

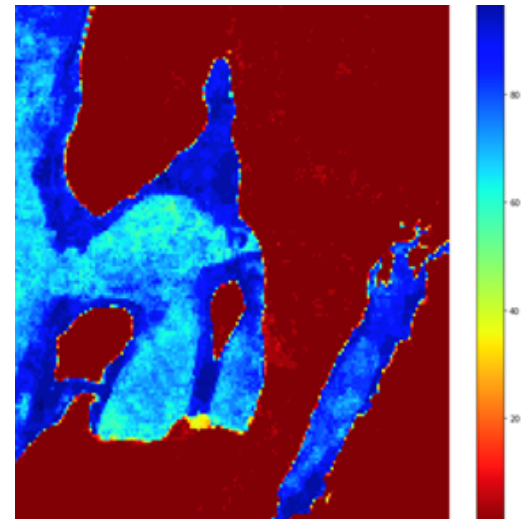
# Digital Earth Pacific

## Decision-ready data for the Blue Pacific



Our Blue Pacific region is made up of 98% ocean with only 2% land. Our large ocean states face unique challenges in managing natural resources and biodiversity, securing economies and livelihoods, and ensuring sustainable food systems. Better data and information is needed to ensure effective decision making to drive policy actions across these areas, especially against the existential threat that climate change poses to our region.

Utilising remote earth observation technologies with informed and globally advanced analytical methods has tremendous potential to unlock accessible data for the Blue Pacific.



Coastal change in Vanuatu

This can now be realised for our region as operational satellites are providing routine global coverage; free and open data policies remove legal and cost barriers to data access; analysis ready data (ARD) is removing pre-processing burdens from users; computing and storage costs are reducing and cloud architectures are emerging; and Open Data Cubes (ODC) that enable regional-scale analyses of complete time-series data are able to produce rich new information.

Leveraging global practice, the Pacific Community (SPC) will hold detailed stakeholder consultations with Member countries to better understand their needs for a regional data infrastructure serving routine, reliable and operational earth observation data, products and services. Political, institutional, capacity, financial and technical factors, including alignment opportunities with other programmes and partners, will be assessed to ensure country-led and relevant solutions form the development of a business case for Digital Earth Pacific.

Pacific Community teams are already engaging with Member countries in this process and will continue to engage over the coming year through forging new partnerships and working alongside existing governance mechanisms to ensure what is proposed aligns to the needs, activities and aspirations of the Blue Pacific.



**June 2021**  
Needs assessment  
and initial roadmap  
developed



**December 2021**  
Business case  
completed



**2021-2022**  
Case studies implemented in  
three Pacific countries