SNAP

Community Feedback Report

Fringe 2026 Conference • Kraków, Poland • 15–19 June 2026

Booth observations compiled for the ESA Microwave Toolbox development team

1. Executive Summary

During the Fringe 2026 conference in Kraków (15–19 June 2026), the SNAP team operated a dedicated booth showcasing the new capabilities of SNAP 14. Over the course of two days, members of the international SAR community stopped by to discuss their experiences, report issues, and share requirements for future development.

This report consolidates all feedback collected at the booth. Items are organised into two categories — bugs and operational issues (Section 3) and feature requests and requirements (Section 4) — to inform both user communication and the SNAP development roadmap.

Summary of feedback received:

Total items collected	**23**
Bugs / operational issues	**7**
Feature requests / requirements	**16**

2. Context and Methodology

The SNAP booth at Fringe 2026 served a dual purpose: to demonstrate the new features of SNAP 14 — including GeoCoded SLC (GSLC), Phase Linking, SBAS time series, tropospheric correction, MuLog speckle filtering, and dual-pol H/α decomposition — and to engage with the community to collect structured feedback.

Feedback was gathered informally through direct conversations and a sign-up sheet left at the booth. No distinction was made between SNAP versions at the time of collection; version context has been added where it was explicitly mentioned by the reporter.

3. Bugs and Operational Issues

The following issues were reported by conference attendees. Priority has been assigned based on the number of independent reporters and the severity implied by the description.

ID	Description	Component	Priority
I-01	ETAD product from Sentinel-1A fails to download automatically via the built-in download manager.	ETAD / Download	**High**
I-02	SNAPHU is not functional from the terminal in SNAP 13. Manual plugin installation provides a temporary workaround, but the tool stops working again shortly after. Multiple reinstall attempts have not resolved the issue.	SNAPHU / SNAP 13	**High**
I-03	SNAPHU does not work in SNAP 12.	SNAPHU / SNAP 12	**High**

ID	Description	Component	Priority
I-04	The SAOCOM TOPS reader fails to open TOPS-mode products.	SAOCOM Reader	**High**
I-05	When exporting to StaMPS, the metadata header of secondary (slave) images is incorrect — all images appear as the primary (master). Each file should carry its own secondary image header.	StaMPS Export	**Medium**
I-06	Memory issues reported during processing (no further detail provided at the booth).	Memory / Performance	**Medium**
I-07	SAOCOM coregistration issues persist. Previously reported: https://forum.step.esa.int/t/saocom-coregistration/45282	SAOCOM Coregistration	**High**

4. Feature Requests and Requirements

The items below reflect user expectations for future SNAP releases, ranging from small UX improvements to new processing capabilities. Items marked as questions require a clarification response from the team rather than new development.

ID	Description	Area	Type
~~**R-01**~~	~~Add a reader for Capella Space SAR products.~~	~~Mission Support~~	~~**New Feature**~~
R-02	Extend workflow documentation to cover filter selection and application order. Users are uncertain when and in which sequence to apply speckle filters and other processing steps.	Documentation	**Enhancement**
R-03	Restore reader support for legacy missions such as SIR-C/X-SAR (Space Shuttle). Only a single reader would be required and the data are still actively used for historical analysis.	Mission Support	**New Feature**
R-04	Add base map support to provide geographical context in the viewer.(Like QGIS)	UI / Visualisation	**New Feature**
R-05	Improve the Goldstein filter. Users report that the MATLAB implementation produces better results.	Processing / Filters	**Enhancement**
R-06	Add a tool to compute the vertical wavenumber (Kz) for use in time-series analysis and SAR tomography workflows (previously reported in [SNAP-3228] S1TBX-SE-24b Vertical wavenumber computation - JIRA))	Processing / InSAR	**New Feature**
R-07	Add a corner reflector processing toolbox (Radar Cross Section (RCS), Signal-to-Clutter Ratio (SCR), and Absolute Location Error (ALE)). The point target analysis similar to SCT toolbox.	Processing / Calibration	**New Feature**
R-08	Clarify whether GSLC processing will be extended to Sentinel-1 acquisition modes other than IW (i.e., SM, EW, and WV).	GSLC	**Question**
R-09	Add the ability to incrementally append new acquisitions to an existing coregistered stack without reprocessing the entire stack from scratch. Previously requested but no ticket or reported in forum.	Coregistration / Stack	**New Feature**
R-10	Clarify whether SNAP can read the frequency band (b) data from NISAR (lower spatial resolution) used for ionospheric correction.	Mission Support / NISAR	**Question**

ID	Description	Area	Type
R-11	Provide an experimental or development branch on GitHub so that advanced users can test new capabilities ahead of long-term-support releases.	Release Management	**Enhancement**
R-12	Provide documentation or examples showing GSLC product quality over mountainous terrain, with particular focus on shadow, layover, and mask behaviour in radar geometry.	GSLC / Documentation	**Enhancement**
R-13	Clarify whether SNAP supports bistatic TanDEM-X data.	Mission Support	**Question**
R-14	Improve ALOS-2 processing support. Users report that ISCE currently delivers better results. General parity with ISCE is the implied benchmark.	Mission Support / ALOS-2	**Enhancement**
R-15	Set bilinear interpolation as the default rendering mode for visualisation. Users find the current default (nearest neighbour) visually poor for inspection.	UI / Visualisation	**Enhancement**
R-16	Provide a tutorial on using pyStaMPS within the SNAP workflow.	Documentation	**Enhancement**

5. Recommended Actions

5.1 Immediate responses to the community

The following items can be addressed via forum posts, documentation updates, or release notes without requiring new development:

- I-07: Update the forum thread with current status and any known workaround.
- R-10: Confirm or deny NISAR L-band ionospheric-correction band support.
- R-13: Confirm TanDEM-X bistatic support status. (Mail provided to send answer)
- R-12: Add a section to the GSLC documentation covering behaviour over complex terrain. (Mail provided to send answer)
- R-16: Publish a StaMPS tutorial in the SNAP documentation hub.

5.2 Items for the development backlog

The following items are suggested for the SNAP development backlog, grouped by theme:

- Bug fixes (high priority): I-01, I-02, I-03, I-04 — ETAD download, SNAPHU stability across versions, SAOCOM reader, SAOCOM coregistration.
- Processing enhancements: R-05 (Goldstein filter),
- Mission / sensor support: R-03 (SIR-C/X-SAR), R-14 (ALOS-2 improvements).
- UX and documentation: R-01 (default interpolation), R-02 (filter documentation),