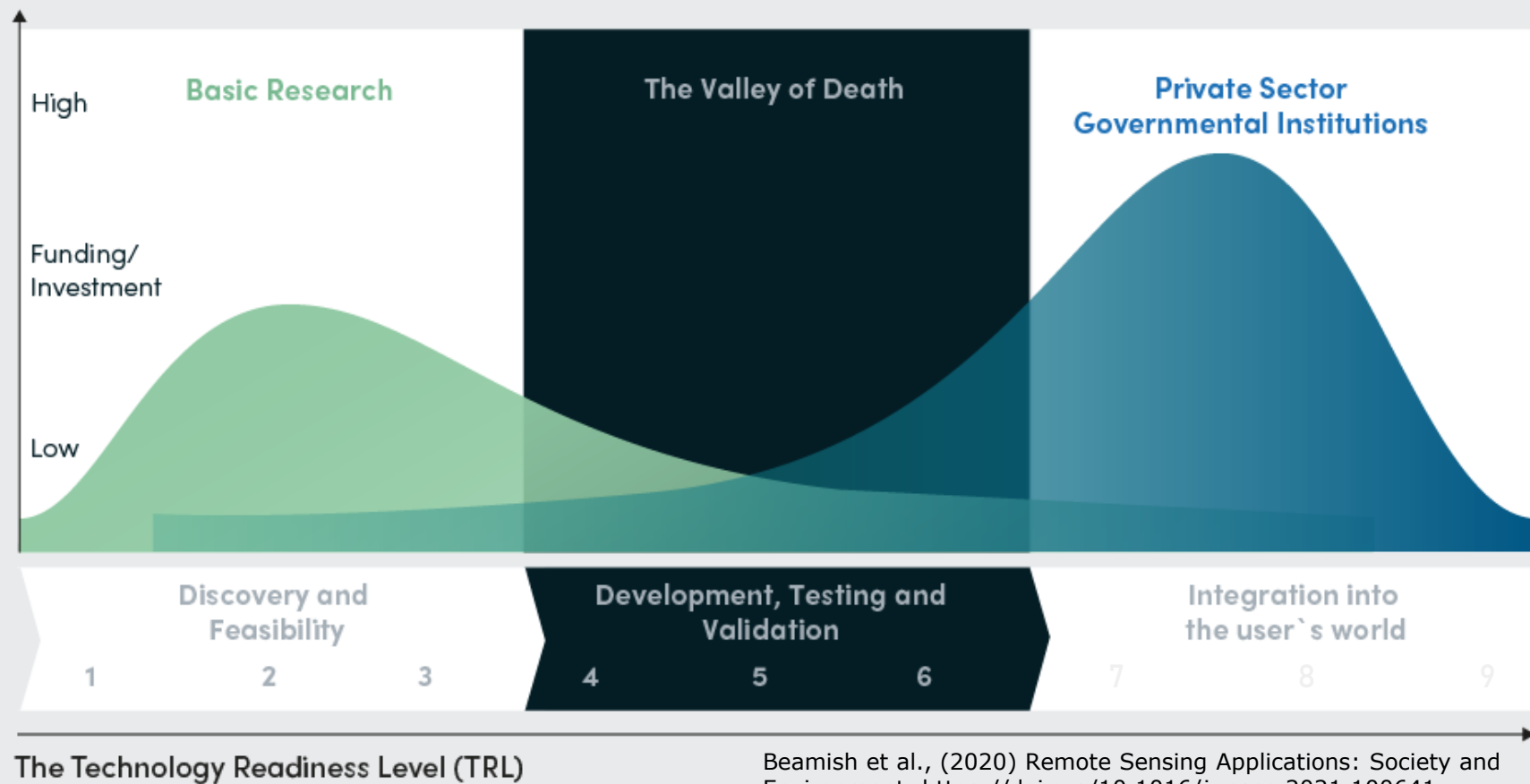


# FERN.Lab: Increasing scientific literacy of non-experts in the field of remote sensing and earth observation

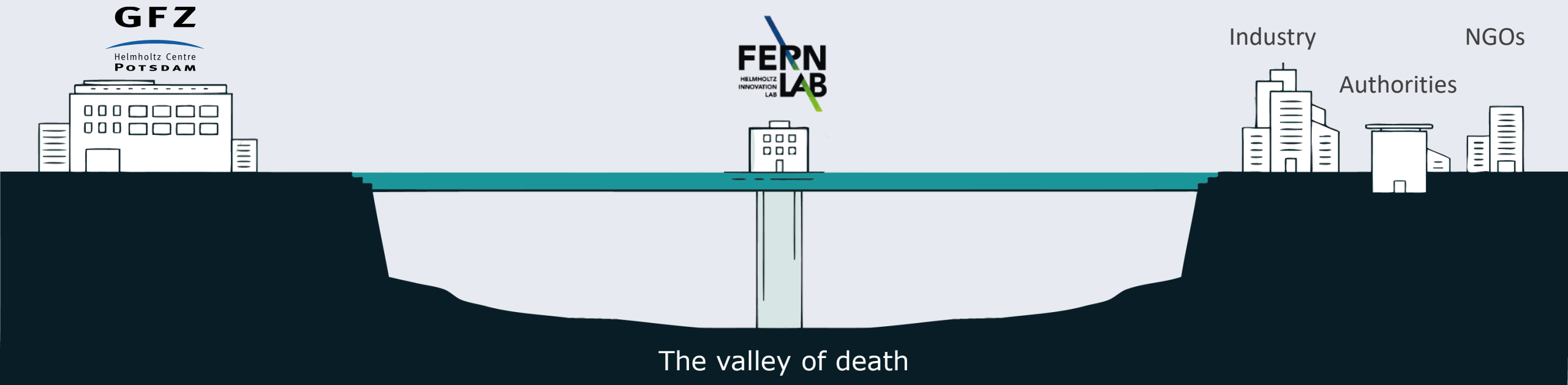
Dr. Alison Beamish  
Working Group Leader Technology Transfer for Remote Sensing  
Helmholtz Centre Potsdam GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences

Helmholtz TEACH 4 Conference 21-22.11.2024

# Knowledge and technology transfer



# Knowledge and technology transfer





# Knowledge and technology transfer

Source: Transferbarometer – translated with DeepL <https://transferbarometer.de/>

<b>Research-based cooperation and exploitation</b>  Application of research results for social and economic benefits	<b>Relationship management</b>  Development and development of personal relationships for possible later transfer activities	<b>Research infrastructure</b>  Provision of technical (large devices, databases) and non-technical equipment (libraries, collections)	<b>Entrepreneurship</b>  Mediation of entrepreneurial thinking and acting as well as support for start-up activities
<b>Transfer-oriented teaching and professional development and further training</b>  Involvement of non-scientific partners in teaching and learning formats	<b>Scientific advice for decision-makers</b>  Formalized activities to support science-based decisions	<b>R&amp;D with society</b> <b>society</b>  Participation of social actors in the research process and the development of solutions	<b>Science dialogue</b>  Dialogue-oriented formats of science communication with society

# FERN.Lab – Helmholtz Innovation Lab



*The mission of FERN.Lab is to initiate, promote and support transfer activities for the valorisation of remote sensing in society.*

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Strategic  
Development  
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Strategic  
Development  
& Capacity  
Building

Innovative  
Method  
Development

Agile Product  
Development



# FERN.Lab – Helmholtz Innovation Lab



**Manager**  
**Dr. Alison Beamish**



**Methods Lead**  
**Dr. Robert Behling**



**Software Lead**  
**Dr. Romulo Goncalves**



A Cozacu



KT Expert



Innovation  
Manager



F Kästner



Dr. D Scheffler



D Rabe



A Madadi



J Knoch



J Wenzel

■ Innovation Management &  
Knowledge Transfer

■ Scientific Method  
Development

■ Software Development

# Our approach

By engaging in transfer activities FERN.Lab aims to:

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**1. Maximise social impact** by making state of the art RS methods available through user-oriented developments

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# FERN.Lab – Helmholtz Innovation Lab



[SACKisTagbauingen](#)

**Risk assessment of infrastructure damage**



[SADinfra](#)

**Observing infrastructure hazards**



[WRainfo](#)

**High-resolution weather radar data for agriculture**



[MiSaC](#)

**Minimal Sampling Classifier Webservice**



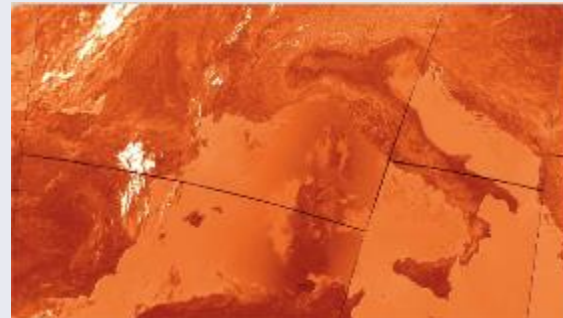
[OverFly](#)

**UAV data for heathland vegetation monitoring**



[CropClass](#)

**Identifying and monitoring crops**



[Find3](#)

**Homogenization of multi-sensor satellite data**



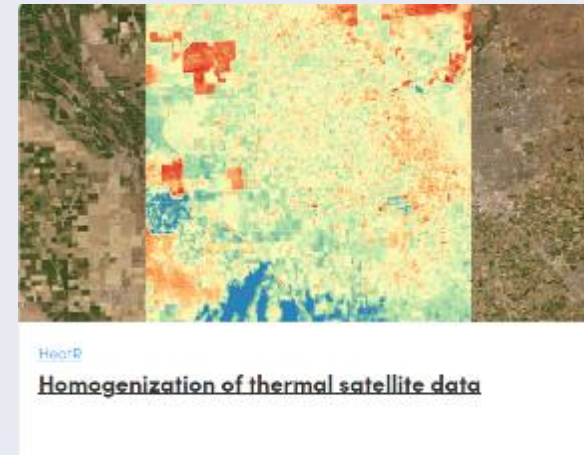
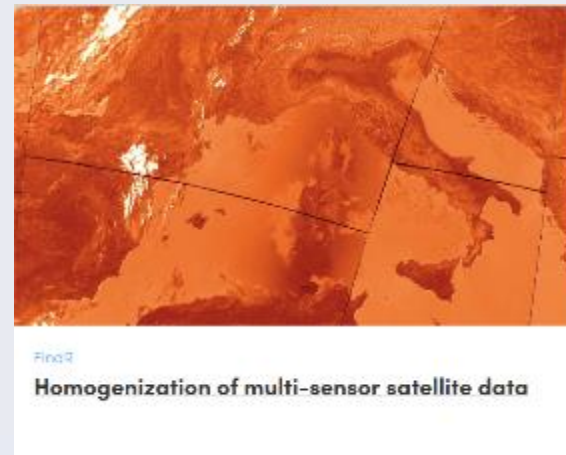
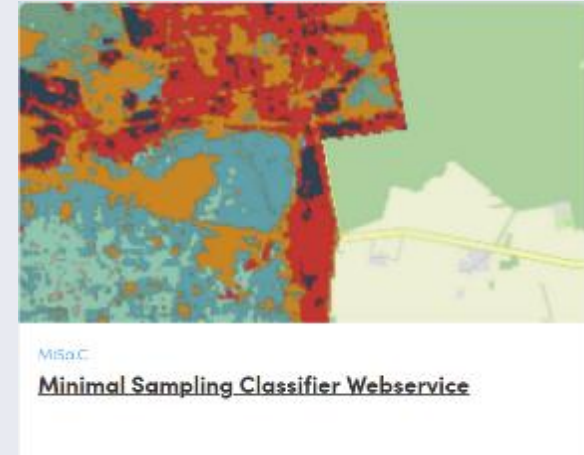
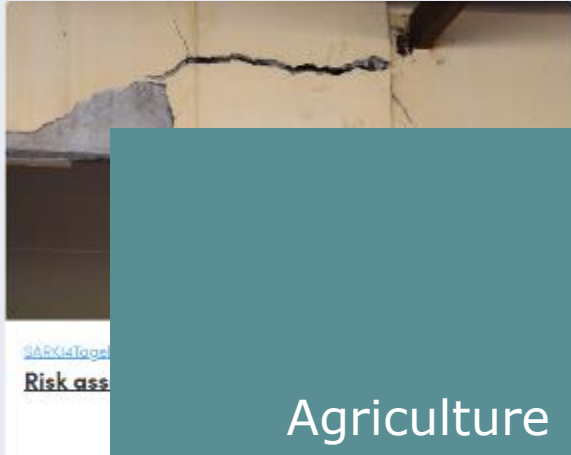
[Heat3](#)

**Homogenization of thermal satellite data**



# FERN.Lab – Helmholtz Innovation Lab

## Agriculture



# FERN.Lab – Helmholtz Innovation Lab



Agriculture



Nature Conservation

Backstage  
**Risk ass**

erv  
**erving infrastru**

ather radar data for

MiSaC  
**Minimal Sampling Classifier Webservice**

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Find2  
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Heat2  
**Homogenization of thermal satellite data**



# FERN.Lab – Helmholtz Innovation Lab



Agriculture

Nature Conservation

Surface Deformation  
Monitoring

OverFly  
UAV data for heathland vegetation monitoring

CropClass  
Identifying and monitoring crops

Find3  
Homogenization of multi-sensor satellite data

Heat3  
Homogenization of thermal satellite data

# FERN.Lab – Helmholtz Innovation Lab



[SACKisTagetoufänger](#)  
**Risk assessment of infrastructure damage**



[OverFly](#)  
**UAV data for heathland vegetation monitoring**



[SADs](#)  
**Obs**



[CropC](#)  
**Ident**

<https://fernlab.gfz-potsdam.de/developments.html>



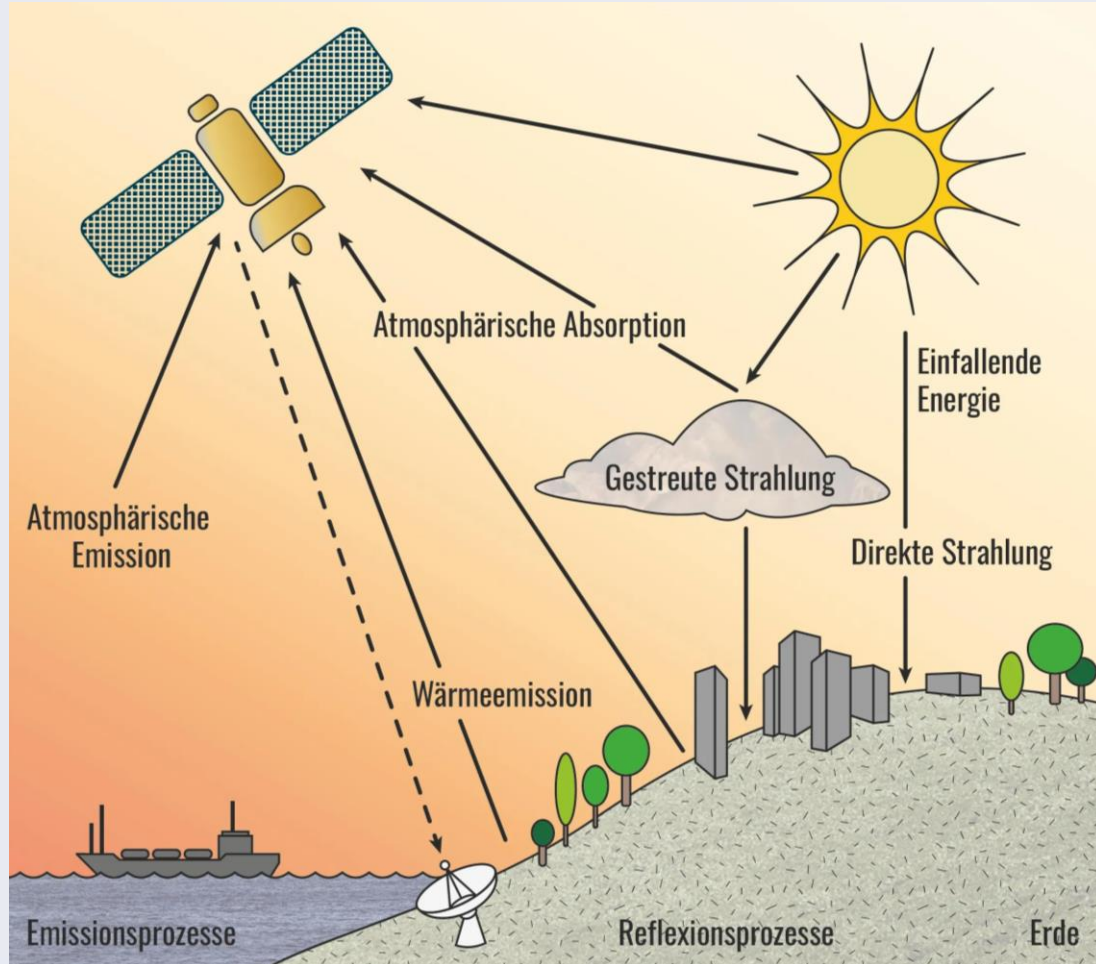
[MiSaC](#)  
**Minimal Sampling Classifier Webservice**



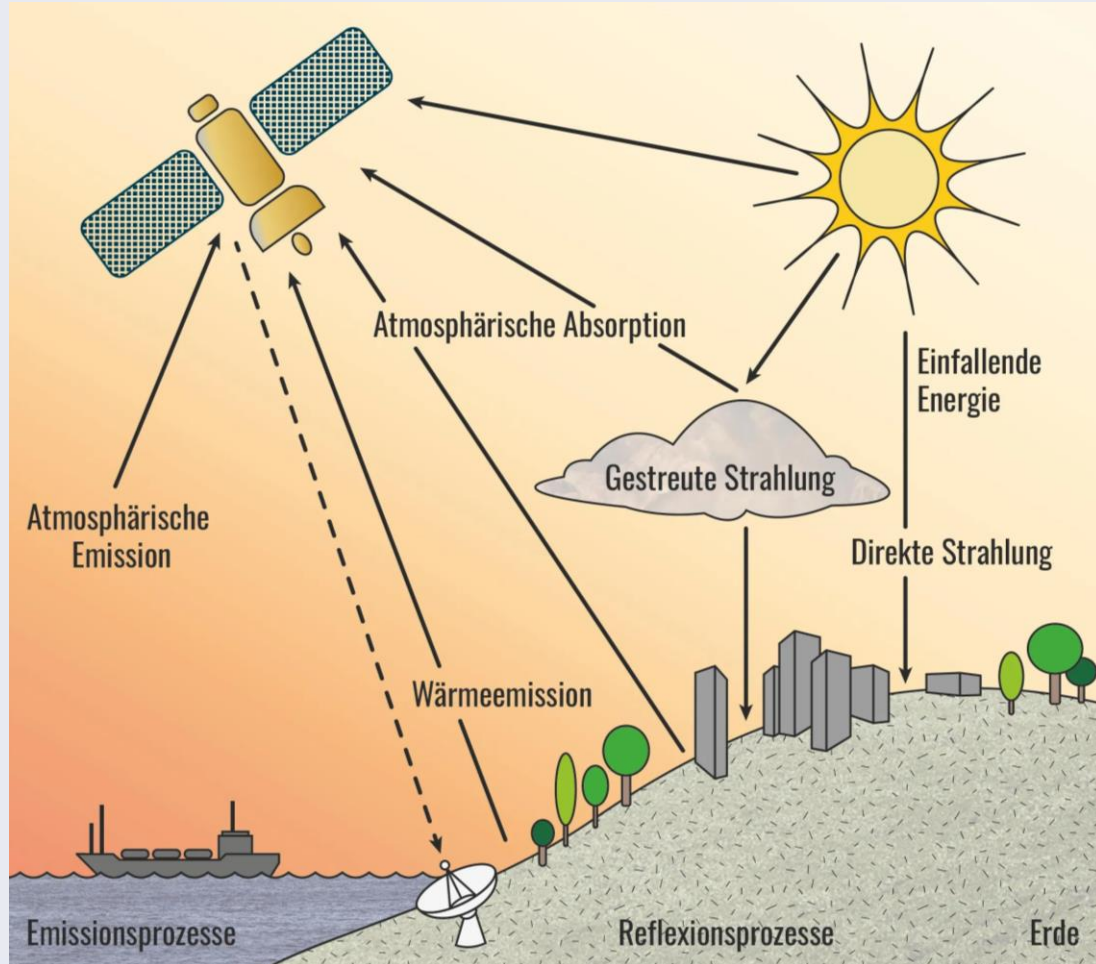
[HearB](#)  
**Homogenization of thermal satellite data**



# What is remote sensing?



# What is remote sensing?

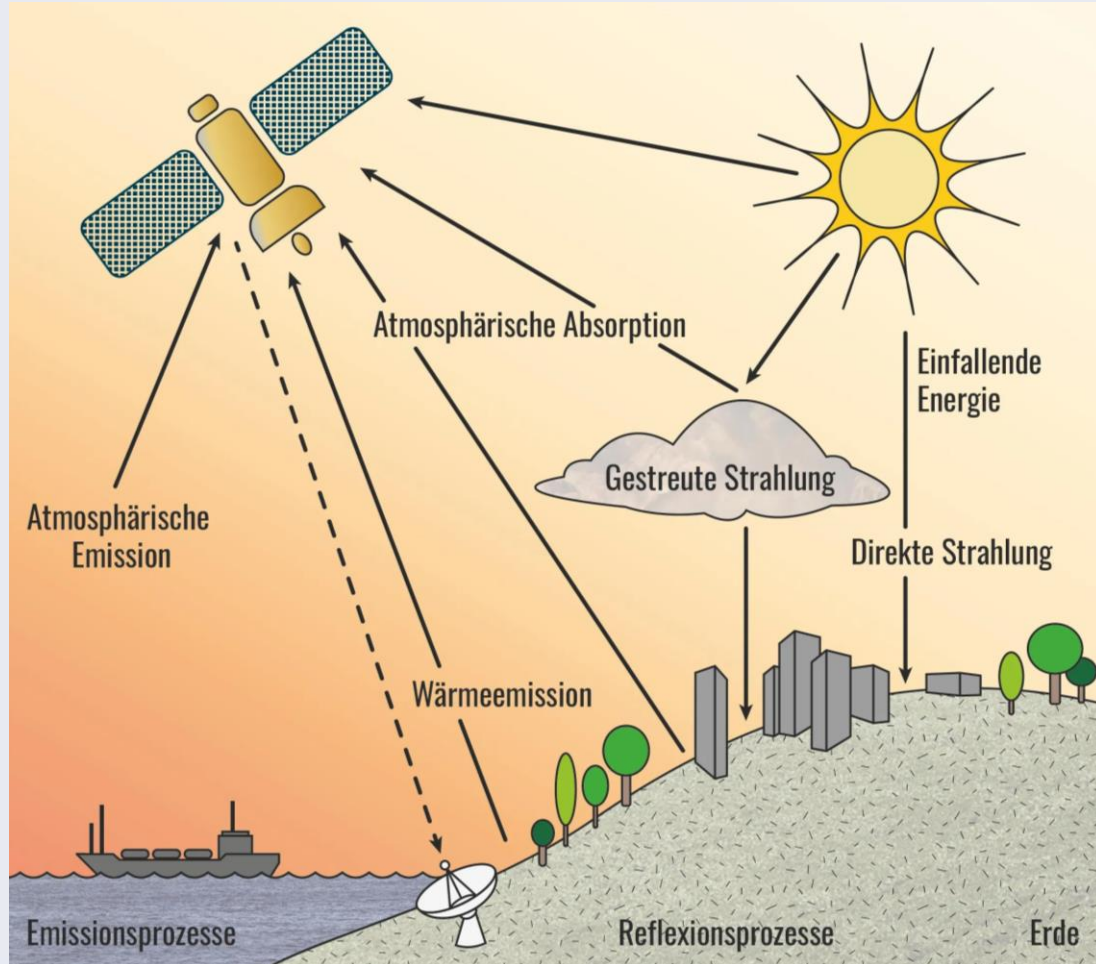


Passive





# What is remote sensing?



Passive



Active



# What is remote sensing?



Optical  
passive



RADAR  
active



Thermal  
passive\*



# Wide range of applications



Vegetation



Atmosphere



Geology



Ice & Snow



Soils



Ocean



# What is remote sensing?

- (Almost) global coverage
- Area-based information
- Near real-time
- Unbiased/independent
- Versatile



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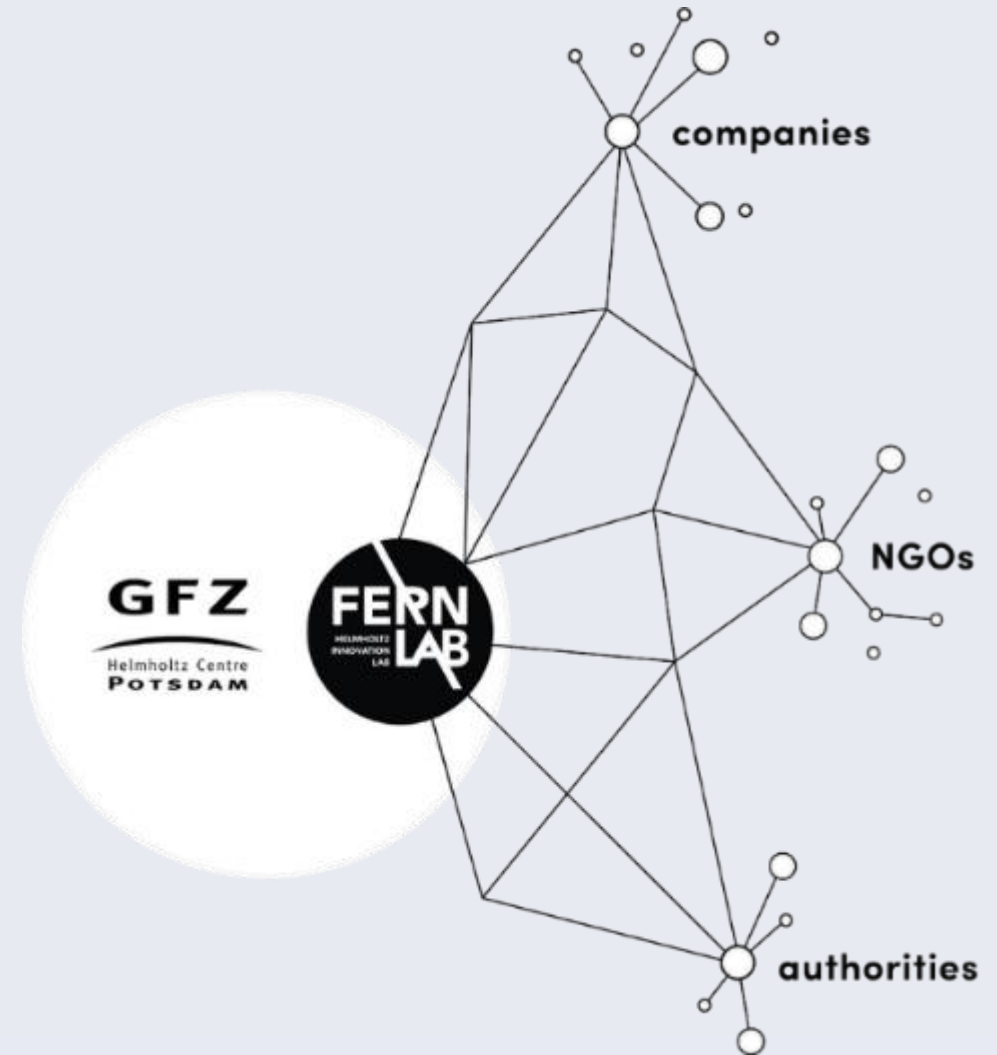
# Our approach

- Continuing professional development



# Our approach

- Continuing professional development
- Stakeholder impact and uptake





# Our approach

- Continuing professional development
- Stakeholder impact and uptake
- Scientific Dialogue



# Continuing professional development

## User-oriented

Development of a demand-oriented educational program in the field of EO data, environmental monitoring of moors, protected areas, forests and urban areas

# Continuing professional development

User-oriented

Development of a demand-oriented educational program in the field of EO data, environmental monitoring of moors, protected areas, forests and urban areas

Self-paced

Enabling users to use the materials toolbox independently

# Continuing professional development

## User-oriented

Development of a demand-oriented educational program in the field of EO data, environmental monitoring of moors, protected areas, forests and urban areas

## Self-paced

Enabling users to use the materials toolbox independently

## Sustainability

Provision of long-term self-study training materials on the learning platforms EO-College and FERN.Lern

# Continuing professional development



# Continuing professional development



The image is a screenshot of a website banner for 'FERNLERN' at GFZ Potsdam. The background features a view of Earth from space on the left and a black space background on the right with several satellite and space station line drawings. A rainbow-colored beam of light originates from the Earth and points towards the text. In the top left corner are the 'FERNLERN' and 'GFZ Helmholtz-Zentrum POTSDAM' logos. In the top right corner is a navigation menu with links: 'Lernen', 'Live', 'Forum', 'Projekte', 'Über uns', and 'Kontakt'. The main text in the center reads 'Fernerkundung lernen – von der Wissenschaft zur Anwendung'. In the bottom left corner is a QR code. In the bottom right corner is the URL 'https://fernlearn.gfz-potsdam.de'.

**FERNLERN**  
GFZ  
Helmholtz-Zentrum  
POTSDAM

Lernen Live Forum Projekte Über uns Kontakt

**Fernerkundung lernen – von der  
Wissenschaft zur Anwendung**

<https://fernlearn.gfz-potsdam.de>

# Continuing professional development

Massive Open Online Courses



**HYPER  
EDU**



EnMAP

— HYPERedu

**Die Online-Lernplattform für  
hyperspektrale Fernerkundung**

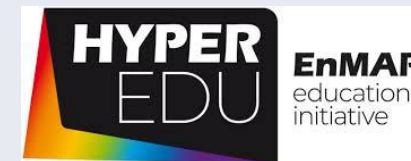
Der Einstieg in hyperspektrale Daten

More info on HyperEDU



# Continuing professional development

## Massive Open Online Courses



### Funding period 2021-2023

Basic MOOC  
Introduction to  
Hyperspectral  
Remote Sensing

2021

~2600

Mini MOOC Imaging Spectroscopy for Agricultural Applications

2022

~560

Mini MOOC EnMAP Data Access and Image Pre-processing Techn.

2023

~260

Mini MOOC Imaging Spectroscopy for Soil Applications

2024

+130

Check out the basic MOOC trailer here!



### Funding period 2024-2026



Basic MOOC  
Introduction to  
Hyperspectral  
Remote Sensing

2024

Mini MOOC Imaging Spectroscopy for Forest Applications

2025

Mini MOOC Imaging Spectroscopy for Geological Applications

2025

Mini MOOC Imaging Spectroscopy for Water Applications

2026

Access all hyperspectral MOOCs on [eo-college.org](https://eo-college.org)!





# Continuing professional development

Massive Open Online Courses + training material

**Basics**

- Principles of Imaging Spectroscopy
- Preprocessing
- Sensor Technology and Data Acquisition
- Sensor Simulation

**Methods**

- Dimensionality Reduction
- Hyperspectral Processing Techniques
- Retrieval of Vegetation Traits
- Software and Data**
  - EnMAP-Box
  - EnMAP Portal
  - PRISMA Portal

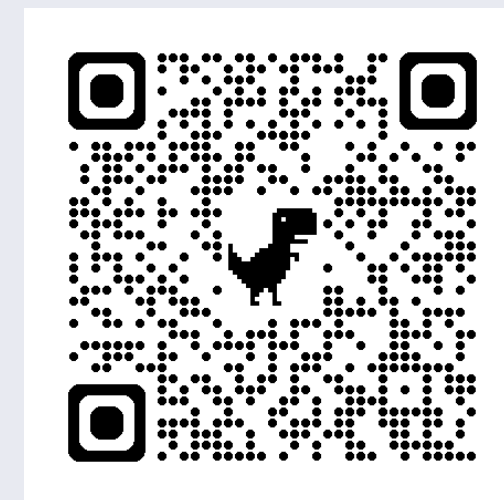
**Applications**

- Agricultural Systems
- Soil Mapping
- Terrestrial Ecosystems
- Forest Ecosystems
- Geological and Mineral Mapping
- Snow and Ice Mapping
- Inland and Coastal Waters
- Quantifying Carbon Cycling
- Natural and Anthropogenic Hazards
- Urban Environments
- Atmospheric Composition
- More to come ...

Slide collection | Hands-on tutorial | YouTube Video | Screencast | Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)

**HYPER EDU** | **EnMAP**

Check out all the course offerings here on [eo-college.org](https://eo-college.org)



# Continuing professional development



# Continuing professional development

## KONSAB



Remote sensing data for forestry and agriculture





# Continuing professional development

## KONSAB



Remote sensing data for  
forestry and agriculture

## SAPIENS



Satellite data for planning,  
industry, the energy sector  
and nature conservation



# Continuing professional development

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Satellite data for planning,  
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## FPCUP



Satellite remote sensing for  
official environmental  
monitoring

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**FERNKUNDUNG LERNEN**  
WEB-SEMINAR 1:  
EINFÜHRUNG IN DIE  
FERNKUNDUNG

KONSAB Web-Seminar

**Teil 1 – Einführung in die Fernerkundung**

**FERNKUNDUNG LERNEN**  
ERSTELLUNG EINER  
DÜNGE-APPLIKATIONSKARTE

KONSAB Lern-Video

**Erstellung einer Düng-  
Applikationskarte**

**FERNKUNDUNG LERNEN**  
ERSTELLUNG EINER  
ERTRAGSPOTENZIALKARTE

KONSAB Lern-Video

**Erstellung einer  
Ertragspotenzialkarte**

**FERNKUNDUNG LERNEN**  
SATELLITENDATEN FINDEN UND  
HERUNTERLADEN AUF CODE-DE

KONSAB Lern-Video

**Satellitendaten finden  
und herunterladen auf  
CODE-DE**





# Continuing professional development

## SQuBA | Status Quo and Needs Assessment of Training Measures in the Field of Satellite Remote Sensing/Copernicus

**Funding by:** Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport

**Funding ID:** 313/2024/8140736

**project executing/management agency:** DLR Space Agency

**Project coordinator:** GFZ Potsdam

**Funding period:** 10/2024 - 12/2024

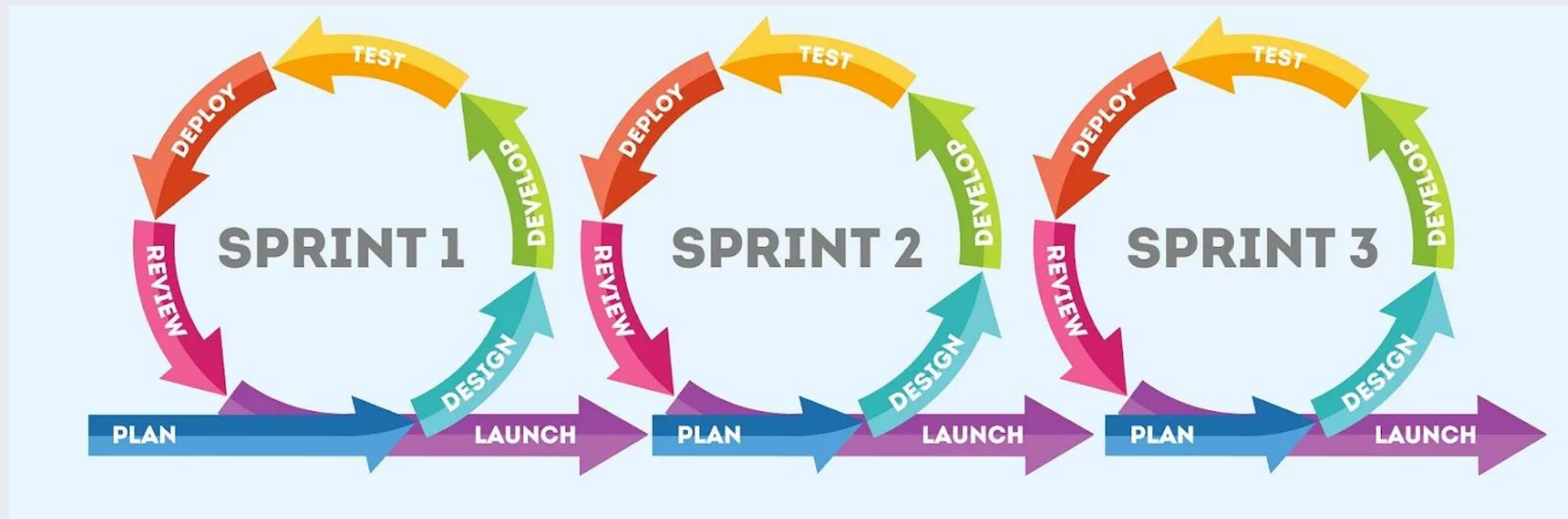


**Problem:** Lack of German language RS training material

**Goal:** Identify needs, relevant topics, and challenges

**Outlook:** Certified national training program for public agencies

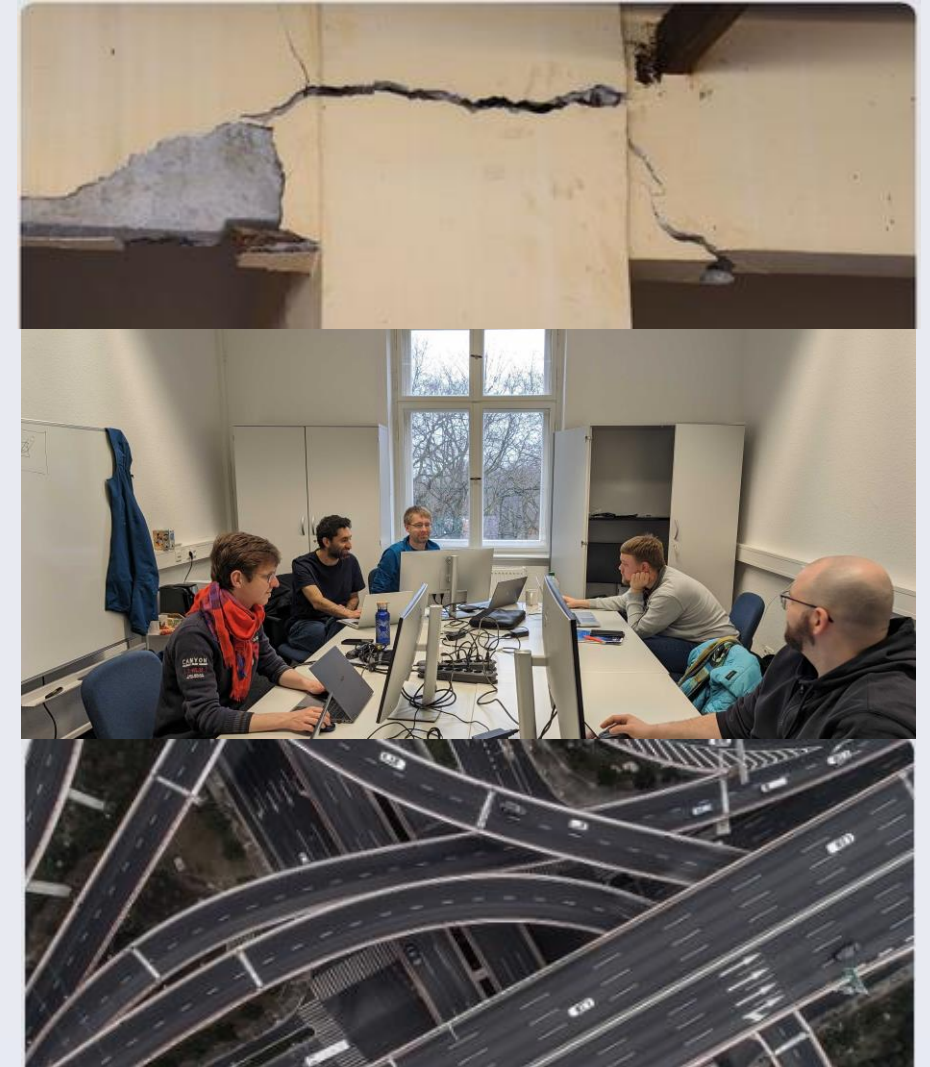
# Stakeholder impact and uptake



Source: <https://zeda.io/blog/what-is-agile-product-development-life-cycle-the-guide>

# Stakeholder impact and uptake

- **Goal:** Automated algorithm to monitor surface deformation and infrastructure risk
- **End-users:** land surveying office, state office for road construction and transportation
- **Stakeholder engagement:** co-designed, development sprints, co-deployment





# Stakeholder impact and uptake



Photos (c) Clara Nicolai

- **Goal:** Web service for tracking local precipitation events in real time using high-resolution weather radar data (100 x 100 m; 5 minute intervals)
- **End-users:** Agricultural professionals and municipal officers
- **Stakeholder engagement:** co-designed, development sprints, user workshops with evaluations, 1:1 training

# Scientific dialogue



## Copernicus Network Offices

Professional networks for people and organizations using or interested in using Copernicus data

- Forests
- Municipalities
- Transportation
- Soils





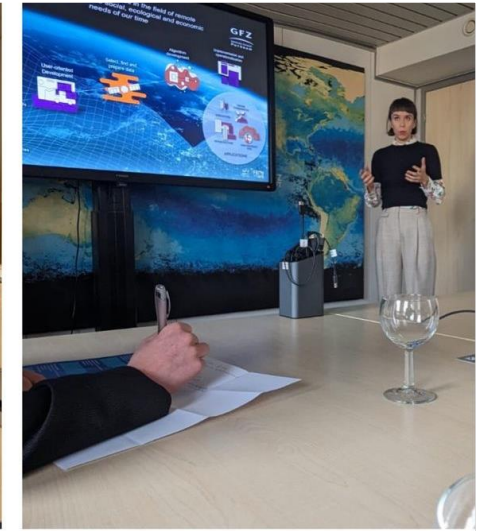
# Scientific dialogue



## European-level engagement

Understanding the policy strategic and technical activities of politicians, directorate generals, and the European Space Agency

- Space policy
- Environmental policy
- Science communication
- Strategic development





Thank-you!

Want to know more or collaborate? Get in touch!

alison.beamish@gfz-potsdam.de

fernlab@gfz-potsdam.de

