





Flying Sensors to Support Farmers' Decision Making

Challenge: Farmers have limited resources (seed, water, fertilizer, pesticides, human power) and are always in doubt where and when they should apply these resources. Especially smallholder farmers are in need of this valuable information.

Innovation: Our low-cost Flying Sensors (drones) take aerial images at the near-infrared bandwidth, to detect crop stress about ten days before the human eye can see this. The ThirdEye project supports farmers in Mozambique by setting up a network of local Flying Sensor operators. These professionally trained operators are equipped with Flying Sensors and tools to analyze the obtained imagery. The project is unique as it is a first trial in a developing country to supply information on a regular basis using this innovation.

Mission: At the end of 2017 we foresee that 20 Flying Sensor operators have been trained, 8000 farmers use our services, farmers' yields have increased by at least 10%, two commercial farms are served and one central support unit has been established.

Mapping smallholder farmers' fields with a unique network of local Flying Sensor operators in Mozambique



1. Training operators

- Employing local people
- Theory and in-field
- Male and female



4. Farmers advisory

- Advisory forms
- In-field extension service for farmers
- Deliberating with farmers



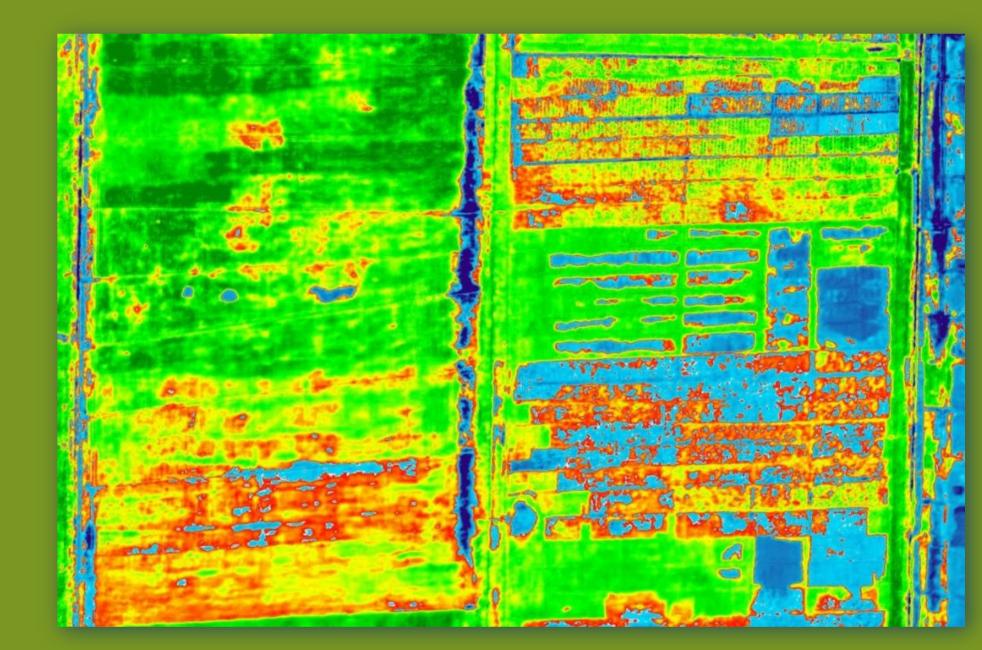
2. Flying Sensor flights

- Equipment kit for operators
- Near-infrared (NIR) camera
- Tablet mapping



5. Improved resource use

- Increased water productivity of 10%
- More crop per drop
 Stimulant for better infrastructure



3. Crop stress maps

- NDVI maps showing crop health
- Crop stress visible 10 days ahead
- Color graphics for easy understanding

Beneficiaries

Over 2000 farmers receive our service, total beneficiaries is over 10,000, 70-90% female

Service area

Operators are flying on a regular basis in an area of over 900 ha

More crop per drop

Farmers claim a productivity increase of 39%

Building the team

14 Flying Sensor operators have been trained and obtained their certificate

Our Flying Sensor squad

8 Flying Sensors are now operational

Undertaken by







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