



Aerospace Information Research Institute (AIR)  
Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)

 GEOGLAM  
Global Agricultural Monitoring

 CropWatch

 • GEO

 GEOARC

# CropWatch Cloud Platform



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On behalf of the CropWatch team, AIRCAS

South Africa National GEO Capacity development workshop  
4<sup>th</sup> June 2024

# CropWatch Cloud Platform



- CropWatch is a satellite-based global crop monitoring system using a hierarchical approach, providing agro-climatic indicators, agronomic indicators, area, yield and production information at different scales



Cropwatch Pro

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Cropwatch Online

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Cropwatch Project

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Cropwatch Bulletin

Enter

## CropWatch-Pro

- An online tool for people to produce crop monitoring products at any time and anywhere

## CropWatch-Explorer

- An online interface for people to explore and analysis all the crop information data easily

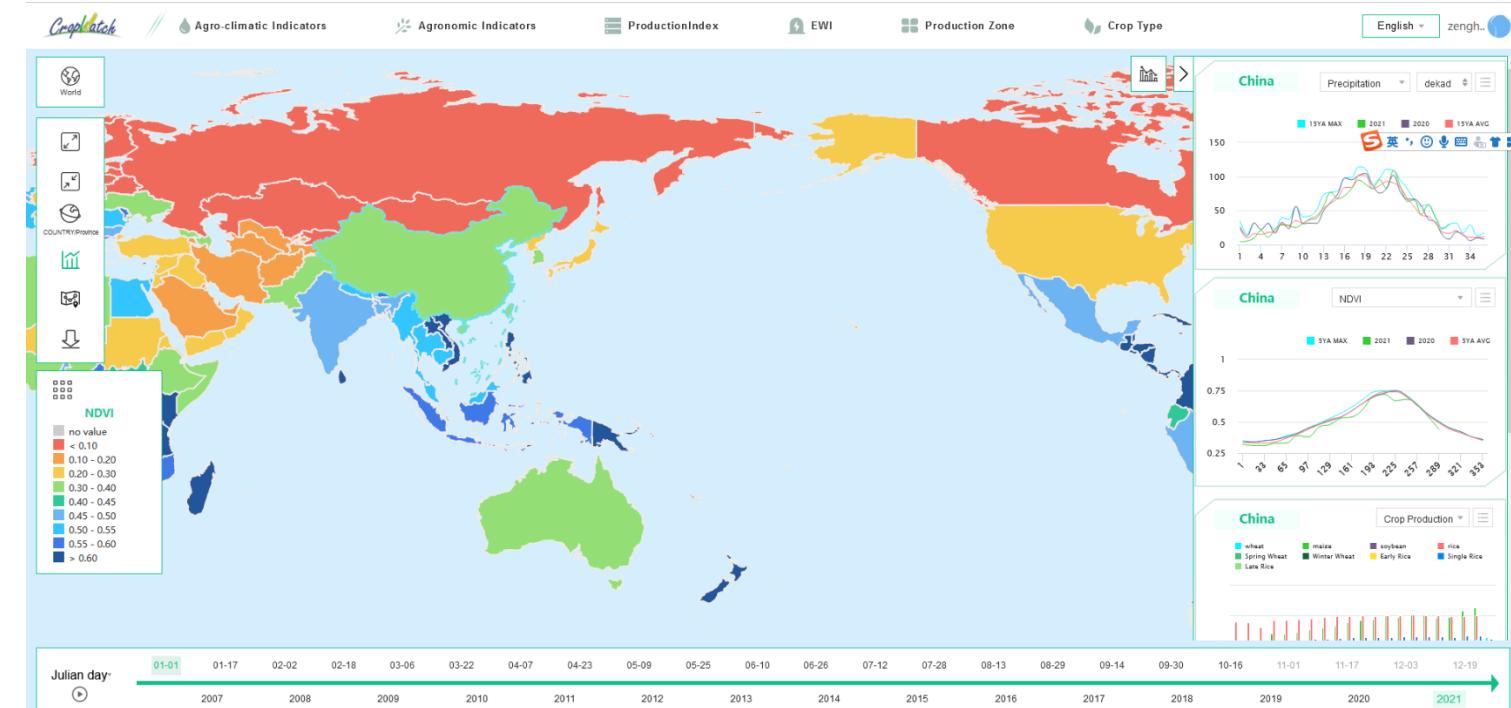
## CropWatch-Project

- An online platform for people to create and write the crop bulletin

## CropWatch-Bulletins

- An web page for people to read CropWatch bulletin

[cloud.cropwatch.com.cn](http://cloud.cropwatch.com.cn)





CropWatch Pro dev

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CropWatch Explorer

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CropWatch Analysis

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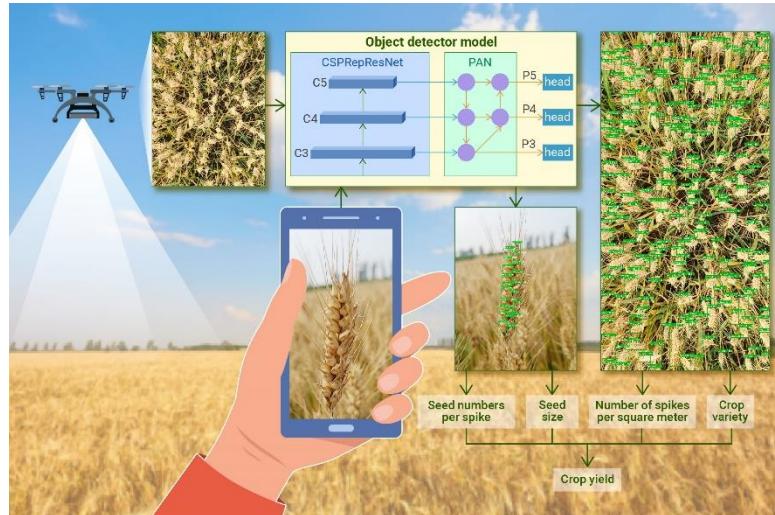
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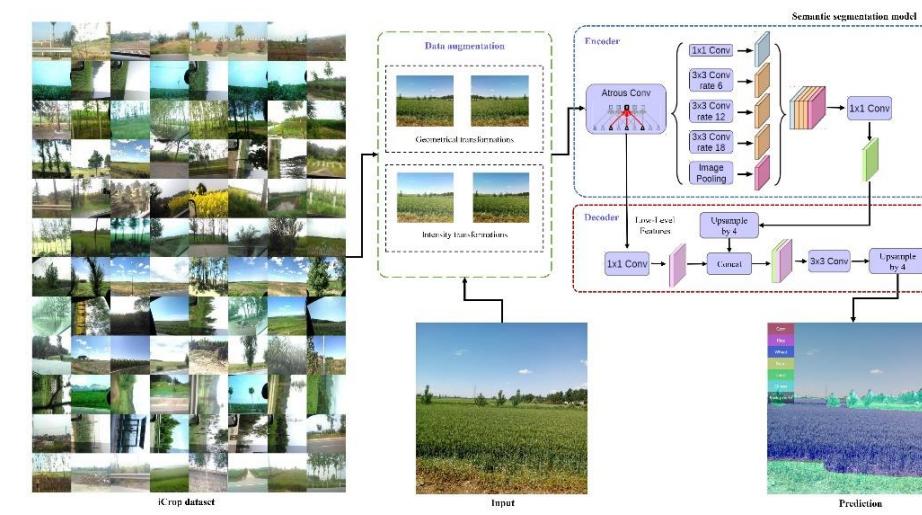
# Tools for ground truth data collection



- The field data collection prevents most systems have crop area and yield components
  - Cost, labor and time consuming
- Two tools developed for free use
  - GVG app for crop identification and FieldWatch for yield measurement with image recognition



**FieldWatch for yield data measurements**

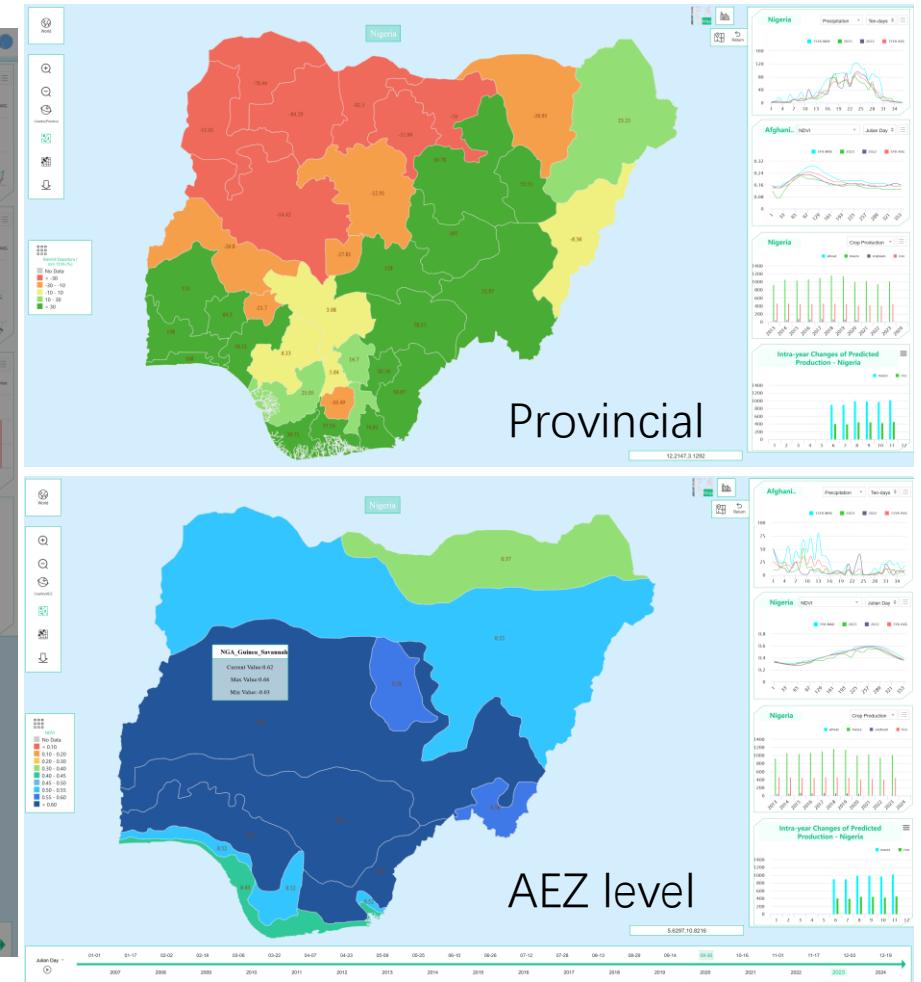


**GVG Crop type identification from geo-tagged photos**

## Dashboard provide comprehensive view of crop conditions

Information available for all countries and provinces and update every 10 days

- Rain, temp, radiation, biomass
- VIs, fAPAR, Cropping intensity, Drought, Fallow, etc



# CropWatch quarterly bulletins and monthly updates

CropWatch releases the global crop reports to the public every 3 months through the website, everyone can access freely and easily, providing an alternative way to use agricultural information for policy making.



**May 2024 CropWatch Bulletin**

May 2024 CropWatch Bulletin is based mainly on current remote sensing inputs in addition to detailed and spatially accurate reference data about crops and their management. Focusing on the months of January to April 2024, chapters cover global, national, and regional level agroclimatic conditions and the condition of crops that were growing during this time. For China, the bulletin presents crop conditions for each of seven key agro-ecological zones. The focus section reports on the global crop production index, the estimate by CropWatch for maize, rice, wheat and soybeans production in 2024, recent conflicts and disaster events with an impact on agriculture, the possibility of an El Niño conditions event and the impact of drought on world food supply.

[Bulletin >](#)

**CROPWATCH SUBSYSTEM**

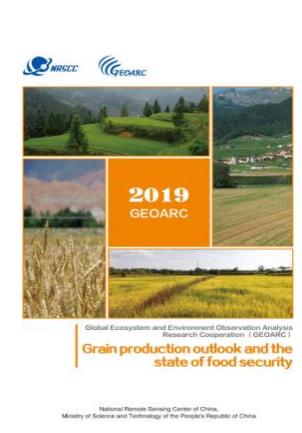
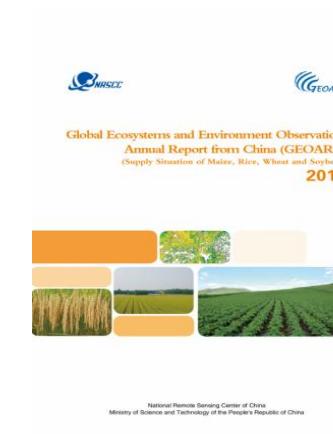
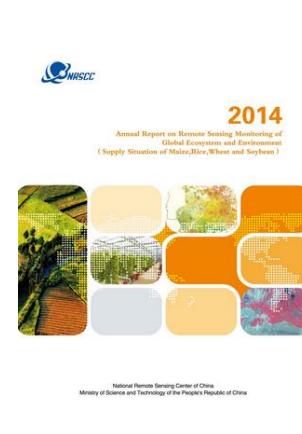
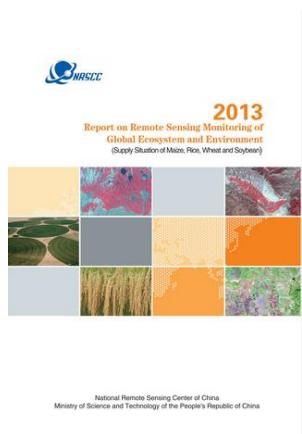
**CropWatch Pro**      **CropWatch Explorer**      **CropWatch Analysis**      **CropWatch Bulletin**

[Click To Enter >](#)      [Click To Enter >](#)      [Click To Enter >](#)      [Click To Enter >](#)

All quarterly bulletins can be downloaded from here:  
<http://cloud.cropwatch.com.cn/web/report>

# Annual Summary Report

- CropWatch would publish the Global Crop Production Annual Outlook for the Global Ecosystem and Environment Observation Analysis Research Cooperation (GEOARC) with the support of ChinaGEO.
- The annual report covers the highlighted events affecting food security, the annual summary of global agricultural monitoring and food security outlook.



Global Ecosystem and Environment Observation  
Analysis Research Cooperation(GEOARC)

**Crop Production Outlook and the State of  
Food Security**

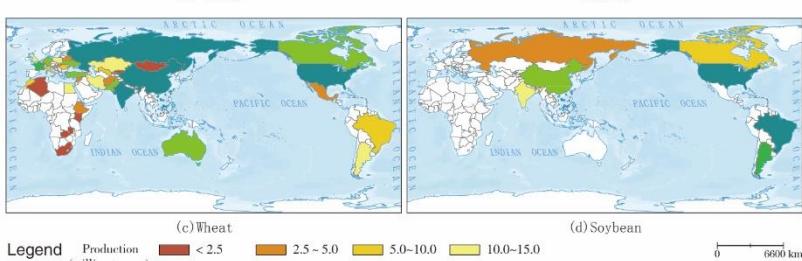
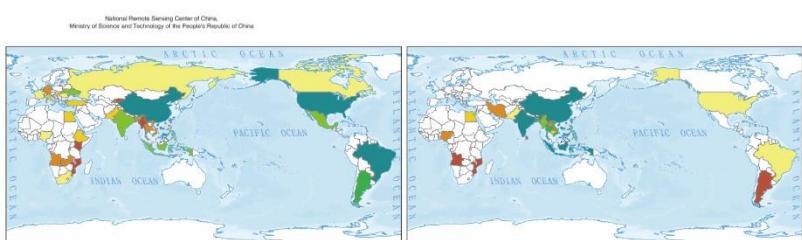
National Remote Sensing Center of China

Access address: <http://www.chinageoss.cn/geoarc>

## Drought mitigation and fallow land

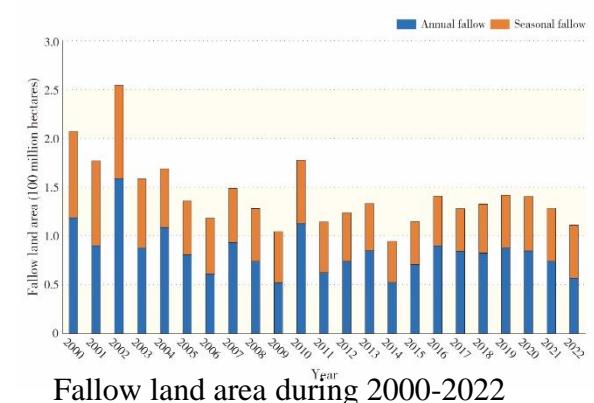
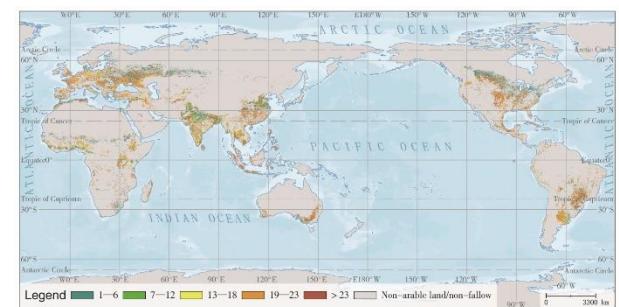
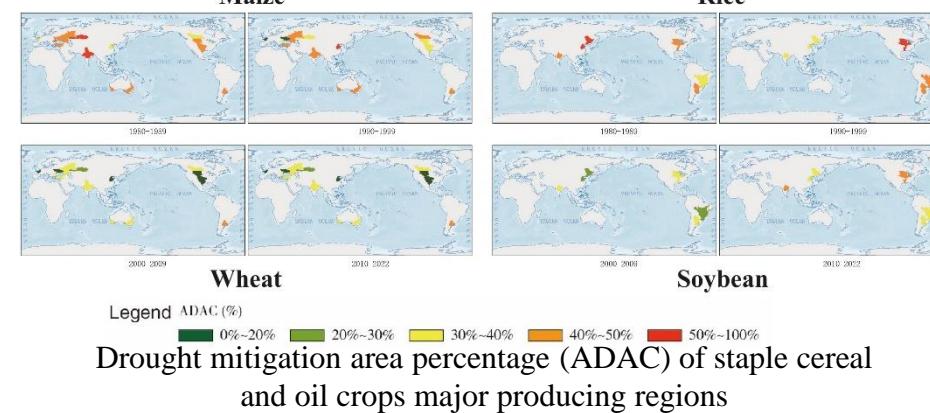
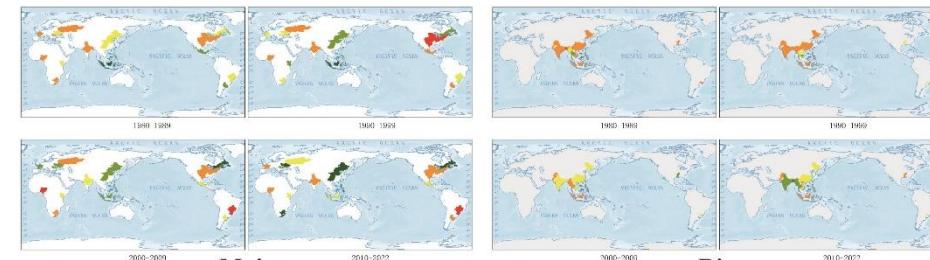


Global Ecosystem and Environment Observation Analysis Research Cooperation (GEOARC)  
Crop Production Outlook and the State of Food Security



Production of staple cereal and oil crops in 47 major producing countries, 2023

- Global staple cereal and oil crops production of 2023 is estimated to reach **2,876.96 million tonnes**, up 0.6%
- Drought mitigation capabilities in global staple cereal and oil crops major producing regions have **improved significantly with measures including** improved irrigation, mulching, conservation tillage, crop structure adjustment and planting drought-resistant varieties
- Global fallow land area reduced **46.4%** 2022 from 2000, indicating the global cropland utilization efficiency has steadily increased



# Capacity building activities across the globe

- Currently work closely with 10 countries, and will gradually include more countries at risk
- 14 countries join online training coordinated by UNCTAD



## **Russia:**

Technical training; Joint field survey; Work plan ready for bilateral cooperation on crop monitoring;

## **Mongolia:**

DroughtWatch Customization; Technical training; Joint research

## **Viet Nam:**

Work plan ready for bilateral cooperation on crop monitoring; Technical training;

## **Sri Lanka:**

DroughtWatch Customization; Technical training;

## **Cambodia:**

DroughtWatch Customization; Technical training;

## **Zambia:**

High resolution cropland mapping; Technical training; Joint research

## **Myanmar:**

Work plan ready for bilateral cooperation on crop monitoring; Technical training;

## **Thailand:**

Real time communication between CropWatch and Agri-MAP; Technical training;

## **Zimbabwe:**

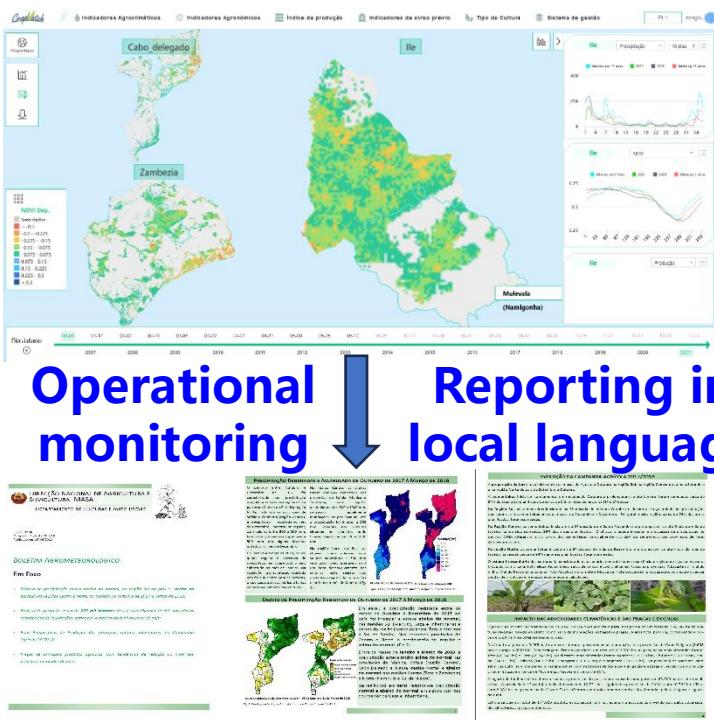
High resolution cropland mapping; Joint research

## **Mozambique:**

CropWatch Cloud Customization; Technical training; Joint research

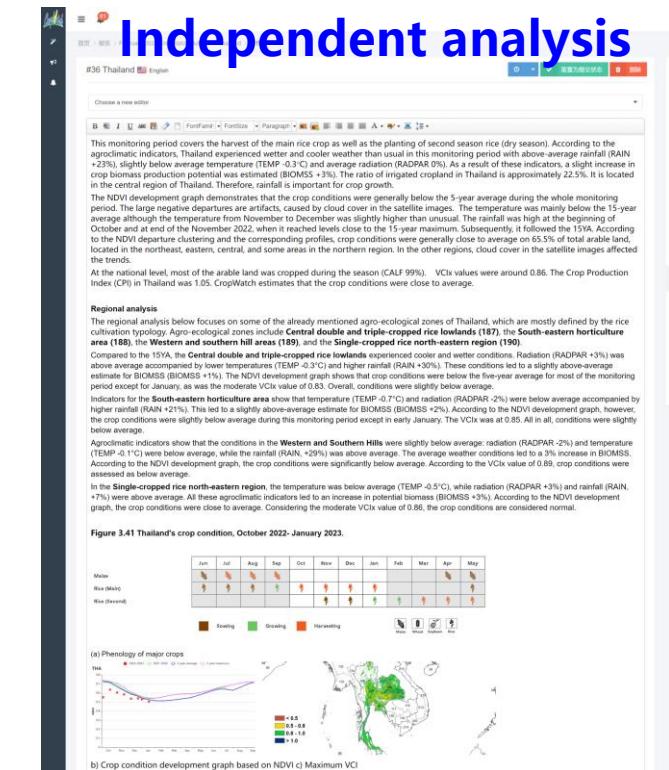
# CropWatch provides three service modes

- Customization of CropWatch and/or development of CMS for specific needs (Mozambique)
- Data processing engine and access data for local services (Thailand)
- Independent analysis for a country or AOIs (Argentina, Cambodia, Mongolia)



## Data processing and exchanges through APIs

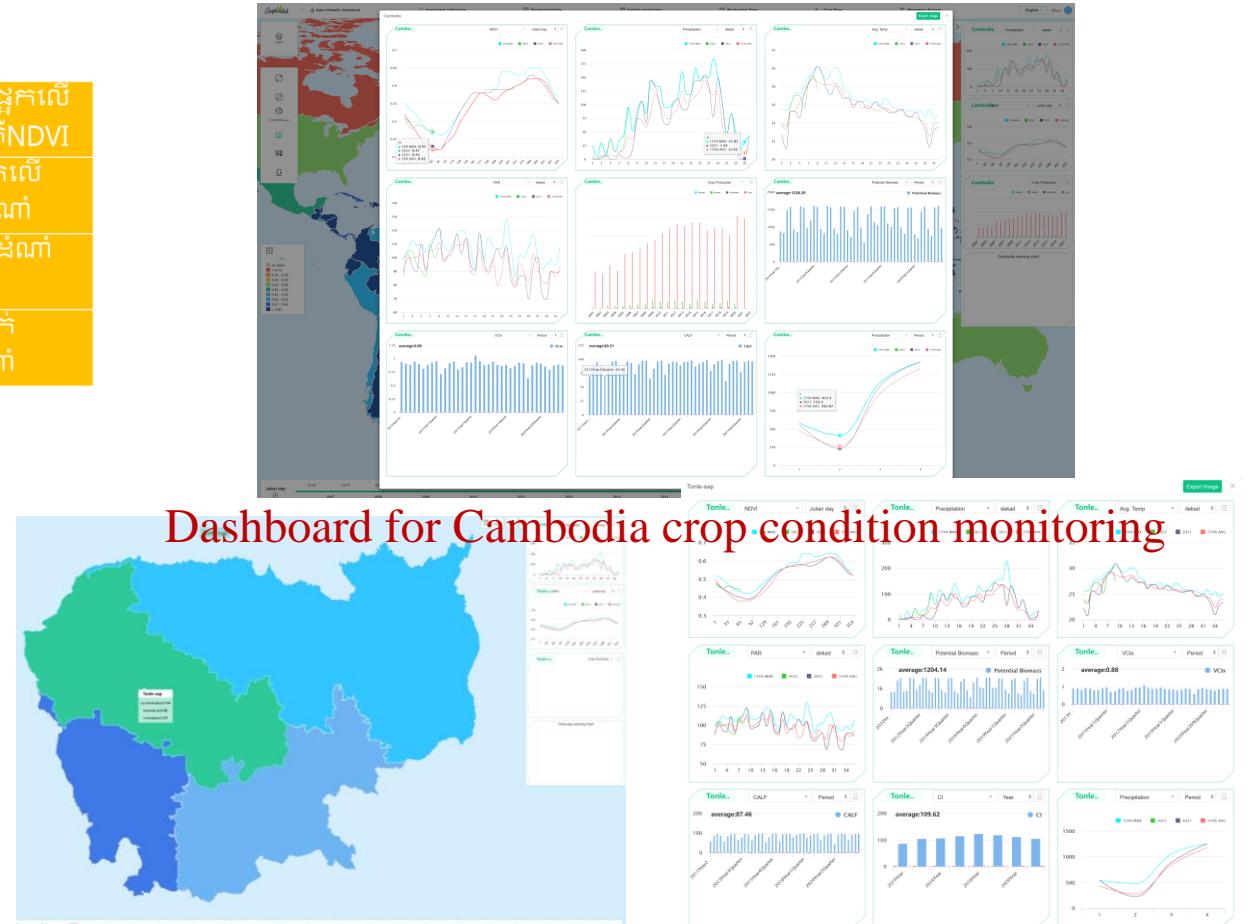
- Precipitation
- Temperature
- Radiation
- Biomass
- NDVI
- VCIx
- CALF
- VHI
- etc



# System customization for Cambodia

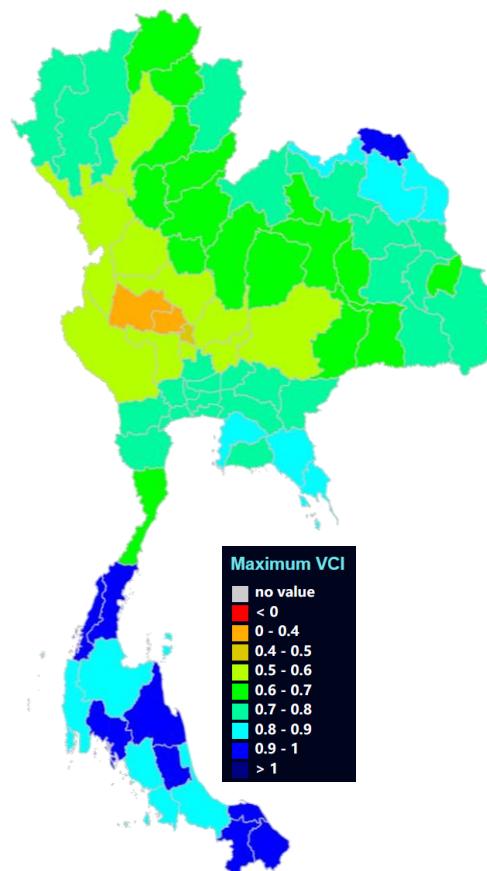
- Interfaces translated into the local language
- CropWatch4Cambodia provides detailed information of all available indicators (agro-climatic, agronomic, production, etc) for both national and sub-national units

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# Case in THA: CropWatch acting data processing engine

CropWatch and AGRI-Map of Thailand develop data access portal through APIs to share the indicators and data to each other.



Provides Earth Observation-based Indicators through APIs:

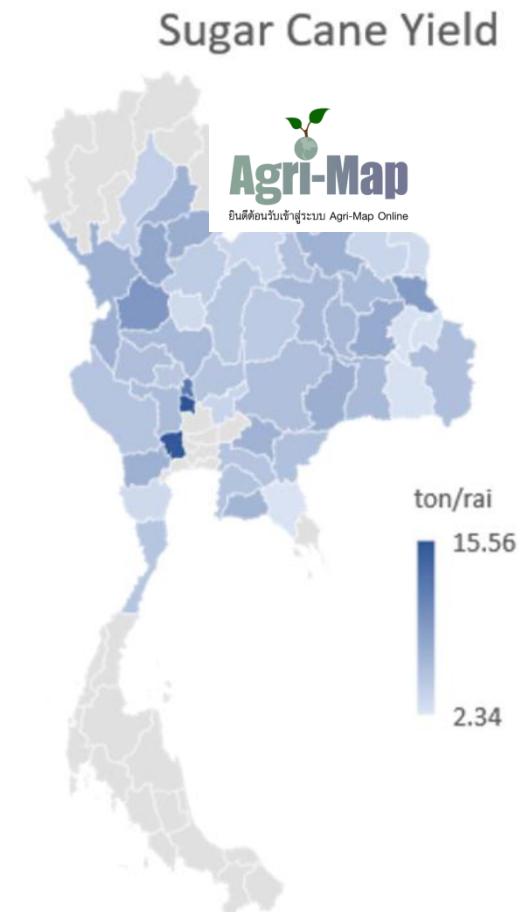
- Precipitation
- Temperature
- Radiation
- Biomass
- NDVI
- VCIx
- CALF
- VHI
- etc

Dynamically updated with latest CropWatch EO indicators

EO-based indicators feeding into AI models

Ground station weather information

Supporting high resolution meteorological data producing and services



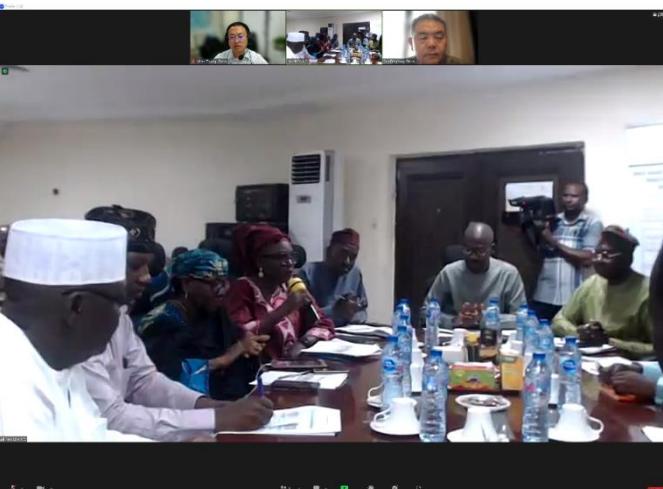
Support by UNESCAP

# Activities in Nigeria NASRDA

- MOU between AIRCAS CropWatch team and Nigerian Aerospace Agency (NASRDA) on Cooperation to strengthen capacity building on crop monitoring was signed on 4 July 2022

- Activities

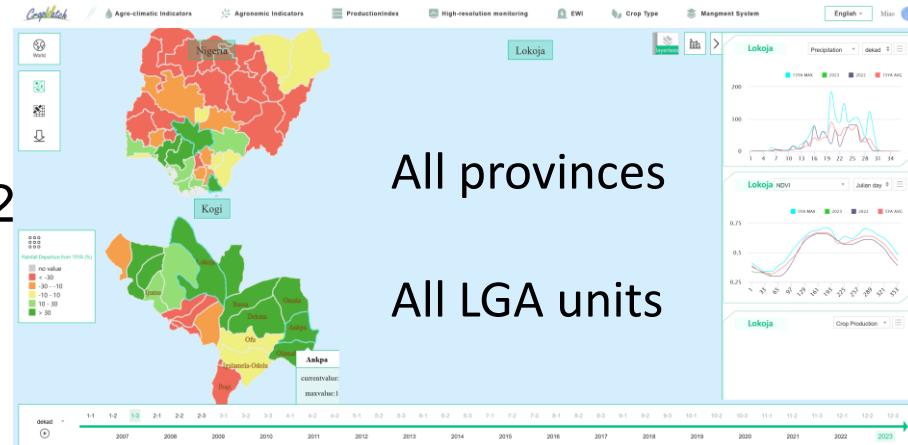
- Project implementation team
- Implementation and work plan
- All indicators for all provinces, and 775 LGA units available
- Showcase at GEO annual workshop
- Two stakeholder meetings involving 11 agencies



1<sup>st</sup> Stakeholder meeting involving 16 agencies

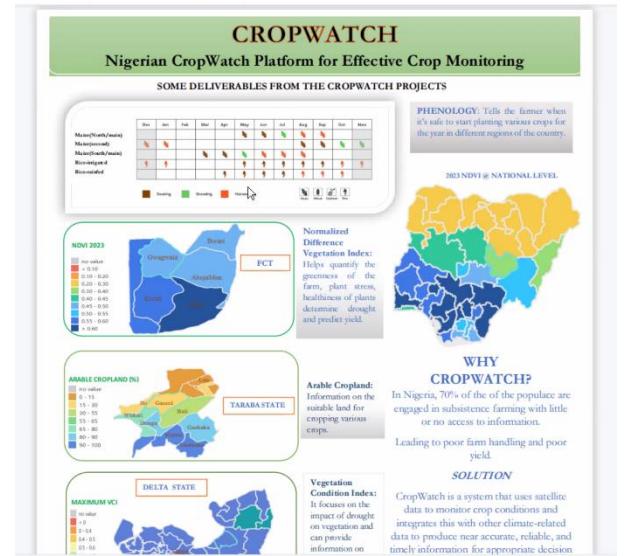


2<sup>nd</sup> Stakeholder meeting



CropWatch customization for Nigeria

## Distributed bulletins in Nigeria



# Steps to implement CropWatch

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- Requirements analysis, targeting crops, monitoring units
- Stakeholder meeting for further requirement analysis
- Formulation of work plans and baseline data preparation
- Trainings both in house and field, at national and subnational levels
- Joint customization, independent models incorporated
- Analysis, reporting and services independently, technical support remotely
  - guarantee that CropWatch cloud is available, accessible, functional, flexible
- Promoting ownership and no investment needed for infrastructure

# CropWatch Vision

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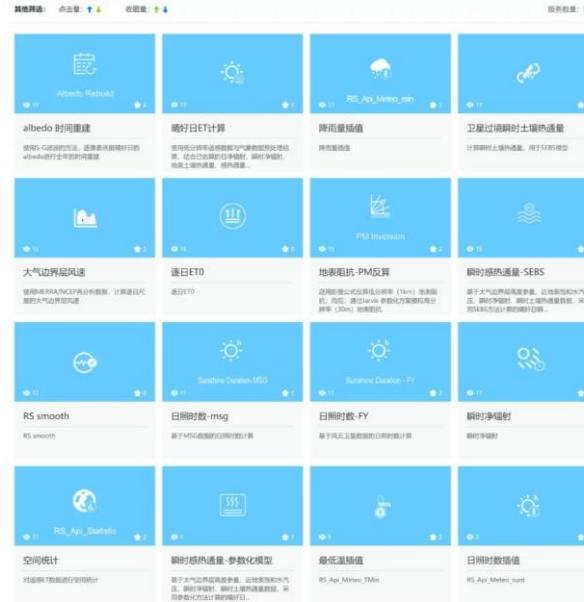
- Promoting ownership
  - Customized according to the specific demand for each country and work as a national/regional system
- Respecting privacy and data sovereignty
  - Providing crop monitoring APIs to address the data sovereignty
  - Countries will strengthen the agricultural monitoring capacity on their own
- Reducing constraints
  - Cloud based system assessable from internet everywhere without investment on computing infrastructure, storage, etc

# Users to conduct crop monitoring on your own

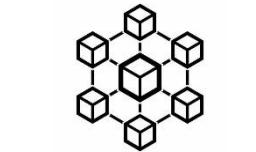
- Through training, we expect users to carry out self-serviced crop monitoring by selecting their preferred indicators, models for the user's area of interest, allowing users actively involved from remote sensing data preparation to the final synthesized analysis



Smart APPs  
providing ground  
truth data  
support



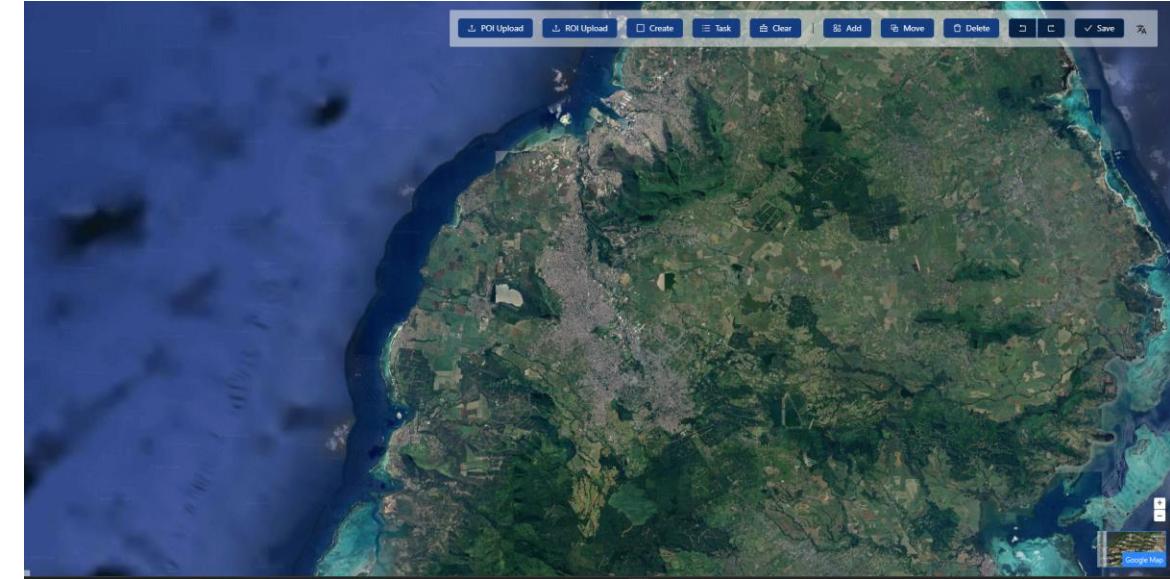
API Center



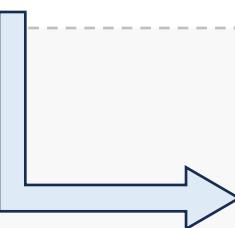
Microservice



Process  
engine



User-defined roi, indicators, models and  
self-calibration



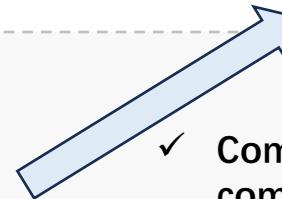
Dockerization



Deploy



User devices



Edge computing mode

- ✓ Computation on user devices, enabling users allocate computing resources for high-performance tasks.
- ✓ Data retained locally, protecting user data sovereignty.

# Take home message



- Website <http://cloud.cropwatch.com.cn/>
- GVG APP: <https://gvgserver.cropwatch.com.cn/download> (Android)  
<https://apps.apple.com/py/app/gvg%E5%86%9C%E6%83%85%E9%87%87%E9%9B%86/id1244686128> (iOS)
- FieldWatch APP:  
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.wisewoods.xtt&pli=1>
- CropWatch Knowledge Package on GEO Knowledge Hub: <https://gkhub.earthobservations.org/packages/pps5h-ea276>
- Archive bulletins: <http://cloud.cropwatch.com.cn/site/bulletin>
- Research publications: <http://cloud.cropwatch.com.cn/publications/index>
- Email address: [cropwatch@aircas.ac.cn](mailto:cropwatch@aircas.ac.cn)

# Openly shared datasets



- Global cropland mask @30m: [https://data.casearth.cn/thematic/cbas\\_2022/158](https://data.casearth.cn/thematic/cbas_2022/158)
- Global cropping intensity @30m: <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/86M4PO>  
[https://data.casearth.cn/thematic/cbas\\_2022/160](https://data.casearth.cn/thematic/cbas_2022/160)
- Global irrigation proportion @100m: <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/HKBAQQ>
- Global crop area, yield and production: <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/G1HBNK>
- Synthesis of Global ET: <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/ZGOUED>
- Africa Cropland Layer: <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13520141.v1>

# Thank you !

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