



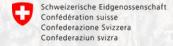
Café Talk | Topic

Artificial intelligence, machine learning and remote sensing against land degradation and desertification



30 October 2025 | 10:30 CET | Online FREE Registration required | English





Federal Department of Economic Affairs Education and Research EAER State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI

wiss Confederation



The MONALISA Café talks

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This second event by the Community of Knowledge of Monalisa, a community to build a common arena for key experts, including researchers, technical experts, policymakers and civil society, to share insights, co-create solutions and scale up successful actions as well as stimulate a discussion.

Monalisa is an Innovation Action HE Project under the Soil Mission devoted to monitoring, preventing and restore Mediterranean drylands with innovative solutions to reverse Land Degradation and Desertification (LDD).

Café Talk Agenda

Thursday, 30 October | 10:30 CET | Online | Free



Moderated by

Francesca Assennato, ISPRA, Italy

supported by the Rapporteur Marco Di Leginio, ISPRA, Italy

SPECIAL GUESTS

Neil Simms

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia

Gregory Giuliani

University of Geneva & UN Environment/Science Division/GRID-Geneva, Switzerland

The session will also feature 4 young researchers from the MONALISA Community of Knowledge's first Open Call, sharing their innovative work and perspectives.

Let's explore how the MONALISA Project can accelerate the adoption of these practices across research and policy.

Registration needed <u>here</u>

Event Language: English

*Chat questions during the café & answers at the end, Google Survey during the café

Topic n.2: AI, ML, and remote sensing against land degradation and desertification

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The 2nd Café Talk will present a new topic and stimulate a discussion in an informal way, in front of a coffee cup! Two relevant Keynote speakers will explore methodological the approaches and recent updates on Artificial intelligence, Machine learning and Remote sensing against land degradation and desertification. In June Monalisa Community Knowledge launched an Open Call for young researchers: during the 2nd Café talk the 4 young researchers who participated will present their work. This will be a starting point for a discussion among the Community on how the Monalisa Project can facilitate the development of these practices.



NEIL SIMMS

Neil is a research scientist with more than 25 years' experience in the application of Earth observation (EO) technologies to address environmental problems. Neil led the development of EO methods used by more than 140 countries to measure land degradation in the UN SDGs, and co-leads the GEO Land Degradation Neutrality Flagship. Neil was Program Manager of the Space Technology Future Science Platform and led the development and implementation of the impact strategy for AquaWatch Australia. Neil led the 2024 State of the Climate report and is currently developing EO strategies linking the assessment of habitat condition, land degradation, biodiversity and climate impacts.



GREGORY GIULIANI

Gregory Giuliani is the Head of the Digital Earth Unit and Swiss Data Cube Project Leader at GRID-Geneva of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and a Senior Lecturer at the University of Geneva's Institute for Environmental Sciences.

He holds a BSc in Earth Sciences and an MSc and PhD in Environmental Sciences. Gregory's research focuses on Land Change Science and how Earth observations can be used to monitor and assess environmental changes and support sustainable development. Interdisciplinary is a key element for generating new ideas and innovations in his research.

