



Global Monitoring for Environment and Security & Africa (GMES & Africa)

Advancing Land Degradation Monitoring in Africa: Challenges, Innovations, and Best Practices

WEBINAR CONCEPT NOTE

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

2-4 pm EAT

1. General context and background

This webinar falls under the framework of the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security and Africa (GMES & Africa) Phase 2, a joint programme of the European Commission (EC) and the African Union Commission (AUC). Building on the achievements of Phase 1 which ran from 2017 to 2021 implemented by 12 Consortia, involving 122 institutions almost in Africa and 51 countries. The second phase focuses on fostering African-driven Earth Observation (EO) services and tools to monitor natural resources and manage climate change impacts. The AUC encourages cross-fertilization between African regions to expand effective services developed by the Consortia. This webinar seeks to advance that goal by focusing on **land degradation (LD) monitoring** in Africa.

The webinar will gather the GMES & Africa Consortia implementing land degradation and forest monitoring services and applications, along with their partners. This webinar is organized by OSS in partnership with ICPAC, RCMRD, CICOS, and NASRDA.

2. Webinar Objectives

The main goals of the webinar are:

- **Exchange of Knowledge and Experience:** Share insights and experiences on LD monitoring using EO data in various African ecosystems.
- **Showcase Achievements:** Highlight the successes and innovations from GMES & Africa Consortia in monitoring LD across different regions.



- **Lessons Learned:** Share best practices and challenges in using EO data and geospatial tools for monitoring LD.
- **Raise Awareness:** Emphasize the importance of monitoring LD to guide Sustainable Land Management (SLM) actions in Africa.

3. Methodology

The webinar will be a **2-hour online session** featuring:

- **Presentations:** Overview of LD monitoring tools, data, and EO-based indicators developed by the Consortia.
- **Discussions:** Experts from various regions will share their perspectives on LD monitoring challenges, innovations, and cross-regional collaboration.
- **Q&A:** Open to participants focusing on inter-regional cooperation and scaling up successful services in EO.

4. Key focus areas

The webinar will focus on the following areas:

- **LD Monitoring Tools and Approaches:** A review of tools, indicators, and methodologies used across African regions.
- **Land Degradation Hotspots:** Identification and monitoring of LD hotspots.
- **MISLAND-Africa:** Presentation of the Integrated Land Degradation Monitoring System and its potential for upscaling to an African-wide service.
- **Cross-Fertilization Opportunities:** How different regions can adopt successful EO tools and services for monitoring LD.

Panellists & Focus area

- OSS - EO-based service for land degradation monitoring and assessment.
- ICPAC- Vegetation degradation and forest monitoring.
- RCMRD- Land Degradation Service Development
- CICOS - Forest cover and vegetation monitoring.
- NASRDA - land degradation monitoring and SDG Indicator 15.3.1 reporting
- User – Land degradation assessment in Kenya and restoration efforts by the governments.
- User - EO-based services use and impact for land degradation monitoring in Egypt, Tunisia and Kenya



Webinar Structure

2:00-4:00pm

| Time | Activity | Person/Consortia Responsible |
|-------------|--|--|
| 2:00 -2:10 | <p>Opening remarks and introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions of the panelists • Overview of the webinar objectives • Brief remarks from AUC (5min) • Acknowledgement of the institutions organizing the webinar. • Housekeeping | <p>Moderator Viola Otieno Mustapha Mimouni</p> |
| 2:10 – 3:00 | <p>Showcasing Tools and Innovations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations highlighting EO tools, LD monitoring products, MISLAND-Africa and case studies from Africa. • Each presenter allocated 10 min for presentation • (Room for 2 questions and comments-if any-after each presenter) | <p>ICPAC- David Ongo RCMRD- Eunice Mwangi OSS- Evence louis CICOS- Georges Gulemvuga NASRDA - Rakiya Babamaaji</p> |
| 3:00-3:15 | <p>Presentation from a user of the services, challenges and possible areas of improvements.</p> | <p>Vincent Imala -DRSRS Kenya Representative of DRC (Egypt) / CNCT (Tunisia)</p> |
| 3:00 – 3:30 | <p>Discussion on Cross-Fertilization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for inter-regional collaboration and scaling successful EO services for LD monitoring. | <p>Moderator to guide the discussion Panellists and other consortia to contribute</p> |
| 3:30- 3: 50 | <p>Q&A and Open Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants engage in a Q&A session to discuss challenges, innovations, and collaboration opportunities. | <p>Moderator Viola Otieno</p> |
| 3:50-4:00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of key takeaways and next steps • Appreciation of the participants, AUC, EU, and OSS, ICPAC and RCMRD for organizing the webinar | <p>Moderator Viola Otieno</p> |