

GCOS GLOBAL CLIMATE OBSERVING SYSTEM

Introduction (RS-)EBVs Environmental Synthesis Continuous RSEBV GBOS Conclusions

ECVs

- 50+ GCOS Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) (2010)
- GEOSS/GEOBON Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs)
 - Land cover, fAPAR, LAI, biomass, (fire) disturbance, soil moisture, soil carbon

Domain	GCOS Essential Climate Variables
Atmospheric (over land, sea and ice)	Surface: Air temperature, Wind speed and direction, Water vapour, Pressure, Precipitation, Surface radiation budget.
	Upper-air: Temperature, Wind speed and direction, Water vapour, Cloud properties, Earth radiation budget (including solar irradiance).
	Composition: Carbon dioxide, Methane, and other long-lived greenhouse gases, Ozone and Aerosol, supported by their precursors.
Oceanic	Surface: Sea-surface temperature, Sea-surface salinity, Sea level, Sea state, Sea ice, Surface current, Ocean colour, Carbon dioxide partial pressure, Ocean acidity, Phytoplankton.
	Sub-surface: Temperature, Salinity, Current, Nutrients, Carbon dioxide partial pressure, Ocean acidity, Oxygen, Tracers.
Terrestrial	Water discharge, Water use, Groundwater, Lakes, Snow cover, Glaciers and ice caps, Permafrost, Albedo, Land cover (including vegetation type), Fraction of absorbed photosynthetically active radiation (fAPAR), Leaf area index (LAI), Above-ground biomass, Soil carbon, Fire disturbance, Soil moisture.

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE. <http://goscic.org/10s/14/MATRICES/ECV/ECV-matrix.htm>

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CONTINUOUS FIELD ESSENTIAL BIODIVERSITY VARIABLES

AVAILABLE TYPES OF EARTH OBSERVATIONS

Land Temperature Sea Surface Temperature Vegetation

Sea Surface Salinity Total Rainfall Aerosols


Fires & Thermal Chlorophyll Sea Surface Height

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE. Source: Lawrence Friedl, NASA

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CONTINUOUS RS-EBVs

- Direct retrieval
- Continuous: interval/ratio
- Physical model - deductive
- Scalable: global to local
- In-situ data for validation



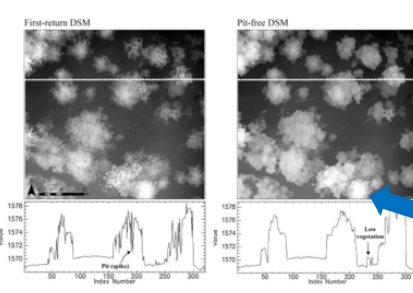
EBV Class	Candidate RS-EBV	Potential support for Aichi targets
Species populations	Species distribution*	4,5,7,9,10,11,12,14,15
Species populations	Species abundance*	5,7,9,12,14,15
Species traits	Phenology (e.g., leaf-on and leaf-off dates; peak season)	5,9,11,12,14,15
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CONTINUOUS RS-EBV

VEGETATION HEIGHT



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International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation
Volume 52, October 2016, Pages 104–114

Generating spike-free digital surface models using LIDAR raw point clouds: A new approach for forestry applications
Arash K. Khorrampour, Andrew K. Skidmore, Martin Isenhardt

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<http://ezproxy.utwente.nl:2084/science/article/pii/S0303243416300873>

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CONTINUOUS RS-EBV

VEGETATION BIOMASS

Mutanga and Skidmore 2003

Mutanga et al.

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- (a) Grass biomass accurately estimated by vegetation index located in the red edge slope).
- (b) Compare with the standard NDMI involving bands located in the near infrared and the red absorption trough.
- (c) Results from 1986 – coarse sensor, poorer image processing & field techniques

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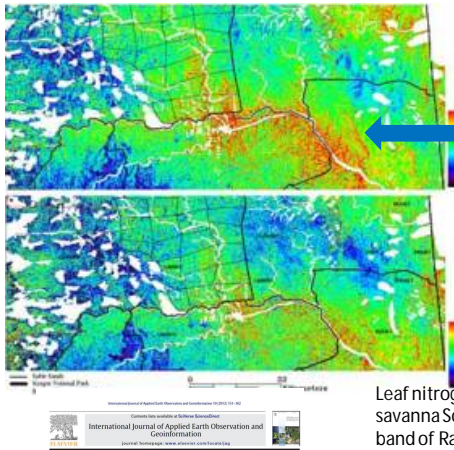
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REMOTE SENSING EBVS FOR UPSCALING BIODIVERSITY

LEAF AND CANOPY NITROGEN - UP-SCALABLE TO GLOBAL

RapidEye 6 m & red edge
Environmental layers



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Leaf nitrogen (top) and canopy nitrogen (bottom) in savanna South Africa (Kruger NP to Sabi Sands). Red edge band of RapidEye

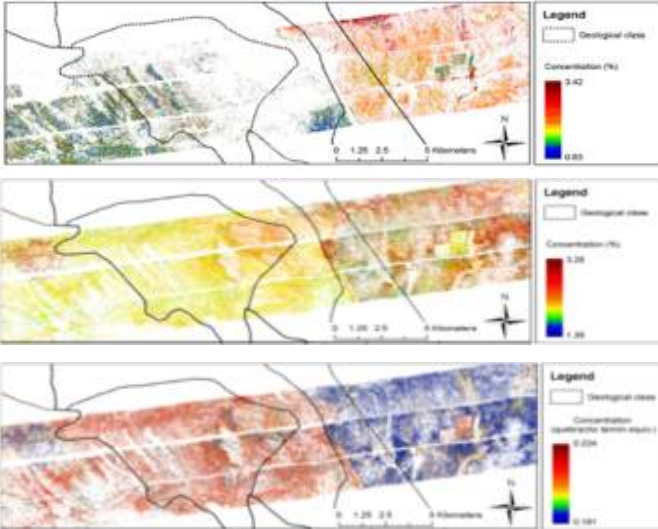
Regional estimation of savanna grass nitrogen using the red-edge band of the spaceborne RapidEye sensor

International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation

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FOLIAR BIOCHEMISTRY – N AND TANNIN

FOLIAR NITROGEN KNP



Foliar nitrogen grasses

Foliar nitrogen mopane

Tannin mopane

Remote Sensing of Environment

Volume 141, Issue 1, 15 January 2016, Pages 84–92

Forage quality of savannas — Simultaneously mapping foliar protein and polyphenols for trees and grass using hyperspectral imagery

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LEAF BIOCHEMISTRY & STRUCTURE FROM RTM

SENTINEL-2 SALT MARSH AND GRASSLAND

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ESA Innovator III project RS4EBV (in press)

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SURFACE WATER OCCURRENCE (1984-2015)

GLOBAL PRODUCT JRC

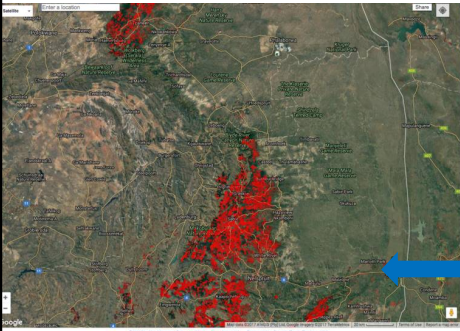
Global Landsat 30 m product
 Frequency present water 1984 – 2015
 permanent (100% occurrence over 32 years)
 Areas where water sometimes occurs pure

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FOREST COVER %

FOREST COVER LOSS KNP



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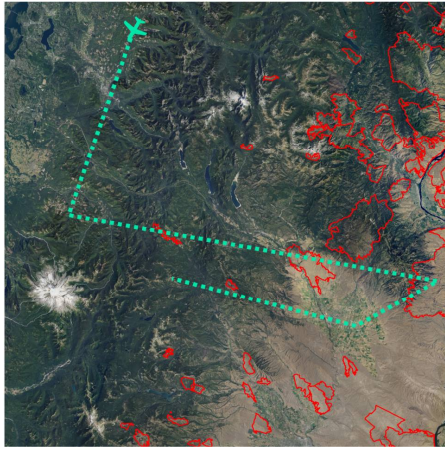
UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE. <https://earthenginepartners.appspot.com/science-2013-global-forest>

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CONTINUOUS RSEBV

SOLUTIONS – HIGHER TEMPORAL RESOLUTION

Washington State “Flight” Path for Upcoming Animation



Legend for upcoming animation

Decreasing Trend (Decreasing Greenness)	Increasing Trend (Increasing Greenness)
< -0.3	0.05 - 0.1
-0.3 - -0.2	0.1 - 0.2
-0.2 - -0.1	0.2 - 0.3
-0.1 - -0.05	0.3 - 0.4
No trend	-0.05 - 0.05

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE. Boston University Woodcock et al.

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CONTINUOUS RSEBV

SOLUTIONS – HIGHER TEMPORAL RESOLUTION

1985

Boston University
Woodcock et al.

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CONTINUOUS RS-EBVs

PHENOLOGY

Phenology maps of Europe in Julian days. A) onset on greenness (OG), B) end of senescence (EOS), C) length of the season (LS).

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ADVANTAGE OF SENTINEL-2 FOR RANGELANDS

- Seasonality: timing of green-up / senescence
- Requires frequent observation throughout year
 - Coarse-resolution (>250m): MODIS / Proba-V / Sentinel-3
- Sentinel-2 → finer-resolution retrievals → towards species

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE, Vrieling A, AK Skidmore, T Wang, M Maron, BJ Ens, et al. 2017. Spatially detailed retrievals of spring phenology from single-season high-resolution image time series. International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation, 59: 19-30.

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ADVANTAGE OF SENTINEL-2 FOR RANGELANDS

- ~27 cloud-free observations in 2016 with Sentinel-2a
 - model full season
 - link to camera data
 - differences linked to obs angle & VI
- Applications
 - represent seasonality better
 - differential green-up species
- expand to rangelands

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PHENOLOGY FROM SENTINEL 2 TIME SERIES (2016)

SALT MARSH AND GRASSLAND

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ESA Innovator III project RS4EBV (in prep)

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FUNCTIONAL RICHNESS

Functional richness

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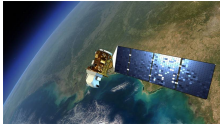
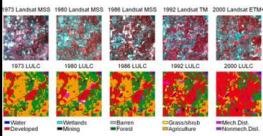
Functional richness of the saltmarsh is very low but increases at vegetation transition zones. These 'fronts' or transition zones are well highlighted by the moving window.

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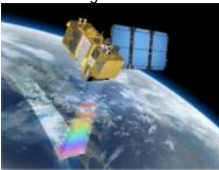
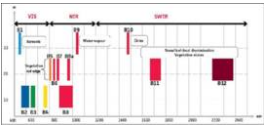
GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OBSERVING SYSTEM

THE CONTINUOUS RSEBVS ARE GENERATED FROM NEXT GENERATION ASSETS


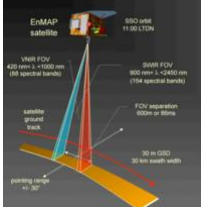
Landsat – systematic and global acquisition for next 25 years


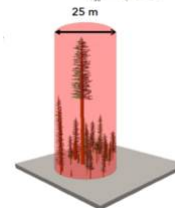
Sentinel-2 – systematic global acquisition including the red edge to 2028

EnMAP- Environmental mapping and analysis program


GEDI – Global Ecosystems Dynamics Investigation LiDAR

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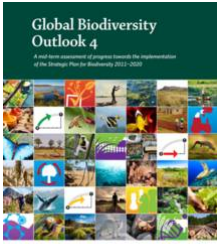
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INFORM ON BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND SDGS



Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.

Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks have been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.



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ALIGNMENT OF EO WITH SDG TARGETS

Sustainable Development Goals																	
Earth Observations in Service of the Agenda 2030																	
Contribute to progress on the Target yet not the Indicator per se																	
Target	Goal		Indicator														
	1.4	1.5	1.4.2														
	2.3	2.4	2.4.1														
	3.3	3.4	3.9	3.4													
		5.a	5.a.1														
6.1	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.a	6.b	6.3.1	6.3.2	6.4.2	6.5.1	6.6.1						
		7.2	7.3	7.a	7.b												
			8.4														
		9.1	9.4	9.5	9.a	9.1.1	9.4.1										
		10.6	10.7	10.a													
11.1	11.3	11.4	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.b	11.c	11.1.1	11.2.1	11.3.1	11.6.2	11.7.1					
		12.2	12.4	12.8	12.a	12.b											
			13.1	13.2	13.3	13.b											
	14.1	14.2	14.3	14.4	14.6	14.7	14.a	14.3.1	14.4.1	14.5.1							
15.1	15.2	15.3	15.4	15.5	15.7	15.8	15.9	15.1.1	15.2.1	15.3.1	15.4.1	15.4.2					
					16.8												
17.2	17.3	17.6	17.7	17.8	17.16	17.17	17.18	17.6.1	17.18.1								



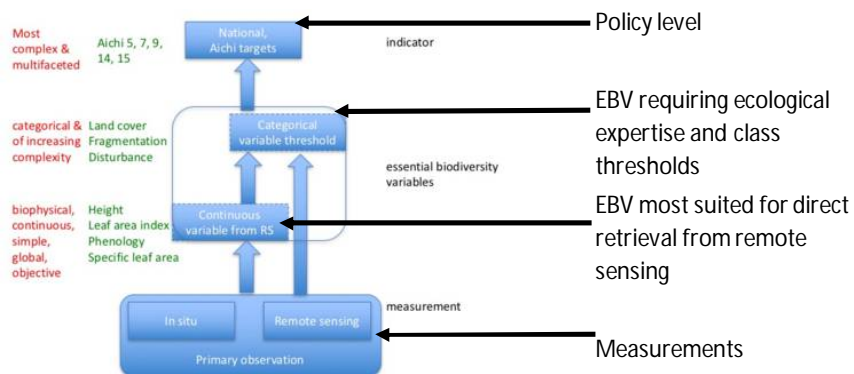
Alignment of Earth Obs. and GEO to the Goals, Targets, and Indicators



Source
Lawrence Friedl
NASA

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GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OBSERVATION SYSTEM



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GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OBSERVATION SYSTEM

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Environmentally synthesized information are focus of targets and SDGs
 - *Species and species composition*
 - *Land cover*
 - *Identifying individuals*
- Global continuous field variables from satellite remote sensing used to generate the environmentally synthesized
 - *Height*
 - *Foliar bio-chemicals*
 - *Surface inundation*
 - *Productivity etc*
- Global Biodiversity Observation System – from next generation satellites

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