## Navigating Food Security Challenges in the Global South: The Essential Role of Earth Observation

Jesús Ortuño-Castillo



**BOLZANO 2-4 OCTOBER 2023** 



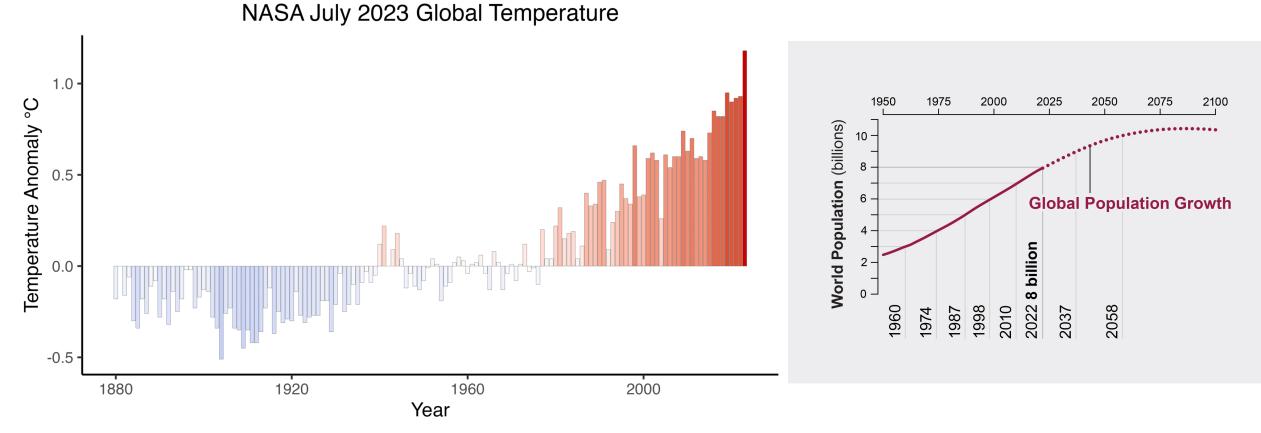




European Commission

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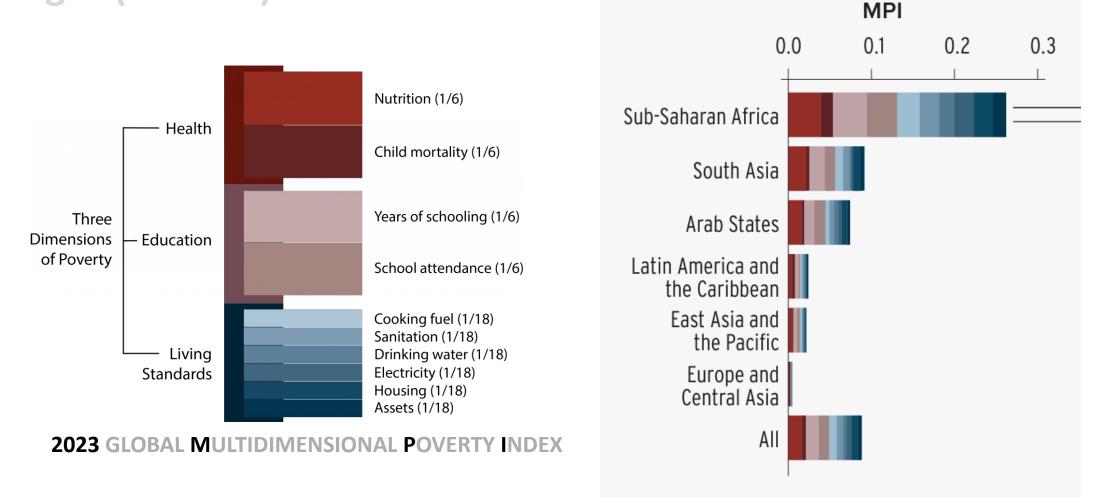
#### **Challenges (context)**



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SOURCE:NASA and United Nations Development Programme and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative

**Challenges (context)** 



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SOURCE: 2023 by the United Nations Development Programme and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative

#### FOOD INSECURITY

97.9 M in Africa



45 M in the Middle East and Asia

11.8 M in Central America and Haiti

O.6 M in Eastern Europe

Number of people across 55 countries that experience acute food insecurity in 2020



750M

People exposed to severe food insecurity levels in 2019



People did not have access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food

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155 M

Source: 2020, Knowledge Center of Earth Observation

### **EO - DERIVED PRODUCTS FOR FOOD SECURITY**



AGRICULTURAL MONITORING SYSTEMS



COMPUTING PLATFORMS AND TOOLS FOR DATA PRODUCTION

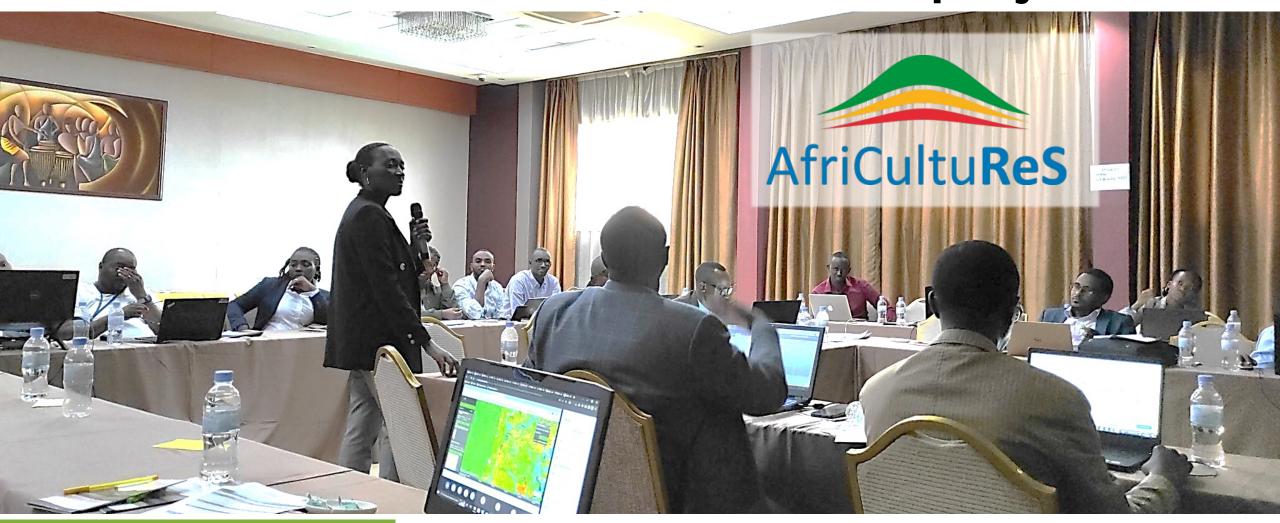


SUPPORT FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENTS

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Source: 2020, Knowledge Center of Earth Observation

## **Success Stories: Africultures EU project**







## AfriCultu**ReS**



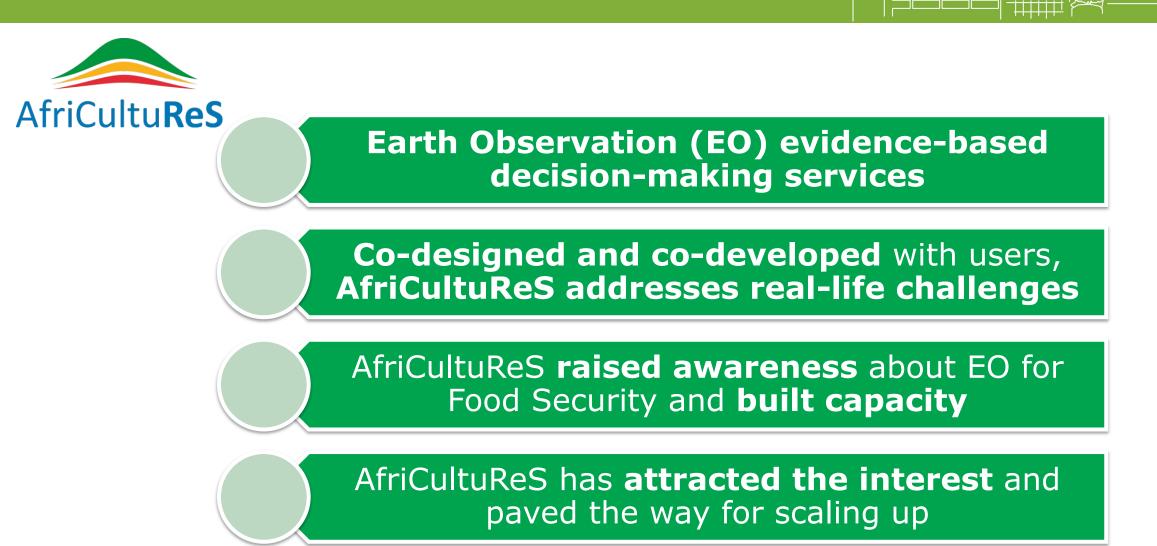
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## GOAL



## Enhance Food Security in African Agricultural systems

Earth Observation
Climate Services
Geospatial Analytics







Climate predictions Seasonal forecast Climate adaptation



Crop type mapping Crop condition Yield forecasts



Drought early warning Drought forecasts Impact assessment



LULC Mapping Land degradation Soil condition assessment



Grazing and rangeland monitoring Browsing capacity assessment Identification of water sources for livestock



Monitoring of water availability & quality Crop water requirements Soil moisture monitoring



Local weather forecast Extreme weather events early warning



## Theory of Change Impact

CHANGE *Through* USERS INVOLVEMENT

- CO-DESIGN
- CO-DEVELOPMENT
- CO-CREATE



EARTH OBSERVATION AND CLIMATE SERVICES

Evidence-based decision making



#### USERS DRIVEN USE CASES

- Genuine interest
- Support awareness raising
- Capacity development

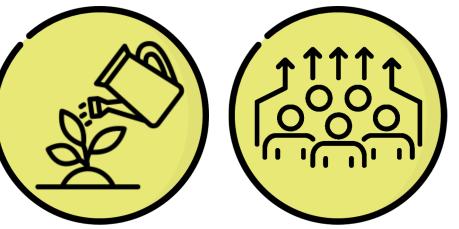


- ENHANCED agricultural and land use planning
- ENHANCED agricultural policy environment
- ENHANCED Evidence based policy formulation
- ENHANCED Stakeholders engagement
- ENHANCED Resilience and adaptation to climate
- ENHANCED Livelihoods of smallholder's farmers and herders
- IMPROVED market access
- INCREASED productivity

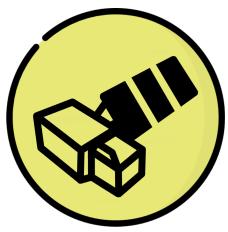


#### AND... WHAT'S NEXT ?

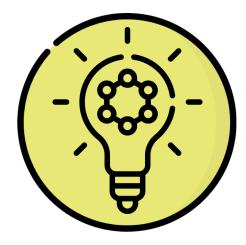
#### TECHNOLOGIES AI, MACHINE LEARNING...



#### CAPACITY BUILDING DEVOLPMENT OF SKILLS, LOCAL AND SMALL FARMERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



#### MORE DATA HIGHER SPATIOTEMPORAL DATA THROUGH SENTINEL 2,...ETC



#### **NEW APPLICATIONS** EO FOR LAND REGISTRATION,

AGROFORESTRY, AGROECOLOGY, BIODIVERSITY...ETC.

Source: 2020, Knowledge Center of Earth Observation



# Thank you

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