These activities encourage **knowledge sharing** and **practical learning**, promoting training in sustainable techniques and resilient crops, such as summer pruning and protection of orchards from hail. This **participatory approach** strengthens farming communities, improves product quality and yield, and provides a replicable model of sustainability and adaptation.



S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MARCH 2026

Tirana, Albania. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

Natural disasters are among the most severe challenges for global agriculture. The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) estimates that their frequency has risen from around 100 events per year in the 1970s to nearly 400 in the past two decades, causing losses of USD 3.8 trillion in crops and livestock, equivalent to over 5% of global agricultural GDP. The Mediterranean is also highly exposed: prolonged **droughts** and torrential rains undermine yields and soil fertility. Albania, among the most vulnerable countries, suffers heavy impacts in the coastal plain of Tirana, where floods and water scarcity threaten fields, infrastructure and irrigation systems. These challenges make it urgent to strengthen adaptation and build **resilient agriculture**.

W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

APRIL 2026

Rosetta, Egypt. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

Rising sea levels are among the most visible consequences of climate change: water advances into coastal areas, floods fields and alters their composition, gradually increasing **soil salinity**. For agriculture, this phenomenon translates into **smaller harvests** and the **loss of traditional crops**. Among the areas most affected by rising sea levels is the Nile Delta in Egypt. This fertile floodplain, which since the time of the ancient Egyptians has been the **cradle of large-scale agriculture**, today accounts for two-thirds of the country's cultivated land. Yet its very low-lying position makes it vulnerable: seawater infiltrates the fields, damaging the roots and reducing productivity.

F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MAY 2026

Doñana National Park, Spain. COSMO-SkyMed Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

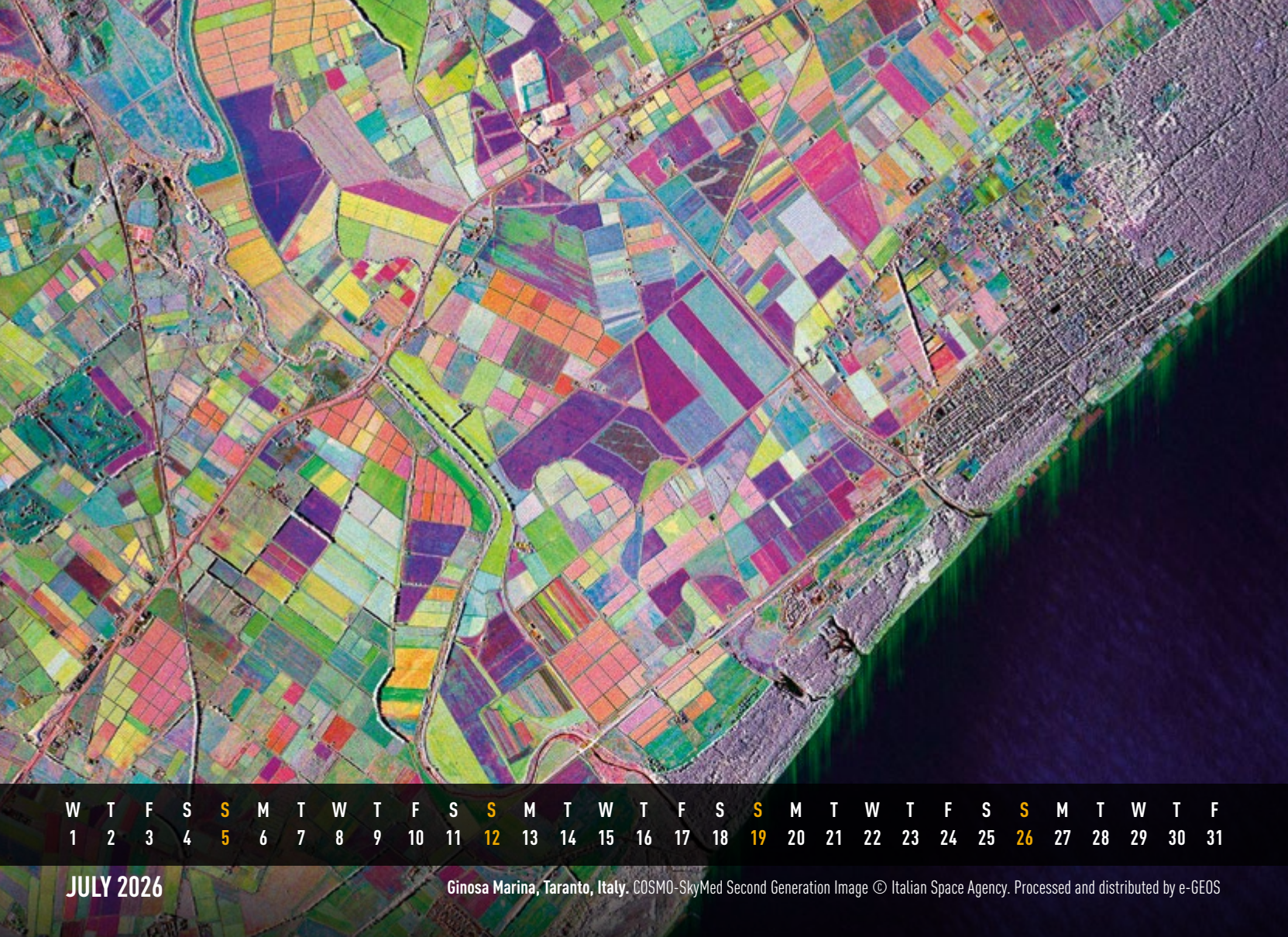
The **sustainable management of water resources** is among the most pressing challenges facing agriculture, particularly in those areas where water scarcity is chronic, especially during the summer months. In some areas of **southern Spain**, water availability can cover only a fraction of agricultural needs, with serious repercussions for one of the country's most productive regions. **Innovative solutions** have been experimented in this area, combining **precision irrigation**, constant **monitoring of soil moisture** and **calibrated crop management**. These approaches have significantly reduced water consumption and emissions, limited groundwater pollution and increased production efficiency.

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JUNE 2026

Marchfeld Region, Austria. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

Geoinformation can provide key insights for making **sustainable water resource management** more efficient, monitoring availability and quality, identifying leaks, and optimising the operation of irrigation systems. In the Marchfeld region of Austria, **satellite data** is used to reduce waste, improve irrigation planning and support strategic decisions on water management. The analysis of satellite data enables the production of soil **moisture maps, multispectral analyses and water infrastructure monitoring** based on Earth Observation data, offering the opportunity to combine productivity, environmental protection, responsible use of natural resources and the socio-economic development.

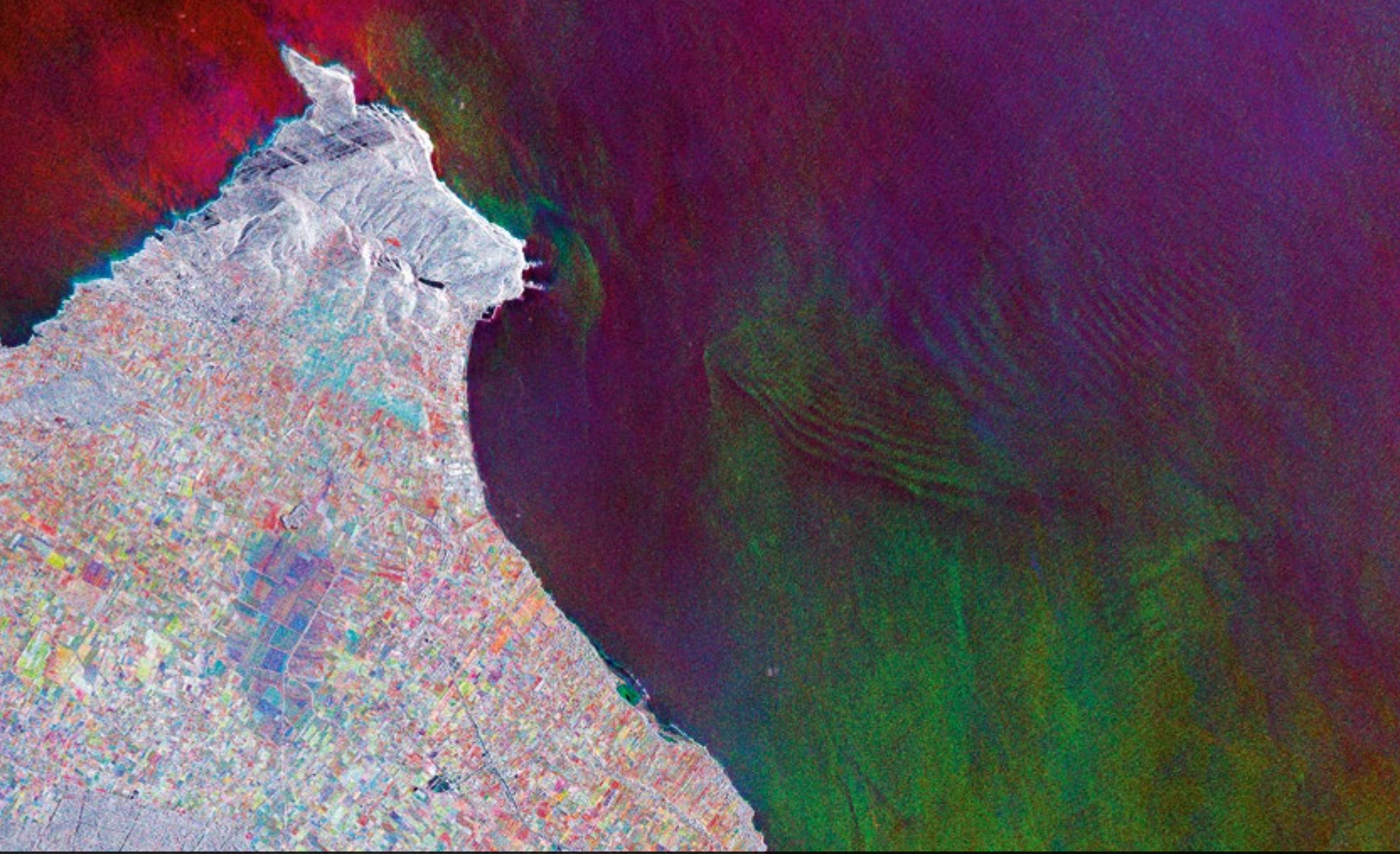


W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JULY 2026

Ginosa Marina, Taranto, Italy. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

The **promotion of local products** and the **protection of biodiversity** are at the heart of sustainable agriculture projects across the Mediterranean: **tradition** and **innovation** intertwine in a model that combines inherited knowledge with modern practices, from soil regeneration techniques to organic and biodynamic conversion. In Ginosa Marina, Puglia, the agricultural landscape reflects this balance: olive groves and diversified crops coexist with family-based initiatives working in harmony with the land. Environmental awareness translates into a reduced ecological footprint, short supply chains and the valorisation of local produce. This model enables agriculture that not only delivers high-quality, healthy food but also preserves the territory and its resources.



S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST 2026

Haouaria, Tunisia. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

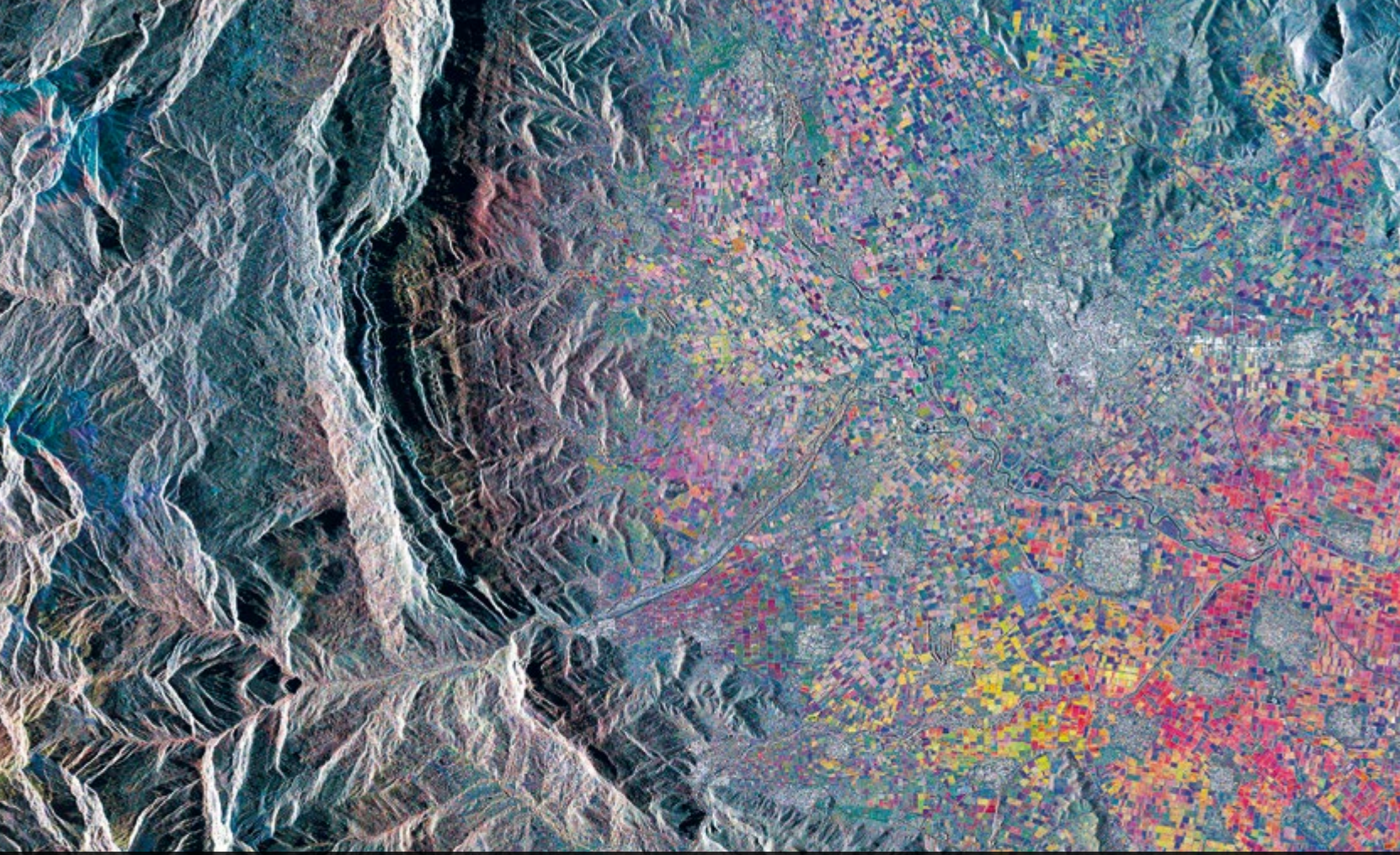
In many areas of the Mediterranean, projects are emerging with the aim of **developing rural communities** by promoting natural resources and local expertise. Strengthening **agricultural know-how** means consolidating a wealth of knowledge which, when shared and continuously updated, promotes sustainable practices, stimulates innovation and generates new economic, social and entrepreneurial opportunities. In Haouaria, Tunisia, this approach has taken the form of a pilot bio-territory, designed as an integrated local development system that combines agricultural production, services, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, promoting micro and small businesses, local supply chains and the responsible use of natural resources.

T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

SEPTEMBER 2026

Po Valley, Italy. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

Geoinformation solutions applied to precision agriculture provide effective support for agronomic techniques aimed at a more **informed management of crop life cycles**. In the Po Valley, one of Europe's largest and most productive agricultural areas, multi-source images from Space provide up-to-date data for analyses that support the complex food production chain, integrating multi-temporal observations, technology and thematic knowledge. By combining Earth observation data, advanced Big Data and Artificial Intelligence it is possible to **track the phenological cycle** and to **generate vegetation indices** and biophysical parameters, thereby promoting productivity, cost reduction and soil protection.

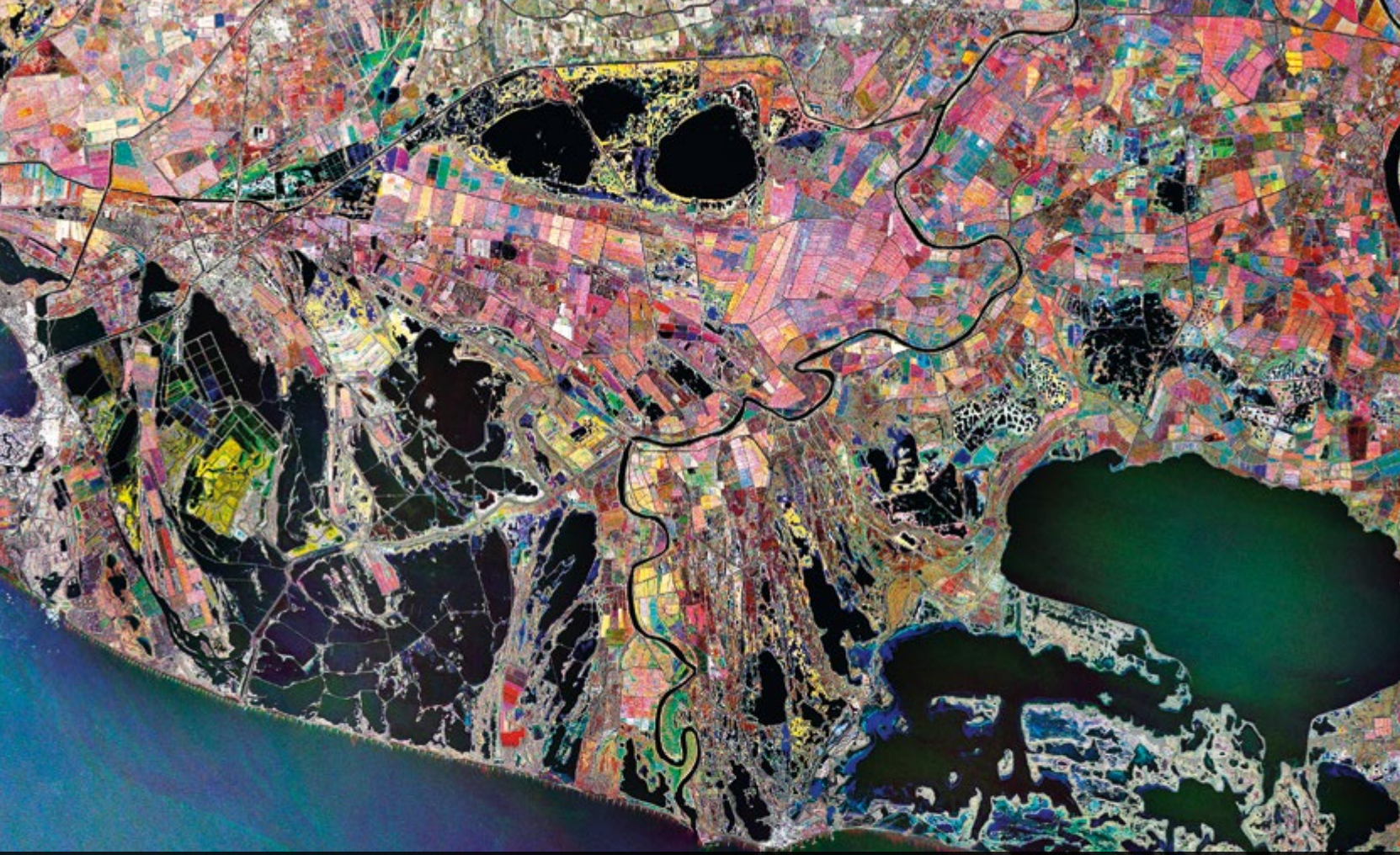


T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

OCTOBER 2026

Trikala, Greece. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

From Space it is possible to **analyse the health of the soil** in detail, evaluating its physical and chemical parameters and identifying areas at risk of degradation. **Satellite data** allows the evaluation of information relating to erosion, salinisation and loss of fertility, providing useful insights for the conservation of resources. In Trikala – the agricultural heartland of Greece, which is however vulnerable to desertification due to semi-arid climatic conditions and intensive management – these technologies provide crucial support for monitoring changes over time and **implementing effective adaptation strategies**. They offer local stakeholders the opportunity to protect the land, reduce the impact of agricultural practices and ensure the long-term sustainability of the territories.



S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

NOVEMBER 2026

Provence, France. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

Soil health is a cornerstone of agricultural productivity and ecosystem resilience: maintaining its **fertility** means ensuring healthy, high-quality food, preventing erosion and land degradation, fostering biodiversity, and making a decisive contribution in tackling climate change. In Provence, in the south of France, these challenges intersect with a hot and dry Mediterranean climate, where farming is evolving towards **regenerative practices**. Vineyards, olive groves, and cereal crops are combined with rotations, composting and natural fertilisation that enhance soil structure and vitality. The focus on soil conservation is reshaping the agricultural landscape into a sustainable model, capable of safeguarding both resources and traditions.

T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

DECEMBER 2026

Arborea, Sardinia, Italy. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS

Wastewater treatment is becoming an increasingly strategic resource for agriculture, as it allows a potential pollutant to be turned into a useful asset for cultivation. In Arborea, Sardinia, innovative systems have been tested to reuse this water for irrigation, reducing pressure on traditional sources and ensuring greater water availability during drought periods. Beyond **sustaining agricultural productivity**, reuse also helps to **limit groundwater contamination** and **reduce the overall environmental impact**. The result is a virtuous cycle: less waste, more water for the fields, and a more efficient management of water resources to ensure the stability of local agricultural production.

The Roots of the Future

From Space, we protect the cradle of crops in the Mediterranean

The name "Mediterranean", meaning "in the middle of the lands", evokes its nature as a bridge between continents and traditions. Lying between Europe, North Africa and Western Asia, about 200 million people live along its coastline, united by a sea that has always been a crossroads of cultures, stories and trade.

Its shores form a mosaic of biological, cultural and agricultural diversity. Here, the first traces of cultivated crops were found, evidence of a millennia-old bond between humankind and the land, where cultivating meant giving life and shaping the future.

Over time, the Mediterranean became the cradle of a rich and diverse agriculture, shaped by a unique blend of climate, traditions and knowledge. It still tells the story of resilient communities and vibrant landscapes, where wheat, vines, olives and citrus trees weave a living mosaic.

Today, ancient practices meet advanced technologies to ensure sustainable production. Space plays a decisive role: satellites observe fields and coasts, monitoring crops, water and soil health. They reveal the fragile beauty of these lands and provide knowledge to protect them. The view from Space becomes a bridge between past and future, preserving a vital heritage for generations to come.

love planet earth

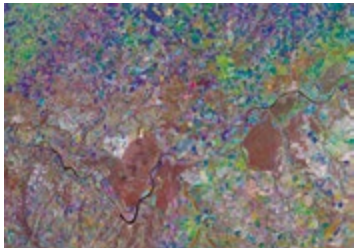
love planet earth

TELESPAZIO
a LEONARDO and THALES company

e-geos
AN ASI / TELESPAZIO COMPANY

endorsed by

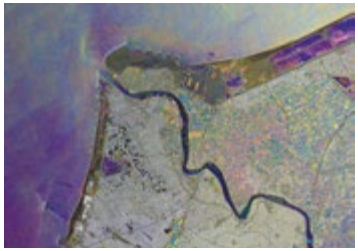
MedOr Italian Foundation



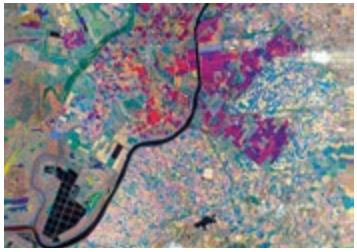
Tordesillas, Castile and León, Spain. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.

Prijedor, Bosnia and Herzegovina. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.

Tirana, Albania. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.



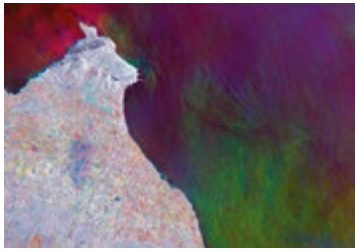
Rosetta, Egypt. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.



Doñana National Park, Spain. COSMO-SkyMed Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.

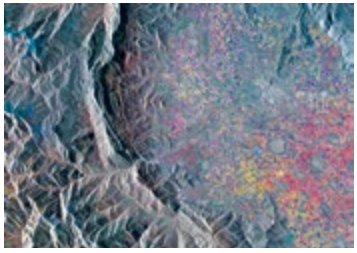
Marchfeld Region, Austria. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.

Ginosa Marina, Taranto, Italy. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.



Haouaria, Tunisia. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.

Po Valley, Italy. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.



Trikala, Greece. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.

Provence, France. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.

Arborea, Sardinia, Italy. COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation Image © Italian Space Agency. Processed and distributed by e-GEOS.