UNLOCKING SUSTAINABLE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT FROM PATTERNS OF THE PAST

Digital Earth AFRICA

Find out more at digitalearthafrica.org
Digital Earth Africa is using satellite imagery to map coastline movement for all of Africa.

70% of African countries have coastlines. Environmental degradation of coastal areas in Africa has a great economic and social cost, taking lives and destroying livelihoods. By mitigating coastal erosion risks in the three key sectors of Real Estate and Agriculture, Fishery and Insurance; Digital Earth Africa could inject ~$460 mln per year into Africa’s economy and change the lives of ~270 million people.

Digital Earth Africa empowers decision makers across Africa to understand the past changes of the coastline to help identify areas of concern for the future by providing open, free and accessible Earth observation data. This creates an opportunity for decision-makers to access data that enables coastal erosion and growth trends to be examined annually at both a local and continental scale. Industry and policymakers can access the data they need to demonstrate how coastlines respond to drivers of change such as weather events, rising sea levels and anthropological development.

Both human and natural factors are drivers of coastal erosion. Digital Earth Africa satellite data provides a record of the coastlines over the last three decades up to the present day across the entire Africa continent.

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