

Water and Food Security



Operational data for decision making
in the food and agriculture sector



WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

Climate change affects agriculture in a number of ways, including through changes in temperature, rainfall, and climate extremes. To deal with uncertainty of future weather conditions, information is needed on when and where water shortages are to be expected.

Our Water & Food services

We offer core expertise to assist governments and agencies in identifying and implementing solutions related to:

- Integrated water management and water saving practices under a changing climate
- Advice on improved irrigation management, for both quantity and quality
- Agricultural and agribusiness development using public private partnerships
- Policy recommendations and evaluation for water management and food security

Agro-climatic data products for sustainable food production

In order to safeguard future food production, farmers and agencies need information on global water resources under climate change to adapt their production strategies. The Copernicus Climate Information for Agriculture contract (2017-2019) develops a set of operational services with high-impact climate information aimed for the agricultural and food sector in order to enable them to make informed decisions. End-users from many market segments are involved to provide market information and address global aspects of food security. Proven state of the art technologies on earth observation are combined with crop modelling to render crop-climate data for regional and global operating agribusinesses (commodity trading), water and irrigation agencies, policy and administration, and the food security research community.

By providing relevant, credible and legitimate agro-water-climatic data products to decision makers in food security we pursue our ambition to improve food security in a safe living environment as addressed in the Sustainable Development Goals.

Research Program: Sustainable Water Management



"To achieve food nutrition, growing more of the same staple crops will not be enough; we need agriculture to be climate and nutrition-smart. We must meet the needs of communities and nations in the shift of climate by opting for food systems that are diverse, efficient and resilient."

Kofi Annan at Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition annual meeting, Accra, 2016

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