

# Remote Mapping of Rice Paddy Boundaries in Cambodia

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2021 October 13

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Climate Resilient Rice Commercialization Sector Development Program, RICESDP  
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

<https://qed.ai>



# Introduction to QED

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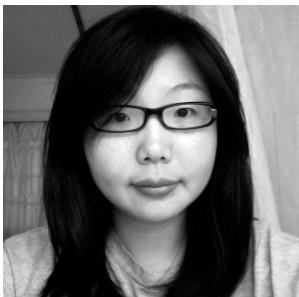
Quantitative Engineering Design | <https://qed.ai>

WHY

Build data systems and AI to empower organizations pursuing the health and agricultural SDGs (2,3,6,15)

WHO

~25 software engineers  
+ analysts and domain experts in health and agronomy



*Jiehua Chen ("J.C.")*

Ph.D. Stat (Stanford)  
M.S. Econ (Stanford)  
B.S. Math+Phys. (Tsinghua)  
Ex-Columbia Earth Inst.

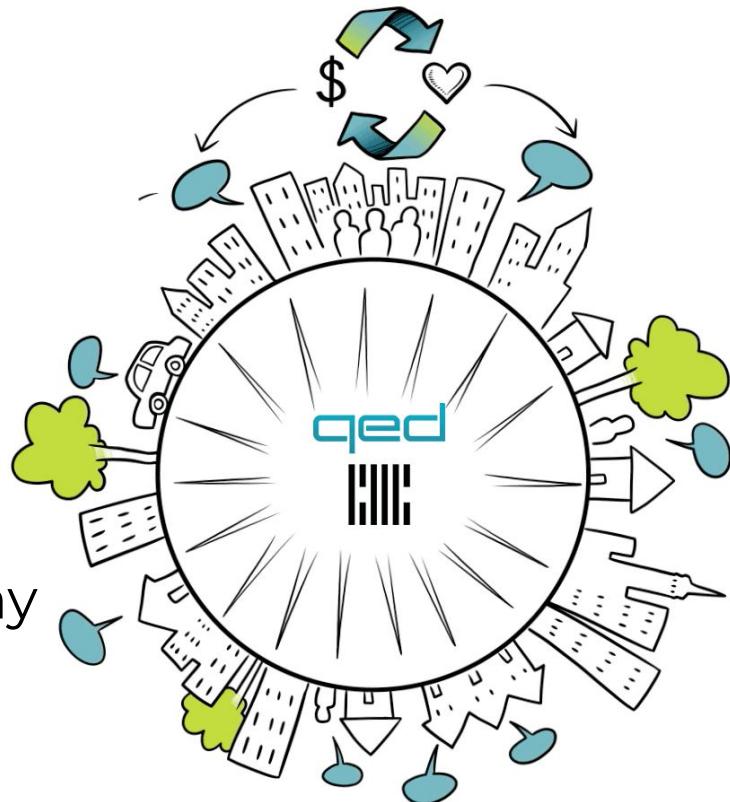


*William Wu*

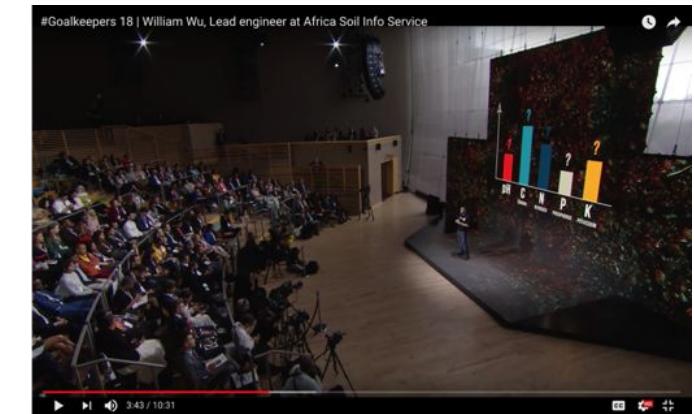
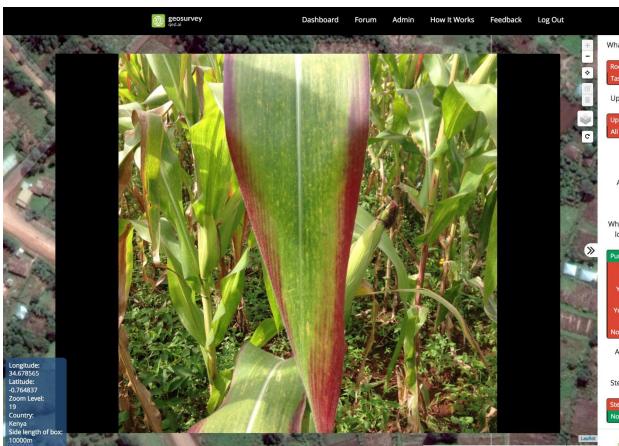
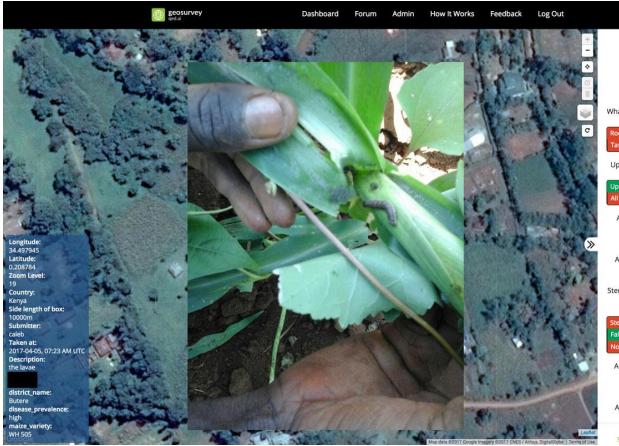
Ph.D. EE (Stanford)  
M.S. Math (Stanford)  
B.S. EECS (Berkeley)  
Ex-NASA JPL

HOW

- forte: technologies for challenging environments
- enabling partners to scale using software and AI
- since 2012, has supported projects in 13 countries



# Technologies To Overcome Data Scarcity

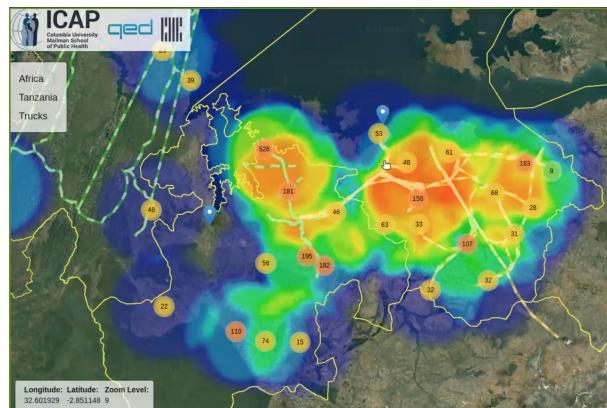


## plant health surveillance

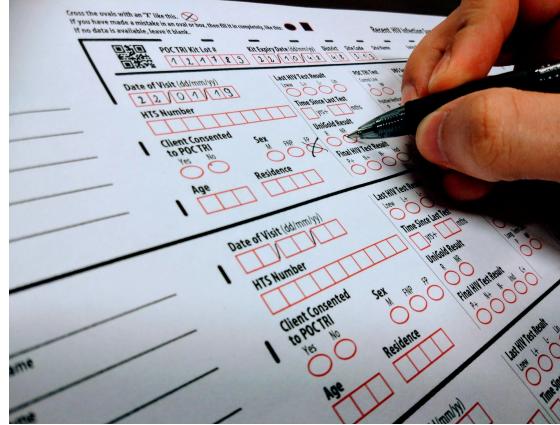
proximal sensors (carbon, NIR)

## digital soil mapping

# Technologies To Overcome Data Scarcity



mobile hospitals  
in Tanzania



ScanForm: write on paper and digitize  
the data with a smartphone!



land cover mapping for  
sustainable development

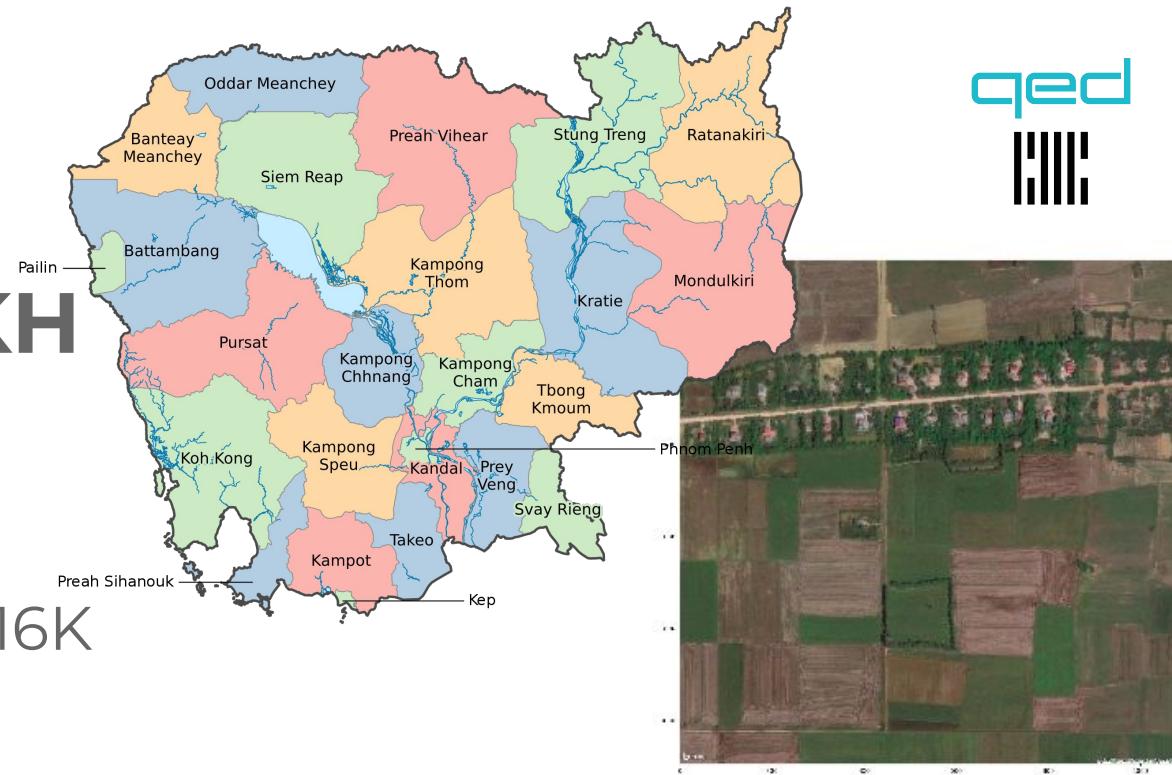


# Objectives in Cambodia

# Objectives

- **Mapping Rice Paddies in KH**

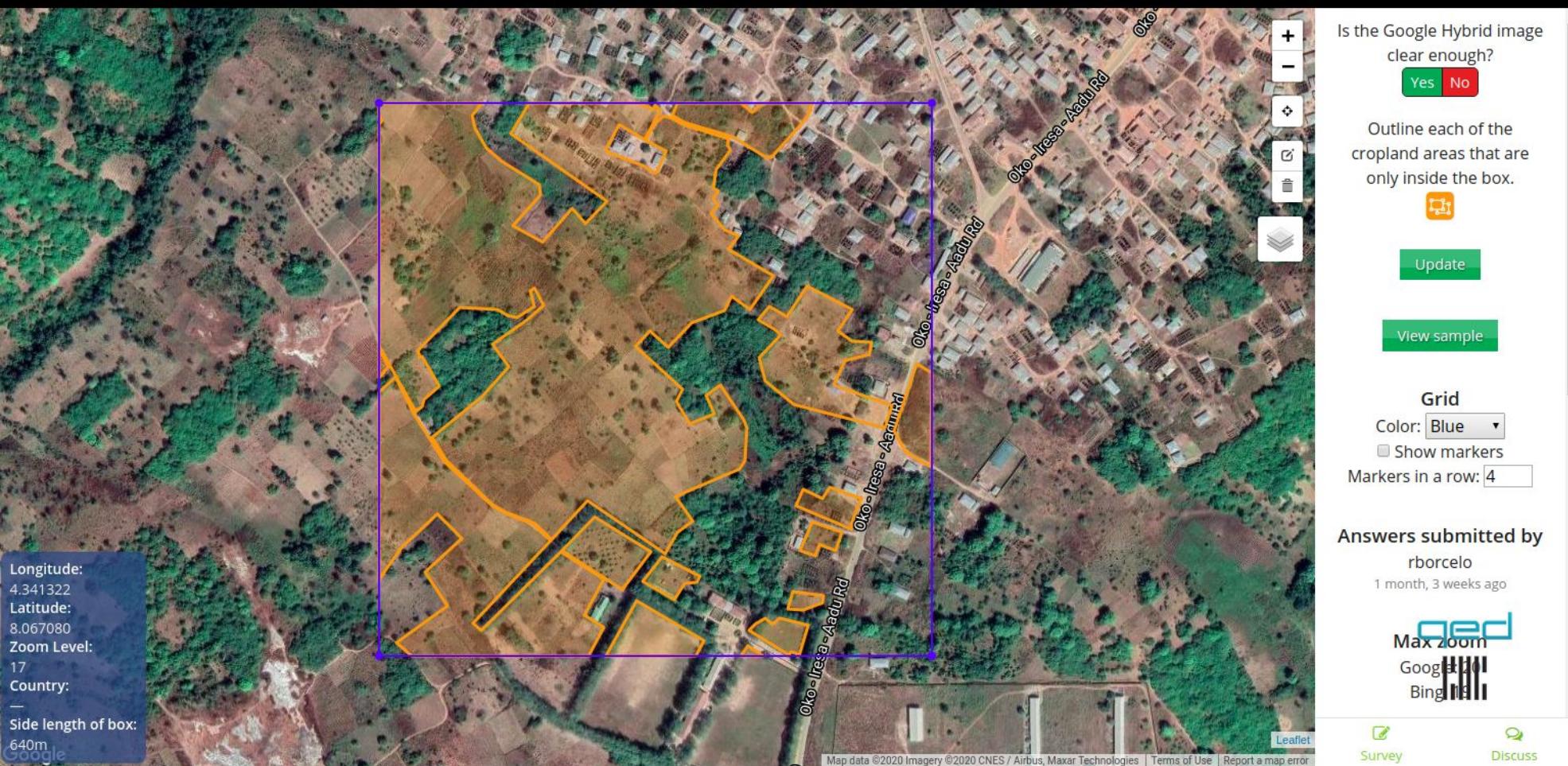
- Generate polygonal boundaries (remotely) for rice paddies in nine selected areas (16K ha, spanning ~16K farming families)



region #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
name	Prey Sangha	Anglong Run	Ta Mao	Chhuk Ksach	Ta Soong	Chamkar Kouy	Ansong	Rumlech	Anlong Char
district	<a href="#">Bavel</a>	<a href="#">Thma Koul</a>	<a href="#">Thma Koul</a>	<a href="#">Baray</a>	<a href="#">Baray</a>	<a href="#">Svay Antor</a>	<a href="#">Kampong Trabaek</a>	<a href="#">Sithor Kandal</a>	<a href="#">Preah Sdach</a>
province	<a href="#">Battambang</a>	<a href="#">Battambang</a>	<a href="#">Battambang</a>	<a href="#">Kampong Thom</a>	<a href="#">Kampong Thom</a>	<a href="#">Prey Veng</a>	<a href="#">Prey Veng</a>	<a href="#">Prey Veng</a>	<a href="#">Prey Veng</a>
area (ha)	1150	1435	1038	1650	2070	2100	1510	2380	3000



# Methods: Geosurvey



# Geosurvey

Left: Screenshot from Geosurvey, in Oyo State, NG. A surveyor has highlighted the croplands in orange.

- Scalably annotate imagery (satellites/drones/phones)
- Rapidly train artificial intelligence



Longitude: 102.966024  
Latitude: 13.305199  
Zoom Level: 16  
Country: —  
Side length of box: 640m



Outline each rice field separately. If the field is intersecting with blue rectangle outline also its parts outside of rectangle.



Update

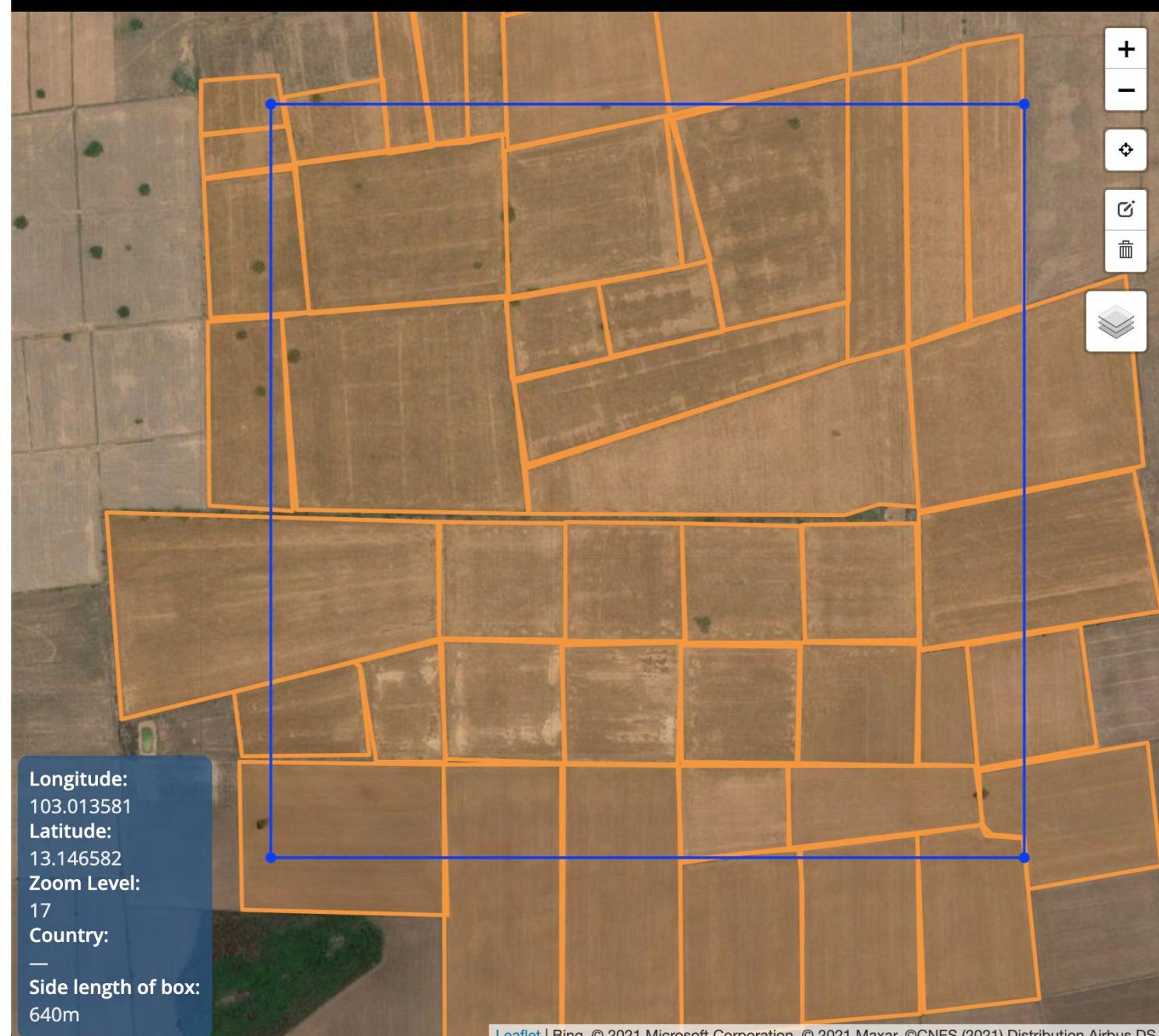
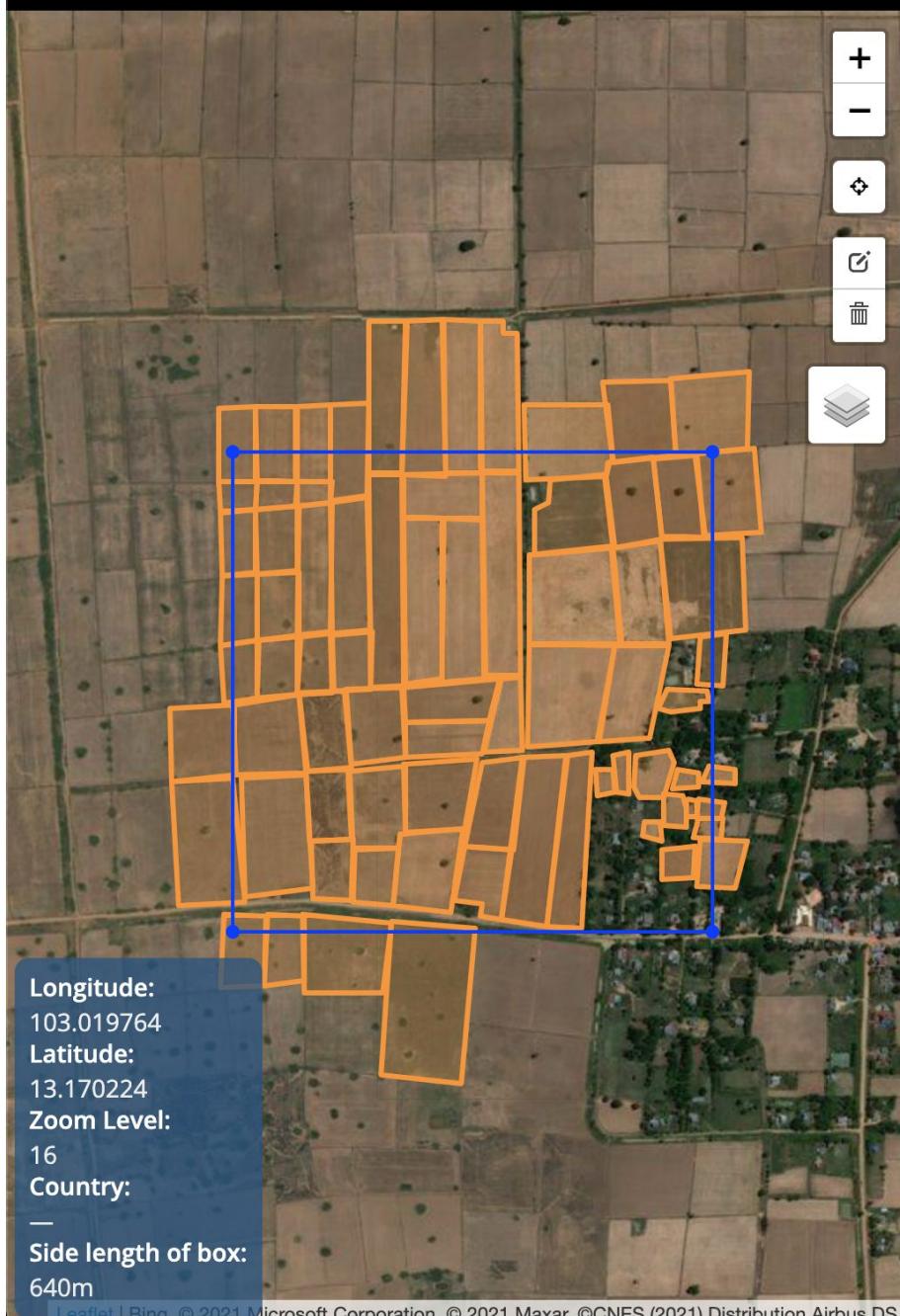
View sample

### Grid

Color: Blue

Show markers

Markers in a row: 4



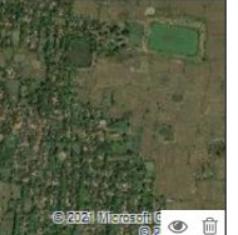
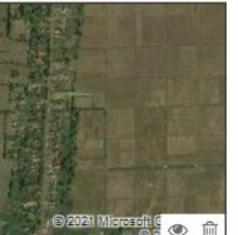
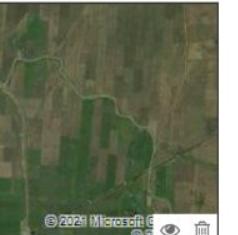
## Cambodia Southern Plots

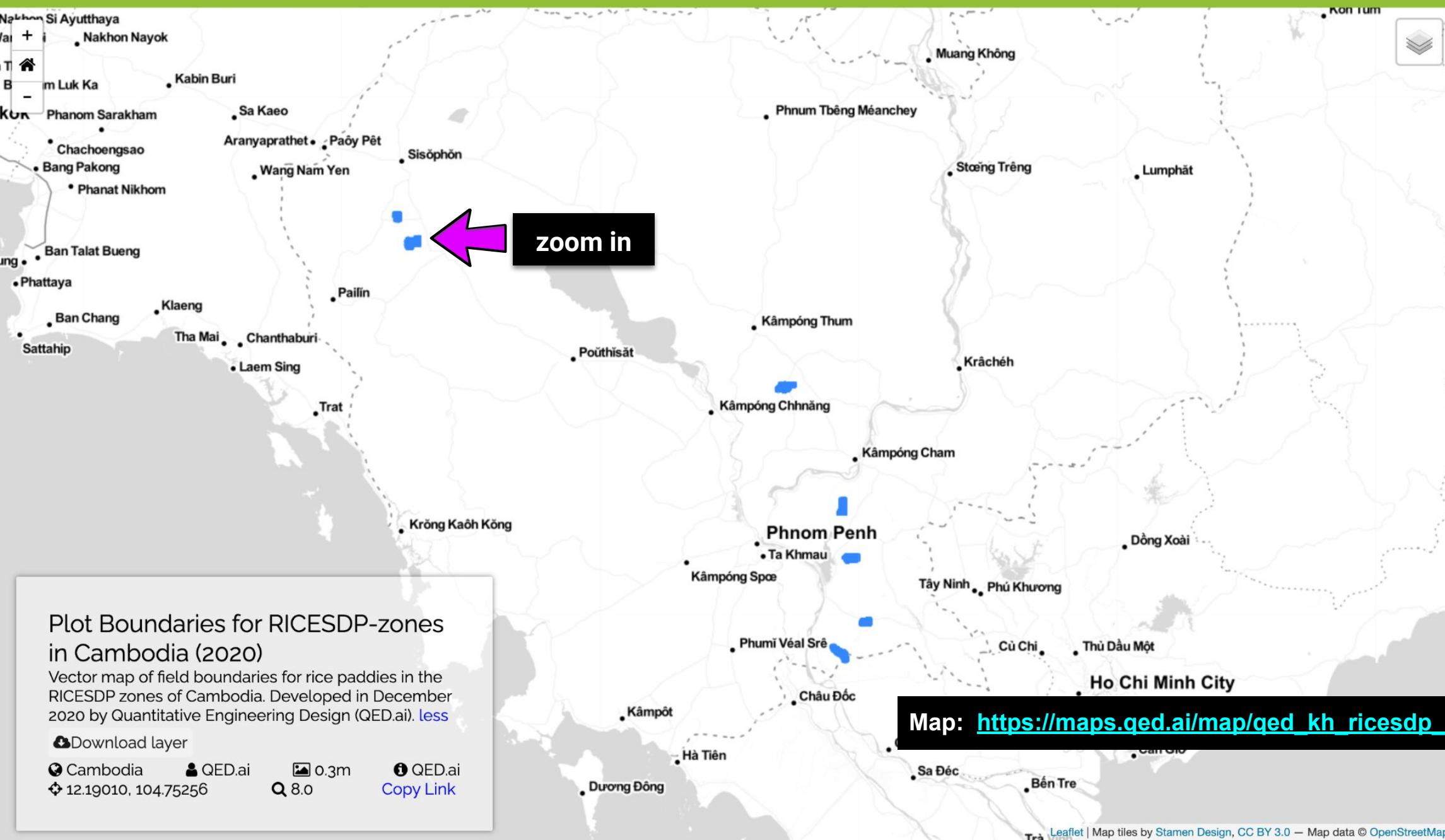
Status Edit Samples Results Teams Discussions Diagnoses

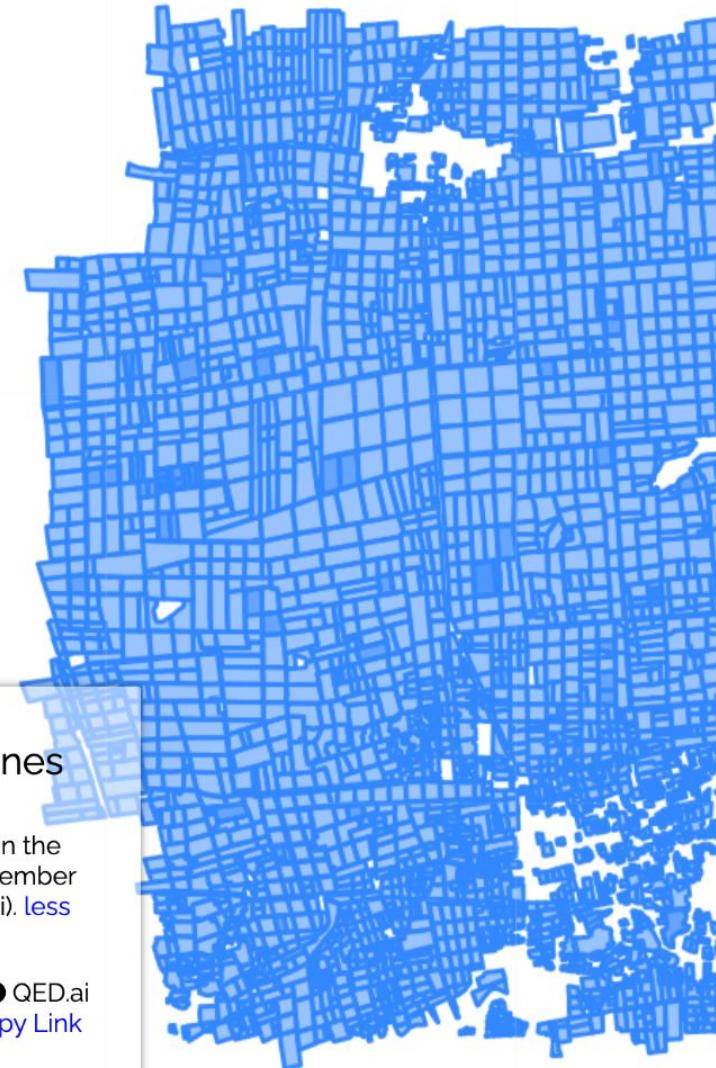
Username contains: Latitude greater or equal to: Latitude less than or equal to: Longitude greater than or equal to: Longitude less than or equal to: Created after or on

Created before or on Submission count greater than or equal to: Submission count less than or equal to:

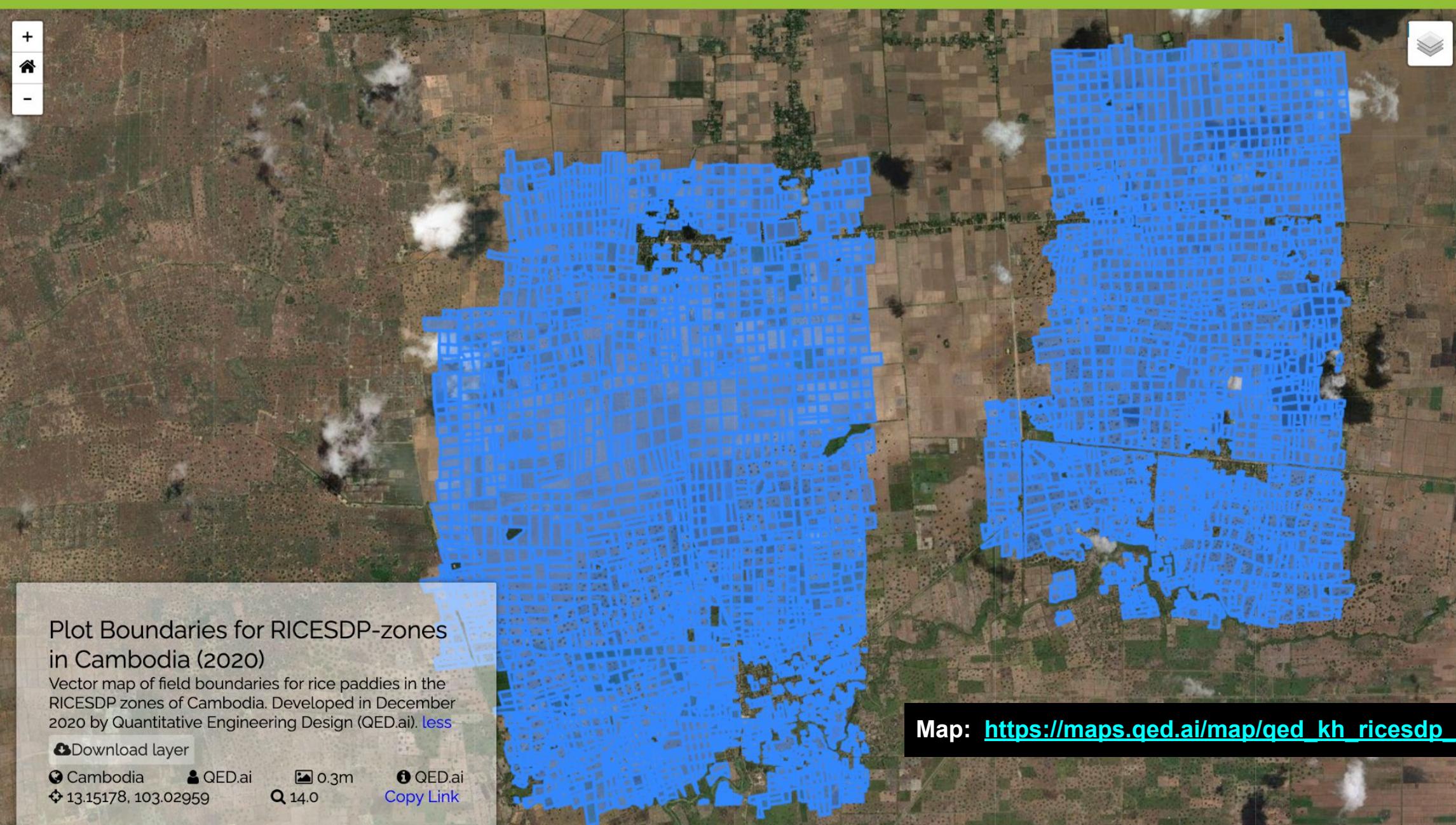
Order by:  
Uploaded at descending

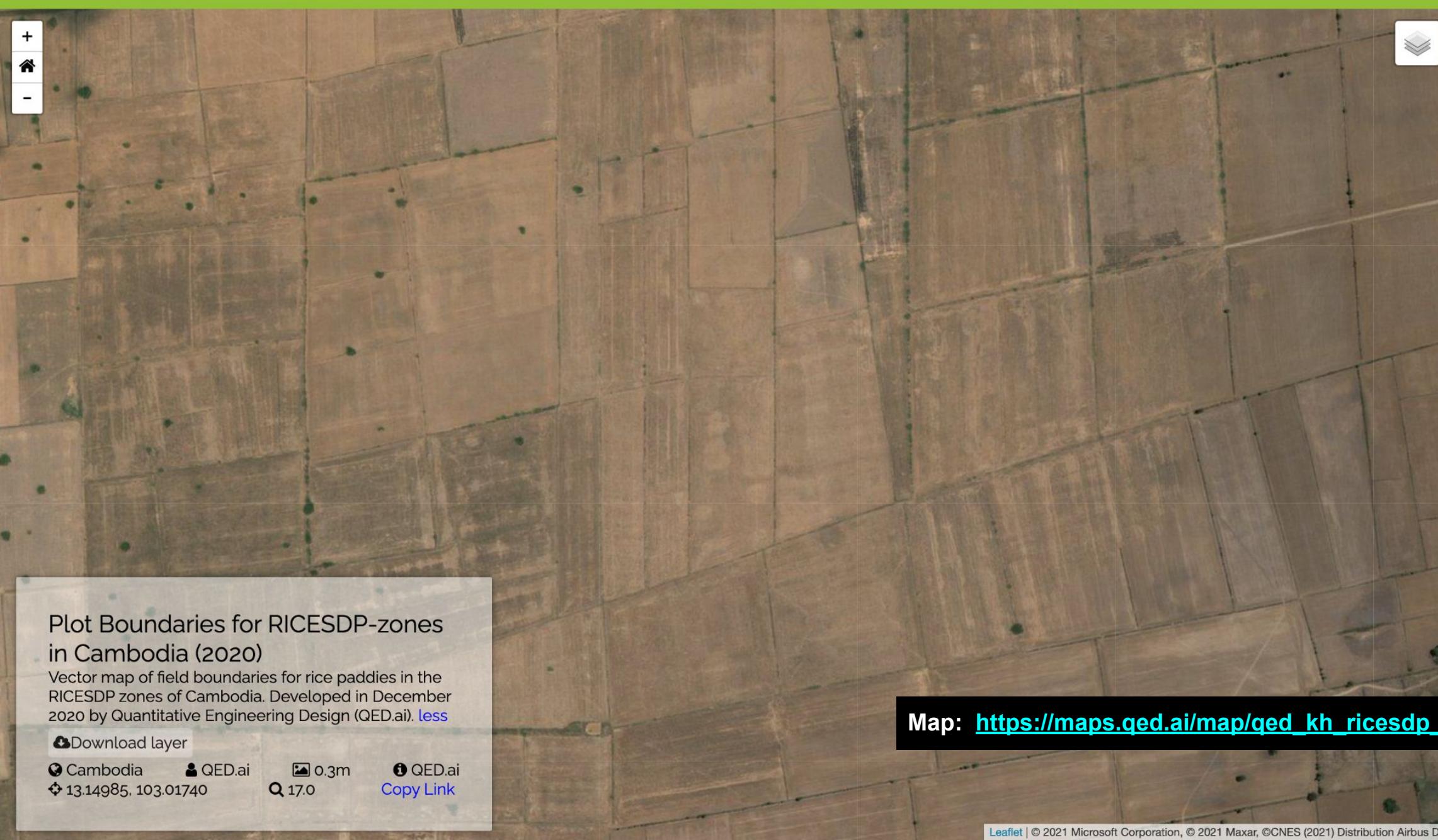
<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-24 14:14:51</p> <p>Position: 10.965564, 105.354699</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18366584</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-24 14:14:51</p> <p>Position: 10.965181, 105.366233</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18366583</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-24 14:14:51</p> <p>Position: 11.770394, 105.385198</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18366582</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.120736</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355901</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   
<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.114849</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355900</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.108963</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355899</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.103076</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355898</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.097189</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355897</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   
<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.091303</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355896</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.085416</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355895</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.079530</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355894</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   	<p>Uploaded at: 2020-11-03 09:12:15</p> <p>Position: 12.402560, 105.073643</p> <p>1 submission</p> <p>#18355893</p>  <small>© 2021 Microsoft</small>   





Map: [https://maps.qed.ai/map/qed\\_kh\\_ricesdp\\_boundaries](https://maps.qed.ai/map/qed_kh_ricesdp_boundaries)







Map: [https://maps.qed.ai/map/qed\\_kh\\_ricesdp\\_boundaries](https://maps.qed.ai/map/qed_kh_ricesdp_boundaries)



# Scaling Up: Artificial Intelligence

- **Question: Why not map *all* rice in KH like this?**

- **Answer:**

- Approximately 3M hectares of rice in KH
- Time required for one person to trace all of it:  
23.1 years on a 40 hour workweek
- Once humans are done, the map is outdated!

**Bottom-line:** A.I. and compromises are essential to national scale-up and long-term sustainability.

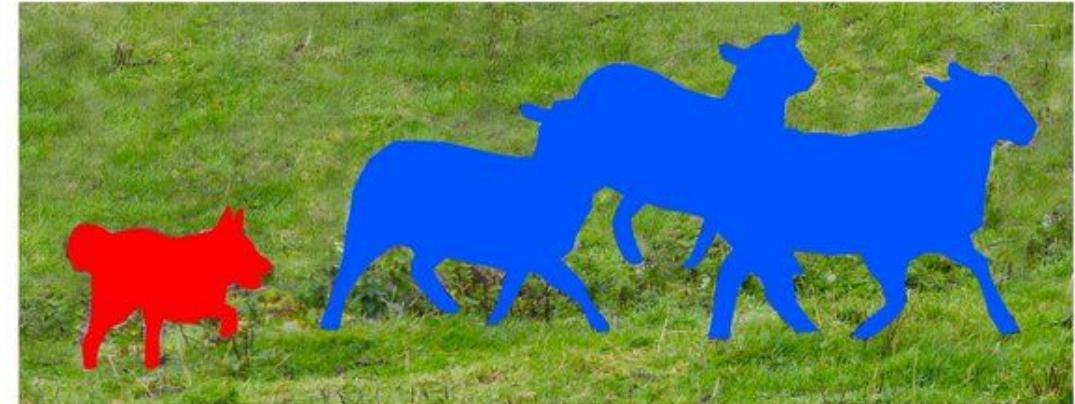
**Proposal from QED.ai: Map all rice in KH at national scale!**

# Evolution of some ideas in computer vision

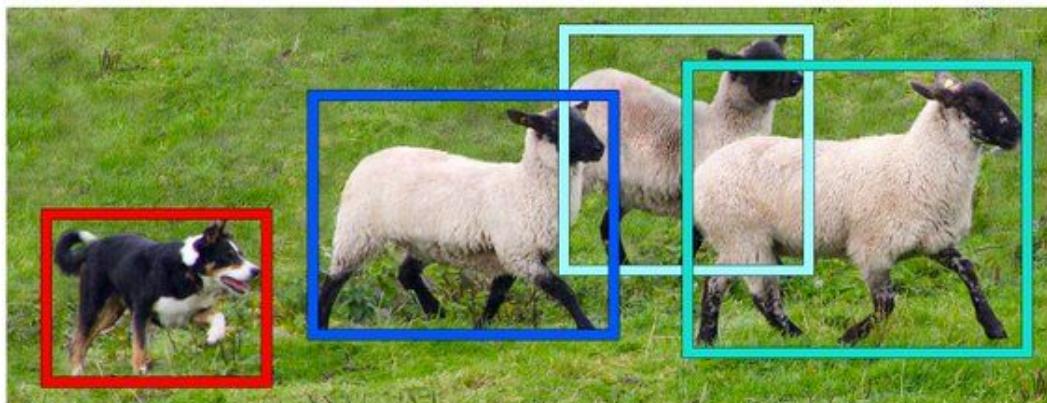
...



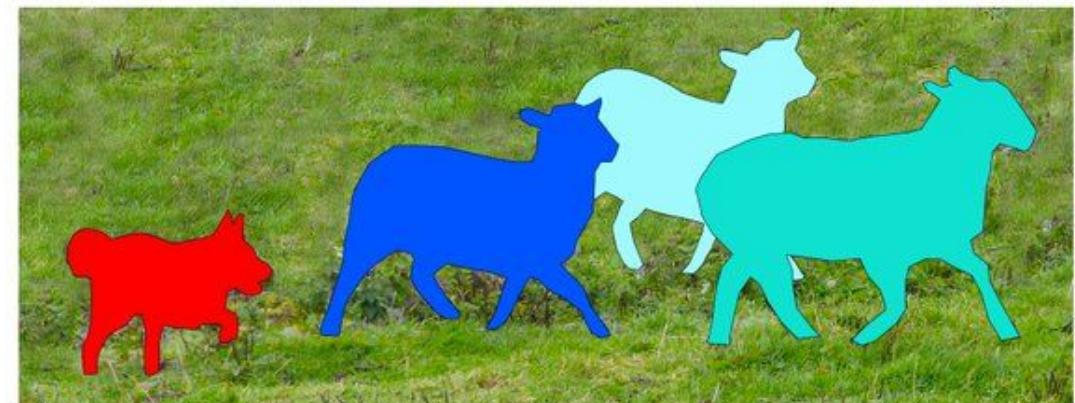
**Image Recognition**



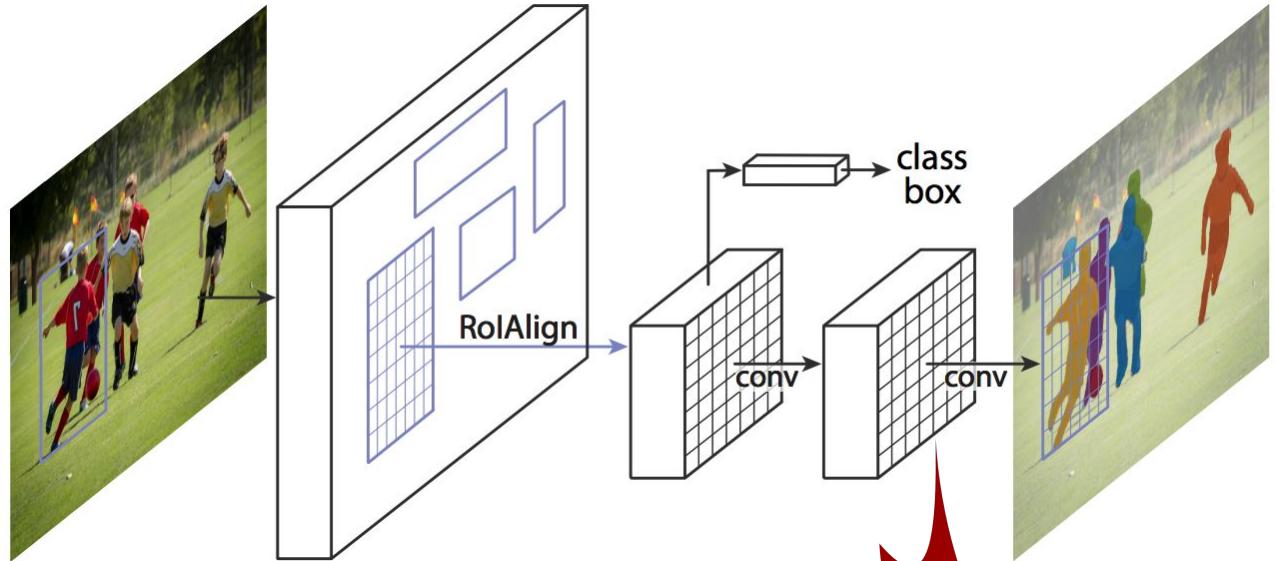
**Semantic Segmentation**



**Object Detection**



**Instance Segmentation**



# Applying the state-of-the-art to Ag Dev



# Preliminary Performance for A.I.

Map	Res	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1-Score	IoU	mAP
QED Rice Boundaries, KH	0.3m	83.8%	96.7%	80.3%	87.8%	78.2%	64.5%

cheatsheet for nerds:

		Actual	
		Positive	Negative
Predicted	Positive	True Positive	False Positive
	Negative	False Negative	True Negative

$$\text{acc} = (tp + tn) / (tp + tn + fp + fn)$$

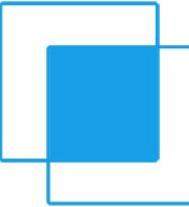
$$\text{prec} = tp / (tp + fp)$$

$$\text{recall} = tp / (tp + fn)$$

$$\text{f1} = 2 \times \text{prec} \times \text{recall} / (\text{prec} + \text{recall})$$

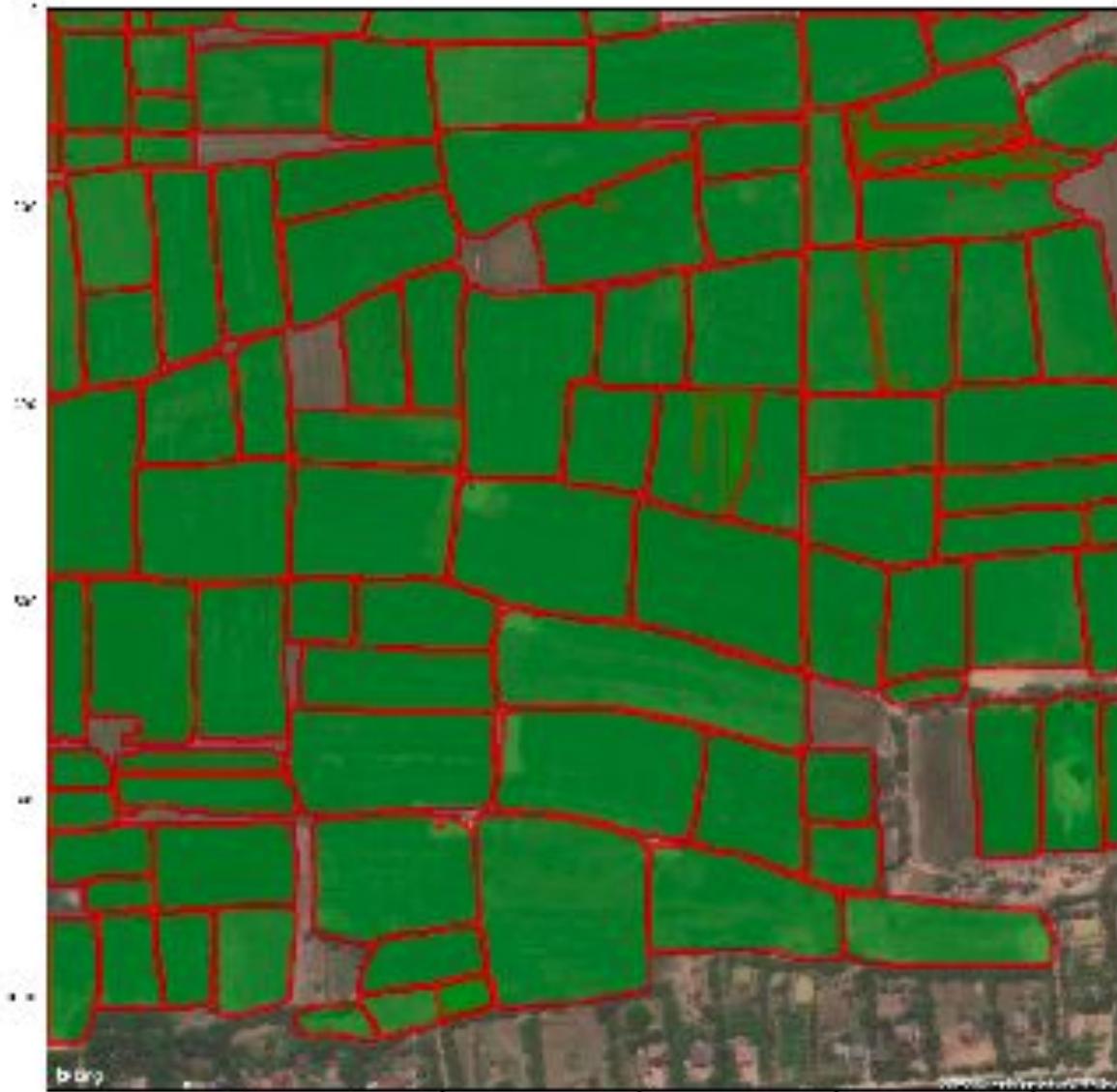
$$\text{iou} = tp / (tp + fn + fp)$$

$$\text{iou} = tp / (tp + fn + fp)$$

$$= \frac{\text{Area of Overlap}}{\text{Area of Union}}$$



**mAP** = over-complicated!  
... seeing is believing ...

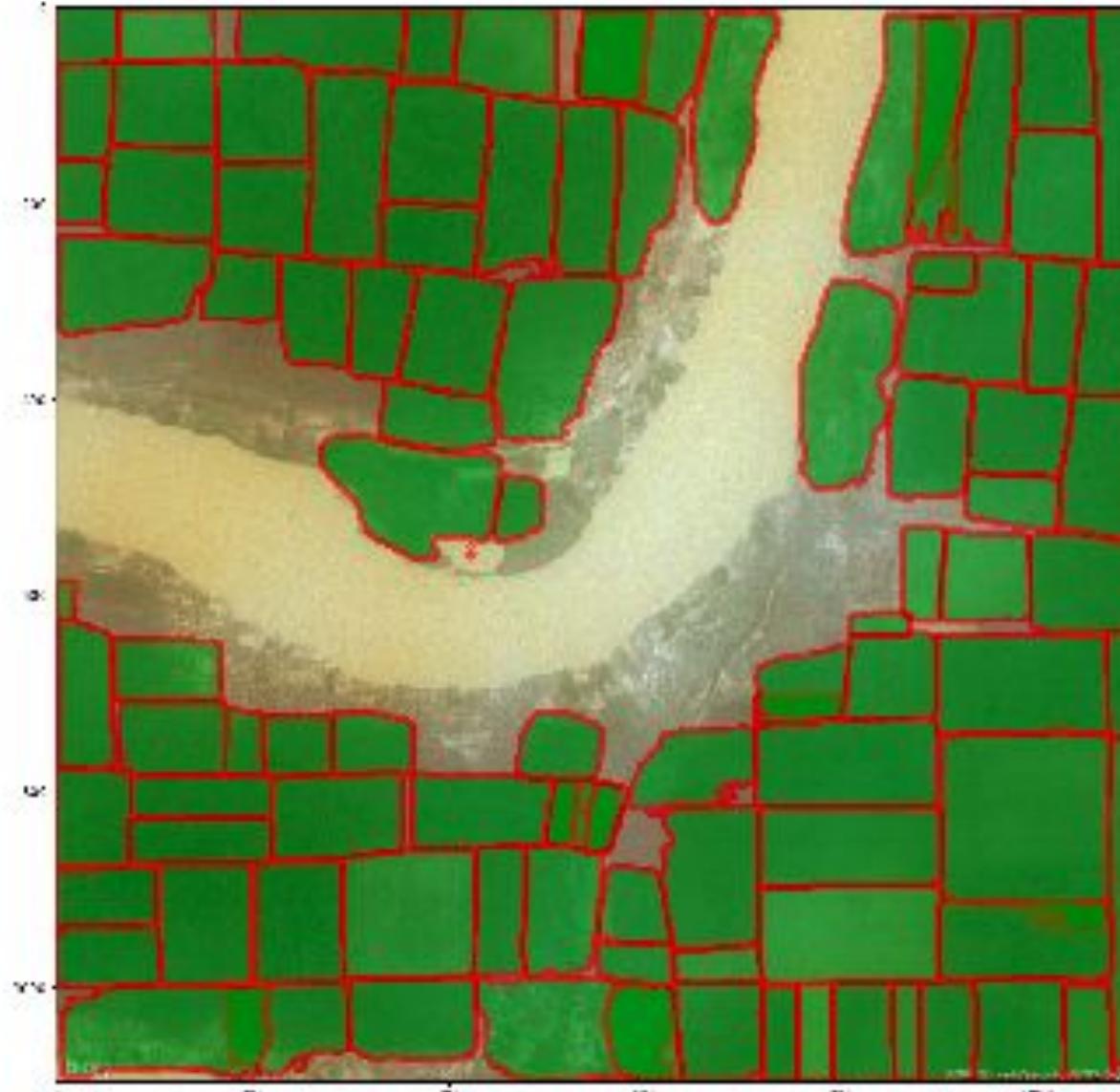
# Visuals (satellite on left, AI on right)

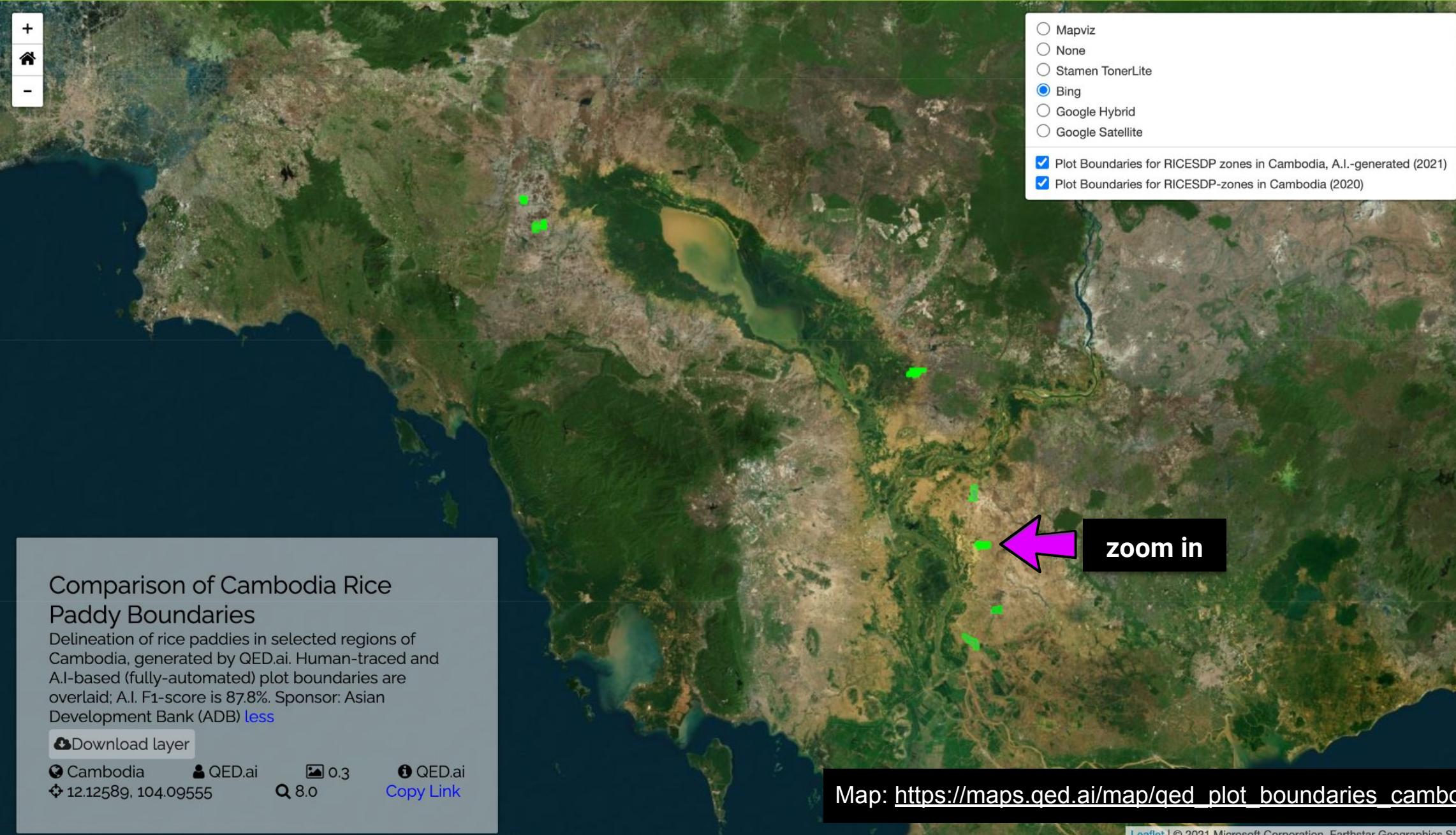


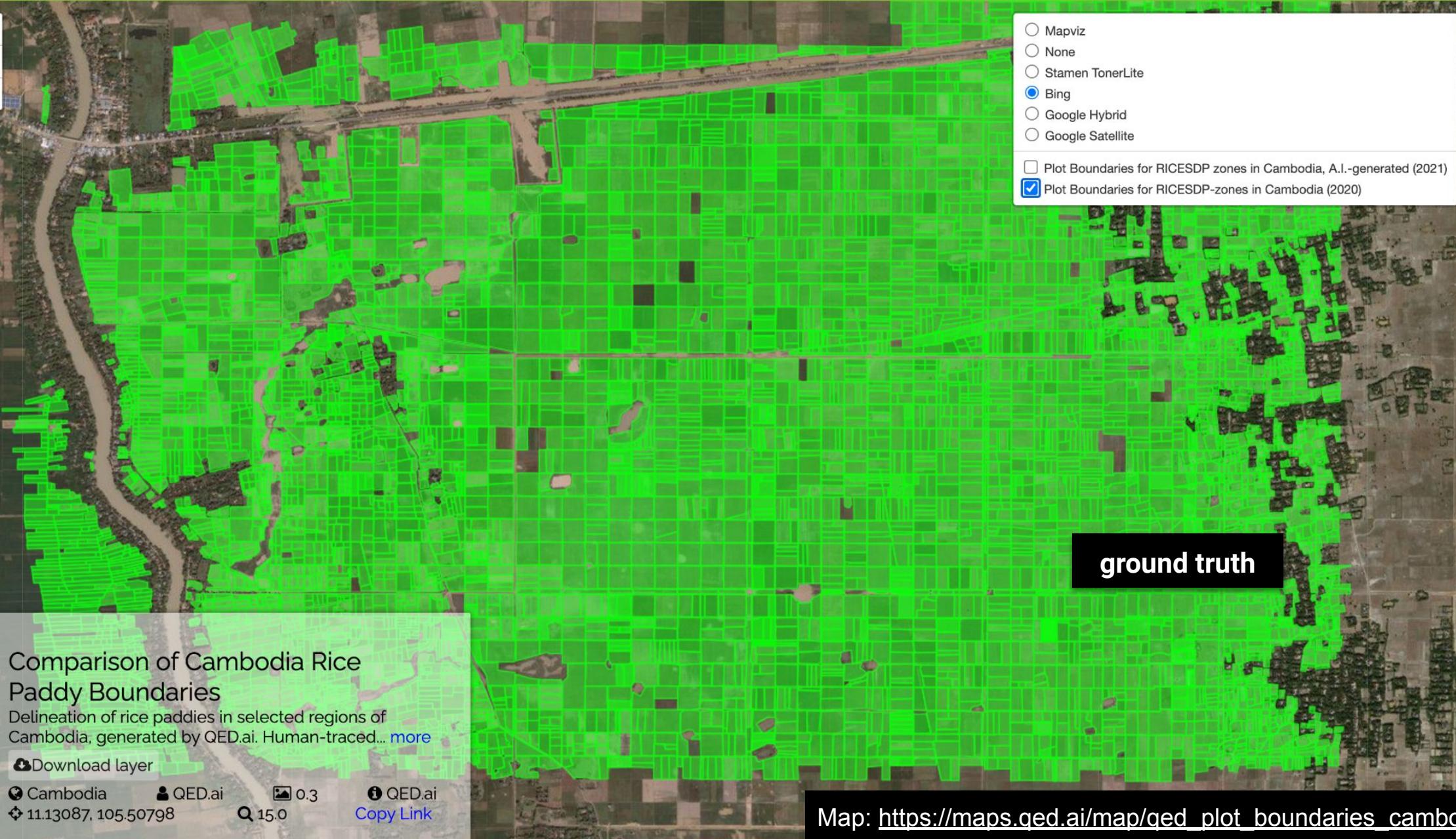
# Visuals (satellite on left, AI on right)

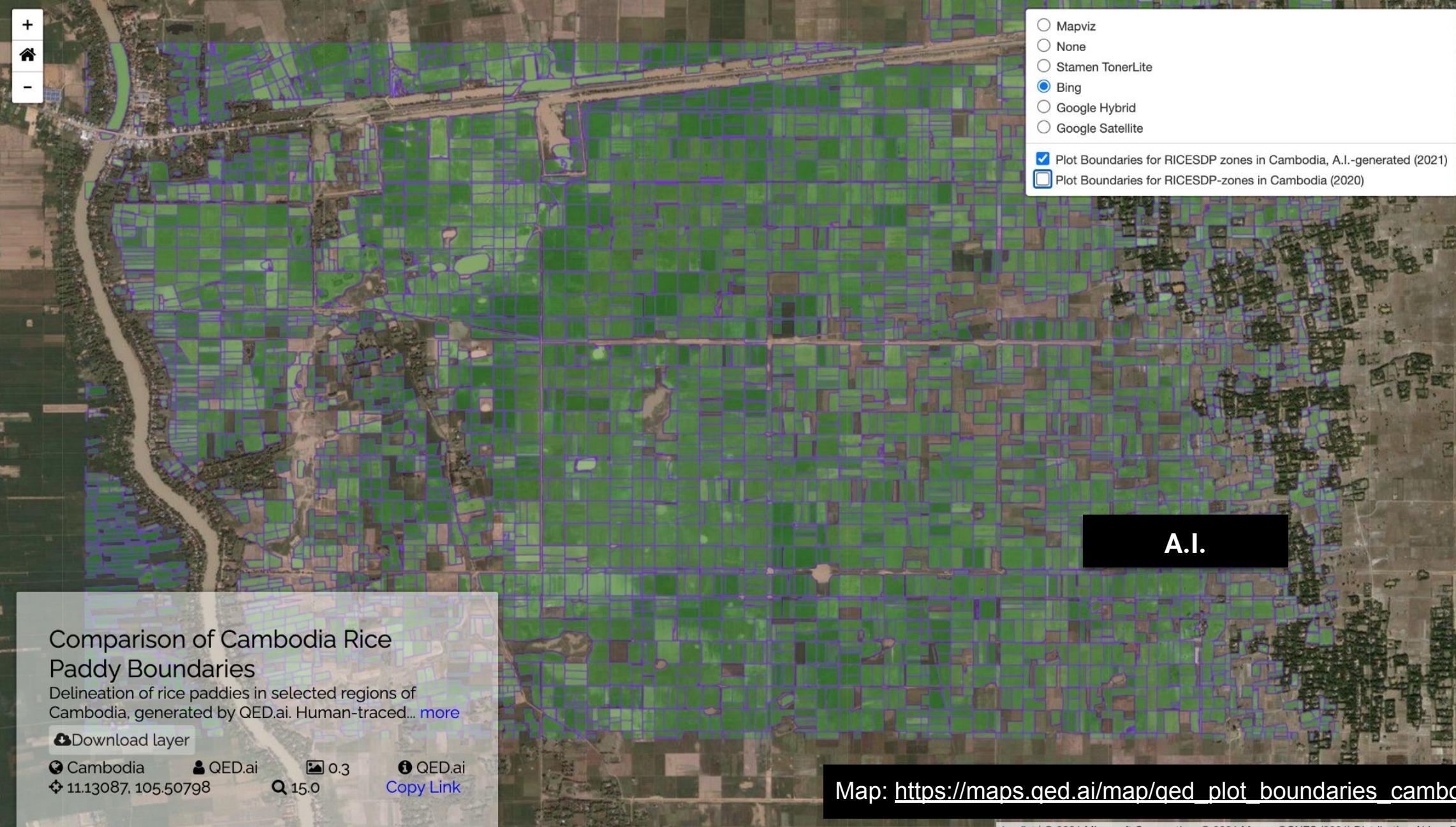


# Visuals (satellite on left, AI on right)









Aerial map showing rice paddy boundaries in Cambodia. The map features a grid overlay of purple lines indicating automated plot boundaries. A black rectangular box with the text "A.I." is positioned in the lower right area of the map. In the bottom left corner, there is a smaller inset map titled "Comparison of Cambodia Rice Paddy Boundaries".

**Comparison of Cambodia Rice Paddy Boundaries**

Delineation of rice paddies in selected regions of Cambodia, generated by QED.ai. Human-traced... [more](#)

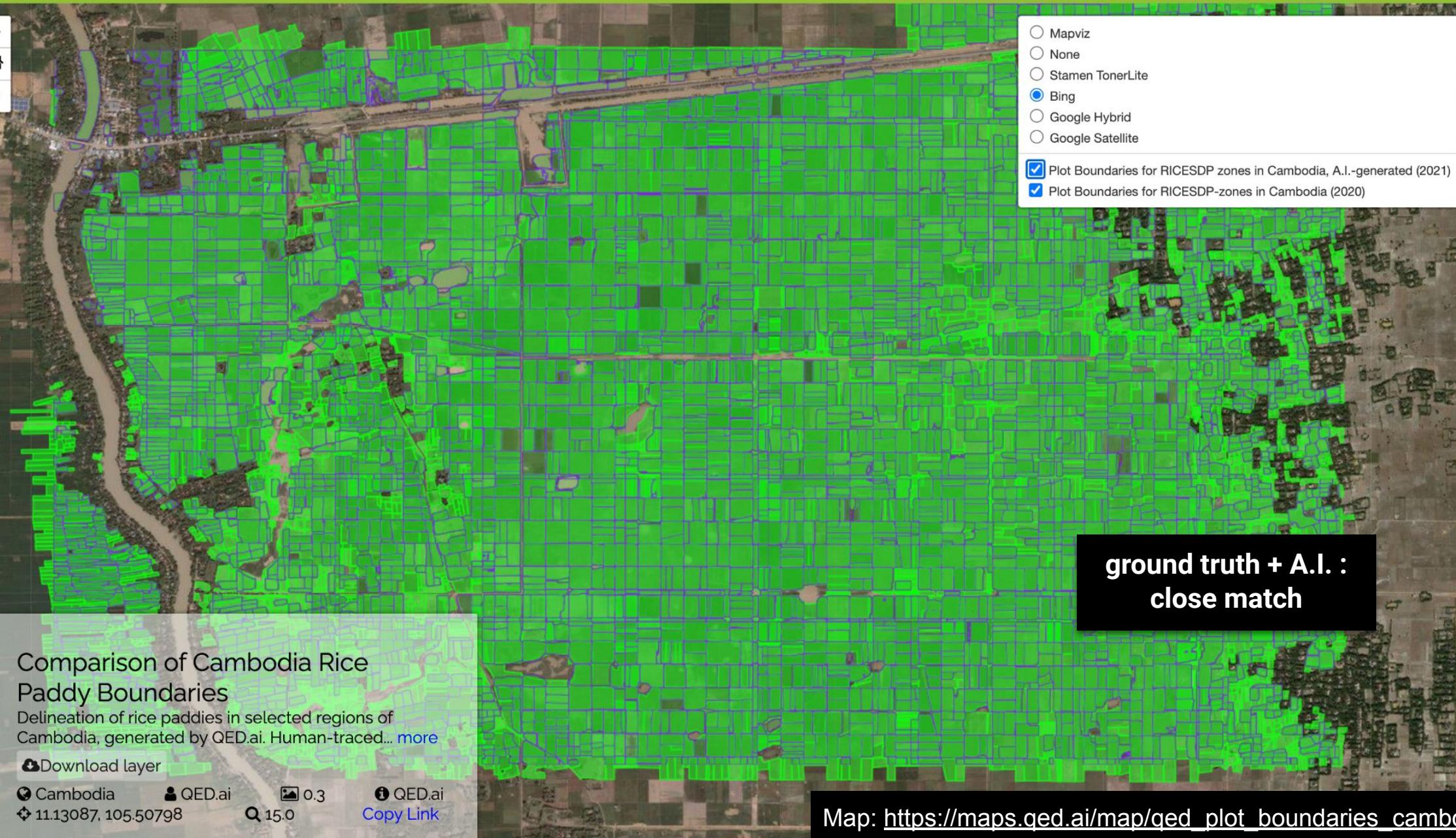
[Download layer](#)

Cambodia 11.13087, 105.50798 0.3 15.0 QED.ai Copy Link

Map: [https://maps.qed.ai/map/qed\\_plot\\_boundaries\\_cambodia\\_composite](https://maps.qed.ai/map/qed_plot_boundaries_cambodia_composite)

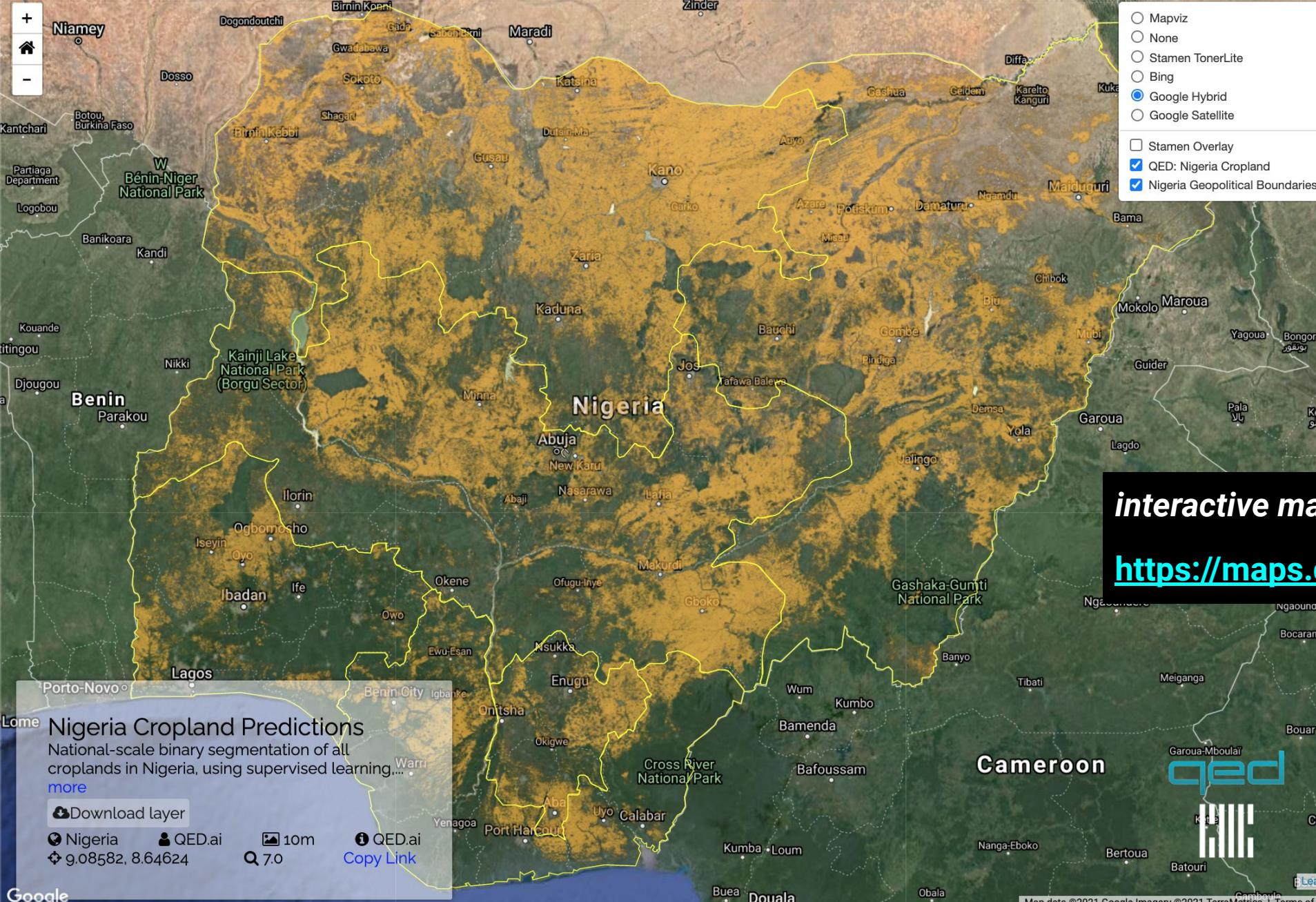
Map controls and layers:

- + (Zoom In)
- Home icon
- (Zoom Out)
- Search bar
- Layer selection: Mapviz, None, Stamen TonerLite, Bing (selected), Google Hybrid, Google Satellite
- Plot Boundary checkboxes:
  - Plot Boundaries for RICESDP zones in Cambodia, A.I.-generated (2021)
  - Plot Boundaries for RICESDP-zones in Cambodia (2020)





# Related Work and Use Cases



## NIGERIA

### National Cropland Map

- Acc. and precision: ~85%
- Spatial resolution: 10 m
- Scale: National
- Derived from 2020 imagery.
- Can be annually updated on a semi-automated basis.

interactive map:

[https://maps.qed.ai/map/ng\\_cp\\_preds](https://maps.qed.ai/map/ng_cp_preds)

BILL &  
MELINDA  
GATES  
foundation





Nepali  
 Sudur Pashchimanchal  
 Madhya Pashchimanchal  
 Pashchimanchal  
 Madhyamanchal  
 Purwanchal

Longitude: Latitude: Zoom Level:  
 81.479030 29.011509 9

## ag ecosystems (NSAF): [nsaf-geospatial.qed.ai](http://nsaf-geospatial.qed.ai)

interactive maps of all crops, buildings, soils, roads, agro-dealers, food processors, financial facilities, etc. throughout Nepal, to advance geospatial agricultural intelligence for public & private sectors

- Google Hybrid
- Offline Google Hybrid
- Development Regions
- Zones
- FAW Report
- Infrastructure
- Roads
- Croplands
- Buildings

- States Borders
- Roads
- Croplands
- Buildings
- Stock available
- Fall Armyworm affected zone
- Agrovet
- Agriculture cooperative
- Collection center
- Multipurpose Cooperative
- Miller
- Financial Institutions (SACCOs)
- Machinery Supplier
- Financial institutions (Banks)
- Insurance Company
- Farms (Livestock / Agriculture)
- Feed Processor
- Vegetable Retailer
- Grain or Goat Aggregator
- Agri Market center
- Seed Company
- Vegetable Wholesaler
- Agri Input Manufacturer
- Other Service Provider
- Extension Services Provider
- Haa Bazaar



- Many exciting use cases for mapping ...
  - grid electrification
  - crop-type classification
  - agro-dealer placement
  - fertilizer optimization
  - yield estimation
  - ... and government policy!

Below: QED maps integrated by Prime Minister into agricultural statistics used by NP's national fertilizer subsidy program. what can also be done for KH?

**email:** [maps@qed.ai](mailto:maps@qed.ai)  
**web:** <https://maps.qed.ai>

