



The NASA LCLUC Program –SCERIN Interactions: An Update

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Land-Cover/Land-Use Change Program



LCLUC is an interdisciplinary scientific theme within NASA's Earth Science program. The ultimate vision of this program is ***to develop the capability for periodic global inventories of land use and land cover from space, to develop the scientific understanding and models necessary to simulate the processes taking place, and to evaluate the consequences of observed and predicted changes***

- Drivers of LCLUC

- Natural Drivers
- Anthropogenic Drivers
 - Socio-Economic Drivers
 - Landscape Modification

- Impacts of LCLUC

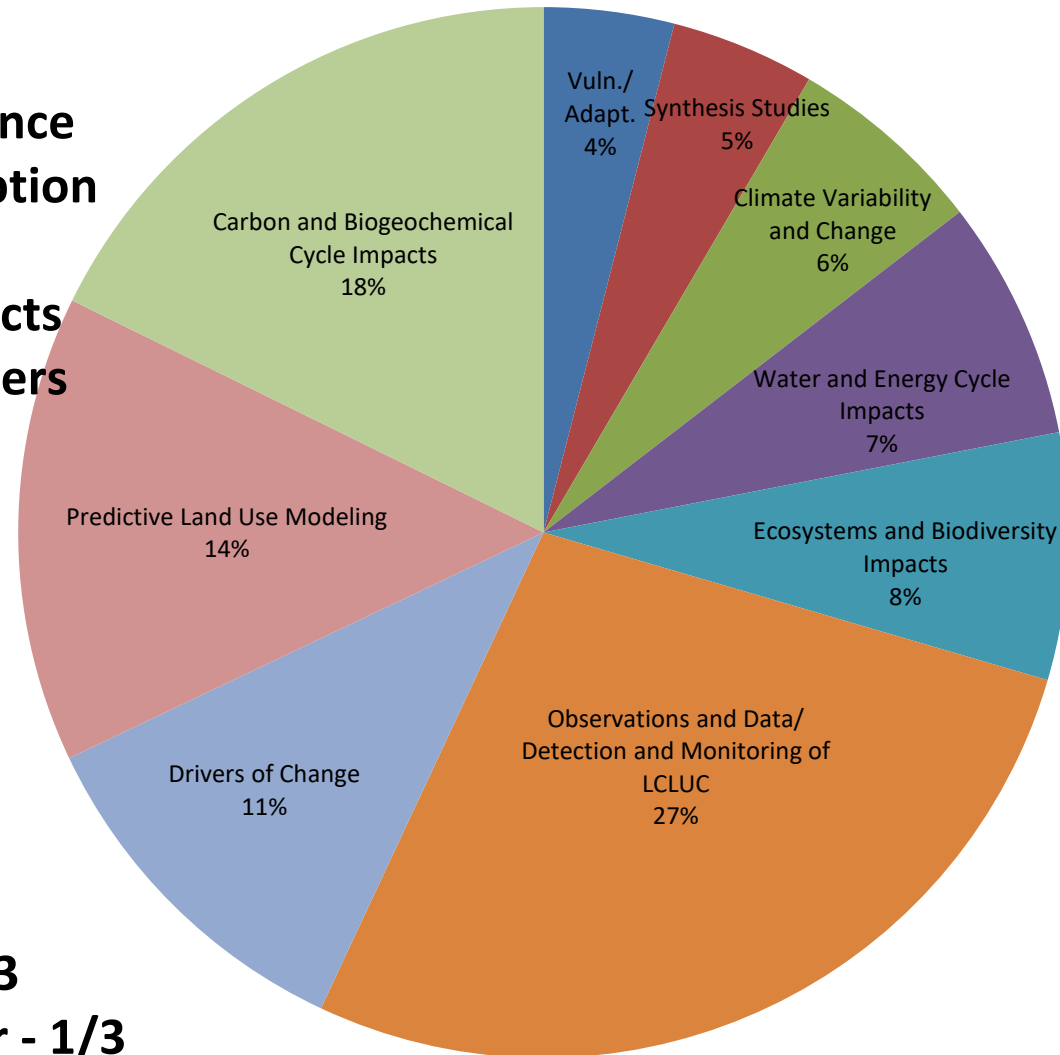
- Carbon Cycle
- Surface Hydrology
- Atmosphere

LCLUC Program Content

**>300 projects since
Program's inception
Each year:**

*** ~40 3-yr projects**

*** ~300 researchers**



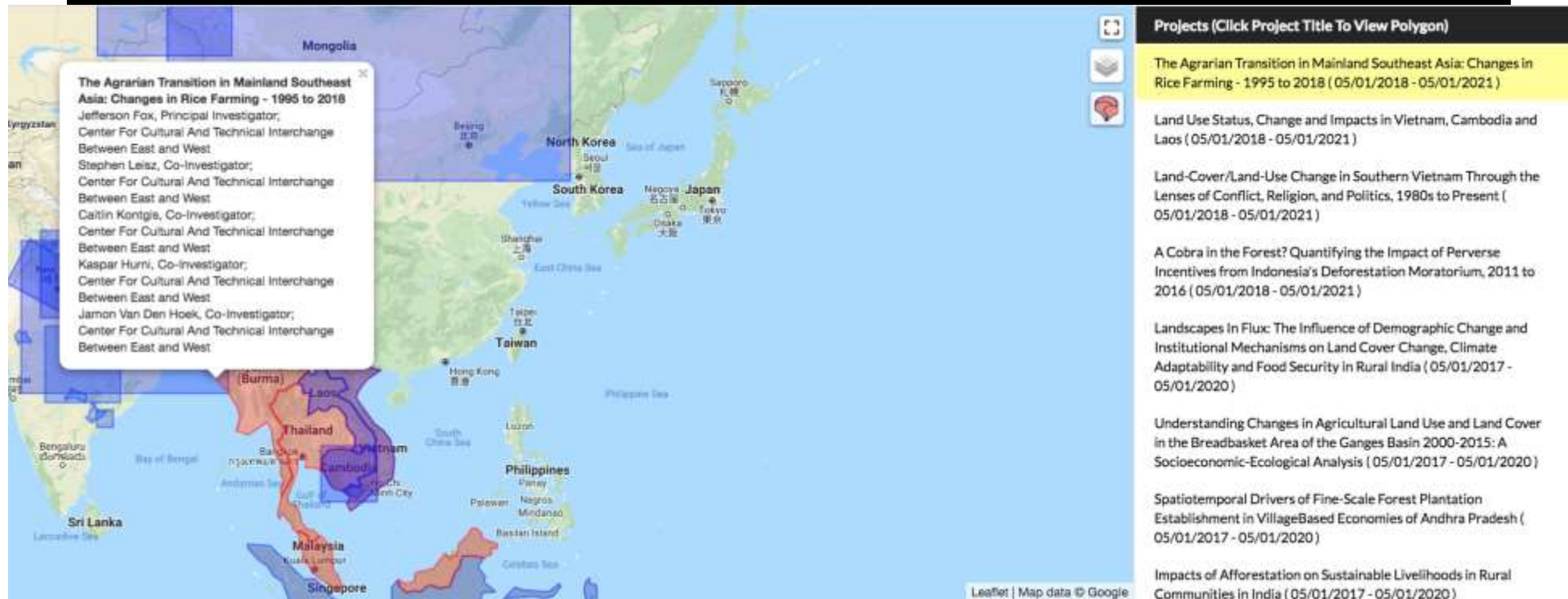
Impacts - 1/3

Monitoring - 1/3

Synthesis, other - 1/3

The LCLUC Mapper: A Powerful Tool for Projects' Inventory

Geographic Areas of Research



NASA Capacity Building Programs: A Big Picture

Applied Remote SENSing Training, ARSET: Online and hands on basic/advanced training to build skills

(<https://arset.gsfc.nasa.gov/>)

DEVELOP: Dual workforce/local government capacity building using collaborative feasibility projects, internships

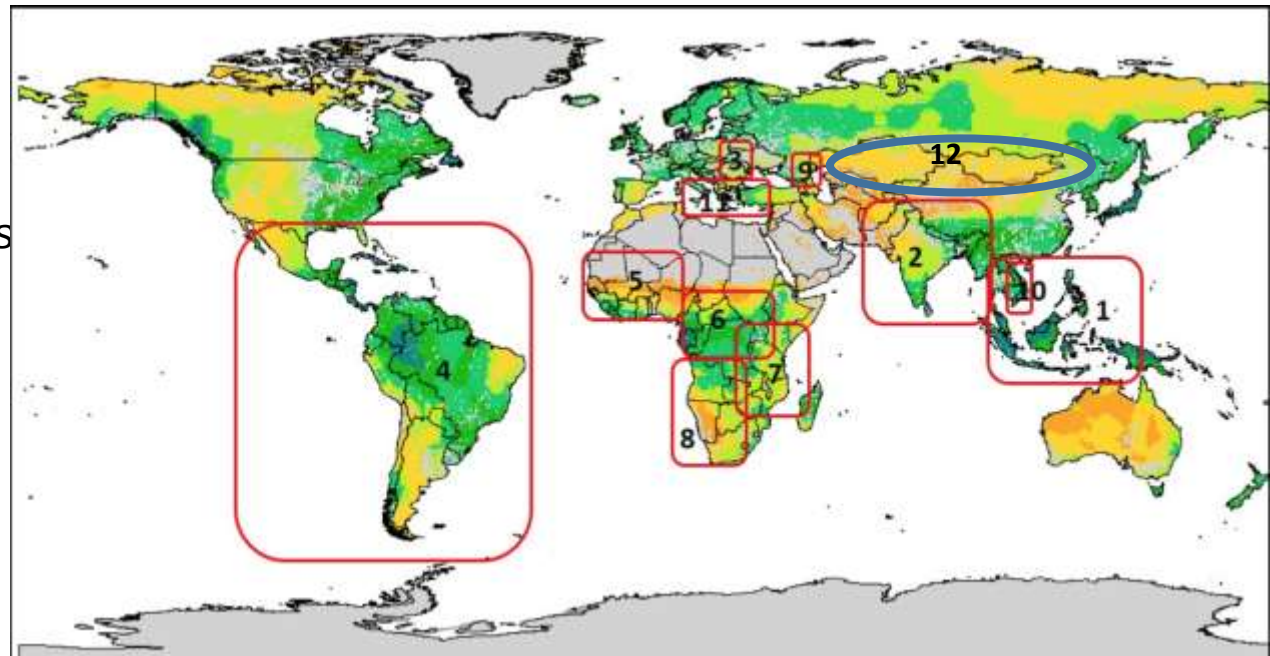
(<https://develop.larc.nasa.gov/>)

SERVIR: Building international capacity with hubs in East and West Africa, South and SE Asia (Hindu Kush-Himalaya and Mekong), and Amazonia (<https://www.servirglobal.net/>)

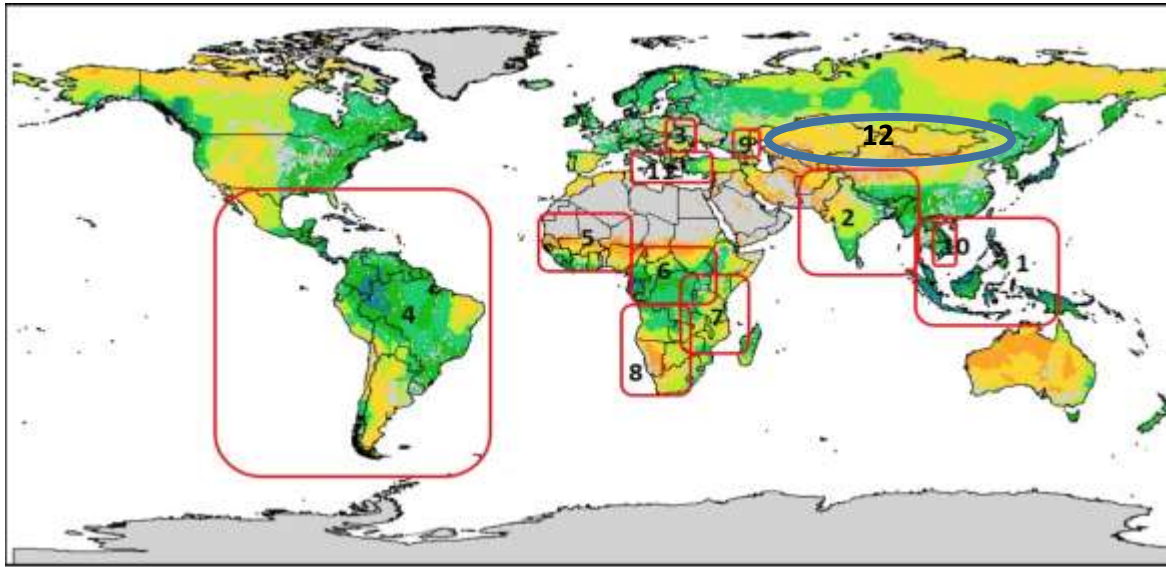
GOFC-GOLD: *Global Observation of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics*

Activities of two GOFC-GOLD regional networks (SEARRIN and SARIN) are coordinated with SERVIR-Himalaya and -Mekong activities to promote the use of publicly available satellite imagery and related geospatial decision-support tools/products for key stakeholders and decision makers

Networks facilitate regional science and global products validation in the region



GOFC-GOLD Regional Networks



•Europe

- South Central East European Regional Information Network (SCERIN) - 3**
- Caucasus Regional Information Network (CaucRin) – - 9**
 - not much network activity except for funded Projects' activities
- Mediterranean Region Information Network (MedRIN) - 11**
 - Joint SCERIN-MedRIN meeting planned for June 2020 in Greece hosted by MedRIN

•South/Central America

- Red Latinoamericana de Teledetección e Incendios Forestales (RedLaTIF) - 4**

•Africa

- South Africa Network (SAFNet) - 8**
- Southeast Africa Network (Miombo) - 7**
- West Africa Regional Network (WARN) - 5**
- Central Africa (OSFAC) - 6**

•Asia

- South East Asia (SEARRIN) – 1**
 - Mekong RIN (MekRIN) – 10, SEARRIN subset
- South Asia Regional Information Network (SARIN) - 2**
- Central Asia Regional Information Network (CARIN) – 12**
under resuscitation
 - CARIN meeting (jointly with CaucRIN) planned for Sep 2019 in Kazakhstan

GOFC-GOLD: Update

- This and next year GOFC-GOLD revamping
 - New Chair
 - Reestablished ExecCom activities
- Strategic points of GOFC-GOLD (including regional networks) to be revisited
- NETWORK SUMMIT held in Tbilisi, Sep, 2017
- The Second NETWORK SUMMIT in Sep 2020?

The New, Improved GOFc-GOLD Website: gofcgold.org



[HOME](#) [RESOURCES](#) [DOCUMENTS](#) [MEETINGS](#) [REGIONAL NETWORKS](#) [CONTACT](#) [Q](#)

Welcome to GOFc-GOLD

Global Observation for Forest and Land Cover Dynamics (GOFc-GOLD) is a coordinated international program working to provide ongoing space-based and in situ observations of the land surface to support sustainable management of terrestrial resources at different scales. The GOFc-GOLD program acts as an international forum to exchange information, coordinate satellite observations, and provide a framework for and advocacy to establish long-term monitoring systems. It was established as a part of a Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) pilot project in 1997, with a focus on global observations of forest cover. Since then, the program has expanded to include two Implementation Teams: Land Cover Characteristics and Change, and Fire Mapping and Monitoring. In addition, two working groups—Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), and Biomass Monitoring—were also formed. GOFc-GOLD activities are guided by an executive committee, primarily with support from NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA). Recently, the GOFc-GOLD program celebrated its twentieth anniversary by convening a Regional Network Summit in Tbilisi, the capital of the country Georgia.

Upcoming Meetings

Title	Date
SCERIN meeting and training, Novi Sad, Serbia, 2019	06/24/2019
World Soils 2019 User Consultation meeting	07/02/2019
SARI-SEARRIN meeting and training, Malaysia, 2019	07/22/2019



Featured Network

SouthCentral European Regional Informational Network (SCERIN)



South-Central European Regional Informational Network (SCERIN) main focus is in Central & South Eastern

The SCERIN Network Page

SouthCentral European Regional Informational Network (SCERIN)

Home -

SouthCentral European Regional Informational Network (SCERIN)

SouthCentral European Regional International Network (SCERIN)

SCERIN is one of the regional networks of the GOF-GOLD panel. GOF-GOLD (Global Observation of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics) is a panel of GTOS. GTOS (Global Terrestrial Observing System) is a programme for observations, modelling, and analysis of terrestrial ecosystems to support sustainable development. SCERIN (originally SEERIN) is an informal network of scientists and other professionals based in the region or with scientific interests in the region of South Eastern and Central Europe.

For more information visit <http://csebr.cz/scerin/>

Meetings

Title	Start Date	End date
SCERIN meeting and training, Novi Sad, Serbia, 2019	06/24/2019	06/27/2019

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Regional Contact Information

Contact Information
1. Prof. Jana Albrechtová Department of Experimental Plant Biology Faculty of Science www.natur.cuni.cz , Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic Tel.: +420 221 95 1959, (1687), mobile: +420-734272462,

SouthCentral European Regional Informational Network (SCERIN)



SCERIN network countries - Green - current SCERIN members; Pink – yet to include in SCERIN

South-Central European Regional International Network (SCERIN) main focus is in Central & South Eastern Europe, the Danube Watershed & Western Black Sea coast. SCERIN provides a platform for collaboration among remote sensing experts in South Central Europe through collaborative activities; Facilitate progress and consistent implementation of remote sensing and LCLUC methodology, in the region; Foster regional collaboration for monitoring the dynamics, stability, and vulnerability of the major ecosystems and Promote effective sustainable management and preservation, on the local, regional and pan-European level. SCERIN network is active since 2013. The seventh annual SCERIN meeting and Trans-Atlantic Training for students and young professionals is

Mediterranean Regional Information Network (MedRIN)



Welcoming MedRIN to the GOFC-GOLD family of networks

On behalf of the NASA Land-Cover/Land-Use Change Program – the primary sponsor of the international GOFC-GOLD Program – I'd like to welcome the new Mediterranean Regional Information Network MedRIN to the GOFC-GOLD family of networks. Developed in 1997 under the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), the Global Observations of Forest Cover initiative was originally intended to test the concept of the Integrated Global Observing System (IGOS) to improve the use of Earth Observation data to address major problems of global concern and to improve coordination of national programs. Additionally, it was directed at improving cooperation between providers and users of Earth Observation data for regional and global applications. Later on, GOFC became one of the Panels of the Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS), and was further named GOFC-GOLD to include other landcover dynamics in addition to forest cover change. Traditionally, its sponsors have been such international entities as Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), European Commission Joint

Meetings

Title	Start
Mediterranean Regional Information Network (MedRIN) Meeting and Workshop	03/21
MedRIN Kick-off Meeting Chania, Greece, 13-14 July 2018	07/13

Related Documents

Document Title
MedRin Agenda Kick-Off Meeting
MedRIN Meeting Agenda, March 20, 2019

US Contact Information

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Office: (650) 604-6565
Fax: (650) 604-4680

[View Members of MedRin](#)

Follow us on



Cyprus representation

- **Diofantos Hadjimitsis** (Professor-Vice Rector of Academic Affairs at [Cyprus University of Technology](#));
- **Andreas Christofe** (Research Fellow – [Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics](#) at [Cyprus University of Technology](#));

France representation

- **Brice Mora** (former [GOFC – GOLD](#) representative)

Greece representation

- **Ioannis Gitas** (Professor at the Faculty of Forestry & Natural Management, [Aristotle University of Thessaloniki](#));
- **Georgios Zalidis** (Professor at the Faculty of Agriculture, [Aristotle University of Thessaloniki](#), Scientific Director at i-BEC, GEOSS High-Level Working Group Member);
- **Haris Kontoes** (Research Director at [National Observatory Athens](#), National Contact Point for the Exchange of National Data in GEO, National Delegate of the H2020 SPACE Program Committee);
- **Ioannis Manakos** (Associate Researcher at the [Centre for Research & Technology Hellas](#));
- **Stavros Stagakis** (Researcher at the Remote Sensing Lab, Institute of Applied and Computational Mathematics, [Foundation for Research & Technology Hellas – FORTH](#));
- **Chariton Kalaitzidis** (Research & Studies Coordinator at the [Geoinformation in Environmental Management MSc, MAICh](#));

Israel representation

- **Eyal Ben Dor** (Professor at Geography & Human Environment Dpt., School of Environment & Earth Sciences, [Tel Aviv University](#));
- **Arnon Karnieli** (Professor at [Ben-Gurion University of the Negev](#))

Italy representation

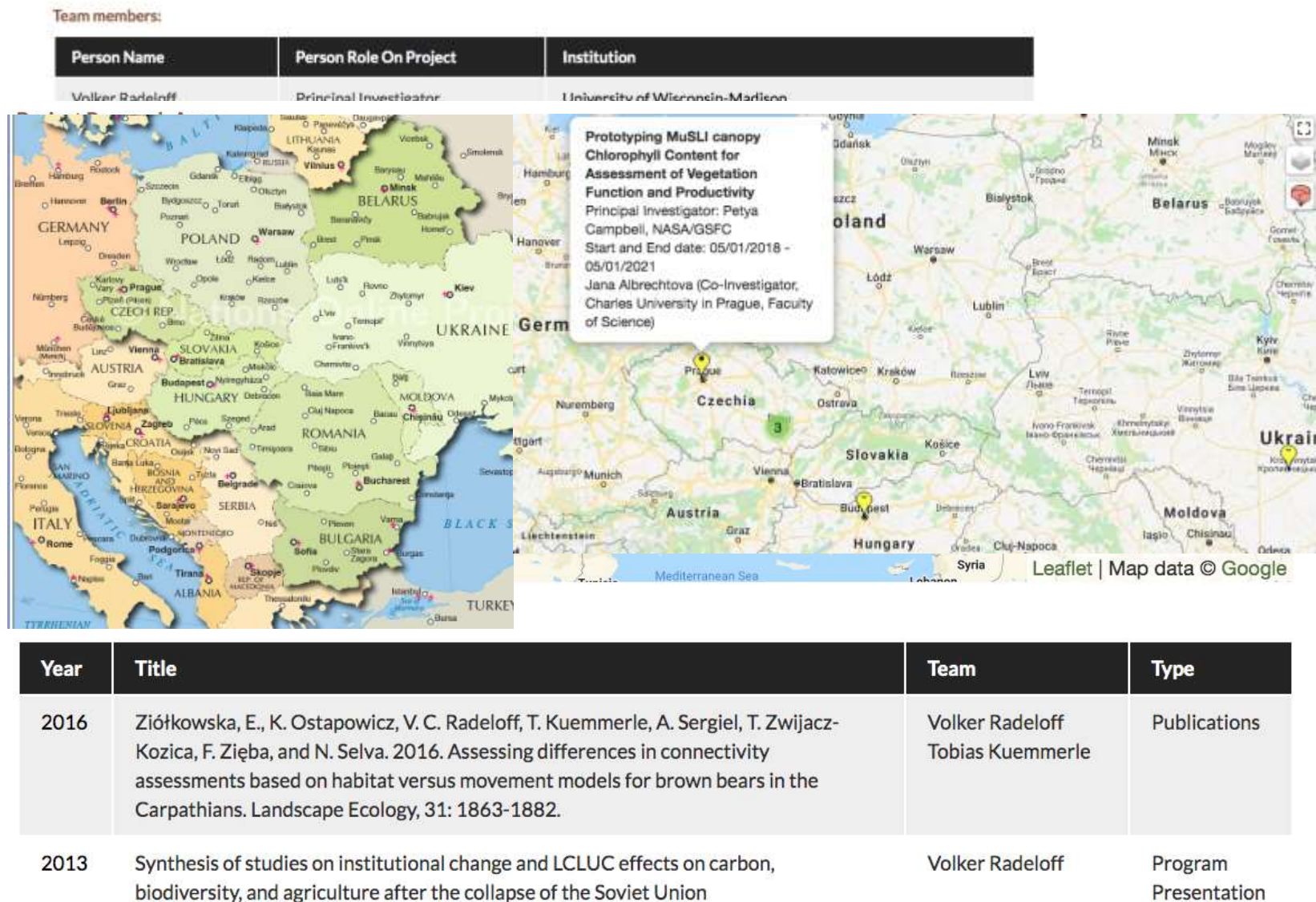
- **Deodato Tapete** (Researcher at the [Italian Space Agency](#))

Turkey representation

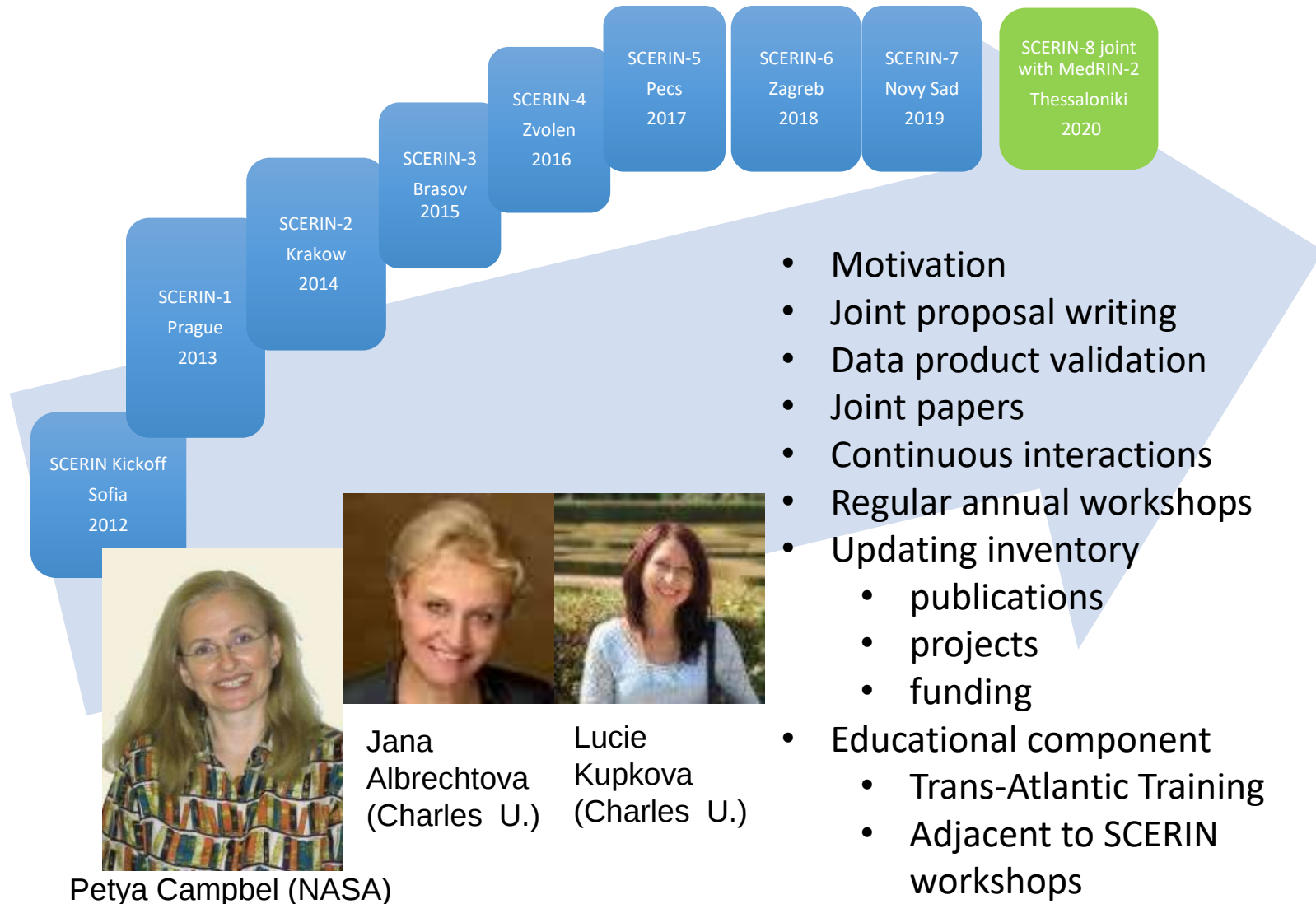
- **Levent Genç** (Professor at [Çanakkale University](#))
- **Irmak Yay Algan** ([Istanbul Technical University](#), Research and Application Center for Satellite Communications and Remote Sensing – CSCRS)

Proposed Network Mapper

- When clicked on the location the project should show the title, name, affiliation
- When clicked on the project it should show the details (the team members, affiliations, collaborations, abstract)
- Software was developed at UMD for LCLUC Mapper and is available for use in GOFC-GOLD network pages
- Need good inventory of projects!



South/Central Eastern Europe Regional Information Network (SCERIN)



SCERIN: March Over the Empire

With an Excursion out to Mediterranean - a Friendly Gesture to a Friendly Med Network



Θεσσαλονίκη

Proposed Paradigm for Network Meetings

- Bi-annual joint meetings with another European network (MedRin)
 - Save some funds
 - Expand scientific horizons and networking
 - Leverage common interests and regions (e.g. Balkans)
 - 2020- joint with MedRin in Greece; 2021- separate SCERIN; 2022- joint with MedRIN in SCERIN domain, etc.
 - Caucasus network (CaucRIN) joint meeting with Central Asia (CARIN) in Sep 2019 in Kazakhstan; separately in 2020; joint in 2021 hosted by CaucRIN in Caucasus
 - Two-network Mini-Summits every other year
 - All-hands Network Summit every 3 years
 - Reps from networks are welcome to attend any of the other network meetings for sharing experience

Novi Sad in Time

- End of 17th century: people of Orthodox faith were forbidden from residing in [Petrovaradin](#), → Serbs were largely unable to build homes in the town
- *Petrovaradinski Šanac* – another name for Racki Grad
- 1748: became a "free royal city"
- Újvidék ([Hungarian](#))
- 18th-19th centuries: was the largest city populated with ethnic Serbs in the World
- **1848-1849:** People's Spring - revolutions over Europe; Novi Sad was part of [Serbian Vojvodina](#), a Serbian autonomous region within [Habsburg Empire](#)
- 1849-1866: part of a separate Austrian crownland known as the [Voivodeship of Serbia and Temes Banat](#).
- 1867: within the [Hungarian](#) part of [Austria-Hungary](#).
- 1918: unification of Vojvodina region with the [Kingdom of Serbia](#)
- 1929: became the capital of the [Danube Banovina](#), a province of the [Kingdom of Yugoslavia](#)
- 1941: annexed by [Hungary](#)
- 1945: the capital of [Vojvodina](#), a province of the [Socialist Republic of Serbia](#) and [Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia](#)
- 1992: part of the [Federal Republic of Yugoslavia](#)
- 1999: [NATO bombardment](#) during the [Kosovo War](#) – 20 years ago!!
 - Novi Sad left without all of its three Danube bridges, communications, water, and electricity
 - [cluster bombed](#) several times
 - its [oil refinery](#) was bombarded daily, causing severe [pollution](#) and widespread [ecological](#) damage
- 2003: transformed into the State Union of [Serbia and Montenegro](#).
- 2006: part of an independent [Serbia](#)



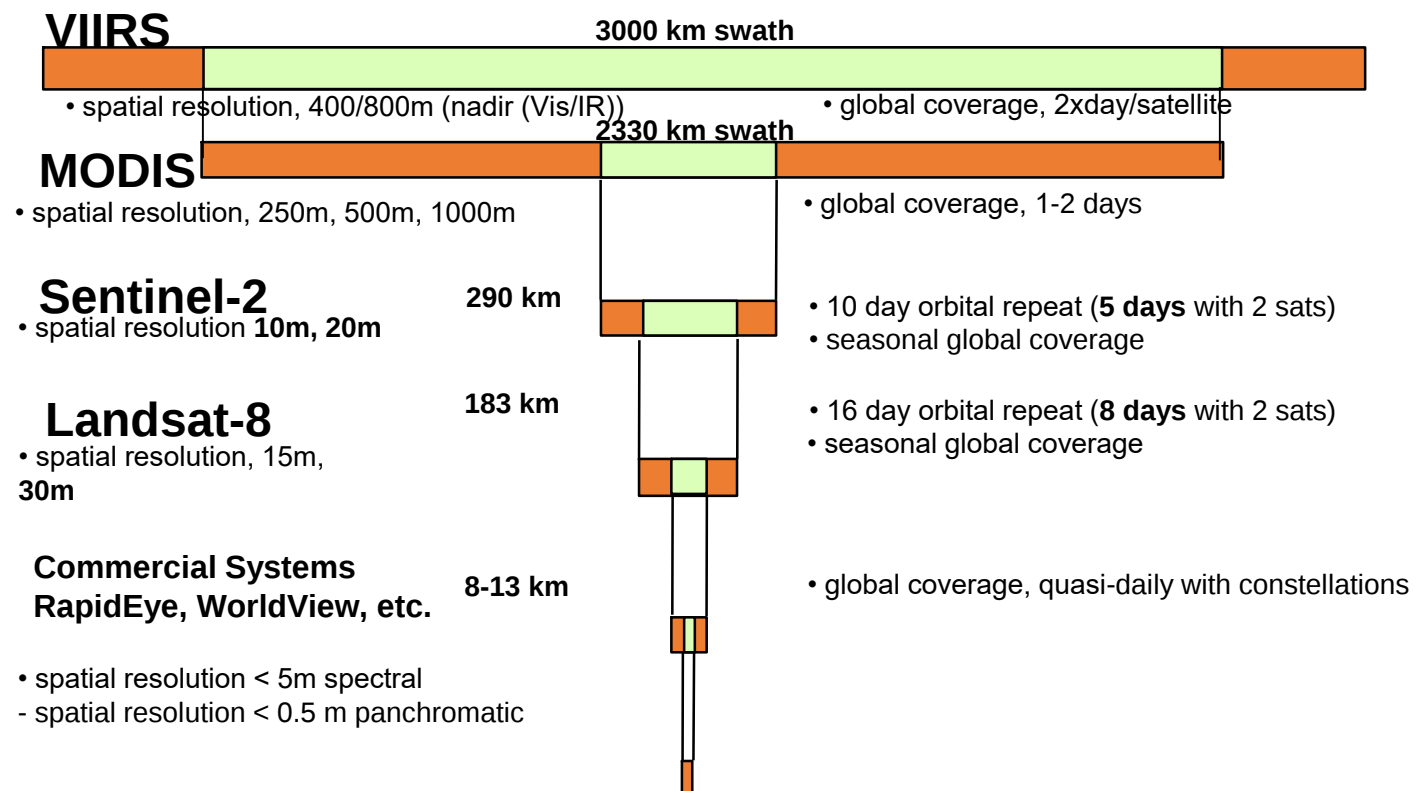
Map of Novi Sad ([Ratzen](#) Stadt) from 1745
Racki Grad

Belgrade from Landsat in 1992





Synergistic Use of Optical Remote Sensing



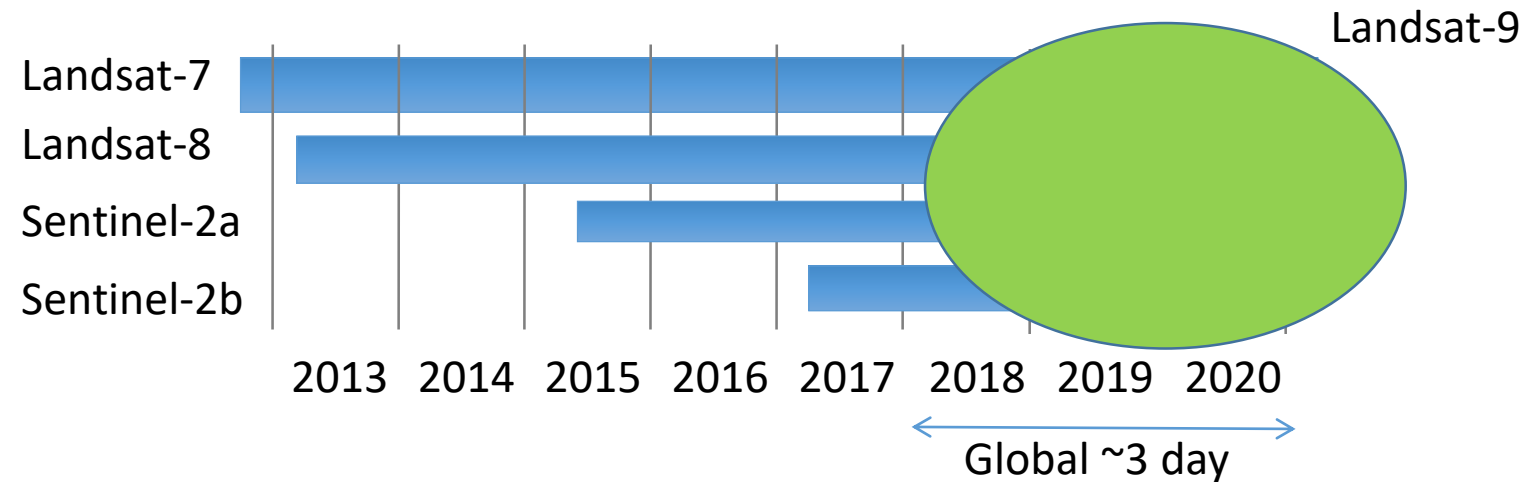
Current Prospects for Virtual Constellation of Mid-Resolution Sensors: Sentinel-2 - Landsat Fusion



Agriculture monitoring needs ~ 5-day coverage

Both sensors have 10-30m coverage in VNIR-SWIR

- Satellite orbits are complementary
 - Landsat-7 & -8 8 days out of phase
 - Sentinel-2a & 2b 5 days out of phase
 - Landsat and Sentinel sun synch orbits precess relative to each other



Harmonized Land Surface (HLS) reflectance

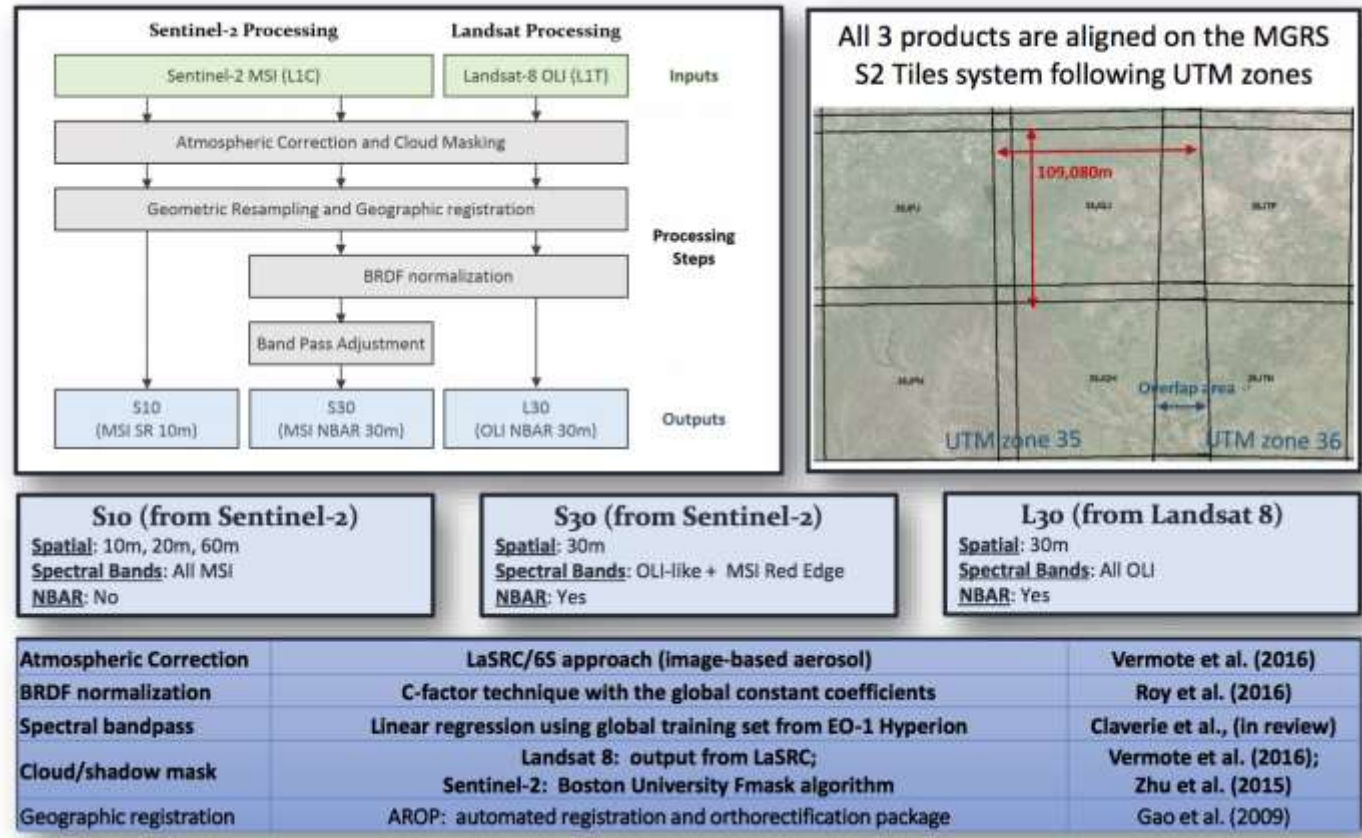
A Harmonized Surface Reflectance Product

Landsat and Sentinel-2 data represent the most widely accessible moderate-to-high spatial resolution multispectral satellite measurement. Following the launch of the two Sentinel-2 satellites in 2015 and 2017, the potential for synergistic use of Landsat and Sentinel-2 data creates unprecedented opportunities for timely and accurate observation of Earth status and dynamics. Harmonization of the Landsat and Sentinel-2 data is of paramount importance for the scientific community. This research project prototypes the harmonization for the entire North America and other globally distributed test sites. Technical details of harmonization can be found in the following paper and the User Guide in the Documents section.

Citation for HLS data set: Claverie, M., Ju, J., Masek, J. G., Dungan, J. L., Vermote, E. F., Roger, J.-C., Skakun, S. V., & Justice, C. (2018). The Harmonized Landsat and Sentinel-2 surface reflectance data set. *Remote Sensing of Environment*, 219, 145-161.

Courtesy:
Jeff Masek (NASA GSFC)

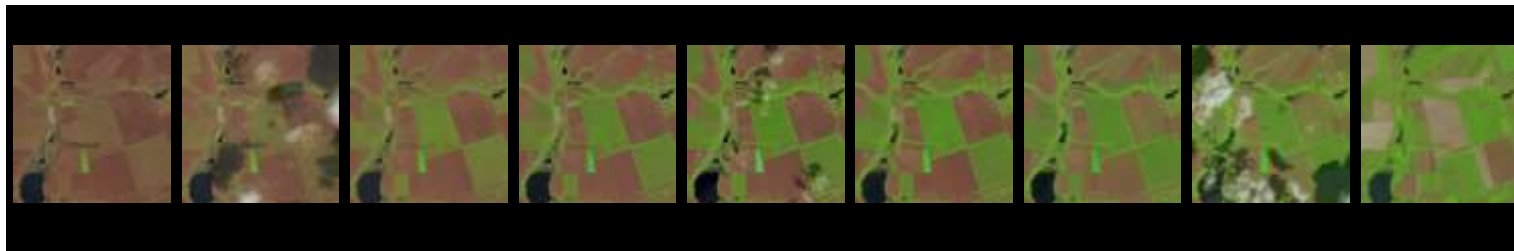
Algorithm Flow



Crop Yield Assessment and Mapping from Landsat-8 and Sentinel-2 observations

PI: Skakun, U. Maryland

Ukraine
(Kirovograd obl.)

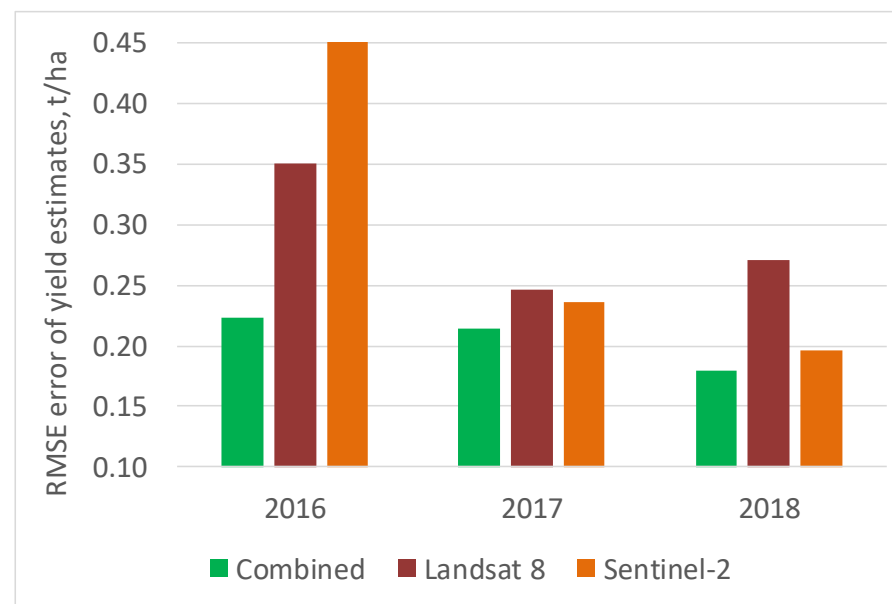


Root mean square error (RMSE) of the relationship between crop yield (ground data) and cumulative satellite-derived vegetation index

Multi-source (L8+S2) reduction in *RMSE* →

2016, 2017 – Sentinel 2a

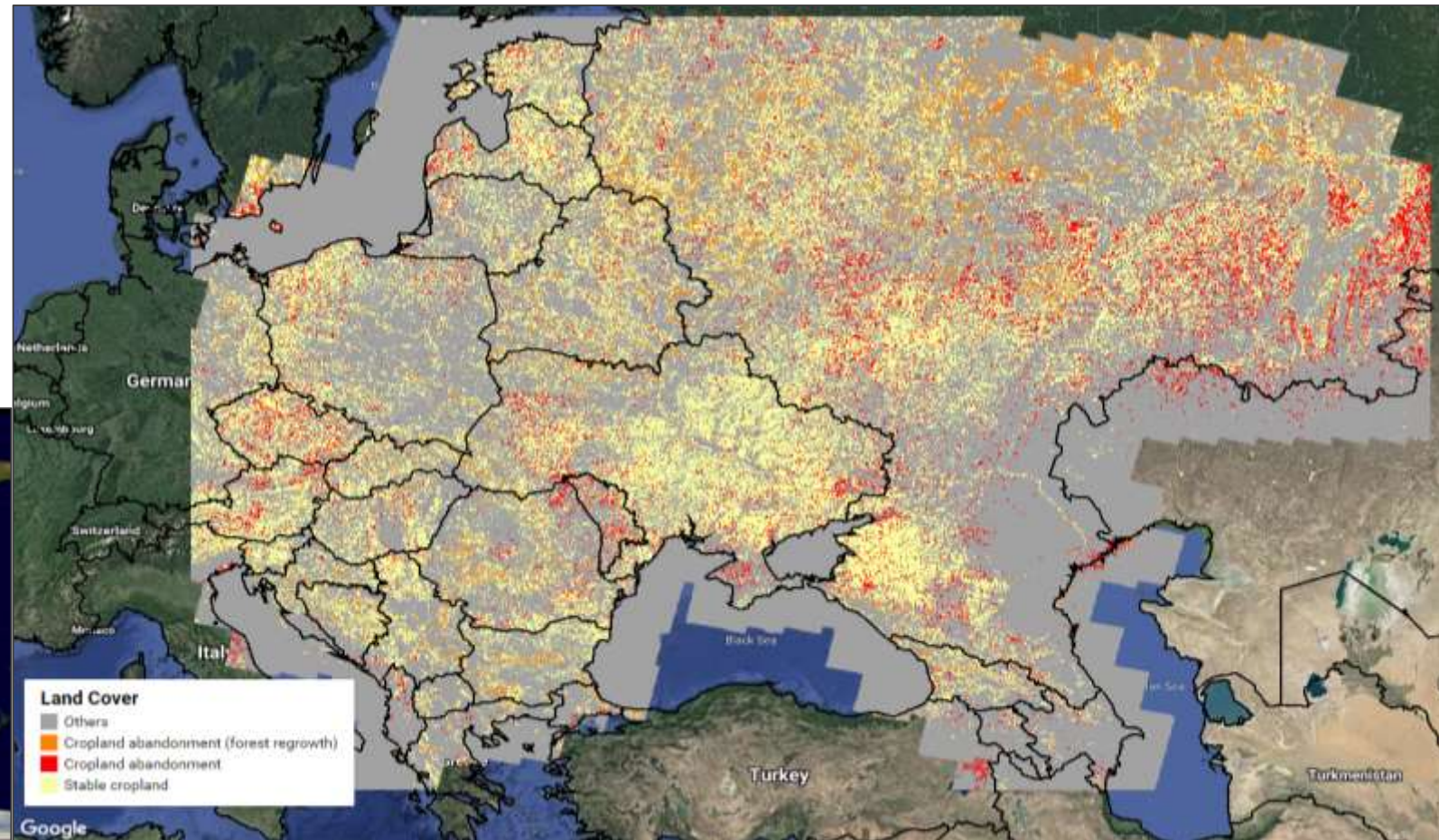
2018 – Sentinel 2a,b



MONITORING THE DYNAMICS OF ABANDONED AGRICULTURE, FALLOW FIELDS AND GRASSLANDS

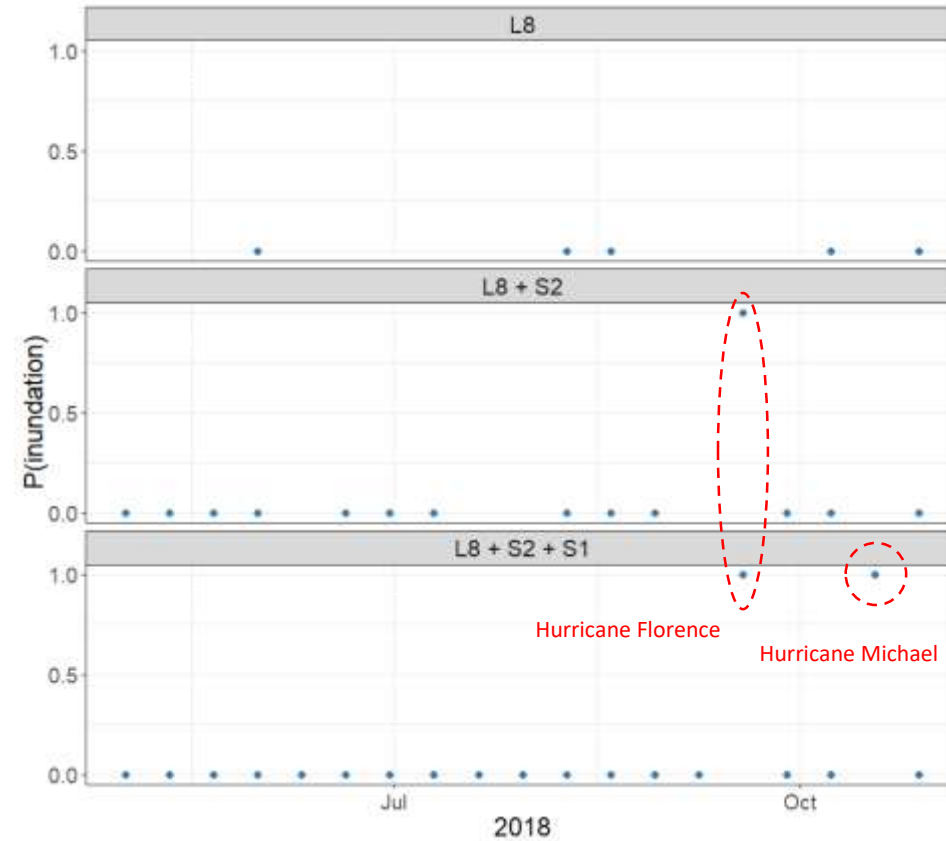
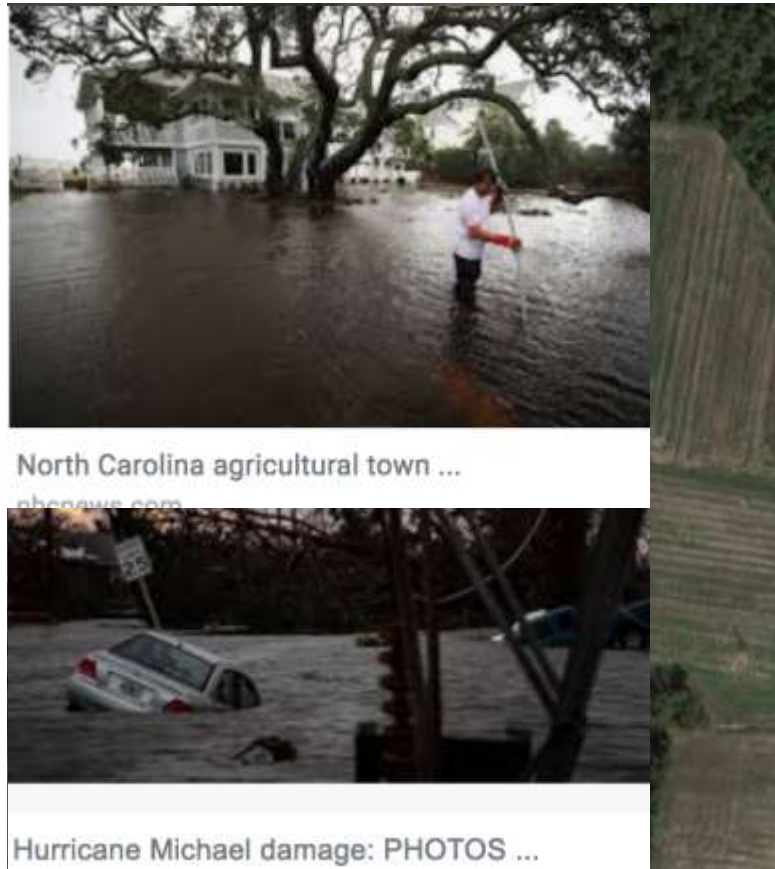
PI: RADELOFF (U. WISCONSIN)

- Goal: to map agricultural abandonment routinely for large areas
- Two-step classification process based on all Landsat and Sentinel-2 data
- 13 global test footprints; one regional proof-of concept



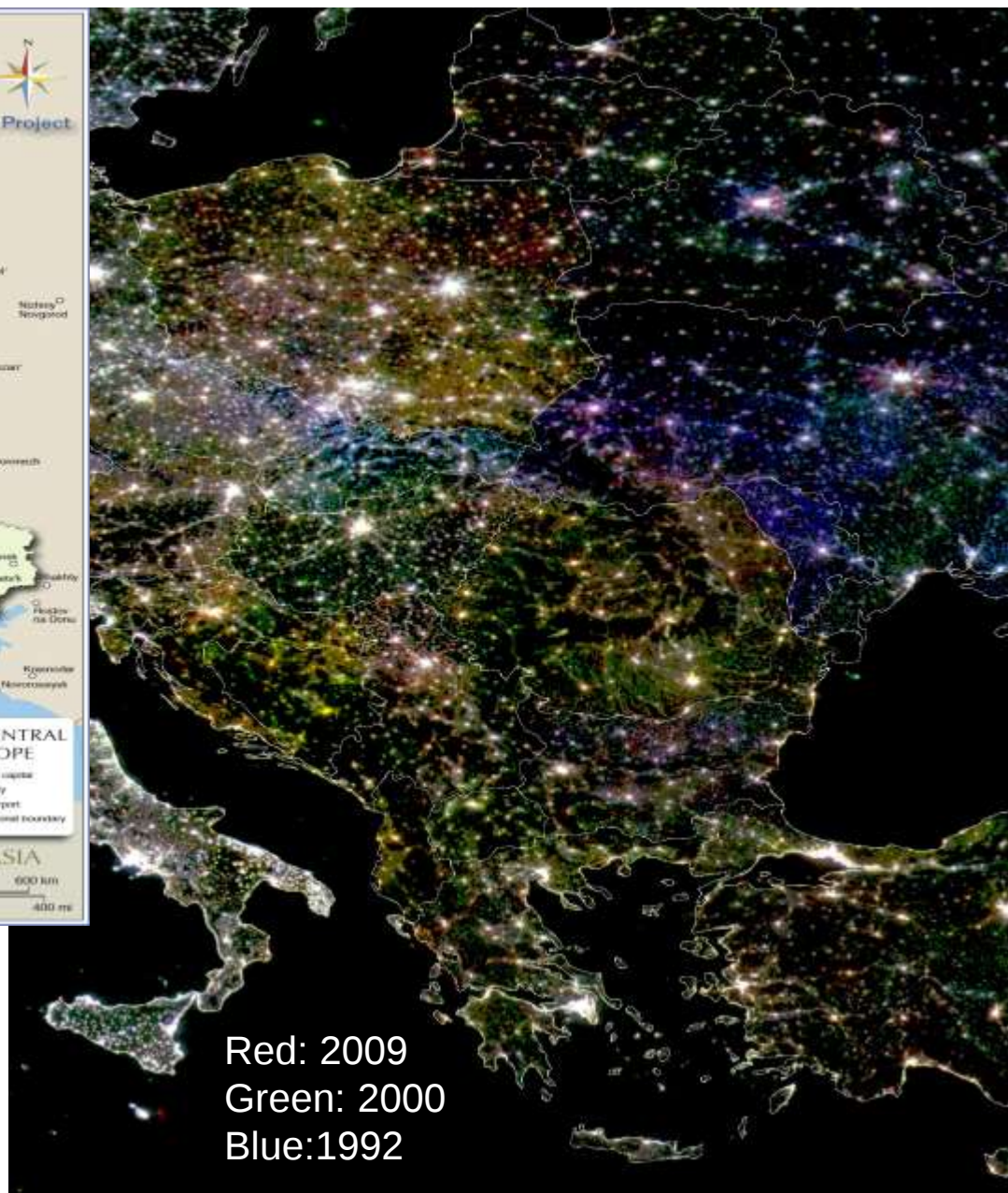
Fusing Mid-Resolution Optical and Microwave (Radar) Data for mapping inundation in North America

PI: Cheng Huang, U. Maryland



Two flooding events over crop fields in N. Carolina: 1) Hurricane Florence in Sep 2018 - captured by L8 + S2, 2) Michael in Oct 2018 Hurricane L8+S2+S1. These events are not captured by L8 data alone.

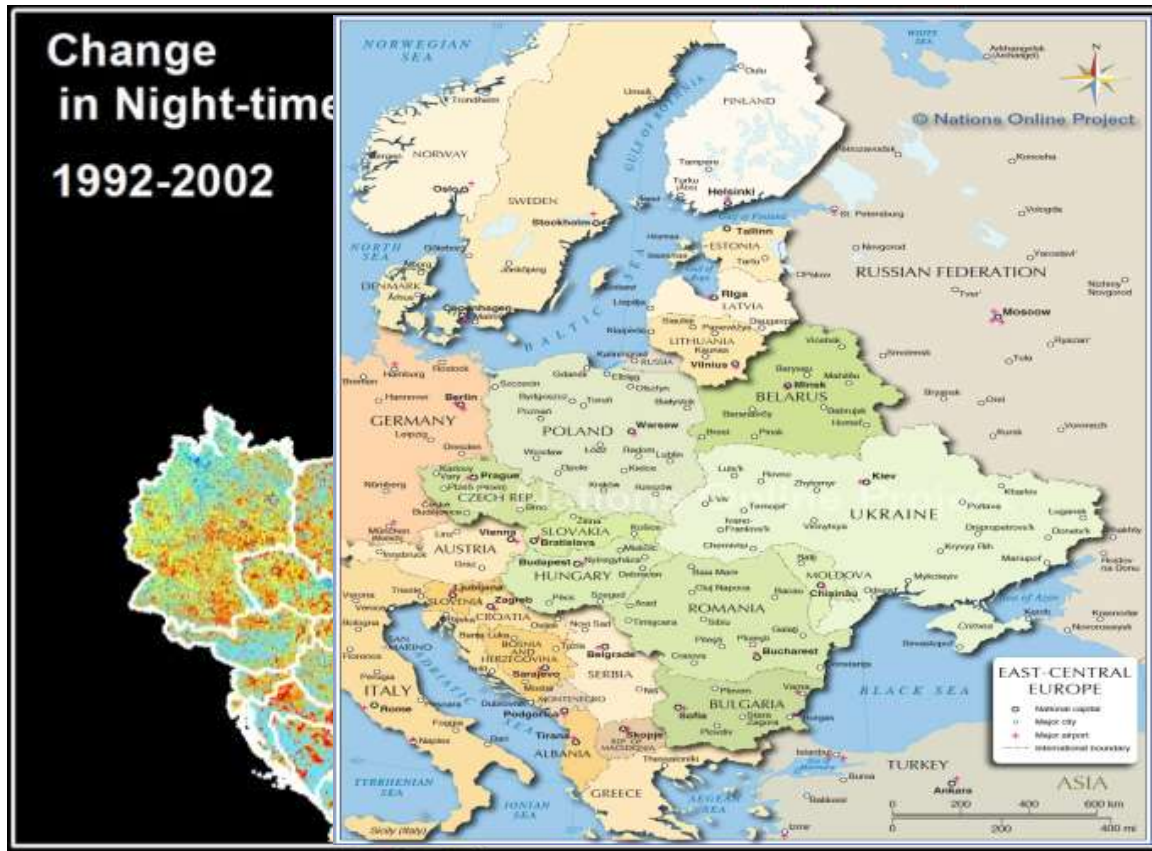
Earth Night Lights Observed by DMSP/OLI



Red: 2009
Green: 2000
Blue: 1992

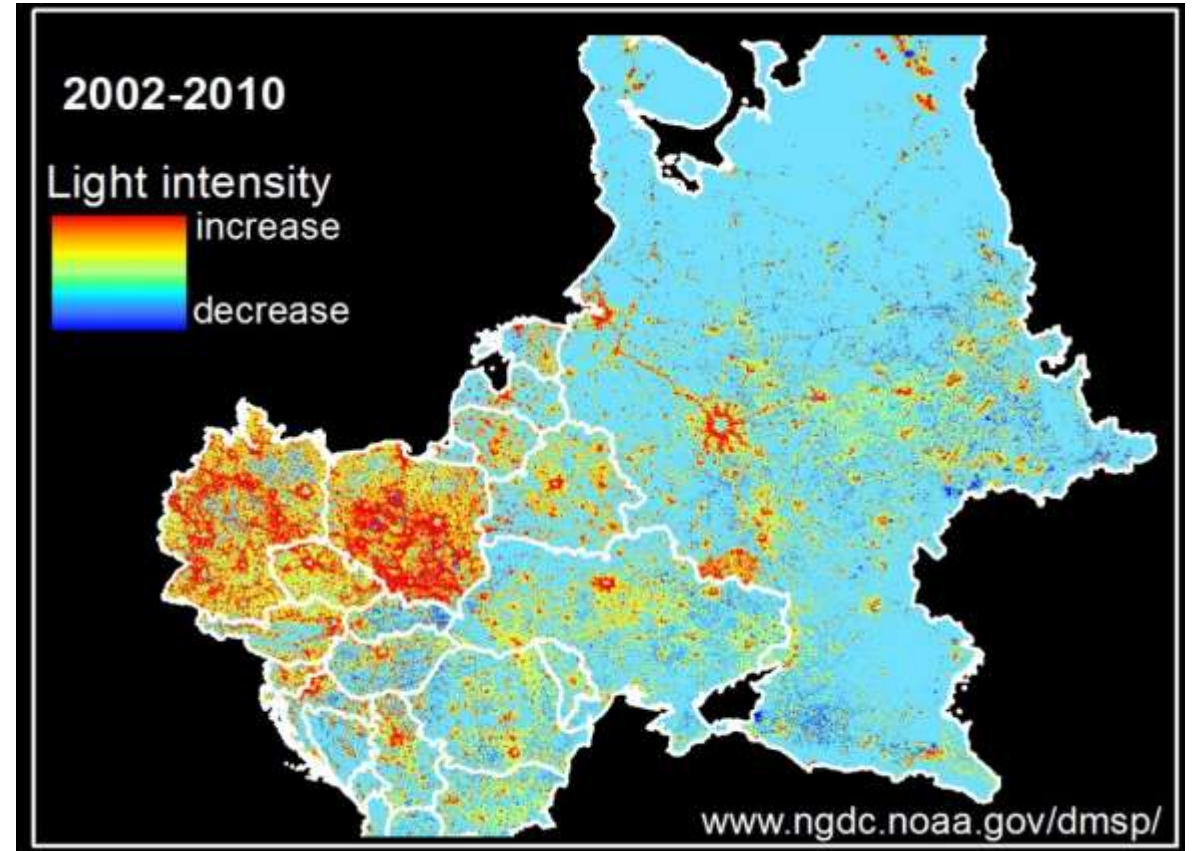
DMSP Night Lights Reflecting Changes in Economy

The Decade of Collapse



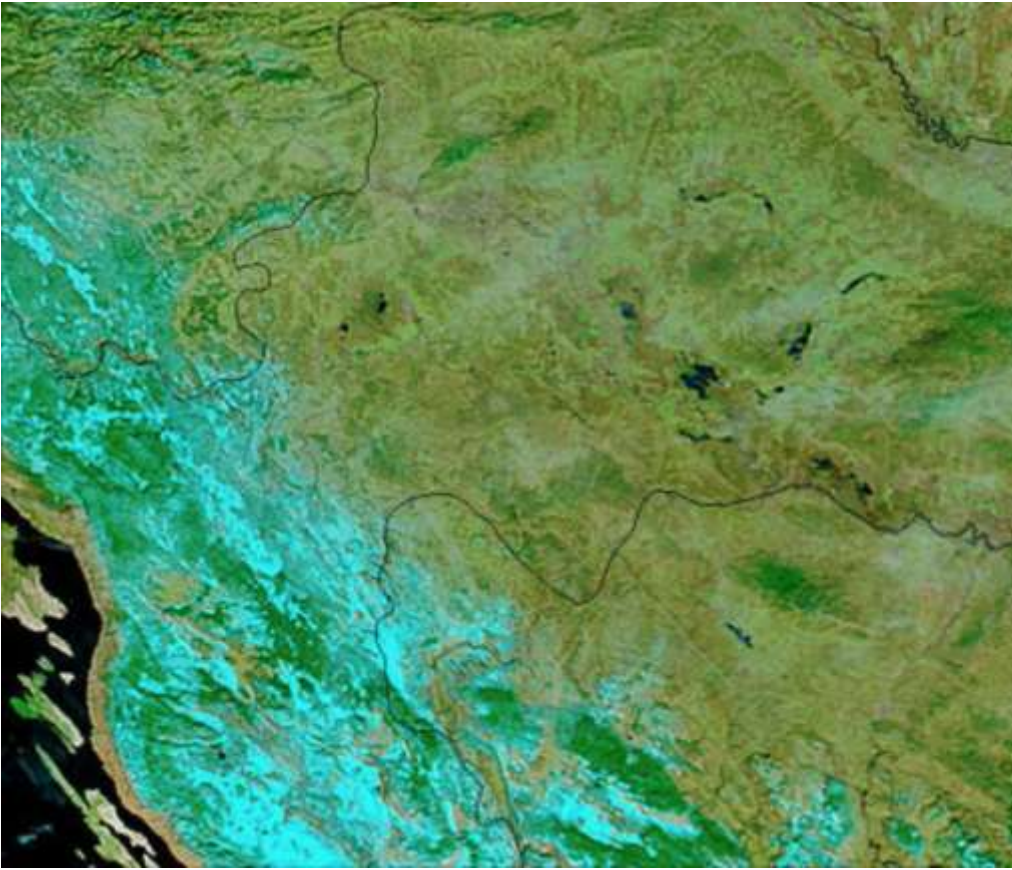
Deep Blue: Depressed Economies of Ukraine & Moldova
Red: Positive Economy Development

The Decade of Recovery



Light Blue: neutral (not much change)
Red: Economy and urban expansion (e.g. Moscow)

Flooding of Sava River Observed by MODIS



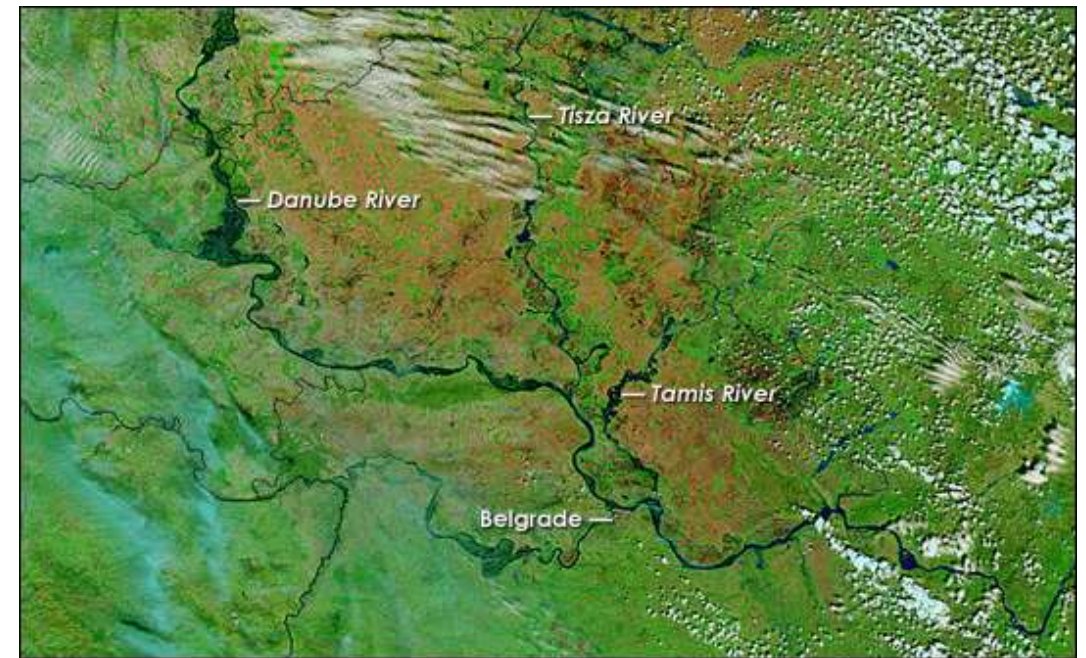
March 18, 2004



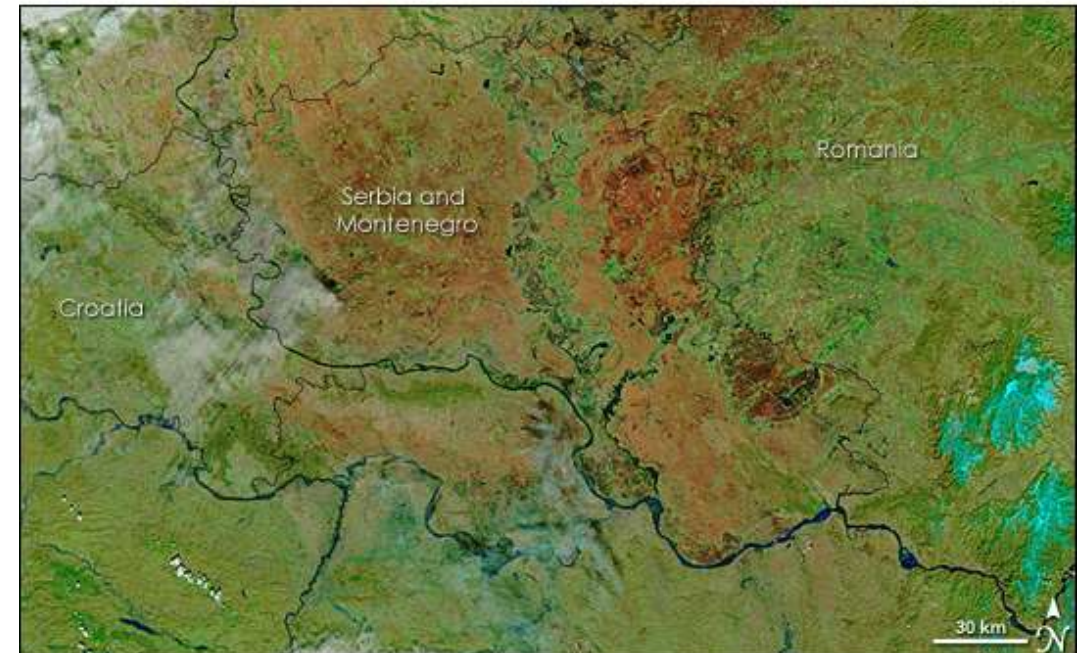
March 29, 2004

Flooding of 2006

- Northern Serbia was inundated with spring floods in mid-April 2006
- Melting snow and heavy rain pushed the Danube and its tributaries over their banks, causing flooding in many countries in Central Europe.
- Three major rivers were noticeably flooded when the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer ([MODIS](#)) on NASA's [Terra](#) satellite captured the top image on April 15.
- Black pools of water surround the Danube, particularly in the far north near the Hungarian border.
- The reddest regions may be burn scars from extensive agricultural burning.
- The [Tisza River](#) and the Tamis River were also flooded.
- Serbia's capital city, Belgrade, reported flooding along low-lying regions, and many other river-side communities in northern Serbia were building flood defenses or evacuating as waters rose



April 15, 2006

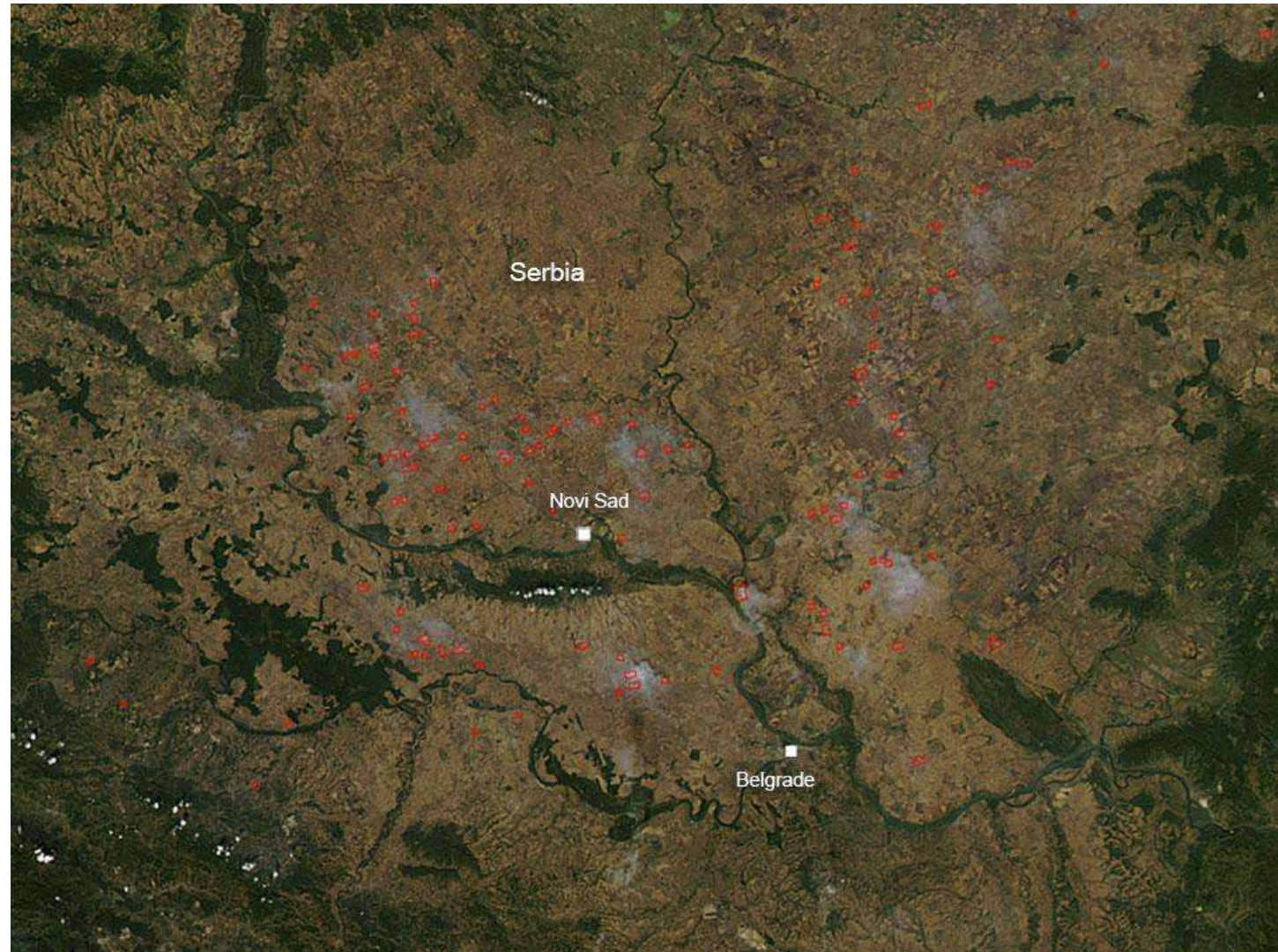


March 25, 2006

Fires in Serbia in 2012

Aqua/MODIS October 04, 2012: natural color

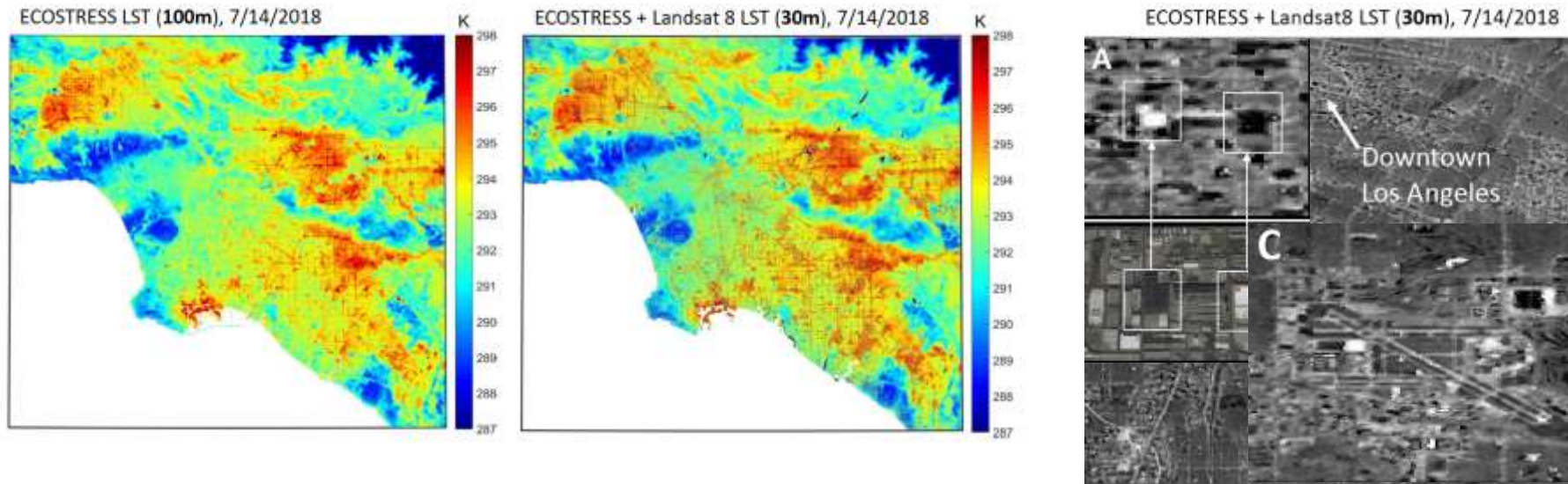
- Actively burning areas, are outlined in red
- Blazes have destroyed hundreds of acres of forests and bush in Bosnia, Serbia, Croatia and Montenegro
- Some of the fires raging on the border between Serbia and Kosovo (not seen in this photo) are too dangerous to fight because of minefields left over from the war over the former Serbian province in 1999.



NEW SENSORS FOR LCLUC STUDIES ON ISS

- ECOSTRESS: ECOsystem Spaceborne Thermal Radiometer Experiment on ISS
 - [Prototype HypsIRI Thermal Infrared Radiometer \(PHyTIR\)](#)
 - 5 spectral bands in the 8-12.5 μm range+1.6 μm (69m x 38m)
- [DESI](#): DLR Earth Sensing Imaging Spectrometer
 - 235 spectral channels with ground res. 30m
- GEDI: Global Ecosystem Dynamics Investigation
 - high resolution laser ranging observations of the 3D structure of the Earth
 - three lasers produce eight parallel tracks of observations
 - each laser fires 242 times per second and illuminates a 25 m spot (a footprint) on the surface over which 3D structure is measured

Sharpening of Coarse Resolution Thermal IR Images With Mid-Resolution Optical Images



ECOSTRESS Land Surface Temperature Imagery averaged into 100m cells and sharpened with Landsat 30m optical data for Los Angeles county, Ca

ECOSTRESS observations: throughout the diurnal cycle every week, while Landsat only the morning temperatures twice a month, at best

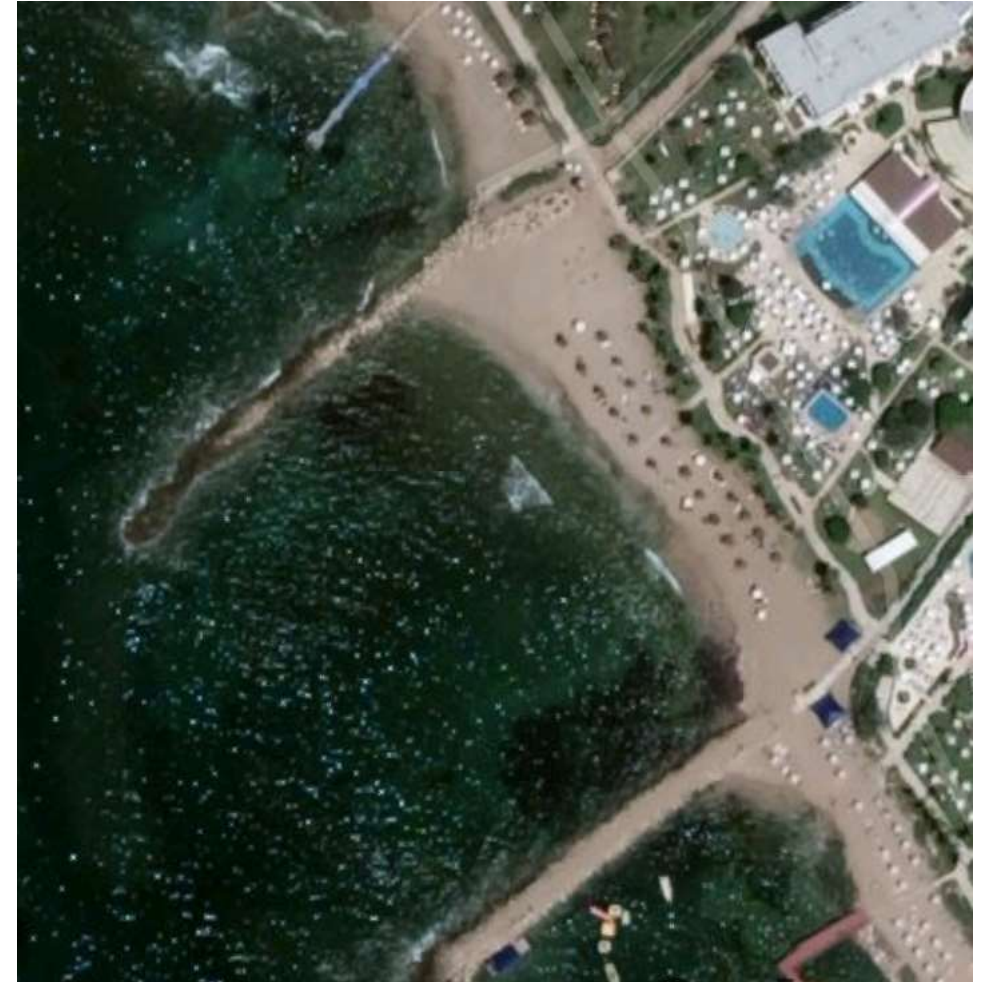
Distinguishing fine-scale thermal features of individual building roofs and transport network infrastructure (roads, runways)

A: upper thermal image vs Google Earth image

Courtesy: Glynn Hulley, NASA JPL

Fusing High-Resolution Commercial Imagery Data

- Currently, there are studies in which moderate resolution data from Landsat/Sentinel2 are fused with high-resolution imagery, e.g. Worldview
- It is expected that NASA-affiliated investigators will have free access to a very rich, dense dataset within the next couple of years from satellite constellations of both Planet Lab and Digital Globe over land including coastal zone and cryosphere
- Next step: fusing the DG Worldview images (non-pansharpened) having higher spatial resolution but low revisit time with Planet images having lower spatial resolution but daily re-visit times



Educational Component for E.Europe: NASA-ESA Trans-Atlantic Training Initiative

- Origin: after the training session for the LCLUC ST meeting, **Latvia**, 2010
- **Concept:** while visiting Karlov University in Prague, 2012
- NASA-ESA agreement
- **Implementation:** Prague, 2013
- Under careful supervision by a NASA Program Manager

TAT-1	2013, Prague, Czech Rep.
TAT-2	2014, Krakow, Poland
TAT-3	2015, Braşov, Romania
TAT-4	2016, Zvolen, Slovakia
TAT-5	2017, Pecs, Hungary
TAT-6	2018, Zagreb, Croatia
TAT-7	2019, Novi Sad, Serbia



7 years later: interest to continue confirmed!

Take Away Messages

- Current trend in the LCLUC theme
 - multi-source land imaging using virtual constellation of available space assets with compatible characteristics, such as Landsat and Sentinel-2 systems
 - Long-term time series datasets, even with coarser resolution, are still useful for studying trends, such as DMSP/OLI
 - intensification of using high-res. commercial data, such as Planet and DG
- Advance science by fusing observations from
 - Optical at nested multi-spectral resolutions (300m→30m→3m→0.3m)
 - Optical mid-resolution (10-30m) from different sources, e.g. Landsat+Sentinel2
 - Optical and microwave (radar), e.g. Landsat & Sentinel-1
 - Hyperspectral optical and multi-spectral thermal infrared
- NASA is committed to working with international partners
- **International partnership** is mandatory to maximize our Earth observations and collaborate efficiently on our analysis of our global collections
- Regional science – collaboration with regional network specialists
 - GOFC-GOLD regional information networks (SCERIN for this region)
 - Capacity building training activities
 - Participation in NASA projects as collaborators
 - Sharing experiences in joint network meetings (SCERIN+MedRIN next year)
 - The Second Networks Summit – in 1.5 year



Pecs



Zagreb → Novi Sad



Hvala!

