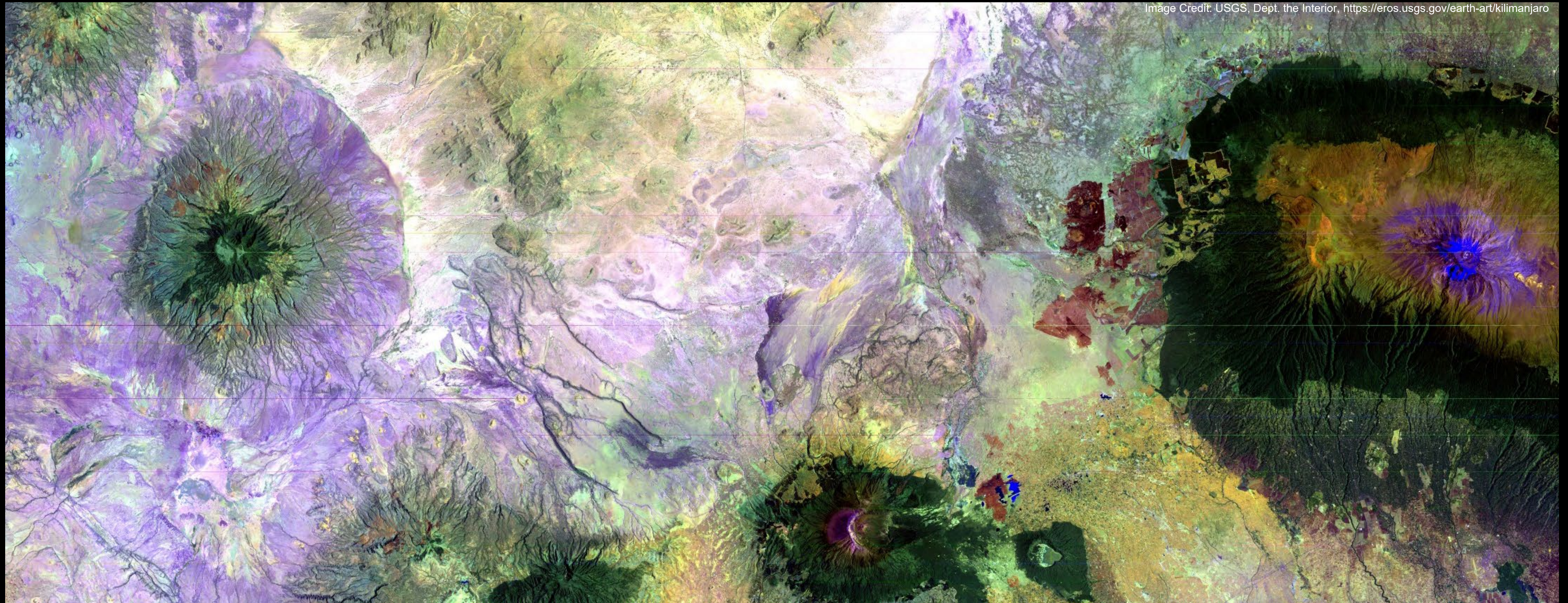


Designing applications to foster the health of terrestrial and wetland ecosystems in the coastal zone of West Africa



***Danielle Wood (MIT), David Lagomasino (ECU), Ufuoma Ovienmhada (MIT), Abigail Barenblitt (NASA), Amanda Payton (ECU),
Jack Reid (MIT), Seamus Lombardo (MIT), Eric Ashcroft (Blue Raster), Temilola Fatoyinbo-Agueh (NASA)***

1 NO POVERTY



2 NO HUNGER



3 GOOD HEALTH



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



7 RENEWABLE ENERGY



8 GOOD JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION



13 CLIMATE ACTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15 LIFE ON LAND



16 PEACE AND JUSTICE



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

1

• Earth Observation (EO) System Design and Implementation

2

• EO System Operation, Data Retrieval, Calibration & Validation

3

• EO Data Correction and Processing

4

• Earth Science Modeling and Assimilation of Earth Observations

5

• EO Data Discovery & Visualization: Providing interface to find and explore data

6

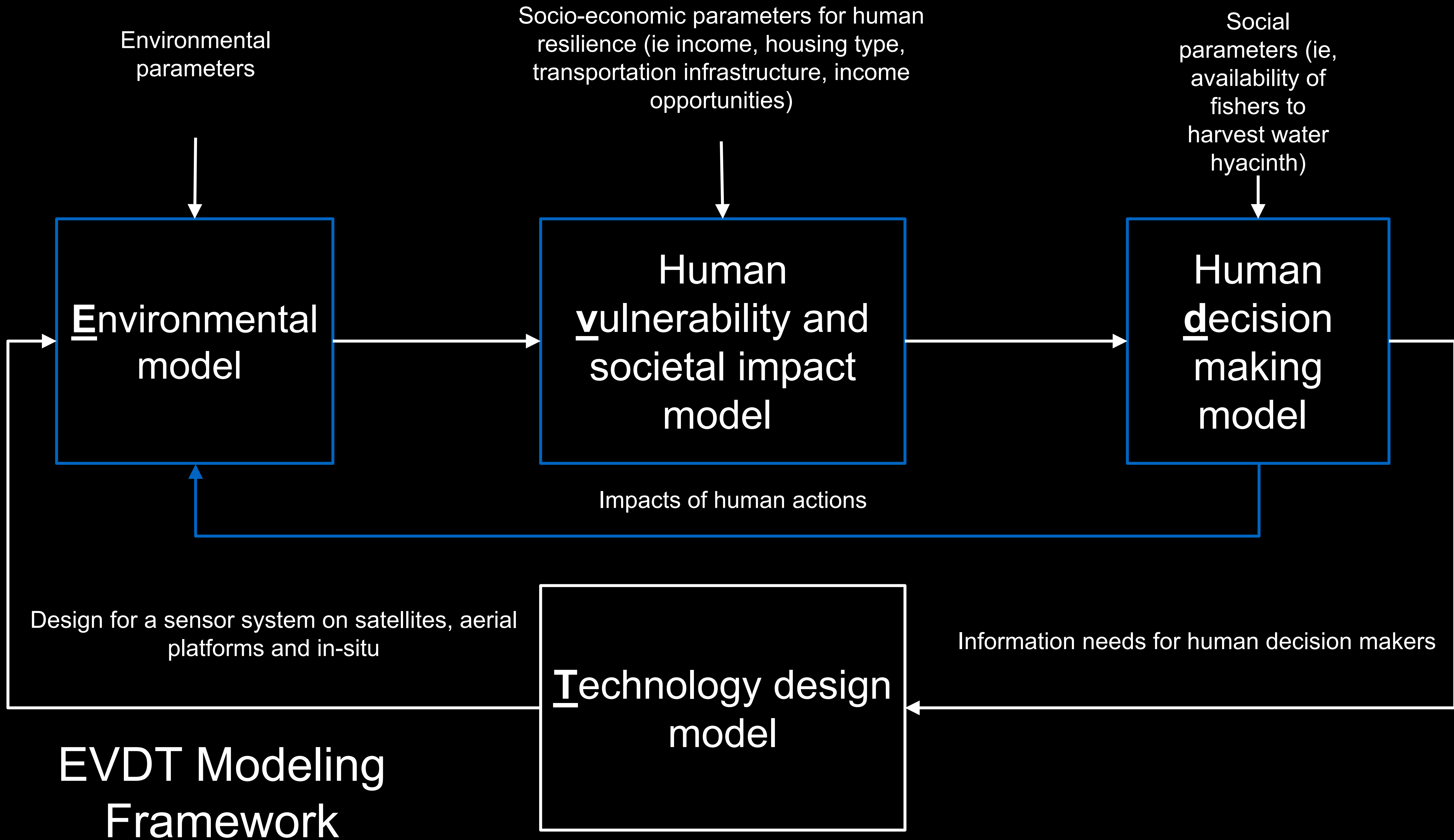
• EO Data Transformation: Creating data interface based on user needs

7

• Knowledge Integration: Combining physical, social, economic and other data

8

• Decision Support: Providing recommendations for action



System Functions: Actions taken to achieve system objectives;
System Forms: Approaches to pursuing Functions

1. Understand System Context

Context: environmental factors that influence a program by creating opportunities, imposing constraints or imposing uncertainty

6. Monitor and Evaluate Systems

2. Analyze System Stakeholders

5. Assign Functions to Forms

3. Understand Desired Outcomes & Objectives

Needs: Stakeholder problem or gap in desired state; **Outcomes:** End state that the Primary Stakeholder desires to attain; **Objective:** High level description of what program will do

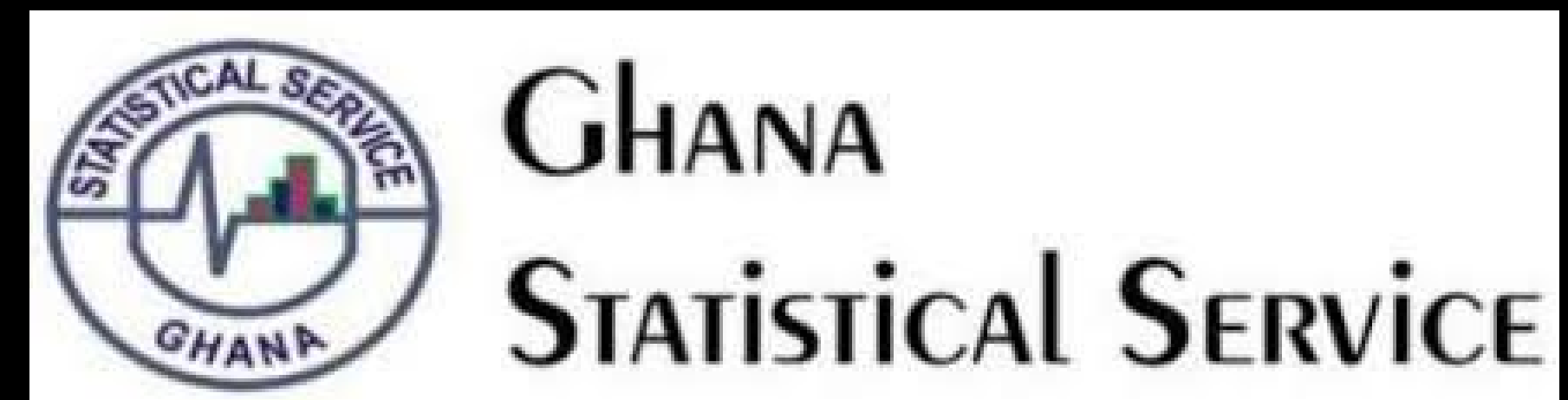
4. Select System Functions

Stakeholders are the people, groups and organizations that impact a system or that are impacted by a system

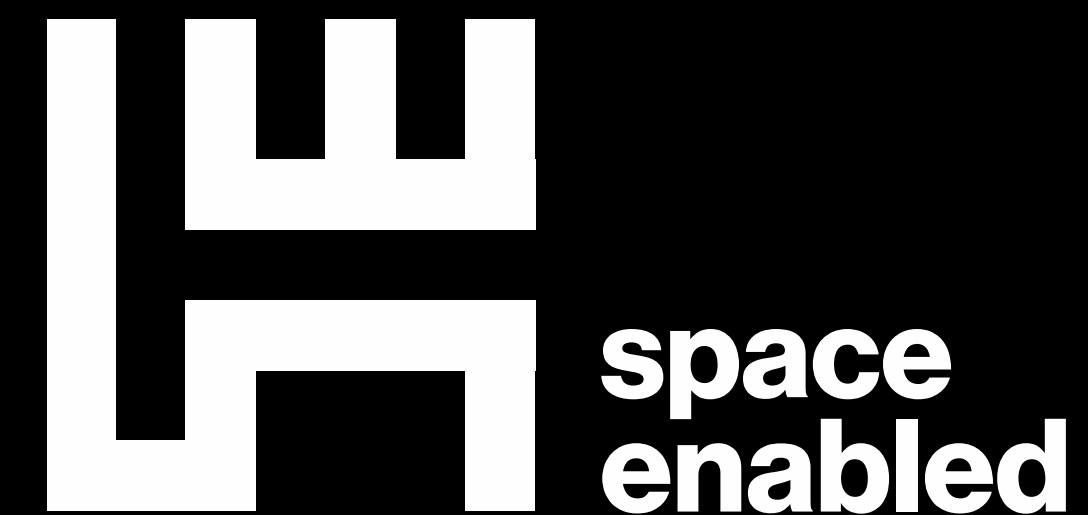
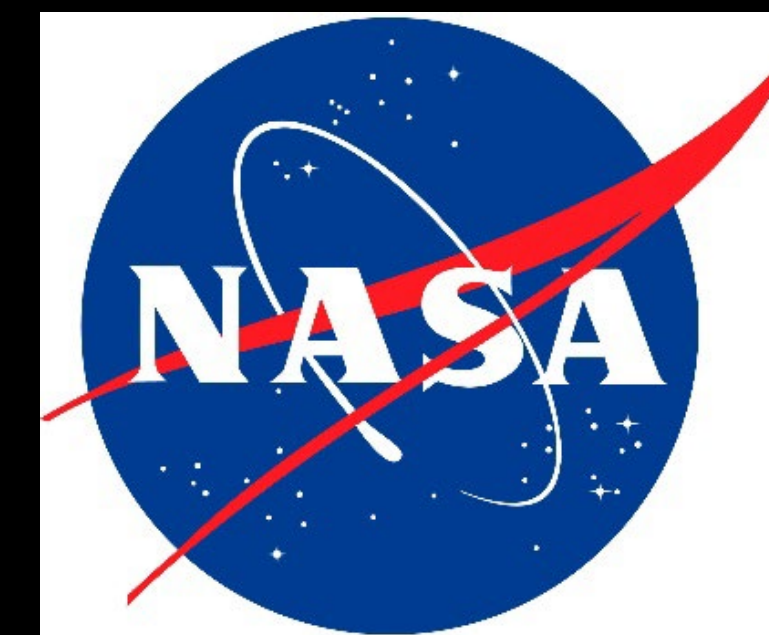
Analysis of deforestation due to mining in Southwestern Ghana



US Co-Investigators: Space Enabled Research Group @ MIT Media Lab, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, East Carolina University



West African Co-Investigators: Ghana Statistical Service, Ghana Space Science and Technology Institute

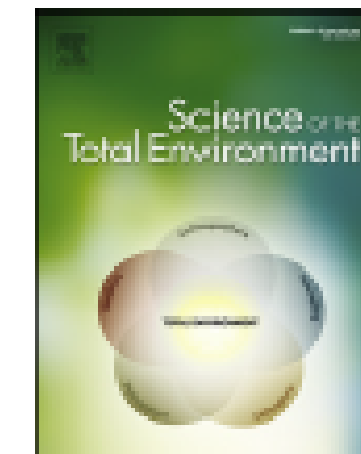




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The large footprint of small-scale artisanal gold mining in Ghana



Abigail Barenblitt^{a,c,*}, Amanda Payton^b, David Lagomasino^b, Lola Fatoyinbo^c, Kofi Asare^d, Kenneth Aidoo^d, Hugo Pigott^e, Charles Kofi Som^e, Laurent Smeets^e, Omar Seidu^e, Danielle Wood^f

^a Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, United States

^b Department of Coastal Studies, East Carolina University, Wanchese, NC, United States

^c Biospheric Sciences Laboratory, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD, United States

^d Ghana Space Science and Technology Institute, Accra, Ghana

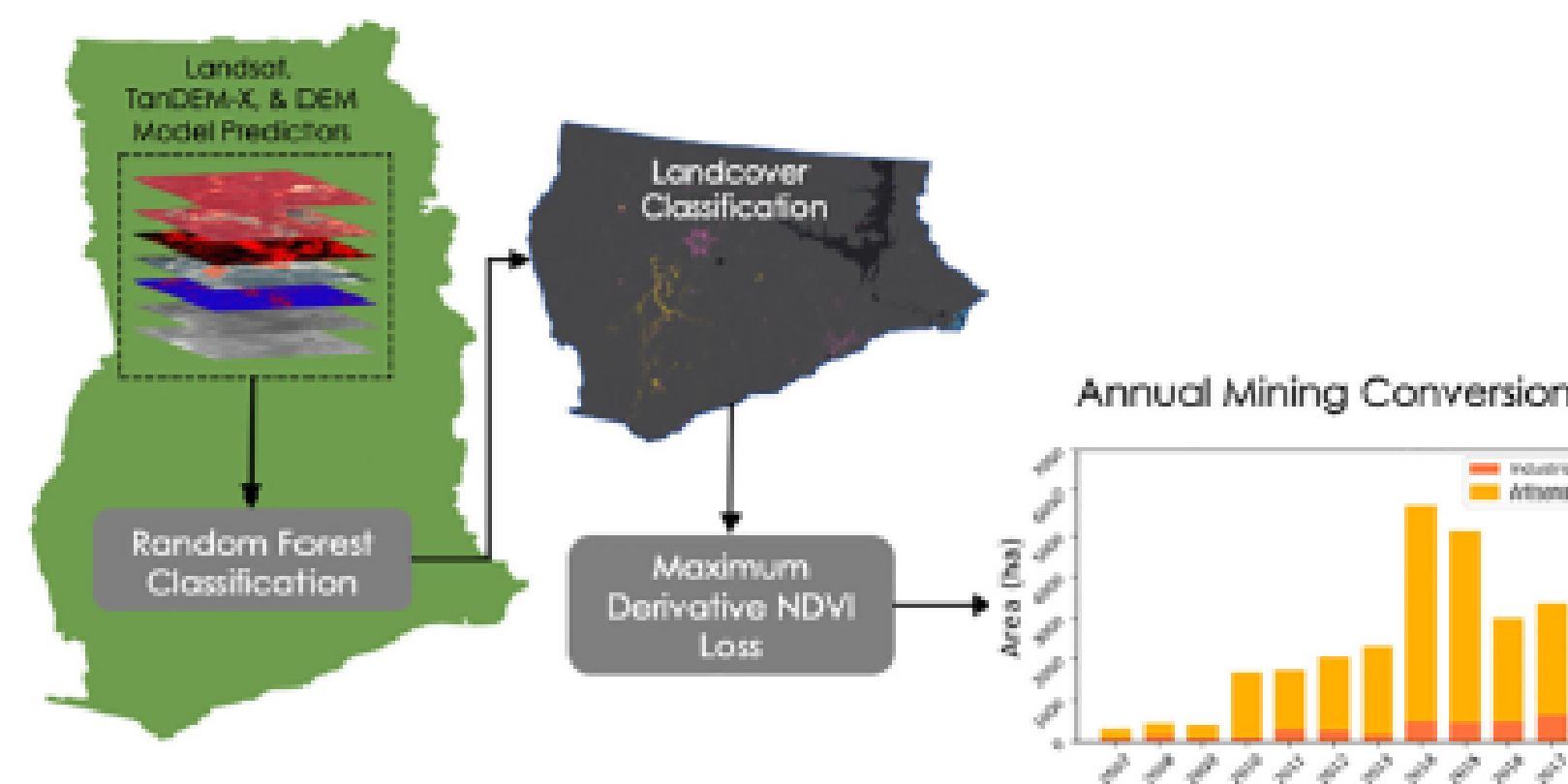
^e Ghana Statistical Service, Accra, Ghana

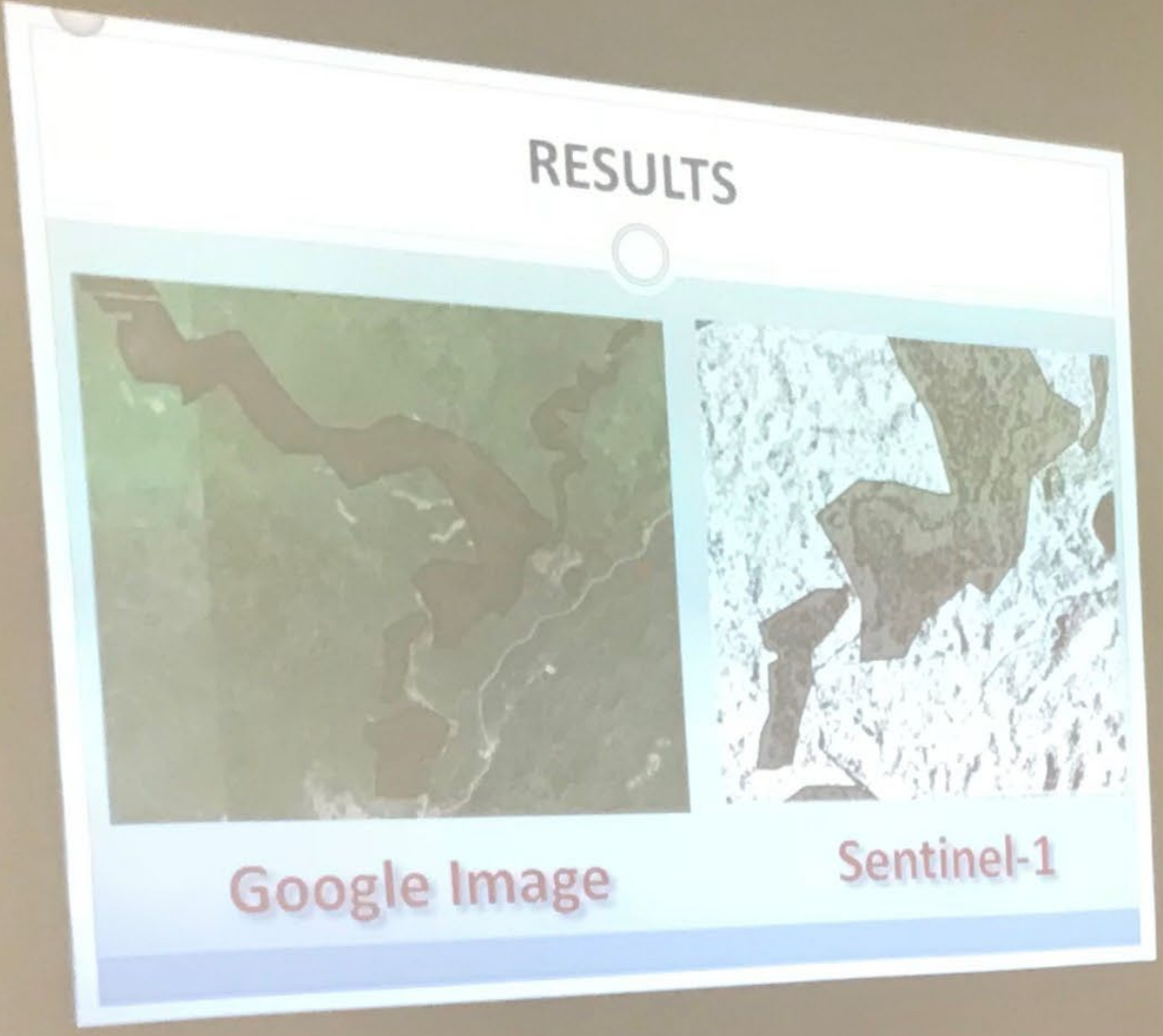
^f Space Enabled Research Group, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, United States

HIGHLIGHTS

- Land conversion in due to artisanal gold mining = that of urban expansion.
- New mining extent (2005 and 2019) was dominated by artisanal mining (~89%).
- Over 700 ha of artisanal mining was detected in protected areas.
- This mining is degrading and destroying forested ecosystems.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT





The Ghana Space
Science and
Technology Institute is
also a Co-Investigator
on the project funded
by NASA



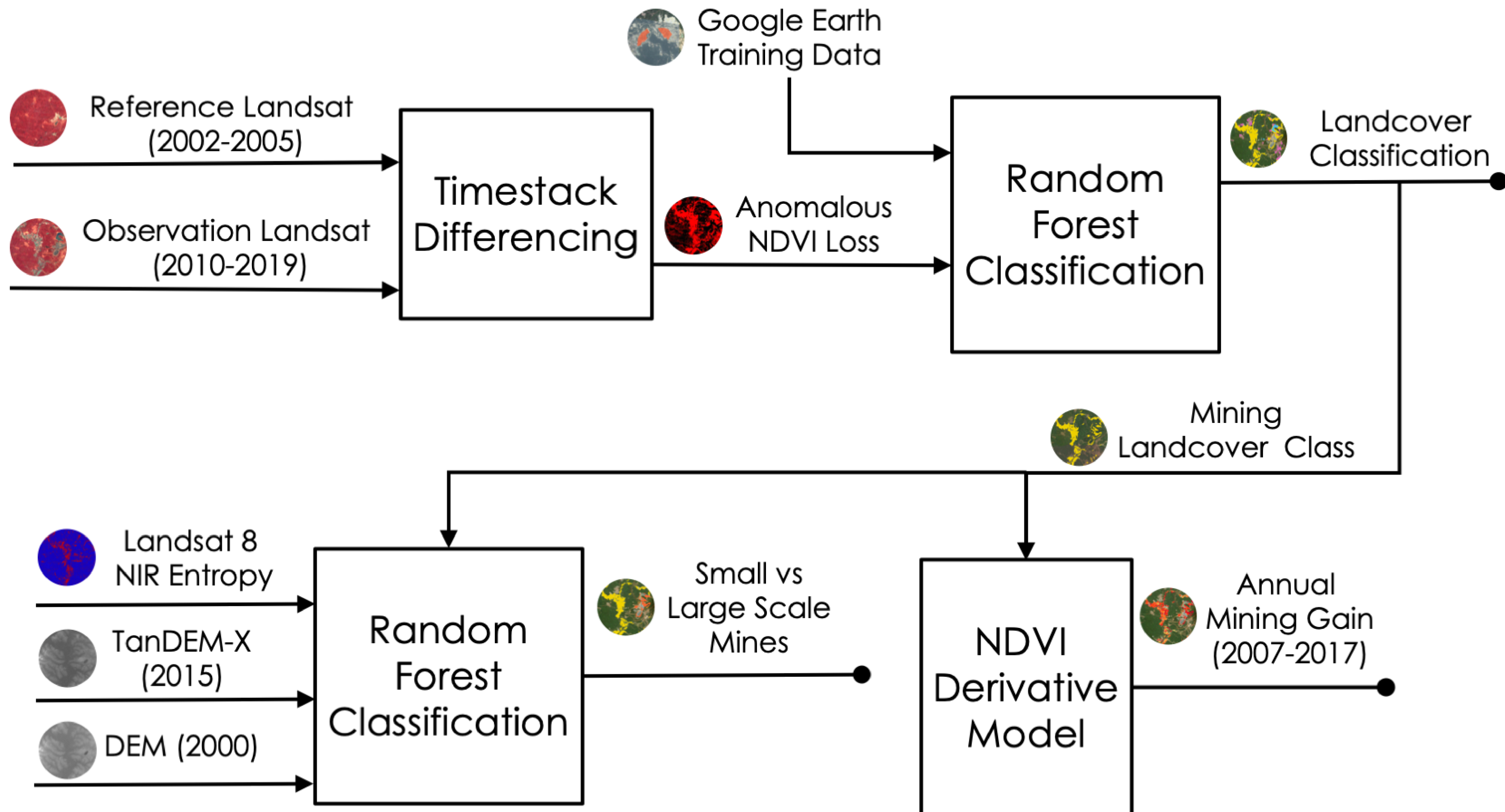
Gold Mining in Ghana

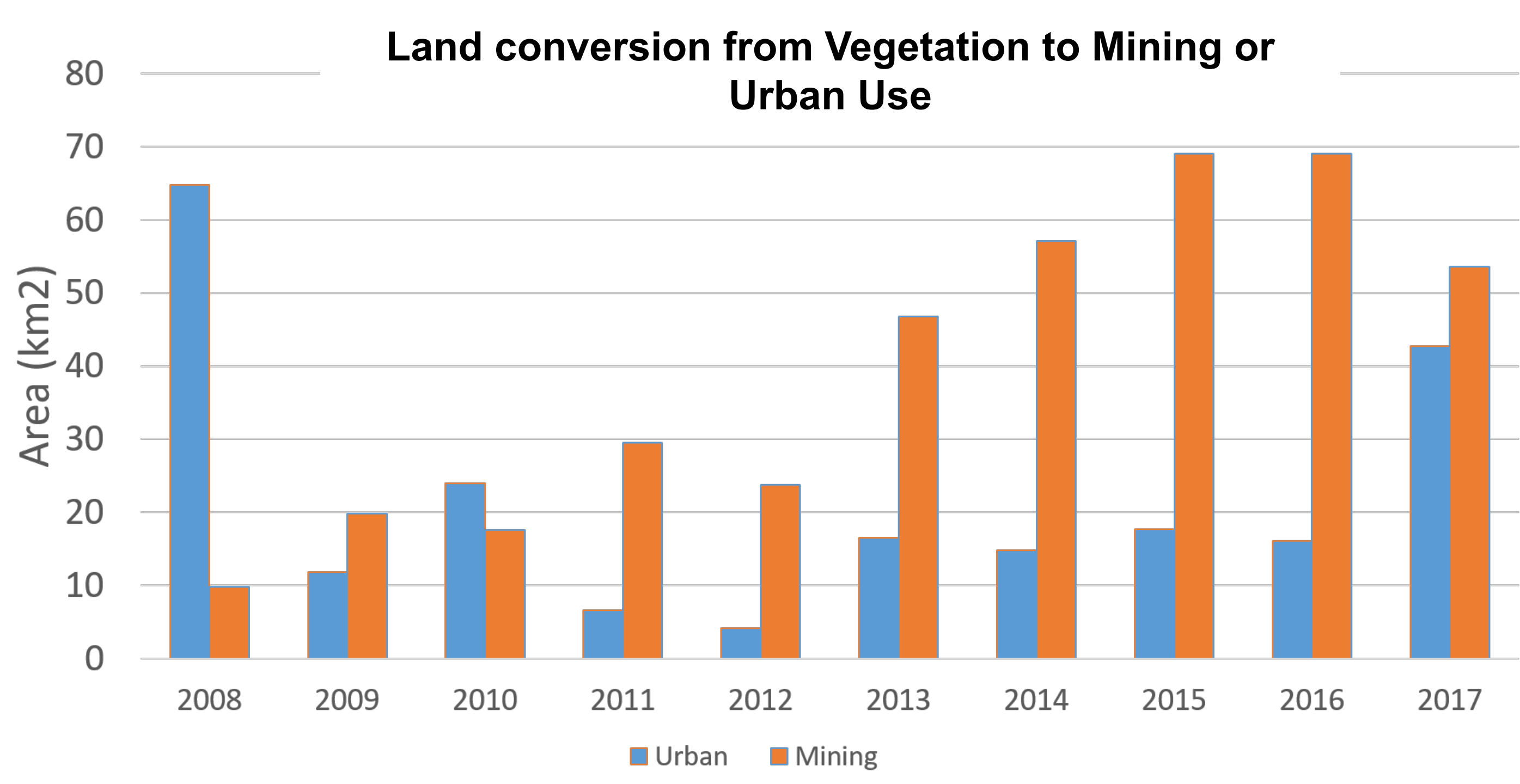
- + Ghana is the 7th Largest producer of gold worldwide
- + Artisanal Mining has increased from 5% of gold production in 1990 to 30% in 2012
- + Artisanal mining causes deforestation and produces Mercury pollution in the environment



Study Area: Analysis of deforestation due to mining in Southwestern Ghana



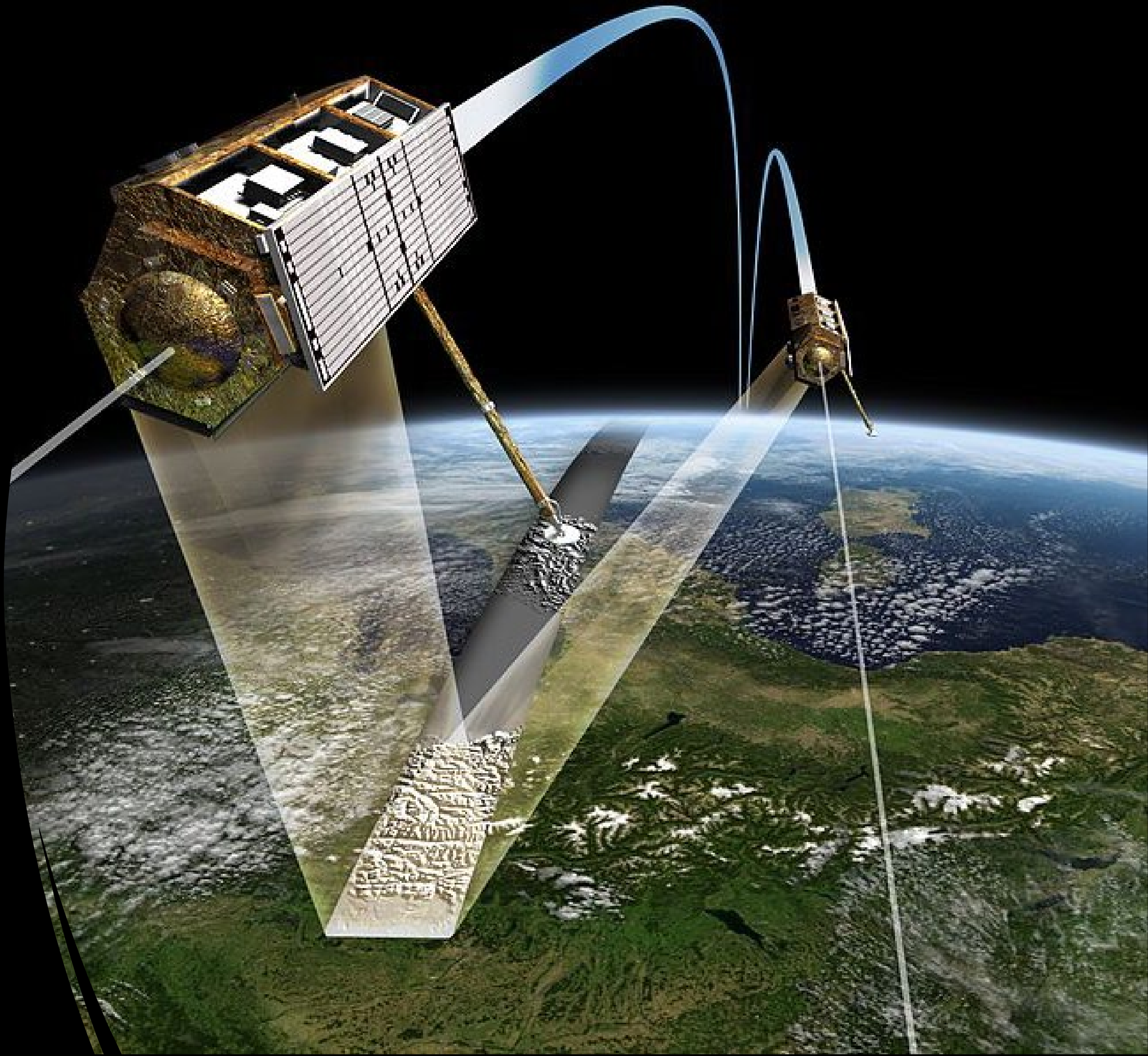


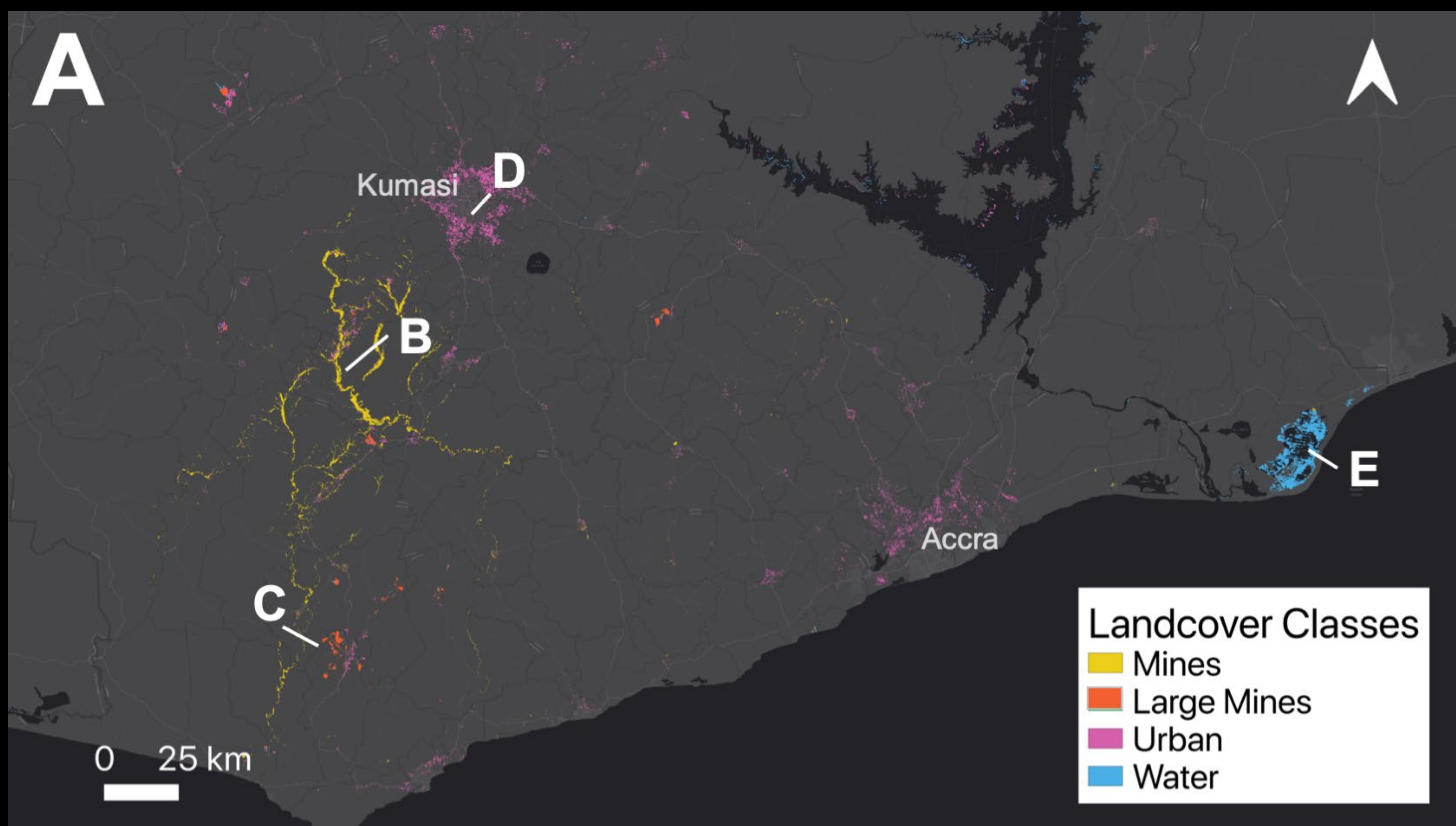


The analysis used Landsat 7 and 8 Imagery (Bands 4 to 7). The observational period was 2008-2017. Land was classified into four classes: Water, Urban, Mine and Vegetation

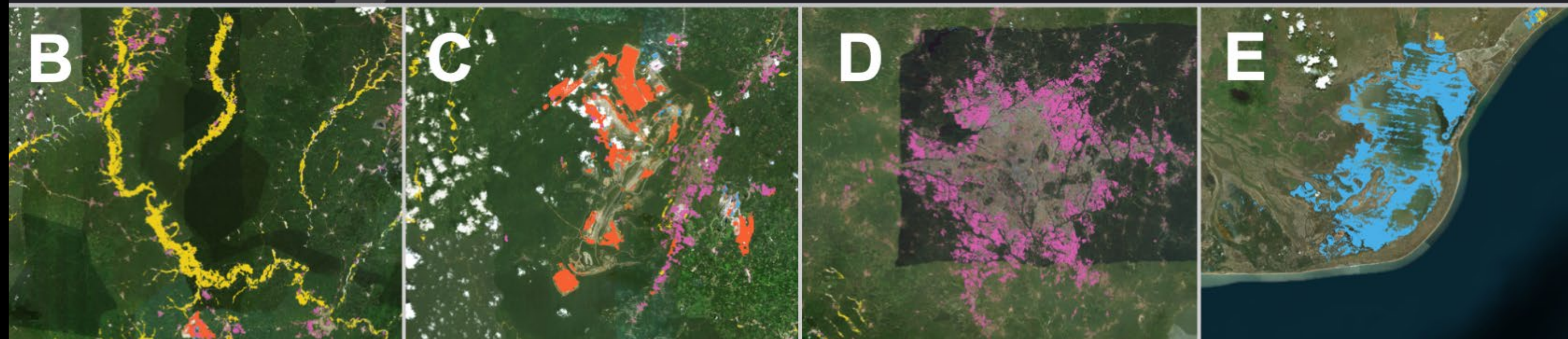
Categorizing Large Scale vs Small Scale Mines

- Used TanDEM-X, Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM), and Landsat 8 NIR
- Random Forest Classification cleaned in QGIS
- 0.01 km² threshold





Examples of land cover classes categorized through Random Forest Model



A

Kumasi

B

0 2 km

C

0 2 km

D

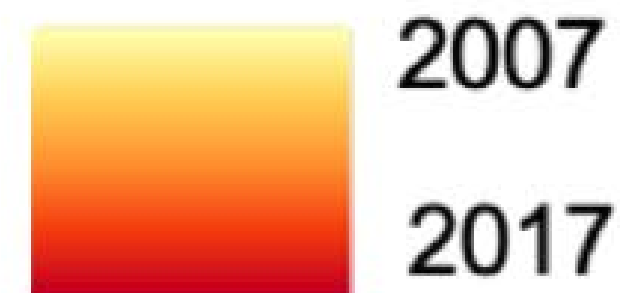
0 2 km

Accra

Loss of vegetation in Southwest Ghana

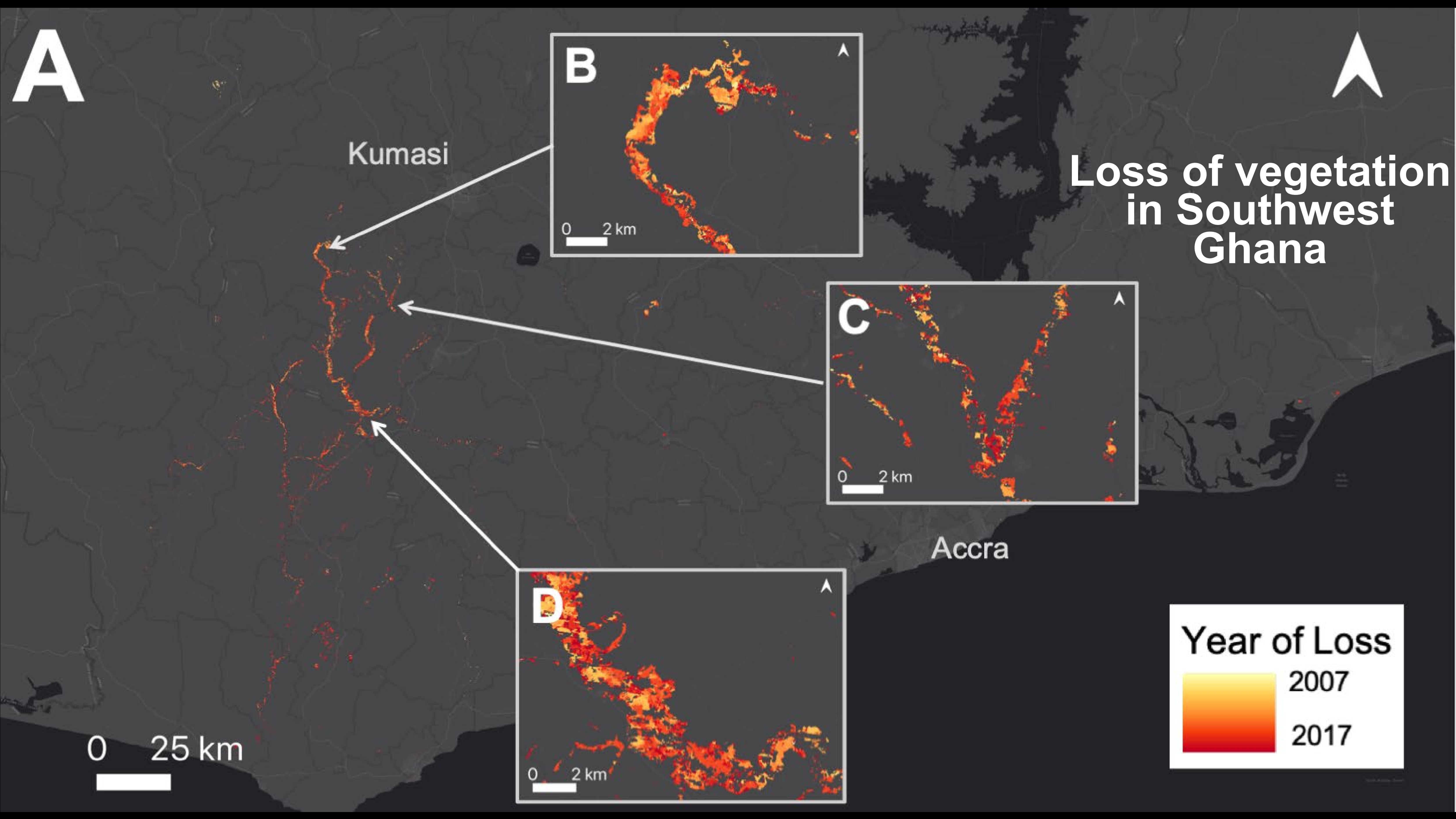
0 25 km

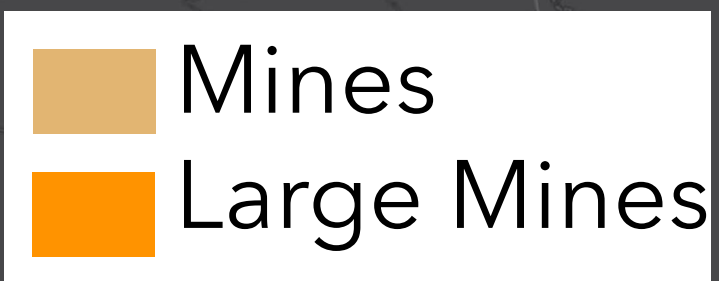
Year of Loss



2007

2017





Area converted from vegetation to mining between 2005 and 2019

- ~29,270 ha (86%) converted to artisanal mining
- ~5,018 ha (14%) converted to large mines



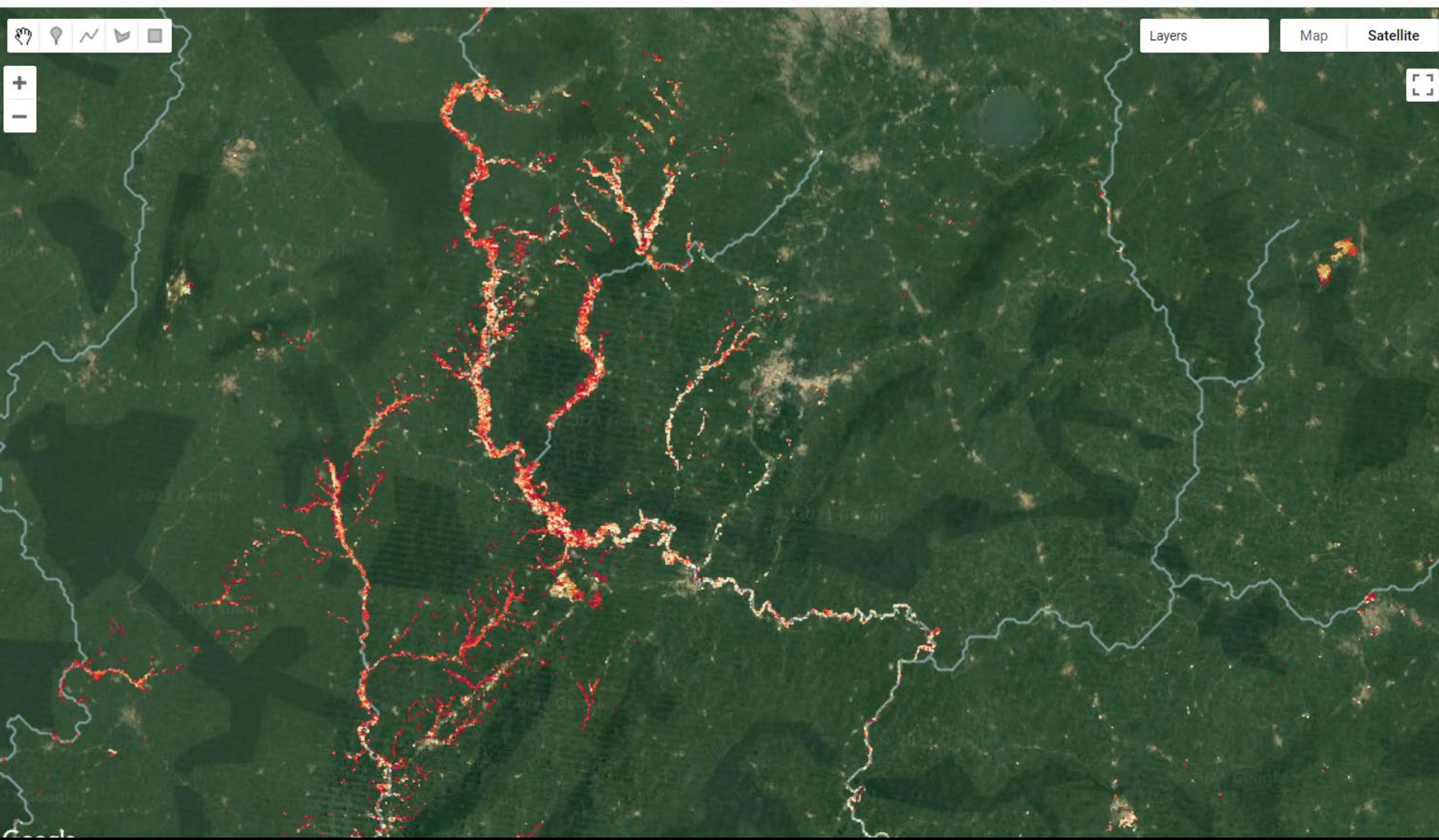
Key Findings

- Land conversion due to mining was almost equivalent to urban expansion
- New mining extent was dominated (~89%) by artisanal mining
- 700 ha of mining in Protected Areas
- Mining is destroying forest ecosystems and has potential human health risks due to co-location with rivers and mercury used
- Accuracy assessment was done using Google Earth Pro and Collect Earth showing 84% overall accuracy and 90% accuracy for the primary land use types

- Barenblitt, A., Payton, A., Lagomasino, D., Fatoyinbo, L., Asare, K., Aidoo, K., Pigott, H., Som, C. K., Smeets, L., Seidu, O., & Wood, D. (2021). The large footprint of small-scale artisanal gold mining in Ghana. *Science of The Total Environment*, 781, 146644.
- <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.146644>

<https://assets.bwbx.io/images/users/iqjWHBFdfx>

<IU/iCk5guosUGns/v2/1000x-1.jpg>



Layers Map Satellite

Layers panel on the map.

Select layers to display.



Mining Conversion Year
Slider control set to 2016.

Annual Mining Conversion

Total Mining Area

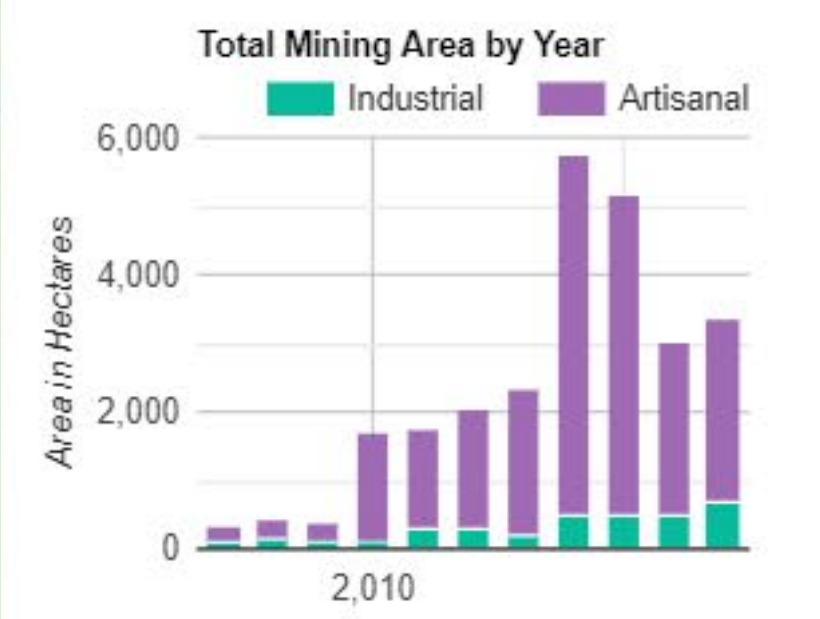
- Artisanal
- Industrial

World Database Protected Areas

Visit Example Locations

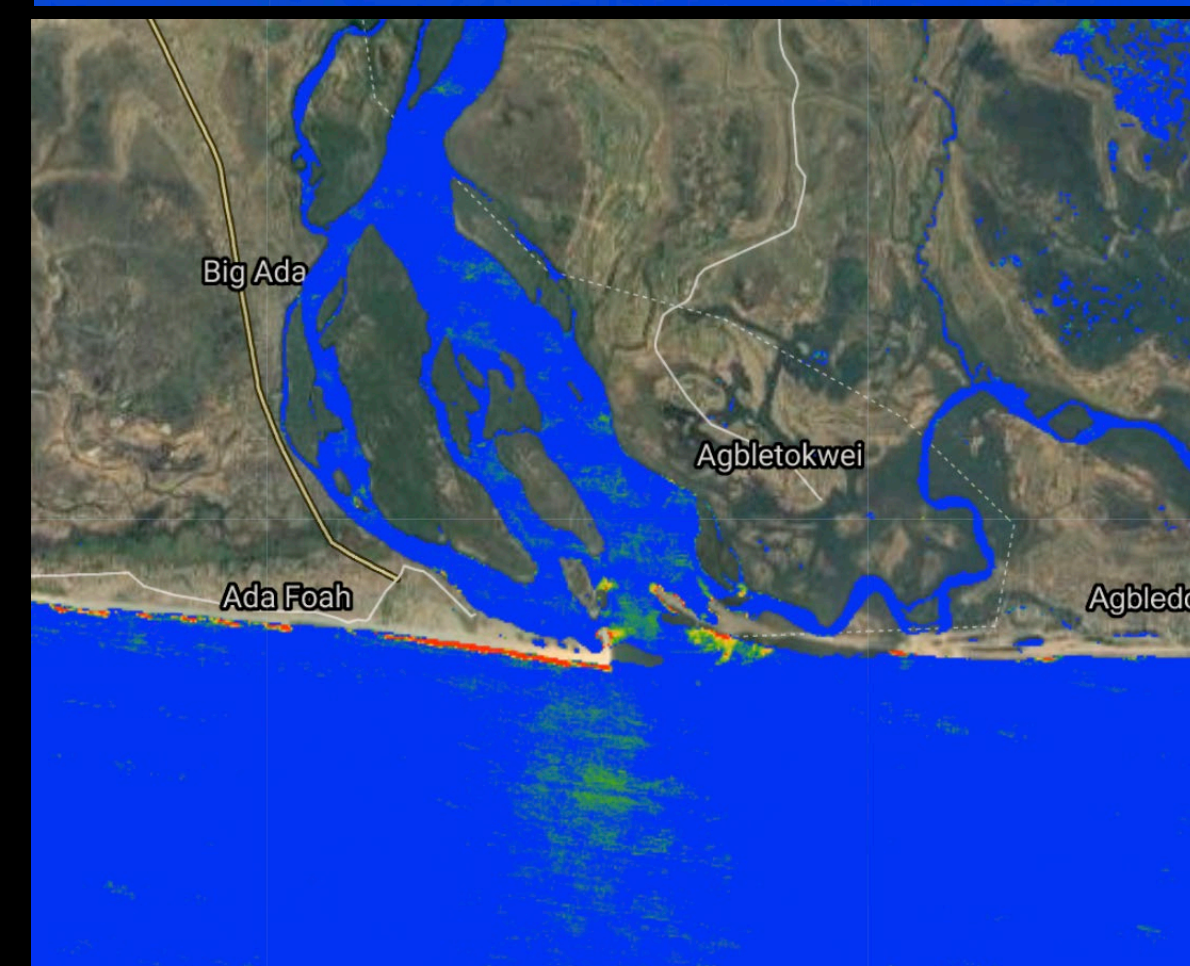
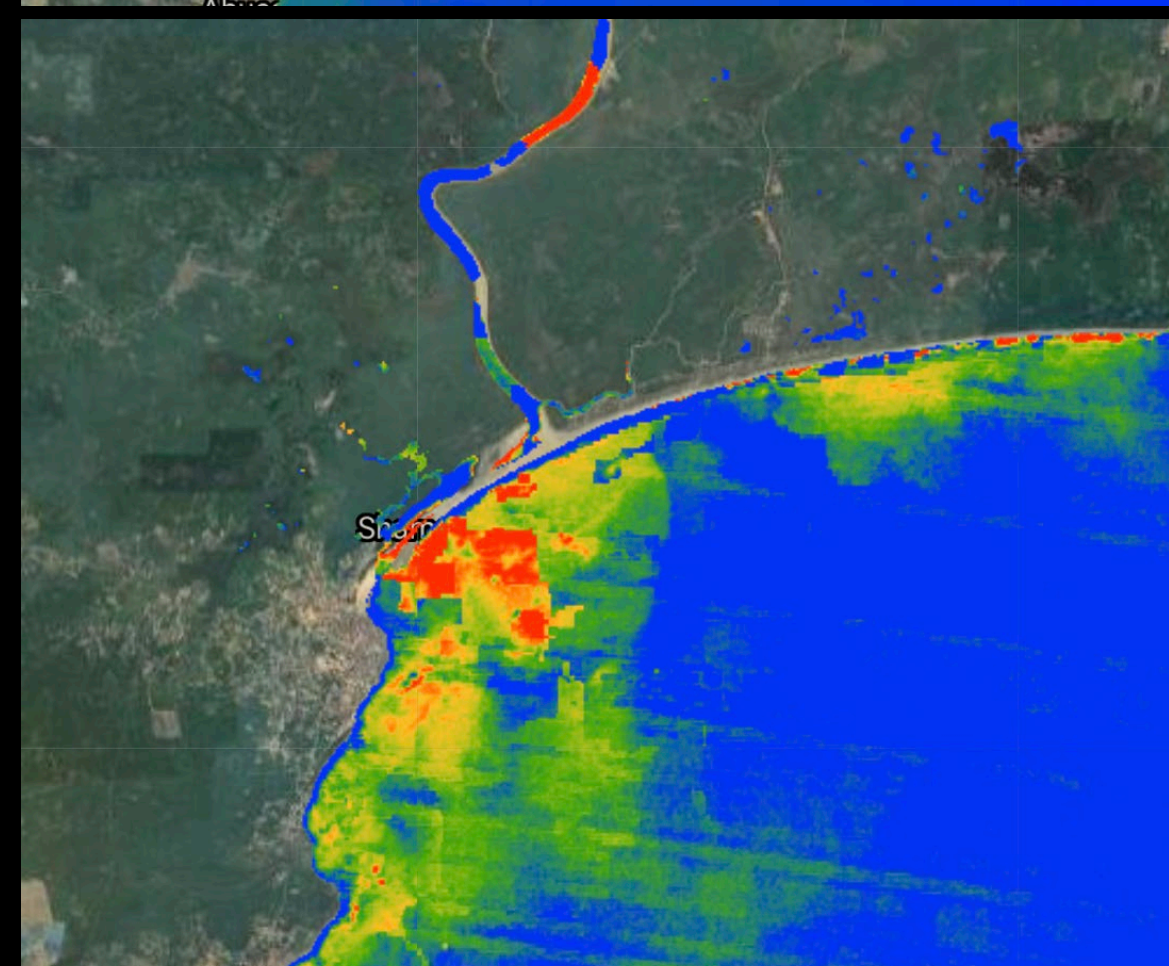
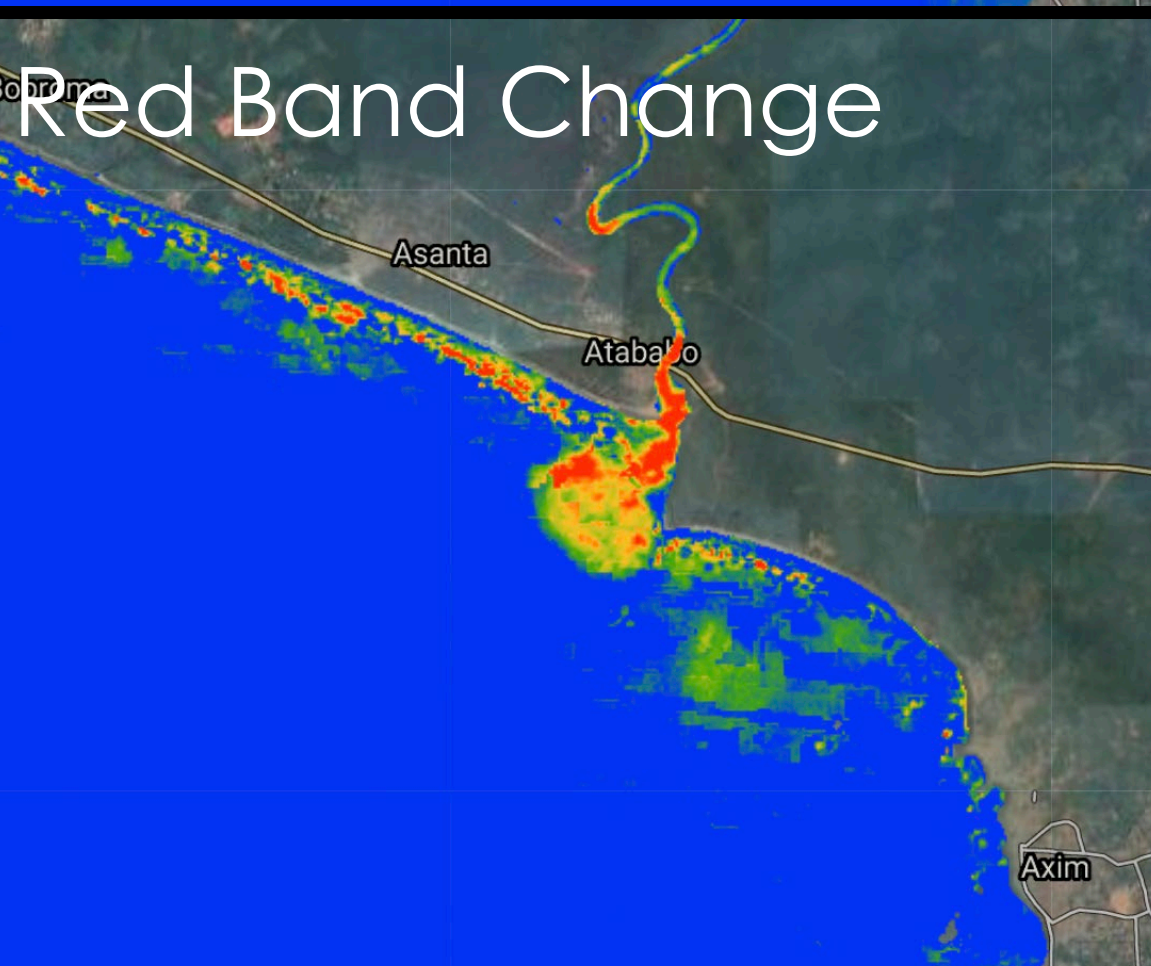
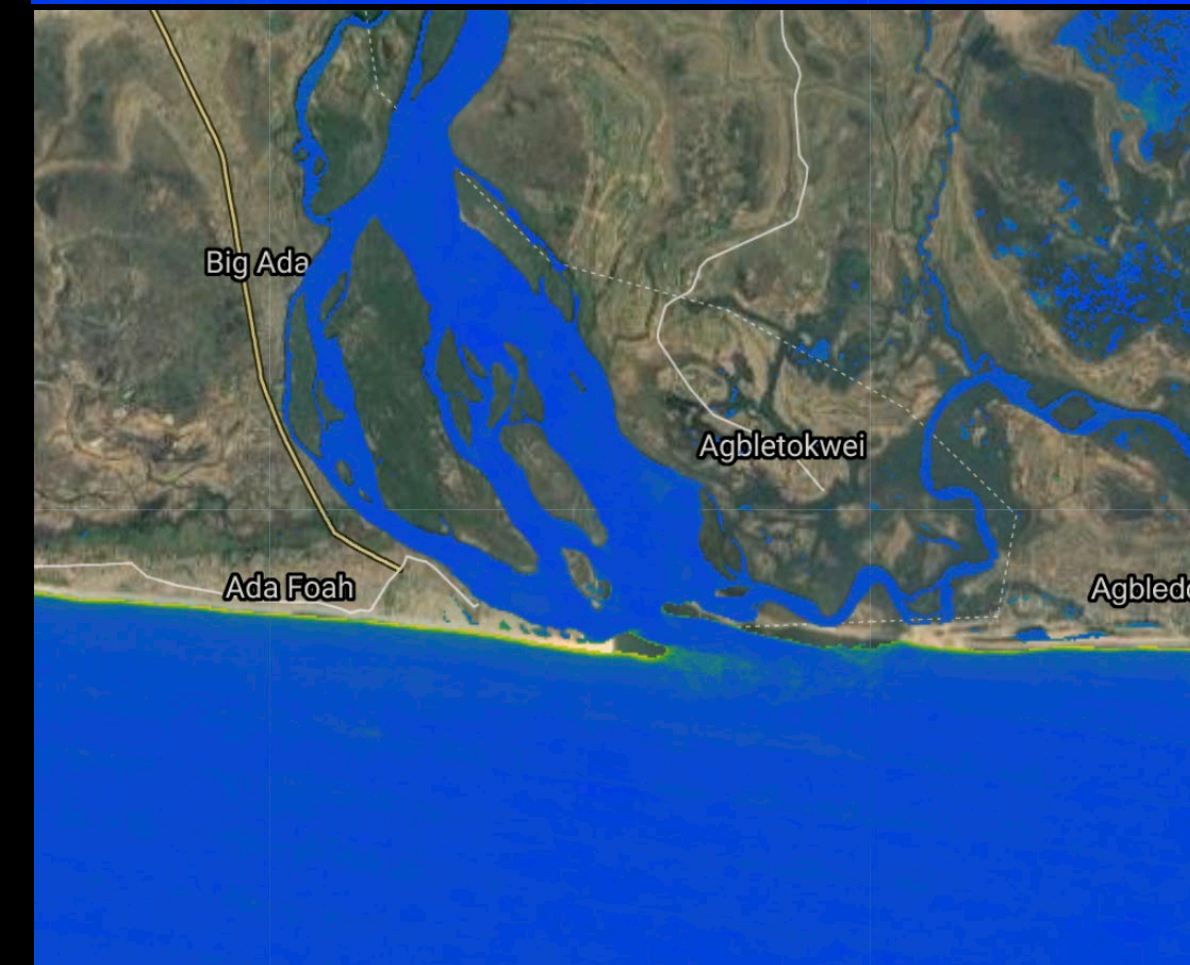
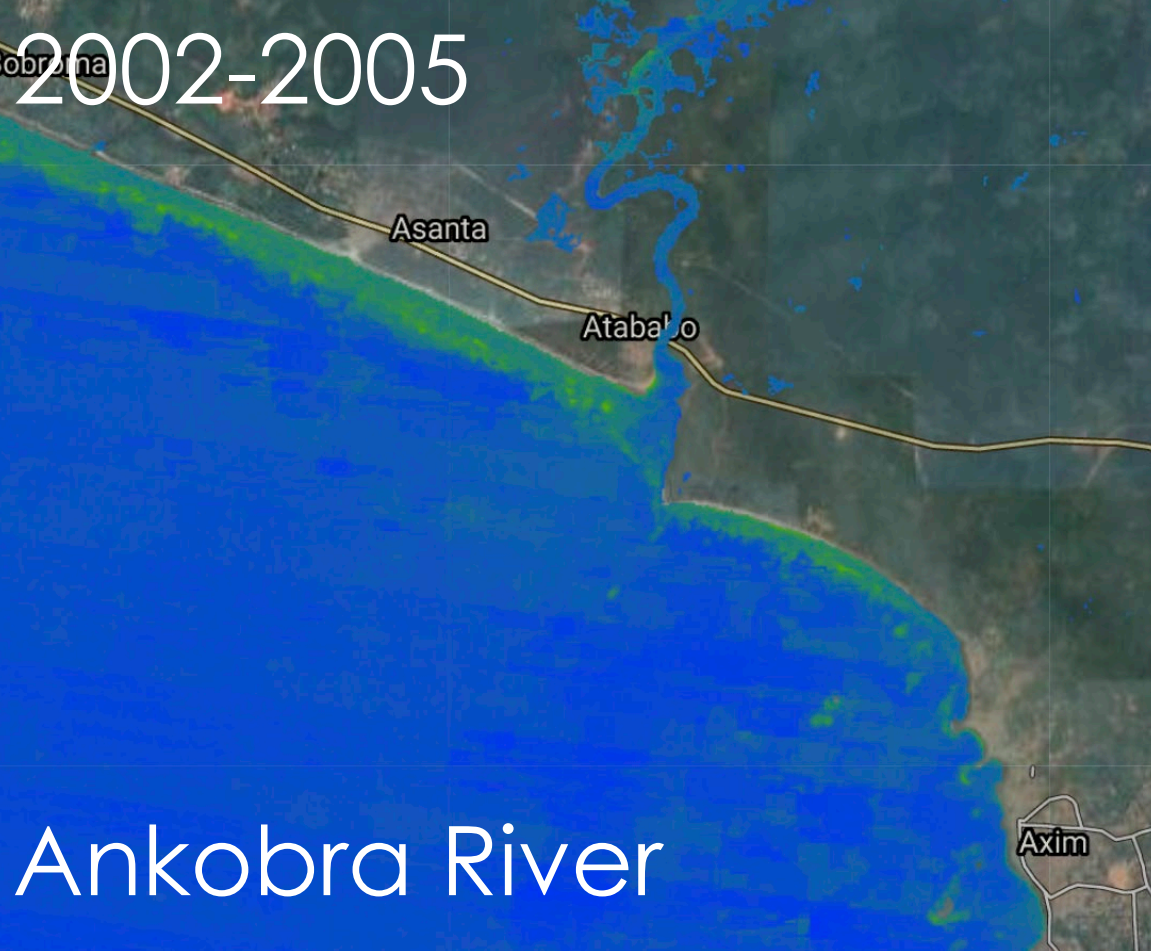
Select

Graphs of Results

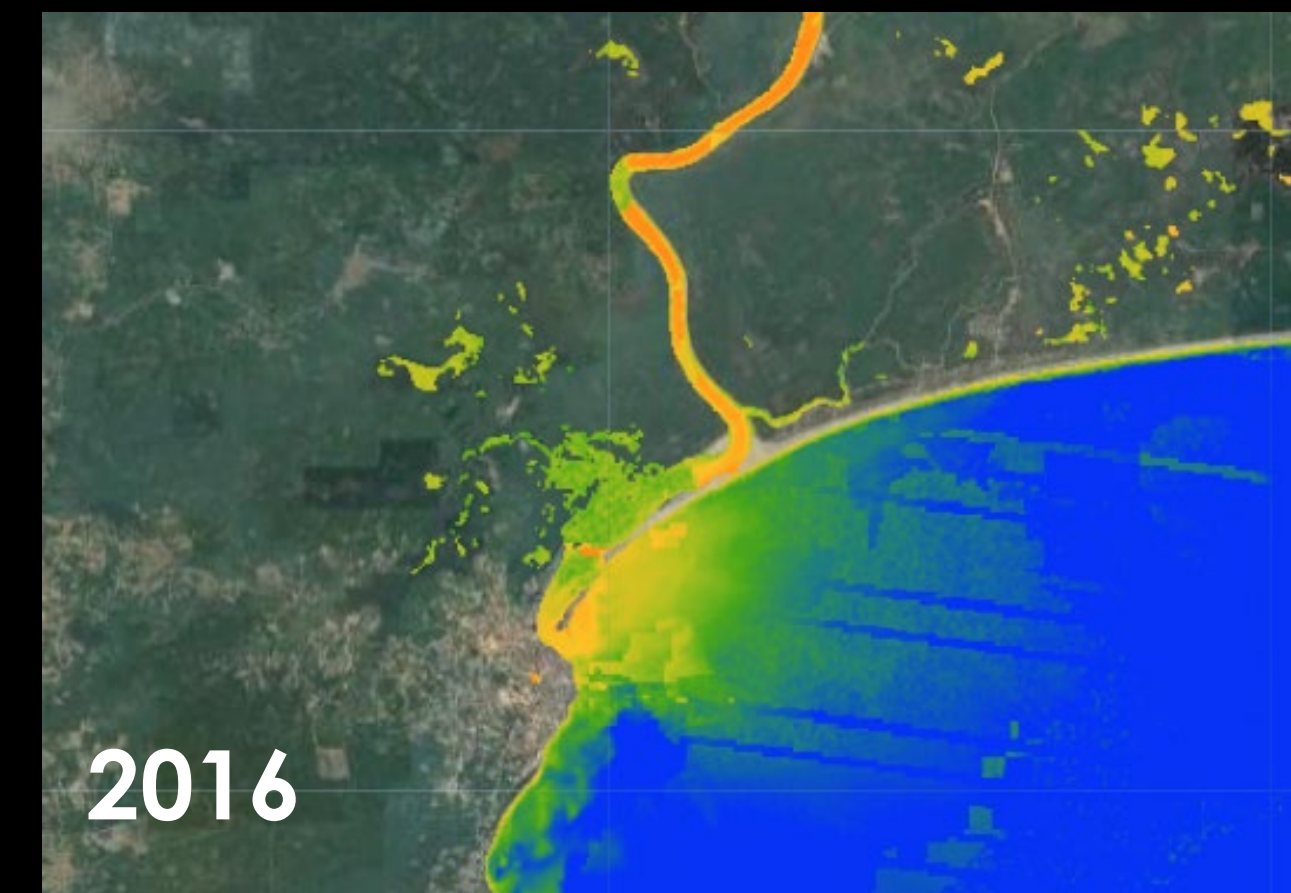
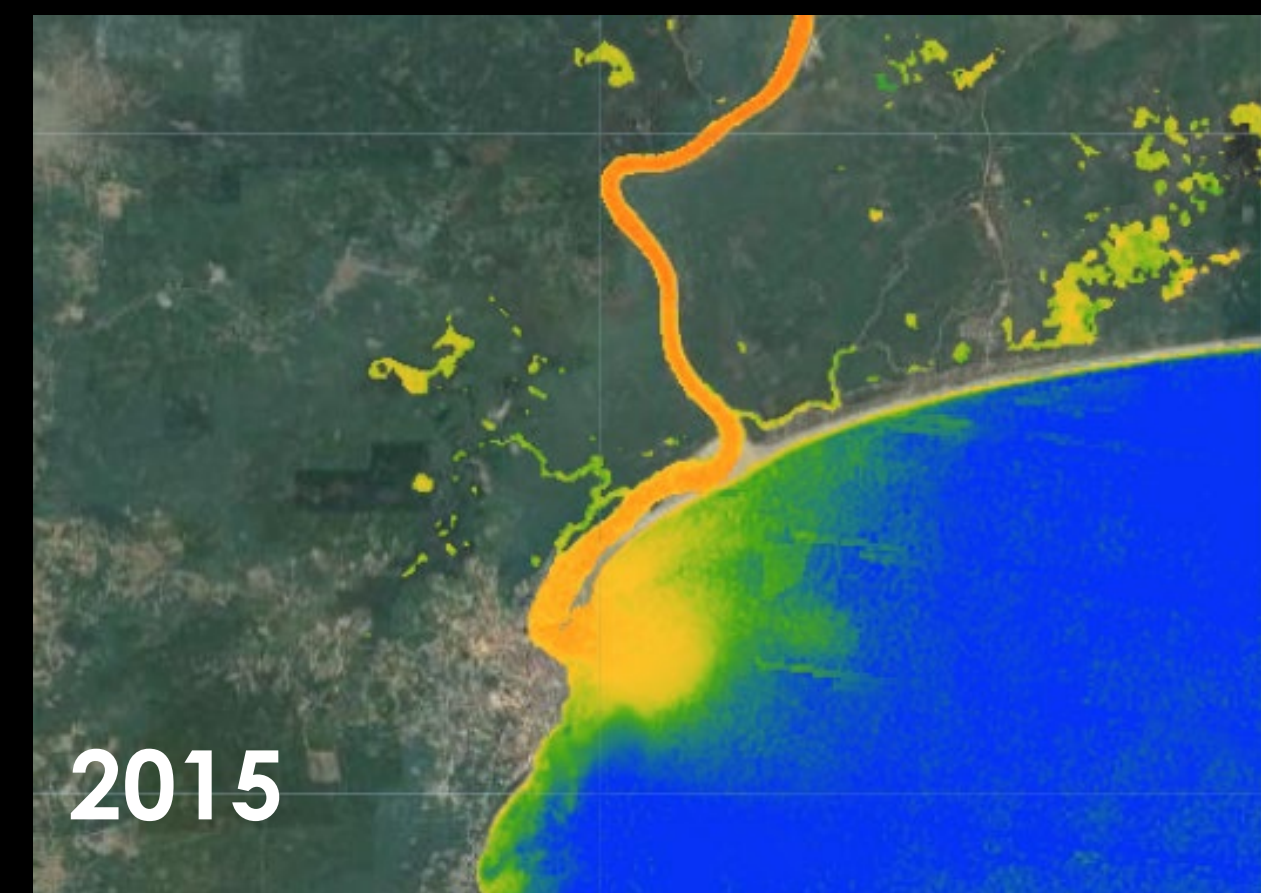
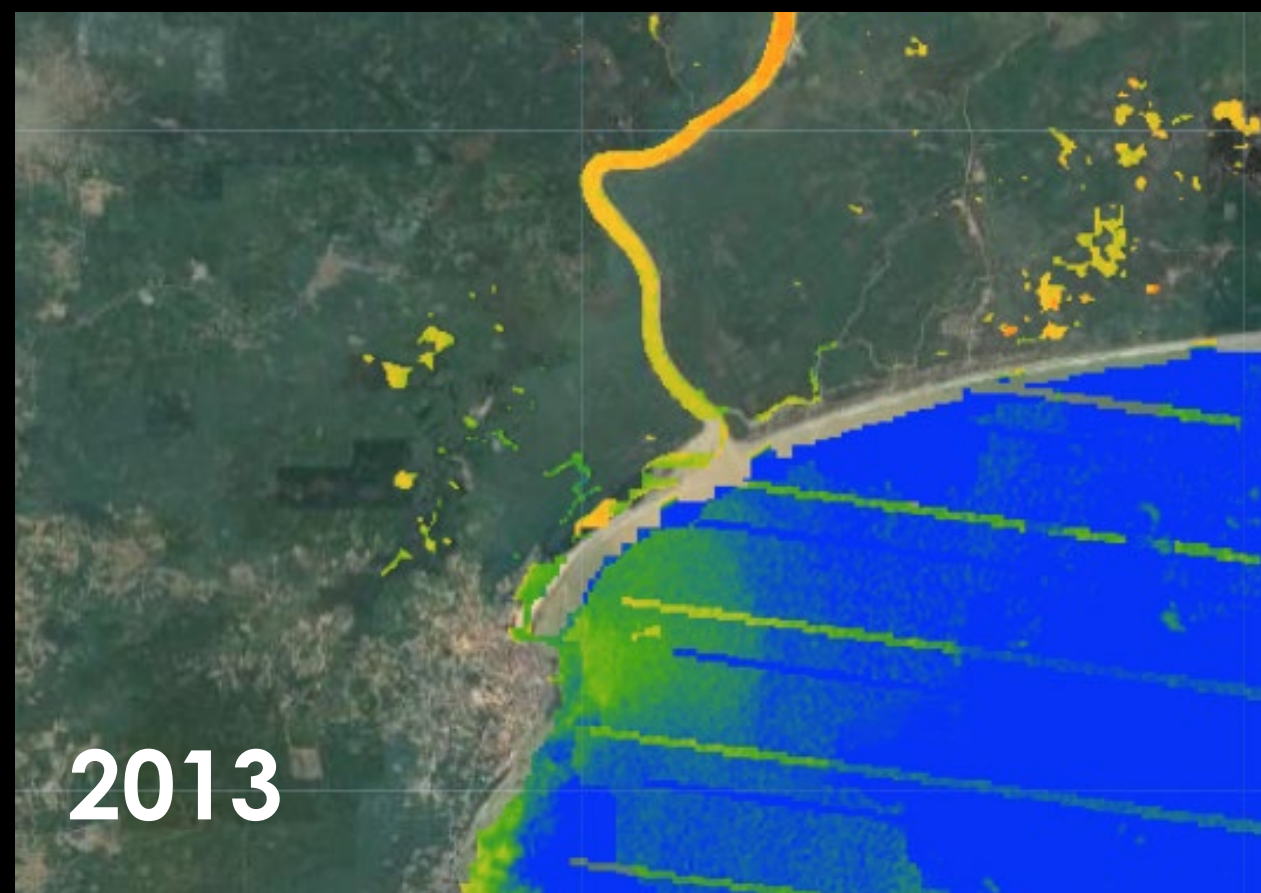
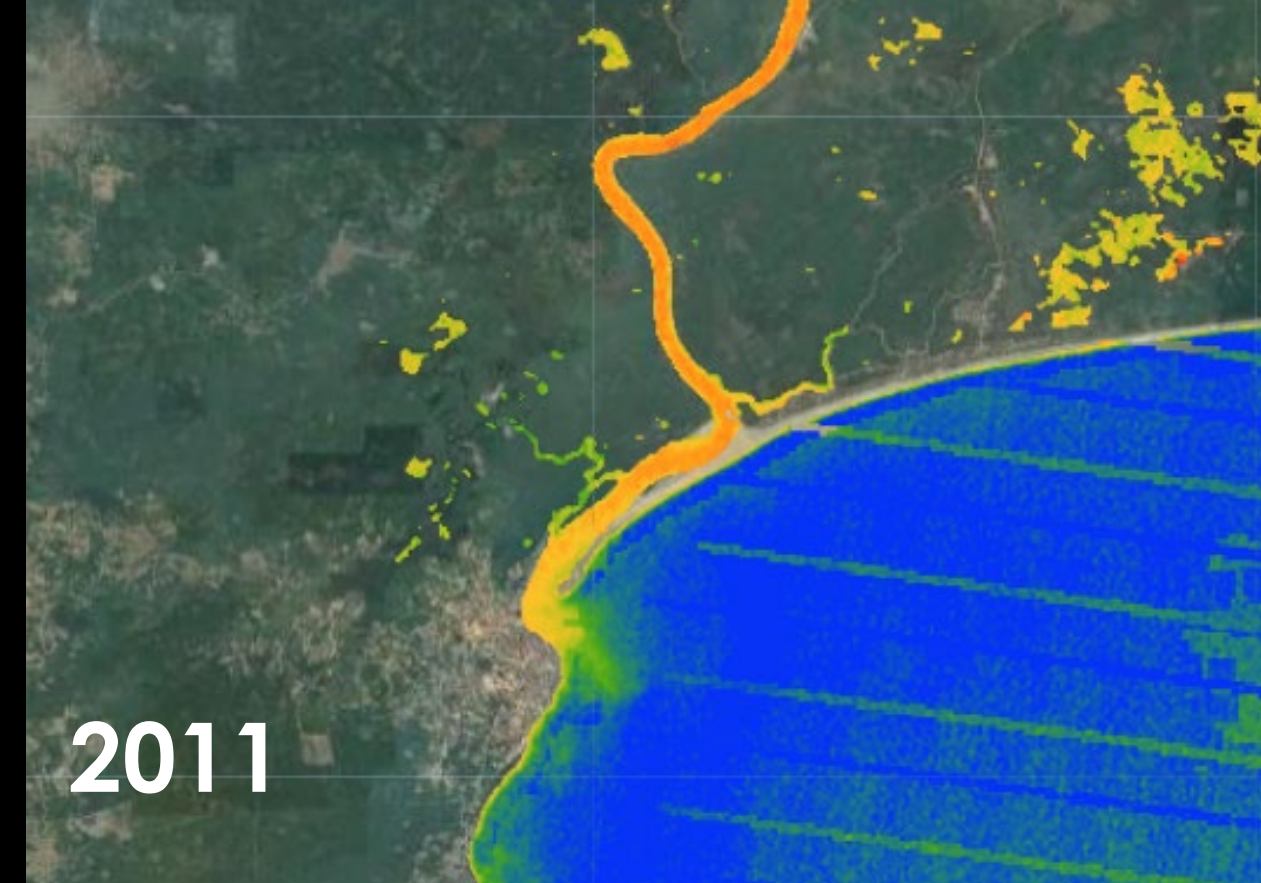
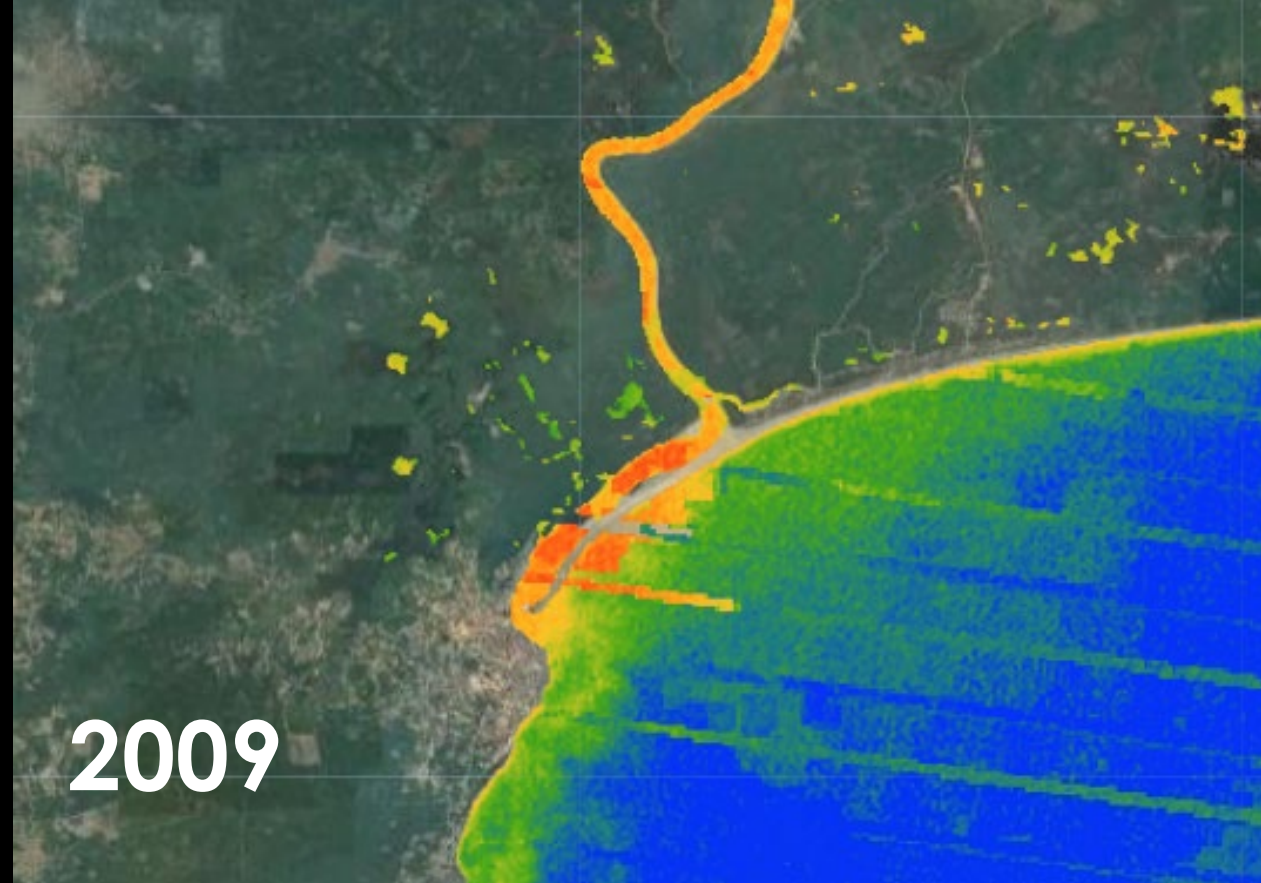


- + Mining activity is heavily associated with Pra and Ankobra River Basins, but not yet with Volta
- + Analysis finds correlation between Suspended Particulate Matter and Red Band from Landsat
- + Hypothesis:
 - + Upstream degradation due to mining is increasing sedimentation at the coast



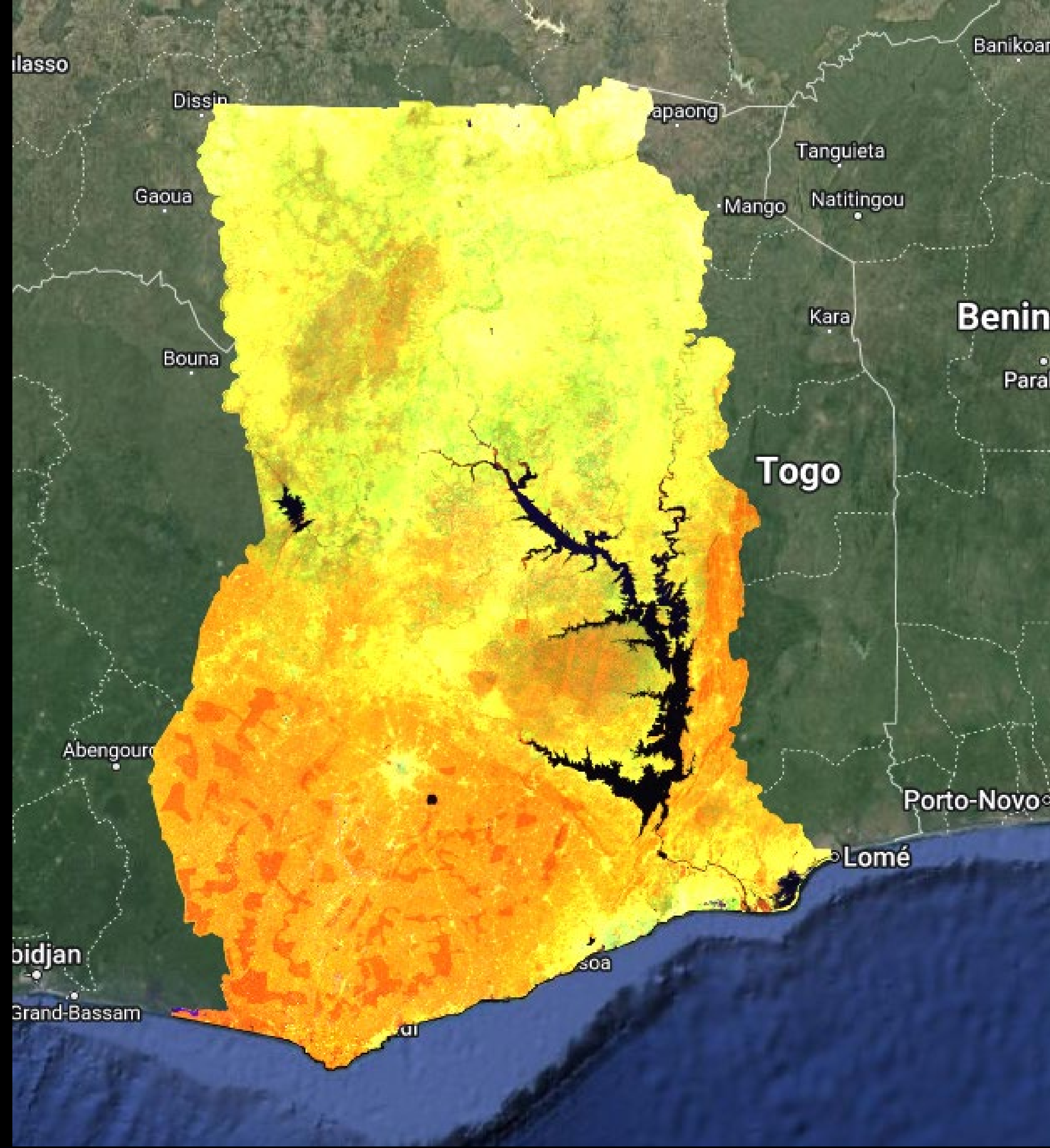


Pra
River



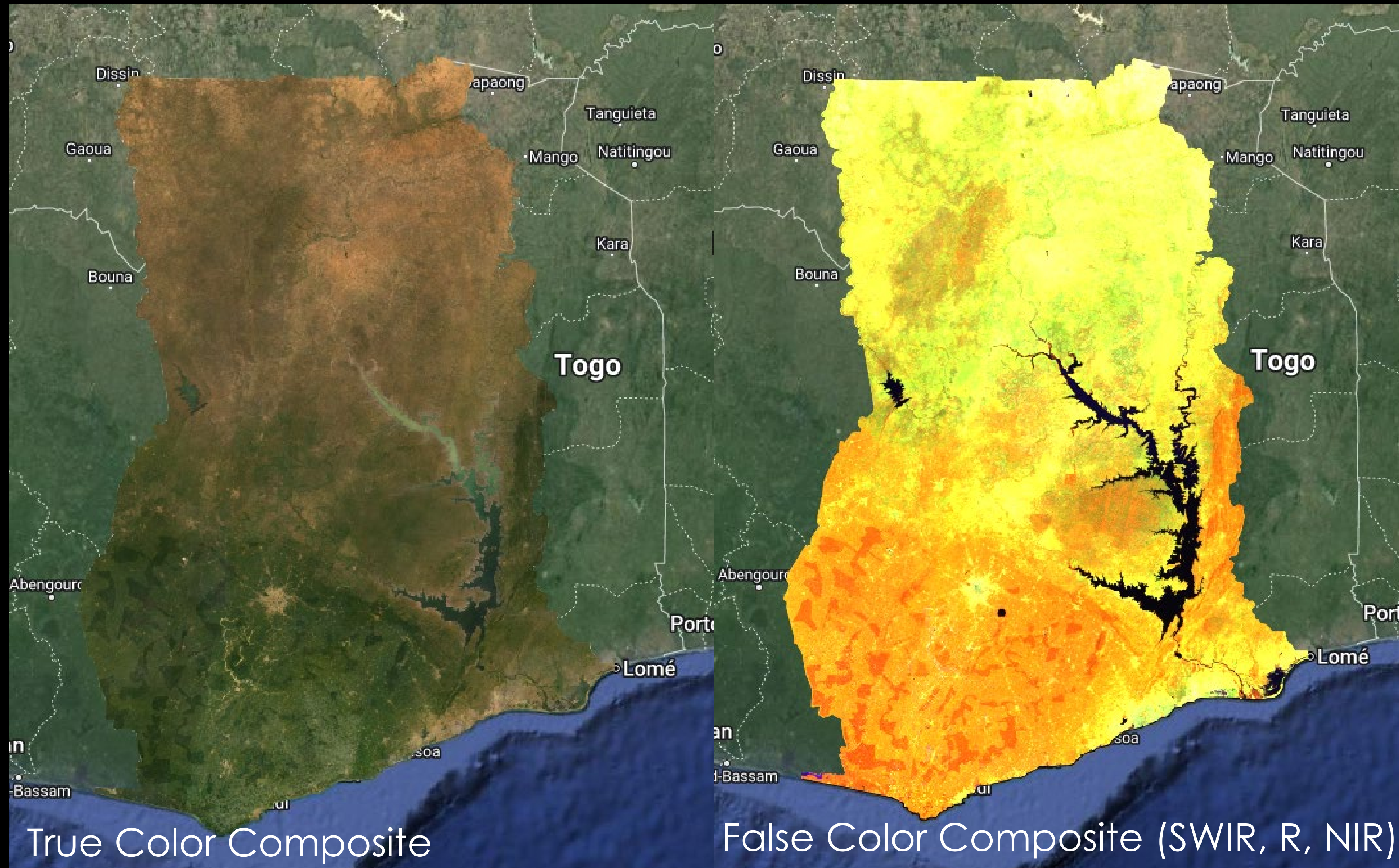
Ghana Landcover Classification

- + Following the gold mining analysis, collaborators expressed interest in a country-wide landcover classification
- + Landcover maps for different years will inform us how forests and other ecosystems are changing over time
- + We constructed a new Random Forest Classification for the whole country

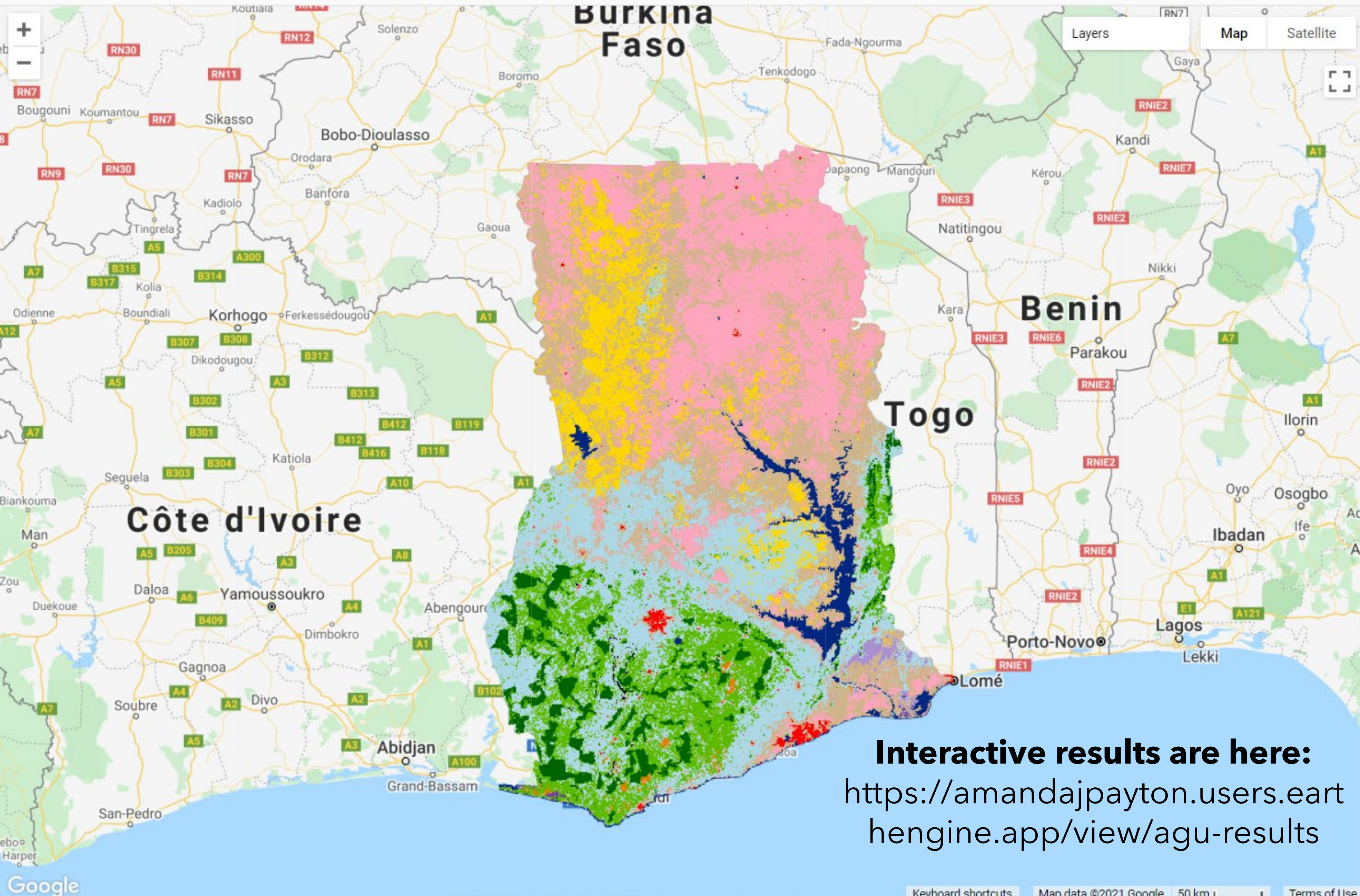


Class	Description
Waterbodies	All areas of open water, water present >50% of the year
Mangroves and Forested Wetlands	Areas where trees account for >50% of the vegetative cover and the soil or substrate is saturated with or covered with water >50% of the year
Non-Forested Wetlands	Areas where trees account for <50% of the vegetative cover and the soil or substrate is saturated with or covered with water >50% of the year
Woody Crop	Areas with >50% domesticated woody vegetation. Includes cocoa, palm, shea and other tree crops
Agriculture	Areas dominated by all other domesticated vegetation. Usually followed by harvest and bare soil and/or grassland/mixed vegetation period.
Grasslands/ Shrubland	Areas dominated with herbaceous and low woody cover with <10% tree canopy
Forest – Dense/Closed	Areas where natural tree canopy covers >75%
Forest – Open	Areas where natural tree canopy covers 50-75%
Mixed Vegetation	Vegetated areas where neither herbaceous, shrubs, or trees dominate
Artificial Surfaces	Buildings and other man-made structures cover >50% of the surface
Mining	All areas of mining activity, mining covers >50% of the surface
Barren Land	Areas characterized by bare rock and/or exposed soil with <10% vegetation present

Cloud-Free Landsat/SAR Composite



A combination of spectral and SAR bands and indices are available for landcover classifications



Ghana Climate and Landcover Results

The results shown represent recent landcover changes in Ghana and longer-term trends in temperature and precipitation in Southern Ghana. Landcover classifications are shown for 2015 and 2020. These layers are preliminary results and are subject to change. The temperature and precipitation changes are represented by annual and seasonal trends. The temperature analyses used FLDAS data from 1982 to 2019 and is presented at a 95% confidence level. The precipitation analyses used CHIRPS data from 1981 to 2019 and is presented at a 95% confidence level, with the exception of the annual analysis in Ghana which is presented at 80% confidence.

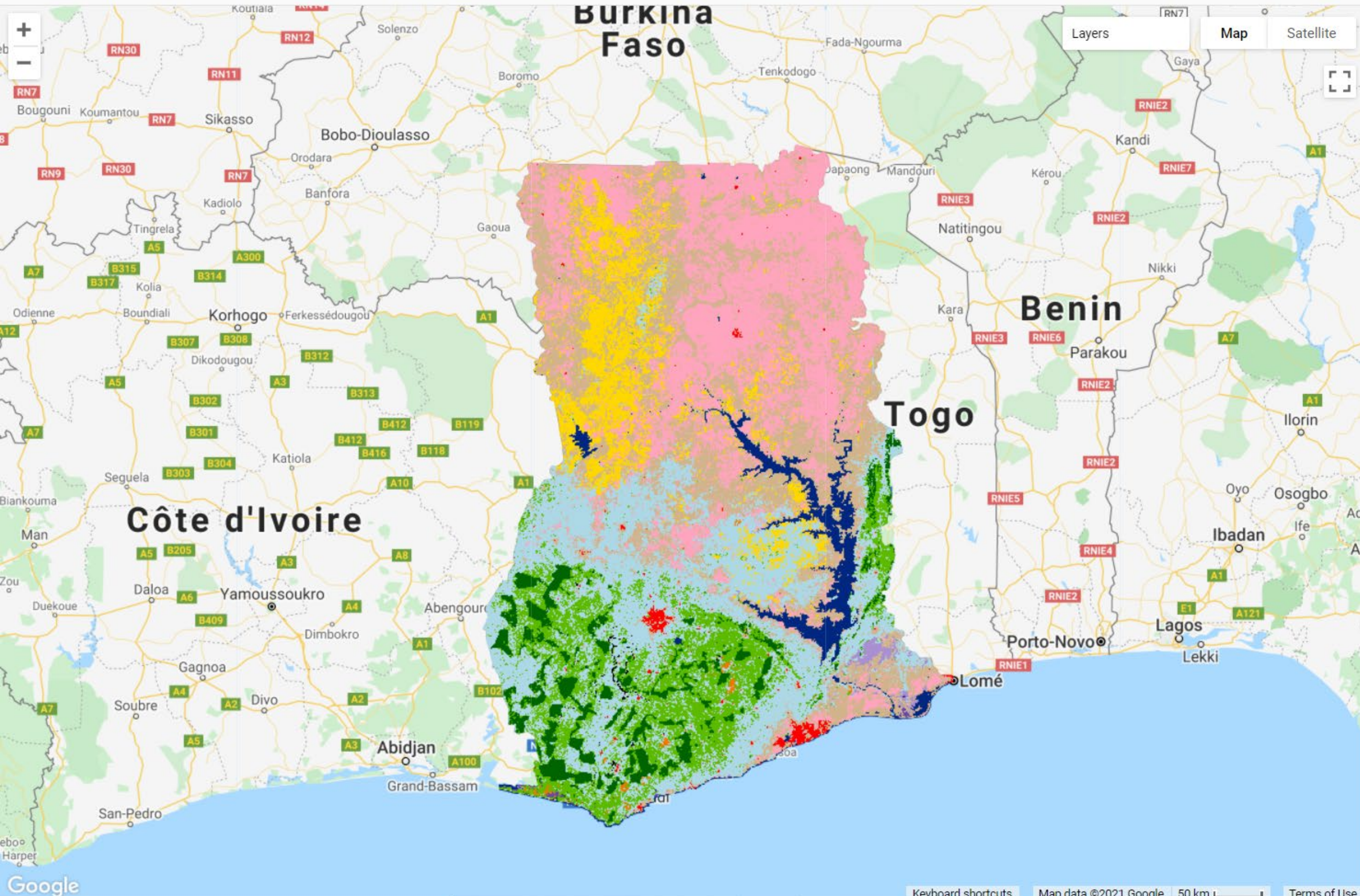
Choose Layers

2015 Classification

Layer Legend

- Water
- Wetlands
- Mining
- Artificial Surfaces
- Closed Forest
- Open Forest
- Woody Crops
- Agriculture
- Grassland
- Mixed Vegetation
- Bare

Interactive results are here:
<https://amandajpayton.users.earthengine.app/view/agu-results>



Ghana Climate and Landcover Results

The results shown represent recent landcover changes in Ghana and longer-term trends in temperature and precipitation in Southern Ghana. Landcover classifications are shown for 2015 and 2020. These layers are preliminary results and are subject to change. The temperature and precipitation changes are represented by annual and seasonal trends. The temperature analyses used FLDAS data from 1982 to 2019 and is presented at a 95% confidence level. The precipitation analyses used CHIRPS data from 1981 to 2019 and is presented at a 95% confidence level, with the exception of the annual analysis in Ghana which is presented at 80% confidence.

Choose Layers

2020 Classification

Layer Legend

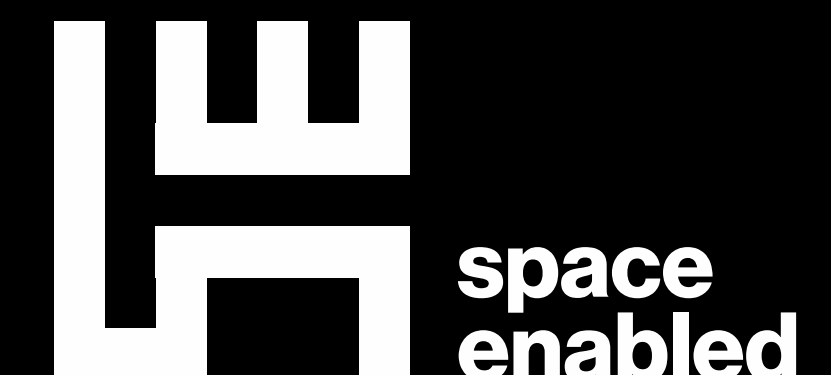
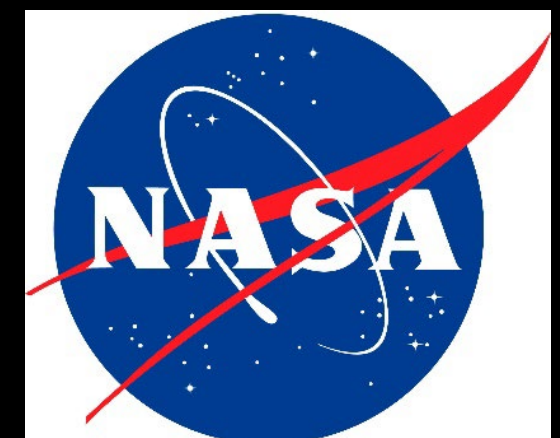
- Water
- Wetlands
- Mining
- Artificial Surfaces
- Closed Forest
- Open Forest
- Woody Crops
- Agriculture
- Grassland
- Mixed Vegetation
- Bare

Designing a Decision Support Tool to support Integrated Water Resource Management and Biodiversity in Lake Nokoue, Benin

US Co-Investigators: Space Enabled Research Group @ MIT Media Lab, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Blue Raster, East Carolina University

Benin Co-Investigators: Green Keeper Africa

Additional Scientific Input: National Institute of Water & CENATEL, Benin





Inclusive Design of Earth Observation Decision Support Systems for Environmental Governance: A Case Study of Lake Nokoué

Ufuoma Ovienmhada^{1*}, Fohla Mouftaou² and Danielle Wood¹

¹ MIT Media Lab, Space Enabled Research Group, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, United States,

² Green Keeper Africa, Cotonou, Benin

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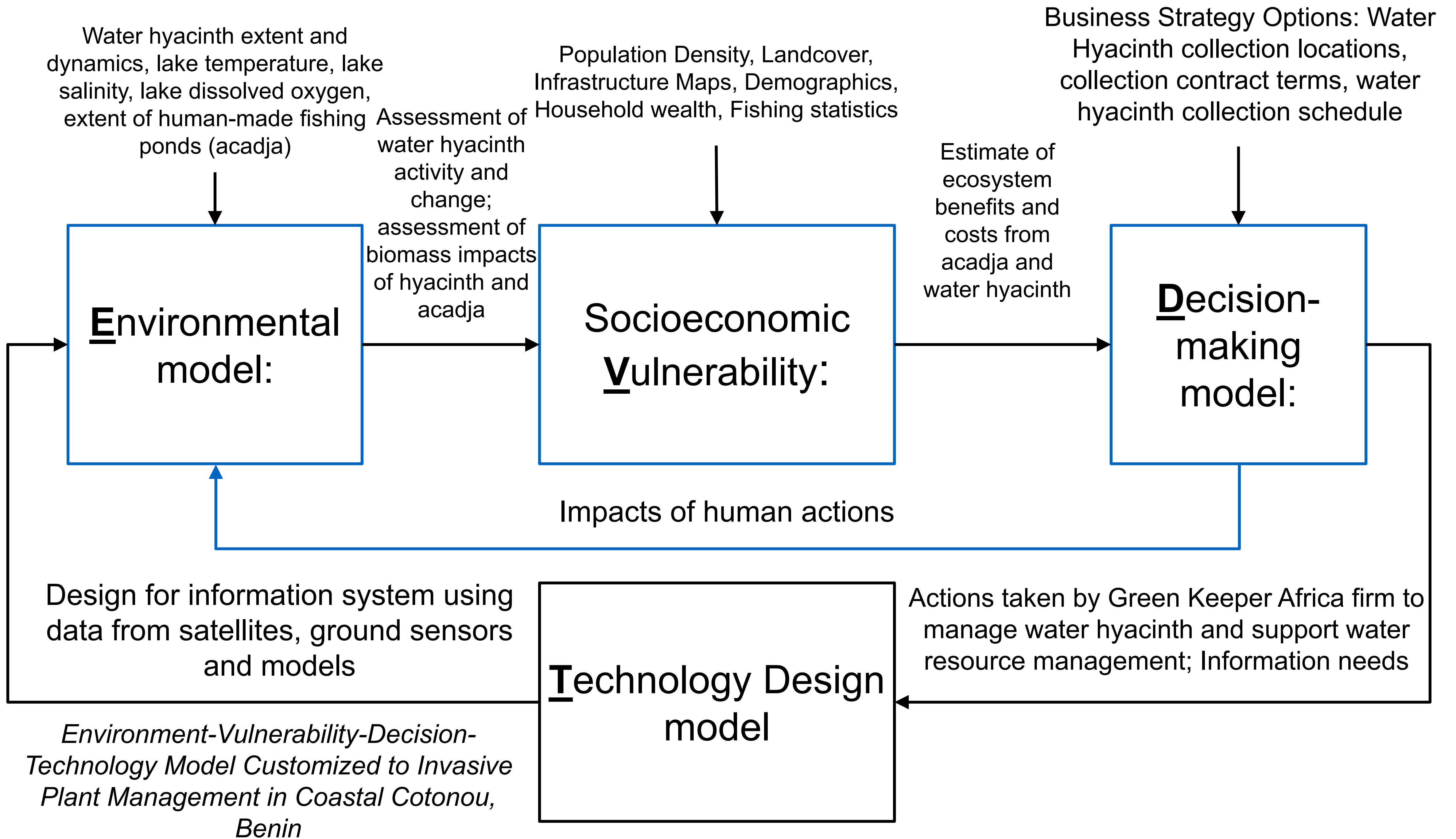
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Specialty section:

This article was submitted to
Climate Services,
a section of the journal
Frontiers in Climate

Earth Observation (EO) data can enhance understanding of human-environmental systems for the creation of climate data services, or Decision Support Systems (DSS), to improve monitoring, prediction and mitigation of climate harm. However, EO data is not always incorporated into the workflow for decision-makers for a multitude of reasons including awareness, accessibility and collaboration models. The purpose of this study is to demonstrate a collaborative model that addresses historical power imbalances between communities. This paper highlights a case study of a climate harm mitigation DSS collaboration between the Space Enabled Research Group at the MIT Media Lab and Green Keeper Africa (GKA), an enterprise located in Benin. GKA addresses the management of an invasive plant species that threatens ecosystem health and economic activities on Lake Nokoué. They do this through a social entrepreneurship business model that aims to advance both economic empowerment and environmental health. In demonstrating a Space Enabled-GKA collaboration model that advances GKA's business aims, this study first considers several popular service and technology design methods and offer critiques of each method in terms of their ability to address inclusivity in complex systems. These critiques lead to the selection of the Systems Architecture Framework (SAF) as the technology design method for the case study. In the remainder of the paper, the SAF is applied to the case study to demonstrate how the framework coproduces knowledge that would inform a DSS with Earth Observation data. The paper offers several practical considerations and values related to epistemology, data collection, prioritization and methodology for performing inclusive design of climate data services.

Keywords: earth observation, water hyacinth, climate data services, decision support systems, design



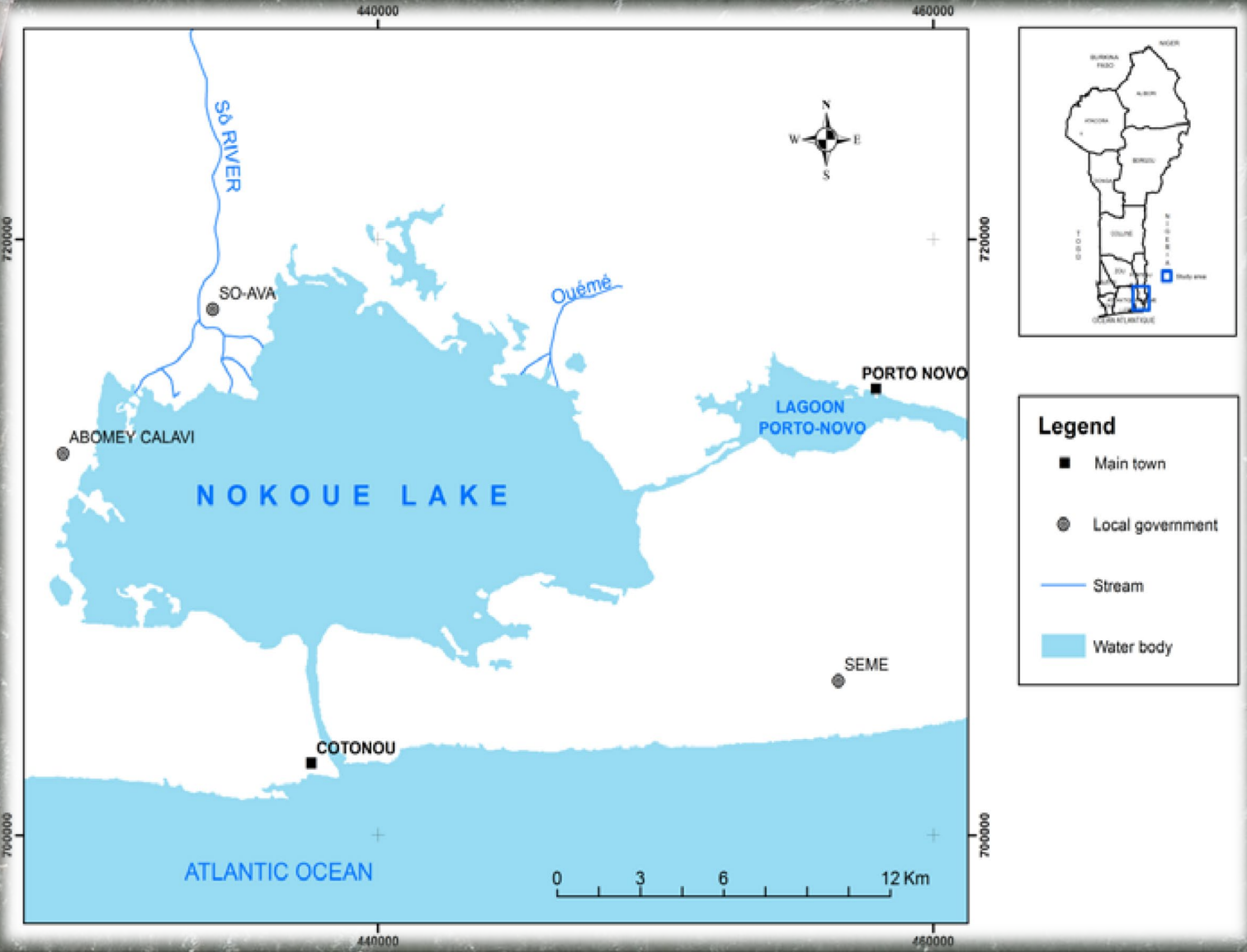


Green Keeper
Africa

Lot 1430 P Quartier Védoko
Cotonou - Bénin
RC/COT/14 RB 11945
IFU n° 32
Tél: 01 42 22 11 18

Ecotechnology firm
Green Keeper Africa is
a co-Investigator
focused on invasive
species management
in Benin (SDG 15.8).
Photo from August
2019 visit.





Lake Nokoué









Lake Djétouè at Lokossa



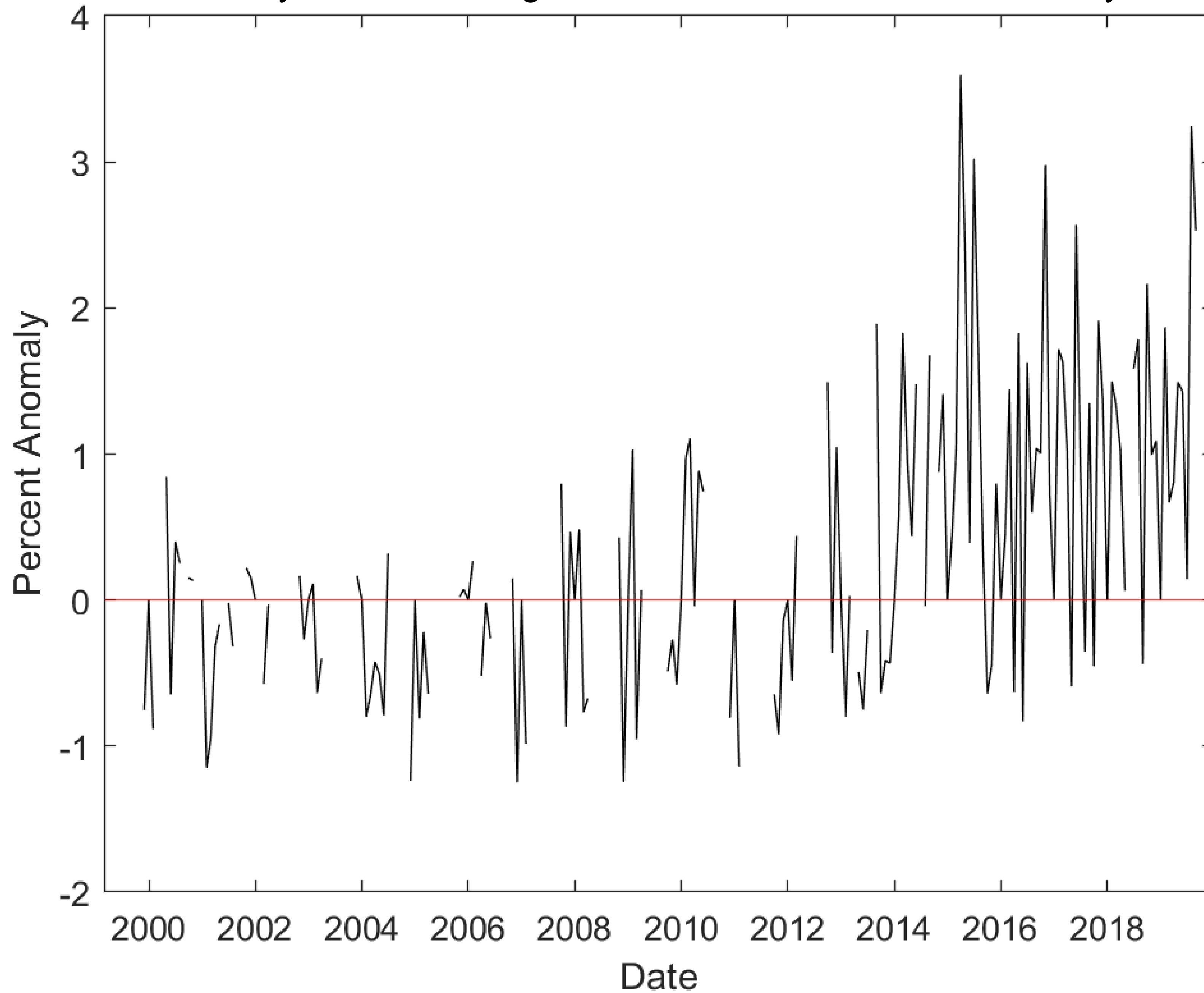
Water hyacinthe on the channel at Grand Popo



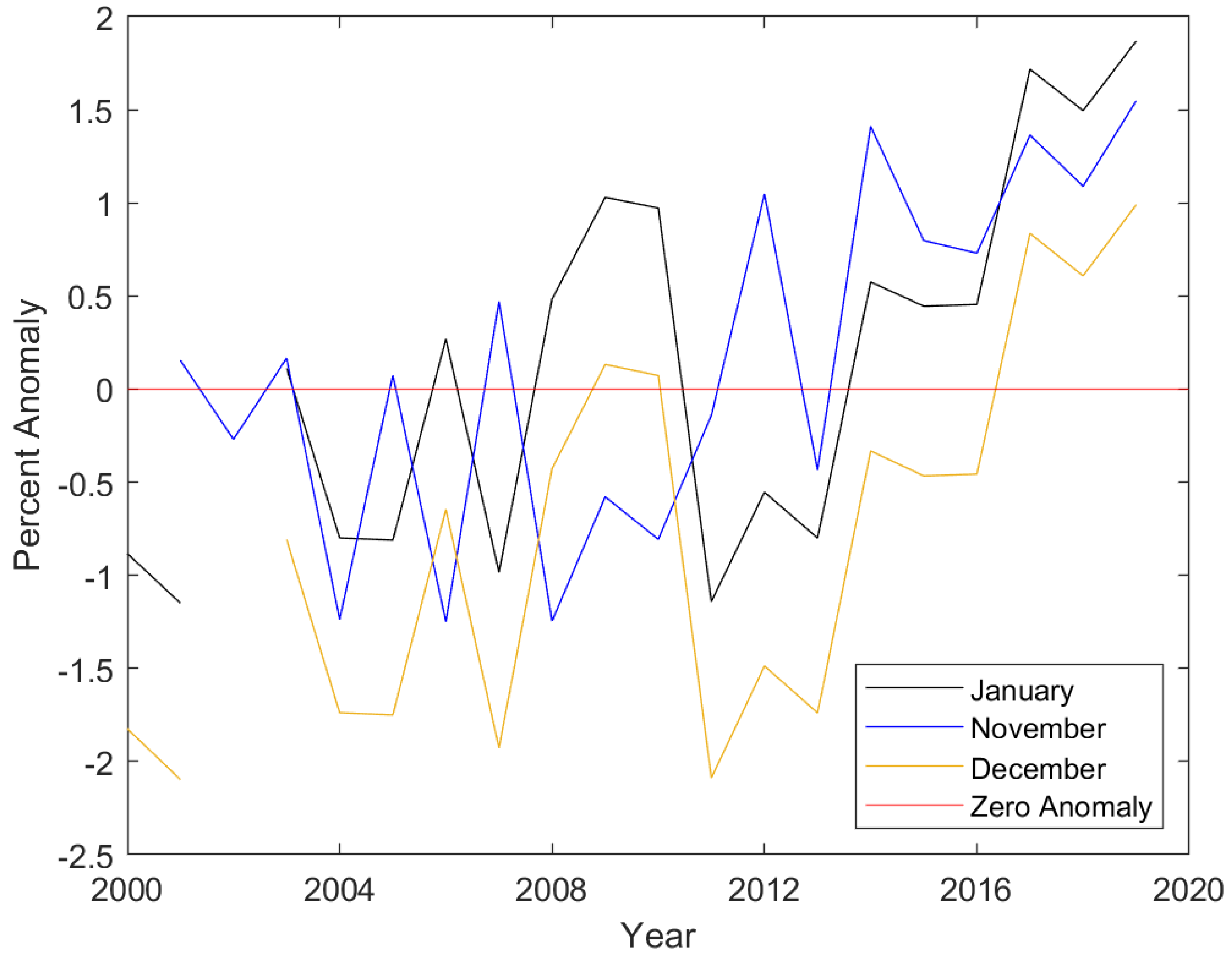




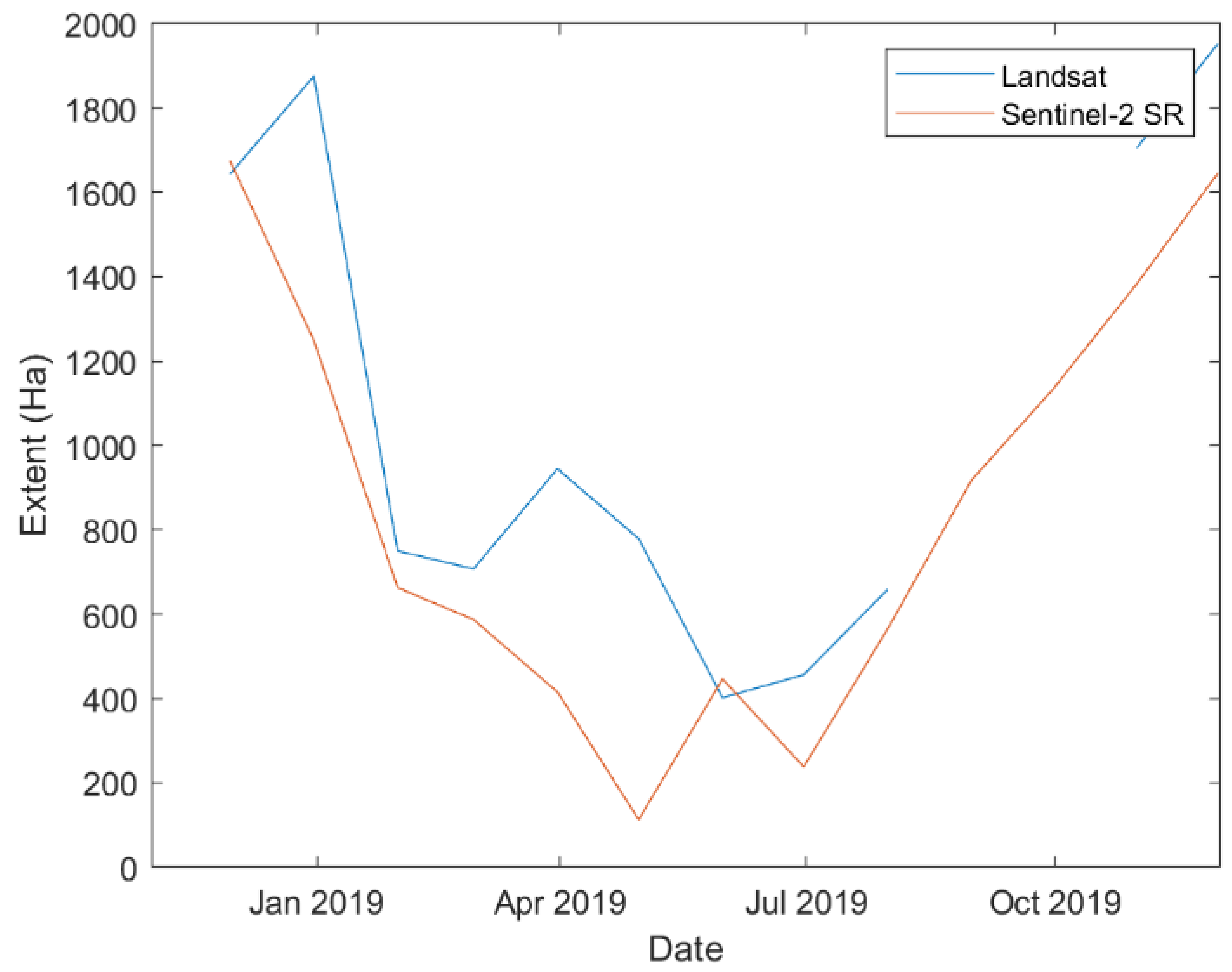
Water Hyacinth Coverage in Lake Nokoue, Percent Anomaly

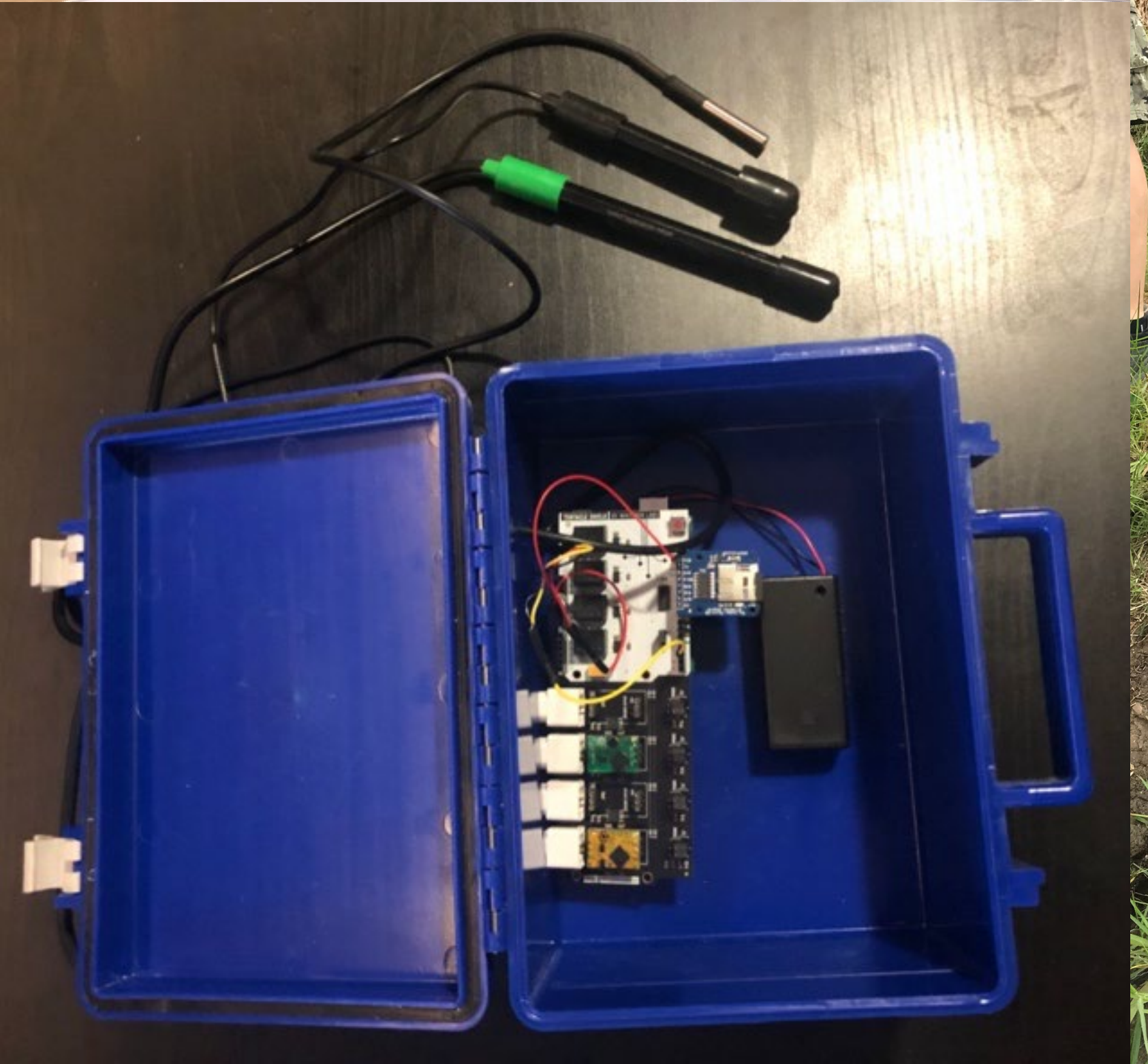
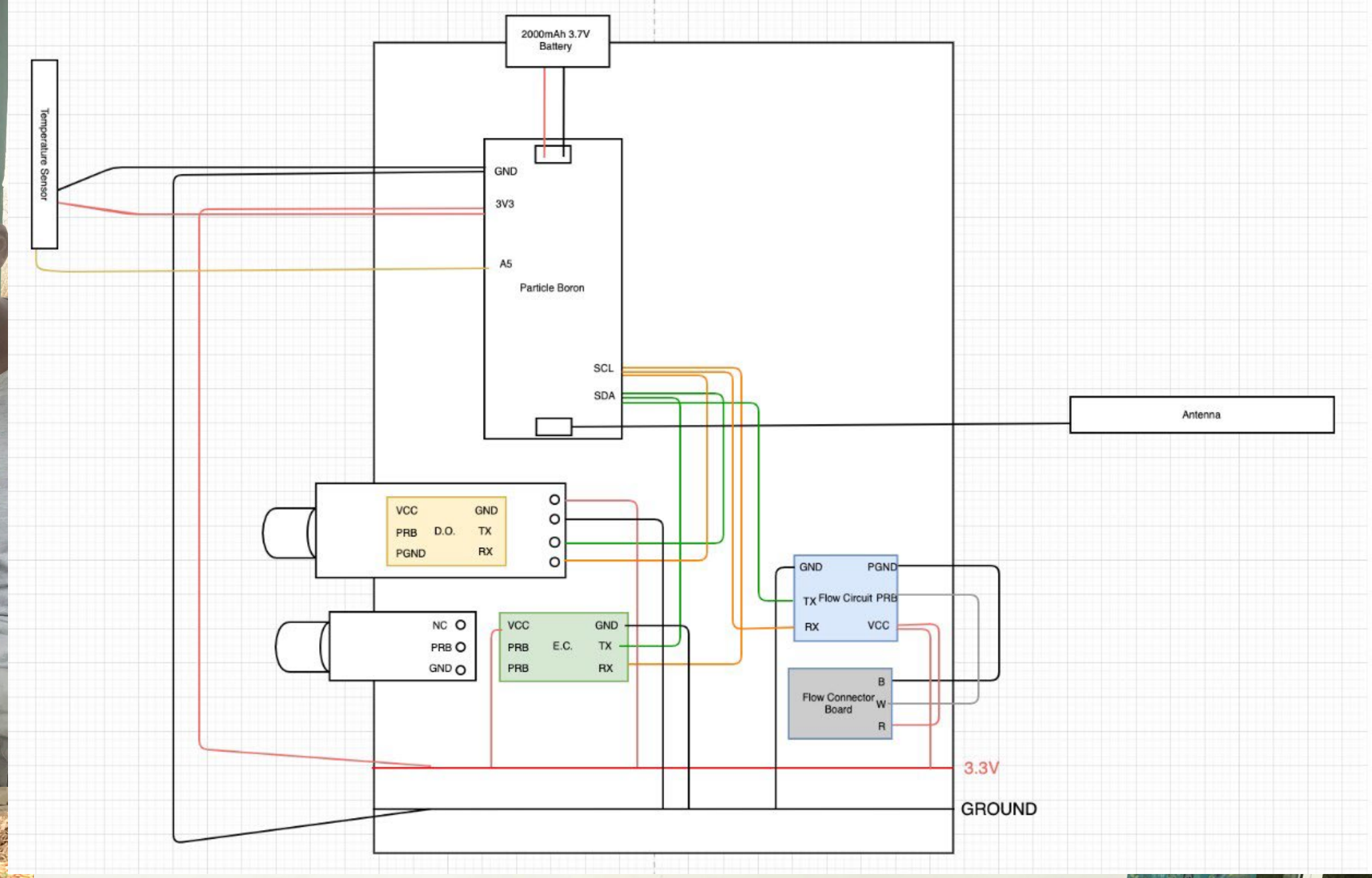
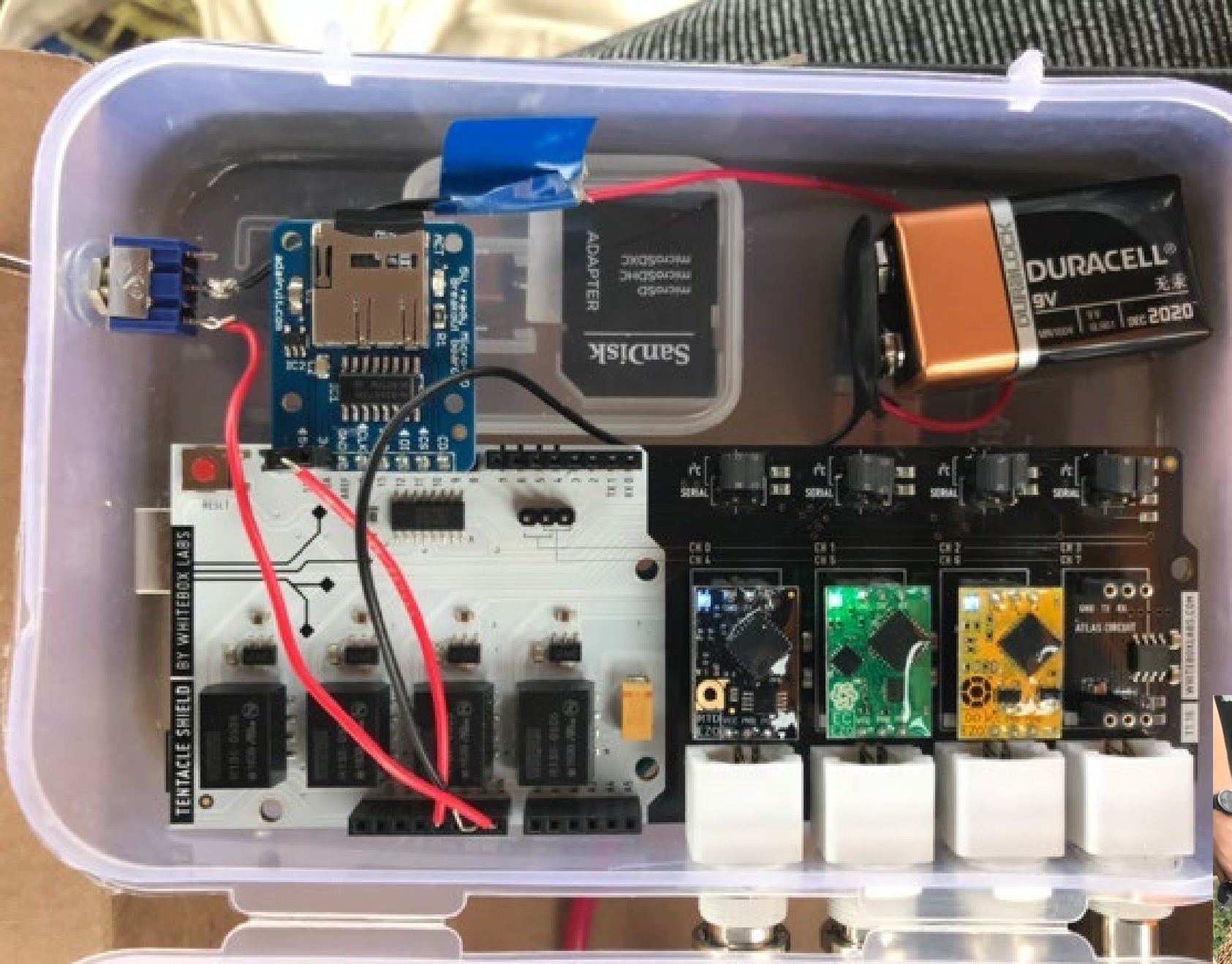


Water Hyacinth Coverage in Lake Nokoue, Percent Anomaly in Growing Season



Reference Datasets	Resolution (meters)	Dates Images Obtained
Sentinel-2	10	Dec 2018 – Dec 2019
Djihouessi	10	November 2016 – November 2017
PlanetScope	3 m	Jan 2019
DJI Phantom 4 Pro	.03 m	Aug 2019
iPhone photos	Varied	Aug 2019, April 2019







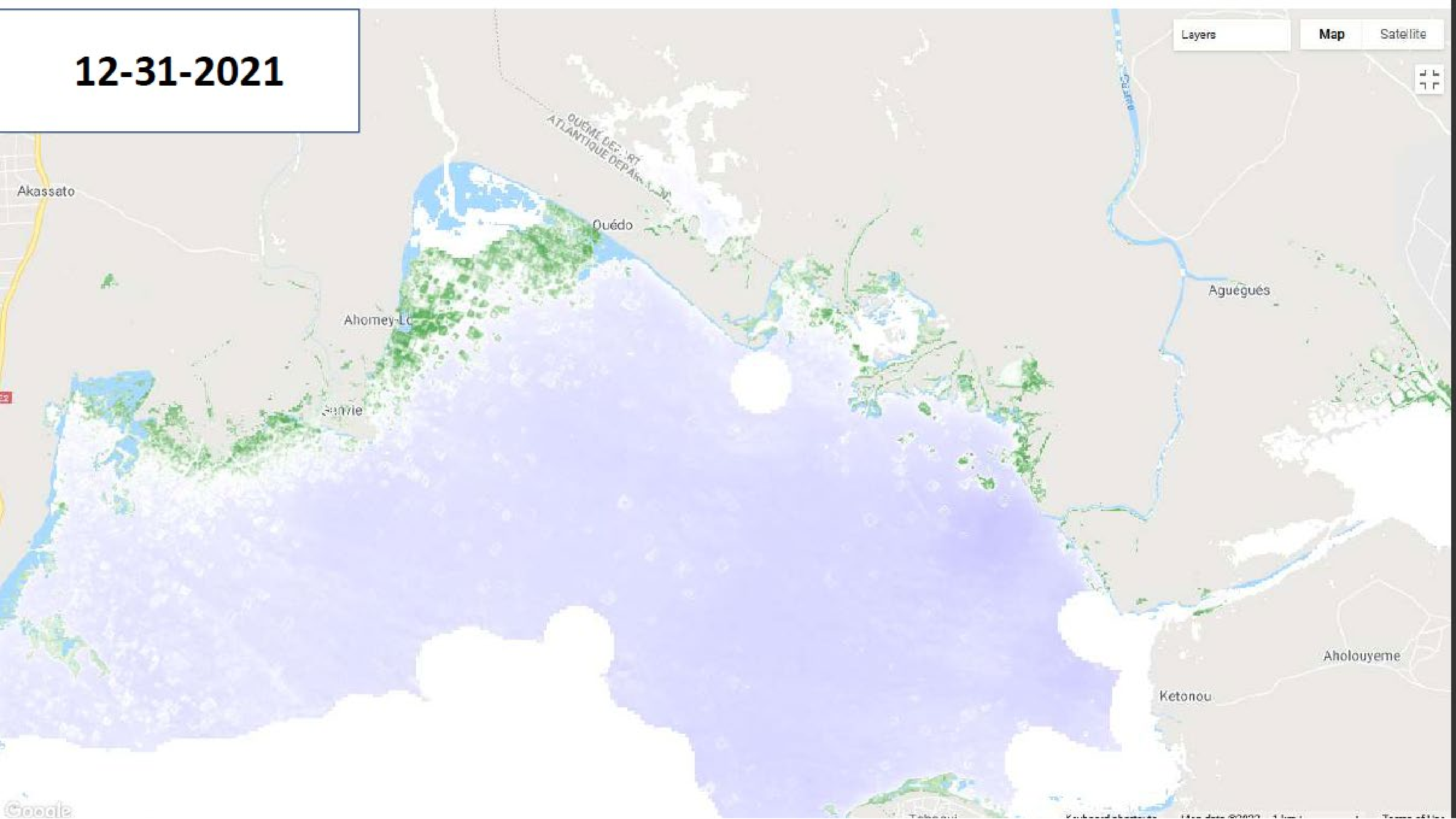


12-31-2021

Layers

Map

Satellite

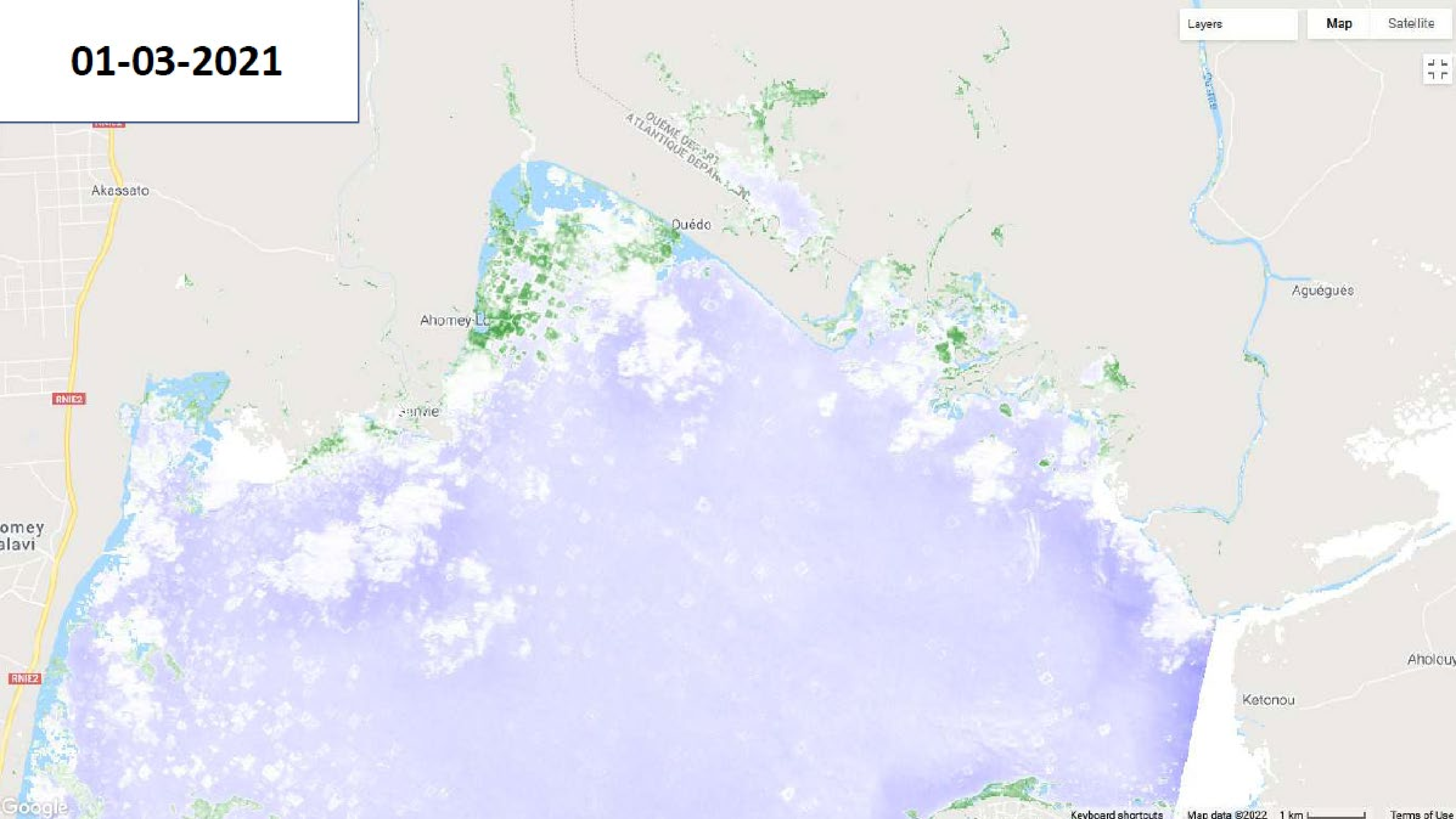


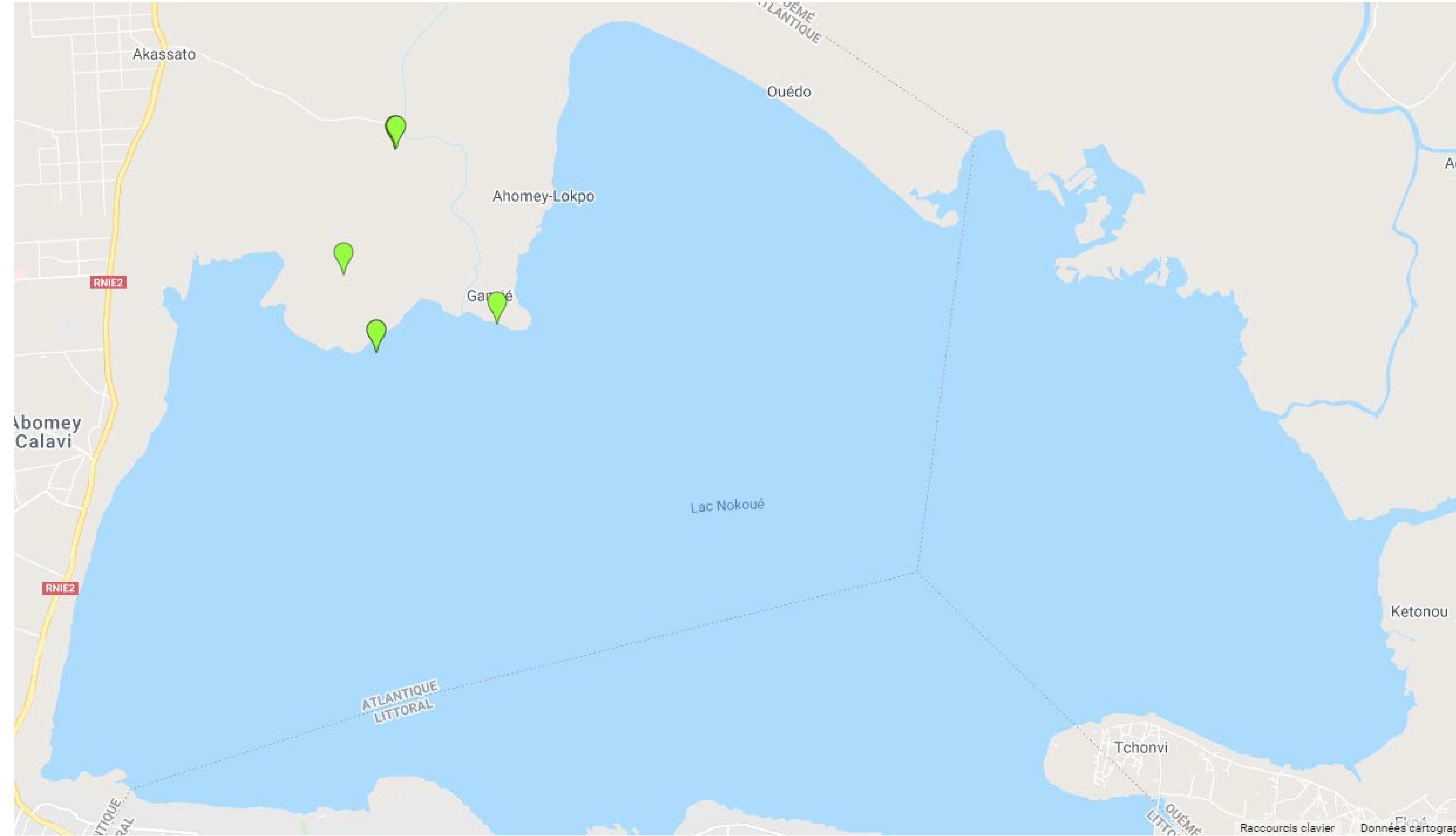
01-03-2021

Layers

Map

Satellite





Akassato

Ouédo

Ahomey-Lokpo

Garié

Lac Nokoué

Ketonou

Tchonvi

ATLANTIQUE
LITTORAL

ATLANTIQUE
LITTORAL

OUÉME
LITTORAL





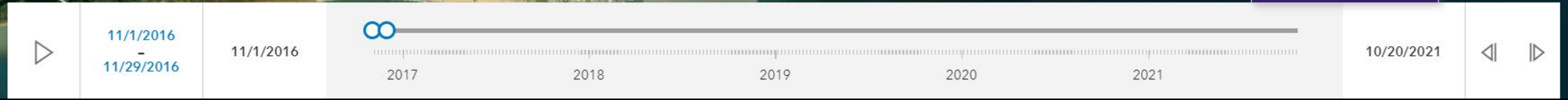
	Location		WH_Status	Salinity	Oxygene	Temperature	Time	Observation Method
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2	6.49135	2.39833	Green	Low	5.82	30.1875	6:14:04	In-Situ Measurement
3	6.49137	2.398332	Green	Low	8.98	30.25	6:28:05	In-Situ Measurement
4	6.491376	2.398439	Green	Medium	8.51	30.375	7:00:13	In-Situ Measurement
5	6.46579	2.413176	Brown	High	None	None	8:36	Water Sample Collected
6	6.461699	2.395535	Brown	High	17.1	32.5	9:09:29	In-Situ Measurement
7	6.461733	2.395476	Green	Low	None	None	9:17	Water sample collected
8	6.472954	2.390784	Green	Low	10.89	32.4375	9:37:28	In-Situ Measurement



Français



Timeslider



**Project
facilitated
software
training
opportunities
for Green
Keeper
Africa
employees**



**Technical
exchange with
national remote
sensing and
mapping office in
Benin & National
Institute of Water**





GOOGLE EARTH ENGINE TRAINING DELIVERED IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH IN BENIN

- Présentation de Google Earth Engine
- Comment GEE fonctionne
- Glossaire des termes
- Utilisation de l'interface de programmation d'application
- Utilisation de l'éditeur de code
 - Importation de fichiers de formes et de couches raster en tant qu'actifs dans GEE
 - Importation de jeux de données auxiliaires dans GEE

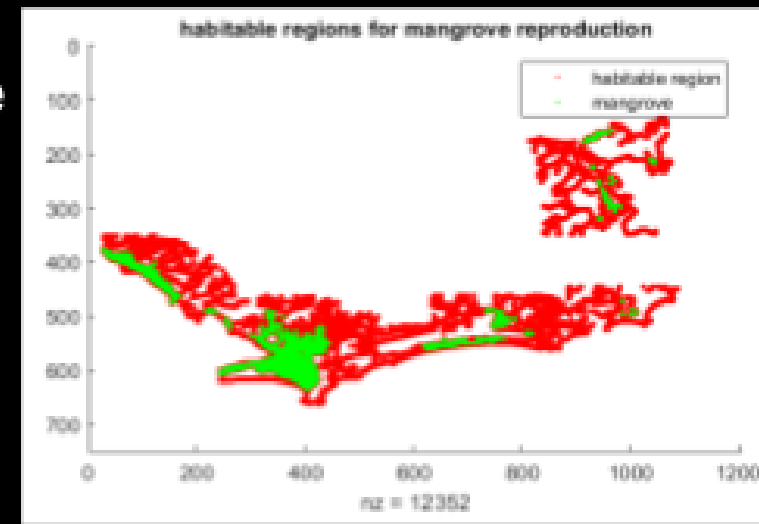




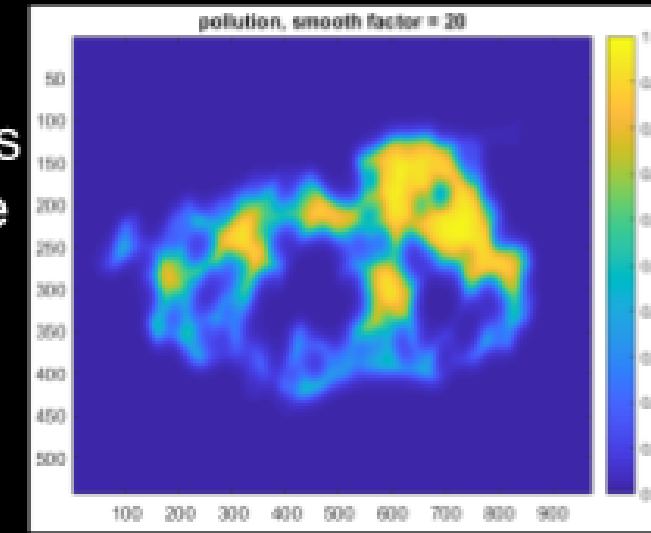




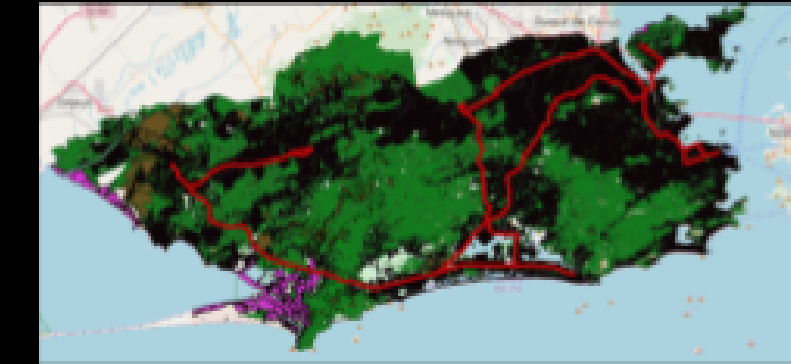
Temperature
Salinity
Weather
etc.



Socio-economic parameters
of local communities, value
of carbon, etc.



Civic decision-making
processes and regional,
national, and
international priorities



Mangrove Forest
Growth Model

Map of mangrove
growth over time

Societal Impact Model of
Erosion, Carbon
Emissions, Etc.

Societal
consequences of
changes in
mangrove growth

Urban Planning
Decision-Making

Optimized urban planning, balancing development needs with mangrove forest
preservation

Location of the mangroves and development
identified from remote observation



Remote Observation
Design Model

Imaging needs and requirements for urban
planning decision-making



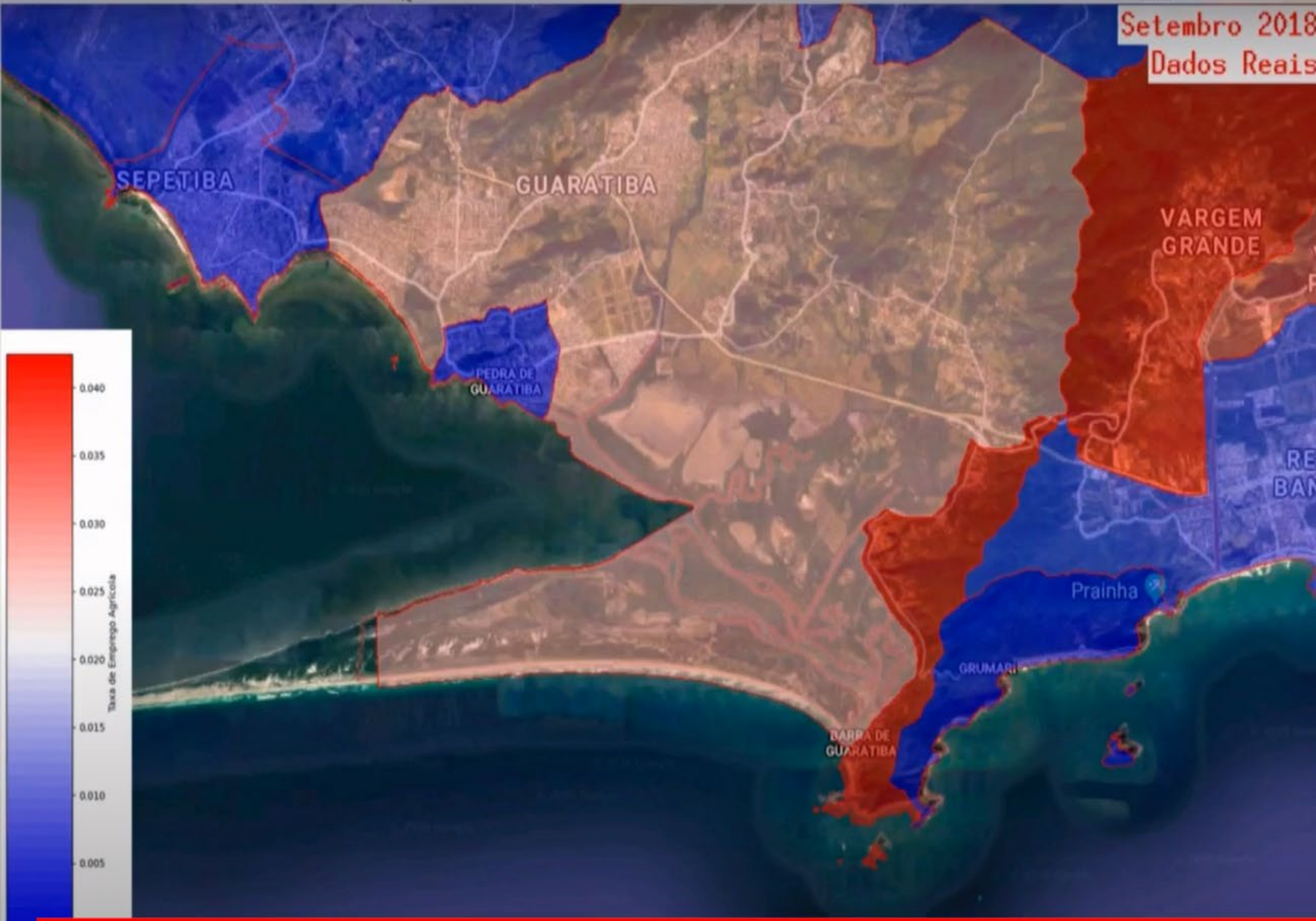
Ilha de Maderia (NW)



Guaratiba (SW)



■ = Significant Mangrove Loss



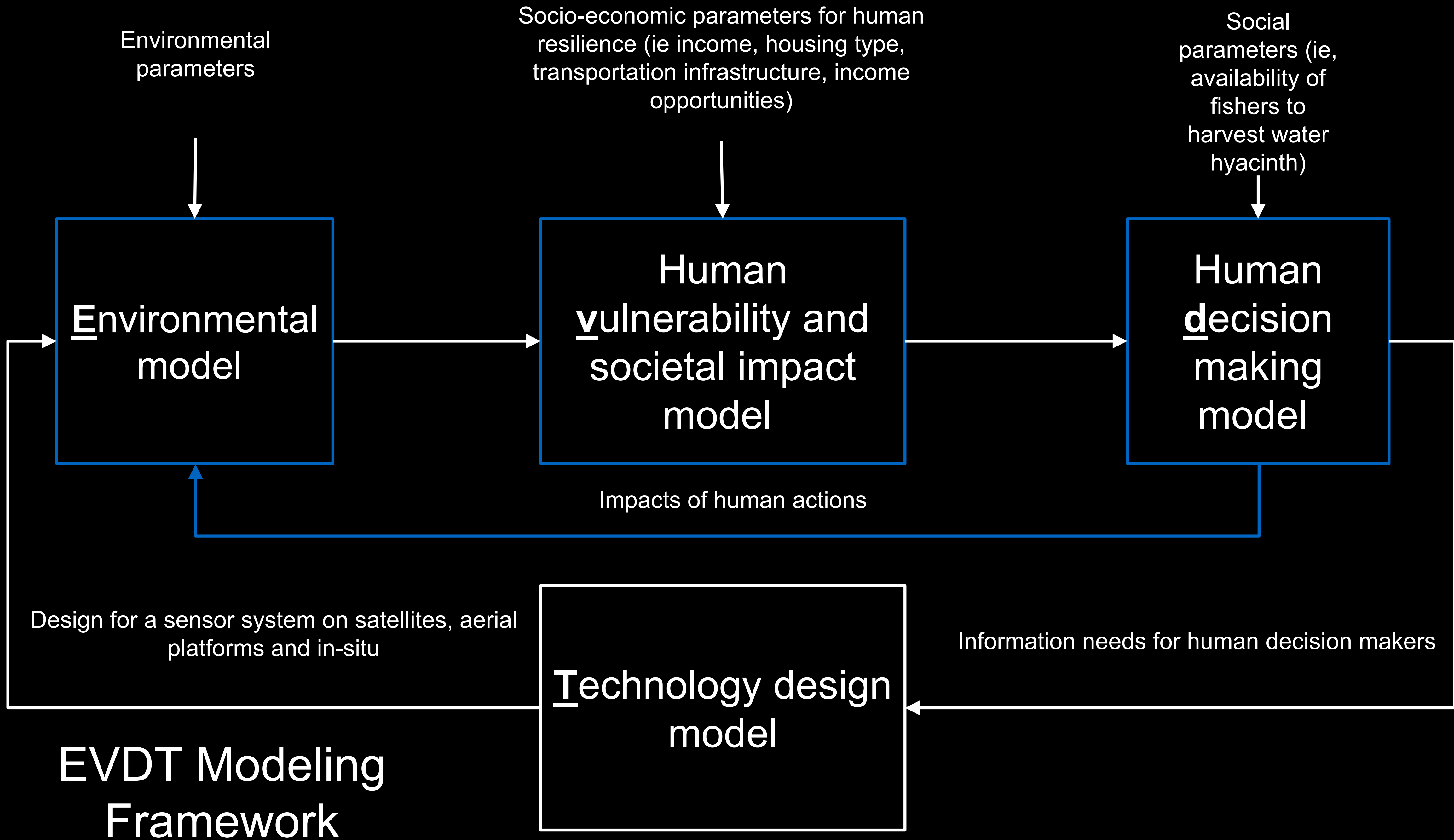
Setembro 2018
Dados Reais

Exibição de Dados

Extensão dos Manguezais: 208080 ha
Área de Crescimento Recente: 2200 ha
Área de Perda Recente: 7270 ha
Área de Manguezais em Risco: 8560 ha
Mudança nos Manguezais: -5070 ha

Informações da Unidade

Dem Div Eco ID Geogr
Bairro: Guaratiba



Vida Decision Support System International Network



MP10

Grafico 1: Población total infectada medida

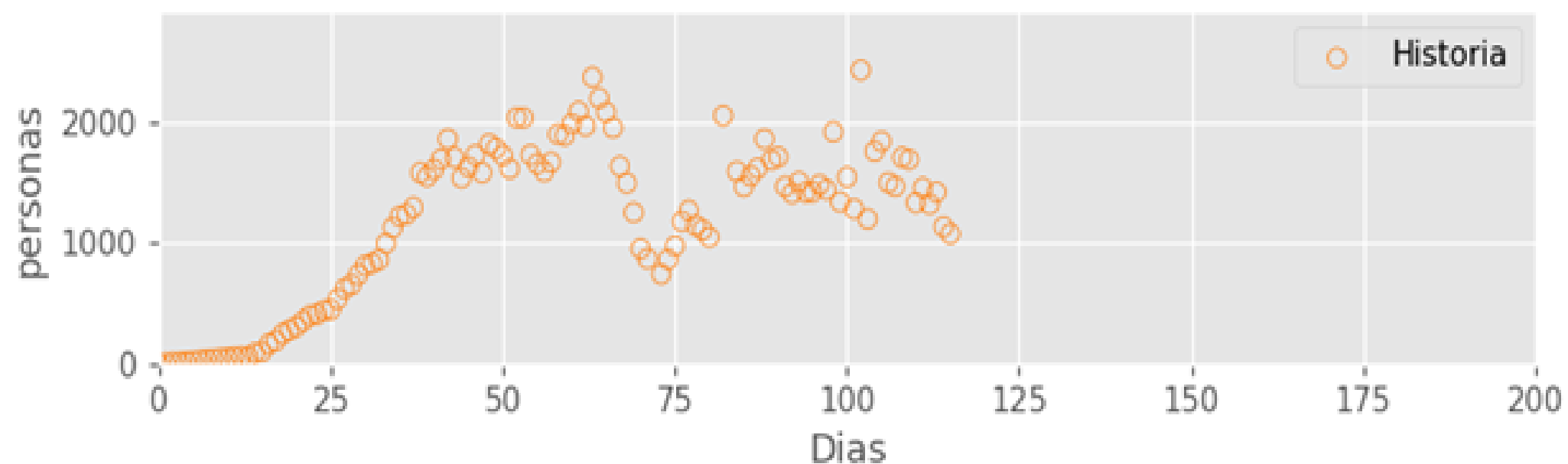
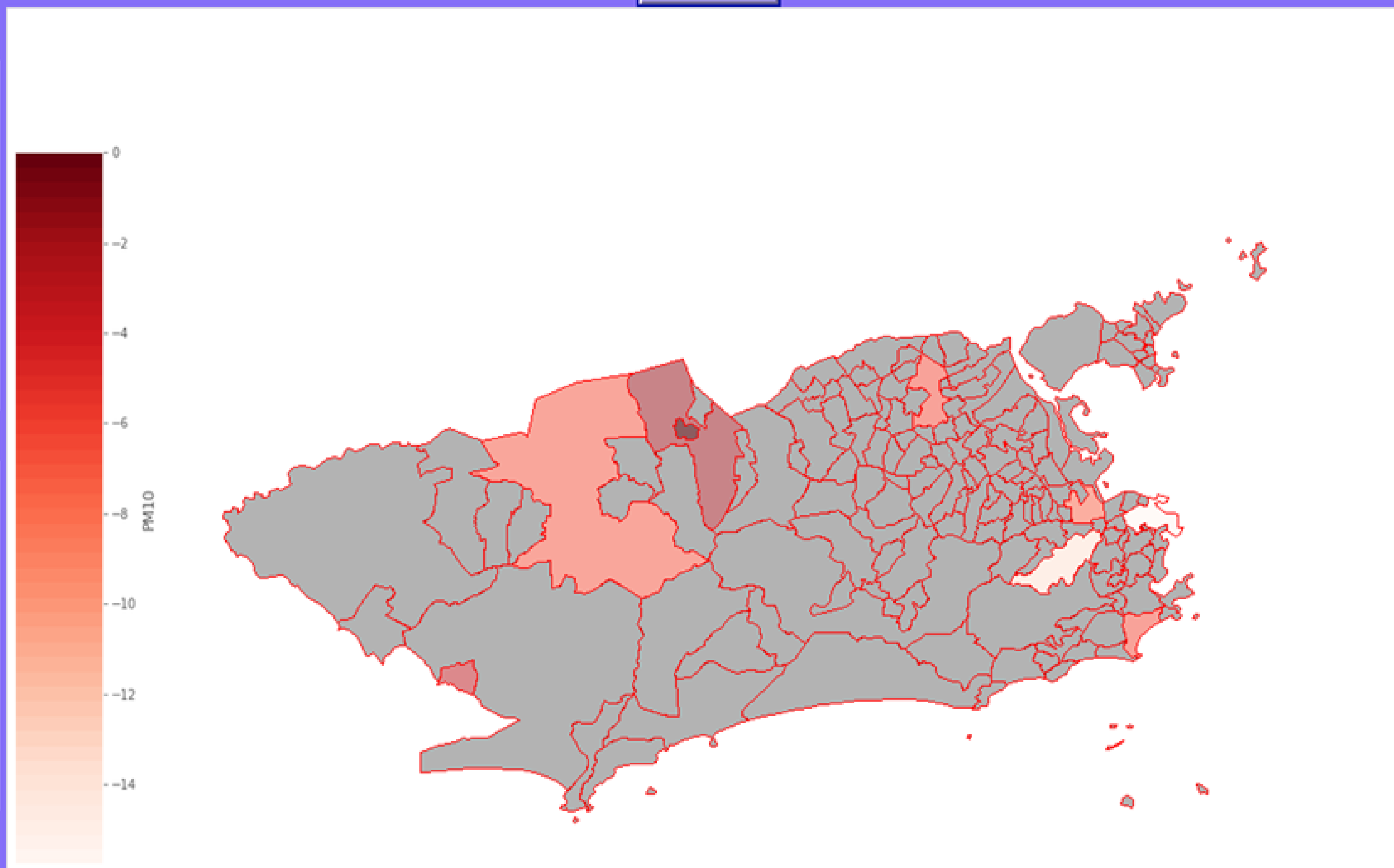
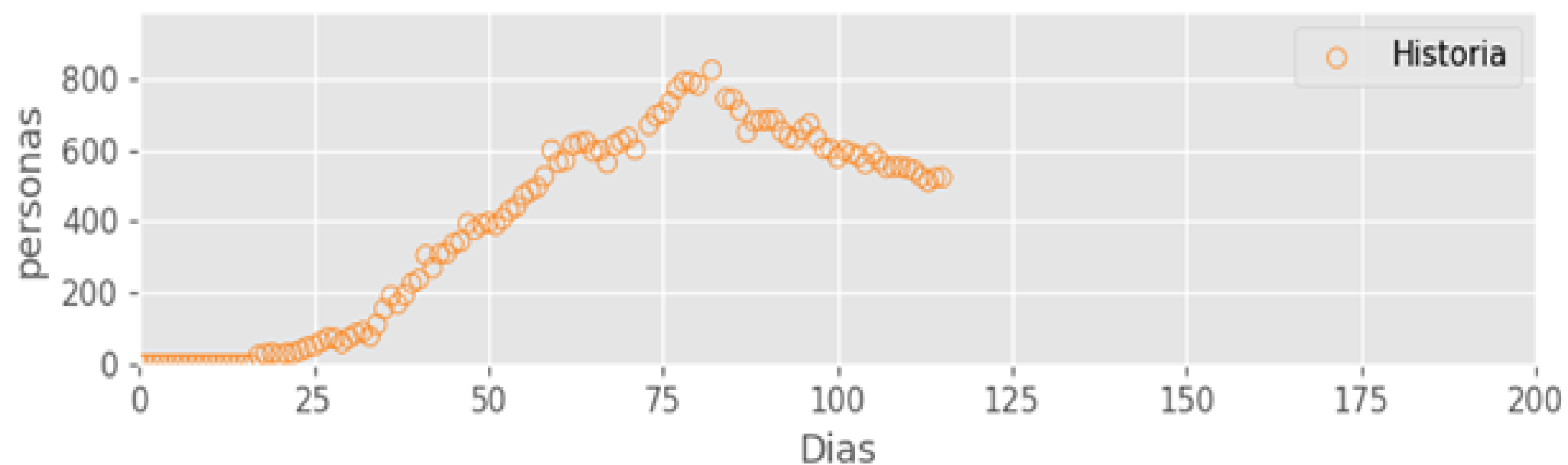


Grafico 2: Población hospitalizada



Dia: 115

Política de cierre: Sin cierres

Política de distanciamiento: Sin distanciamiento

Solicite nuevos ventiladores: 0

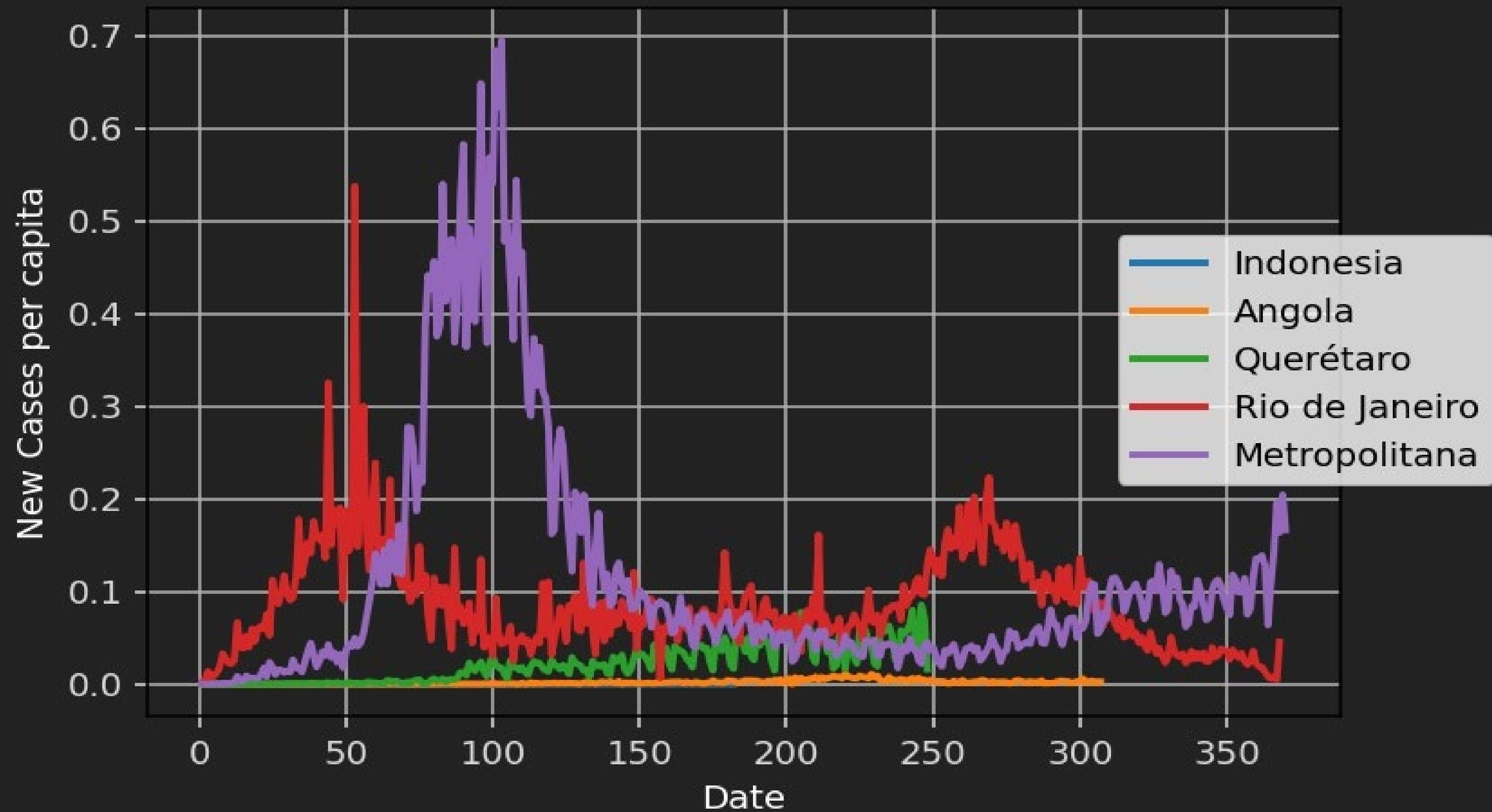
La próxima semana

Ejecutar de forma autónoma

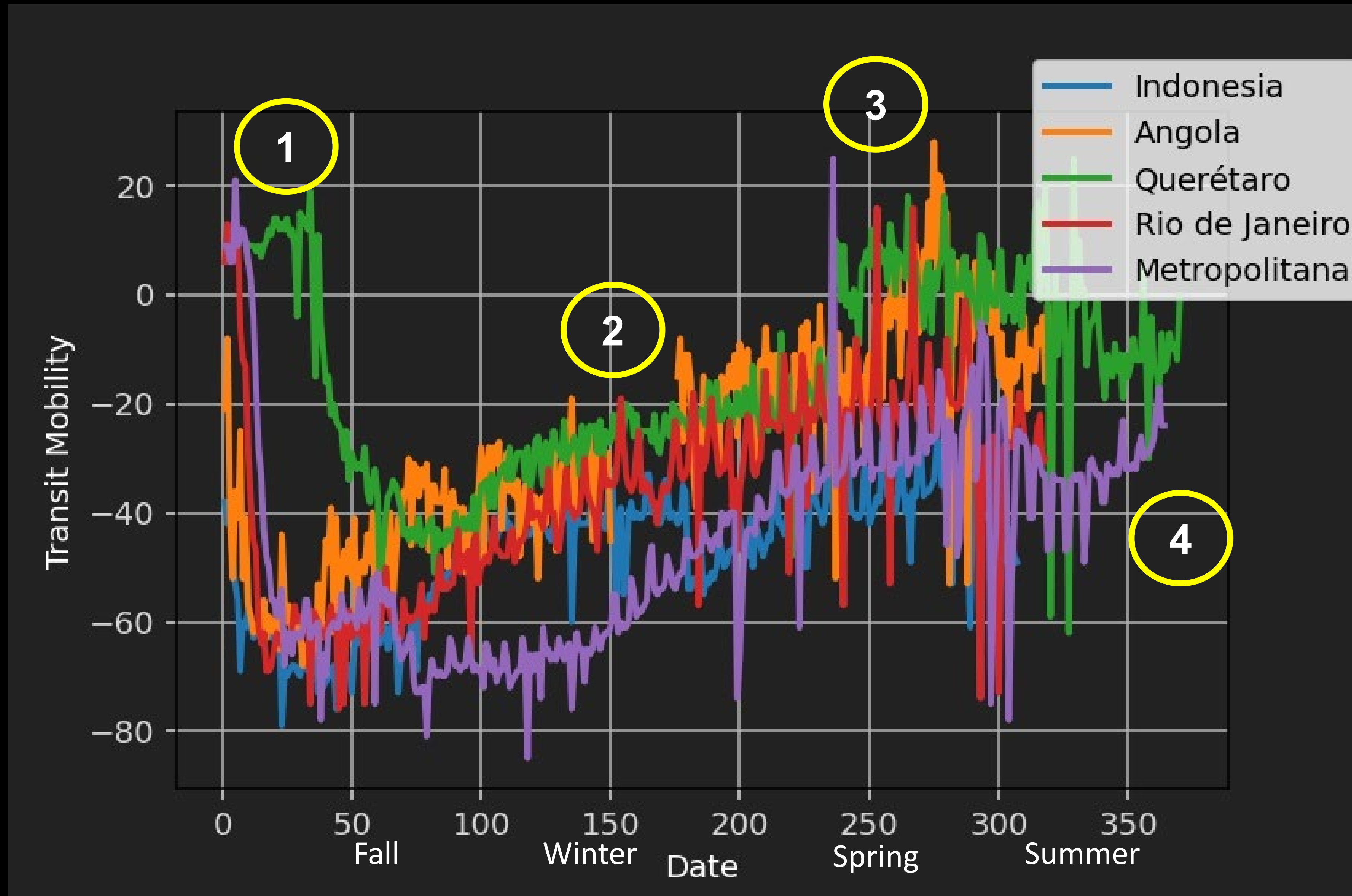
Reiniciar la simulación

- Reglas Registro
- Reglas 1: Cierres iniciales
 - Reglas 2: Cierres adicionales
 - Reglas 3: Cierre completo
 - Reglas 4: Reabrir algunos negocios
 - Reglas 5: Relax Distancia social obligatoria
 - Reglas 6: Solicite más ventiladores
 - Reglas 7: Pague más por los ventiladores para acelerar la ent

How did new COVID Case numbers compare?



How did transit mobility change across the Vida countries?



A team led by Prof Wood at MIT has been awarded a grant from NASA for \$550,000 to collaborate with GGPEN to work on applying satellite data for drought management for Angola



Supporting Drought Management in Angola using Integrated Modeling of the Environment, Vulnerability, Decision Making and Technology (EVDT)

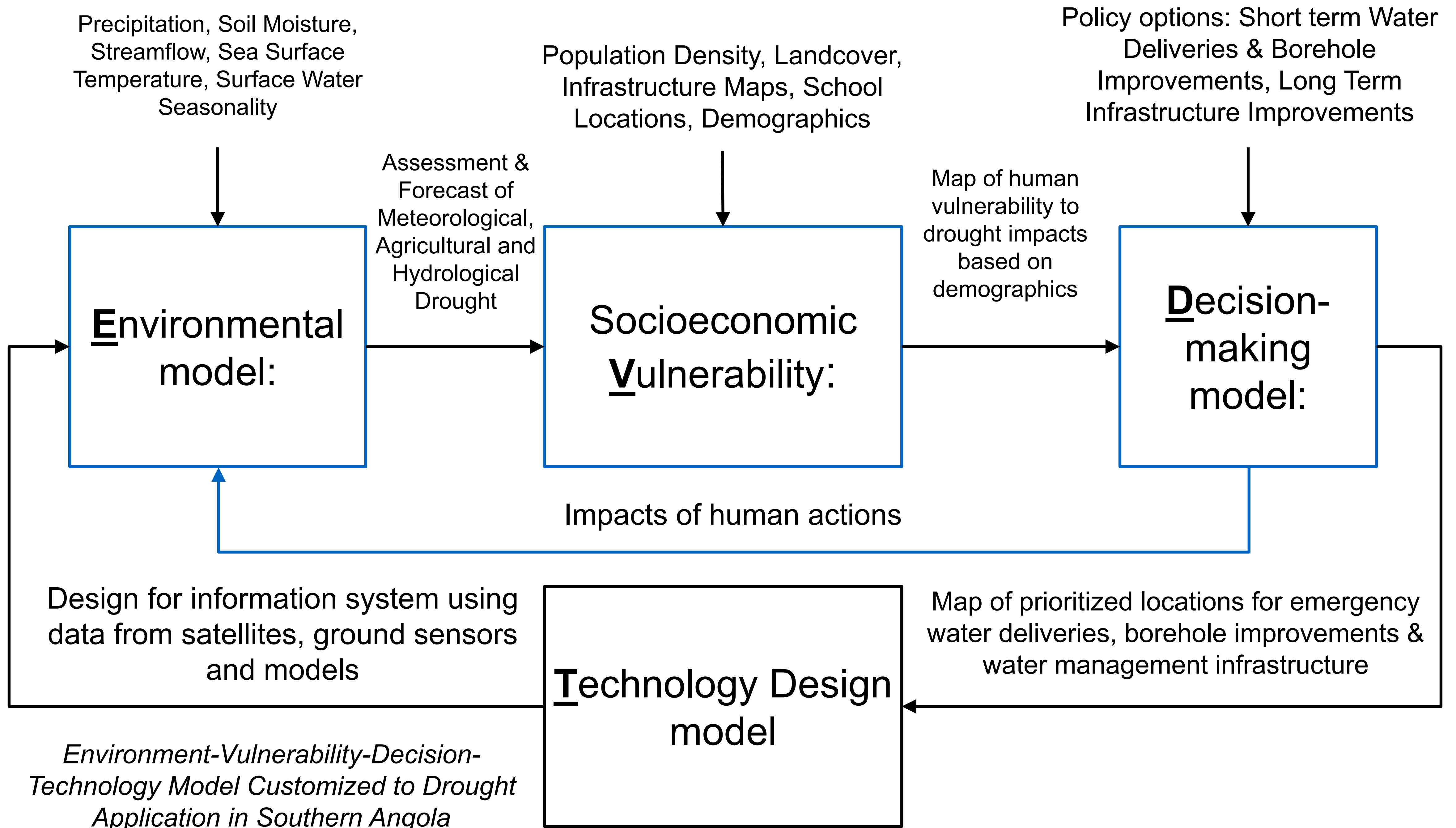
US Researchers: PI: Professor Danielle Wood (MIT); Co-Investigators Prof Dara Entekhabi (MIT); Other Professional: Dr. Katlyn Turner

US Data Analytics Firm: Eric Ashcroft, Blue Raster

US Socioeconomic Consultant: Dr. Mike Toman & Dr. Yusuke Kuwayama, Resources for the Future

Unfunded Collaborators from Angola: Dr. Zolana Joao, Director General of the Management Office of the National Space Program





Angola Drought Decision Support System

Data & Analysis

EVDT Component

Data Visualization

Intervention Decisions

Drought Severity Assessment
Lead Team Member: Entekhabi

- Meteorological: Derive Precipitation from satellite sensors
- Agricultural: Derive Soil Moisture from SMAP twice-weekly dataset
- Hydrologic: Hydrologic water balance models

Drought Forecast
Lead Team Member: Entekhabi

Use statistical models of Sea Surface Temp based on satellite remote sensing to produce precipitation outlooks

Socioeconomic Vulnerability
Lead Team Members: Wood, Toman, Kuwayana, Turner

Use inputs of population density, land use and local administrative data about demographics to estimate sensitivity, exposure and ability to adapt for communities

Environment Model

Monitoring & Forecast of Severity for Meteorological, Agricultural and Hydrological Drought

Assessment of Human Vulnerability level for drought & flood hazards

Socioeconomic Vulnerability Model

Lead Team Member: Ashcroft

Map of Southern Angola showing spatial distribution of severity indices for Meteorological, Agricultural and Hydrological Drought

Lead Team Member: Ashcroft

Map of Southern Angola showing spatial distribution of High Vulnerability communities

Decision #1: What routes & schedule should trucks use to deliver emergency water supplies to High Vulnerability regions?

Decision #2: What locations should be prioritized for borehole improvement projects to serve High Vulnerability regions?