

→ **INFRASTRUCTURES PLANNING AND MONITORING  
USER CONSULTATION CONFERENCE 2019**

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**EARTH OBSERVATION – A SUPPORT FOR  
THE DISTRIBUTED ENERGY SECTOR (MICRO-/ MINI-GRIDS)**

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## INTEGRATED APPLICATIONS FOR MICROGRIDS IN DEVELOPING ECONOMIES

(ESA AO/1-8891/17/UK/AD; category ESA Express Procurement Plus - EXPRO+)  
European Centre for Space Applications and Telecommunications (ECSAT)

funded by



project team



## INTEGRATED APPLICATIONS FOR MICROGRIDS IN DEVELOPING ECONOMIES

- Identification of requirements of Microgrid developers
- Initial geographic focus on Indian market, extended to Sub-Saharan countries
- Draft setup of an overall service chain
- User engagement: questionnaire to raise discussion on thematic needs & exchange on present solutions

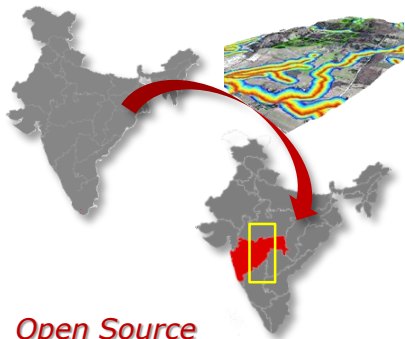
### MICRO- OR MINIGRIDS ARE ...

... distributed energy systems, capable of generating

- 1-10kW (Microgrid)
- 10kW – 1MW (Minigrid)



## STAGE 1 National/ Super-regional draft segmentation

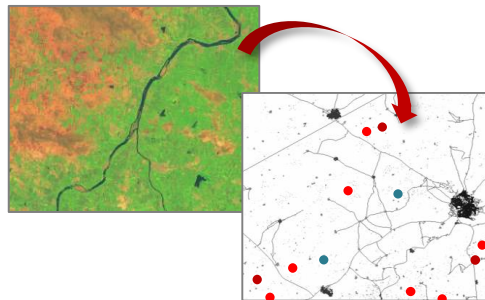


### Open Source

- GIS data (infrastructure, statistics)
- Global layer (thematic classific. (WSF/GUF, LULC ...))
- Geofactors (climate, terrain, sun irradiance ...)
- Local Policies

PLATFORMS,  
AGGREGATION APPROACHES

## STAGE 2 Regional up-to-date situation analysis



### HR data analysis (Sentinel)

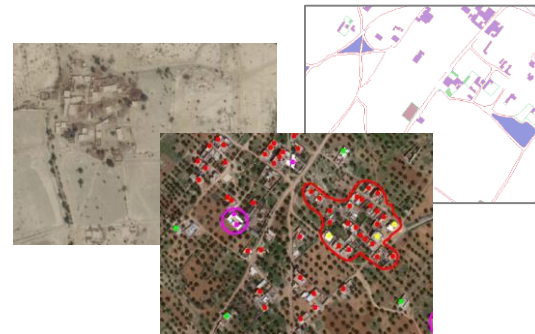
#### Focus of Services:

- up-to-date situation data (infrastructure, urban extent, agricult. productivity, risk exposure, ...)
- supported by open source if applicable

UP-TO-DATE LOW-COST INFORMATION,  
CHARACTER & PRODUCTIVITY  
PROXY OF WELL-BEING

Conflict: actuality, scale; thematic detail

## STAGE 3 Local (Microgrid level) detailed status analysis



### Human (& VHR data analysis)

#### On-site Survey:

- up-to-date detailed demand assessment (housing details, economic aspects, risk exposure, ...) – VH LOD
- wide initial selection – best fit chosen

LOCAL SOLUTIONS (HUMAN IMPACT),  
FINAL SITE SPECIFICATION

Conflict: LOD; costs; local survey is necessary

# Finding the right place to act

## REGION OF INTEREST

*general circumstances*

Water situation      Climate  
Terrain  
Hazards

## MICROGRID

Interests      DEVELOPER  
Focus      Possibilities  
Experience      investors requirements

## EO SERVICES

*large scale aspects*

Landuse/ landcover (LULC)      Settlement extent  
Transport infrastructure      Agriculture  
Terrain data      Industrial activity  
Hydrology data      Annual behaviour of classes  
Energy potential map (solar, wind, biomass)

Priority factors:

Infrastructure

People

Resources

Risk

MICROGRID

## OPEN SOURCE GEO-DATA

Maps      LULC      status numbers  
Census      Statistics  
Transport infrastructure  
Main GRID      Administration  
Settlement extent      Reports  
Other infrastructure

# Considering the context

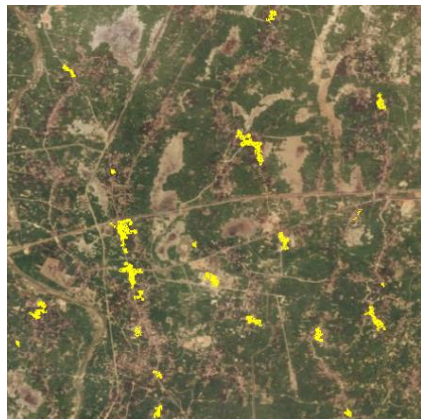
## Infrastructure



distribution  
(transport, grid)

... accessibility

## People



urban footprint &  
type

... number of users

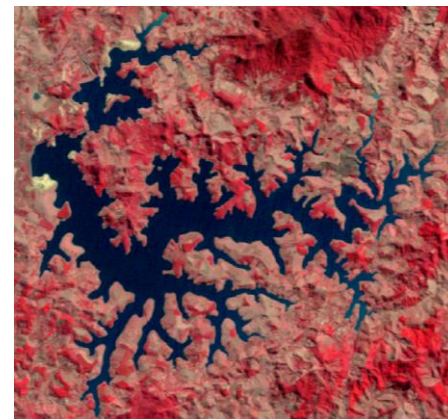
## Resources



land use &  
annual change

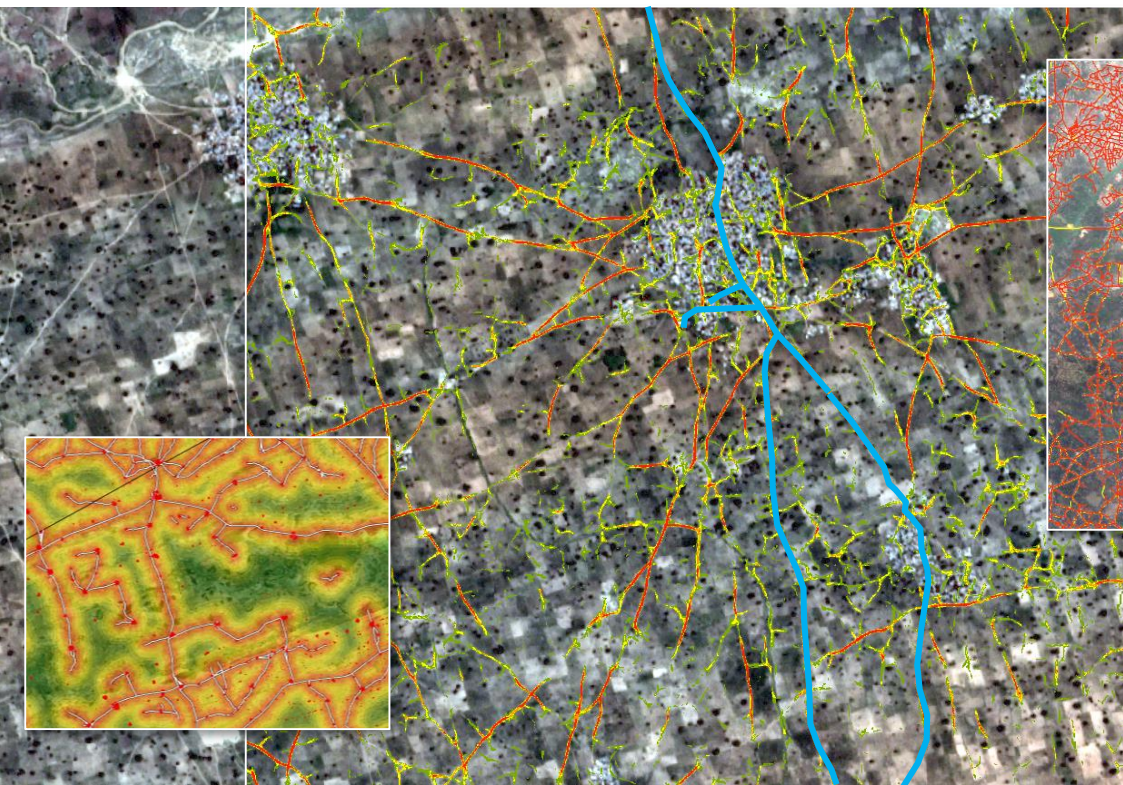
... production potential

## Risk

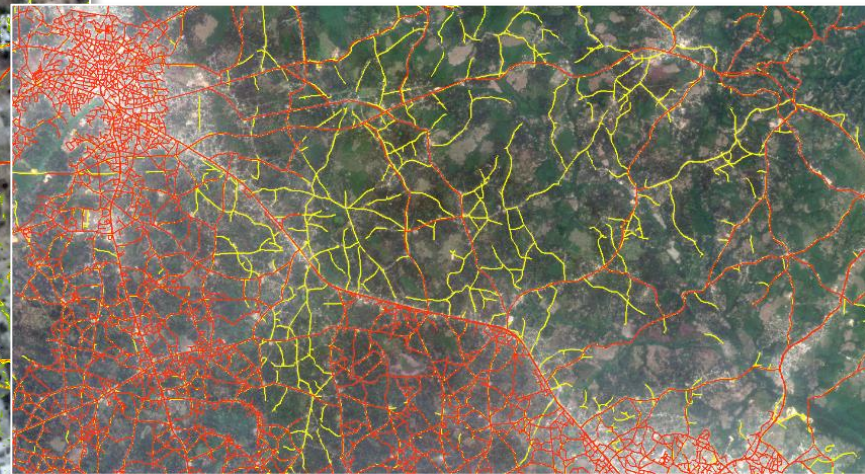





hazard type &  
long-term tendencies

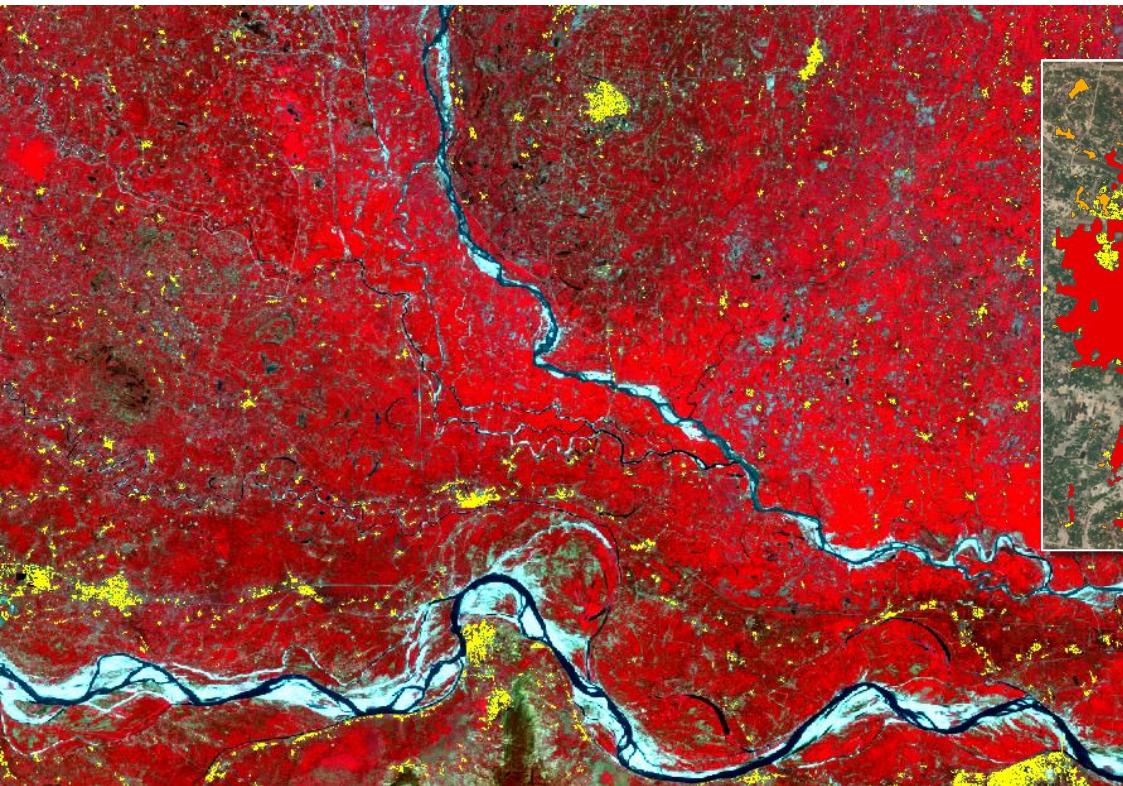
... temporal change



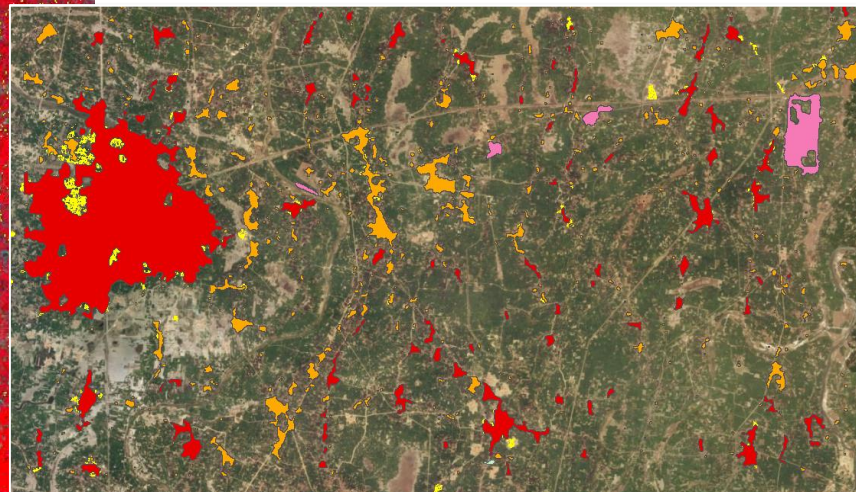
## Infrastructure







-  Open source GIS (transportation network)
-  Machine Learning (road network)
-  Distance analysis



## People



-  Global Layer
-  Urban (dense)
-  Urban (sparse)
-  Industrial construction





## Resources



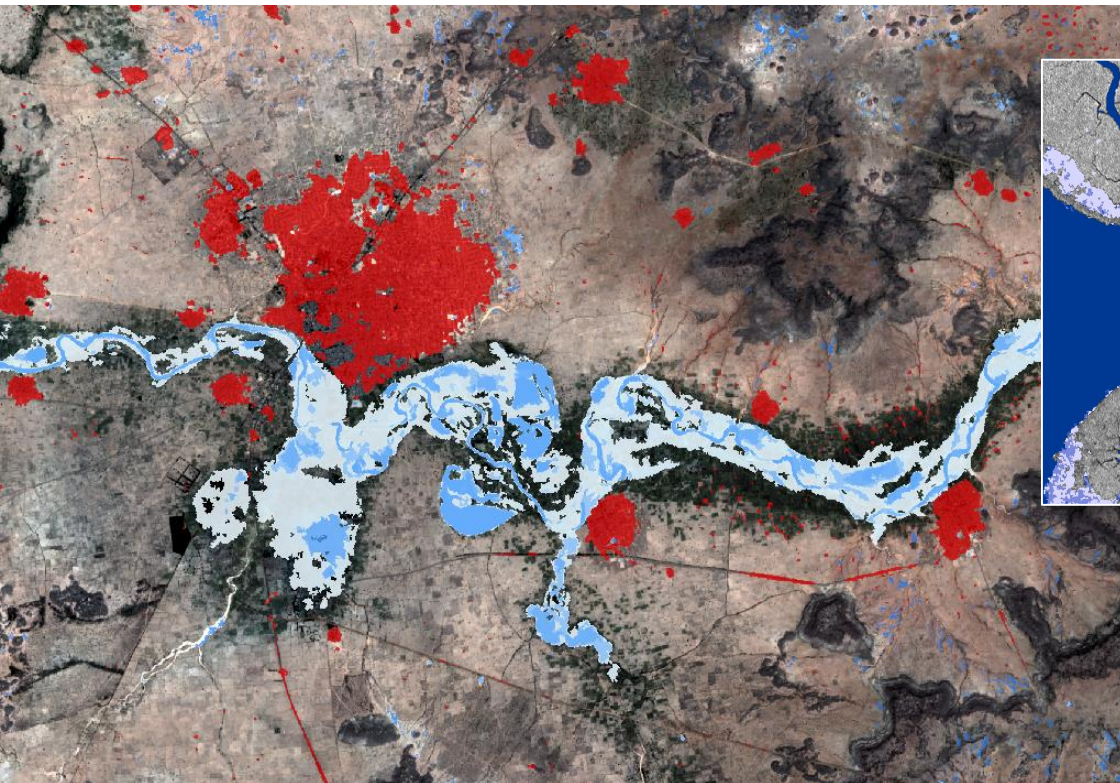
Characterisation of agricultural use, e.g.



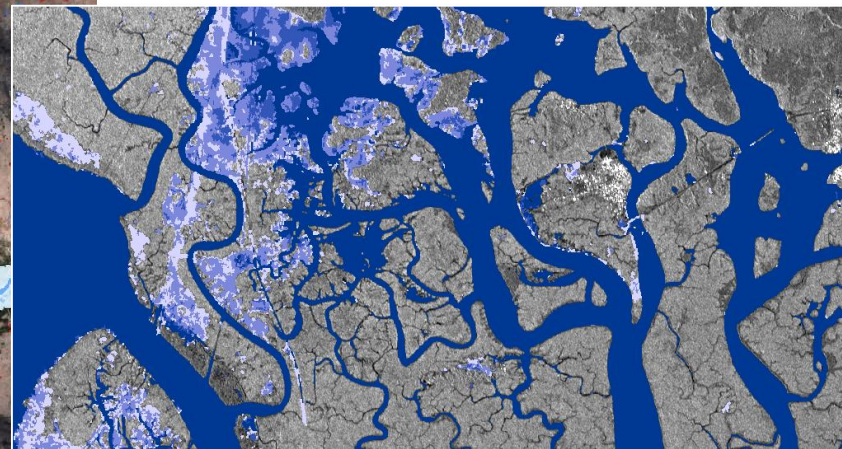
According to vitality (biomass, productivity)  
→ Biomass? Ability to pay?




According to management (size)  
→ Production characteristics, ownership



Risk



e.g. availability and exposure to water  
... other aspects (terrain, ...)

 Water body (recent flooding)

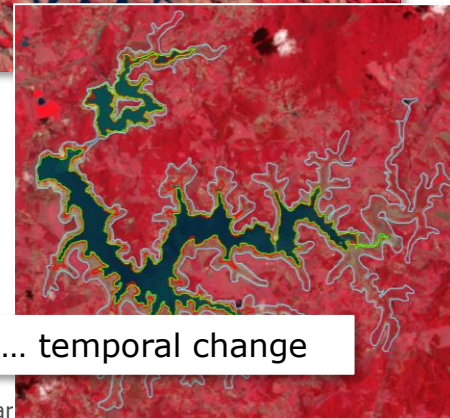
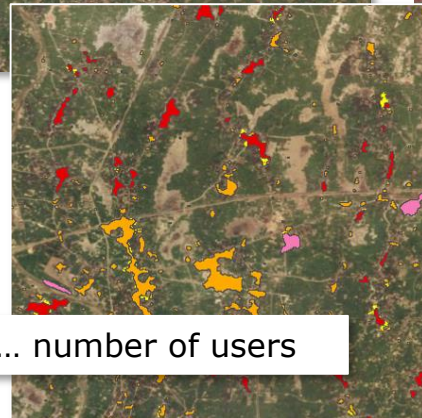
# Considering the context

## Infrastructure

## People

## Resources

## Risk



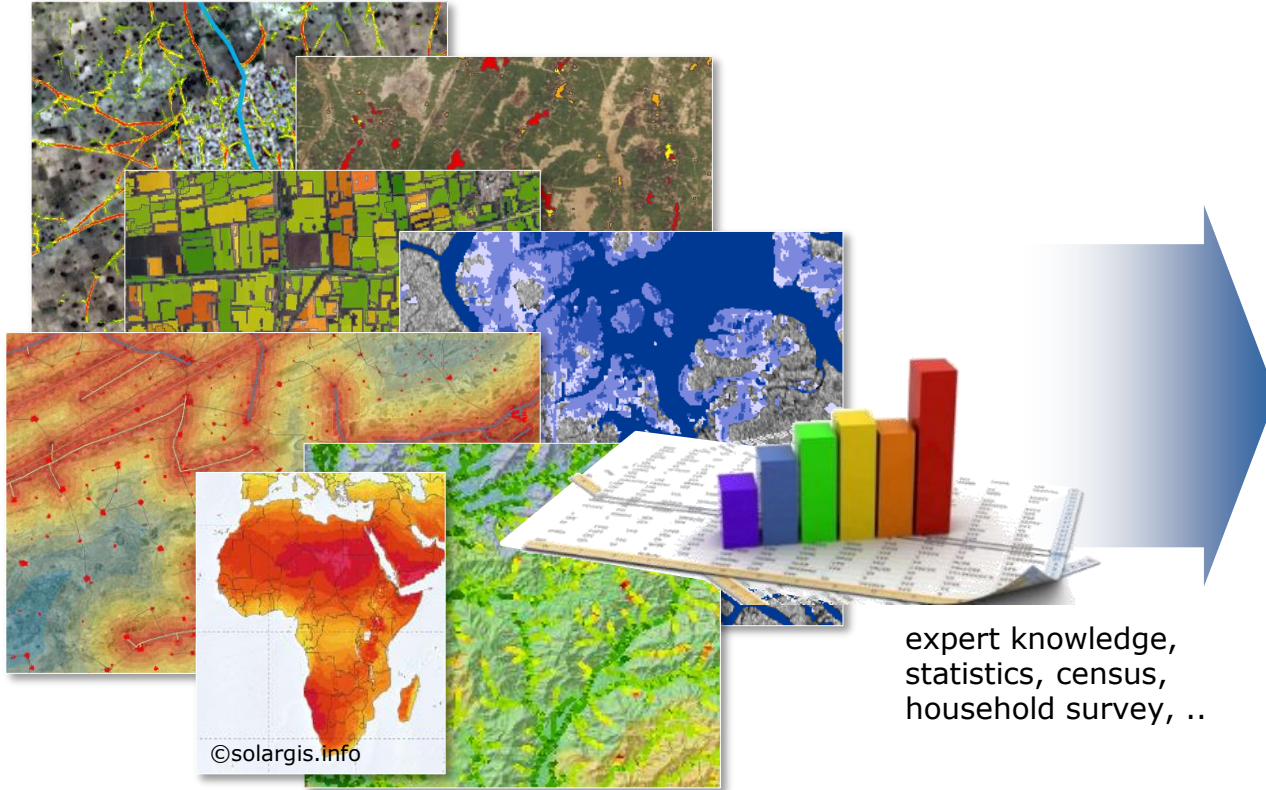
... accessibility

... number of users

... production potential

... temporal change

ESA



expert knowledge,  
statistics, census,  
household survey, ..

Requirements  
Interests  
Experience

# DEVELOPER

Possibilities

Village Data Analytics

*Site Identification as a function of*

- Village size  
*hamlet ... city*
- Accessibility  
*infrastructure distance*
- Resources  
*dominant size of fields  
potential crop type, ...*
- Risk  
*natural flooding  
drought*
- Other aspects

## Village Data Analytics (ViDA) ...



... analyzes resources and energy demand of each village

... lead to ranking of villages (scoring of the modelling tool)

... includes ground-truth & survey-data

to continuously improve the prediction model (AI, feedback loop)

Village Data Analytics

→ support the decision making process

→ tailored to developers requirements

*from hearsay to data-driven decisions*

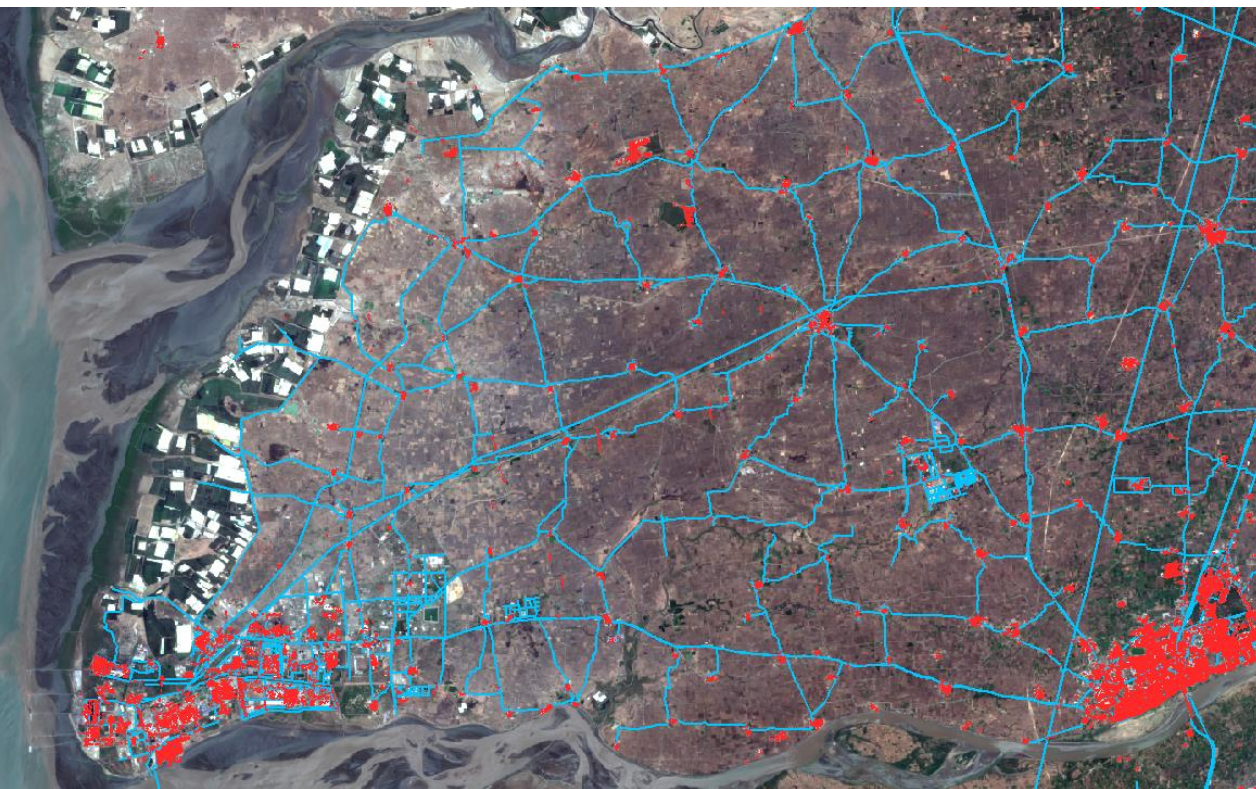
## Approach (ViDA) ...

- ... combines common image analysis methods (object/ pixel-based) with AI algorithms for EO analysis & ViDA energy modelling
- ... supports cost projections for Microgrid Management (Setup, Operation and Maintenance)

## Consortium ...

- ... able to support telecommunication issues (IABG runs SatCom Environment)
- providing internet (tele-health/-education) if needed
- to contribute to monitoring Microgrids

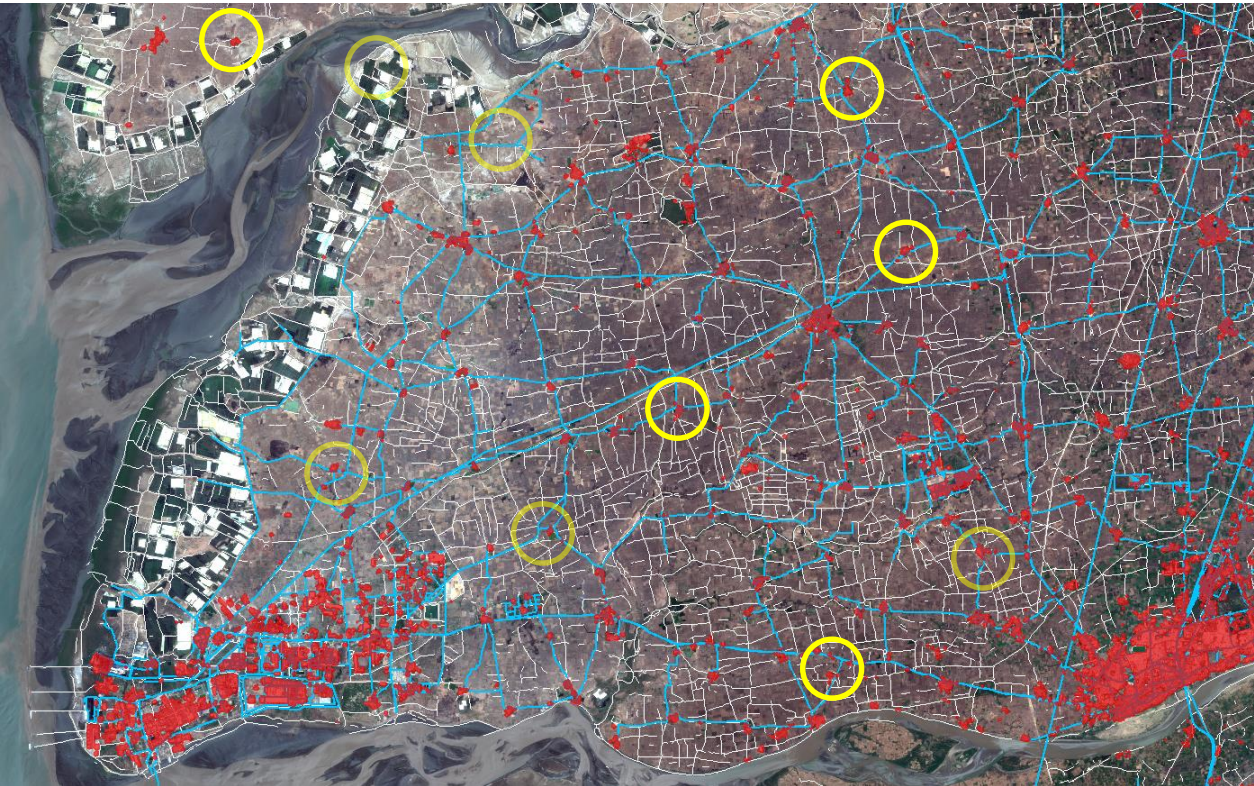




→ Open Source Data

© Open Street Map

© Global Urban Footprint



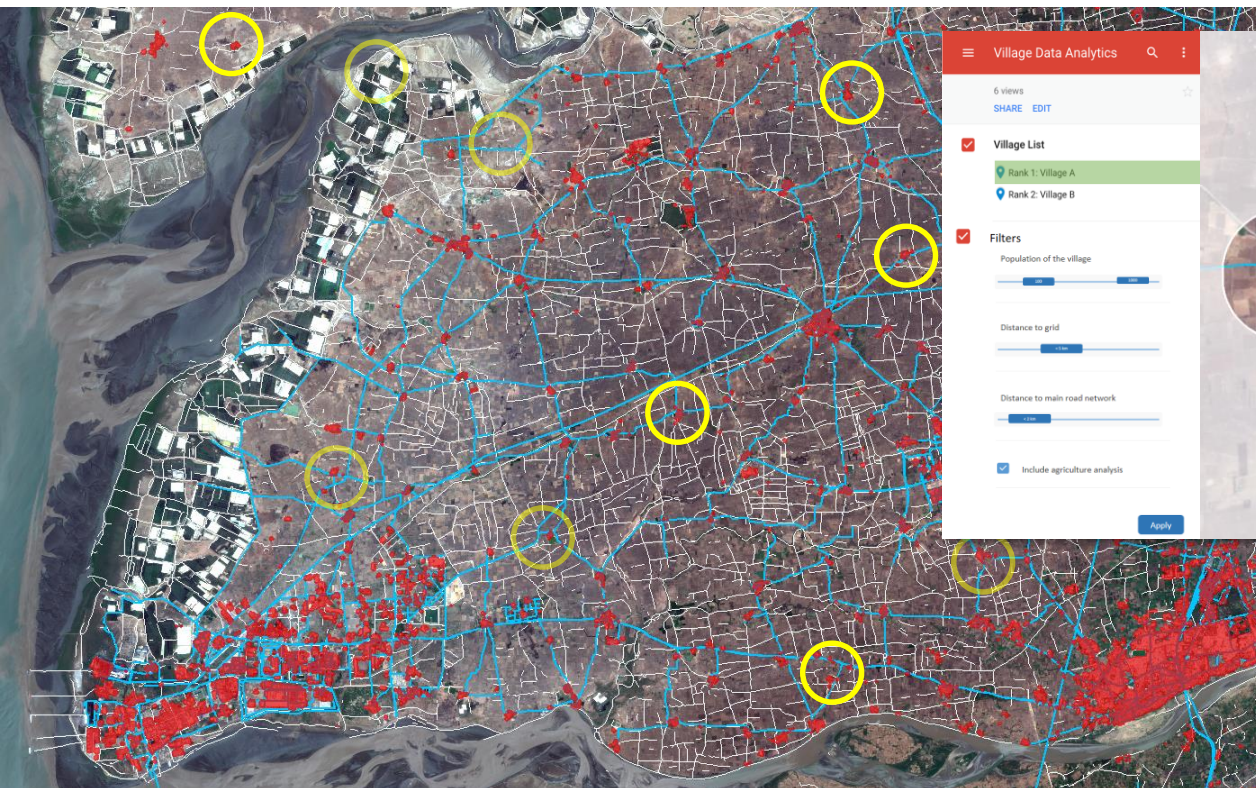
Sentinel & other spatial data

+ open Data  
+ Analysis  
(example urban, infrastructure)

→ Ranking ...

... represents the estimated energy demand,  
... **considers** up-to-date contextual situation (EO based),  
... assumes general ability to pay, development potential





Village Data Analytics

6 views  
SHARE EDIT

Village List

- Rank 1: Village A
- Rank 2: Village B

Filters

Population of the village

Distance to grid

Distance to main road network

Include agriculture analysis

Apply

Rank 1: Village A

- Size: 1432 m<sup>2</sup>
- Population: 632
- Road access: Yes, Seasonal
- Village economy: Medium
- Agricultural output: Medium
- Access to water body: High
- Flooding risk: Medium

Decision support for Microgrid developer

- More precise than Stage 1 (national level)
- Input for Stage 3 (on-ground survey/ dialogue) will reduce on-site effort needed

- user needs are identified/ sketched to high degree  
→ converted to a draft processing chain
- Energy demand assessment can be reviewed with the new information layer  
→ different information layer available (Sentinels, new technologies)
- Working on automation of the image analysis elements  
→ scalable services → continue with **extended case studies**
- Continue dialogue with the distributed energy sector → feedback



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development

SDG 7: affordable and clean energy

- energy = essential need for economic & social well-being
- electrification Tanzania 15%, Kenya 23%, Nigeria 55%  
[Global Energy Architecture Performance index report 2017]

## Thank You!



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