



Recent and on-going EO-based environmental monitoring activities in Africa at the Joint Research Centre: some lessons learnt regarding sustainable operation development

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During the recent years the Global Environment Unit of the Joint Research Centre has been involved in various projects (i. a. GLC2000, GBA 2000, geoland, vgt4africa, PUMA, AMESD) and was involved in various tasks including methodological development of advanced EO-based products, product operational production and distribution, environmental analysis and technology transfer. Throughout all these activities the attention was always focussed on land-surface monitoring products, including vegetation, fire and burned surfaces and surface water indicators and their use for environmental assessment.

All this provided the basis for the development of the environmental monitoring component of the ACP observatory in development at JRC to provide key information to EC services in charge of international cooperation, namely DG RELEX, DG AIDCO and DG DEV.

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of relevant results of these projects not only from the technical point of view, but also regarding the critical issue of technology transfer and sustainable implementation of operational applications in Africa. It will also provide indications on opportunities that other similar activities could benefit from.