# Mainstreaming Satellite Earth Observations and Smart Technology for Addressing Water-Food Security Challenges of Asia



Faisal Hossain University of Washington October 2-4, 2018

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#### **CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS**



ADB

# SATELLITE REMOTE SENSING AS A COST-EFFECTIVE PLATFORM



#### **CAN WE GROW MORE WITH LESS WITH EARTH OBSERVATIONS AND SMART TECHNOLOGY?**



#### **Indus Basin Irrigation System**

Original design: One crop/year Reality Today: 2.5 crops/year

> Year-round farming = increased demand on Pakistan's water supply.

ROPS PER FARMER: 1 - 2 1951

2017

#### CAN WE GROW MORE WITH LESS WITH EARTH OBSERVATIONS AND SMART TECHNOLOGY?

- Crop water requirements for rice > 60 percent of irrigation water
- 600 mm iHowigeo wanchange farmersumindset (that they do
- Farmers apply 2,200 mm tremendous Water loss, groundwater decline and costlier pumping
- Water use efficiency of rice averages 0.45 kg of rice/m3 (world average 0.71 kg/m3) lowest - 0.08kg/m3
- Several indigenous water conservation-irrigation technology available



#### **CROP WATER DEMAND**





Source: Foley et al. (2011), Nature, "Solutions for a Cultivated Planet"

#### THE MESSAGES TO FARMERS

Dear farmer friend, we would like to inform you that your wheat crop does not need irrigation due to sufficient rainfall during the past week.

Forecast-based Advisory also provided

Dear farmer friend, we would like to inform you that the irrigation need for your banana crop was 2 inches during the past week.

700 farmers	<b>10,000</b> farmers	<i>With Telenor Pakistan</i> <b>100,000</b> farmers	
2016	2017	2018	





#### **CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**



PCRWB launched the service on April 18, 2016, which is an outcome of international collaboration extended by the University of Washington (UW) and NASA. The UW is providing real time daily Potential Evapotranspiration (ET) and precipitation for entire Pakistan using NASA's remotely sensed data. PCRWR determined crop coefficients (Kc) for different corps in different agro-climatic zones of Pakistan. The service informs the farmers about their net weekly irrigation requirements, considering ET and precipitation. In the long run, PCRWR envisions extending the service to all farmers of irrigated areas, through international and national coordination.





## **QUANTITATIVE IMPACT EVALUATION**

# 25 billion cubic meter can be saved per year per million farmers

[25 km3; Grand Coulee Dam: 6 km3]

40% saving in irrigation water

80% usage rate among farmers

Evidence of doubling of farmer income through yield increase



## **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

**1. Skill improvement issues for Crop water demand and Precipitation supply:** net radiation/cloud cover, land cover heterogeneity, in-situ/AWS data for dynamic correction – *ON GOING* (Pakistan)

**2. Marginal farmer needs who grow 3/4<sup>th</sup> of total food:** higher spatial resolution (plot scale), IoT and Cloud-based computing (Google earth engine) – *ON GOING* (India)

**3.Comprehensive use of (FREE) Satellite and Model-based Earth Observations:** Additional satellite sensors/weather models to add value and keep costs down



#### IoT BASED PANI IS BEING BORN... Provision for Advisory on Necessary Irrigation



ADP

#### **TAKE HOME MESSAGES**

- EARTH OBSERVATIONS AND NUMERICAL WEATHER MODELS ARE LOW HANGING SOLUTIONS FOR ADDRESSING WATER-FOOD SECURITY CHALLENGES
- TWO-WAY ENGAGEMENT, CO-DESIGN AND BUSINESS MODELS NEEDED FOR RESEARCH-GRADE SOLUTIONS TO THRIVE IN SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONAL SETTINGS
- TECHNOLOGY THAT HAS PRECISION AND IS SMART DOES NOT HAVE TO EXPENSIVE
- FUTURE DIRECTIONS SHOULD ADDRESS MARGINAL FARMERS (WHO GROW 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of FOOD) USING IoT, CLOUD-BASED COMPUTING AND FREELY AVAILABLE DATA



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# THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

#### www.saswe.net/cinematography





### **ET<sub>o</sub> MEASUREMENT – CROP WATER DEMAND**



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### Land Records on GIS



# Soil health card (SHC) by Govt. of India

- Being produced every 3<sup>rd</sup> year
- For all 140 Million farmers
- Contains 12 soil parameters (namely N,P,K (Macro-nutrients) ; S (Secondary- nutrient) ; Zn, Fe, Cu, Mn, Bo (Micro - nutrients) ; and pH, EC, OC (Physical parameters)
- For fertilizer and crop type recommendations



Se	condary & Micro Nutri	ents Recommendations			Fertilizer Recomm	endations for Reference Vield (with Organic	(Manure)
SL. No.	Parameter	Recommendations for Soil Applications	51.	Crop & Variety	Reference	Fertilizer Combination-1 for N P K	Fertilizer Combination-2 for N P K
1	Sulphur (S)				THEN		
2	Zinc (Zn)		1				
3	Boron (B)			Paddy (Dhaan)			
4	Iron (Fe)						
5	Manganese (Mn)		2				
6	Copper (Cu)		1				
	General Recor	nmendations					
1	Organic Manure	and the second se	3				
2	Biofertiliser						
3	Lime / Gupsum		1				
-		NC	4				
International Year of Soils	r of Soils	Healthy Soils for a Healthy Life	5				
	2015		6				

A study conducted by National Productivity Council (NPC) in 2016 reported that around 84 per cent of farmers said the information on soil status and nutrients recommendations helped them in reducing the cost of cultivation and improving productivity of crops.



# LOW COST SENSORS & LOW POWERED WIDE AREA NETWORK (LPWAN)



#### **INTEGRATION ON THE CLOUD FOR PANI**





# **HOW AFFORDABLE IS PANI?**

- LPWAN gateway = (with solar panels and cloud connectivity)
- LPWAN communication node=
- Multi-sensor module (temperature, humidity, rainfall, pressure and windspeed) =

- Good quality soil moisture sensor (capacitance based) =
- ONE LPWAN tower covers at least 100 km2 with 100 environmental sensors
- If 100 farmers live 1 km<sup>2</sup> (average farmer density in India), setup cost per farmer=
  (estimate by Indian partners)

