



Digital Earth
AFRICA

Diversity and Inclusion through Technical Challenges

By Zviko Mudimu



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Introduction

Zviko Mudimu

Head of Operations

Zviko joined DE Africa in April 2022. He oversees capacity development, communications, platform development and partner management.

He has a Masters in Financial Management from Drake University in the US. He has worked in the corporate and non-profit sectors in several countries worldwide. His experiences provide a bridge between financial performance and operational excellence.

Before joining DE Africa, his most recent professional experience was managing non-profit organisations to ensure their sustainability. He looks forward to bringing this experience to growing Digital Earth Africa.



Our Vision

Powered by partnerships, Digital Earth Africa provides a public infrastructure and accessible analytics to unlock the value of Earth observations for government decision-makers.

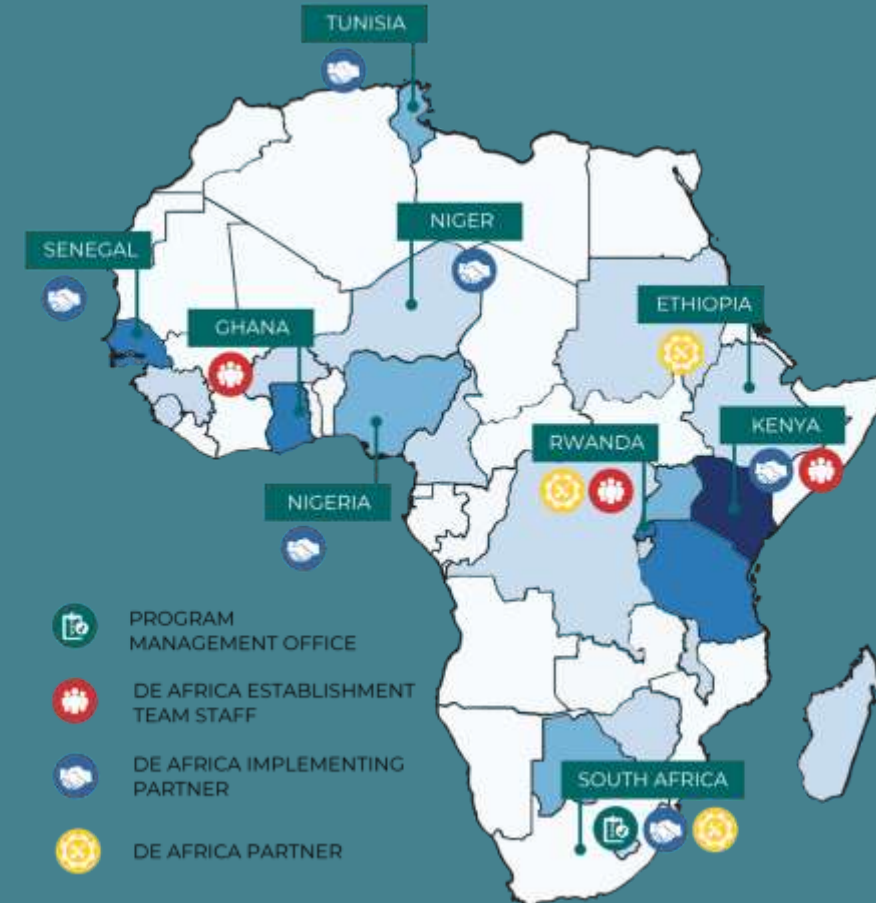




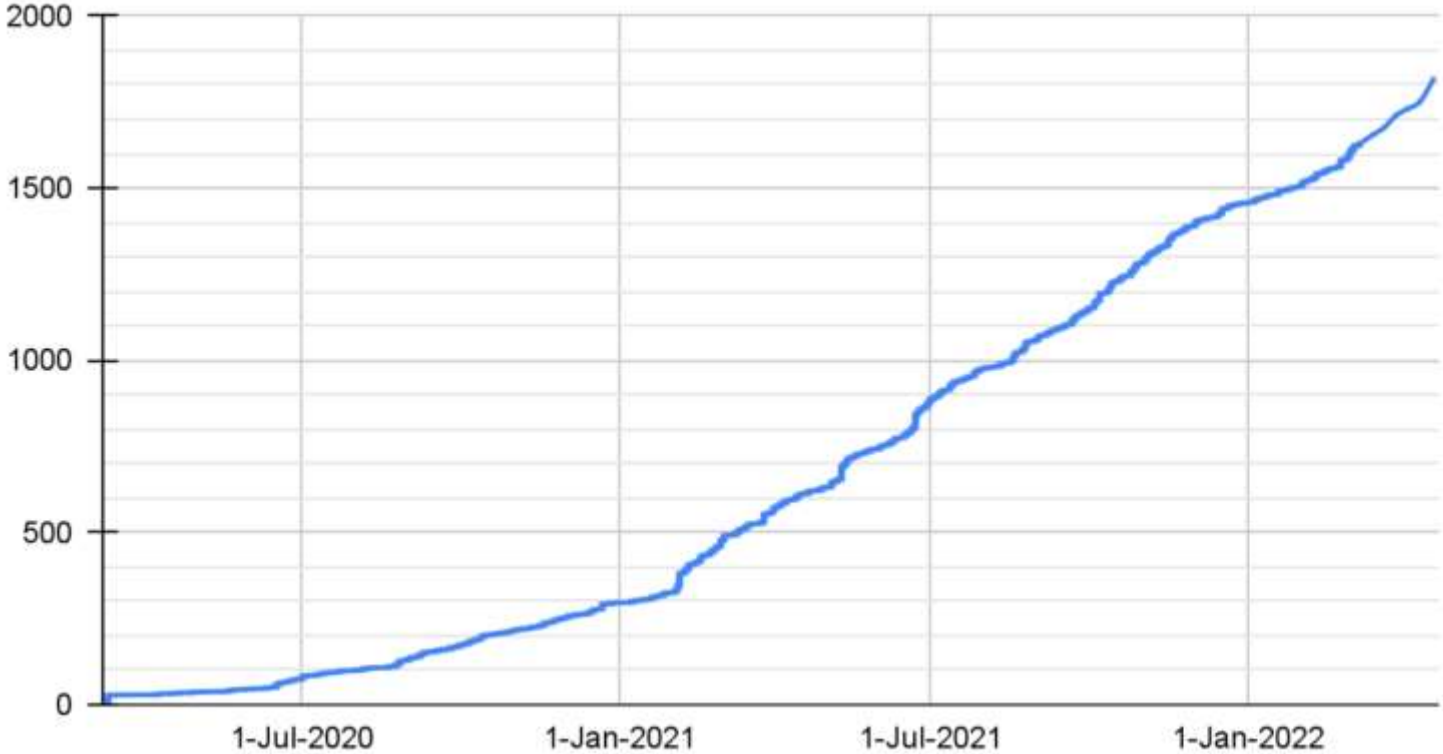
**Sustainability
through
partnerships and
community**

Sustainability through partnerships and community

- Digital Earth Africa is empowering communities with access to satellite information
- Democratize data access and capability
- Co-design with partners to provide fit for purpose datasets
- Communities are empowered and are sharing their impact stories

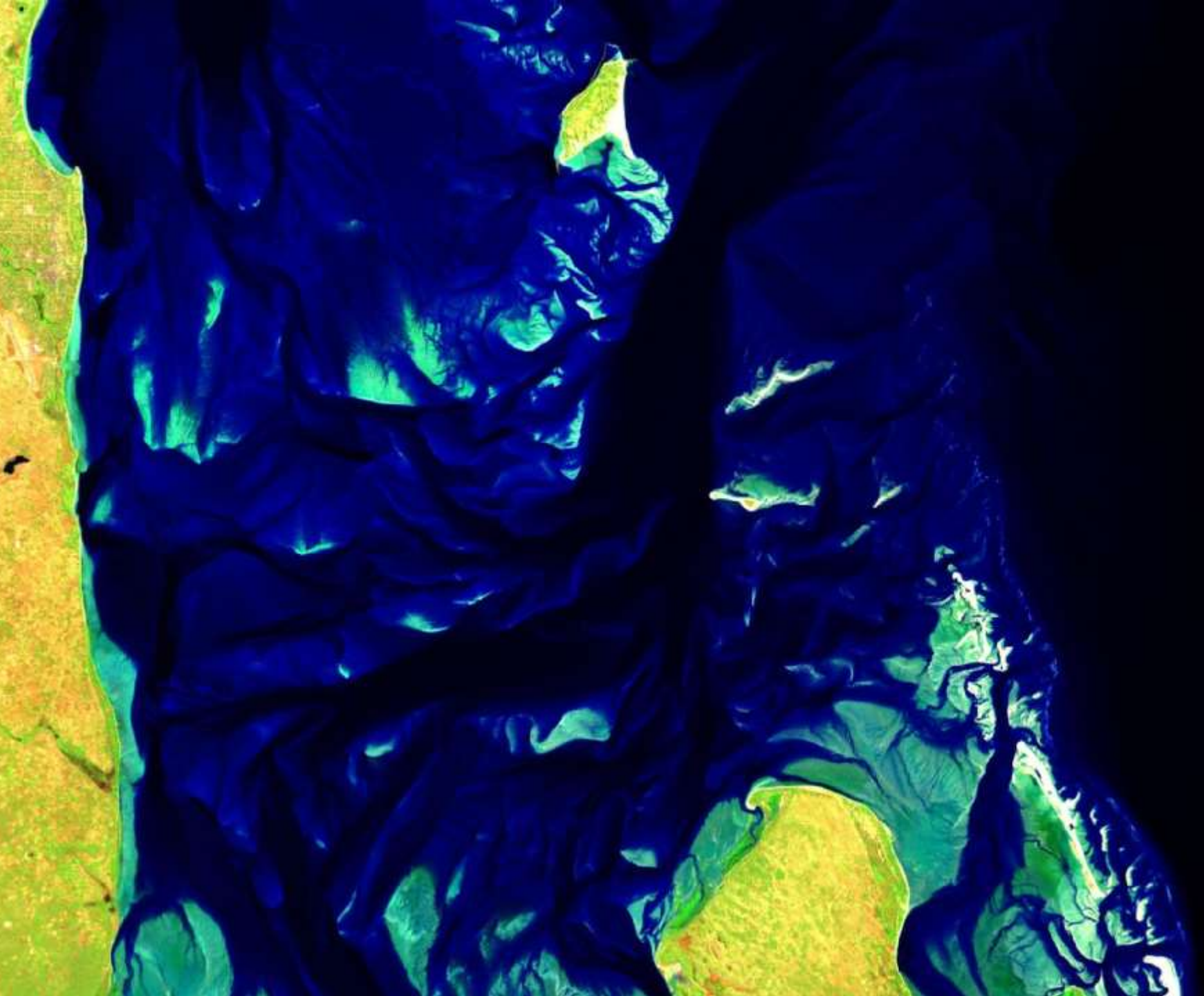


Support increasing demand and platform usage



Diversity and Inclusion through Technical Challenges





03

Expanding use through Technical Challenges

Commitment to Diversity & Inclusion

Our [Diversity and Inclusion Strategy](#) focuses on:

1. Geographic diversity across the African continent,
2. Gender equality,
3. Youth and
4. Disability inclusion,



Technical Challenge Process

DE Africa provided technical support to the participants by providing access to the DE Africa platform and algorithms. Six projects were supported in addressing

1. Food security,
2. Water resources, (x2)
3. Urbanisation,
4. Climate change and
5. Natural resource management.

1. Proposals
2. DE Africa Review
3. Selection
4. Mentorship and Technical Support
5. Review of findings and validation
6. Publishing of results

Technical Challenge with YouthMappers

- YouthMappers is a global network of university students and young professionals passionate about geospatial technologies.

Challenge Objective

- Help students and early career geospatial specialists by allowing them to learn and use an additional platform for analysing Earth observation (EO) data.



Technical Challenge with YouthMappers

- Makerere University in Uganda mapping deforestation in Budongo Central Forest Reserve to detect and map regions of deforestation
- Eastern Technical University of Sierra Leone project goal was to identify clean drinking water, promote agricultural activities, and provide information to unlock new avenues for development;



Technical Challenge with YouthMappers

- **Jordan University College in Tanzania** identify optimal locations for wastewater treatment ponds, contributing to the overall improvement of urban wastewater management.
- **Malawi University of Science and Technology** are extent and pace of deforestation in the Dzalanyama forest reserve, assess the impacts of climate change in the region, and shed light on food insecurity.



Technical Challenge with African Women in GIS

- **African Women in GIS** is an initiative that promotes gender equity and empowerment in the geospatial industry. The organisation aims to provide women with opportunities to develop skills, access resources, and engage in geospatial projects.

Challenge Objective

- Support and bring together women interested in growing and developing skills for a geospatial career.



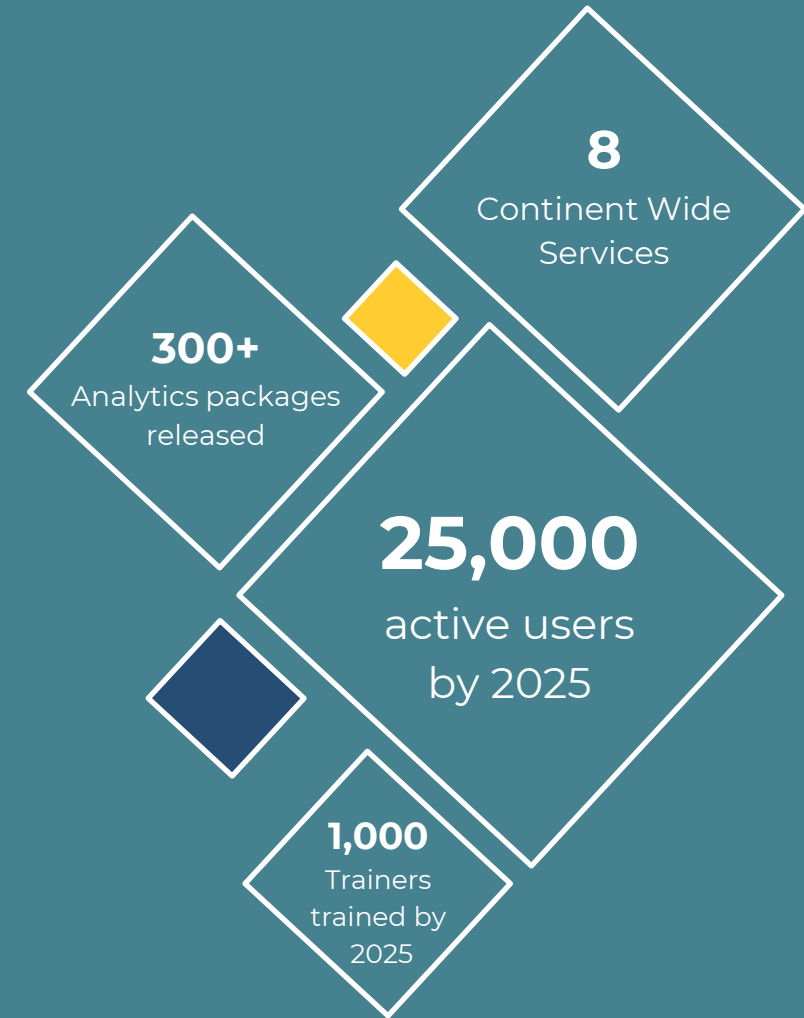
Technical Challenge with African Women in GIS

- **Jokotola Ombiji from Nigeria** monitored change in mangroves from 1996 to 2017 and then from 2017 to 2021. Created a framework for conservation policies and planning efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change and sea level rise.
- **Sinethemba Mtshali from South Africa** measured the impact of informal settlements in the Bidi-Bidi Refugee Camp Zone 1 & 2 in Uganda and Mooiplaas Informal Settlement in Centurion, South Africa.



Sustaining DE Africa to deliver on the continent's potential

1. Partnerships help engage different audiences to develop impactful use cases that address their community needs.
2. Technical challenges are a powerful tool to engage diverse audiences across the continent.
3. Training and mentorship is required to support groups new to the platform to ensure they produce the expected outputs.
4. Showcase these outputs to allow for engagement with decision makers.





Contact Information

How to connect with us

- Website: <https://www.digitalearthafrika.org>
- View Maps: maps.digitalearthafrika.org
- Support: <https://helpdesk.digitalearthafrika.org>
- View our user guide:
<https://docs.digitalearthafrika.org/>
- Sign up to the DE Africa weekly Live Learning Sessions: every Wednesday at 11am, GMT zero) - ask questions and connect:
- Email address info@digitalearthafrika.org

Acknowledgements





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Thank you!

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Climate Next: The Essential Mangrove
<https://youtu.be/FVmcEaemfmA>