#### ITC ENSCHEDE, THE NETHERLANDS

Gateway to international knowledge exchange and institutional development in earth observation and geospatial information

#### Earth Observation: the Last Mile An Introduction to ITC Freek van der Meer



Photograph: NASA/REID WISEMAN/EPA

#### Memorandum of Understanding between NASA SERVIR and ITC

- COOPERATION ON CAPACITY BUILDING AND USING EARTH OBSERVATION DATA AND GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY FOR CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT AND LAND USE
- ....aims joint development of training, strengthening institutional and regional capacity building, and conducting research in SERVIR Hub regions in four (4) Thematic Service Areas: Agriculture and Food Security; Water Resources and Hydroclimatic Disasters; Land Cover and Land Use Change and Ecosystems; and Weather and Climate.





#### THE LAST MILE IN EARTH OBSERVATION

- Part 1: About ITC
- Part 2: EO the last mile
  - Bring EO data products to the people (end user)
  - EO firmly embedded in policy making and governance
  - EO and market development: entrepeneural

The last mile is the common colloquialism referring to the portion of the telecommunications network chain that physically reaches the enduser's premises - Wikipedia



## INTRODUCTION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE

#### UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.





**UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.** 

## HIGH TECH HUMAN TOUCH

- Societal impact: making a real difference
- Synergy: excellence in combinations
- Entrepreneurship and innovation
- Internationalization: tomorrow's global citizens.

## UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE

- An entrepreneurial campus university established in 1961
- More than 10,000 students
- 3,300 staff members







#### UT IN ONE SLIDE

#### **Five faculties**

- BMS Behavioral, Management and Social sciences
- CTW Engineering Technology
- EWI Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science
- TNW Science and Technology
- ITC Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation

#### **Research institutes**

- MESA+ Institute for Nanotechnology
- MIRA Institute for Biomedical Technology and Technical Medicine

#### **Virtual institutes**

- Twente Graduate School (MSc+PhD)
- ATLAS "university college"















ITC FACULTY OF GEO-INFORMATION SCIENCE AND EARTH OBSERVATION

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FACULTY ITC

Source: ITC corporate presentation

# About the Faculty ITC Established: 1950 - Appeal by UN in framework of official development assistance – ODA (joint UT in 2010) Aim: Build capacity for economic development in developing world Main field of science: earth observation, geoinformation science applied to problem-solving in earth sciences, natural and water resources and urban studies (disasters, climate adaptation, water/food security, urbanisation) Achievements: 23 000 alumni (predominantly) mid-career professionals from 170+ countries

 Key numbers: 245 staff, 143 PhD, 200 MSc (150 in house)
 Awards: No.6 of the world in 'remote sensing' in Shanghai Subject Ranking Top rated master program MSc GEO 2015 – 2018 Participating Organisation in GEO for Capacity Development



Rank 6 in remote sensing Top master 2016-2018

#### ITC ESTABLISHED IN 1950 BY MINISTER WILLEM SCHERMERHORN

1950 International Training Centre for Aerial Survey, ITC

1968 International Institute for Aerial Survey and Earth Sciences, ITC

**1985** International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences, ITC 2002 International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation, ITC 2010 Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation, ITC University of Twente

> UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

#### **ITC ALUMNI**





Source: ITC corporate presentation









#### DATA COLLECTION

Satellite data Aerial data Digital Maps Field measurements Tabular data

B. C. Stranger

#### **GIS ANALYSIS**

Modelling Internet GIS Processing Synthesis

#### DATA & INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

Web portals Internet GIS



## APPLICATION on:

- food security
- water management
- urban planning/land administration
- disaster management/climate adaptation
- strengthening civil society
- earth sciences/geohazards-georesources
- environmental management and biodiversity

# RESEARCH THEMES

- 4D Earth
- Acquisition and Quality of Geo-spatial Information
- Forest Agriculture and Environment in the Spatial Sciences
- People, Land and Urban Systems
- Spatio-temporal Analytics, Maps and Processing
- Water Cycle and Climate

























Flux towers CalVal EO satellites Sites in: Kenya Tibet Spain Netherlands



#### WHAT IS ITC AIMING TO ACHIEVE IN 2020 (IN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT)

- Regional training networks where ITC acts as a knowledge broker
- ITC will develop state of the art education (blended learning) that will train the future generation of Geo-information and Earth Observation
- ITC MSc and PhD programs will fulfill real societal demands and appeal to the individual
- ITC will focus on the 'last mile' in order to embed Earth Observation firmly in society
- ITC will train students in entrepreneurial skills and support setting up their own business as professional









- Human resource development, the process of equipping individuals with the understanding, skills and access to information, knowledge and training that enables them to perform effectively.
- Organizational development, the elaboration of management structures, processes and procedures, not only within organizations but also the management of relationships between the different organizations and sectors (public, private and community).
- Institutional and legal framework development, making legal and regulatory changes to enable organizations, institutions and agencies at all levels

BUILDIN

ns, institutions and agencies							
	PURPOSE	FOCUS					
	Human resources development	Supply of technical and professional personnel					
	Organisational strengthening	Strengthen the management capacity of organisations					
	Institutional strengthening	Strengthen the capacity for inter-agency coordination					

#### **NEW Dimensions to Capacity Development**

- The government to government or country to country dimension considering that in a globalizing world countries cannot maintain to operate as stand-alone entities.
- The cross cutting dimension of the government and academic sector against the private sector->'entrepreneurs'
- South South->trilateral collaboration

Source: van der Meer – GEO Mexico presentation



## Our Earth Observation Knowledge domain Is getting connected to society and other Geo technologies



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Rapid acceptation and users Of geospatial data applications and technologies



robo-fly, developed at Harvard, weight < 1g

Source: Veldkamp DIES lecture 2015

Only an estimated 1 % of global population is estimated to be a global citizen. They all have to operate in a local context

# INTERNATIONALIZATION IMPLIES COMBINING GLOBAL AND LOCAL CONTEXTS

- Cultural and context specificity
- Sustainable collaboration
- Network and teamwork on location
- Experimentation together co-creation





#### New trends in EO: the opportunity

- Availability → many more satellites: e.g. EC Copernicus, small sat constellations
- Accessibility  $\rightarrow$  ICT, the Cloud
- Adaptability  $\rightarrow$  standards, adaptable usage (GIS/mobile)
- Affordability → free/low cost data, lower cost value adding
- Acceptability → fit-to-purpose, increased quality level



#### USE OF SPECTROSCOPY IN MINERAL INDUSTRY

Sensor Bands	Panchromatic: 450 - 800 nm 8 Multispectral:				
	Coastal:	400 - 45	i0 nm	Red:	630 - 690 nm
	Blue:	450 - 51	0 nm	Red Edge:	705 - 745 nm
	Green:	510 - 58	80 nm	Near-IR1:	770 - 895 nm
	Yellow:	585 - 62	25 nm	Near-IR2:	860 - 1040 nm
	8 SWIR Bands:				
	SWIR-1:	1195 - 1	225 nm	SWIR-5:	2145 - 2185 nm
	SWIR-2:	1550 - 1	590 nm	SWIR-6:	2185 - 2225 nm
	SWIR-3:	1640 - 1	680 nm	SWIR-7:	2235 - 2285 nm
	SWIR-4:	1710 - 1	750 nm	SWIR-8:	2295 - 2365 nm
	12 CAVIS Bands:				
	Desert Clouds:		20 nm	Water-3:	930 - 965 nm
	Aerosol-1:	459 - 509 nm 525 - 585 nm 635 - 685 nm		NDVI-SWIR: Cirrus:	1220 - 1252 nm 1365 - 1405 nm
	Green:				
	Aerosol-2:			Snow:	1620 - 1680 nm
	Water-1:	845 - 88	85 nm	Aerosol-3:	2105 - 2245 nm
	Water-2:	897 - 92	?7 nm	Aerosol-3:	2105 - 2245 nm
Sensor Resolution	Panchromatic N	Nadir:	0.31 m		
(or GSD, Ground Sample	20° Off-Na	adir:	0.34 m		
Distance; off-nadir is	Multispectral N	ladir:	1.24 m		
geometric mean)	20° Off-Na	adir:	1.38 m		
	SWIR Nadir:		3.70 m		
	20° Off-Na	adir:	4.10 m		
	CAVIS Nadir:		30.00 m		



Worldview 3

VNIR 1.24 m

 
 Visible (V)
 Near Infrared (NIR)
 Short Wave Infrared (SWIR)

 Picture
 Veg
 Iron
 Man made
 Racks

 Landsat 8 (30 m)
 ASTER (15/30 m)
 WV 3 only
 Iron
 Iron



SWIR 7.5 m (3.7 m native only for authorized users) Alteration mapping scale ~1:15,000/1:7,000

#### Source: David W. Coulter



#### REMOTE SENSING EMBEDDED IN THE OIL&GAS SECTOR





Source: Christian Haselwimmer, Chevron





#### Example using Accumulation Measurements (Rice, Mekong Delta, Vietnam)

Rice yield estimates; 58 sites (Nguyen Thi Thu Ha et al., in prep.)



#### Monitoring crop health status



SPURRING A TRANSFORMATION FOR AGRICULTURE THROUGH REMOTE SENSING



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Source: De By (ITC), Becker-Reshef (University of Maryland)

## Crop Monitor Tanzania from data to information



Provides real- time information on crop conditions to support decisions such as mobilization of food, grain storage, food reserve purchases, market intelligence that can promote private industry

> **Example for prototype in May** Map depicting crop conditions in each region over cropland areas. Where conditions are below average, an icon with the driver is provided. i.e. in Morogoro, dryness and pests were negatively impacting crop conditions



#### Prototype National Food Security Bulletin-Tanzania Bringing RS, tablet, & online GIS tools together



## **Real-time DATA leading TO Informed DECISIONS**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015 I Last Updated 3 Hours Age



Figure 3: Crop Conditions in Rupa Sub-County August 13, 2015. A food security monitoring officer talking to a farmer whose maize garden totally failed.



Figure 4: Crop Conditions in Nadunget Sub-County August 14, 2014

The above garden should have been at harvest stage at the time the above photograph wa

On 17th August 2015, the Hon. Minister for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and wrote and physically delivered a letter to the Hon. Minister of Finance poir worsening situation. On 24th August 2015, the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister called Ministers for Finance, Agriculture, and Disaster on the subject. The meeting wa the Minister for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Management and attended an by the PS /Secretary to Treasury who promised to avail funds within one week; for de house of hear or leaved





Food security report presented to **Inter-Ministerial Committee** September 25, 2015

#### Govt to distribute relief food to Karamoja



Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda chaired a meeting that discussed the food situation in Karamoja region. (File photo)

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newvision

Print Mail 7 Share



First trucks of relief food dispatched September 26, 2015

#### DROUGHT AND EAST AFRICAN PASTORALISTS

- Horn of Africa:
  - > 20 million pastoralists that depend on livestock
  - exports of livestock & livestock products > \$1billion
  - drought is main cause of livestock loss → source of poverty
  - standard responses (food/cash aid) are slow, costly, and insufficient
- Insurance as option?





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#### **INSURING ANIMALS?**



- Traditional insurance: need to check losses  $\rightarrow$  \$\$
  - In remote areas: no cost-effective options to check losses
- Alternative: Index insurance:
  - base premium and payout on a biophysical index
    - correlates to losses
    - key issue: basis risk

#### index construction

Drought occurrence can be estimated in many ways->chosen for forage scarcity index as a measure of areaaverage seasonal forage availability





#### PIXEL-BASED PHENOLOGY RESULTS (2001-2014 AVERAGE)



#### CAN WE PREDICT CUMNDVI VARIABILITY BEFORE EOS?





#### SO HOW DOES THIS HELP?

- Phenological analysis provides better seasonal definitions
  - Forage scarcity index relates to when forage is developing
  - Large spatial variability
  - Needed if moving to new areas
- Insurance payments can be made 1-3 month earlier
  - considering also season predictability (overall similar payout)
  - accounting for NDVI filtering important (rainy season likely more clouds)
  - Iocation-dependent
- Earlier payment may allow protection livestock
  - purchase of forage, water, medicines OR movement livestock



#### Some slides from the ADPC work







#### POINTS FOR DISCUSSION?

- EO and market development: stimulating entrepeneurships
- ITC will train students in entrepreneurial skills and support setting up their own business as professional
- Expanding our collaboration: from ADPC to other Hubs

#### ACKNOWLEDGING MY COLLEAGUES!

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- STARS program, Rolf De By, <u>r.a.deby@utwente.nl</u>
- Insurance based livestock, Anton Vrieling, <u>a.vrieling@utwente.nl</u>



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V DANA