

C-RISe abstract for WIOMSA 11th Symposium

Oral Presentation Requested

Abstract Title:

Coastal Risk Information Service – Monitoring and Evaluation of project impact

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Abstract:

Background

C-RISe, the Coastal Risk Information Service, is a three-year project funded by the UK Space Agency (UKSA) International Partnership Programme (IPP). The project is, in a partnership between the UK, Mozambique, Madagascar, Mauritius and South Africa, is delivering access to satellite derived information on sea level, wind speed and wave heights in the Western Indian Ocean Region.

C-RISe has three main objectives, to:

- Deliver a Coastal Risk Information Service, providing satellite-derived information about coastal vulnerability to environmental threats such as sea-level rise and extreme wind and wave events.
- Apply and evaluate the C-RISe service through a set of Use Cases, applying the C-RISe products to end use applications meeting local priorities.
- Build local capacity to use satellite data for strategy development, governance and management of coastal areas to increase resilience to coastal hazards.

The project has explored pathways for translating scientific earth observation data into social and economic impact, building the capacity to use satellite observations amongst local users. Through use of the data by NGOs, research organisations and government agencies, the project has sought to make a contribution to Sustainable Development Goal target 1.5, which aims to “...build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events...” The aim is to facilitate the uptake of satellite observations (through access and training) in the context of coastal development in the partner countries.

Project delivery is in three phases: Preparation; Delivery; and Review and Roadmap. C-RISe has now entered its final phase, which includes the evaluation of the project and the implementation of a sustainability plan to ensure the success of its outputs into the future.

This presentation will examine the success of the project to date, describing the monitoring and evaluation methodologies, summarise key findings, and highlight successes and key points of learning for future work.

Method

Various measures have been put in place to allow us to assess the success of the project, both during and at the end of the project. These measures include a logframe and cost effectiveness assessment (CEA). A Sustainability Plan will help consolidate the success of the project.

The logframe was devised at the start of the project to measure project outputs, outcomes and impacts against initial targets and is reviewed annually to assess progress.

The CEA, carried out midway through the project and following completion, operates by comparing the cost of the project against possible alternative methods for acquiring and disseminating the data.

Sustainability Planning is an ongoing process through which it is ensured that the benefits of the project continue after the UKSA grant funding expires and project implementation ends. This is achieved by working with the relevant local and/or regional operational bodies so that they can themselves implement the deployed solution, with continued support from the C-RISe team as necessary, in a manner that it continues to operate and generate impact beyond the lifetime of the project.

Results

The logframe results indicate better than anticipated results in several areas, particularly in capacity building in the region through training courses made available to a range of local organisations. For example, several researchers who have not previously worked with satellite-derived information are now using this in their work. By the end of 2018, 68 individuals had attended training courses in Madagascar and Mozambique, against our initial target of 20. Additionally, there was a very high level of engagement from the local project partners, which resulted in data provided being put to a wider range of uses than initially anticipated. The project delivered over six times the number of Use Cases envisaged at the outset.

Initial calculations from the CEA suggest that the C-RISe is approximately one third of the cost of alternative methods of collecting and delivering comparable data sets.

Conclusion

C-RISe, in partnership with a wide range of local organisations, has achieved (or exceeded) many of the initial project targets. The project has been shown to be cost effective and we are now working towards maintaining the project outputs and increasing impact.

C-RISe is funded by the UK Space Agency under the International Partnership Programme. The UK Space Agency's International Partnership Programme (IPP) is a five-year, £152 million programme designed to partner UK space expertise with overseas governments and organisations. It is funded from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF).