





# Unleashing the power of statistics using a time-series of Earth observations from space

*A collaboration between the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Geoscience Australia (GA)*

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[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)

# What is the ABS?

## ENVIRONMENT

We collaborate with stakeholders to understand and respond better to the current and future external environment

## STRATEGY

Our strategies enable rigorous statistics, strong partnerships, and effective use of resources

## GOVERNANCE

Our governance supports responsive decision making, prioritisation and management of enterprise risk

## TRANSFORMATION GOALS

### INFRASTRUCTURE

Our infrastructure is effective, efficient and adaptable

### CULTURE

We are high performing, aligned, engaged, innovative and accountable

### PEOPLE

We have a diverse, expert, motivated and agile workforce

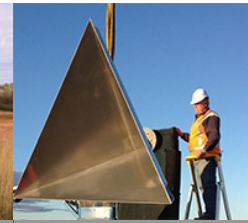




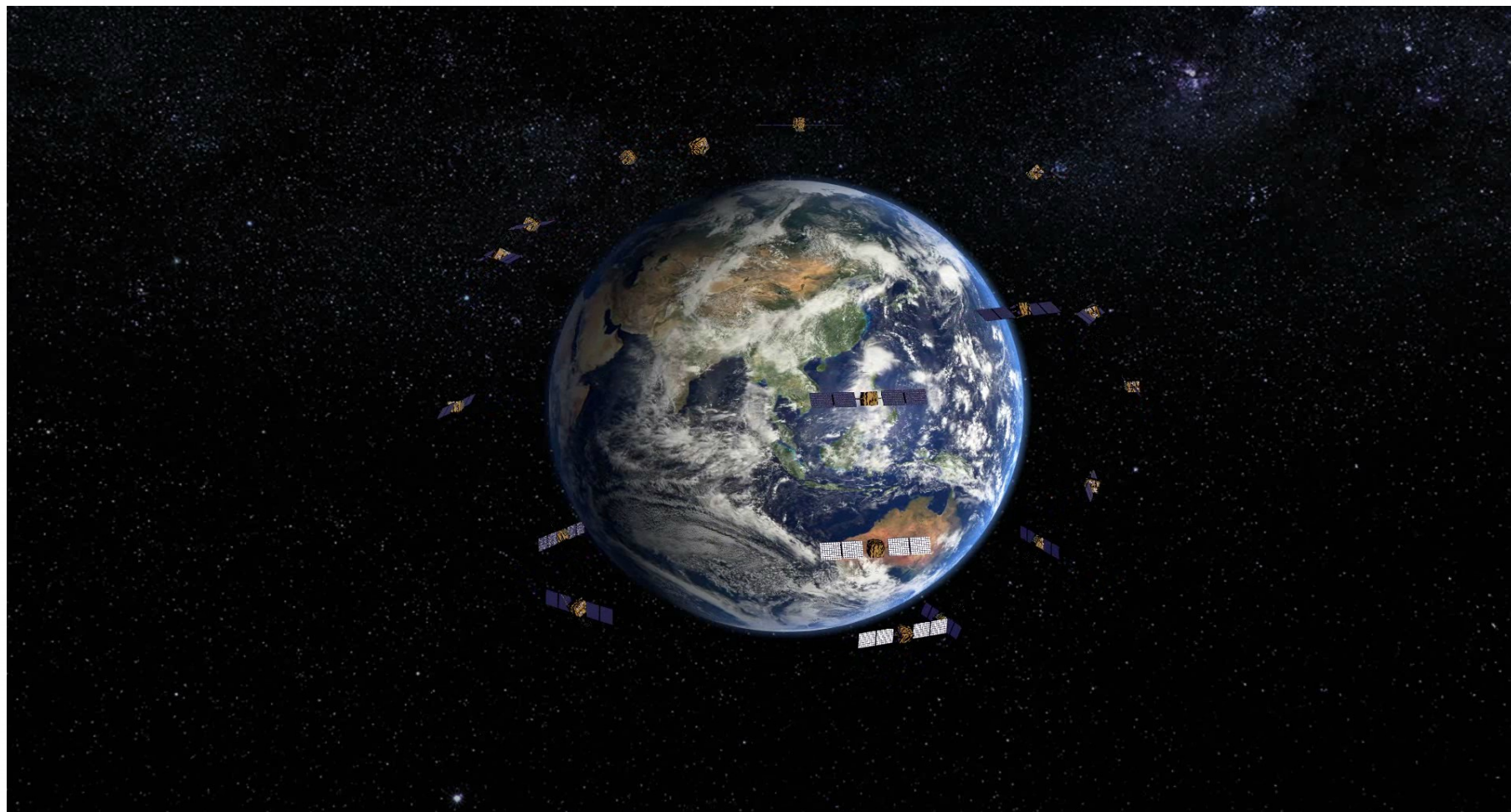
# What is GA?

## Geoscience Australia

- Agency with the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science portfolio
- Applying geoscience to Australia's most important challenges
- Located in Canberra
- 4PB of geoscience data and growing



# Earth observation







## A large organised and accessible collection

Orthorectification



Calibration



Time series





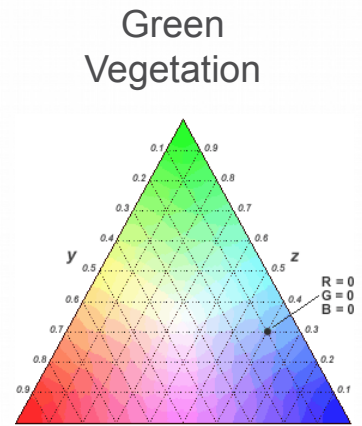
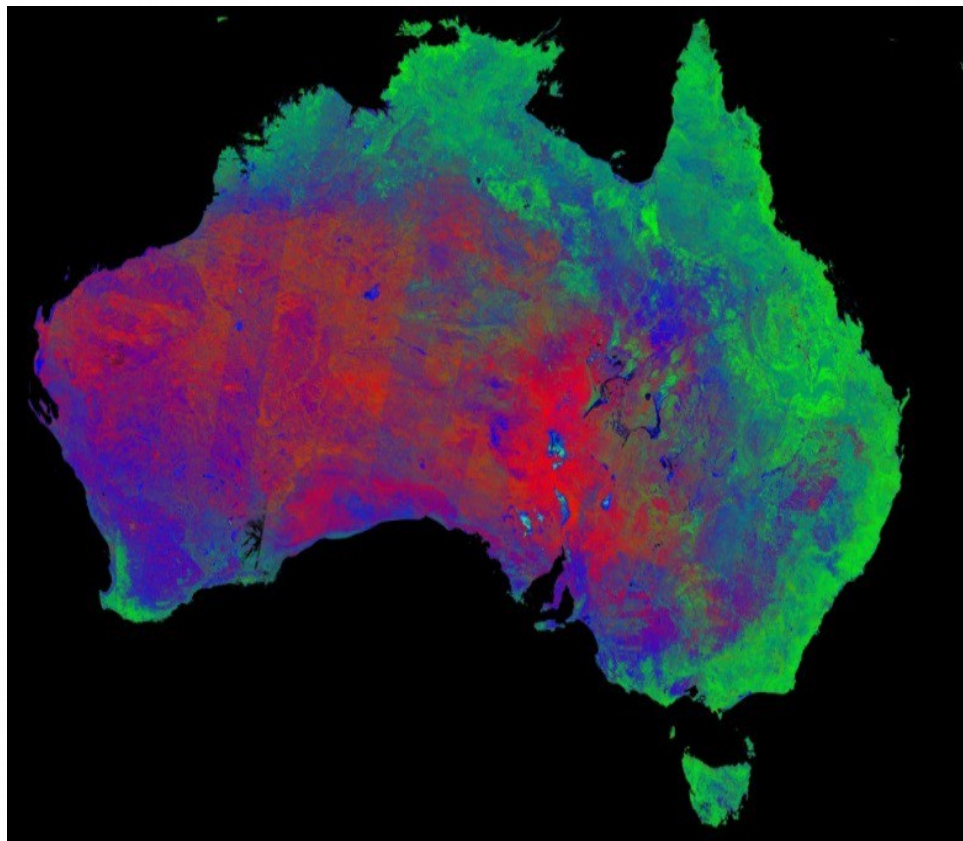
## Aim

- Demonstrate the utility of Landsat imagery held in the Australian Geoscience Data Cube (AGDC) for producing statistics

## Key objectives

- Build on existing collaboration between the ABS and GA
- Explore statistical uses of the AGDC on the National Computational Infrastructure (NCI)
- Build the foundation for longer term projects leveraging the power of the AGDC and NCI for statistical purposes
- Explore wider access to the NCI environment

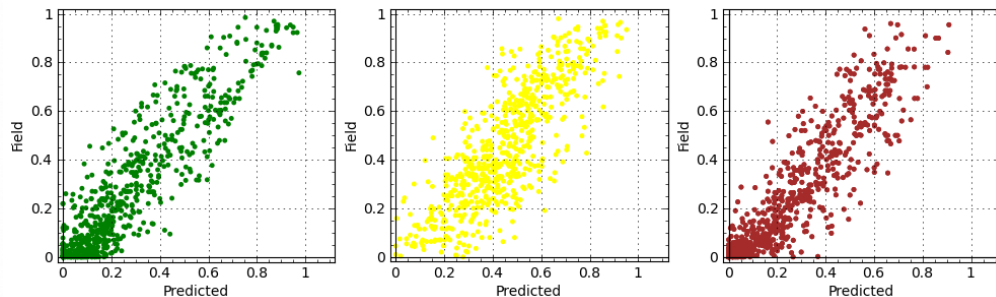
# What is Fractional Cover?



Bare  
Soil

Dry  
Vegetation

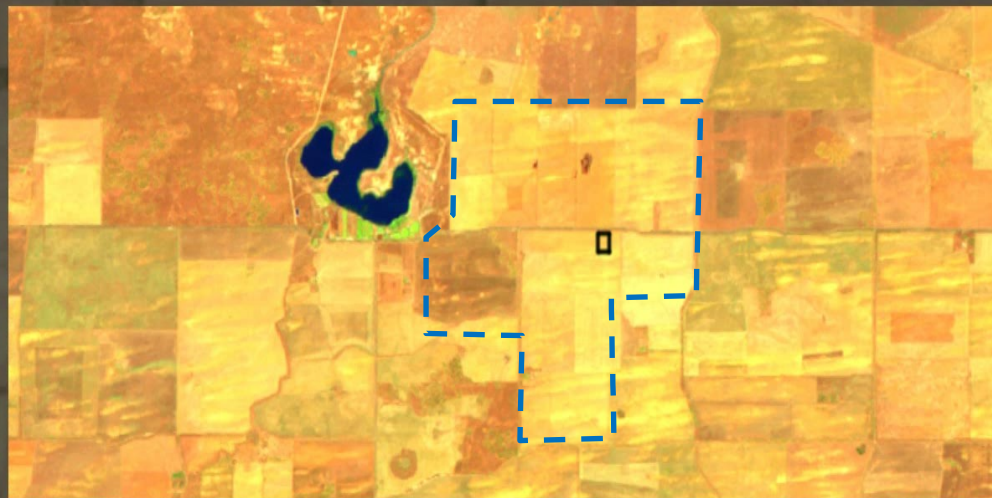
Built from Landsat Surface  
Reflectance Products (ARG25)



Captures cover dynamics at a  
25m resolution



# What does it tell us?

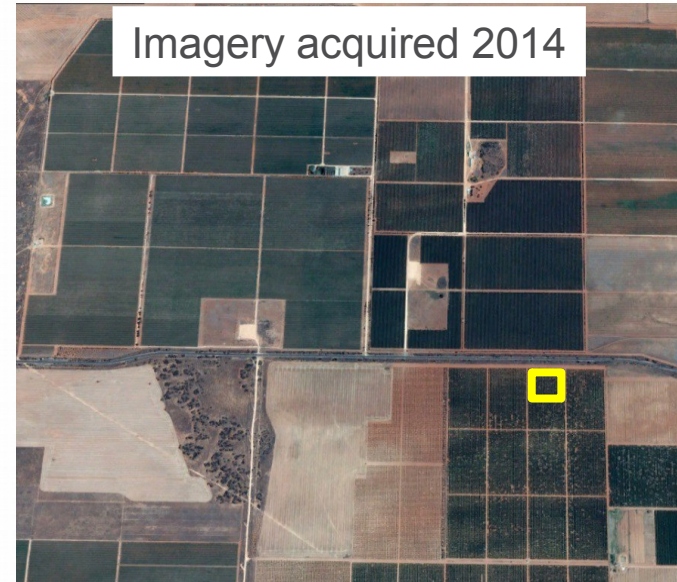
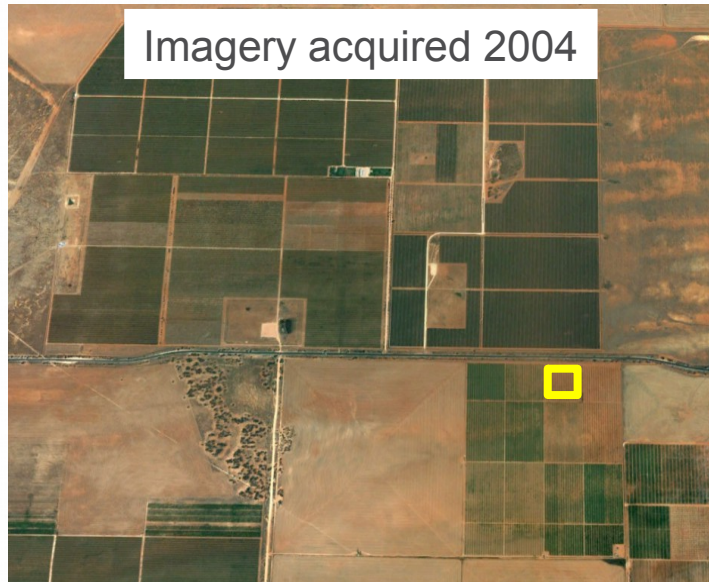


Green vegetation

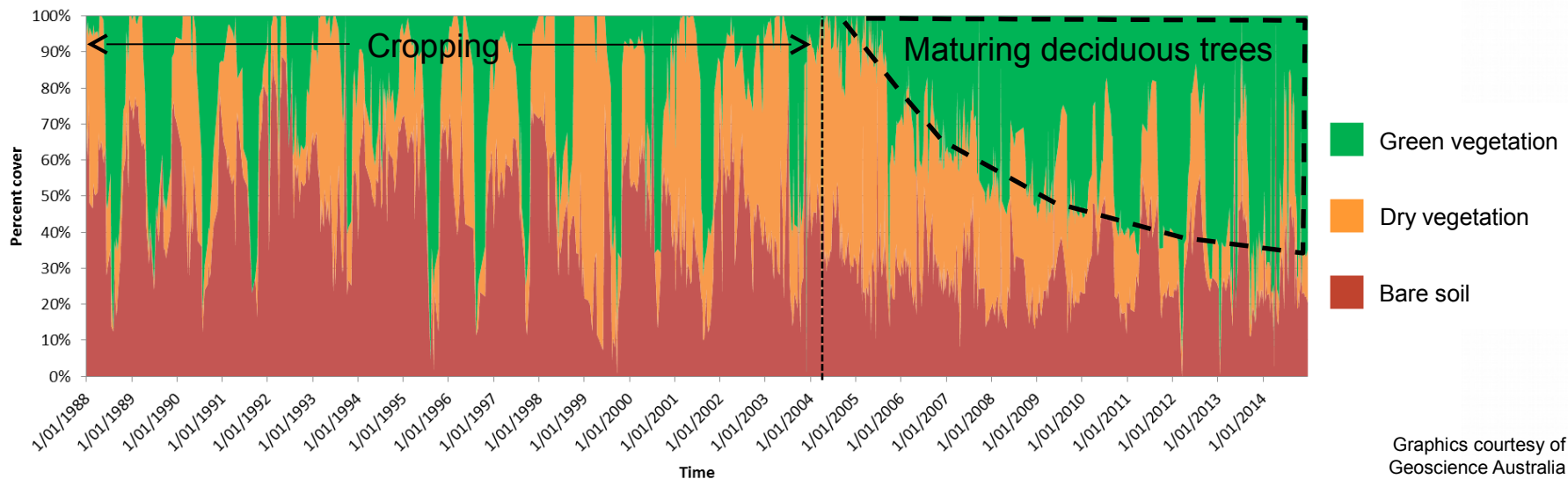
Dry vegetation

Bare soil

# Why is this important?

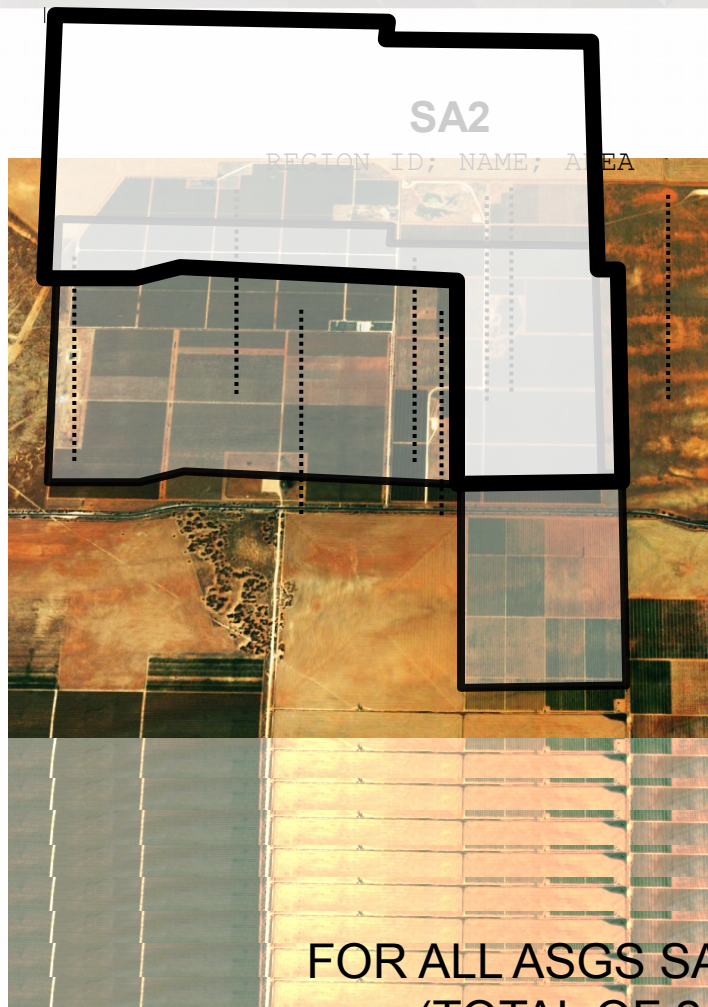


## Conversion from grain cropping to deciduous tree cropping





# Regional summaries



For each time-step:

PERCENTAGE		CELL COUNT
PERCENTAGE		CELL COUNT
9	91 - 100	XXXXX
8	81 - 90	XXX
7	71 - 80	XXXX
6	61 - 70	XX
5	51 - 60	XXX
4	41 - 50	XX
3	31 - 40	X
2	21 - 30	XXX
1	11 - 20	XXXX
1	1 - 10	XXX

FOR ALL ASGS SA2'S IN AUSTRALIA  
(TOTAL OF 2193 REGIONS)



# Key points and future direction



A time-series of Earth observations from space is enabling ABS to:

- Quantify spatio-temporal variations in land cover
- Explore the relationships between land cover, land use and land value
- Produce official statistics from remotely sensed data products

In the future, we plan to:

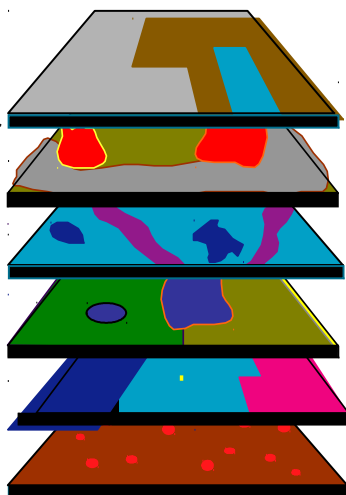
- Integrate grid data products with other environmental and socio-economic data
- Examine the relationship between remotely sensed products and information collected through more traditional survey instruments
  - E.g. land management practices and ecosystem health

NSDI



**High quality, timely  
and reliable data**

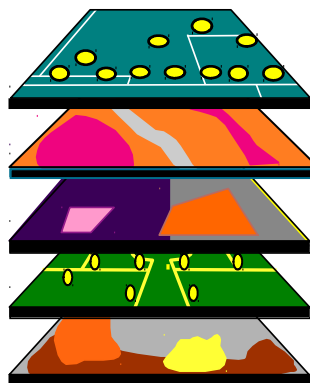
Geodetic  
Elevation  
Water/Ocean  
Land use/cover  
Transport  
Cadastre  
Population  
Infrastructure  
Settlements  
Admin. Bdys.  
Imagery  
Geology/soils  
Observations  
etc.



**Fundamental Geospatial  
Data Themes**

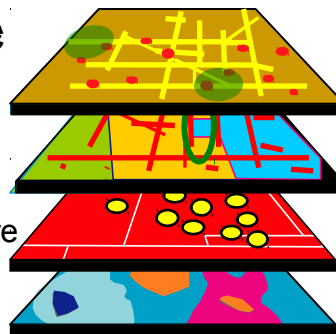
## SOCIAL

Society  
Poverty  
Education  
Health  
Population  
Employment  
Water  
Sanitation  
Equality  
Gender



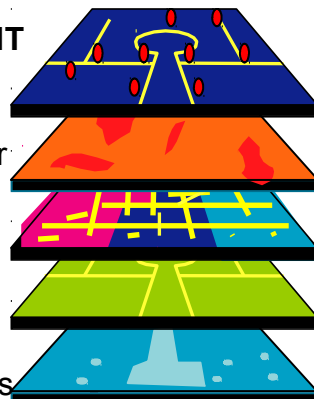
## Economic

Well-being  
Cities  
Water  
Energy  
Infrastructure  
Industry  
Sanitation  
Economy



## ENVIRONMENT

Water  
Seas/oceans  
Land use/cover  
Ecosystems  
Forests  
Agriculture  
Climate  
Biodiversity  
Natural hazards  
Pollution



UN-GGIM

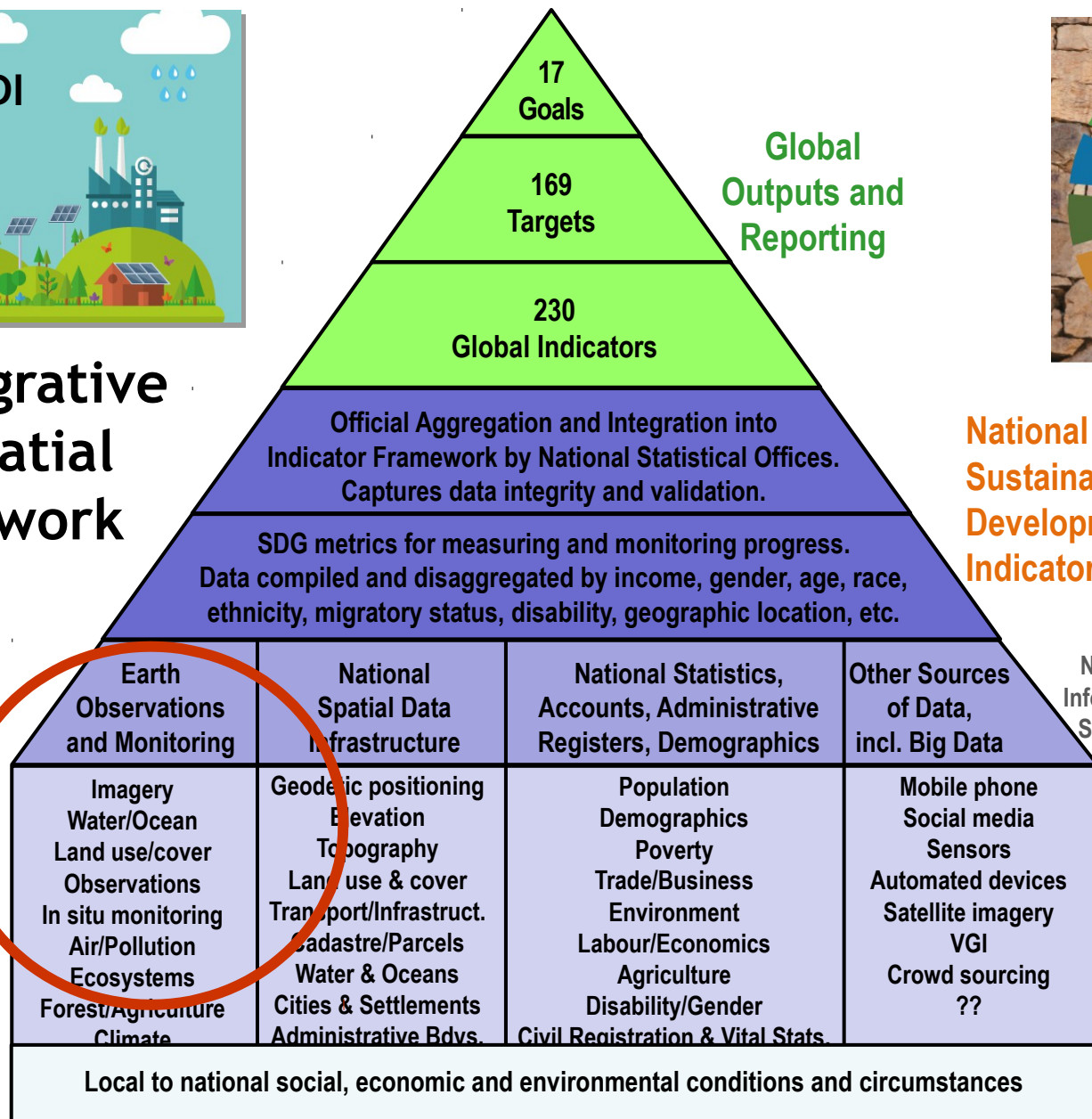
United Nations Secretariat  
Global Geospatial Information Management

*Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges*

ggim.un.org



## An integrative geospatial framework



Global  
Outputs and  
Reporting

National  
Sustainable  
Development  
Indicators



National  
Information  
Systems

Data  
Inputs

Fundamental  
baseline data  
and new  
data sources



UN-GGIM

United Nations Secretariat  
Global Geospatial Information Management

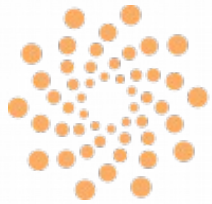
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# Collaboration built on collaboration



# NCI

**Australian Government**  
**Geoscience Australia**



**NCRIS**  
National Research  
Infrastructure for Australia  
An Australian Government Initiative

