

# Diversity II Newsletter Issue 1

The **Diversity II** project will contribute to the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity by assessing biological diversity in two important ecosystems of the Earth, **Inland Waters** and **Drylands** using satellite data.

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## News

### Diversity II at COP 11 in Hyderabad, India

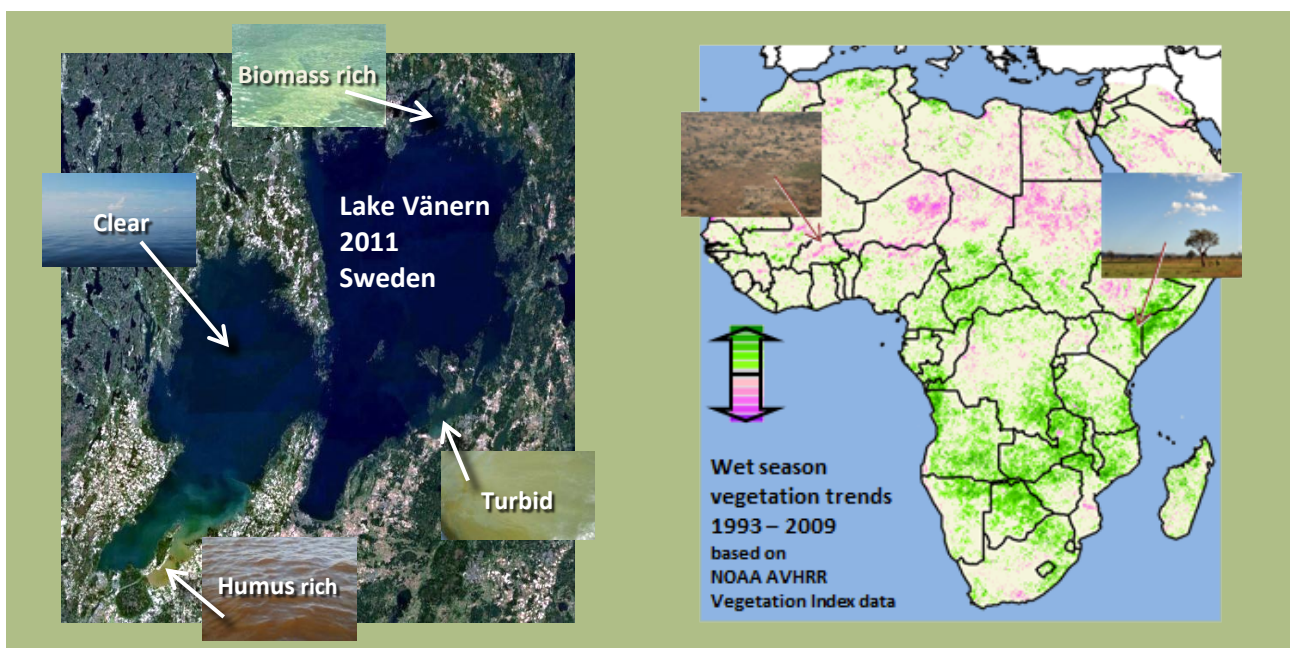
The 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held from 8-19 October 2012 in Hyderabad, <http://www.iisd.ca/biodiv/co11/>. The European Space Agency hosted a side event "SPACE OBSERVATIONS FOR INLAND WATER BIODIVERSITY" and discussed how satellite observations can contribute to the assessment and monitoring of biodiversity in wetlands and in large perennial inland waters.

### Project kicked-off

On 2012-09-20 the kick-off meeting of the Diversity II project took place in Hamburg. It was attended by ESA and the core partners.

### Diversity II contract awarded

After the successful Tender process ESA selected a team lead by Brockmann Consult, Germany to run the Diversity II project.



### Diversity II – A project of ESA's Data User Element Program

Ecosystem functioning is known to be of major importance for the well-being of humans and the conservation of biological diversity is one key element in maintaining ecosystems in good condition. This is central to main objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). In order to meet the CBD's objectives the contributing parties have agreed on a Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2012. The plan is constructed around 20 headline targets, also called the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. With the Diversity II Project the European Space Agency (ESA) aims at contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan by exploiting currently available Earth Observation (EO) data and by preparing for the use of future satellite's data for two important ecosystems: Drylands and Inland waters.

### Objectives: Inland Waters

Global assessment of the availability of freshwater water and of its quality with the provision of key observations over a number of large perennial inland waters.

~300 lakes



### Objectives: Drylands

Assessment of the status and trends of the biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands with the provision of global observations on land productivity and land conditions, over a large part of the drylands.

~10 000 000 km<sup>2</sup> drylands



### Calendar

The first phase of the project is characterized by analysis of user requirements and algorithm state of the art, prototyping and algorithm validation. The key milestones are:

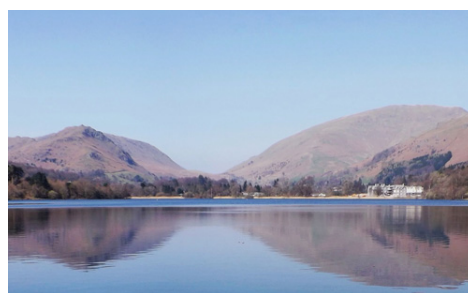
- Dec. 2012: System Requirements Review
- March 2013: Preliminary Design Review
- June 2013: Critical Design Review

In the second phase a data set comprising 10 years of ENVISAT data and including MERIS FR, AATSR, ASAR and RA data will be processed to biodiversity indicators and validated together with users:

- Oct. 2013: Qualification and Acceptance Review
- Jan. 2014: Service Demonstration Review
- Aug. 2014: Final Review

### Consortium

- Brockmann Consult - Project Management and Inland Water
- GeoVille - Drylands
- Brockmann Geomatics - Biodiversity and User interface
- CIBIO - Validation
- Consultants - Support



Please visit the project website for more information, <http://www.diversity2.info>



Diversity II is an ESA Data User Element Project

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