



Technological Disruption of Transboundary Water Data & Information

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Session III Improving Transboundary Data Availability, Access & Exchange

Workshop on Strengthening Legal and Institutional Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation and Data and Information Exchange

Beirut, Lebanon

30-31 May, 2023

GLOBAL TRANSOUNDARY BASINS



TRANSBOUNDARY BASINS

Data Source: Transboundary Water Assessment Program (TWAP)



Population: Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL); GDP: DECRG, The World Bank; Landcover: ESA; Climate Data: World Clim

Note: Total and average figures are derived using GIS processing.

Transcending narrow sectoral perspectives...





The Water-Energy-Food Nexus

- •Basin planning
- Monitoring
- •Water infrastructure (storage, distribution) system operations

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Water Security and the state of t

Food Security

- Agricultural energy use (e.g. pumping) •Solar Pumps •Biofuels
- •Energy use for Inputs, Processing

Energy Security

- •Energy systems optimization
- planning & operation
- •Energy access
- Energy efficiency

•Sustainable production •Value chain mgmt. from inputs to consumption (e.g. agriculture, livestock, fisheries)

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Multiple sectors, multiple institutions, linked by water and natural resources... A Typical Watershed/Basin...



Scales







Major Transboundary Waters Challenges

Information

- Inadequate monitoring (e.g. real-time, coverage) – weather, snow, glaciers, levels, flows, groundwater, water quality, biodiversity, etc.
- Poor data access (especially in the public domain)
- Poor knowledge base (e.g. elevation in flood-prone areas, groundwater, water quality)
- Poor mainstreaming of climate risks (e.g. historical variability, climate change)
- Poor tools for planning (investment, resource) and management (e.g. forecasting, system operations within and across boundaries)

Institutions

- Inadequate institutional arrangements (e.g. transboundary water institutions/coordination)
- Poor institutional capacity and country commitment to regional organizations
- Poor access to global good practice
- Poor contribution to global good practice
- Poor use of ICT/modern tech
- Poor links with potential partners (e.g. academia, CSOs, private sector, etc.) at various levels (global, regional, national, local)

Investments

- Poor monitoring infrastructure
- Poor institutional infrastructure (operational centers/control rooms, computer training rooms, VCs, etc.)
- Inadequate investments (e.g. water infrastructure, watersheds, complementary and enabled infrastructure) contributing to, enabled by, or requiring regional cooperation
- Disputes during infrastructure creation/operation





WATER CHLOROPHYLL (2002-2021 AVERAGE)







A new world of "Disruptive Technology"



"Disrupt" data value chains

- Data Collection: Monitoring/Surveys (in-situ sensors/IoT/Biometrics, earth observation (satellite, aerial, UAVs), crowdsourcing, digitization...
- **Data Management:** Telemetry, 5G, cloud services, open data, Blockchain, ...
- Data Analysis: Big data, Geospatial/ AI/Machine Learning, modeling/ scenario analysis, script repositories, Cloud/Edge/Quantum computing...
- **Data Access:** Open data APIs, data visualization, gamification, mixed reality-AR/VR, ...
- **Outreach:** Platforms/Social Media/Portals/ Apps/e-books/Competitions...



"Disrupt" production value chains

- 3D/4D printing/additive manufacturing...
- "Digital Twins"
- Automation/SCADA...
- Robotics/ Autonomous transport...
- Advanced materials/nanotech/ biotech/genomics/energy tech/ green tech, ag tech...



http://www.appsolutelydigital.com/dt/



"Disrupt" stakeholder value chains

- Virtual social networks/ Digital Platforms...
- Sharing economy...
- Crowdsourcing, gamification, competitions (e.g. *hackathons, appathons...*)
- Mobile money, fintech, cryptocurrency...
- Blockchain enabled value chains
- Maker movement/DIY/Tech Incubators...
- Virtual learning/re-skilling...

Disruptive tech could help us reimagine global development

Making "smart development" wrt climate, water and natural resources, energy, food, waste, mobility, knowledge, services, networks.

Online Services



Broadband & Smartphone Access





Access to a new world of Data, Information, **Knowledge and Services**







Planning

3D Printed Infrastructure





Sensors/IoT (e.g. for soil moisture)



Drones/UAVs (e.g. for monitoring, seeding, delivery)





Looking Ahead in the Transboundary Water World...



Tech-facilitated Transboundary Waters Solutions

Information

- Comprehensive Knowledge base (hydrology, environmental/climate, socio-economic, infrastructure, ...)
- Online data services & cloud services
- Real-time monitoring/analysis (e.g. nowcasting, forecasting – weather, flows/levels, flood, drought)
- Climate risk management (variability, change)
- E-packaging (dashboards, interactive documentation, eBulletins,...)
- Investment and Resource Planning and operational coordination decision support systems (DSS)

Institutions

- Innovative capacity development (e.g. tech awareness/skills, elearning)
- Basin/sub-basin organization collaboration platforms
- Partnerships/ outreach (internships, diaspora, hackathons, private sector services)
- Access and contribution to global good practice

Investments

- In-situ monitoring
- Modern Institutional Infrastructure (e.g. for basin/sub-basin coordination)
- Shared innovative water systems infrastructure design, planning, financing, implementation
- Coordinated water infrastructure filling/ operating

Information & Analysis Trends

What's In?

What's Out?

Are we part of the problem? Can we be part of the solution?

What's

What

Paper Records/Publication

Inadequate and Inaccessible Data

"Retail" info systems & modeling

Reliance on Websites and Pdfs

"Have you registered first?"

"Tell me why you need the data"

Online interoperable OGC data service formats/ Open APIs

Free and subscription services

"Wholesale" Cloud Analytics

Separate data services and consumption platforms (e.g. dashboards, Interactive documentation)







Community Monitoring







	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total	
Staff	3132	11812	12409	6522	33875	
Furbidity	3131	12069	12469	6624	34293	
Rain	3116	>12777	>15000	>15000	>47000	
low					>500	
Sed samples	1425	4176	3139	1216	9956	

Sediment Concentration Analyses







Secchi Jug for turbidity







HydroInformatics eBook

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S HydroInformatics eBook

"Disrupting" HydroInformatics An Interactive E-book



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Remotely Sensed Lake Products

Source: GEO Aquawatch/WB













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Precipitation



Land Cover

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🔯 Earth Map

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Earth Map: <u>https://earthmap.org/</u>

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Article Open Access Published: 01 March 2023

Sub-continental-scale carbon stocks of individual trees in African drylands

Compton Tucker ☑, Martin Brandt ☑, Pierre Hiernaux ☑, Ankit Kariryaa, Kjeld Rasmussen, Jennifer Small, Christian Igel, Florian Reiner, Katherine Melocik, Jesse Meyer, Scott Sinno, Eric Romero, Erin Glennie, Yasmin Fitts, August Morin, Jorge Pinzon, Devin McClain, Paul Morin, Claire Porter, Shane Loeffler, Laurent Kergoat, Bil-Assanou Issoufou, Patrice Savadogo, Jean-Pierre Wigneron, ... Rasmus Fensholt + Show authors

Nature 615, 80-86 (2023) Cite this article

23k Accesses | 2 Citations | 371 Altmetric | Metrics

Abstract

The distribution of dryland trees and their density, cover, size, mass and carbon content are not well known at sub-continental to continental scales <u>12.34.56.78.910.11.12.13.14</u>. This information is important for ecological protection, carbon accounting, climate mitigation and restoration efforts of dryland ecosystems <u>15.16.17.18</u>. We assessed more than 9.9 billion trees derived from more than 300 000 satellite images covering semi-arid sub-Saharan Africa

Download PDF ↓ **Associated Content** Carbon stocks of billions of individual African dryland trees estimated Jules Bayala & Meine van Noordwijk Nature News & Views 01 Mar 2023 Sections Figures References Abstract Main Carbon stocks at the tree level Current carbon map and model comparisons Application at the tree level Discussion Methods



GADAS: <u>https://geo.fas.usda.gov/GADAS</u>





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Google Earth Engine Data Catalog





















Data/Analytics Platforms



Al/Machine Learning



AI-Enabled Text and Data Mining of documents, news & social media



AI-Enabled Chatbots Natural Language Processing



Machine-Learning Image Classification – e.g. from Earth Observation, Photos, ... CNN, ANN, Deep Learning...

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nai.com/chat/bb75d780-8e77-46c6-9123-2071e55b866c		☆	*		N	:
NDVI values (indicating high vegetation), and yellow representing moderate NDVI values.						
ப் google earth engine script to estimate NDVI in Gezira using Sentinel						
Here's a sample script in JavaScript to estimate Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) in Gezira using Sentinel-2 satellite imagery in Google Earth Engine:						
// Load Sentinel-2 imagery						
Stop generating					¥	
ChatGPT Feb 13 Version. Free Research Preview. Our goal is to make AI systems more natural and safe to interact with. Your feedback will	help	us imp	orove.			

Scalable Platforms to Incentivize Services for a Healthier Planet

New *Global* Investment Platforms (e.g. Apps with automated/simplified MRV and flexible financing sources and digital payments) to incentivize *Local* action on:

- Climate (e.g. for Mitigation and Adaptation) e.g. for Low C Rice, Soil C Sequestration, agroforestry, Blue Carbon, Insurance
- **Ecosystems** (e.g. PES for biodiversity protection, sustainable soil and water management)









Customized Interactive Dashboards Example for Check Dam Operation

Decisions to be Supported: When to release? How much to release?







Climate

- Rainfall in upstream watershed (GPM, in-situ gauges/radar, CHIRPS, ...) – current & historical
- Weather forecasts (short-term, seasonal); Storm tracks
- Snowmelt estimates (if relevant)...

Downstream

- Irrigation status (crops, crop stage from earth observation and in-situ)
- Soil and sub-surface soil moisture, groundwater (from earth observation and in-situ)...
- Hi-resolution Satellite data
- Crowdsourced data

System Levels

Current and historical levels of this dam's reservoir as well as other storages in system (e.g. from satellite, in-situ gauges)...



Other Data & Analytics

Flows

in-situ observations, satellite

Dam inflow forecasts (e.g. from

GEOGLOWS Global Streamflow

Forecasting, local forecasts)...

estimates where possible)

Current and historical flows (from

- Inundation forecasts
- Systems water infrastructure needs
- Systems model to explore implications of alternative dam operations



Critical to draw upon thousands of data and analytic services to develop customizable dashboards to provide the right information in the right formats to empower everyone to make their decisions more data-driven!



Modernizing Institutions





Professional Interactions

Learning from national and global good practices; Building Capacity



Forum, Expos, Training









Participatory Rural Appraisal





11

Improving Community Interactions











In Summary...

- There is a new world of emerging technologies that can "disrupt" the way transboundary waters are planned, developed, and managed
 - *Information:* More relevant hydroinformatics information and insights at everyone's fingertips (but can be made much better with more open in-situ data access in harmonized formats)
 - Institutions: Learn quickly from global good practices (enhanced collaboration, cross-learning, engaging with global expertise, and tapping into their own young talent can be transformational) – everyone can facilitate with open data services, open science, enabling policies/regulations/laws
 - *Investments:* Many opportunities to tap into innovative designs e.g. NBS, climate-smart investments, finance, and partnerships (but require open-minded leadership and meaningful collaboration)

Keep learning and disrupting!

Disrupt or Be Disrupted! Thanks!

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https://spatialagent.org/KIDS/ https://spatialagent.org/HydroInformaticsEbook/



Disruptive KIDS (Knowledge, Information & Data Services) Helpdesk