



USDA FAS/IPAD Joins Forces With NGA For Global Food Security



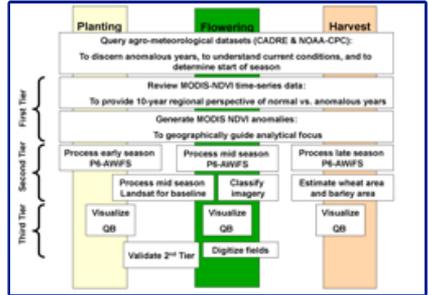
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Project:
The successful results of the Inter-Agency collaboration between the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS) in predicting the Iraq drought early enough for Iraqi government officials to avert a famine by arranging for food shipments to the impacted areas led to an expanded four country follow-on project in the 2008-2009 growing year and the 2009-2010 crop marketing year.

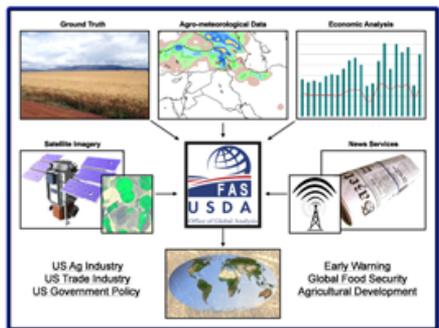
The USDA FAS/IPAD and NGA developed and implemented Inter-Agency MOA with a focus on Global Food Security and the Middle East.



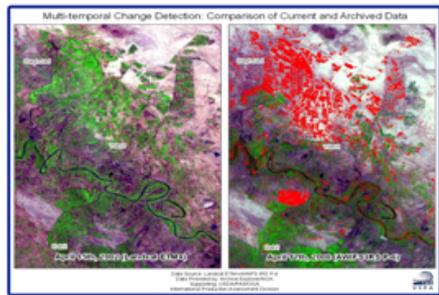
Three-Tier Methodology Schema

The goal of this next project is to develop new remote sensing processes for assessing crop health and predicting harvest yields in growing regions where minimal ground condition information is available utilizing the USDA FAS three-tier data methodology and the convergence of evidence methodology.

Human observations can never be replaced entirely, although high-resolution satellite imagery often used by NGA for intelligence purposes was integrated successfully into existing FAS processing methodologies.



"Convergence of Evidence" Methodology Chart



Wheat Change Detection
(red shows 44% shortfall in wheat production)

Results of Combined Efforts:

- Early Warning of 90% Wheat Crop Failure.
- Provided Government 8 months to plan and provide food to affected areas.
- Minimized effects of crop failure to the population.
- Provided valuable information to reconstruction teams such as identification and specific locations requiring reconstruction
 - Saving time, manpower, and US Taxpayer Dollars
- Project Success Led to Additional Inter-Agency Projects in 2009 & 2010

The project and its results are displayed in GEOINT Online with a community site, hosted and built by Global Marketing Insights, Inc. GEOINT Online is an on-line, on-demand discovery of geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) content, services, expertise, and support. GEOINT Online is an element of the strategy to transform NGA from solely a product producer to a GEOINT Services Provider with integrated access to GEOINT content, services, expertise and support. The USDA FAS/IPAD GEOINT Online Community Site is utilized to display the success and results of the joint project between NGA and the USDA FAS. Accessing this community site provides crop analysis, project-related articles and papers.

Project Results Can Be Found Here:
www.geoint-online.net/community/iraqagmonitoring
and by calling Dr. Johnson at 216-525-0600
or email shawana@globalinsights.com

