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CAPACITY BUILDING IN EARTH OBSERVATION AND GEO-INFORMATION SCIENCE – A BRIDGE TO KNOWLEDGE FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

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REGIONAL CENTRE FOR TRAINING IN AEROSPACE SURVEYS (RECTAS)



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INTRODUCTION

In Africa, majority of the professionals and technicians in different organisations involved in geospatial information activities have not been making a full use of data and tools to manage and alleviate the consequences of natural disasters due to low proficiency in the space technologies.

INTRODUCTION (cont'd)

Today, there is increasing demands of welltrained staff at all levels, to face the main challenges of disaster management and emergency response.

RECTAS, through its training and capacity building activities is trying to face the challenges.

REGIONAL CENTRE FOR TRAINING IN AEROSPACE SURVEYS (RECTAS)

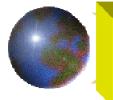
(Under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – UNECA)





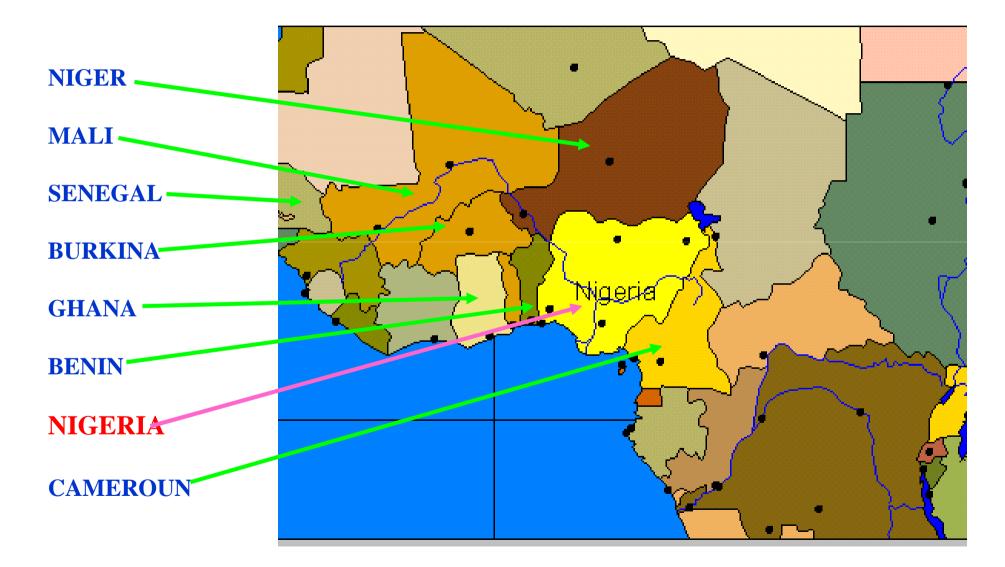
RECTAS

RECTAS was established in **1972** under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) to undertake training and research in Geoinformation Science for the manpower needs of African nations.



MEMBER COUNTRIES OF RECTAS

PAYS MEMBRES DU RECTAS





VISION OF RECTAS

To be a leading Centre of Excellence providing one-stop solution for quality geospatial science training, education and research and critical capacity for sustainable development in Africa.

MISSION OF RECTAS

To contribute to rapid development of member states in particular and Africa in general, through capacity building for timely delivery and responsible use of appropriate geospatial information.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CENTRE

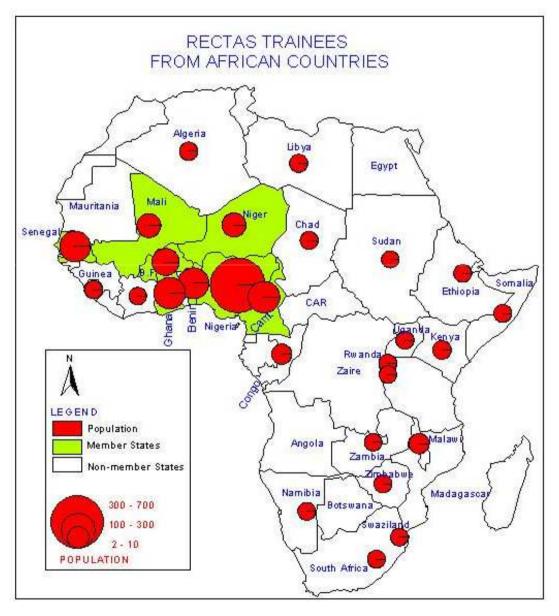
- To provide theoretical and practical training in Geoinformatics (Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, GIS and their applications);
- To conduct seminars, workshops and short term courses
- To carry out studies and research
- To provide advisory and consultancy services

ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE

From inception in 1972 to date, a total of **1,522** trainees from **28 countries** have been trained in Geoinformation Production and management at RECTAS at the following levels:

- Technician (18 months)
- Technologist (18 months)
- Post Graduate (12 months)







RECTAS' training programmes equip the graduates with adequate technical capability in GIS, **Remote Sensing and** usage of geospatial data for environmental/disaster management



RECTAS' ACTIVITIES (cont'd)

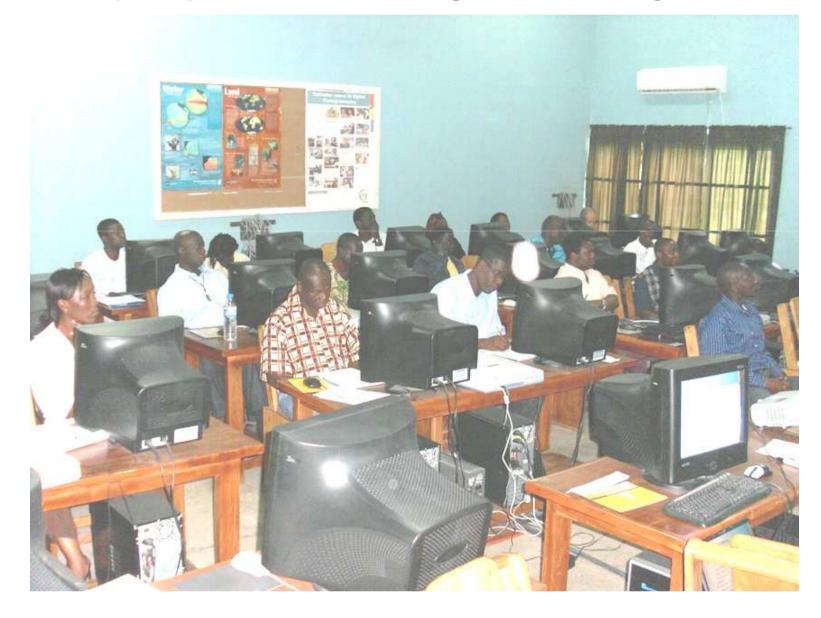
The Centre has also organised for professionals from different organisations and different backgrounds, Short Term Courses (2)

- 4 weeks), Seminars and Workshops in different applications of geoinformatics.

In addition to the regular training programme, the Centre has run a special Postgraduate Programme in Geoinformation and Environmental Management for 11 nominees of Sokoto State Government in Nigeria.



Short course participants at RECTAS during a 4-week training course in GIS





Refresher course in Disaster Management, organised at RECTAS, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, in collaboration with ITC/Netherlands.

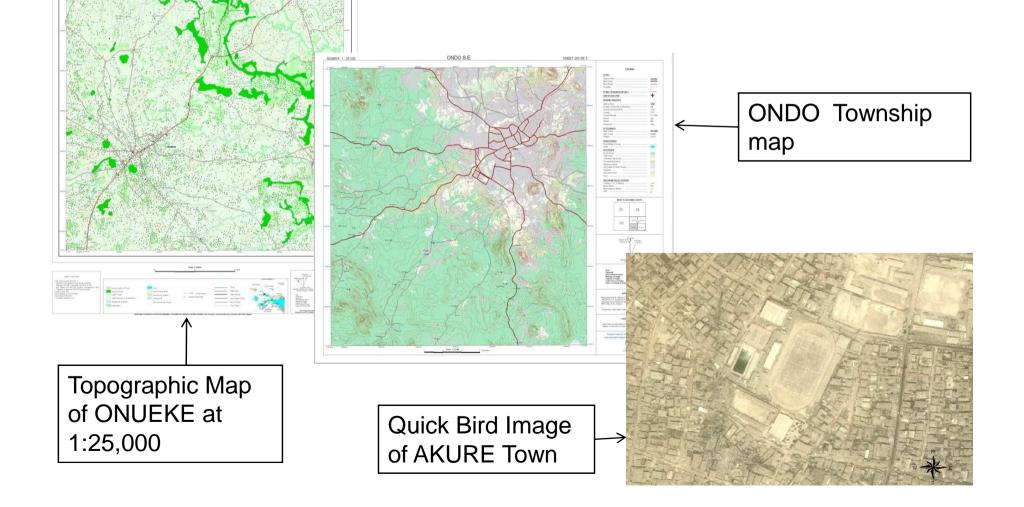








RECTAS' CONSULTANCY & ADVISORY





AFRICAN GEODETIC REFERENCE FRAME (AFREF)



Antenna of the first AFREF Permanent Station installed at RECTAS in 2007



CAPACITY BUILDING IN SPACE SPACE AND GEOINFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

OBJECTIVE OF CAPACITY BUILDING

The fundamental goal of Capacity Building is to enhance the ability to evaluate and address the crucial questions related to the strategy for Disaster Management/Disaster Risk Reduction using space-based technologies. This involve human resource development, organisational development, Institutional and legal framework development.

ROLE OF CAPACITY BUILDING IN D.M.

- Understand the hazard (where, and when and why it is likely to occur);
- Know which areas and communities are most vulnerable to hazards;
- Develop knowledge and information resources to enable the risks to be identified and potential impacts to be adequately assessed;

- Ensure political commitment to disaster risk reduction at various levels
- Increase education and raise awareness of the risks and motivate for changes in col-lective behavior to reduce risks;
- Understand and take action to mitigate or relieve the socio-economic conditions that create or increase the vulnerability of a community;



- Implement environmental management, physical and technical measures to reduce risks to communities;
- Increase the coping capacity of communities through better communication, im-proved resources, etc;
- Have a disaster preparedness plan in place. This plan should cover both emergency management and recovery from the disaster;
- Develop hazard monitoring systems and early warning indicators.

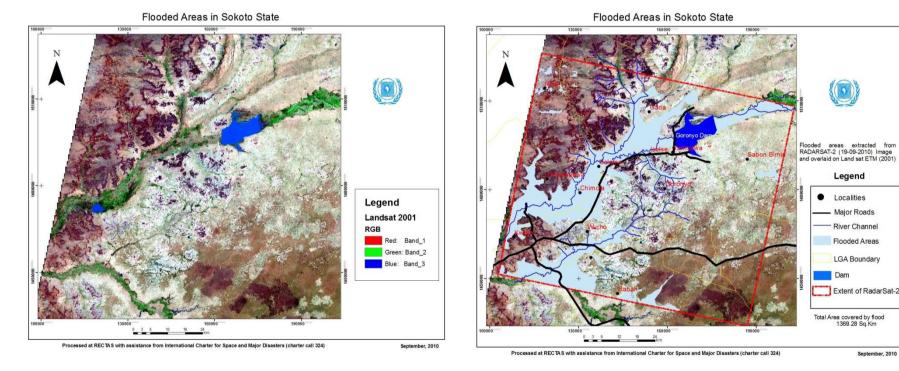
RECTAS' CONTRIBUTIONS

RECTAS conducted many studies and researches, capacity building and projects execution in different areas of specialisation including disaster management in the participating countries as well as in other countries in Africa.

The following case-studies were undertaken by students and staff members of RECTAS.



Case-study: Flood in Sokoto state

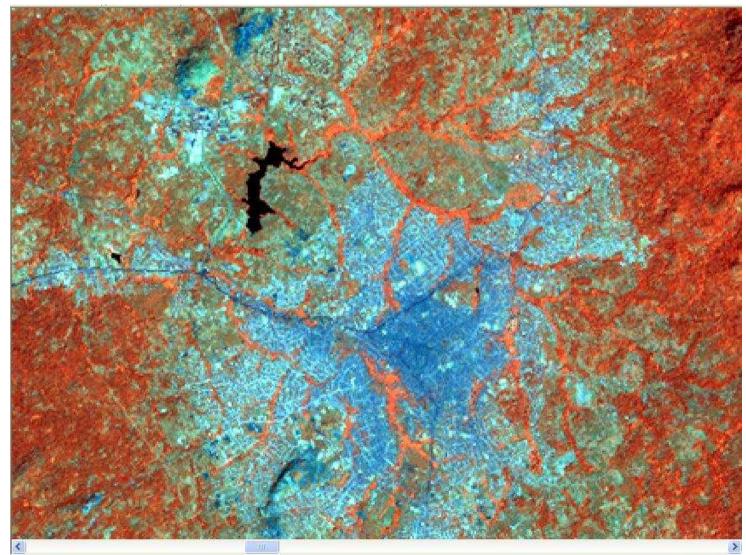


Landsat view of the area under investigation

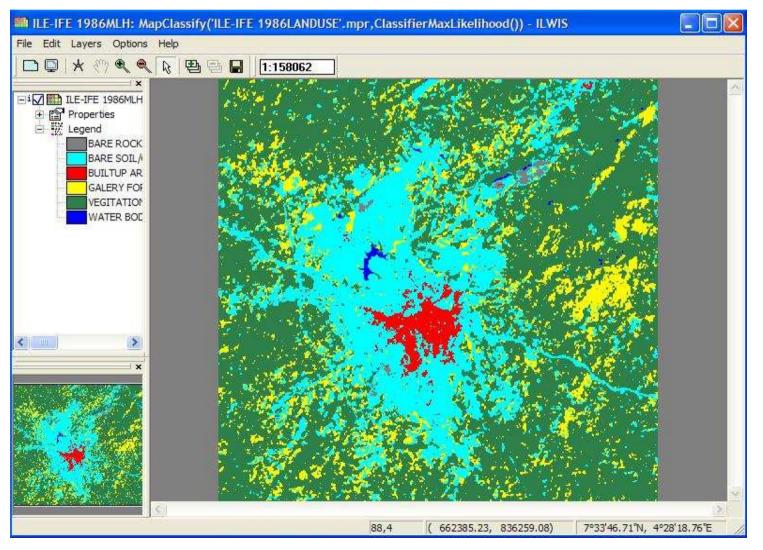
Flooded area detected from Radarsat-2 image of Sept.2010



COLOUR COMPOSITE IMAGE (LANDSAT ETM + 2002) OF ILE-IFE

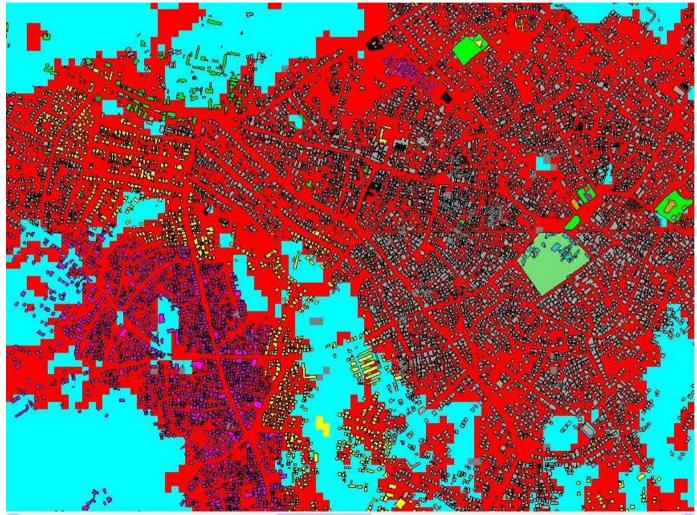


CLASSIFIED LANDSAT TM IMAGE OF ILE-FE LANDUSE AND LAND COVER (1986)





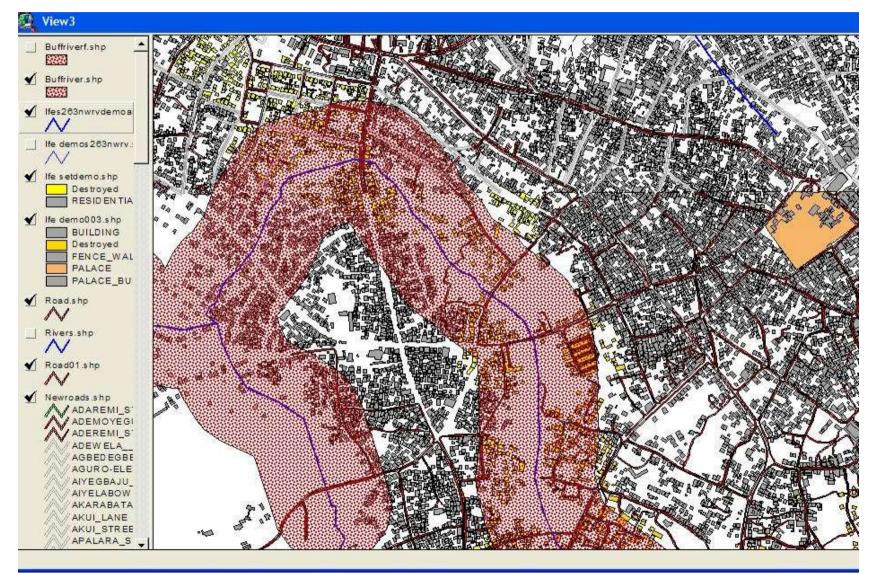
CLASSIFIED LANDSAT TM IMAGE OF ILE-FE OVERLAID WITH DESTROYED BUILDINGS IN 2000 CRISIS



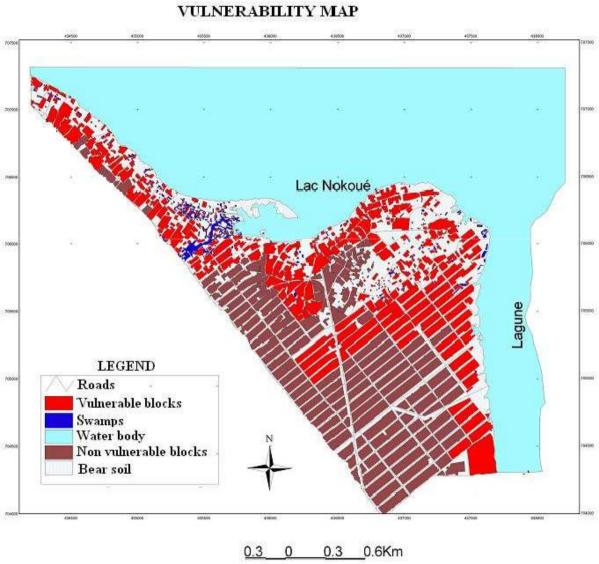
DESTROYED BUILDINS IN YELLOW COLOUR



EXAMPLE OF VULNERABILITY MAP OF ILE-IFE.

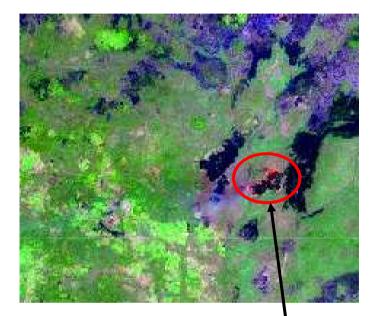


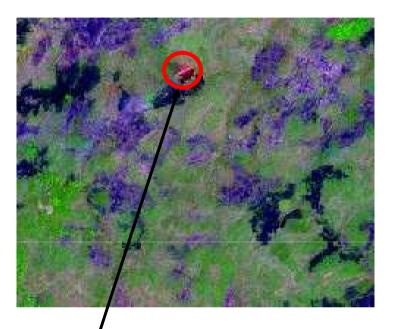




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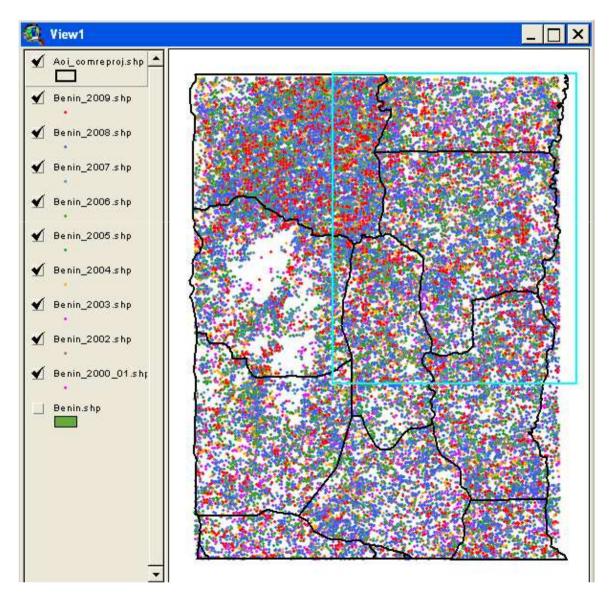




Active fire detected on ETM+ image Combination of Bands 5, 4 and 3 (Pseudo Natural Colour)



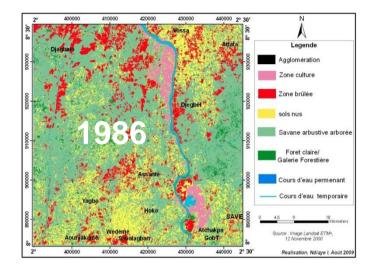
Fire spots detected by MODIS (2000-2009)

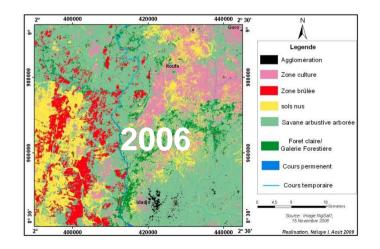


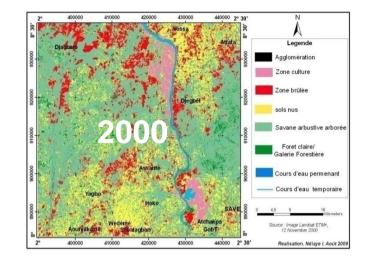
Each dot represents the hotspots fire of a specific year (Example: red for 2009)

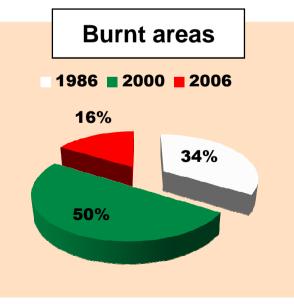


DETECTION OF BURNT AREAS IN SAVE NORTH WEST / BENIN REPUBLIC



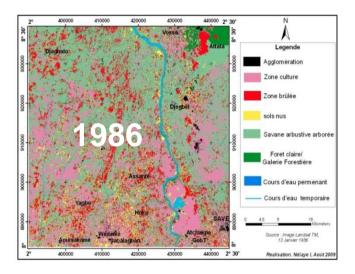


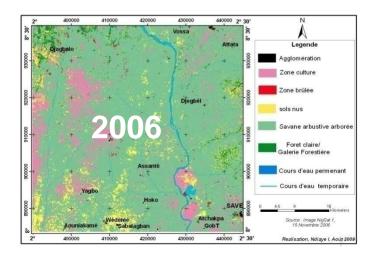


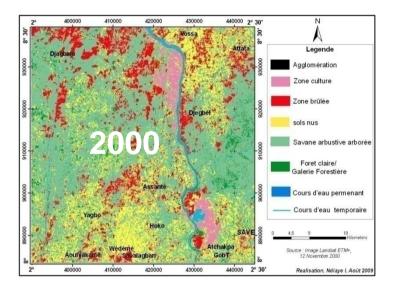


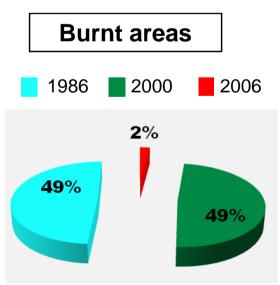


DETECTION OF BURNT AREAS IN SAVE SOUTH WEST / BENIN REPUBLIC



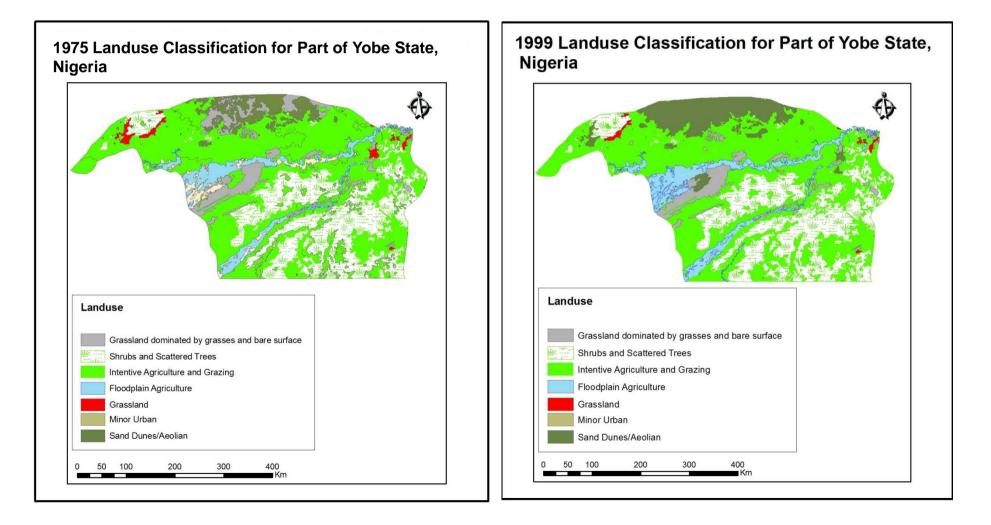








Case-study: Land use change in Yobe state



CONCLUSION

Enhancing skills in the use of remotelysensed data, in interpreting multi-temporel, multi-date and multi-sources input data has been considered as a priority for developing countries. To tackle the other challenges, the relevant data and information should be made at the disposal of experts and communities affected by the catastrophes, for early warning and emergency response, a better disaster management.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To improve the situation and save the lives of people, there is urgent need to:

- Amplify the importance of earth observation and geo-information in disaster management;
- Develop synergies between technical/financial partners, experts and local communities to improve exchanges and communication;
- Develop Disaster Risk Reduction Networks

RECOMMENDATIONS (cont'd)

- Develop appropriate curriculum on the use of space technologies for disaster management for training institutions;
- Make use of free or low-cost data (ASTER, MODIS, Landsat ETM+, SRTM-DEM AVHRR, etc.) in order to increase and ease the access to disaster data
- Create legal frames to develop standards and monitoring parameters.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION...

... AND CONCERN

Sector Manual Sector