



Case Study: Ground Truthing in Senegal

Skye sensors are being used in Senegal, West Africa by The University of Copenhagen who are developing methods for national and regional water resource and carbon biomass assessment and management.

Spatial distribution of water and vegetation status in the semi_arid region of Senegalese Sahel and Senegal River valley is being monitored where the variable rainfall, mainly droughts in recent years, is causing problems with the harvest of rain_dependant crops such as millet, sorghum and peanuts.

Data is collected from the Earth Observation satellites ENVISAT, MODIS and NOAA AVHRR and Ground Truth measurements are made using Skye 2 and 4 channel light sensors. Agroclimatological parameters are also being automatically collected, including data from Skye's temperature and surface wetness probes.

A new enhanced Vegetation Index, designed to be resistance to atmospheric water vapour and aerosol contamination, is being tested and validated by the project. Reflective radiation from the Earth's surface is measured at similar wavelength intervals using Skye light sensors as those taken from the satellites, as well as the narrow aerosol absorption waveband in the blue spectrum.



Further information on the project can be found on the web at www.geogr.ku.dk/research/eovs/.

Acknowledgements and Contacts

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Skye Instruments Ltd

21, Ddole Enterprise Park, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 6DF, United Kingdom
TEL: +44 (0)1597 824811 EMAIL: skyeemail@skyeinstruments.com WEB: www.skyeinstruments.com