

## **6G-NTN Project kicks off: researchers, mobile and satellite innovators come together to address users' needs in telecommunication networks**

The increasing digitisation and technological progress are transforming the way industry develops and delivers new products and services, as well as the way we live, work and learn. To ensure this transformation benefits everyone, while preserving our planet's resources, close coordination among researchers and industrial players is needed to unleash the full potential of future 6G wireless communications and service infrastructure.

To face this mission, the 6G-NTN project brings together high-level representatives from the mobile communication, satellite and research communities to address users' needs in telecommunication networks. The team will research and develop innovative technical, business, regulatory, and standardisation requirements with the goal of a full and seamless integration of the Non-Terrestrial Network (NTN) component in future 6G terrestrial telecommunications networks. This will be key to extend the coverage, resilience, and sustainability of next-generation mobile networks, and better meet the needs and expectations of both vertical and consumer market segments, while unlocking new value chains and delivering a broad societal impact. By achieving its objectives, 6G-NTN will contribute significantly to strengthening Europe's industrial leadership in wireless communications and services infrastructure.

6G-NTN is among the first selected projects to be funded under Horizon Europe's [\*\*European Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking \(SNS JU\)\*\*](#), a public-private partnership that aims to enable the evolution of 5G ecosystems and promote 6G research in Europe

### **An outstanding team in 5G/6G research and innovation**

The 6G-NTN project is powered by fifteen partners with complementary expertise in the 5G/6G research and innovation scene to effectively contribute to the integration of NTN into future 6G networks. Under the lead of the [University of Bologna](#), the partners include eight major European industrial players, namely [Thales Alenia Space](#) (France and UK), [Thales DIS AIS](#), [Thales SIX GTS](#), [Ericsson](#) (France and Sweden), [SES Techcom](#) and [Qualcomm Communications](#), one of the world's leading telecommunications operators, [Orange](#), two dynamic SMEs, namely [Greenerwave](#) and [Martel Innovate](#), two top European research organisations, the [Centre Tecnologic De Telecomunicacions de Catalunya \(CTTC\)](#) and, the [German Aerospace Center \(DLR\)](#) and a non-profit association that focuses on green technology and sustainable digital development, [Digital for Planet](#).

The work officially started on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 and the Kick-Off meeting was held in Bologna on January 12-13, 2023. All partners are looking forward to cooperating and bringing forward the 6G NTN ambition and increasing European industrial leadership in the field.

## PRESS CONTACT & SOCIAL MEDIA

- E-mail | [info@6g-ntn.eu](mailto:info@6g-ntn.eu)
- Twitter | <https://twitter.com/6Gntn>
- LinkedIn | <https://www.linkedin.com/company/6g-ntn/>





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