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# Dubai to launch nano weather satellite

DMSAT-1 TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES AND ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

**DUBAI**

Gulf News Report

**D**ubai Municipality, in collaboration with the Mohammad Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC), will launch the DMSat-1 satellite, the region's first environmental nanometric satellite, on March 20.

The satellite will be launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

DMSat-1 will monitor, collect and analyse environmental data as well as measure air pollutants and greenhouse gases. It will also help create maps of the concentration and distribution of greenhouse gases in Dubai and the UAE and study seasonal changes in the presence of these gases.

**What data will be used for**

Data provided by the satellite will be used in several areas including finding solutions to environmental challenges, developing long-term plans to address urban pollution and climate change and environmental forecasting in Dubai.

This data will also help enhance the emirate's leading role in developing quality projects and pioneering research in the domain of climate change.

**International cooperation**

Overseen by MBRSC, the project was implemented in collaboration with local and international research teams.

Based on the municipality's requirements, MBRSC built the satellite in collaboration with the Space Flight Laboratory at the University of Toronto,

**DMSAT-1 TO BE LAUNCHED FROM BAIKONUR COSMODROME ON MARCH 20**

A team of MBRSC engineers and project supervisors have been based at the launch site at Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan since February 25, 2021. The satellite was placed on the launch rocket on March 7. Preparations and tests will continue until March 12. On March 20, the rocket will be launched at 10.07am UAE time. The satellite is expected to send its first signal at 3pm UAE time.

**15kg** Weight of DMSat-1  
The satellite was built in 18 months



**14** times a day DMSat-1 will orbit Earth. It will pass over the MBRSC ground station 4-5 times a day to receive imaging orders and enable downloading of data.

**80,000** square km area of the Earth's surface it will cover every day

**7 ANGLES**

DMSat-1 will monitor a single site over 3-5 days



**THREE INSTRUMENTS**  
Multispectral polarimeter to monitor air quality and detect fine particles in the atmosphere

**2** spectrometers will detect greenhouse gases



which has a successful history of launching satellites similar to DMSat-1. MBRSC is also managing launch-related activities and developing advanced solutions to utilise the data generated by the mission. It will continue to support the project by managing the data generated for the municipality.

Dawood Al Hajeri, director-general of Dubai Municipality, said: "Data provided by the

DMSat-1 satellite will enable the municipality to respond to global environmental changes, identify steps to combat climate change and develop long-term environmental plans."

Yousuf Hamad Al Shaibani, director-general of MBRSC, said: "Local institutions are increasingly interested in the space sector and in utilising advanced scientific methods to meet challenges. The launch of the DM-

Sat-1 satellite supports the UAE's aspirations in this field."

**Paris Climate Agreement**

The launch of the satellite strengthens the UAE's implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement, which requires the country to generate data on greenhouse gas emissions and build national capacities to study global warming.

On a local level, the DMSat-1

seeks to calculate the rate of carbon dioxide emissions in relation to GDP as outlined in the Dubai 2021 Plan, study the environmental impact of the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 and the results of the UAE Energy Strategy 2050 as well as contribute to the National System for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Management that is part of the National Climate Change Plan 2017-50.