Copernicus Sentinel: Geo-data for Innovative Agricultural Credit Insurance Schemes

Organisations
European Space Agency (ESA), University of Twente

Region
Ethiopia

Background

Environmental damage and climate change are issues that impact humanity at a global level, requiring responses that go beyond national borders. In 2016 the third European Sentinel satellite added to the growing array of earth-observing instruments offering greater open data based information, aimed at helping to counter environmental damage and mitigate against climate change.

Approach

This innovative satellite monitors wildfires, maps the way land is used, checks vegetation health and measures the height of rivers and lakes. The data is then published openly for all to use. This data powers the University of Twente's Geo-data for Innovative Agricultural Credit Insurance Schemes (GIACIS) project which launched an agricultural micro-insurance product in 2016.

Results

The GIACIS project is a remotely sensed driven scheme aimed to secure farmers against investment losses that are at peril due to droughts. Through this open data project around 200,000 Ethiopian farmers were reached in 2016, and now have access to agricultural insurance to protect them against crop losses, with the aim to reach 15 million by 2025.

200,000 Ethiopian farmers were reached and now have access to agricultural insurance

Further reading

- GODAN (2018) "Success Stories Issue 1", https://www.godan.info/sites/default/files/documents/GODAN_Success_Stories_Brochure_Issue_1.pdf
- University of Twente's Faculty of Geo-information Science and Earth Observation (2016), "National Insurance Scheme launched to cover Ethiopian farmers against risks", https://www.itc.nl/news/2016/3/205688/national-insurance-scheme-launched-to-cover-ethiopian-farmers-against-risks