



The webinar will last around 1h

The slides will be available on the Sen4Stat website in the coming 48 hours
(<https://www.esa-sen4stat.org/>)



Presenters:

Sophie Bontemps from *UCLouvain*

Sarfaraz Bhutto from CRS-Sindh, Pakistan



Members of the consortium available to answer your questions



Webinar outline



- Sen4Stat overview
- User's perspectives: the case of CRS-Sindh, Pakistan
- Sen4Stat yield component
- News and what's next
- Questions and answers



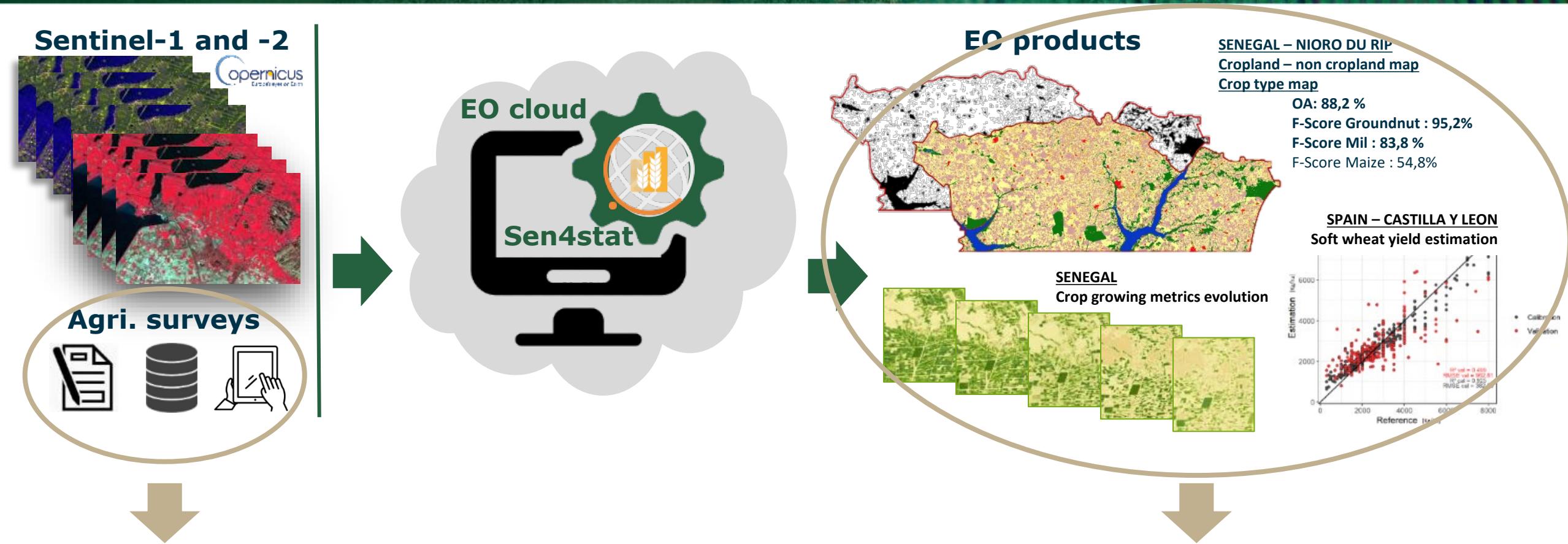
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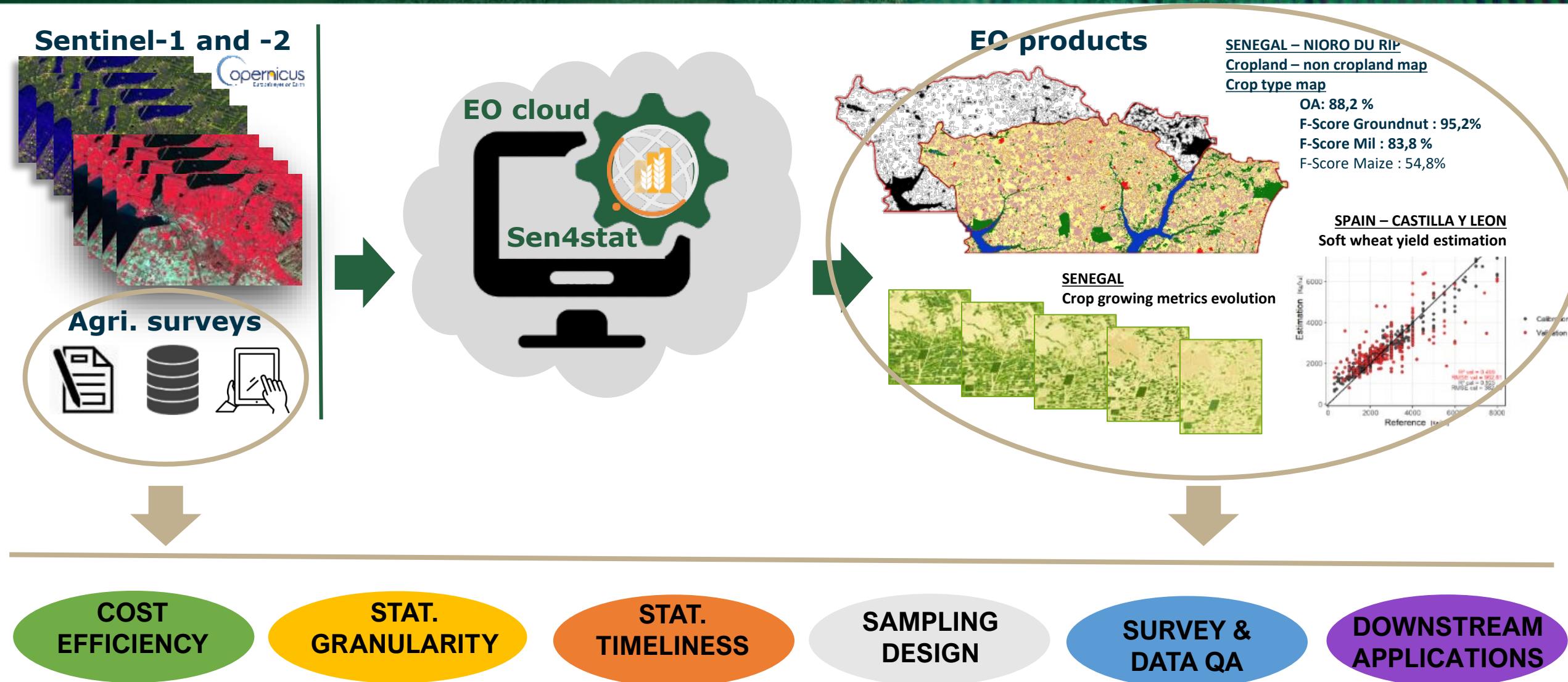
Sen4Stat: coupling EO data and statistical surveys for improved statistics



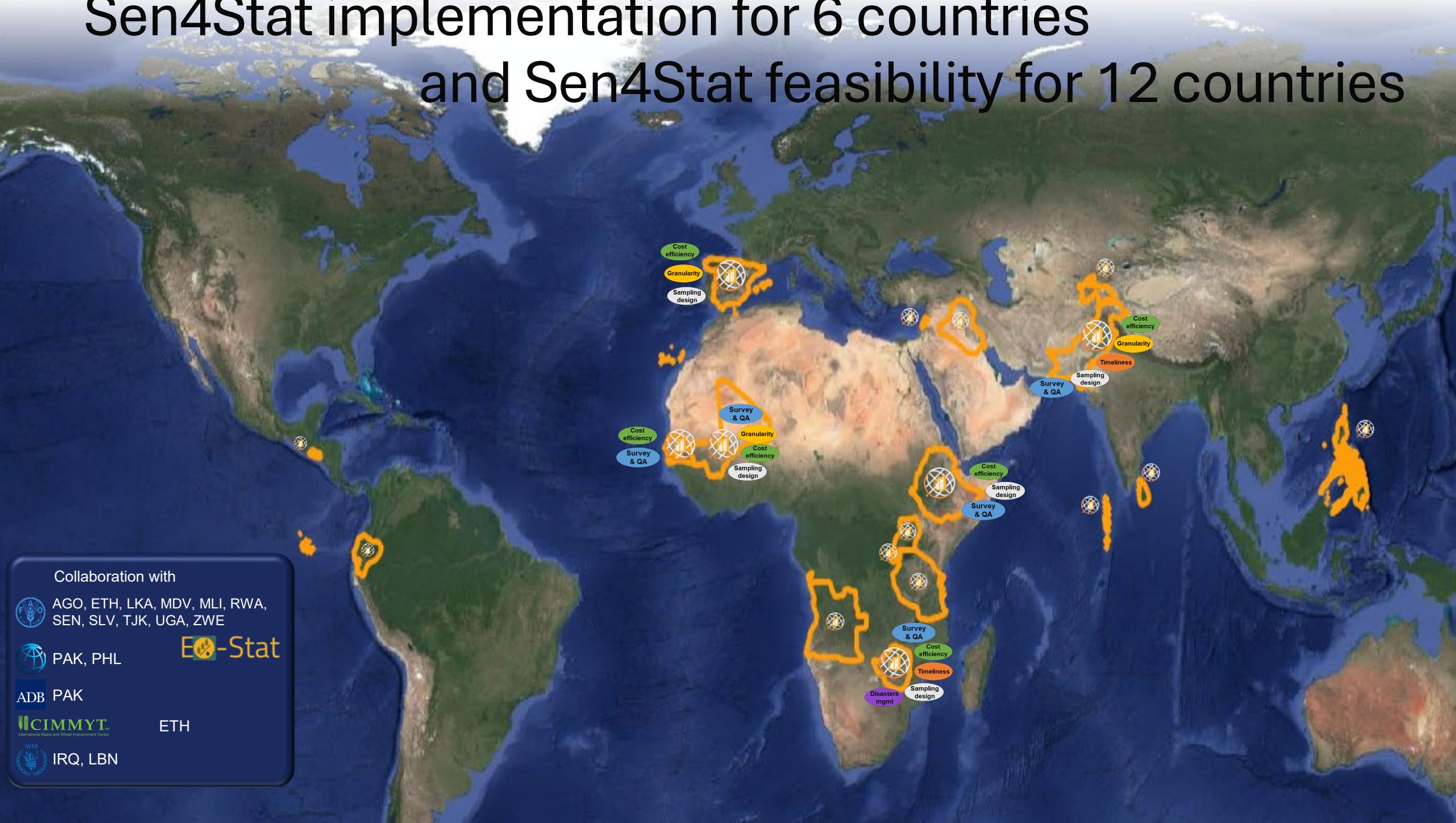
IMPROVED STATISTICS



Sen4Stat: coupling EO data and statistical surveys for improved statistics

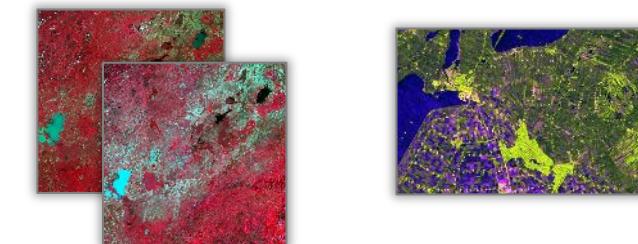


Sen4Stat implementation for 6 countries and Sen4Stat feasibility for 12 countries

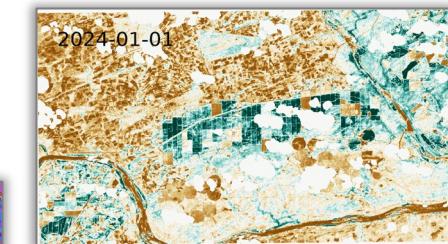


- Processing Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and Landsat-8&9 time series according to the state-of-the-art including advanced SAR products (coherence, gamma naught,...)
- Delivering automatically or on request **5 types of products** (*processors*) in near real time along the satellite data acquisition or off-line :

- 1. Optical 10m cloud free temporal synthesis and SAR temporal synthesis**



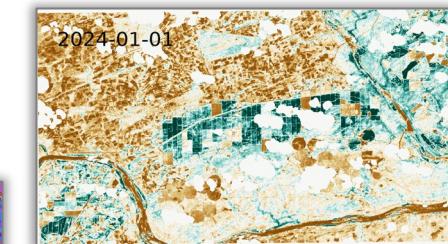
- 2. time series of spectral indices** (NDVI, coherence,...) and **biophysical variables** (LAI, fCover, fAPAR)



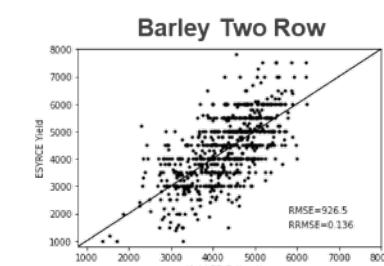
- 3. 10m crop type maps** along the season based on in situ dataset and stratification



- 4. a large set of crop growth conditions metrics** (including even meteorological data)



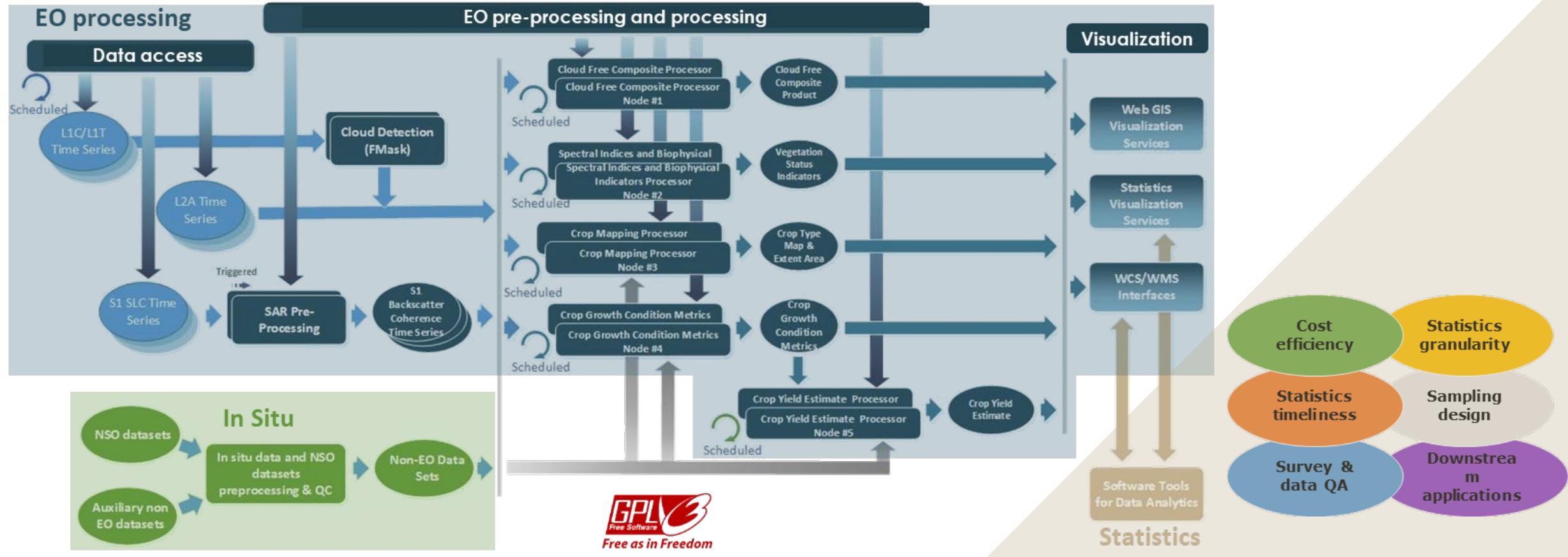
- 5. crop yield estimation** at various aggregation levels (national, regional, ...)





An open-source toolbox for operational crop monitoring for agricultural statistics at national scale

esa



- Sentinel-1 & Sentinel-2
- For NRT & off-line production
- Running on the cloud or locally

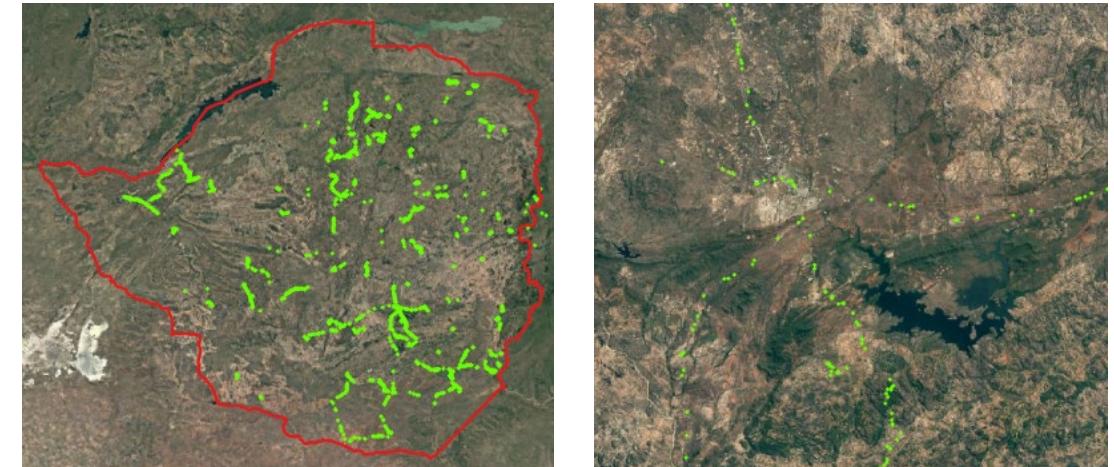
- In situ data QA embedded
- Compatible with list and area frame surveys

- In-situ data needed for
 - **calibration**: learning dataset to train the algorithm or model
 - **validation**: estimate the products accuracy (with a confidence interval) using a statistically-sound sampling to be objective and independent
 - **statistics estimation**: statistical survey designed to estimate crop acreage
- Integrated data formatting and quality control

Statistical survey data for acreage estimation



Windshield survey (points taken along the road) data for mapping purposes





Graphical user interface to configurate the system, launch the production and monitor the processes



System
configuration



Sen4Stat : parameters settings

Area of Interest	Shapefile to be uploaded
Monitoring period	Start and end dates to be defined
S1 - S2 - L8&9	To be selected
Data sources	ESA&USGS – AWS – DIAS – local storage...



Mali stratification (PIRT)

Sen4Stat : field campaign

Sampling design	Stratification and sampling
Field visit	In situ data collection – early survey
	In situ data collection – mid-season survey
Data upload	Field data quality control and formating



PLN	Shape	LC	CROP	LC	CODE	IRRIGATION
1	Polygon	1.1	Spring Wheat		11.2	0
1	Polygon	2.1	Spring Wheat		11.2	0
1	Polygon	3.1	Spring Wheat		11.2	0
1	Polygon	4.1	Spring Wheat		11.2	0
3	Polygon	5.1	Spring Wheat		13.1	0
4	Polygon	6.1	Triticale		19.1	0
5	Polygon	7.1	Triticale		19.1	0
6	Polygon	8.1	Triticale		19.1	0
7	Polygon	9.1	Triticale		19.1	0

Capacity building and local system installation are key for uptake



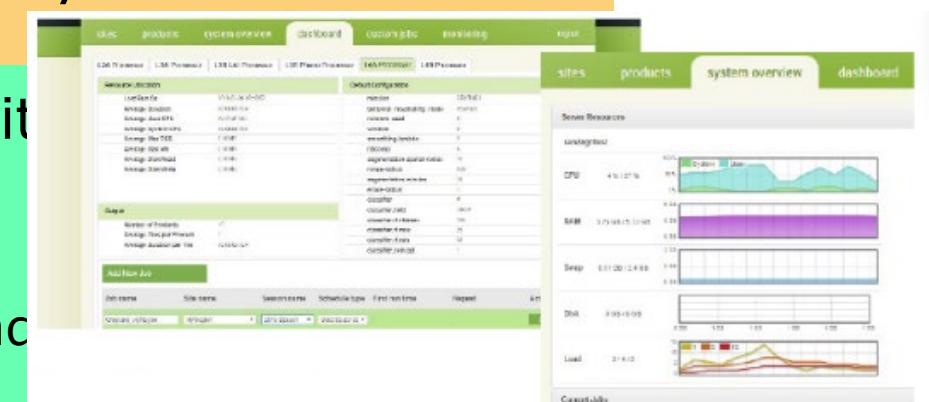
→ **Sen4Stat system locally installed and operational in 3 countries and in pilot or exploratory phase in 8 countries**

Automated mode through the web graphical user interface (GUI)

- a) based on the Orchestrator with by-default parameterization, automatic data download and processing until the end of the season, on-time delivery => **operational scenarios**
- b) Processor execution on user request, with by-default parameterization

Manual mode: to run processor independently, with custom parameters

- a) Through the GUI, with the *Custom job* approach
- b) Through SNAP software Only processor of Level 3 and not the atmospheric correction (L2A).
- c) In command line through a linux terminal





Under GNU-GPL License



Based on **Orfeo ToolBox** framework



Cluster-ready architecture for distributed processing



Integration of **SNAP** tools and processing chains



Operational system required : **Alma or Rocky LINUX**



PostgreSQL and **PostGIS** implementation



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Crop Reporting Service

CRS-Sindh

**Agriculture Supply & Prices Department,
Government of Sindh**

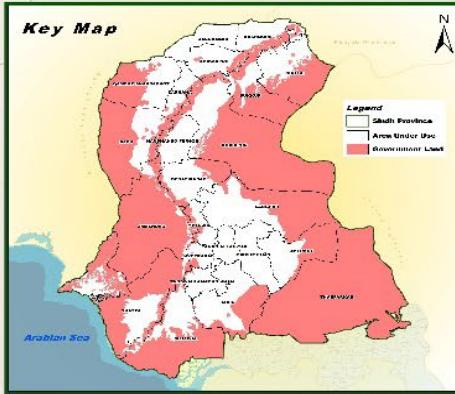
Sarfaraz Ali Bhutto
Director CRS Sindh
04th Dec 2025



Pakistan map



LAND CLASSIFICATION OF SINDH



Category	Acres	Sq.Km	%
Area Under Use	12,870,196	52,084	37
Government Land	21,950,444	88,830	63
Area of Sindh	34,820,640	140,914	-

GIS Based Government Land	Area		% Of Total Area
	Acres	Sq.Km	
Area Under Use	12,870,196	52,084	37
Desert	7,376,597	29,852	21
Wildlife Sanctuary	5,777,805	23,382	17
Arid Land	3,329,942	13,476	10
Kacha Land & River Island	877,527	3,956	3
Hilly Area	1,299,416	5,259	4
Mangrove/ Swamp	913,564	3,697	3
National Park	761,696	3,082	2
Riverine Forest Inside Kacha Land	600,000	2,428	2
Game Reserve	282,898	1,145	0.8
Irrigated Plantation	180,000	728	0.5
Indus River	166,631	674	0.5
Lake	129,227	523	0.4
Reserved Forest	54,049	219	0.2
Reservoir	48,205	195	0.1
Lagoon	36,386	147	0.1
Coastal Island	16,502	67	0.05
Total Area	34,820,640	140,914	

Overview of Crop Reporting Service

Crop Reporting Service (CRS) plays a vital role in the agriculture sector.

Each year, CRS conducts field surveys to generate crop estimates for both Kharif and Rabi crops.

CRS is to provide accurate and timely crop information to support decision making.

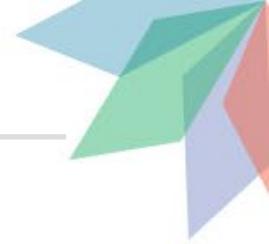
Monitor weather conditions and their impact on crops.

CRS maintain a database of crop-related data.

We provide reports to government agencies, policymakers, and the public.

The program primarily focused on a limited number of crops. Nevertheless, it has expanded to include additional crops as their significance in agriculture has grown.

Field staff members from each district conduct surveys and compile crop reports, Collected data is analyzed to generate crop area & production.



CRS: Backbone of Agricultural Statistics

- Crop Reporting Service (CRS) is the official agency for Kharif and Rabi crop statistics in Sindh.
- Functions include field surveys, yield estimations, crop condition reports.
- Data supports GDP estimation, planning, and food security measures.

CRS 2024–25 Transformation Journey

- Traditional crop area and yield estimation methods relying on field surveys are being replaced by real-time satellite imagery (Sentinel, Landsat) and drone-based data collection.
- Urgent need for accurate, timely, and spatially rich data.

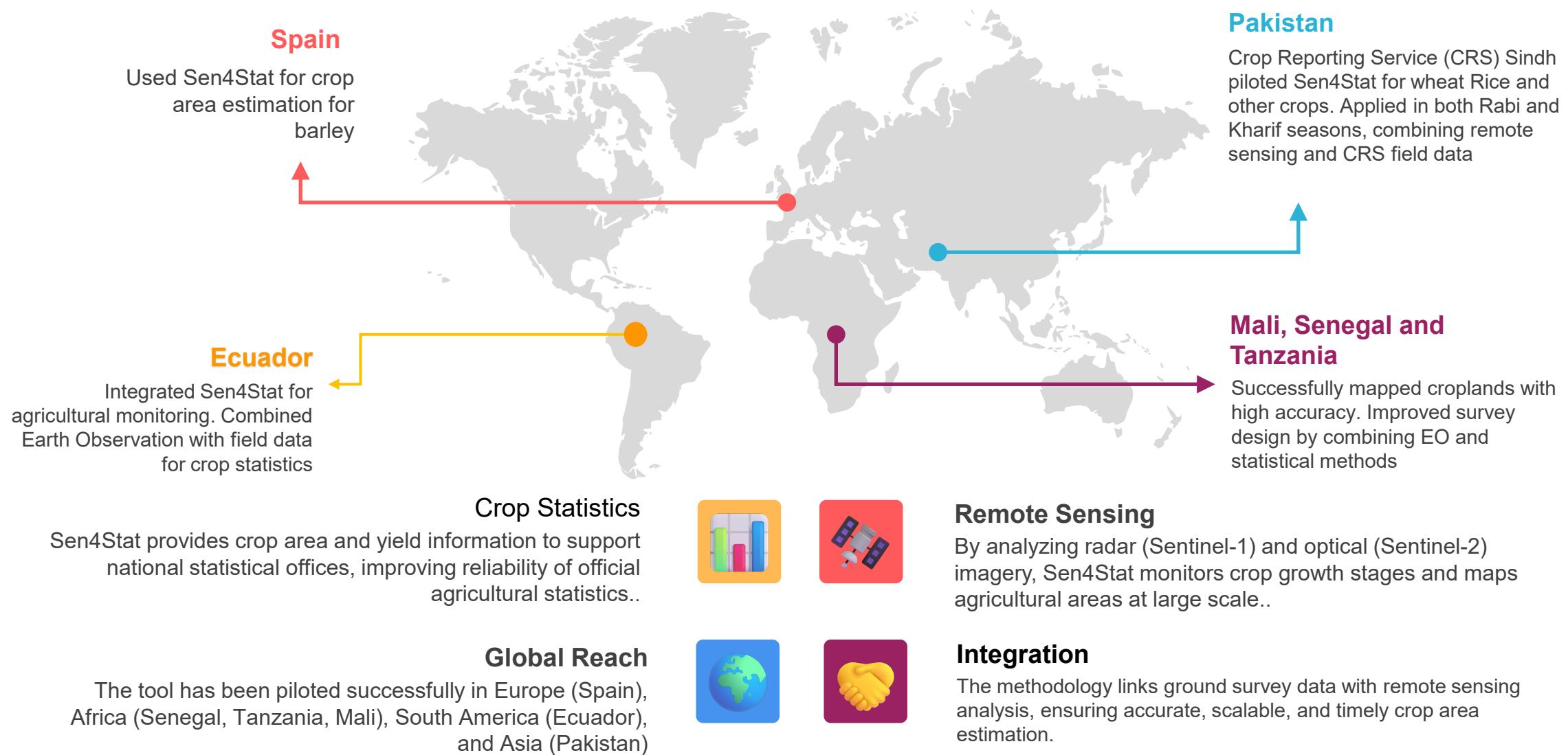
Why Change Was Needed

- Manual processes caused delays and inconsistencies.
- Artificial Intelligence and machine learning models are now used for crop classification, stress detection, and yield forecasting, reducing human error and improving accuracy.
- Lack of GIS tools and geo-referencing.

Digital Data Collection & Cloud Platforms

- AI-driven platforms (e.g., Google Earth Engine) enable automated data processing, visualization, and reporting, replacing time consuming manual tabulations and improving decision making speed.

Global Implementation of ESA's Sen4Stat Tool



Comparison of Crop Area Estimation Methods

CRS Statistical Method

1st Estimate: Growers Opinion Survey is conducted before Rabi & Kharif cultivation to assess growers' views on expected increase/decrease in crop area and input availability.

2nd Estimate: Acreage Survey is conducted after cultivation in Rabi & Kharif, where Crop Reporters use maps and survey numbers to record crop areas in Girdawari.

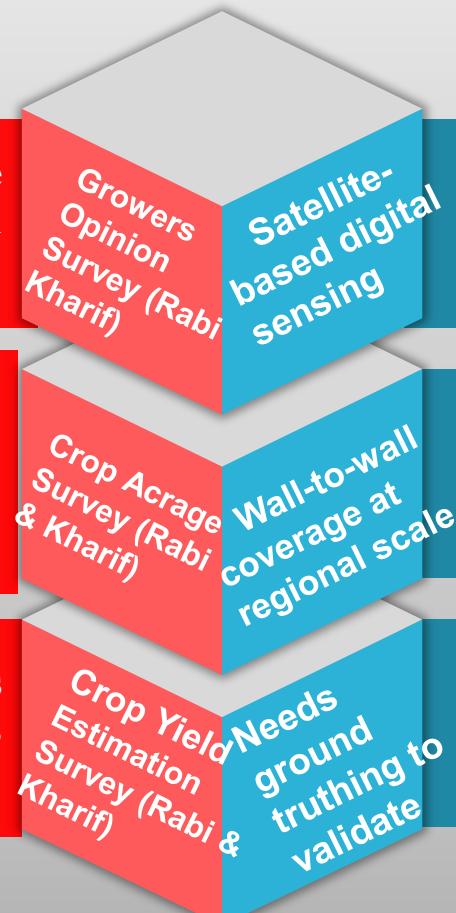
Yield of major crops (Wheat, Cotton, Sugarcane & Rice) is assessed through random sampling three fields and six plots (15x20 ft) per sample Deh, following CRS Manual guidelines.

Remote Sensing Method

Uses satellite imagery Sentinel-1, Radar Data and Sentinel 2 Optical Image.

Requires crops to reach maturity / full phenology for clear detection

Estimates crop area using vegetation indices NDVI, EVI, EVI2



**Belgian Experts from Université catholique de Louvain Visit Sindh Agriculture University
Tandojam to Collaborate on Innovative Yield Estimation Methods on 14th March 2025**





Meeting on 'Sen4Stat' geospatial Tool for Crop Acreage and Yield Estimation

Presented by Mr. Pierre and Mr. Guillaume on 19th March 2025



A three-day comprehensive training session was held at the CRS Headquarters in Hyderabad starting on March 10, 2025. Crop reporters, Statistical Officers (SOs), and





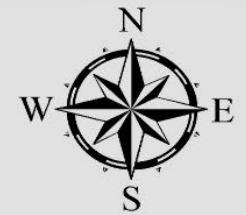
Field Survey Roll-Out Plan

- The field survey was strategically initiated from Lower Sindh, as the wheat harvest in this region begins earlier compared to Upper Sindh
- The initial deployment covered districts such as Thatta, Sujawal, and Badin, ensuring timely collection of yield samples before harvesting activities commenced
- GIS team commenced field activities on March 15 from Lower Sindh, starting at Tandojam, where they conducted crop observations and collected field data alongside international experts Guillaume and Pierre from UCL Belgium



RABI CROP AREA ESTIMATION

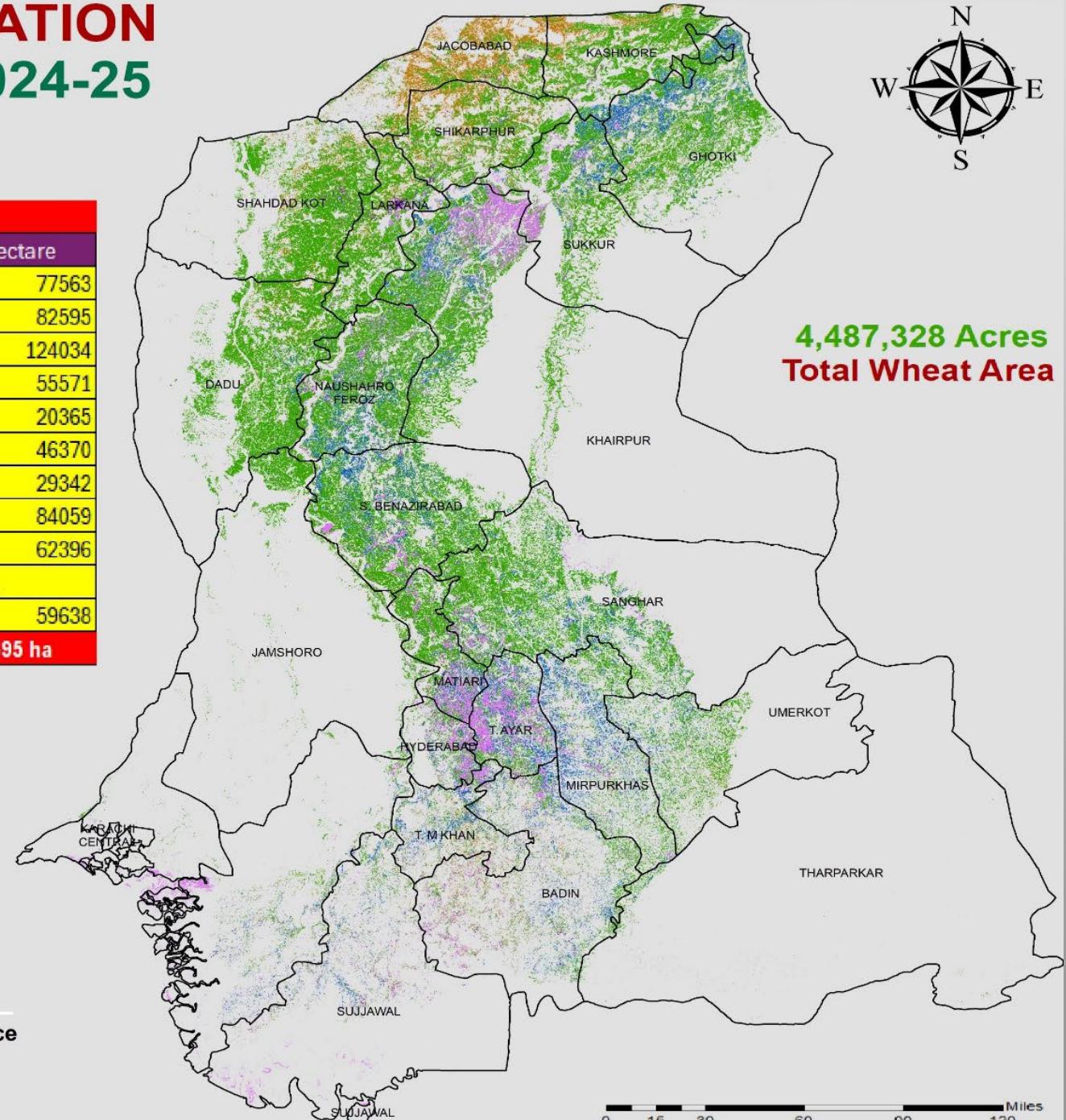
2024-25



Wheat Crop Area Estimation 2024-25 District-Wise

Districts	Area Hectare	Districts	Area Hectare
Khairpur	148355	Mirpurkhas	77563
Ghotki	115784	Umerkot	82595
Sukkur	81737	Dadu	124034
N.Feroz	102162	Jamshoro	55571
S.Benazirabad	129205	Hyderabad	20365
Jacobabad	41638	Tando Alhayar	46370
Kashmore	88199	T.M Khan	29342
Shikarpur	61175	Badin	84059
Larkana	70447	Thatta	62396
Q.Shadadkot	101132	Karachi	—
Sanghar	233927	Matiari	59638
Total	1,815,695 ha		

4,487,328 Acres
Total Wheat Area



Legend

- Wheat
- Other Crops
- Sugarcane
- Oil Seed
- Othercrops
- Perennial crops
- Non Crops



Crop Reporting Service
Sindh

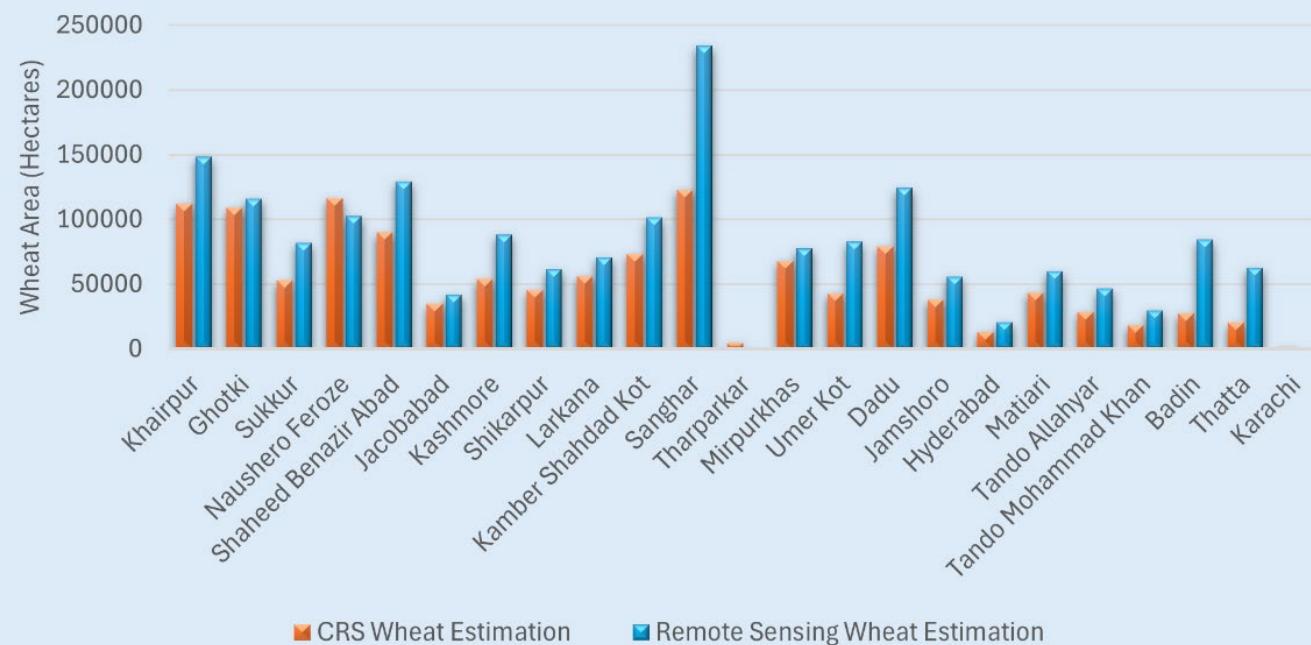
Wheat Crop Area Estimates 2024-25

PROVINCE/ DISTRICTS	Area in Hectares	
	CRS Wheat Estimates 2024-25	Remote Sensing Estimates 2024-25
SINDH	1248973	1815695
Khairpur	111966	148355
Ghotki	108792	115784
Sukkur	52566	81737
Naushero Feroze	116148	102162
Shaheed Benazir Abad	89866	129205
Jacobabad	34418	41638
Kashmore	53750	88199
Shikarpur	45550	61175
Larkana	56172	70447
Kamber Shahdad Kot	73122	101132
Sanghar	122667	233927
Tharparkar	4455	—
Mirpurkhas	67892	77563
Umer Kot	42669	82595
Dadu	79004	124034
Jamshoro	37968	55571
Hyderabad	12866	20365
Matiari	43450	59639
Tando Allahyar	28460	46370
Tando Mohammad Khan	18310	29342
Badin	27255	84059
Thatta	20218	62396
Karachi	1409	—

- CRS Wheat Estimates (2024–25) were generated using manual field-based data collection methods.

Remote Sensing Wheat Estimates (2024–25) were derived from satellite imagery and geospatial analysis techniques.

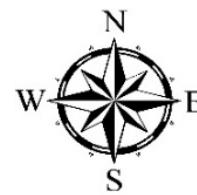
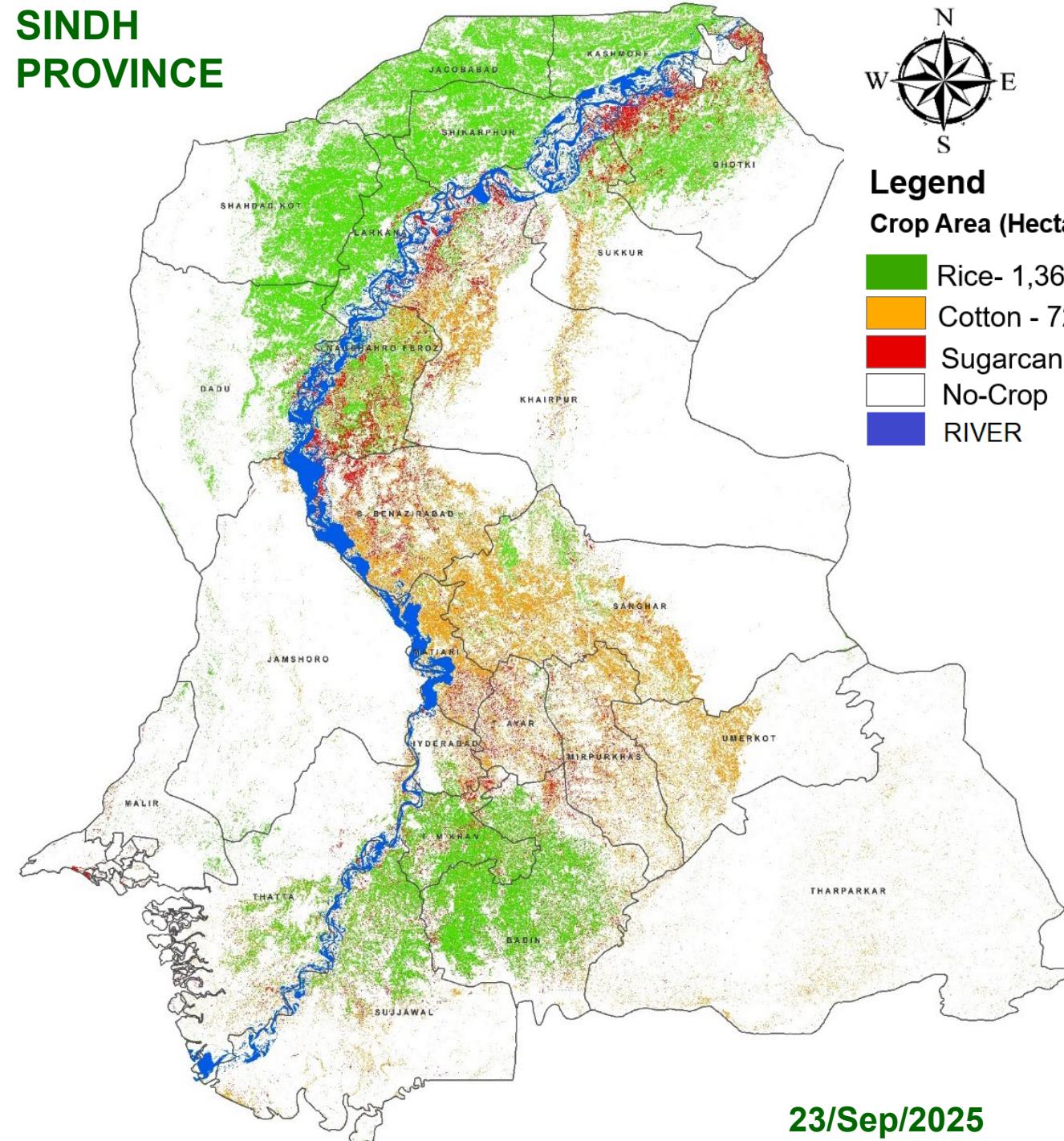
Comparison of CRS and Remote Sensing Estimated Wheat Area (2024–25)



■ CRS Wheat Estimation

■ Remote Sensing Wheat Estimation

SINDH PROVINCE



Legend

Crop Area (Hectare)

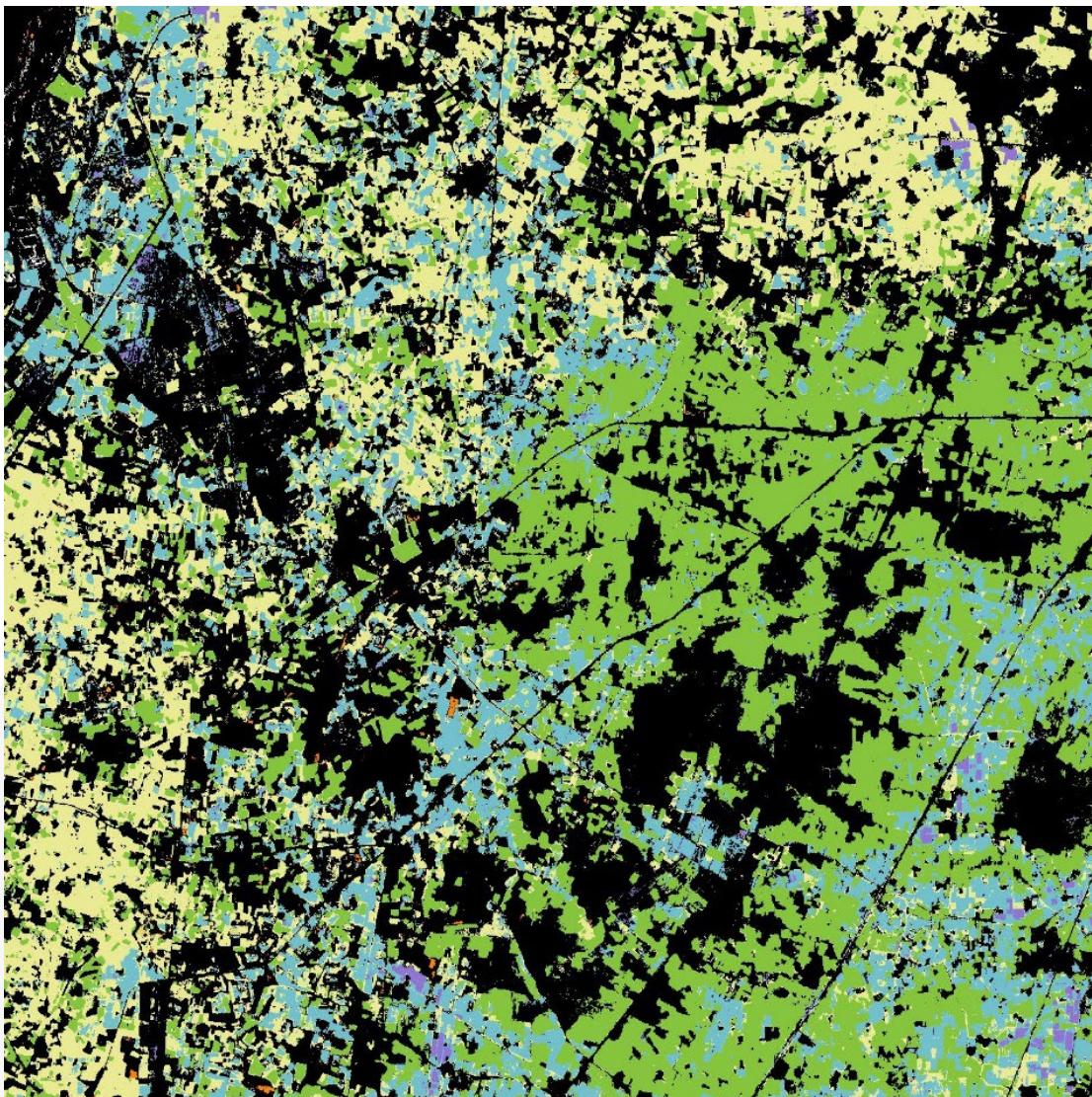
- Rice- 1,365,682
- Cotton - 728,475
- Sugarcane - 356,816
- No-Crop
- RIVER

Kharif 2025

District-wise rice area (ha), Sindh

Districts	Rice Area (ha)	Districts	Rice Area (ha)
Badin	100,263	Sanghar	48779
Shahdadkot	104,145	T.M Khan	38912
Jacobabad	105036	Sukkur	66499
Shikarpur	87254	S.Benazirabad	27547
Ghotki	98960	Jamshoro	13160
Kashmore	110,752	Matiari	13350
Thatta	76880	Hyderabad	8661
Larkana	108433	Mirpurkhas	16332
Dadu	65663	T.Allayar	8812
N.Feroz	86735	Tharparker	2178
Sujjawal	77294	Umerkot	6679
Khairpur	93358	Karachi	-

Rice Crop Area Estimates 2025		
District	Remote Sensing	CRS Estimates
SINDH	1365682	959773
Kashmore	110752	84464
Larkana	108433	109638
Jacobabad	105036	115238
Kamber-Shahdadkot	104145	91500
Badin	100263	125000
Ghotki	98960	51150
Khairpur	93358	33080
Shikarpur	87254	117499
Naushahro Feroze	86735	30210
Sujawal	77294	
Thatta	76880	83589
Sukkur	66499	1575
Dadu	65663	47927
Sanghar	48779	47312
Tando Muhammad Khan	38912	13400
Shaheed Benazirabad	27547	3902
Mirpurkhas	16332	—
Matiari	13350	2870
Jamshoro	13160	501
Tando Allahyar	8812	—
Hyderabad	8661	918
Umerkot	6679	—
Tharparkar	2178	—

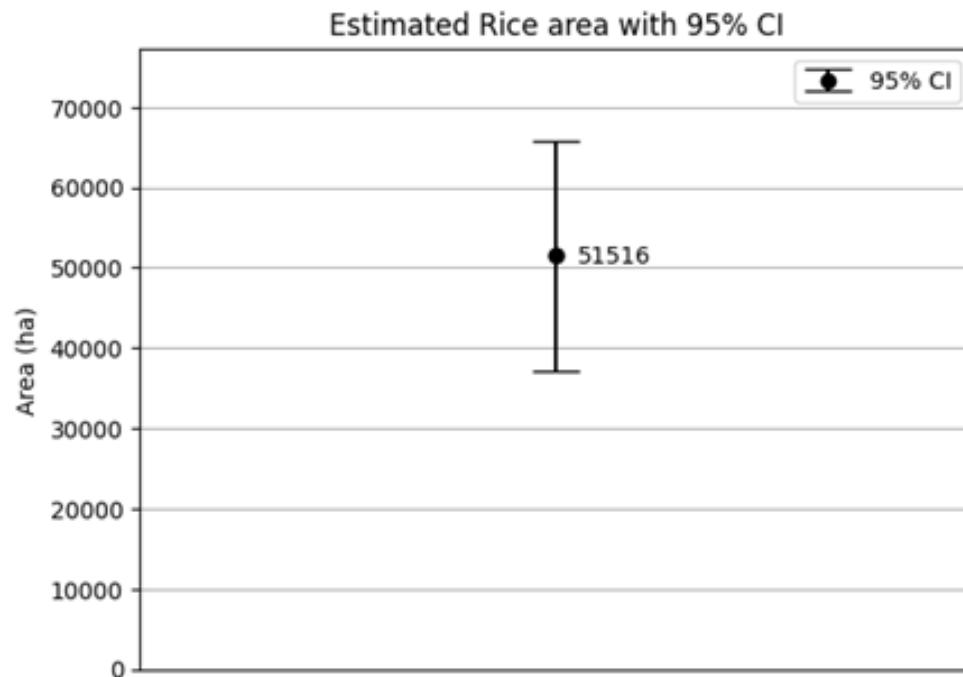


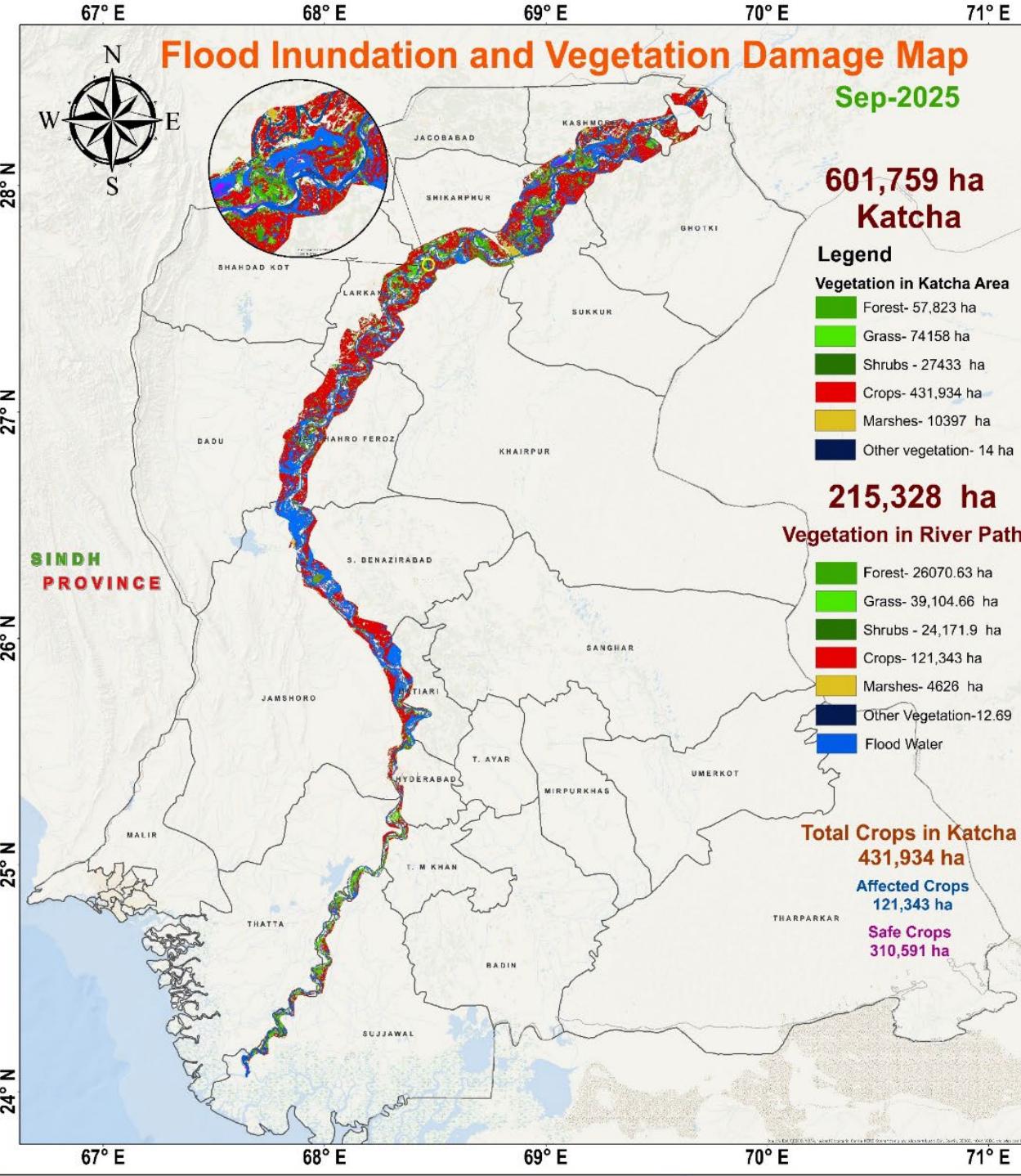
Crop class

Non-crop	Rice	Onions	Cotton
Other fruit trees	Sorghum	Oilseed crops	Fodder
Maize	Other vegetables	Chillies	Sugarcane
	Brinjal		

The Crop Reporting Service (CRS) Sindh successfully implemented pilot projects in the districts of Khairpur, Naushahro Feroze, Matiari, and Sanghar during both Rabi and Kharif seasons in collaboration with an international delegation from the University Catholic de Louvain.

The Sen4Stat techniques were first adopted in Sindh Province based on these promising results, after which other provinces began to replicate and adopt the approach for their own crop reporting and monitoring systems



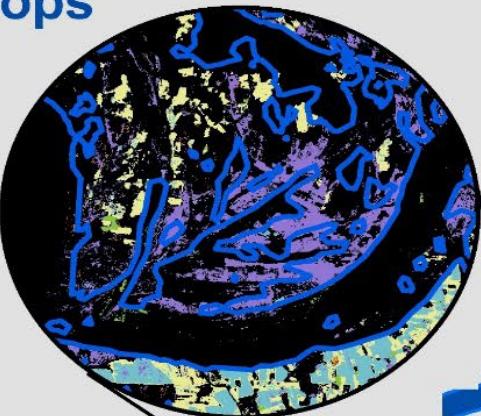


- The Katcha region along the Indus River in Sindh covers 601,759 ha of vegetation, including forests, grasslands, shrubs, marshes, and 431,934 ha of crops. Within this cropland, 121,343 ha were affected by floods, while 310,591 ha remain safe.
- About 215,328 ha of vegetation in the river path were submerged.
 - Total Katcha Area: 601,759 ha.
 - Crops in Katcha: 431,934 ha
 - Safe Crops: 310,591 ha
 - Affected Crops: 121,343 ha

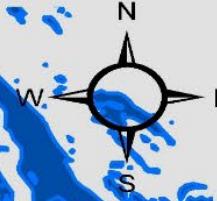
Flood-Inundated Crops

Sep-2025

District



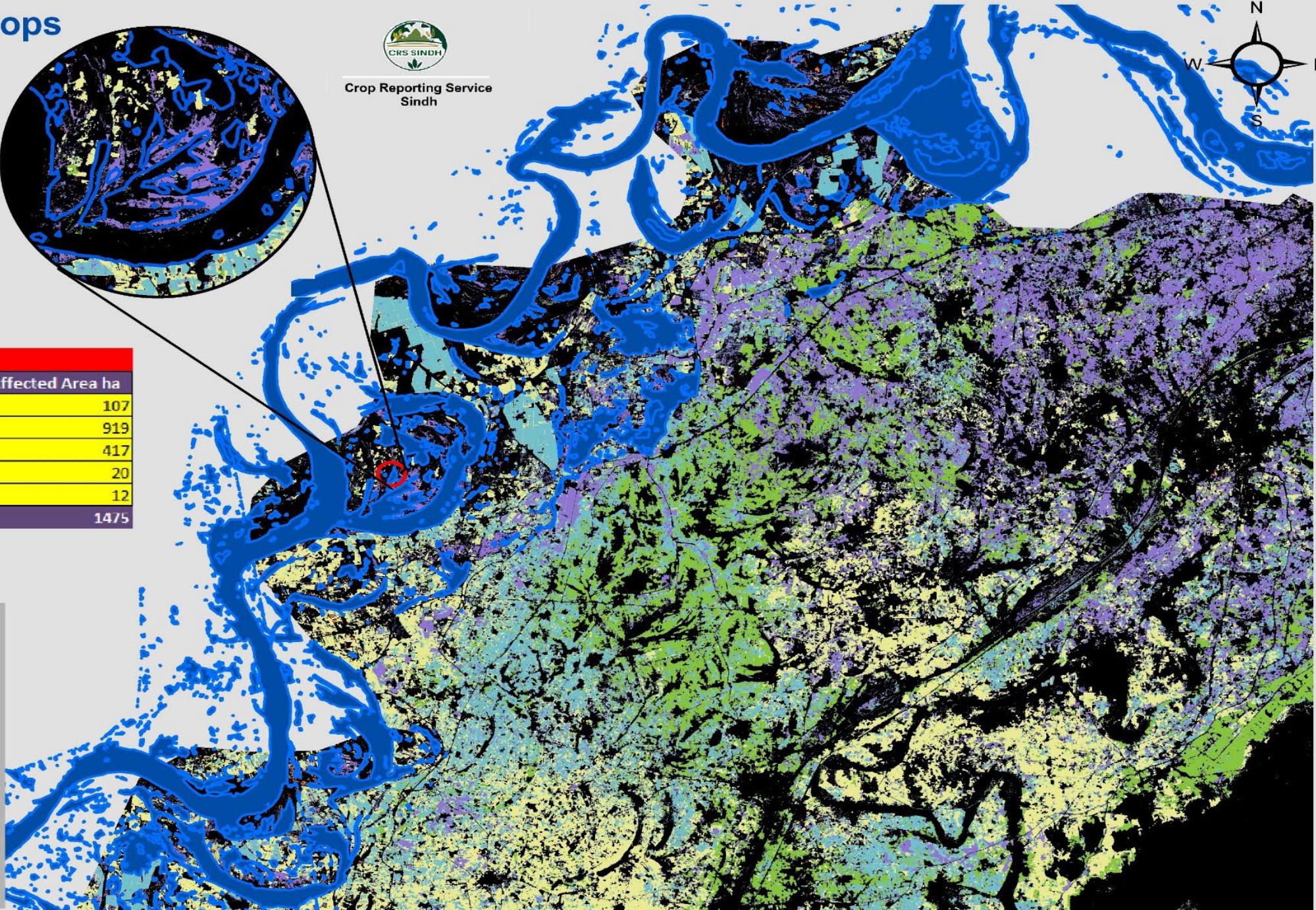
Crop Reporting Service
Sindh



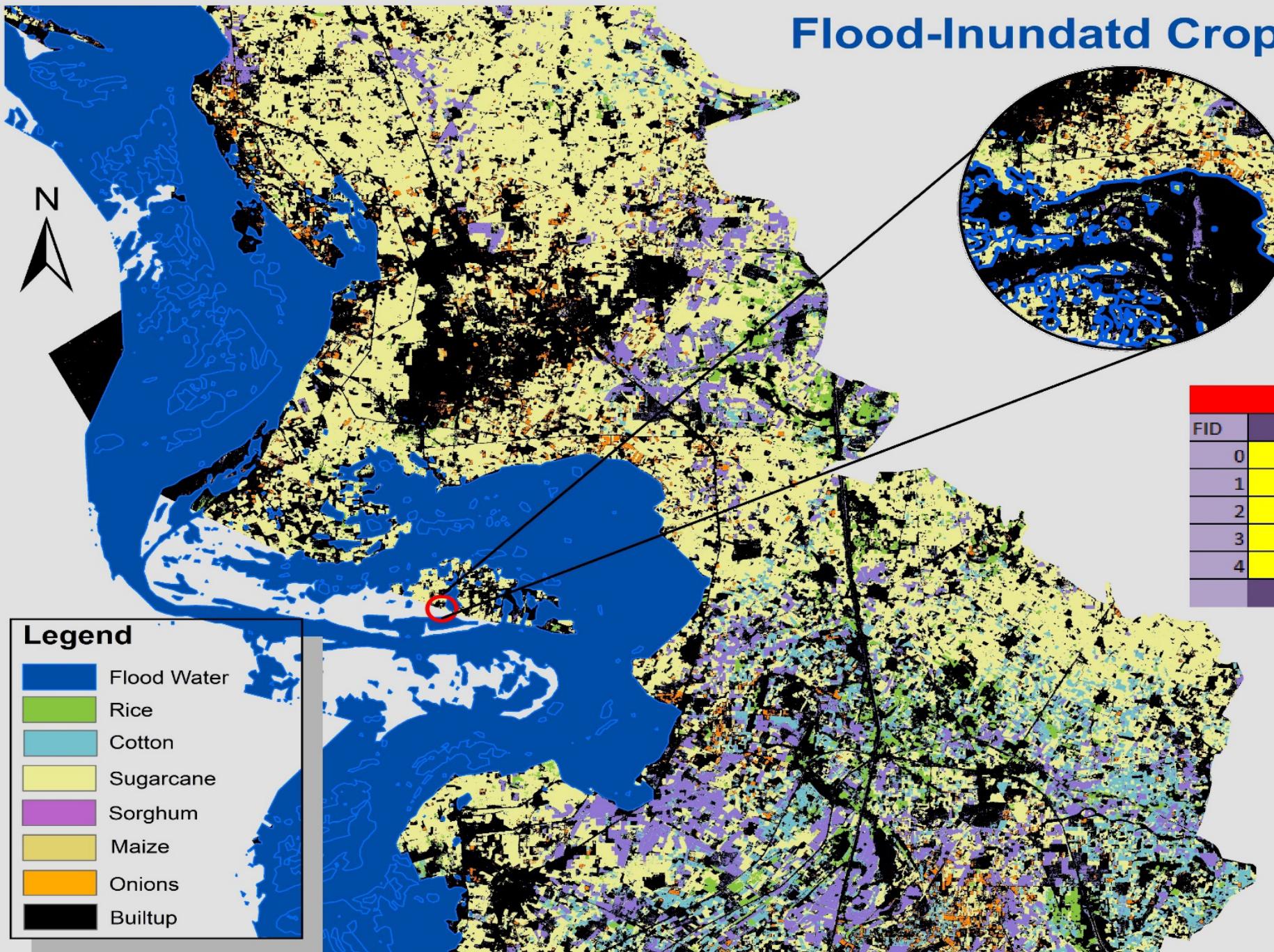
Affected Crop Area			
FID	District	Crops	Affected Area ha
0		Rice	107
1		Cotton	919
2	Khairpur	Sugarcane	417
3		Maize	20
4		Sorghum	12
Total			1475

Legend

- Flood Water
- Rice
- Cotton
- Sugarcane
- Sorghum
- Maize
- Onions
- Builtup



Flood-Inundatd Crops -Sep-2025



Affected Crop Area			
FID	District	Crops	Affected Area ha
0		Rice	132
1		Cotton	1351
2	Matiari	Sugarcane	48
3		Maize	60.5
4		Sorghum	0.65
Total			1592.15

Legend

- Flood Water
- Rice
- Cotton
- Sugarcane
- Sorghum
- Maize
- Onions
- Builtup



Crop Reporting Service
Sindh

Flood-Inundatd Crops-Sep-2025

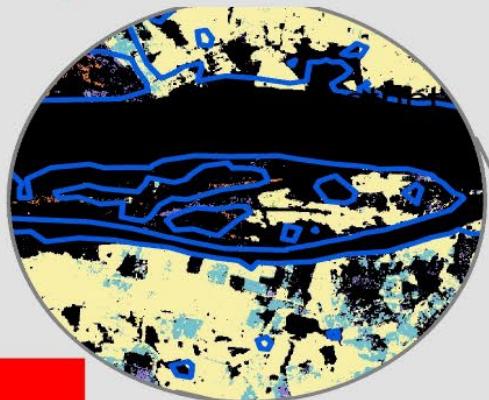
District

Naushahro Feroz



Affected Crop Area

FID	District	Crops	Affected Area ha
0		Rice	43.54
1		Cotton	1234.41
2	N.Feroz	Sugarcane	189.39
3		Maize	15.81
4		Onion	22.8
5		Sorghum	0.11
Total			1506.06

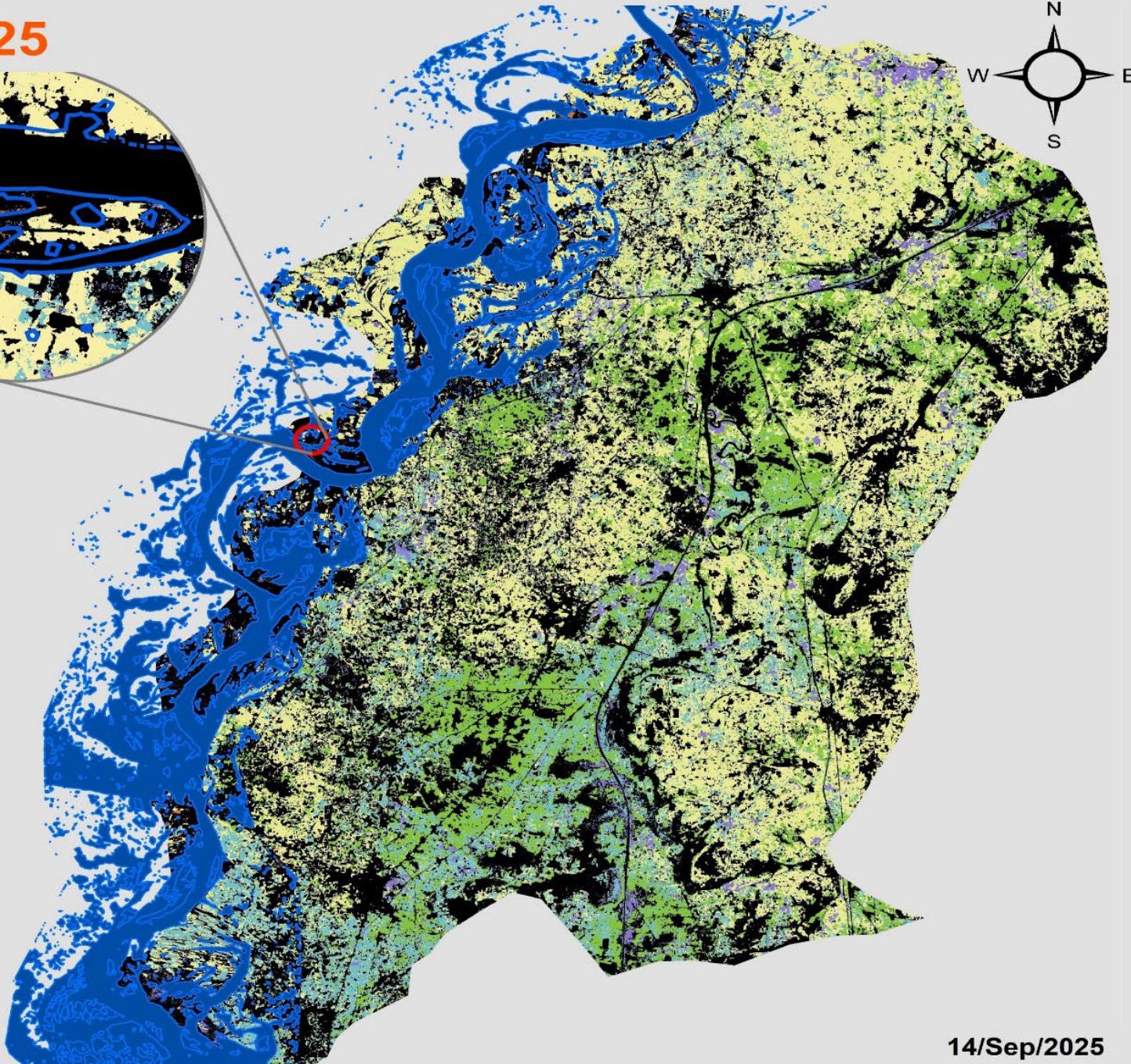


Legend

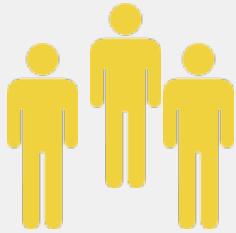
- Flood Water
- Rice
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Crop Reporting Service
Sindh



Key Challenges in CRS Digitalization



A large portion of CRS staff are overage and face difficulty in adapting to digital systems. Induction of young professionals is urgently needed to accelerate the digital transformation.



CRS lacks adequate office infrastructure. This slows down operations and reduces the efficiency of reporting and monitoring.



Many CRS offices suffer from no or unreliable electricity supply. This severely hampers daily operations and the use of digital equipment.

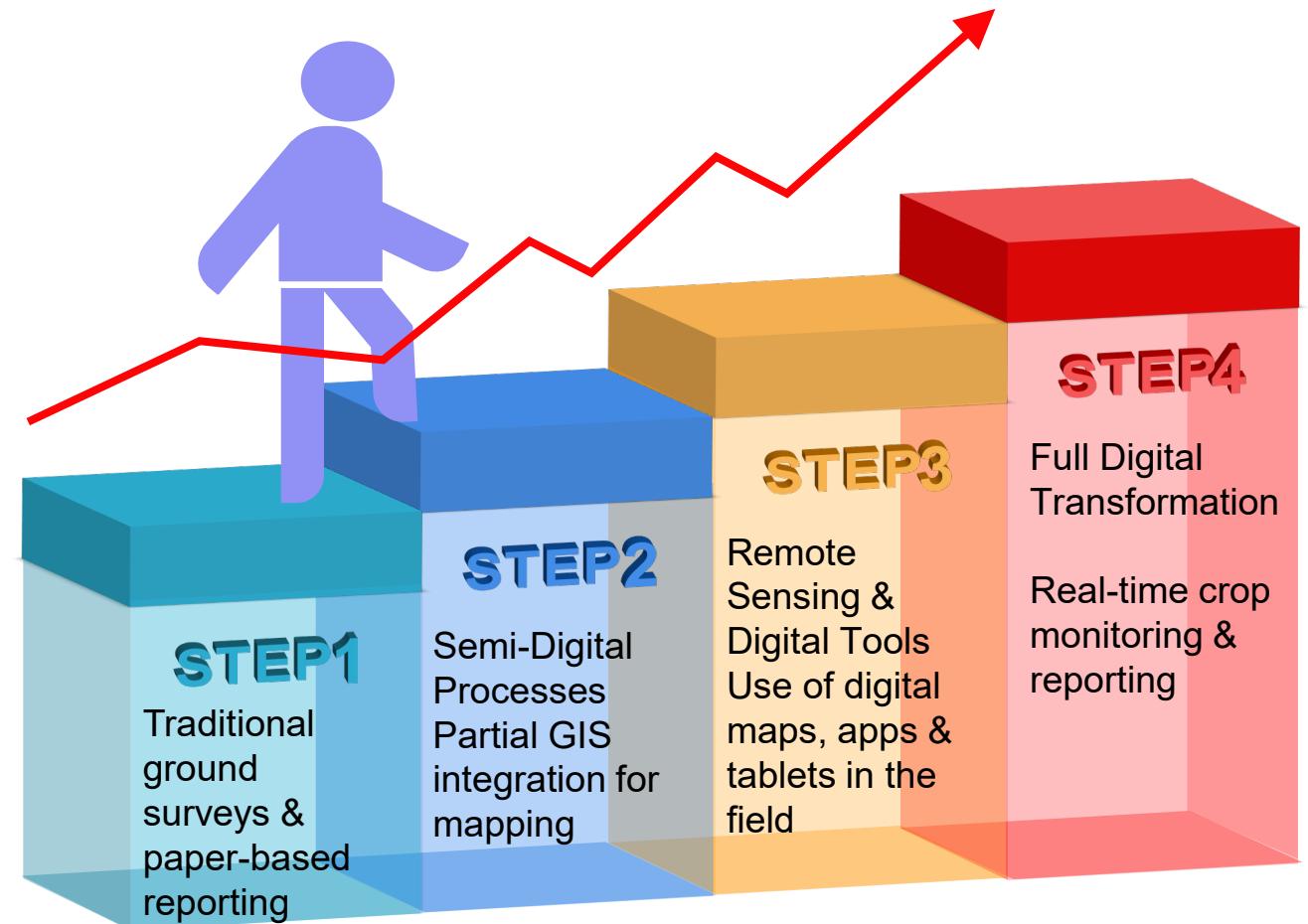


CRS is transitioning towards digital systems, which requires time. Field staff need proper training and capacity building to ensure smooth digital adoption.

Future of CRS:

- CRS Sindh is shifting from traditional manual data collection to advanced remote sensing-based techniques
- This transition requires capacity building of field staff to handle digital tools and satellite data effectively.
- For the upcoming Rabi season, CRS Sindh will integrate: Sentinel-1 radar data (for all-weather crop monitoring)
Sentinel-2 optical data (for detailed crop identification and health assessment)
- CRS Sindh aims to set a benchmark for digital agriculture reporting, paving the way for other provinces to follow.

Steps Towards Digital Transformation





Thank You

- Presented by:
Sarfaraz Ali Bhutto



Webinar outline



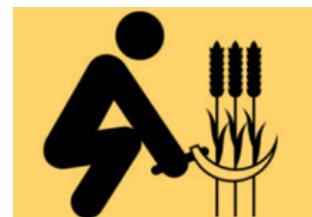
- Sen4Stat overview
- User's perspectives: the case of CRS-Sindh, Pakistan
- **Sen4Stat yield component**
- News and what's next
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Crop Type mapping

$$\text{Agricultural production} = \text{yield} * \text{area}$$

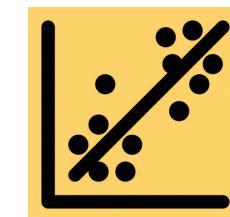
1. Yield Sample Collection

- Sampling Design
- Collection/Measurement Methods



2. Estimation models

- Aggregation
- Process based modelling
- Regression modelling



Yield value (measurement or estimate) with precise **georeferencing coordinates**

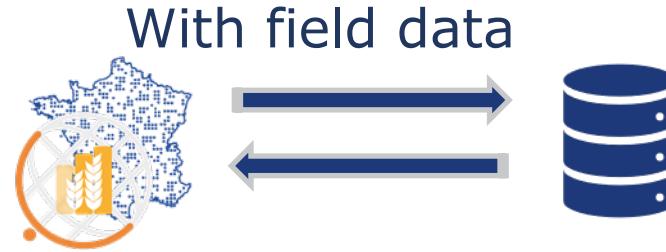
- *at field level*: area and location of the field (at harvest time or from farmer)
- *at farm level*: areas and location of the fields associated to the yield value
- *at subplot level*: subplot area and location in the field with precise georeferenced data

Possible yield data sources

- Crop Cutting 
- Plant Counting
- Field Production Weighting 
- Transport Production Counting (bags/containers)
- Expert Observation
- Farmer Declaration



Yield Estimates at Sub-National Level



Parcel - In-Situ Data

- Feature extraction per parcel

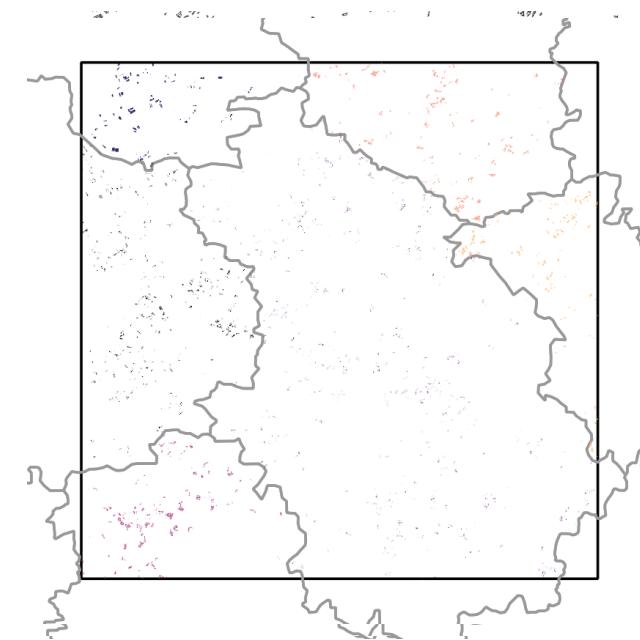


- Estimation at parcel level aggregated to statistical unit (SU)



Statistical Unit (SU) - Historical Data

- Feature Extraction per Elementary Unit



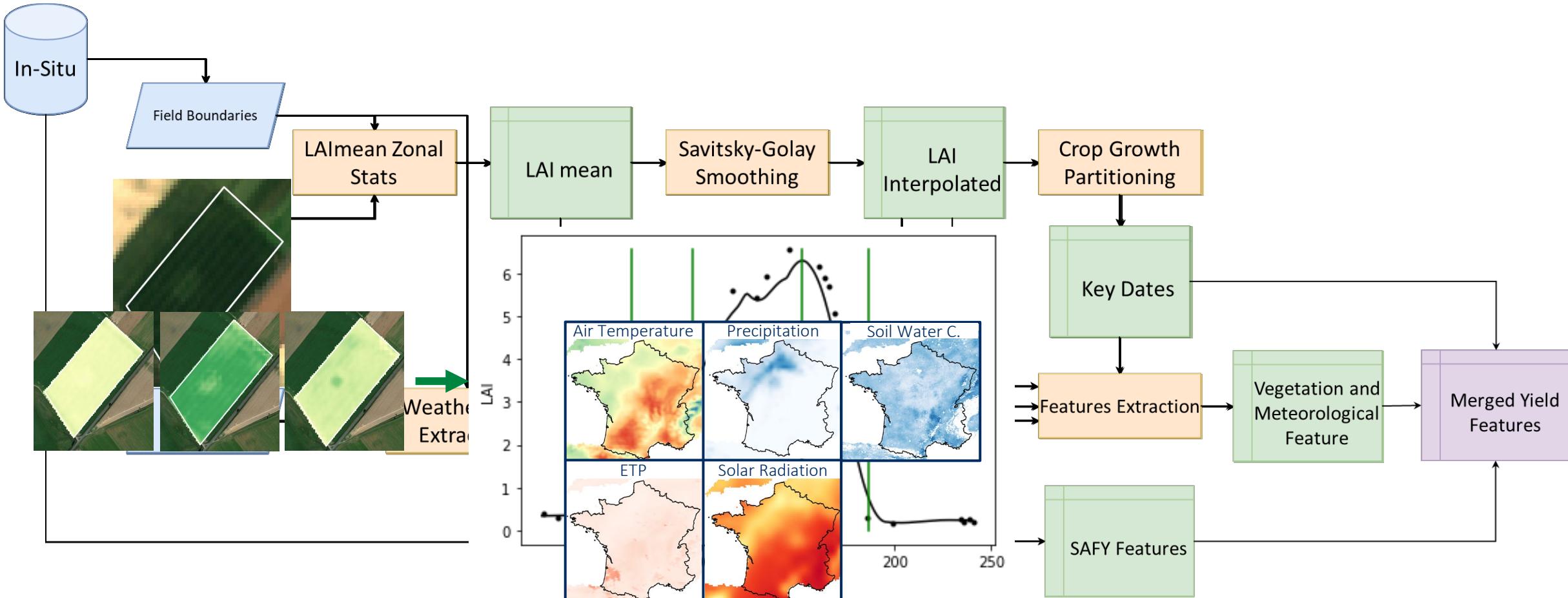
Intersection:

- Sentinel-2 tiles
- SU boundaries
- Crop type map

- Estimation at SU level

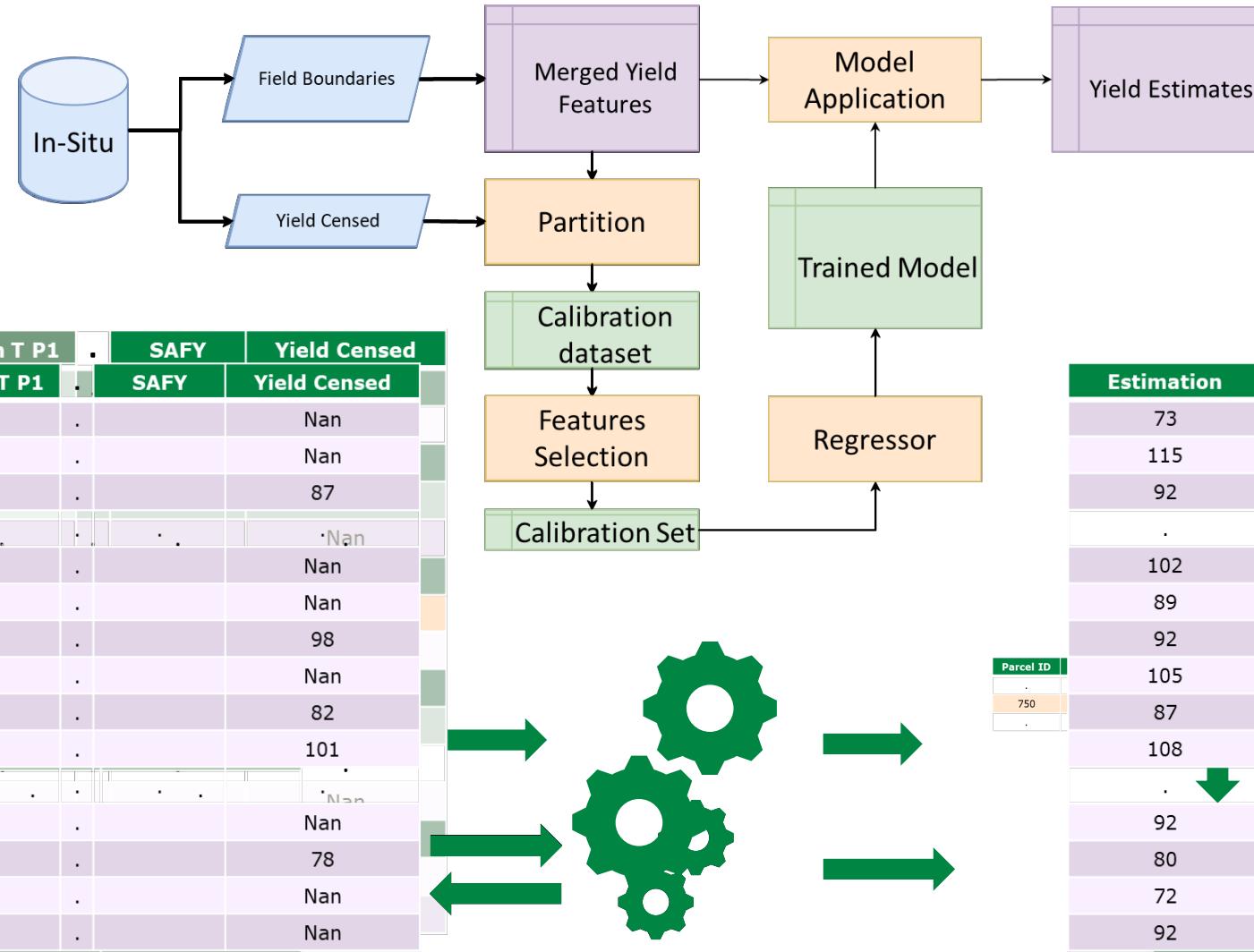


S4S Workflow | Yield Feature Extraction





Yield estimation





Testing the added value of EO for barley two row yield estimation in Castillà Y Lèon (Spain)

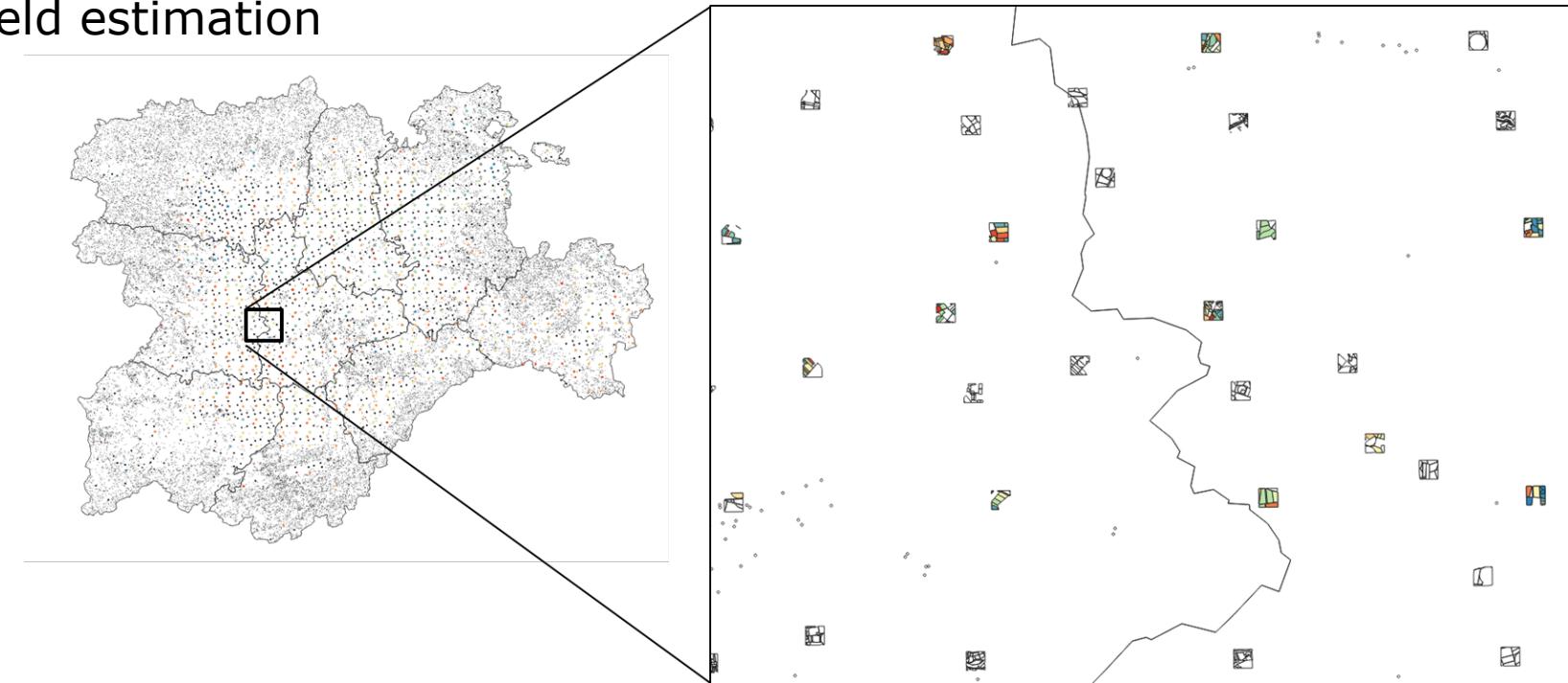


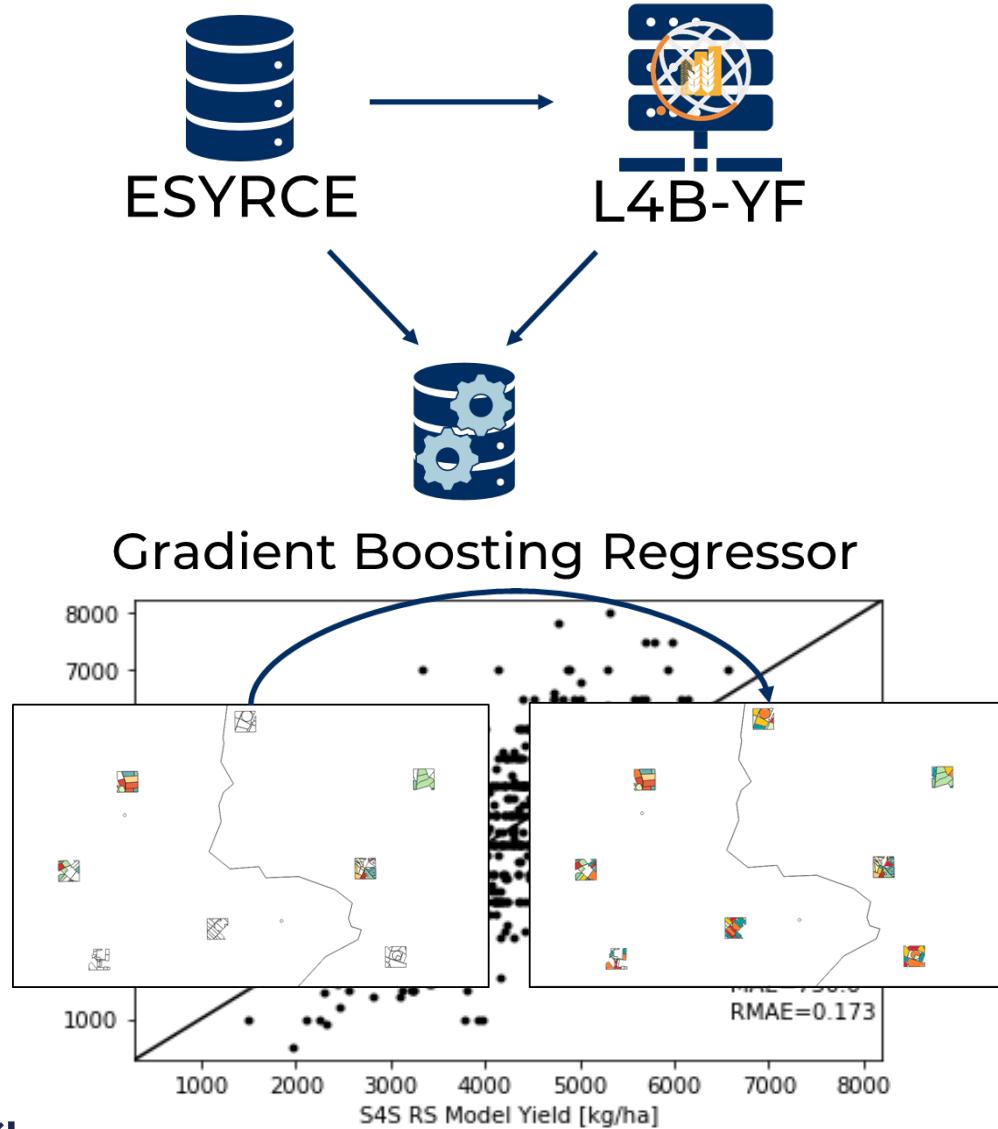
Spain NSO Agricultural Statistic Survey : **ESYRCE**

- Fields delineation into square segments
- Experts visit segments and label them
- Experts provide yield estimation for the main crops (crop cutting or eyes estimation)

Castillà Y Lèon :

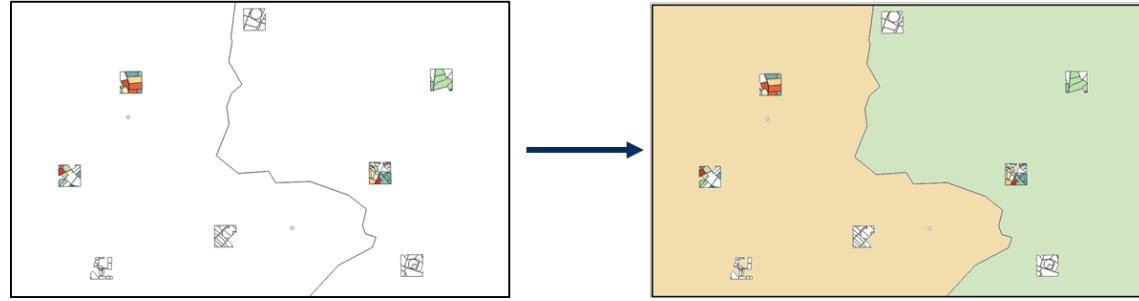
- 8100 fields of Barley Two Row
- 2310 expert visual yield estimation





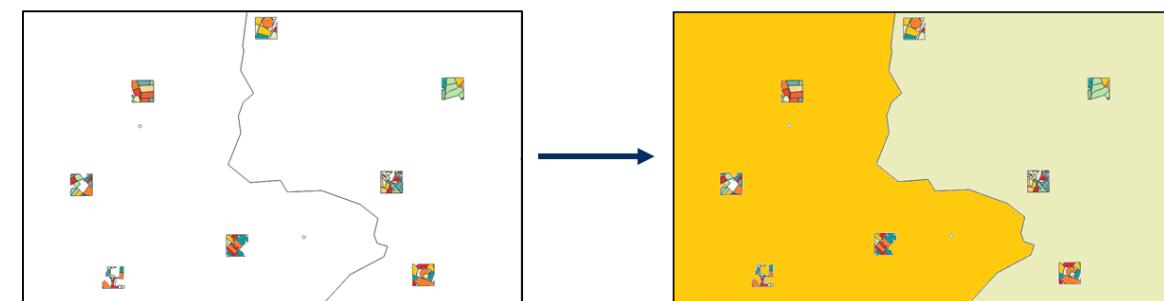
10 Repetition of 70/30 Partition

- Model null : Spatial Aggregation of 70% of the dataset

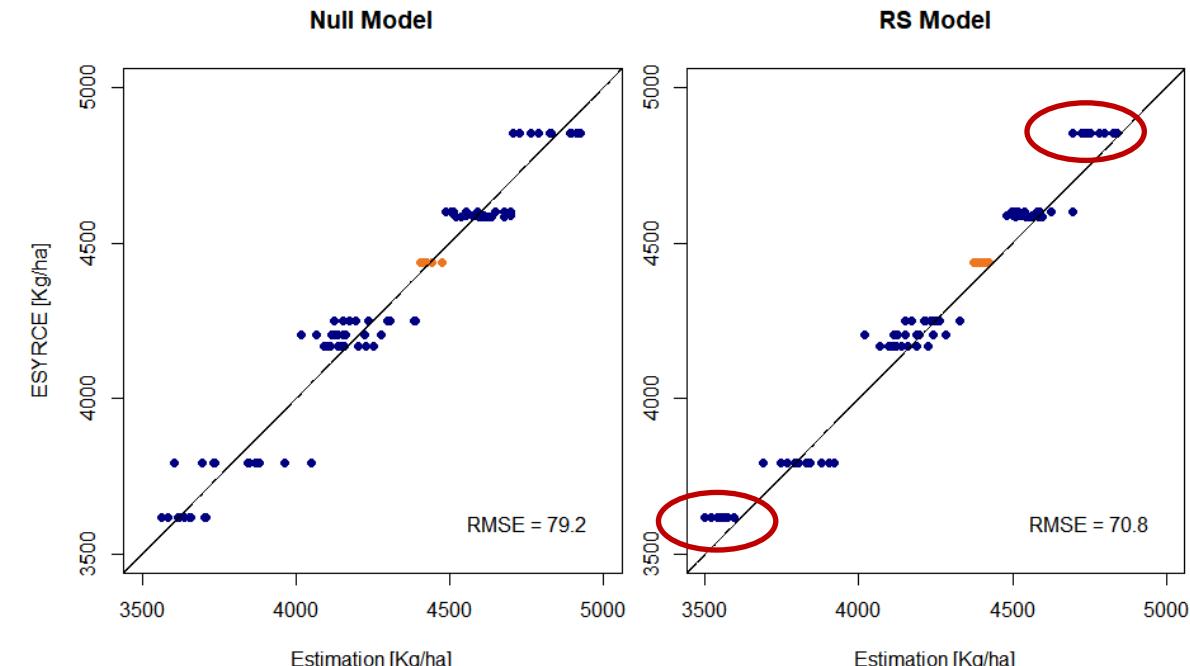


- Model RS :

- Calibration of S4S Yield model with 70% and application on the whole dataset
- Spatial Aggregation of estimations



	ESYRCE		Null Model (10x)				S4S RS Model (10x)			
	N	Mean	N	Mean	Sd	MAE	N	Mean	Sd	MAE
Ávila	151	4250.2	107	4241.5	83.0	84.7	150	4232.4	34.9	37.9
Burgos	446	4852.4	315	4826.8	64.9	69.6	446	4764.3	38.2	88.1
León	52	3792.7	37	3822.0	103.8	109.7	52	3817.5	57.0	59.2
Palencia	304	4585.6	211	4602.1	32.3	39.2	302	4557.5	17.0	29.9
Salamanca	122	4204.3	87	4155.8	63.1	81.5	122	4155.8	57.9	72.3
Segovia	294	4169.5	206	4168.0	52.5	52.8	294	4134.1	35.4	50.1
Soria	275	3617.5	192	3640.1	35.2	40.3	275	3542.6	26.8	74.9
Valladolid	460	4588.2	320	4574.6	37.8	41.4	459	4531.1	26.5	57.1
Zamora	206	4600.0	142	4586.8	65.0	67.2	204	4569.1	54.7	60.4
Castilla Y León	2310	4437.2	1617	4426.5	16.5	20.8	2304	4391.9	14.0	45.3



- Less dispersion in RS model estimation → reduces the confidence interval
- Better Accuracy in Province with few data
- RS model implies a bias, Especially for the extremes → could be rectify with the 70% calibration dataset

REDUCED
UNCERTAINTY



Webinar outline



- Sen4Stat overview
- User's perspectives: the case of CRS-Sindh, Pakistan
- Sen4Stat yield component
- **News and what's next**
- Questions and answers

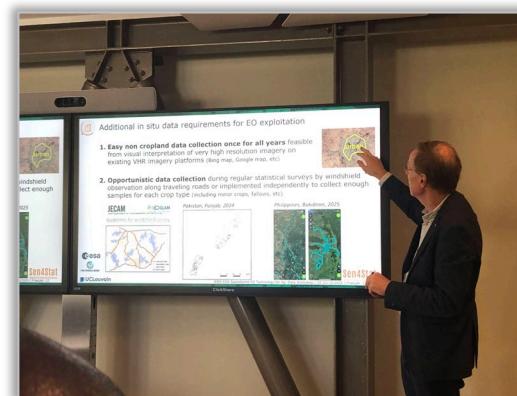


Sen4Stat training at the « Spaceborne EO Technology for Agricultural Data Workshop »



Event co-organized by ESA and WB, focused on how Africa can harness the full potential of Earth Observation (EO) and in situ agricultural data to drive sustainable development

- ☛ World Bank 50x30 initiative
- ☛ ESA Global Development Assistance
- ☛ WorldCereals
- ☛ **Sen4Stat**





Sen4Stat presentation and side event @AFCAS



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STATISTICS



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POUR L'AFRIQUE



Agenda item 8: Use of Earth Observation data for agricultural statistics: Different applications

The Commission:

- Recognized the growing importance of Earth Observation (EO) as a complementary data source for strengthening agricultural statistics, including crop mapping, area estimation, and yield forecasting.
- Recognized the emerging shift among Members toward integrating Earth Observation (EO) data with area and list frames as another important step toward modernizing agricultural statistics systems.
- Took note of the relevance and applicability of the FAO in-situ data quality framework, and welcomed the positive feedback expressed by Members on its usefulness for improving the quality and interoperability of survey data for EO-based applications.
- Encouraged members to promote the adoption of the FAO in-situ data quality framework within national agricultural survey programmes, to assess their existing survey protocols, and to ensure that geospatial metadata and field observations are collected in formats suitable for EO analysis.
- Commended the efforts of FAO and partners, including the EOSTAT and Sen4Stat initiatives, for supporting members in integrating EO into agricultural statistics and noted the interest of Members in advancing EO-based approaches to address specific challenges such as mixed cropping systems, and in accessing technical support to operationalize these approaches.
- Recommended FAO and its partners to continue providing technical assistance, trainings and resource mobilization support to member countries wishing to initiate or scale EO-based agricultural statistics systems, including through capacity development, methodological guidance, and sharing of best practices.

Any countries that is interested in FAO technical assistance on any agricultural statistics area discussed during the commission should submit its official request to our FAO country office with a copy Mr Dominique Habimana, the FAO regional statistician for Sub-Saharan African countries (Email: Dominique.Habimana@fao.org), and Mr Firas who is the FAO regional statistician for Northern African countries (Email: Firas.Yassin@fao.org). The sooner the better.

ESA SEN4STAT SENTINELS FOR AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Development and demonstration of agricultural Earth Observation (EO) products and workflows based on the Sentinel missions of the European Union (EU) Copernicus program which support the agricultural statistics and can be integrated in the National Statistical Offices (NSO) environment

SYSTEM DOWNLOAD

→

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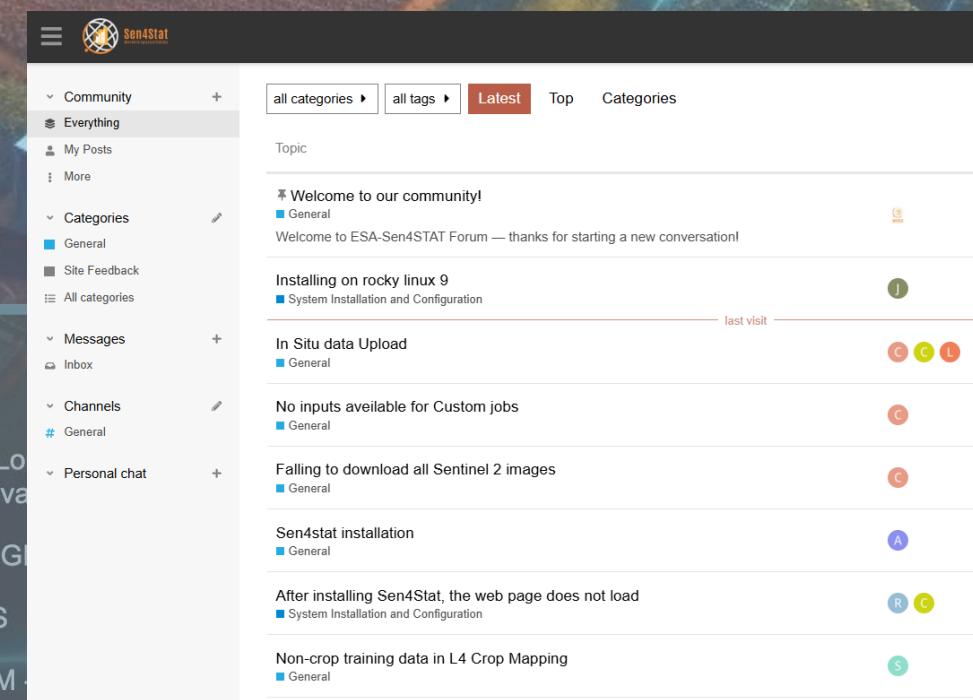
Contact Us!

CONTACT

User Stories



 SPAIN F





Webinar outline



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- Sen4Stat yield component
- User's perspectives: the case of CRS-Sindh, Pakistan
- News and what's next
- **Questions and answers**