

# Water use and wastewater management



A. Battilani





The largest associations managing water in agriculture have created **IRRIGANTS d'EUROPE**. Founders include the national associations in charge of irrigation water management of the Member States where irrigation is most relevant:



**ANBI** - Associazione Nazionale Consorzi di Gestione e Tutela del Territorio e Acque Irrigue (IT)



**FENACORE** - Federacion Nacional de Comunidades de Regantes (ES)

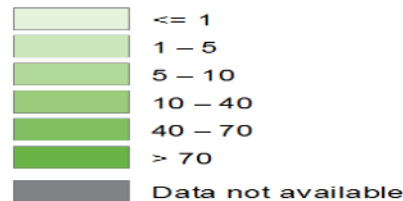


**Irrigants de France** (FR)

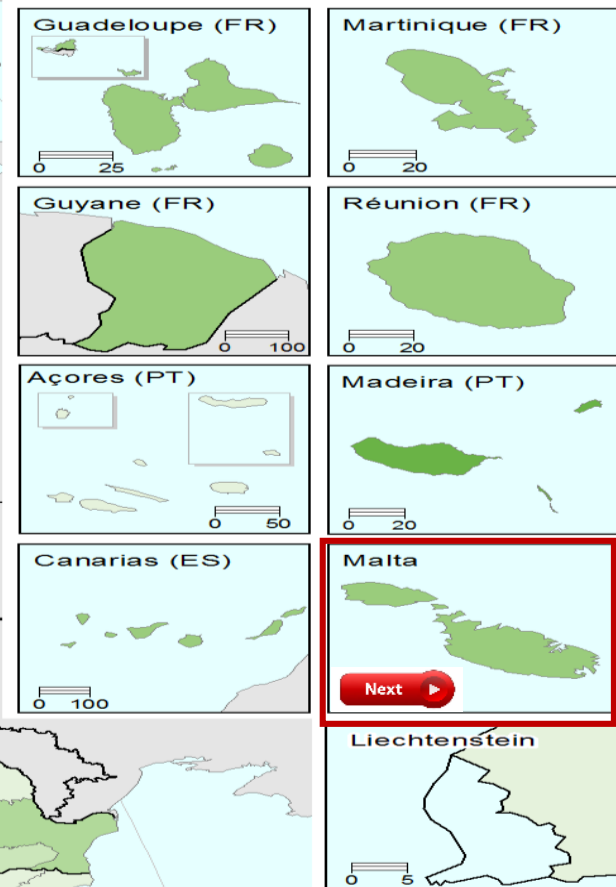


**FENAREG** - Federaçao Nacional de Regantes de Portugal (PT).





**IRRIGANTS  
d'EUROPE involves  
about 75% of  
irrigated land in  
Europe, 7.7 out of  
10.2 millions Ha.**



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eurostat





- Irrigated agriculture has **great potential** in terms of production of public goods, it is supported by **excellent technical capabilities**, and still counts on **untapped resources**.
- Irrigation and water management are the **keys to sustainable agriculture in a circular economy context**, responding to the challenges of climate change and food security.
- Water use **is now more sustainable**: researches and investments were made to support environmentally friendly growth in the sector, which is now among the most advanced and innovative in the agricultural sector and beyond.
- Irrigated agriculture is a **key driver for economic growth in rural environments, ready to implement advanced monitoring and management criteria based on big data for the implementation of precision agriculture**





User	Category	Role
<b>Irrigation Consortia</b>	Public and Private	The main beneficiaries of the MOSES platform and services, mainly for optimal procurement and management of irrigation water to be provided to irrigation districts and individual farms/fields, in view of reduced costs and energy savings.
<b>Service Companies in Water Management sector</b>	Private	Advisors to farmers in irrigated districts; they can benefit from access to MOSES products to define and refine further services to farmers, including seasonal outlooks, and water cost assessments
<b>Agricultural Extension Service</b>	Public	Providing advisory bulletins or specific technical advice to farmers in irrigated districts; they can benefit from access to MOSES products to define and refine further extension services to farmers, including seasonal outlooks, and water cost assessments
<b>Agri-Business Companies/ Farmer's Association</b>	Private	MOSES services can be beneficial also to manage water procurement and management in large irrigated farms, farmers' consortia and irrigation districts, as well as Agri-Business companies depending on local irrigated crop production systems (e.g. tomato canning districts, pasta producers and so on).





<b>Decisional action</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Scale</b>
<b>Risk Management</b>	Flood prevention; Drought management; River Minimum Vital Discharge	Basin/sub-basin
<b>Planning and operation of water distribution system (Infrastructure planning and maintenance)</b>	Intervention prioritization	Basin/sub-basin
<b>Water procurement</b>	Seasonal irrigation water request to basin authorities [e.g. CER, bringing water from the Po river to CBR]	Basin/sub-basin
<b>Water allocation</b>	Allocation planning e.g. CBR operating at district level	Basin/District
<b>Water distribution</b>	Area/crop specific water delivery planning; area/crop specific in season water distribution"	District/Multi scale

**MOSES**





<b>Time Scale</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
<b>Annual</b>	For the management at higher level of large areas (basin)
<b>Seasonal</b>	For the management of sub-basin areas at Consortia/district level
<b>Fortnight</b>	For in-season operations in accordance with the schemes in the served area
<b>Weekly</b>	For in-season operations in accordance with the schemes in the served area
<b>Decade</b>	For in-season operations in accordance with the schemes in the served area



# IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE IS ENGAGED IN INNOVATING



PRECISE  
IRRIGATION

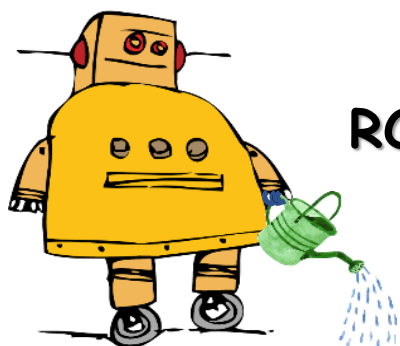


INNOVATION



**BIG  
DATA**

**AGRICULTURE 4.0**



ROBOTICS

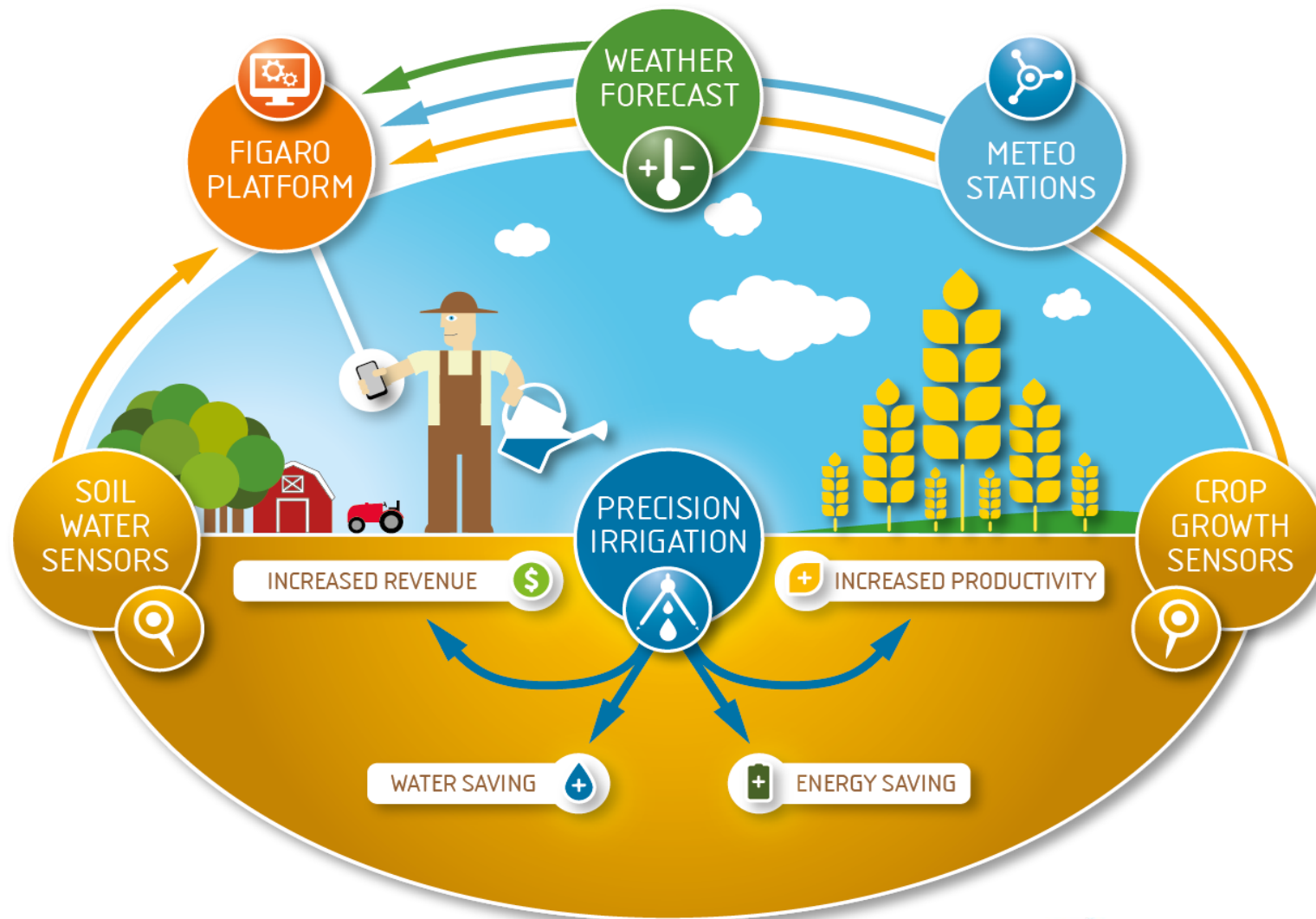


WATER REUSE  
AND QUALITY



# INTEGRATION OF DATA SOURCES

## PRECISION IRRIGATION





# SITE-SPECIFIC IRRIGATION

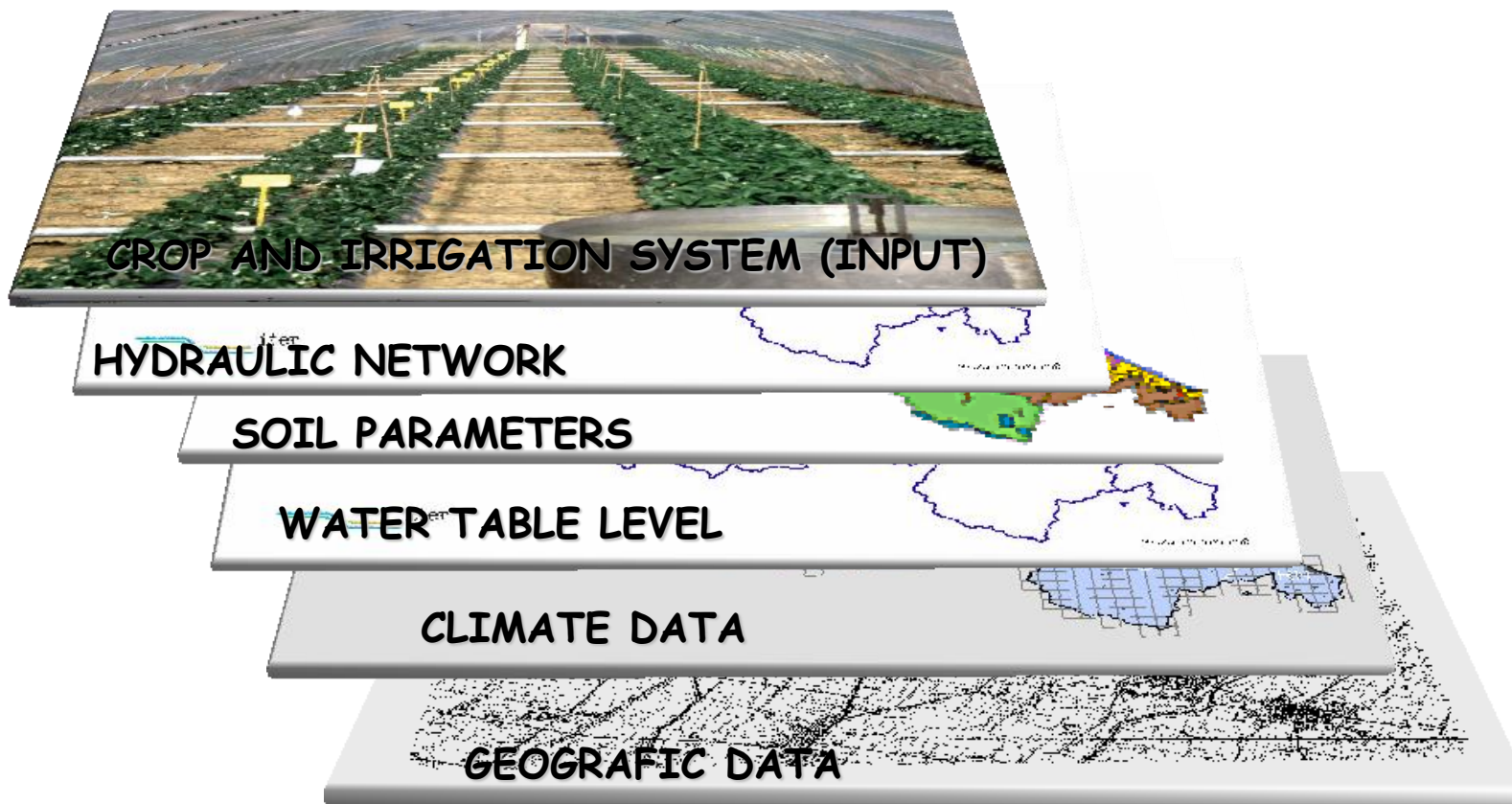
Soil variability must be substantial:

- 10% water saving where soil AWC varies by 50 mm
- 15% water saving where soil AWC varies by 100 mm
- More than 15% water saving where soil AWC varies by > 100 mm

(Carolyn Hedley)



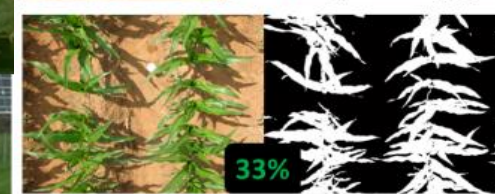
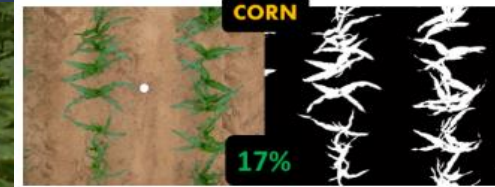
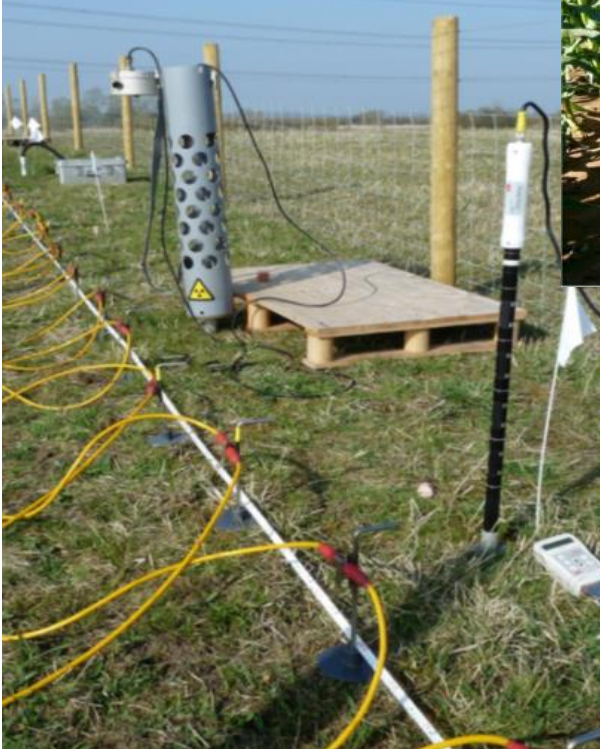
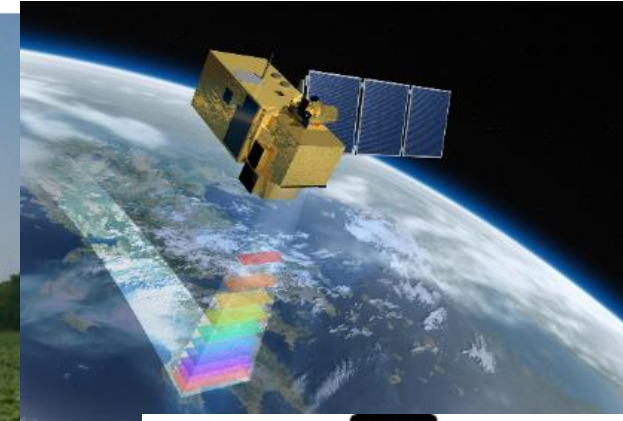
# MANAGEMENT OF AVAILABLE BUT OFTEN INCOMPLETE AND FRAGMENTED KNOWLEDGE



**Current challenges in management of water for agriculture: matching science and practice on farm level**



# SENSING TECHNOLOGIES ALREADY APPLIED IN AGRICULTURE





# INTEGRATION OF DATA SOURCES

Field robots will **provide an overview of the crops to determine their necessities using sensory vision or video.**

**Soil Sensors** are in the process of becoming more widely used as they are an arrangement designed as a part of the **robot** to detect disease.

The new generation of field robots can implement **Swarm Technologies** operating as interlinked units exchanging information in real time to optimize their efficiency and self-learning capabilities.





# FRONTLINE INNOVATION

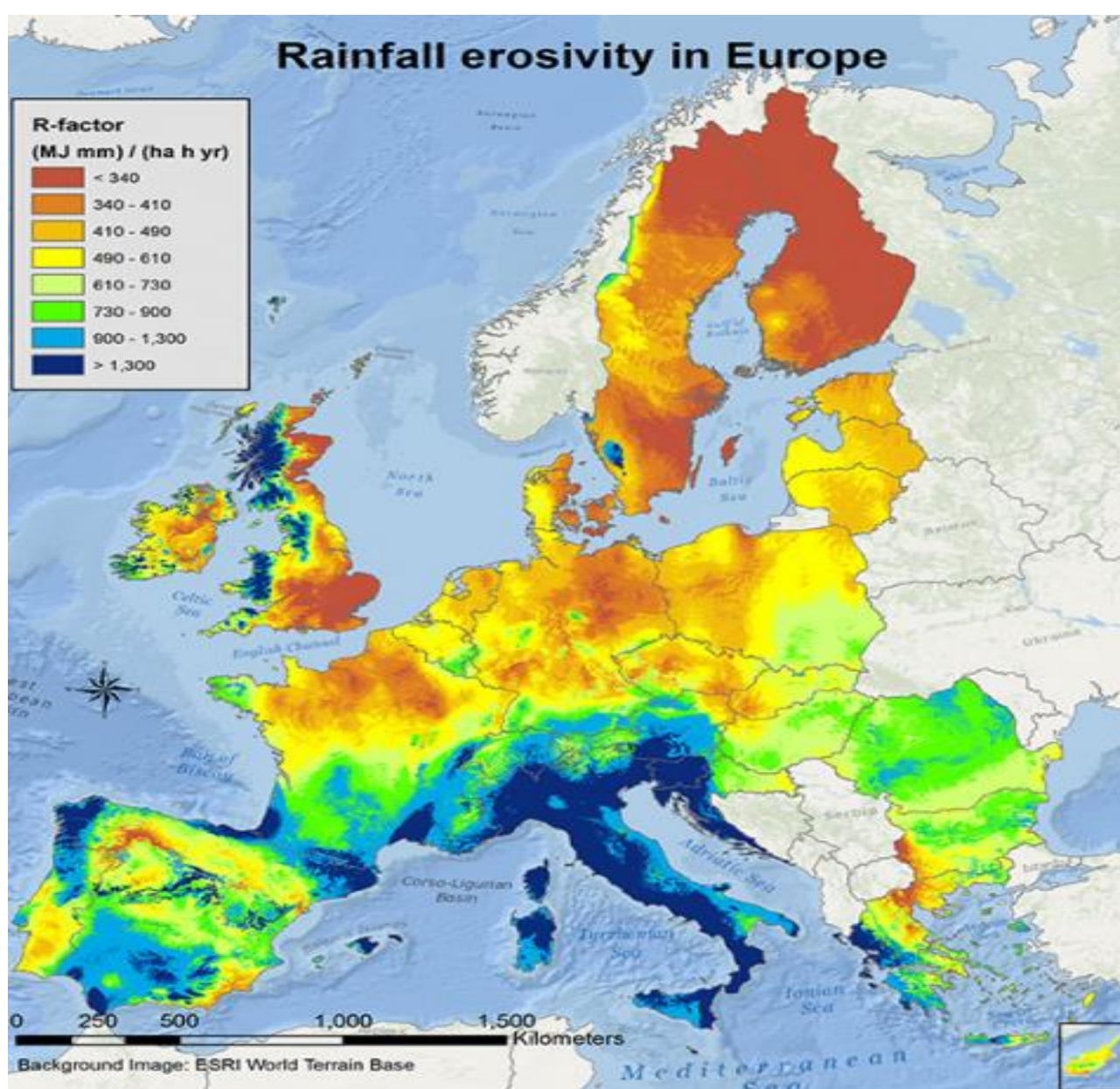


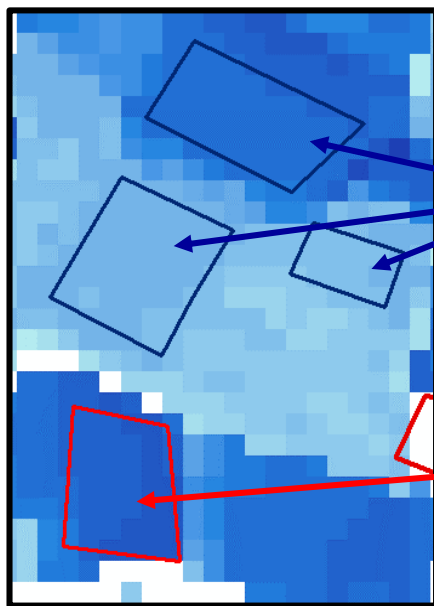
# SOIL EROSION and DEGRADATION

**DIRECT - SHORT/MEDIUM TERM**

**DIRECT - LONG TERM  
INDIRECT/EXTENDED**

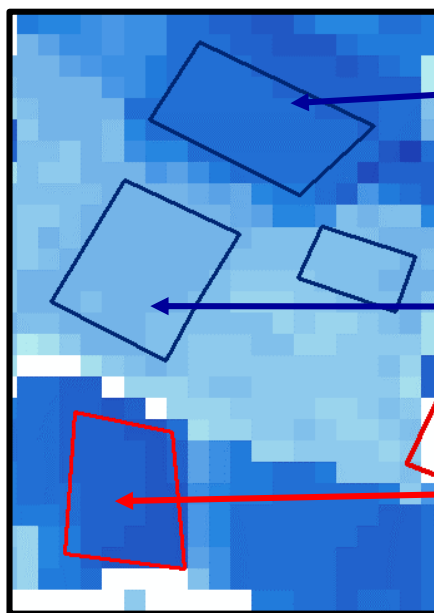






**Plots with water rights**

**Plot without water rights**



**Allowed water: 500mm/y  
HidroMORE IWR: 425mm/y**

**Allowed water: 700mm/y  
HidroMORE IWR: 300mm/y**

**Allowed water: 500mm/y  
HidroMORE IWR: 650mm/y**

J. Garrido, A. Calera – UCLM Spain

Applying Earth observation  
to support the detection of  
non-authorised water  
abstractions

Guidance document



September 2014

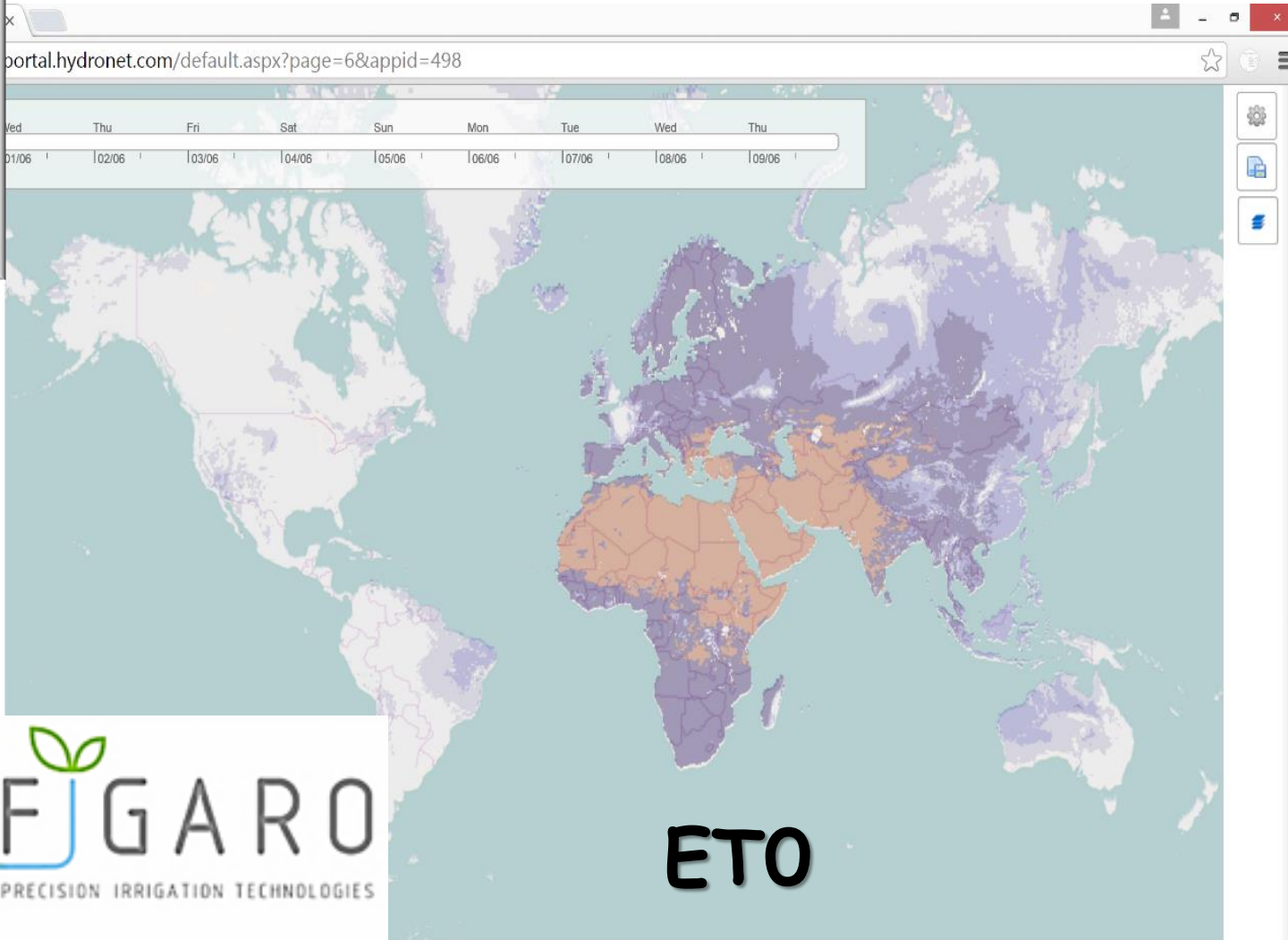
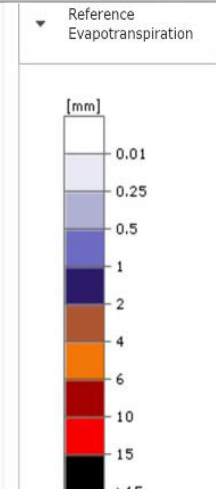
**MOSES**

# MONITORING AND MAPPING WATER QUALITY FOR IRRIGATION, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND WATER REUSE



# RELIABLE WEATHER FORECASTING

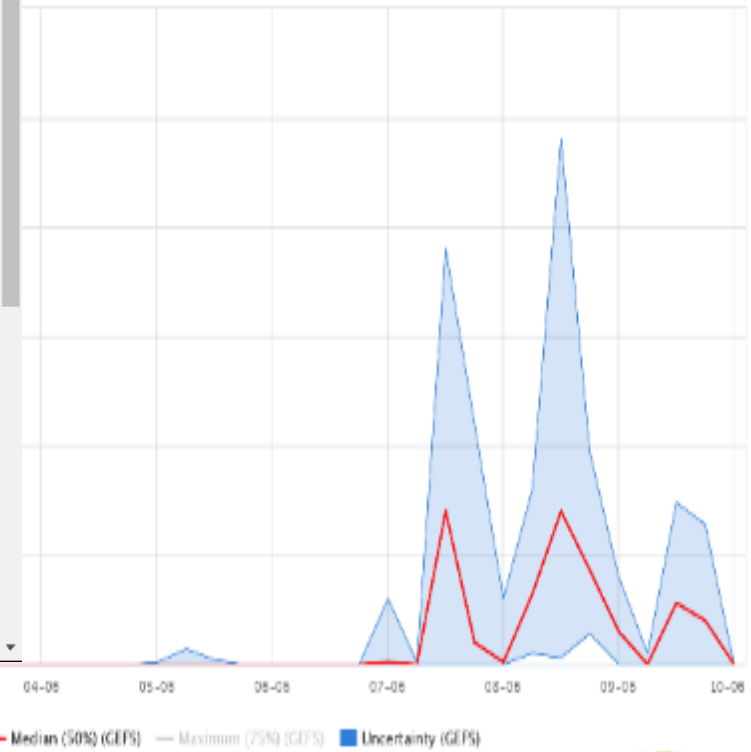
## PRECIPITATION



A. Lobrecht - HYDROLOGIC

Precipitation (source: GEFS)

HydroNET





# SOIL PROPERTIES

## SOIL TEXTURE

Better accuracy and validation. Utilization of local datasets to calibrate remote sensing data. Methodologies and tools for self-calibration by end users

## SOIL MOISTURE

Higher spatial validation. Finer temporal interval. Introduce sub-plot scale (0-50m). Locally validated energy balances (SEBAL, TEBS, SEBS...).

## SOIL ORGANIC CARBON, SALINITY AND CARBONATES

Higher spatial validation. Finer temporal interval. Further develop methods that are less dependent of soil calibration (i.e. reflectance spectroscopy cellulose/starch/lignine)





# VEGETATION INDEXES

## VEGETATION PATTERN & CROP MAPPING

Identification of vegetation patterns and density. Crop mapping (identification even at early stages)

## PHOTOSYNTHETIC VEGETATION

Higher spatial validation. Finer temporal interval. Vegetation indexes better related to crops (local calibration with ground data). Crop productivity forecasts. Total aboveground biomasses.

## NONPHOTOSYNTHETIC VEGETATION

Further develop methods allowing to define crop residues, woody stems or forest litter (i.e. Cellulose or Lignin-Cellulose adsorption index- CAI or LCA)





# INTEROPERABILITY AND METHODOLOGIES

## Syntactic Interoperability

Make systems capable of communicating and exchanging data in a performing a reliable way. Existing monitoring schemas, sensors networks, management models and DSSs aren't able to dialogue. Still even basic Syntactic Interoperability is lacking.

## Semantic Interoperability

Develop systems capability to automatically interpret the information exchanged meaningfully and accurately in order to produce useful results as defined by the end users.

## Data Assimilation/Integration Methods

Standardized methods to assimilate or integrate data into local existing services. Tools and guidelines.



# PRACTICALITIES



**Post Processed Data availability at smaller scale:** actual size requires to download files > 10 GB. Non specialized end users often aren't equipped or skilled to manage these big files.

**Standard Calibration/Validation Procedures:** crop physiological parameters derived from Satellite Remote Sensing would need to be calibrated against ground truth. Standardized methods would help developing small local projects.

**Support Small Medium Startups:** small software houses are entering the market offering to farmers and water managers ICT platforms based on post-processed satellite data at the end user preferred scale.



# CLOSING WORDS

- Irrigated agriculture is engaged in implementing circular economy and willing to explore new business models, but to do that effective, user friendly support and information products are needed.
- To respond to the challenges of climate change and food security Irrigated Agriculture is facing the challenge to improve water use productivity and efficiency while improving overall water quality.
- Targeted actions to better integrate information products into existing irrigation and water governance management tools are needed.
- Remote sensing could offer viable solutions for the new PAC payment criteria based on results achievement and performances.





**IRRIGANTS d'EUROPE** has been established to **bring together the irrigated agriculture sector at European level, restoring legitimacy to the proper use of water resources in modern agriculture.**

## Required actions:

- **Assessment of Irrigation systems and schemas efficiency**
- **Assessment of the positive externalities as, i.e., sustaining aquifers and water restitution to water bodies**
- **Key parameters availability for risk assessment analysis and water quality management in a broader hydrological context**
- **Assessment and risk analysis of the opportunities to enhance water storage**





THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

