# Earth Observations for Early Detection of Agricultural Drought in Countries at Risk:

# Contributions of the Famine Early Warning Systems Network

Jim Verdin<sup>1</sup>, Chris Funkl<sup>2</sup>, Diego Redreros <sup>2</sup>, Gabriel Senay<sup>1</sup>, Jim Rowland<sup>1</sup> Greg Husak<sup>2</sup>, Hari Jayanthi<sup>1</sup>

1. USGS Earth Resources Observation and Science Center

2. Climate Hazards Group, University of California, Santa Barbara

Drought-stunted maize, Kenya, 2002





#### Famine Early Warning Systems Network

An activity of the USAID Office of Food for Peace supporting its goal:

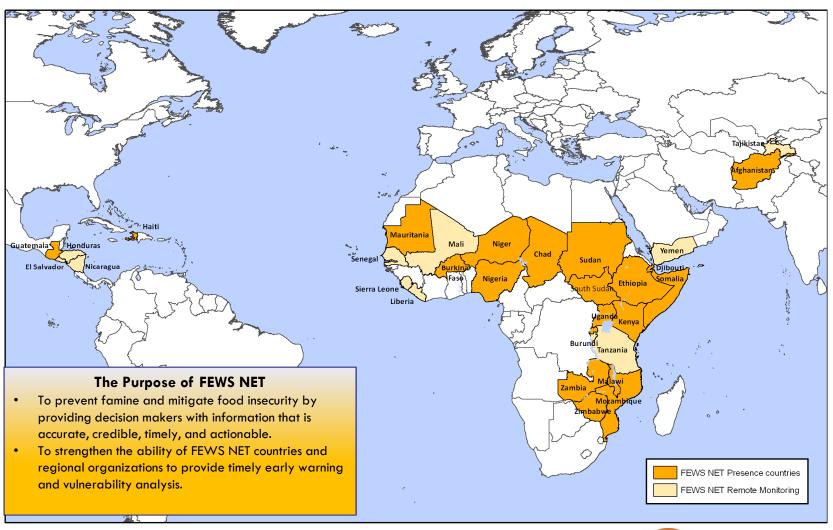
"to ensure that appropriate...
emergency food aid is
provided to the right people
in the right places at the right
time and in the right way"







#### The FEWS NET World







### Famine Early Warning Systems Network

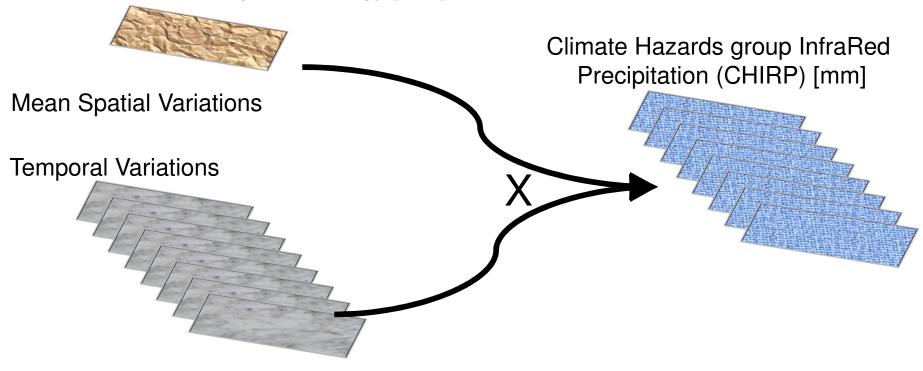
- Livelihood systems are based on subsistence agriculture and/or pastoralism, and are highly climatesensitive
- Conventional climate station networks are sparse and/or late reporting
- Satellite remote sensing and models fill the gap, and provide the basis for early detection of agricultural drought





#### **UCSB Climate Hazard Group Rainfall Estimation**

Climate Hazards Group Climatology [mm]

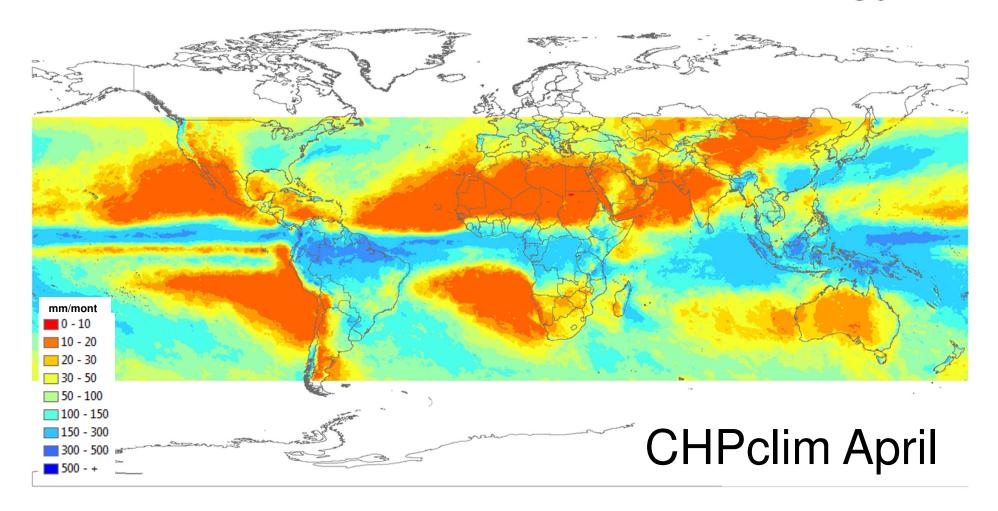


Cold Cloud Duration Precipitation Anomalies [%]





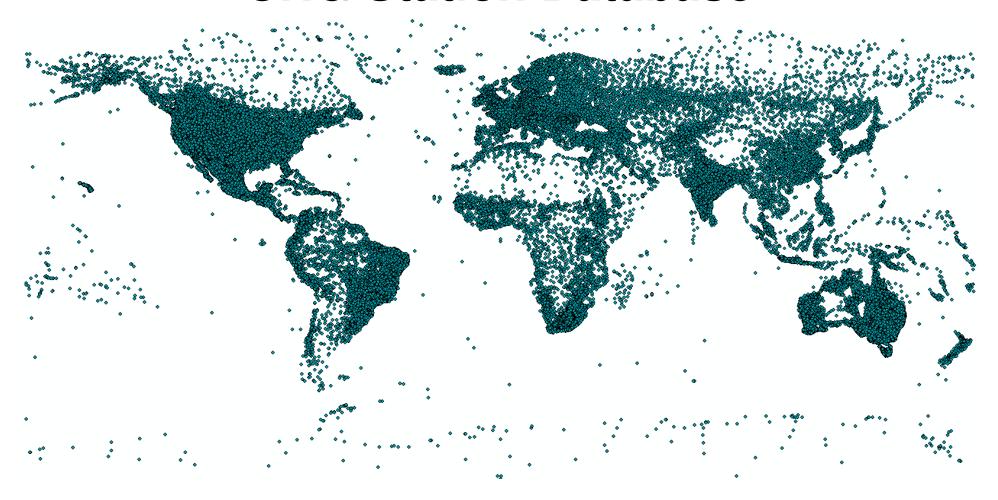
## The CHG Precipitation Climatology







#### **CHG Station Database**



CHG climatology based on UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Global Historical Climate Network (GHCN) precipitation normals, 1980-2009 baseline.

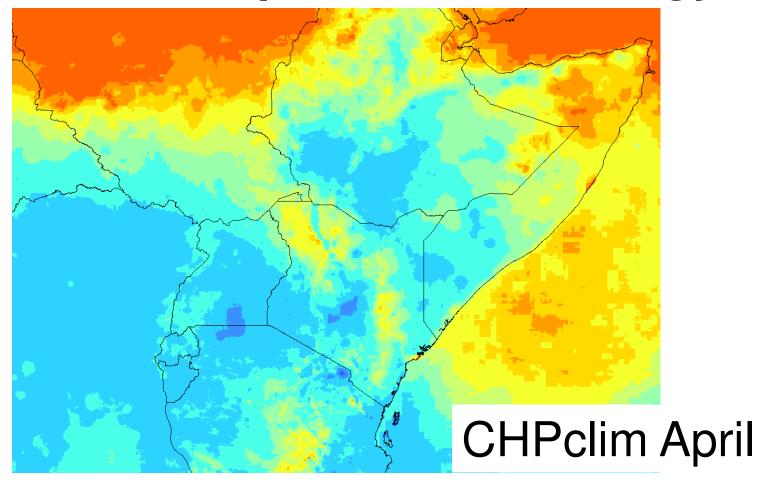
# **Gridded Climatology Moving Window Regression - Predictors**

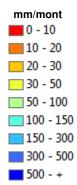
- Physiographic Predictors
  - Latitude, Longitude, Digital Elevation Model, Slope
- Satellite mean fields
  - CMORPH mean precipitation
  - Tropical Rainfall Monitoring Mission (TRMM) mean precipitation
  - MODIS mean Land Surface Temperatures
- Global (50°N-50°S), 0.05° resolution, monthly





# The CHG Precipitation Climatology

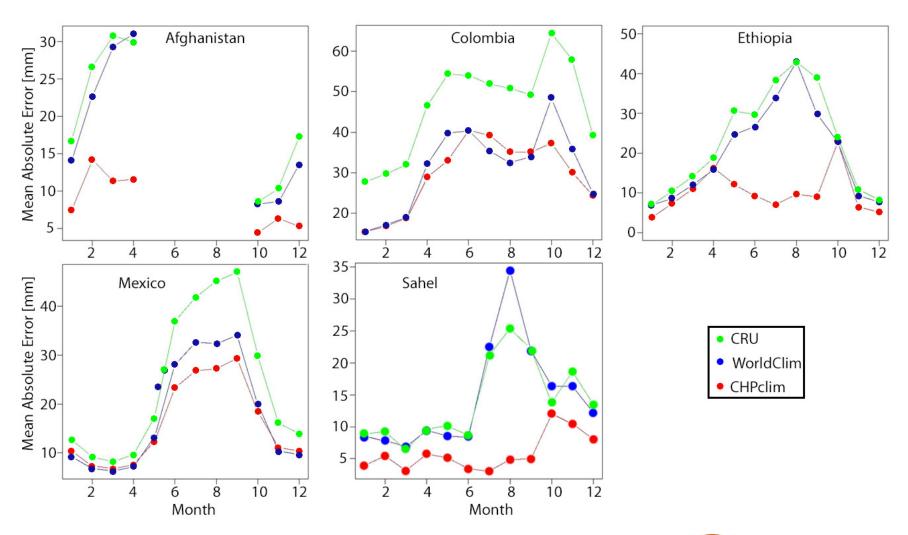








#### Mean absolute error time series [mm month<sup>-1</sup>]

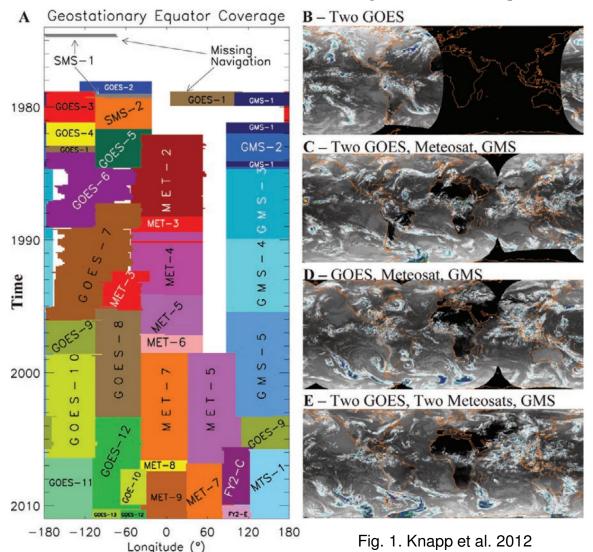








#### **Geostationary IR Composites**



NOAA NCDC

ISCCP B1 Infrared Imagery Data Rescue

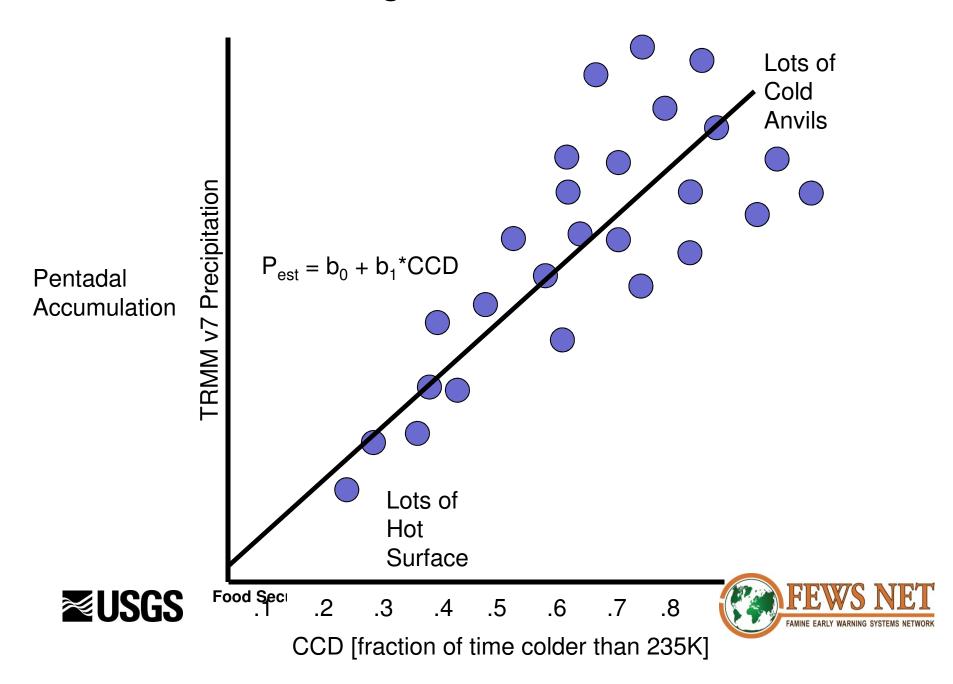
**Basis for Cold Cloud Duration** (CCD) Calculation

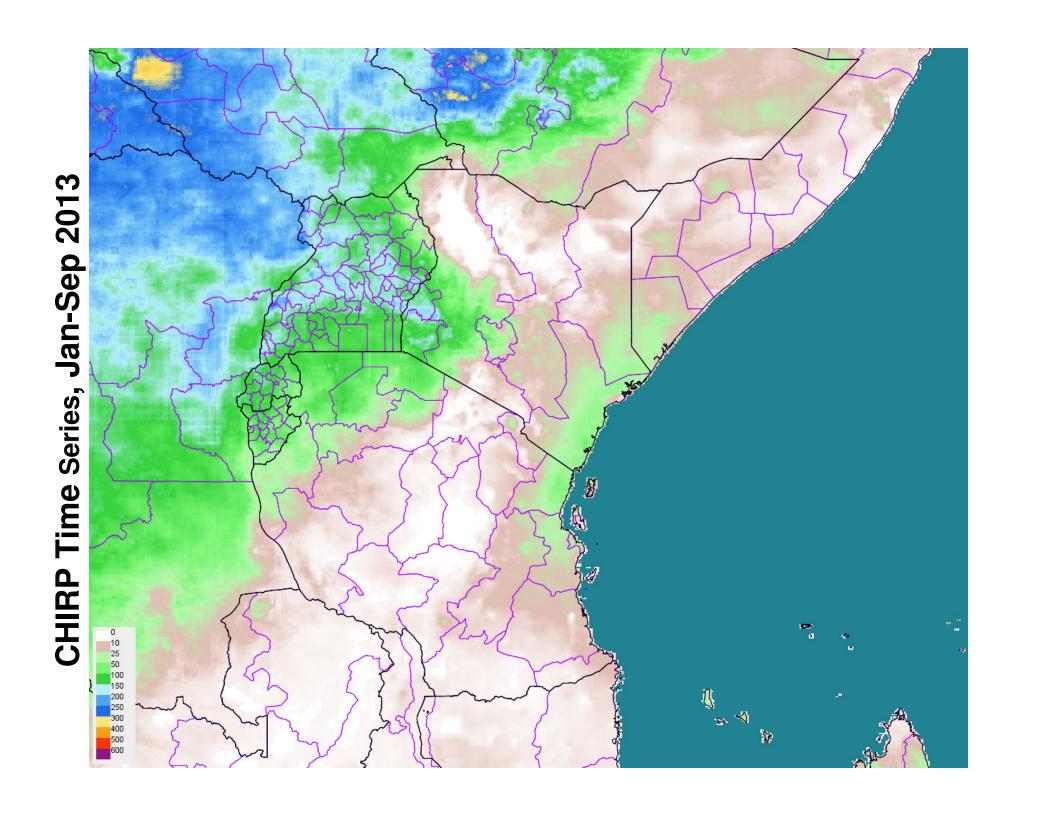


Food Security, Earth Observations and Agricultural Monitoring

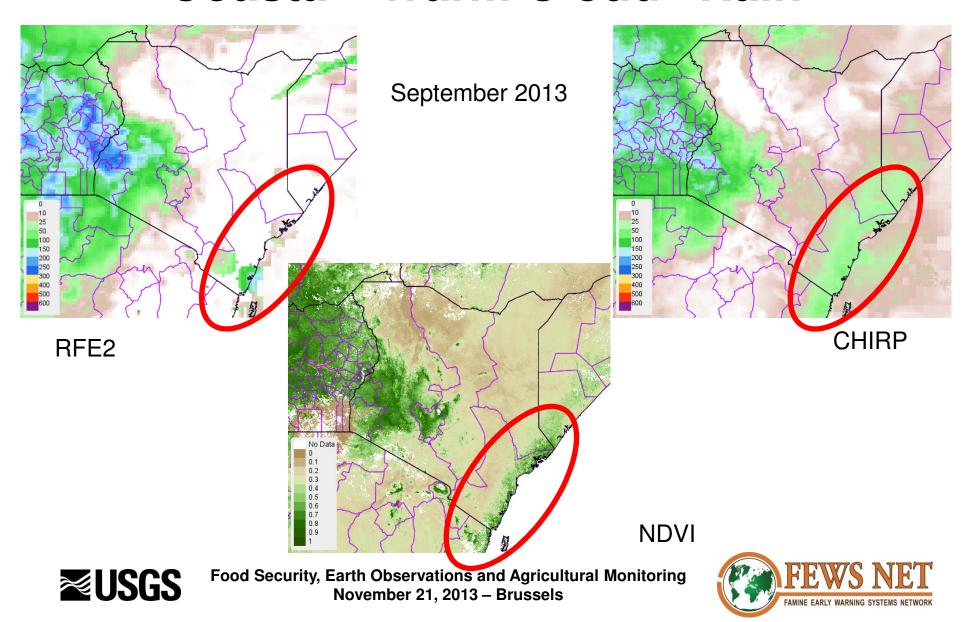
November 21, 2013 - Brussels

#### **Estimating Rainfall based on CCD**

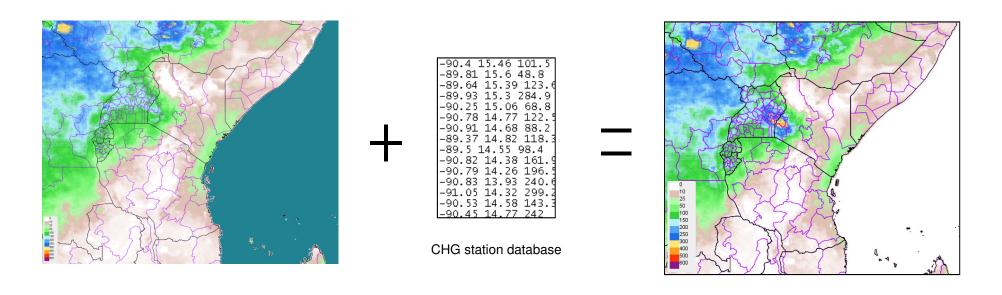




#### Coastal "Warm Cloud" Rain



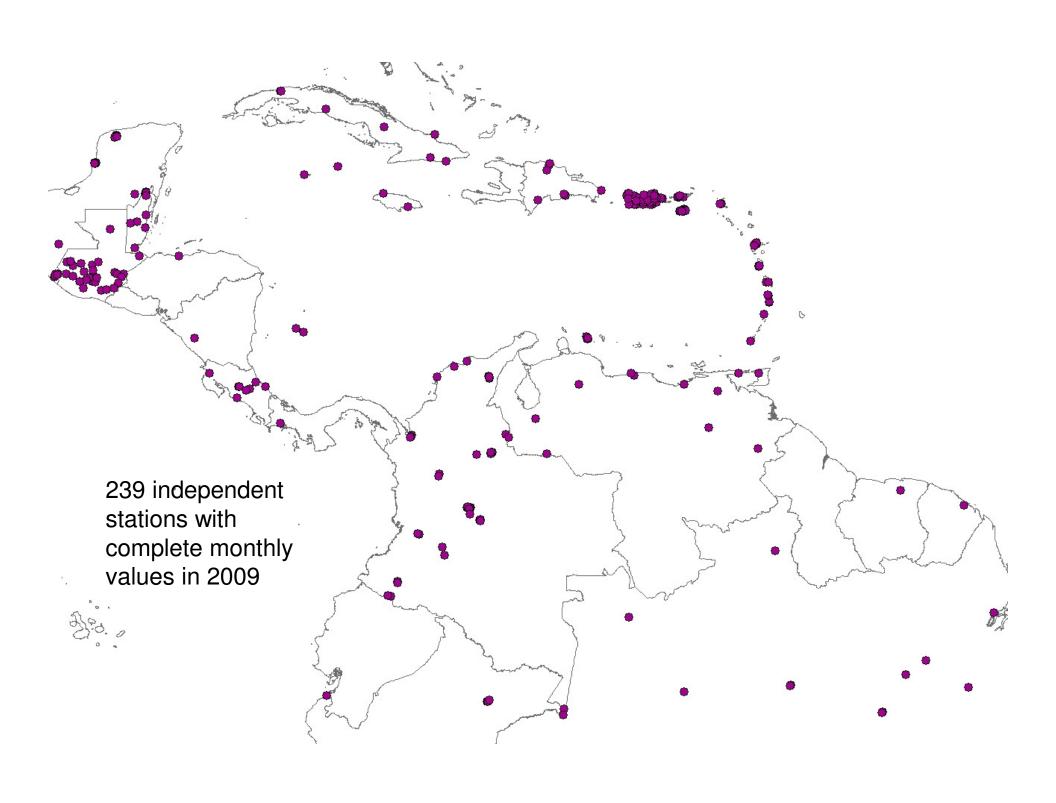
# Climate Hazard group Infra Red Precipitation with Stations (CHIRPS)



#### **CHIRP + stations = CHIRPS**









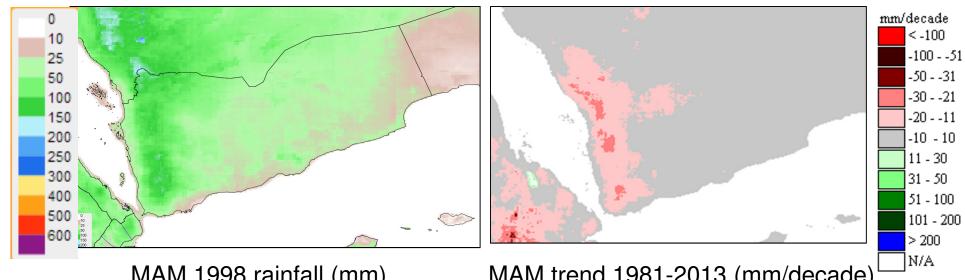
The GeoCLIM Manual covers the most commonly used tools in the GeoCLIM software

- Installation and First Setup
- Overview of GeoCLIM tools
- Data Management Tools
  - Import climatic data into GeoCLIM
  - Download climatic data archives
  - Define output options
  - View list of available data
  - BASIICS: Background Assisted Station Interpolation for Improved Climate Surfaces
- Change GeoCLIM settings
- Analytical tools
  - Climatological data analysis
  - View intra-seasonal rainfall summaries
  - Make contours
  - Calculate Long-term change in averages
- Automation tools
  - Batch assistant for developing automation scripts
  - Batch editor for editing automation scripts
- GIS tools
  - Displaying spatial data
  - Extract statistics from raster datasets

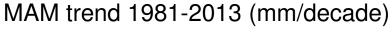


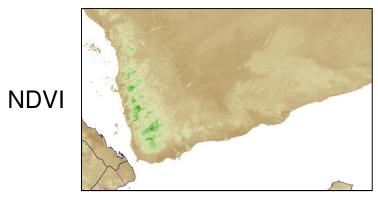


# **Yemen Precipitation Trend**



MAM 1998 rainfall (mm)



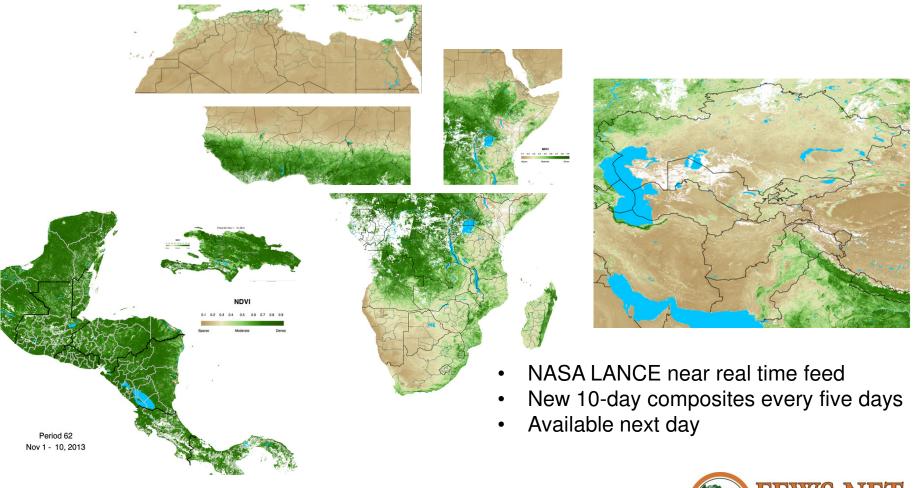








#### eMODIS NDVI at 250m

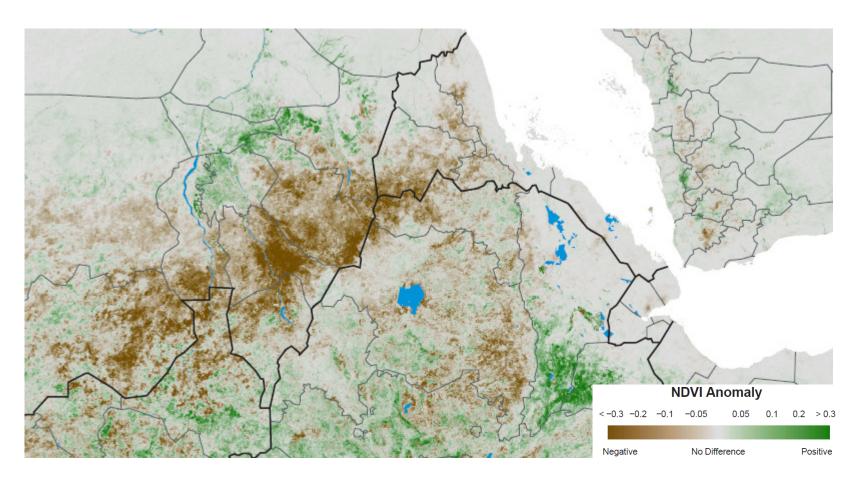




Food Security, Earth Observations and Agricultural Monitoring November 21, 2013 – Brussels



## Poor Rains 2013 – Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea

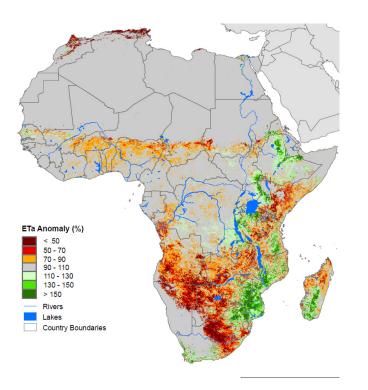


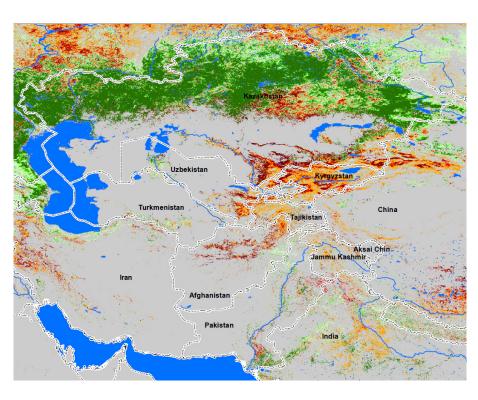
eMODIS NDVI anomalies at 250 m, August 6-15, 2013





#### **Actual ET from MODIS LST at 1 km**



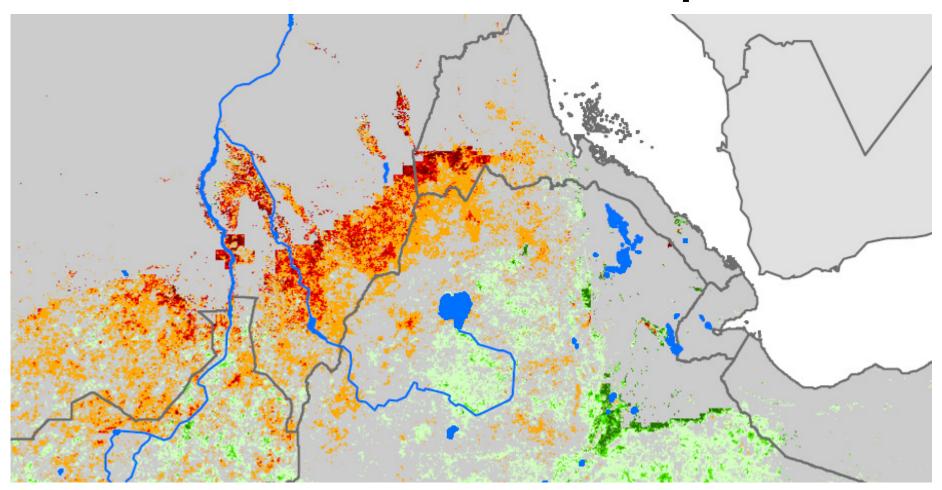


- Presently Africa and Central Asia using NASA DAAC feed of Terra LST
- Product updates every five days
- Moving to NASA LANCE feed of Aqua LST, global coverage in 2014





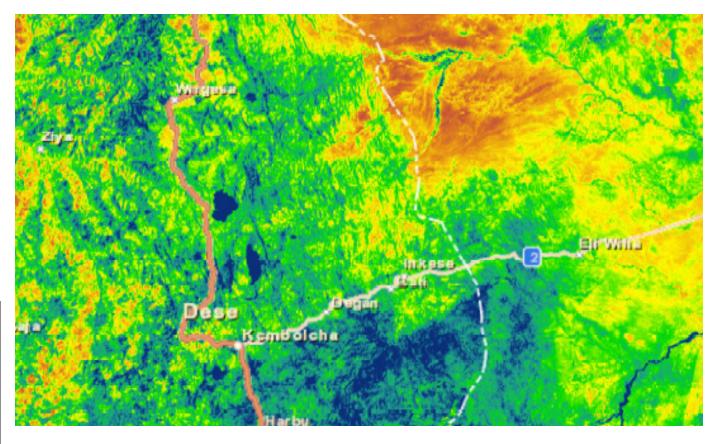
#### Poor Rains 2013 – Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea

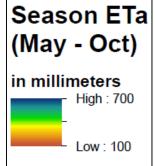






#### **Actual ET with Landsat 8 TIR Data**



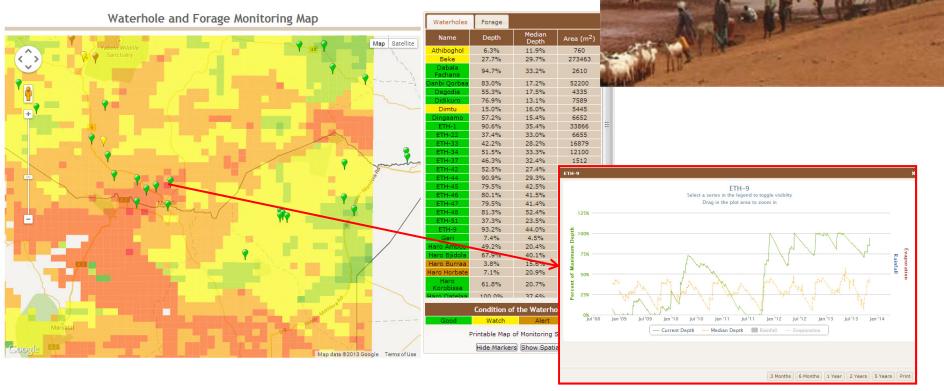


Dese, Ethiopia 2013 – ETa at 100m





# Water Point Monitoring



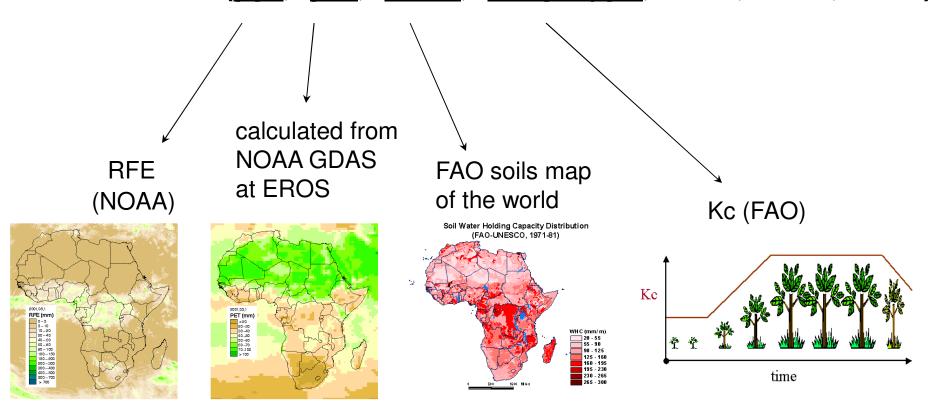
Landsat, SRTM, satellite rainfall





#### Water Requirement Satisfaction Index

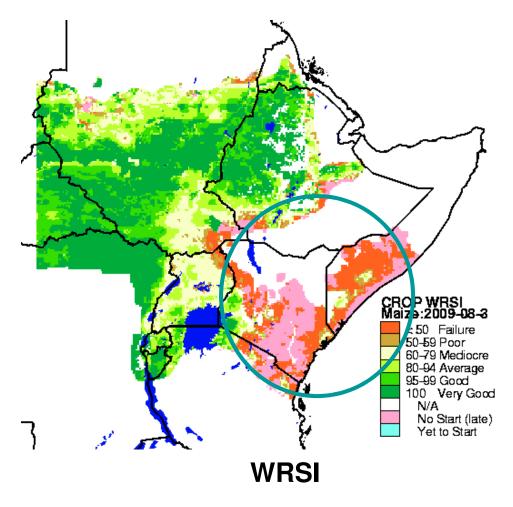
WRSI = f (ppt, pet, WHC, Crop Type, SOS, EOS, LGP)







# **Monitoring Agricultural Drought**







# Millet vulnerability model - Niger

Relative yield deficit

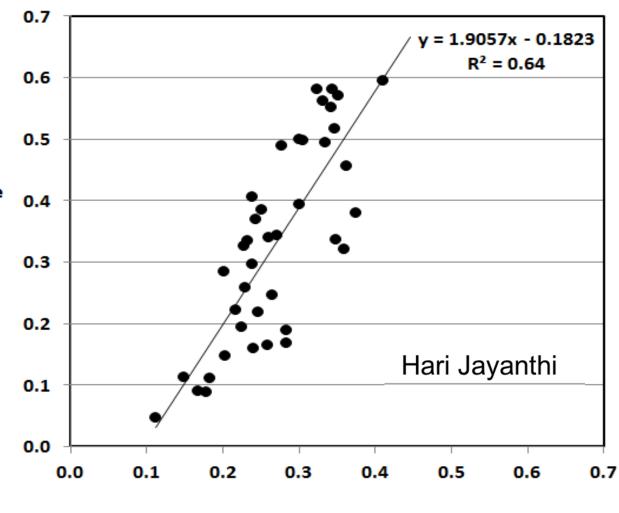
$$\frac{Y_{reference} - Yac_{tual}}{Y_{reference}}$$

Relative deficit in millet yields

End-of-season (EOS) WRSI

Actual evapotranspiration

Water requirement

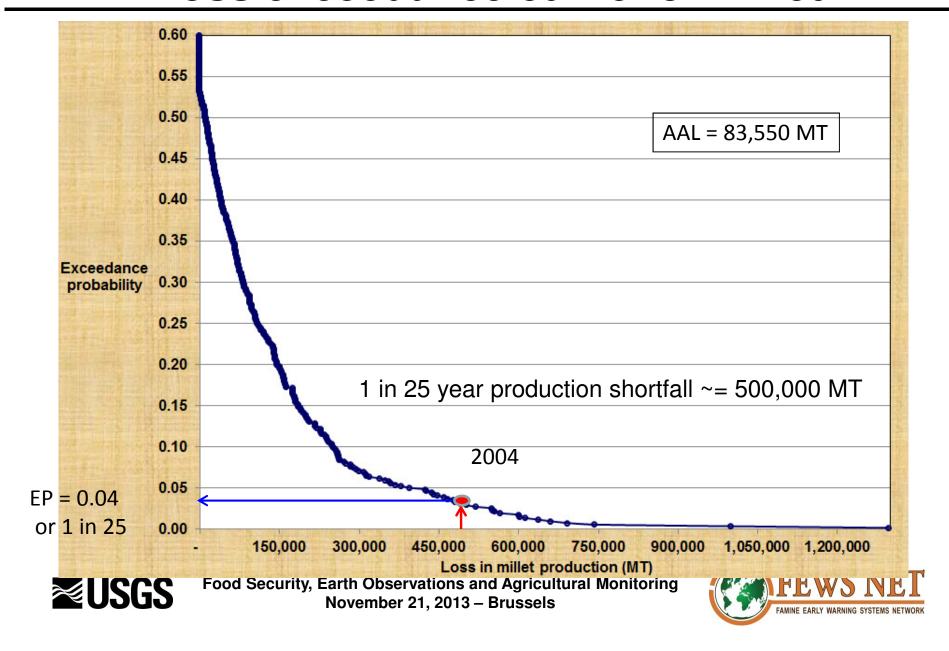


1 - EOS WRSI

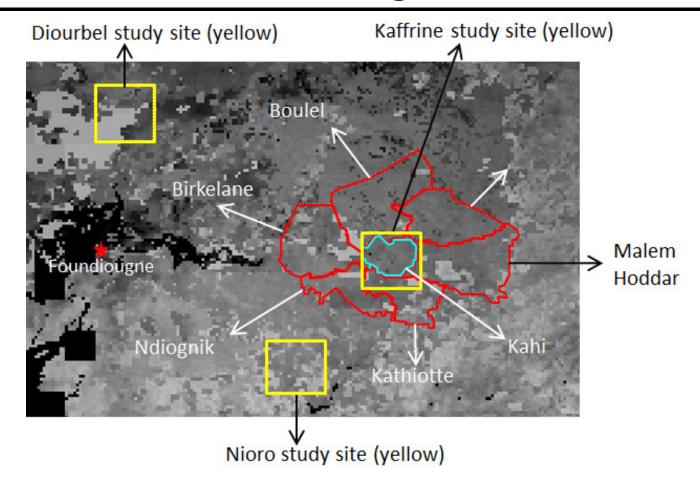




#### Loss exceedance curve for millet



#### WFP-IFAD WRMF Senegal Index Insurance

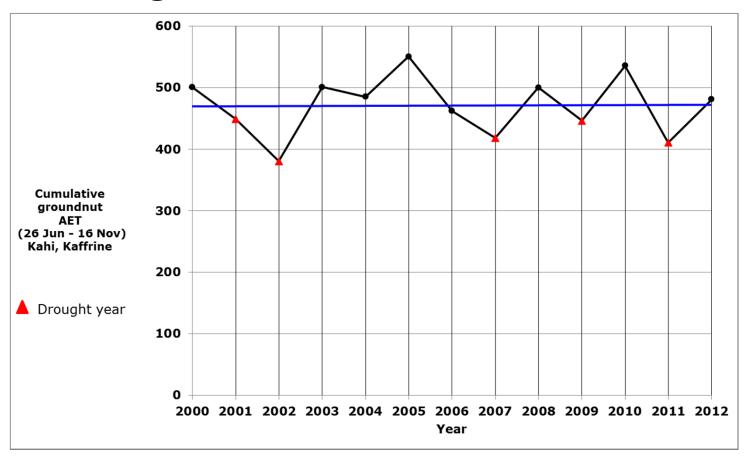


Energy Balance Actual ET from MODIS LST as a Candidate Index





#### **Drought Threshold for Groundnut**

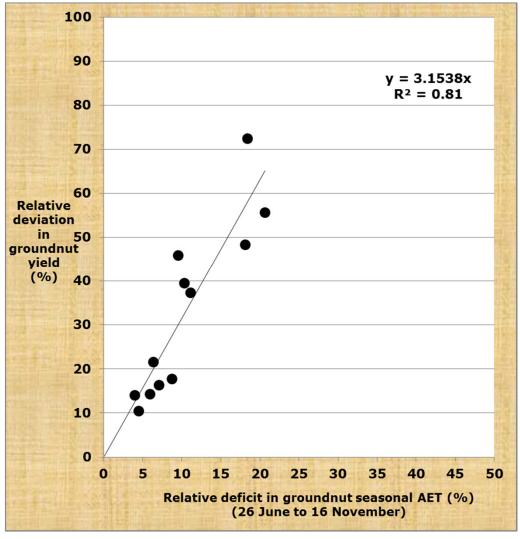


Time-series trace of seasonal cumulative groundnut AET Kahi CR, Kaffrine department, Senegal





#### **Yield Reduction Function for Groundnut**



Drought
vulnerability
model for
groundnut
using MODIS
Actual ET

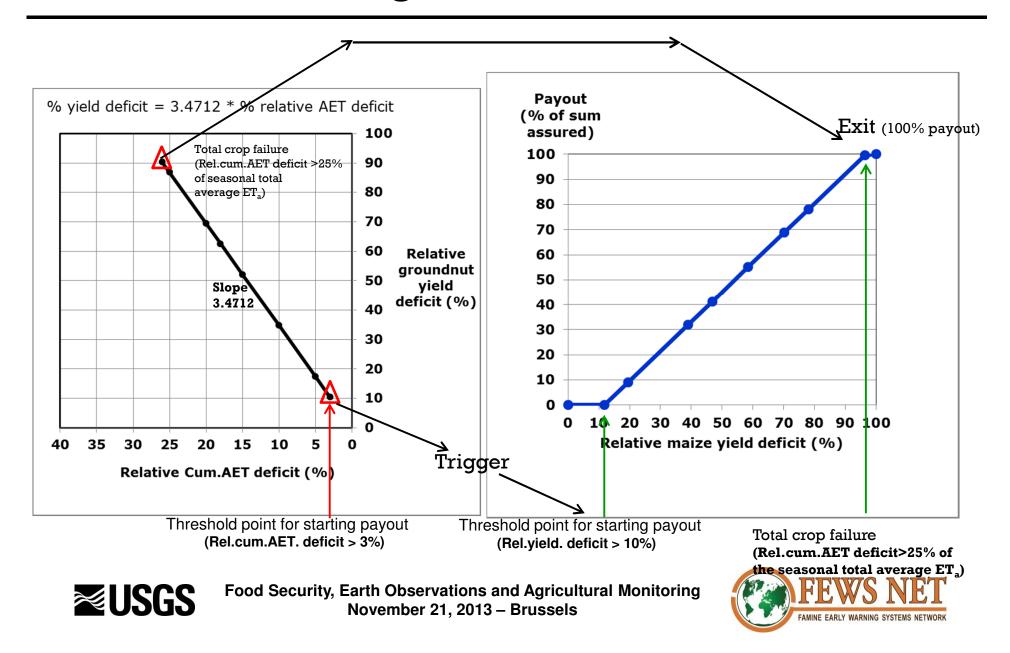
WFP-IFAD WRMF Senegal Study



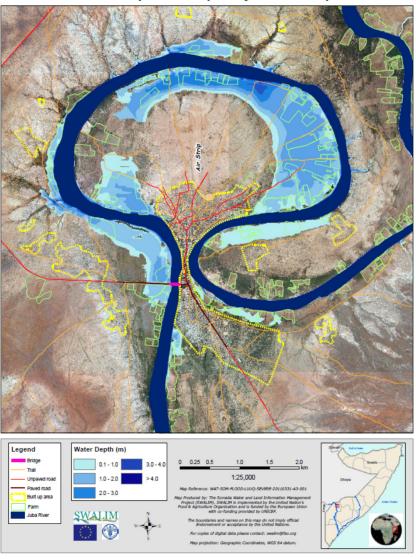
Food Security, Earth Observations and Agricultural Monitoring November 21, 2013 – Brussels



#### **Constructing an Insurance Product**



Flood risk map for Luuq - 50 year return period



GIS Tool for Flood Inundation

Software
enhancements
in cooperation
with the
Regional
Center for
Mapping of
Resources for
Development
in
Nairobi







## Thank you



