

# Delivering the Digital European Sky

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*13<sup>th</sup> EASN International Conference, Salerno  
6 September 2023*

# SESAR 3 JU snapshot



Accelerate through research & innovation the delivery of an inclusive, resilient & sustainable Digital European Sky

*Timeframe: 2022 – 2031*



50+ founding members representing entire aviatric value chain (incl. new entrants)



- Horizon Europe - EUR 600 million
- Eurocontrol – EUR 500 million (in-kind & financial contributions)
- Industry - EUR 500 million minimum (in-kind & financial contributions)

*Additional funds via the Connecting Europe Facility (in coordination with CINEA)*

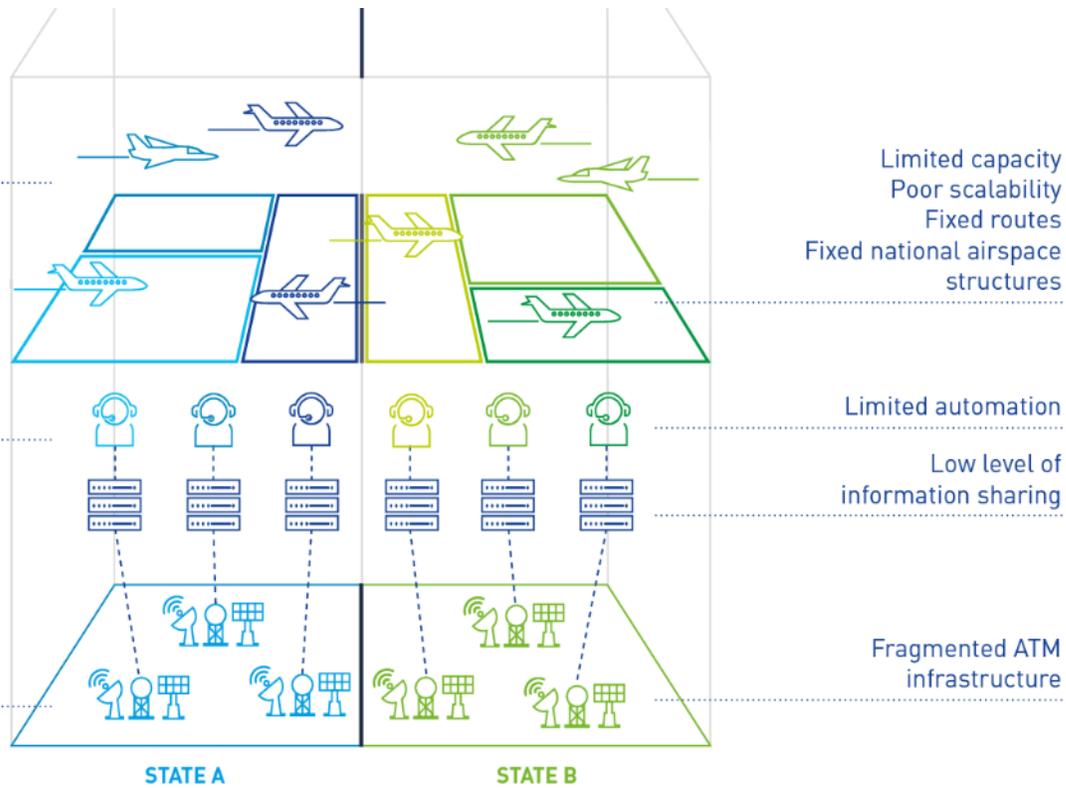


# SESAR 3 JU founding members & partners

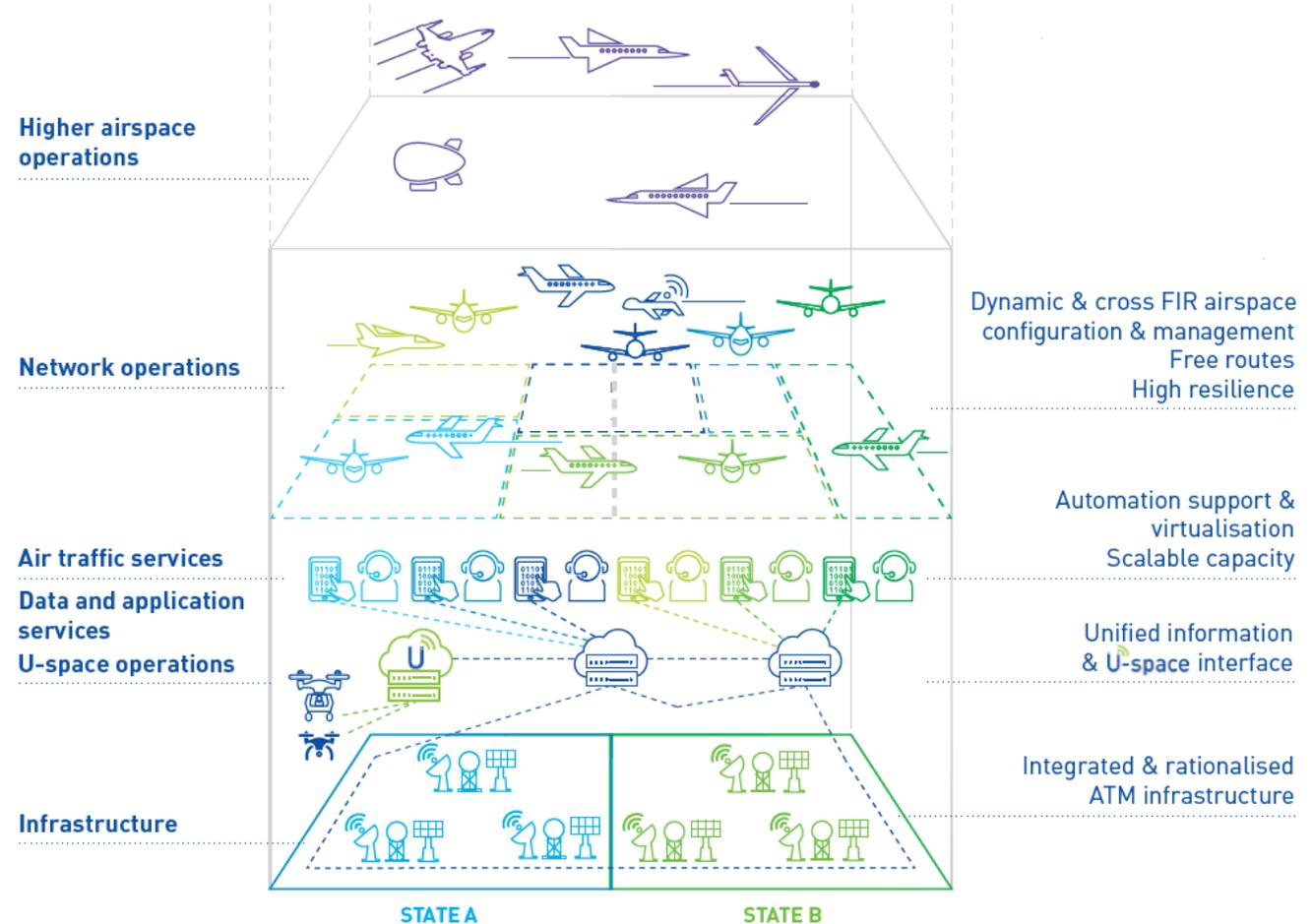


# Towards a Single European Airspace system

## Today



## Tomorrow



# Key performance objectives

Key performance area	SES high-level goals 2005	Key performance indicator	Relative improvement
 <p><b>Capacity</b></p>	Enable 3-fold increase in ATM capacity	<b>Departure delay<sup>3</sup>, min/dep</b>	10-30%
		<b>IFR movements at most congested airports<sup>4</sup>, million</b>	5- 10%
		<b>Network throughput IFR flights<sup>5</sup>, million</b>	~60%
		<b>Network throughput IFR flight hours<sup>4</sup>, million</b>	~75%
 <p><b>Cost efficiency</b></p>	Reduced ATM services unit costs by 50% or more	<b>Gate-to-gate direct ANS cost per flight<sup>1</sup> · EUR(2012)</b>	30-40%
 <p><b>Operational efficiency</b></p>	-	<b>Gate-to-gate fuel burn per flight, kg/flight</b>	5- 10%
		<b>Additional gate-to-gate flight time per flight, min/flight</b>	50-55%
		Within the: <b>Gate-to-gate flight time per flight<sup>3</sup>, min/flight</b>	
 <p><b>Environment</b></p>	Enable 10% reduction in the effects flights have on the environment	<b>Gate-to-gate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, tonnes/flight</b> Includes additional and unimpeded emissions	5- 10%
 <p><b>Safety</b></p>	Improve safety by factor 10	<b>Accidents with direct ATM contribution<sup>5</sup>, #/year</b> Includes in-flight accidents as well as accidents during surface movement (during taxi and on the runway)	100%

# Delivering results and preparing for the future



**70 projects** completed bringing to a close SESAR 2020



**127 solutions** delivered for implementation



**59 more solutions** in the innovation pipeline



**More on the horizon** with SESAR 3 JU



**53 new projects** running in 2023 covering **all strands of research**

The banner features a dark blue background with a grid of glowing green and blue cubes. The text is in white and light blue. At the top left is the 'sesar' logo with 'JOINT UNDERTAKING' below it. The main text reads 'Digital SESAR solution catalogue' in a light blue font, followed by 'Now live!' in a large, bold, white font with a green-to-blue gradient. At the bottom left, it says 'EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP'. At the bottom right, there is the European Union flag logo and the text 'Co-funded by the European Union'.

# Delivering solutions that yield real and timely benefits

53 projects in operation  
Representing a total investment of over  
**EUR 450 million**

 Connected and automated ATM

 Air-ground integration and autonomy

 Capacity-on-demand and dynamic airspace

 U-space and urban air mobility

 Virtualisation and cyber-secure data sharing

 Multimodality and passenger experience

 Aviation green deal

 Artificial Intelligence for aviation

 Civil/military interoperability and coordination

**Smart**

**Sustainable**

**Resilient**

# Supporting net zero aviation

Connected and contributing to strategy on net-zero policy for aviation at ICAO and European levels;

Digital European Sky programme has dedicated flagships on environment, focusing on reducing CO2 and non-CO2 emissions;

Very large-scale demonstrators focusing on quick wins and eliminating inefficiencies at all phases of flight.

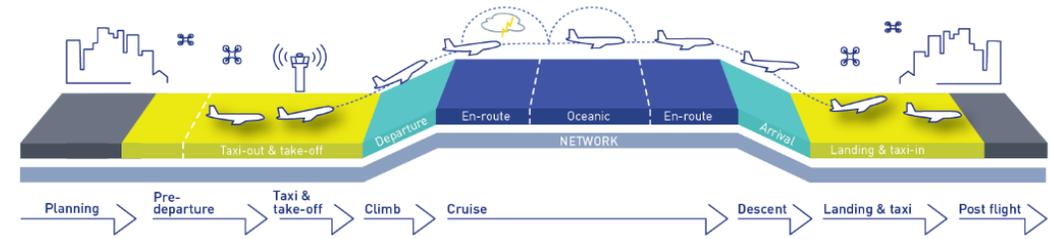
**100 out of the 127** delivered SESAR solutions have positive effects on the environment and more solutions are in the pipeline.

The estimation is that **the mature SESAR solutions could already enable a reduction of 4% in CO2 emissions.**

Ambition to go up to **10%** with **new innovations.**



# “green” trajectory enabled by ATM

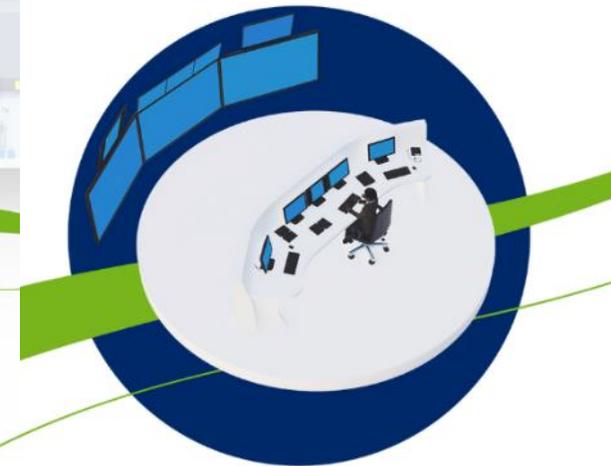


Focused on **gate-to-gate efficiency gains** through combining SESAR solutions:

- European airspace design and utilisation
- Flight planning and network operations
- Civil-military coordination
- Integration of new energy-efficient / zero emission aircraft into ATM
- Airport: surface management and taxiing
- Take-off/landing
- Climb, en-route and descent operations



- Designed to be **interoperable** and **adaptable** to diverse operating environments;
- Large-scale **demonstration** – flight trials
- Available for **market uptake** and implementation.



# SESAR green solutions (I)

## Optimised climb and descent operations

**What:** A move away from staircase descent and climb operations, where aircraft repeatedly level off and power up the engines, which burns more fuel.

**Benefits:**

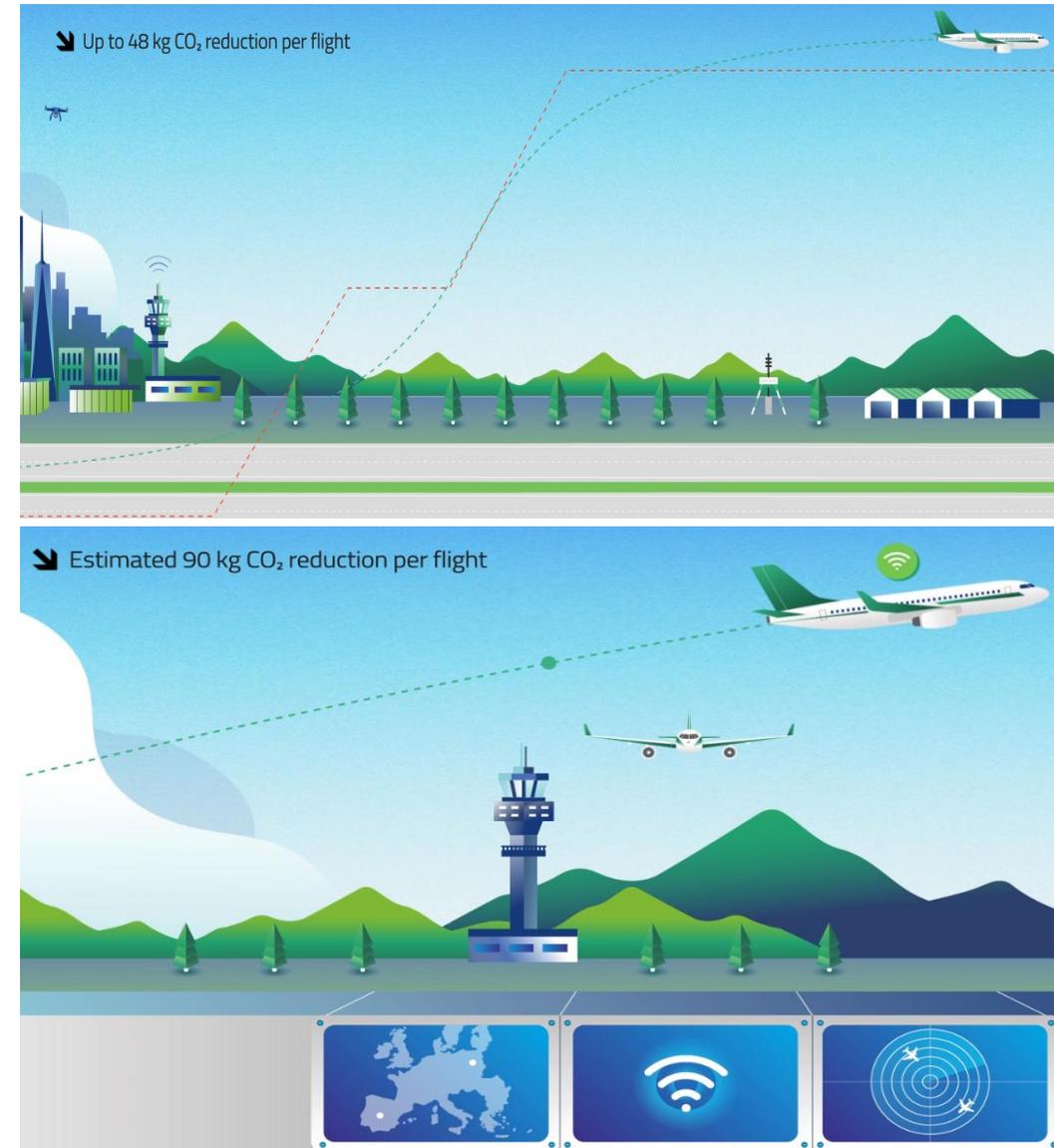
Reduction of 180 Kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per flight (*Descent*)

Up to 48 Kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per flight (*Climb*)

## Advanced use of datalink for enhanced vertical clearances – trajectory-based operations

**What:** Takes advantage aircraft performance data downlinked via datalink to the ground to allow longer vertical clearances, avoiding the need for intermediate level-offs.

**Benefits:** Estimated 90 Kg CO<sub>2</sub> reduction per flight

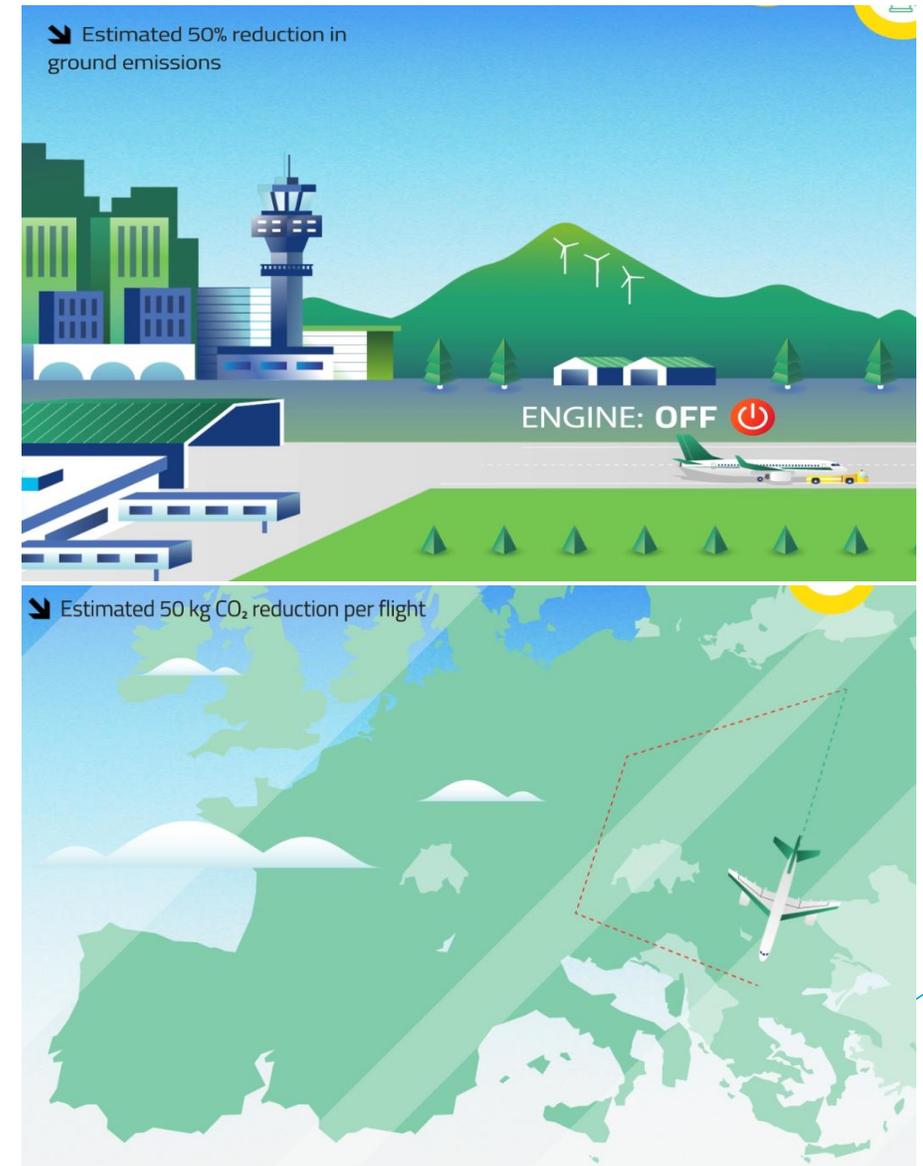


# SESAR green solutions (II)

## E-taxiing techniques

**What:** Enables aircraft to switch off one or both engines during taxiing.

**Benefits:** Estimated 50% reduction in ground emissions



## Free routing

**What:** Airlines do not have to follow a fixed route network, but fly the optimised route in terms of flight time and fuel efficiency.

**Benefits:** Estimated 50 Kg CO<sub>2</sub> reduction per flight

## Non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

**What:** The warming effect of non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be dramatically reduced by aircraft avoiding climate-sensitive areas. SESAR is investigating ways to reroute aircraft around these areas, thereby enabling more eco-efficient flights.

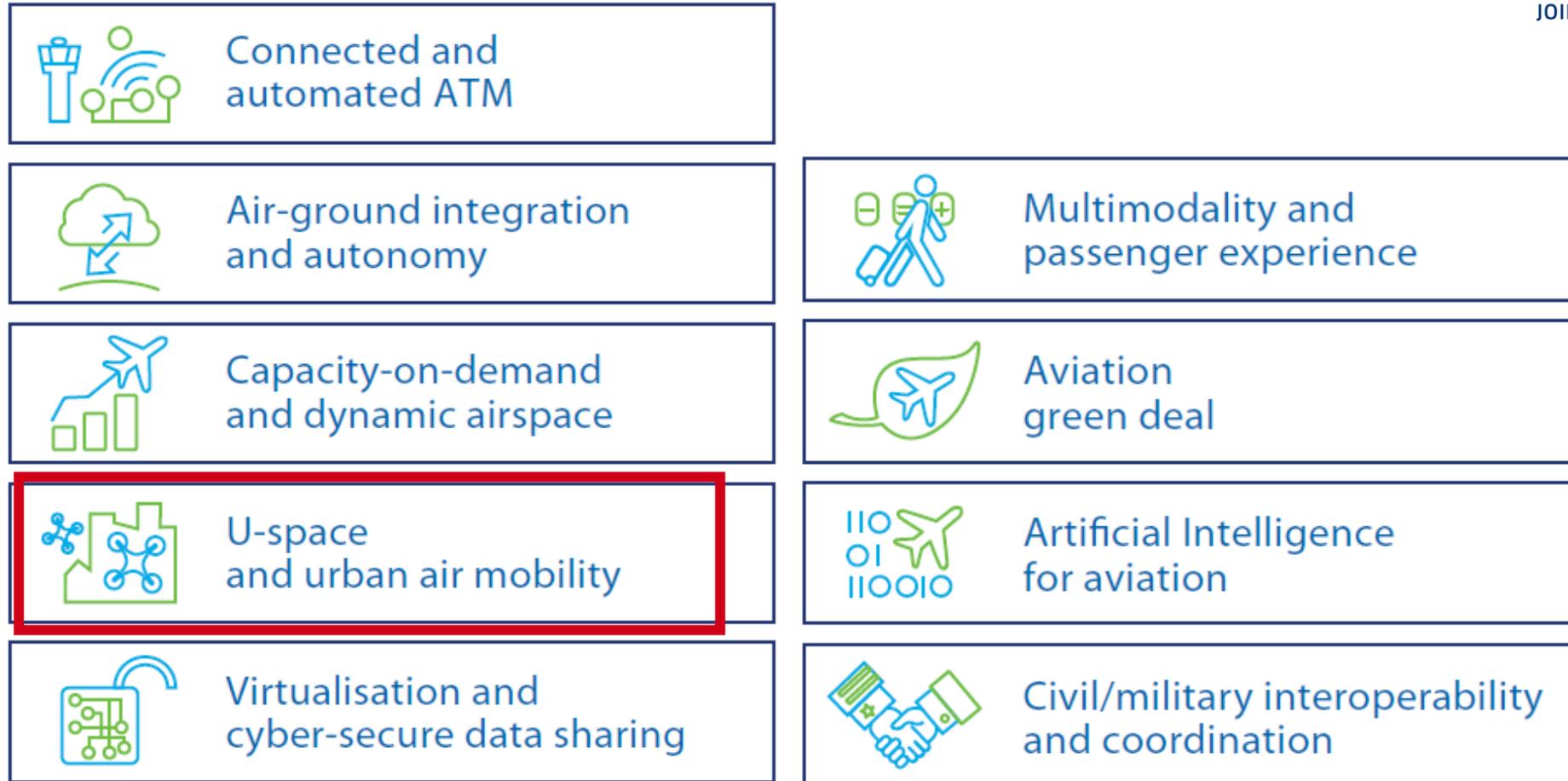
# Impact of future zero-emission aircraft on ATM

- Define **scenarios of future fleet** composition & model the resulting air traffic demand
- Analyse **impact on airspace structure**
- Explore **implications for airline operations**
- Consider **network management processes** & changes to **airport capacity**



*SESAR 3 JU active in the Alliance for Zero-Emission Aviation  
(Working Group 5)*

# Delivering solutions that yield real and timely benefits



**Smart**

**Sustainable**

**Resilient**

# U-space and urban air mobility

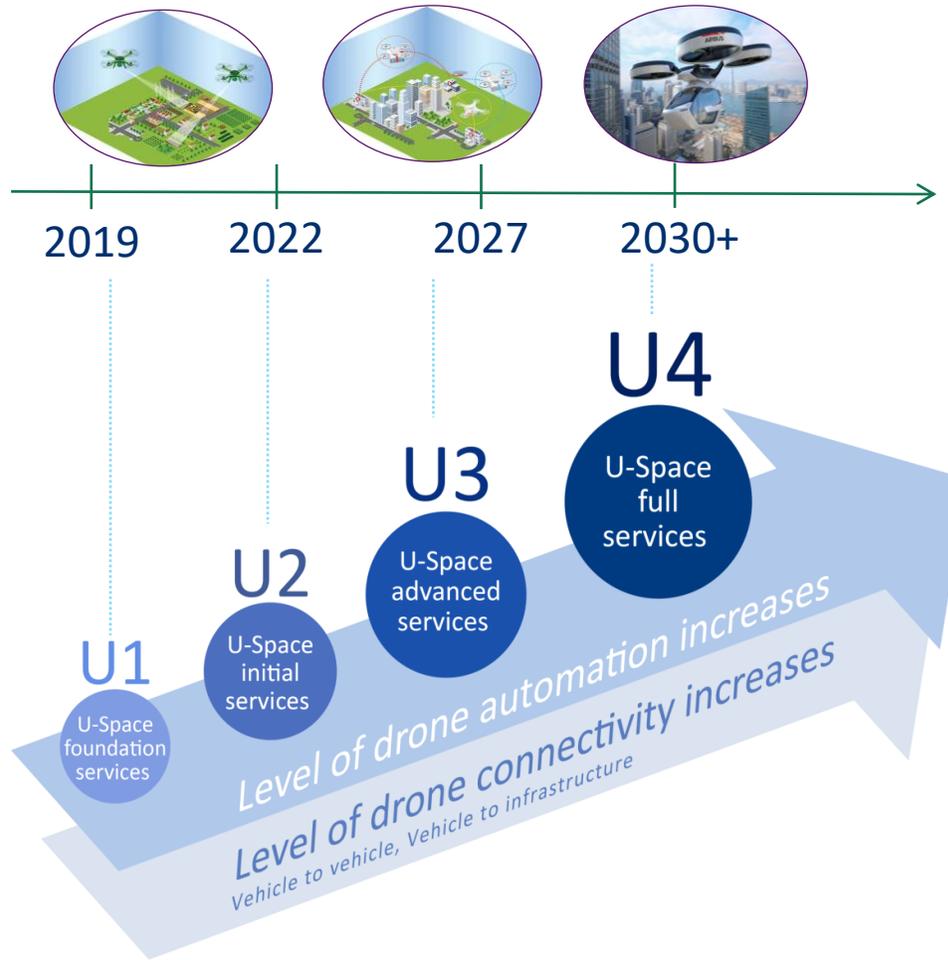
An enabling framework for the safe and secure integration of unmanned vehicles

U-space

U-SPACE CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (CONOPS)

FOURTH EDITION

Updated in 2023!



Foundation services

- e-identification
- e-registration
- geo-awareness



Initial services

- Flight planning and approval
- Tracking
- Traffic information



Enhanced services

- Dynamic capacity management
- Tactical conflict resolution



Full services

- Collaborative interface with ATC
- Additional new services

# U-space research and innovations challenges

- Mature, validate and deploy across Europe the basic U-space services
- Enable urban air mobility (UAM) / Innovative Air Mobility (IAM)
- Support ATM/U-space integration
- Transfer of U-space automation technology to ATM
- Advance CNS and separation minima
- Address financial, legal, social aspects and provide safety assurance
- Support the development of the U-space regulatory framework and required standards
- Develop U-space performance framework
- Explore applications above VLL airspace



# U-space projects underway in SESAR

**3**

## Exploratory Research



- Social acceptance framework
- Environmental impact metrics
- AI-based tools

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## Fast Track Innovation and Uptake



- Vertiport operational processes
- Environmental impact metrics
- Air-ground integration
- Standardised data models and architecture
- Dynamic airspace configuration service
- Separation management
- Dynamic capacity management
- Detect and avoid

**3**

## Digital Sky Demonstrators



- Demonstrations planned in Belgium, France, Italy, Ireland, Spain, the Netherlands advancing U-space services and urban air mobility.

**Get updates at  
[www.sesarju.eu/u-space](http://www.sesarju.eu/u-space)**

# Research community - participation in SESAR

## SESAR 2020

583 Higher education establishments (HES) & Research organisations (REC)

## Digital European Sky

Exploratory research

168 HES & REC

Industrial research

109 HES & REC



# SESAR 3 JU Scientific Committee

**Mission:** Advising the SESAR 3 JU about the scientific priorities including scope of calls for proposals

**Composition:** Chaired by Tatjana Bolic, University of Westminster

Dr. Rosa Maria Arnaldo Valdes, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Dr. Sara Bagassi, Università di Bologna

Dr. Juan Besada, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Dr. Tatjana Bolic, University of Westminster

Dr. Daniel Delahaye, Ecole Nationale de l'Aviation Civile

Dr. Peter Hecker, Technical University of Braunschweig

Dr. Efstathios Malakis, Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority

Dr. Fedja Netjasov, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering

Dr. Rita Somogyi, Asura Technologies



# A taste of our new exploratory research projects

**18**

**Exploratory  
Research**



## **Green-GEAR**

- investigate environmental potential of geometric altimetry enabled by satellite navigation.
- investigate the potential of incentives to opt for climate optimised routes



## **ASTRA**

- to predict and resolve hotspots much earlier than today using an AI-enabled tool.
- to optimise capacity while enabling aircraft to adhere to more efficient and green trajectories.



## **MultiModX**

- to develop a set of data analytics and modelling tools to support the implementation of multimodal airport access solutions based on shared autonomous vehicle fleets and unmanned aerial vehicle fleets.

# Funding opportunities

- Second exploratory research call is open (HORIZON-SESAR-2023-DES-ER-02).
- Two work areas: “**ATM excellence science research and outreach**” and “**ATM application-oriented research**”.
- The deadline for submitting proposals is **15 November 2023**.



The banner features the SESAR logo in the top left, a white airplane flying in the top right, and a background of a green-to-blue gradient with a grid of small squares. The text is centered in white.

**sesar**  
JOINT UNDERTAKING

**New call for proposals launched!**  
EUR 25 million in funding available  
for SESAR exploratory research

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP

 Co-funded by  
the European Union

**More info:** <https://www.sesarju.eu/news/new-call-proposals-launched>

# Knowledge transfer & networking opportunities



## 13th SESAR Innovation Days

- Papers
- Presentations
- Posters
- SESAR Young Scientist Awards

**More info:** <https://sesarju.eu/SIDS2023>

## SESAR 3 JU Knowledge Transfer Network - Engage 2

- Thematic challenges
- PhD funding
- Catalyst project funding
- Knowledge sharing

**More info:** <https://engagektn.com/engage2/>

13th SESAR Innovation Days  
27 - 30 November 2023  
Seville, Spain  
Call for contributions now open!

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sesar JOINT UNDERTAKING

sesar DIGITAL ACADEMY

Escuela Técnica Superior de INGENIERÍA DE SEVILLA

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP

Co-funded by the European Union

Engage 2  
Call for Thematic Challenges

sesar JOINT UNDERTAKING

Co-funded by the European Union

# Update of European ATM Master Plan

- The agreed roadmap on delivering the Digital European Sky.
- Contains vision, operational concept, research priorities, performance view, business view and deployment aspects.
- Campaign to update the Master Plan starts **10 October 2023**.
- Overall theme: “**establish Europe to become the most efficient and environmentally friendly sky to fly in the world**”.
- Adoption by the SESAR 3 JU Governing Board in December 2024.



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## SESAR 3 JU reading list



THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION

