



# Operational EO for Water Resource Management: Southern African Simon Hughes CSIR South Africa

13 September 2004

UNOOSA Symposium Graz





- National Water Act (1998)
- Information Systems
- Earth Observation
- Validation
- TIGER in Southern Africa



# National Water Act (1998)

### • Chapter 4 : Water Use

.general principles for regulating water use. Water use is defined broadly, and includes taking and storing water, activities which reduce stream flow, waste discharges and disposals, controlled activities (activities which impact detrimentally on a water resource), altering a watercourse, removing water found underground for certain purposes, and recreation. In general a water use must be licensed unless it is listed in Schedule I, is an existing lawful use, is permissible under a general authorisation, or if a responsible authority waives the need for a licence. The Minister may limit the amount of water which a responsible authority may allocate. In making regulations the Minister may differentiate between different water resources, classes of water resources and geographical areas.

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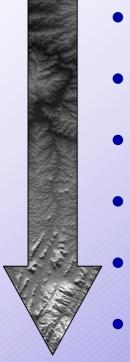
# **Registration & Licensing**

- All water users required to register
- Water Use License granted
- Uncertainty
- Under and over registration
  - Perceptions
  - "Mindset"





### Validation

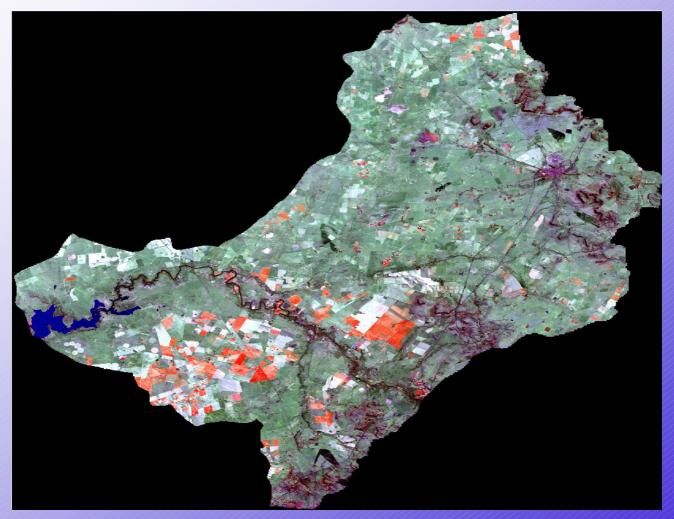


- Landsat TM & SPOT data
- Digital classification
- Landcover maps
- Define irrigated areas
- Cadastral information
- Area of irrigated land per land unit



TIGEF AFRIC



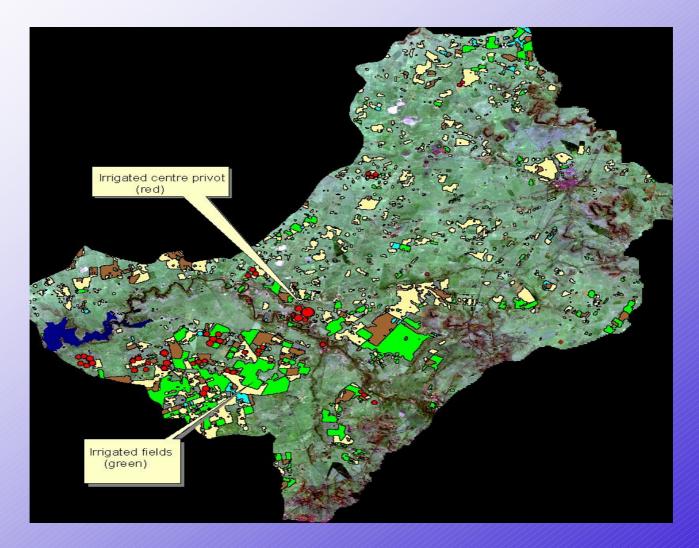


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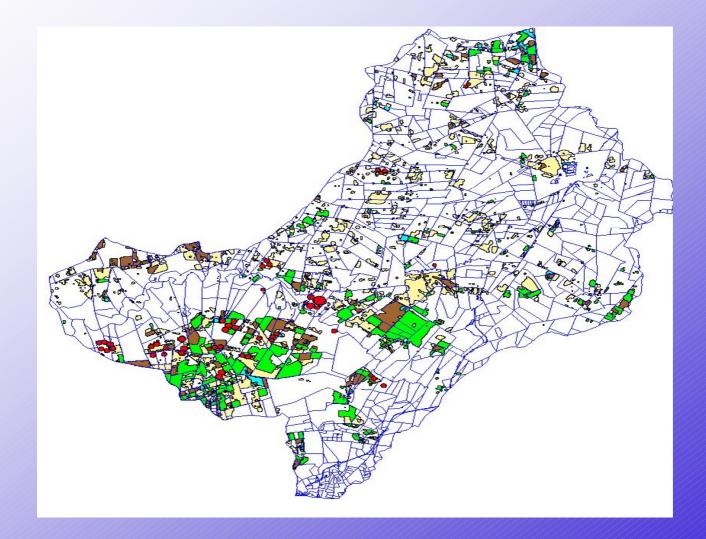


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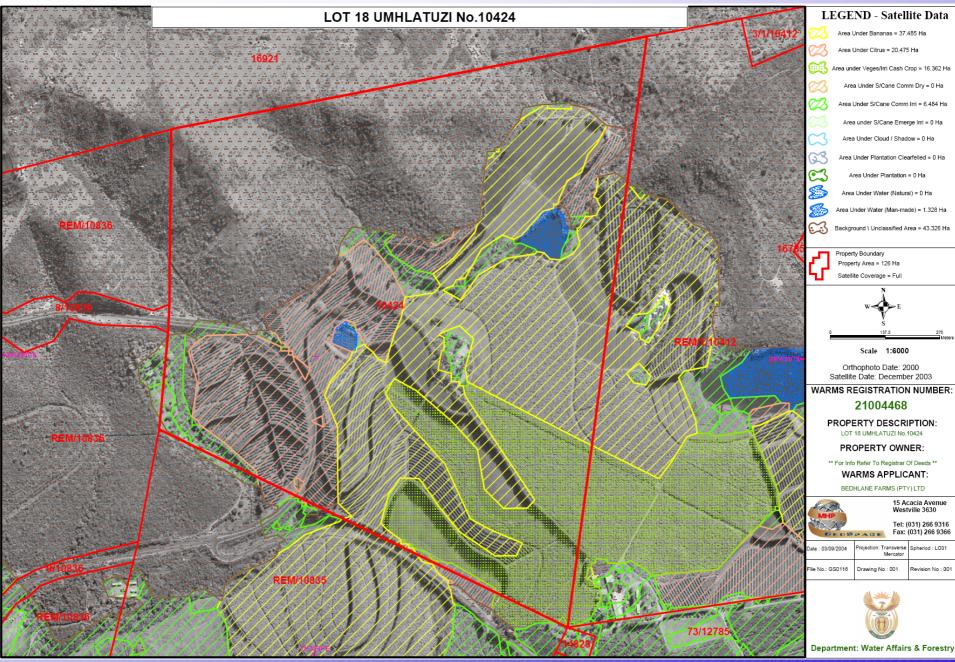






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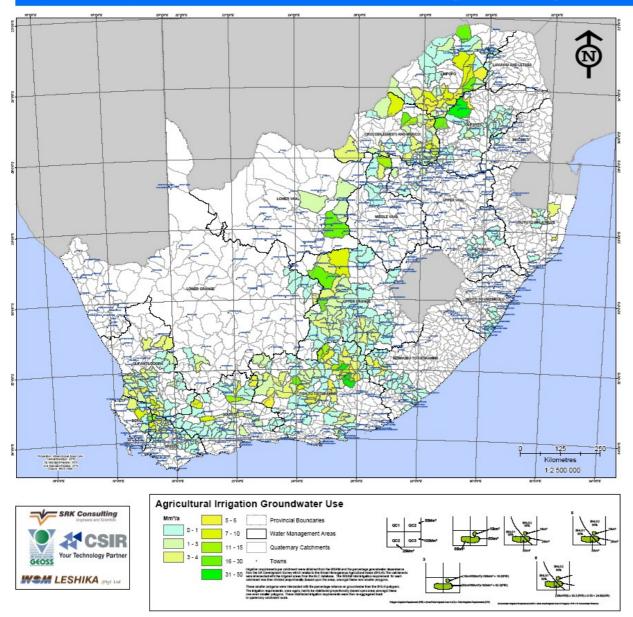
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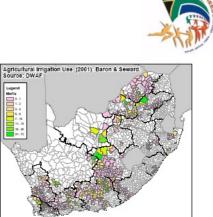


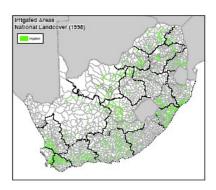
### **Consultation**

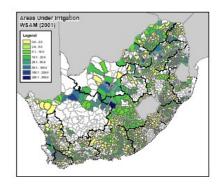
- Farmer consulted
  - Irrigation Equipment
  - Methods
  - Conveyance
  - Storage
- SAPWAT Model
- Comparison with Volumetric Data in WARMS
- Water Use Lawful / Unlawful?

#### Groundwater Resource Assessment II - Groundwater use : Agricultural Irrigation Sector









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# **Opportunities/Constraints**

- Opportunities
  - Reduce costs
  - Improve data collection methods
  - Add value to databases
  - Improve implementation of legal process
- Constraints
  - Accuracy uncertainties
  - Institutional understanding value/limitations
  - Capacity required



### **Broader Context**

- Move from Project based work to...
- Operational methods
  - Information Products/Services
  - Input to GIS & Models
- Develop capacity & capability for this
  - Technical
  - Institutional
  - Policy governance level
- TIGER Initiative



# ESA TIGER Initiative

- Promote appropriate application of EO for Integrated Water Resource Management
- Support sustainable development
- Technical transfer
- Capacity Building technical/institutional
- International, Regional & National Partnerships for **Sustainability** 
  - Water Affairs, Research, Private Industry



### Conclusions

- Progressive Water Legislation
- Piloting of EO products to validate information collection
- Information supporting policy decisions
- TIGER partnership to develop EO-based information services and network that can meet common goals and priorities



## **Acknowledgements**

- Department of Water Affairs & Forestry
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- Geospace MHP