

<i>Session Title</i>	Big Earth Data Facilitating SDGs for African Countries: Challenges and Opportunities
<i>Session Description</i>	<p>This session explores how Big Earth Data (BED) can accelerate progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa. Discussions will focus on leveraging satellite observations, geospatial analytics, and AI-driven insights to address critical development challenges—from food security and water management to climate adaptation and urban resilience. While BED offers transformative potential for evidence-based policymaking, key barriers such as infrastructure limitations, technical capacity gaps, and fragmented data governance must be overcome. The session will highlight innovative applications from African contexts, showcase successful multi-stakeholder partnerships, and identify scalable strategies to strengthen the science-policy interface. By bridging cutting-edge Earth observation technologies with sustainable development priorities, this dialogue aims to catalyze actionable solutions tailored to Africa's unique opportunities and needs.</p>