



LSASAF products distribution and application

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The SAF concept has been developed to coordinate the operational exploitation of meteorological satellites within EUMETSAT Member States. Although designed to improve the observation of meteorological systems, the spectral characteristics, time resolution and global coverage offered by EUMETSAT satellites systems MSG and EPS, allow their use in a broad spectrum of other users, namely within the scope of land biophysical applications.

Activities to be performed within the framework of the Land SAF involve the development of several products as the Land Surface Temperature (LST), the Downwelling Surface Short-wave radiation Flux (DSSF), the Downwelling Surface Long-wave radiation Flux (DSLRF), the land surface Albedo (AL), and some vegetation parameters as the Fractional Vegetation Cover (FVC) or the Leaf Area Index (LAI). The distribution of these products, in near real time or off-line, is free and can be useful in several fields of applications, namely those dealing with meteorological and climate models.

Accurate values of these products are of special interest in a wide range of areas related to land surface processes, including meteorology, hydrology, agro meteorology, climatology and environmental studies in different areas in Europe, Africa and South

America.

Climatological applications of some of these products, namely LST, LAI and FVC, will be showed for Africa and Europe which can be used for forest fire risk, crop models and vegetation grow monitoring.