

Andrea Manara
International Telecommunication Union

GeoTalk, 28 March 2024



Accelerating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

ALL YEAR ALWAYS **ON**LINE



aiforgood.itu.int



# ΔΙ

## Al for Good | ITU - Committed to connecting the world



+1000

PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS

+150



Sectors

ITU Radiocommunication (ITU-R)

Coordinating radio-frequency spectrum and assigning orbital slots for satellites



**ITU Standardization (ITU-T)** 

Establishing global standards



ITU Development (ITU-D)

Bridging the digital divide





THE leading action-oriented, global & inclusive United Nations platform on Al

All YEAR, ALWAYS ONLINE







40 UN Orgs



Co-convener



Al can help solve humanity's greatest challenges





# Accelerating UN SDGs

17 Goals and 169 targets creating the blueprint to achieve a more sustainable future for all by 2030

Adopted by all United Nations Member States

















































### **Identify**

Practical applications of Al



### Scale

Solutions for global impact



### **Accelerate**

Progress towards the UN SDGs



## ΔΙ Al for Good | 40 UN Organizations









































































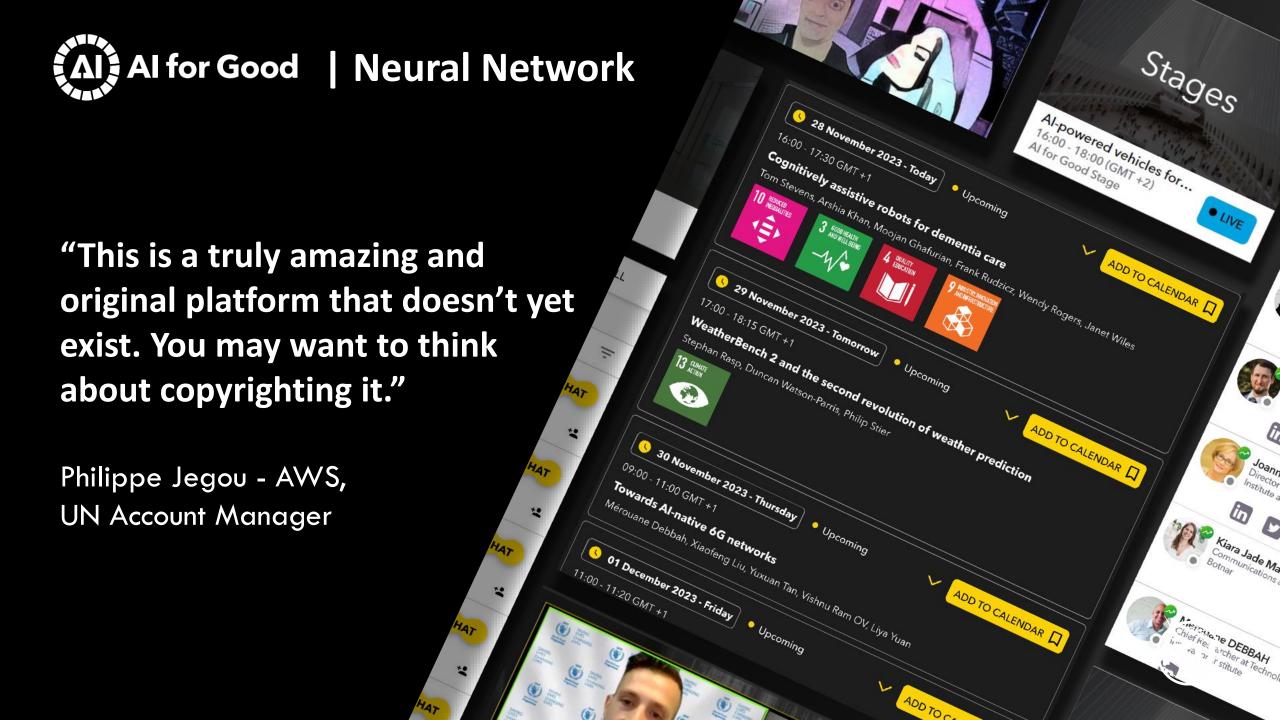












# Al for Good | Products







Build













**Connect** 

























### **GeoAl Discovery**

Channel on GeoAI applications, highlighting its relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals.

### **GeoAl Challenge**

Competitions aimed at providing solutions for collaboratively addressing real-world geospatial problems by applying AI and ML.









Maria Antonia Brovelli
Politecnico di Milano



Nadine Alameh
Open Geospatial Consortium



Barbara Ryan
World Geospatial Industry



### Al for Good | GeoAl Discovery Channel

#### GeoAl and Health

- 16:00 17:30 CEST, Geneva | 10:00-11:30 EDT, New York | 22:00-23:30 CST, Beijing
- Andrea Manara (ITU), Nadine Alameh (OGC), Ajay K Gupta (HSR.health)...
- Discovery Al and Health, Discovery GeoAl

VIEW DETAILS

#### The future of GeoAl for Good with Google Earth Engine

- © 17:00 18:00 CEST, Geneva | 08:00-09:00 PDT, California | 11:00-12:00 EST, New York | 23:00-00:00 CST, Beijing
- Barbara Ryan (WGIC), Rebecca Moore (Google), Maria Antonia Brovelli (Politecnico di Milano)...
- Discovery GeoAl

VIEW DETAILS

#### Spatial Digital Twins and AI: Racing into the Future

- (S) 16:00 18:00 CEST, Geneva | 10:00-12:00 EST, New York | 22:00-00:00 CST, Beijing
- Peter Atalla (VoxelMaps, Inc), Nicolaus Hanowsk 👍 (ESA), Omar Maher (ESRI)...
- Discovery GeoAl

VIEW DETAILS

#### 21 September 2022

#### GeoAl and the digital transformation of agriculture, water and food systems

- (S) 16:00 17:30 CEST, Geneva | 10:00-11:30 EDT, New York | 22:00-23:30 CST, Beijing
- Andrea Manara (ITU), Maria Antonia Brovelli (Politecnico di Milano), Zhongxin Chen (FAO)...
- Discovery GeoAl

#### 12 July 2022

### Deep Earth Query: Information Discovery from Big Earth Observation Data Archives

- (S) 16:00 17:30 CEST, Geneva | 22:00-23:30 CST, Beijing | 10:00-11:30 EST, New York
- Andrea Manara (ITU), Maria Antonia Brovelli (Politecnico di Milano), Begüm Demir (Technische Universität Berlin)
- Discovery GeoAl

### 28 June 2022

#### Launch of the ITU GeoAl Challenge

- © 15:30 17:30 CEST, Geneva | 09:30-11:30 EST, New York | 21:30-23:30 CST, Beijing
- Andrea Manara (ITU), Zhongxin Chen (FAO), Do-Hyung Kim (UNICEF)...
- Discovery GeoAl







## ΔΙ

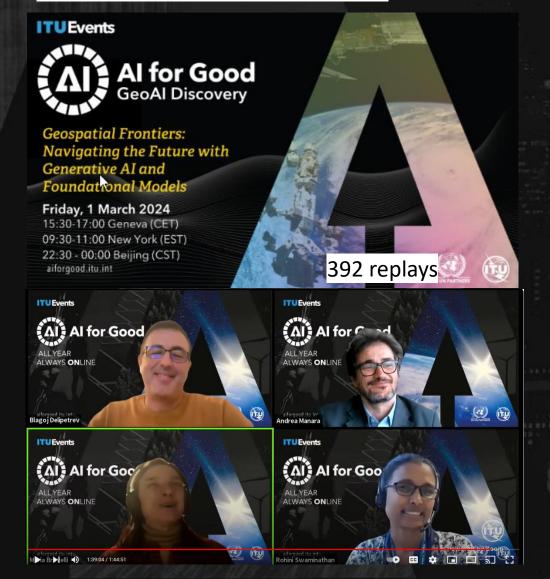
### Al for Good | GeoAl Discovery Channel

### Hands-on workshops and Education series





### Geospatial Foundation Model series





## Al for Good | Building a foundation for geospatial Al: defining a syllabus and body of knowledge





Four working group (WP) established on Nov 6<sup>th</sup>

- WP1 GEOAl Syllabus for developers
- WP2 GEOAl Syllabus for appliers
- WP3 GEOAI Syllabus for decision-makers
- WP4 GEOAl Body of Knowledge





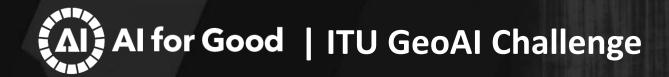
# Navigating GeoAI: Plotting the course for future education

	Speaker	time (mins)
Welcome and Intro (UN GGIM AN)	Maria Antonia Brovelli	10
WG1	Andrea Nascetti?	30
WG2	Ali Mansourian?	30
WG3	Parvathy Krishnan Krishnakumar ?	30
WG4	Celine Rozemblat?	20
break		15
UN GGIM	Paloma Merodio	20
UN Geospatial Network + Al For Good	Andrea Manara	10
UN Open GIS	Maria Antonia Brovelli	5
UN GGIM PS	???	5
UN GGIM Geospatial Societies	???	5
GEO	Wembo Chu?	10
ISPRS Student Consortium	Laxmi Thapa	10
open discussion	Rohini moderating	30
Conclusion	Maria Antonia Brovelli	10

To replace with final one







## Everything happens somewhere — Applying machine learning to geospatial analysis

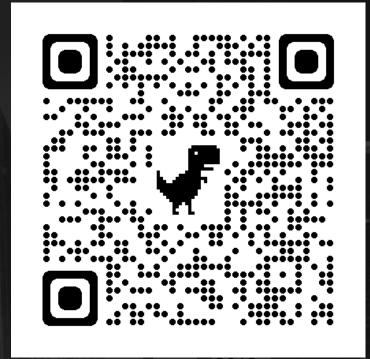
To solve real-world geospatial problems by applying Al and ML to advance the UN SDGs <a href="https://aiforgood.itu.int/about-ai-for-good/geoai-challenge/">https://aiforgood.itu.int/about-ai-for-good/geoai-challenge/</a>

01 2012 2014

**Caution phase** 

February –June 2023

### **GitHub Repos**



2013

03

### **Competition phase**

July – October 2023

### **Evaluation phase**

November – December 2023



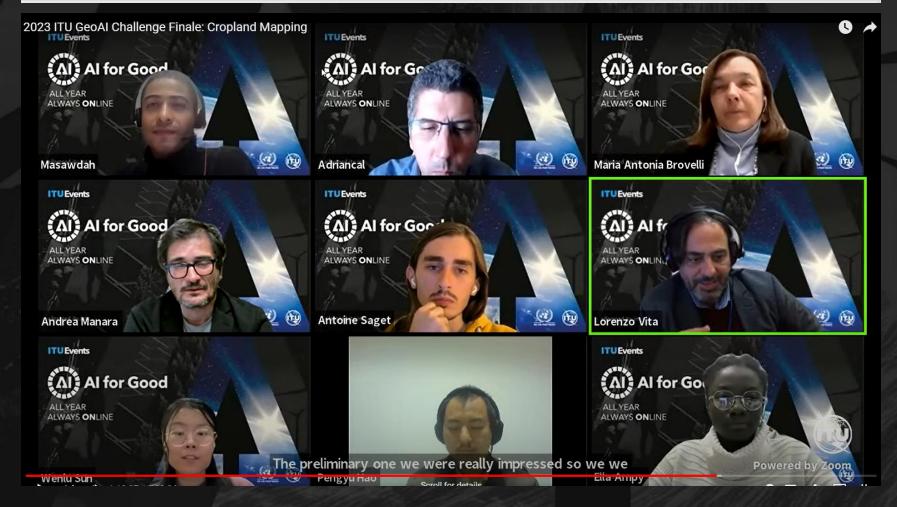
## Al for Good | ITU GeoAl Challenge 2023

Problem statement	Organizations	Participants (Submitted)	Total Submissions	Countries (Africa)	Prize
Cropland Mapping	FAO, UNODC, UN Open GIS	333 (74)	2264	60 (23)	4'000 CHF
Air Pollution Susceptibility  Mapping	<u>Geolab</u> (Politecnico di Milano)	210 (35)	225	40 (20)	1'000 CHF
Landslide Susceptibility  Mapping	<u>Geolab</u> (Politecnico di Milano)	202 (20)	309	46 (20)	1'000 CHF
Estimating soil parameters from hyperspectral images	<b>ESA</b> <u>Φ-lab</u> together with <u>KP Labs</u> , and partner <u>QZ Solutions</u>	207 (62)	612	40 (19)	1'000 CHF
Location Mention Recognition (LMR)	QCRI (Qatar Computing Research Institute), QU (Qatar University), and Qen Labs Inc.	138 (28)	549	35 (21)	1'000 CHF



### **ΔΙ Al for Good** | ITU GeoAl Challenge 2023

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**FAO and UNODG** proposal discussed and finalized in the Working Group 5 "GeoAl and Analytics".

Special thanks to **UNODG** for allocating 3000 CHF for the prizes!



## Al for Good | ITU GeoAl Challenge 2024

### **GeoAl Challenge guidelines**

February - June	July - October	November - December
•	•	•
Curation Phase	Competition Phase	Evaluation Phase

Problem statement	Organizations
Plastic mulched field mapping with satellite imagery	FAO
Droughts and water shortage prediction in sub-Saharan Africa	United Nations Global Service Centre
Mapping clandestine runways in the Peruvian Amazon	UNODC
Mineral mines detection	UNODC
ICT infrastructure mapping	ITU
Estimation of ground-level NO2 concentrations using remote sensing data with machine learning approach	Sapienza University of Rome, Department of Civil, Building and Environmental Engineering University of Padua, Interdepartmental Research Centre in Geomatics (CIRGEO)



FAST I FOR ALL



### Al for Good | ITU Journal: Special issue on Geospatial Al

## **ITU**Journal

Future and evolving technologies

Special issue

Geospatial AI to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

#### **DEADLINES EXTENDED**

- Paper submission: 30 June 2024
- Paper acceptance notification: 30 September 2024
- Camera-ready paper submission: 30
   November 2024







Maria Antonia Brovelli, Politecnico di Milano, Italy





### Interested in participating in AI for Good?

- Summit 30-31 May 2024
- Online events  $\rightarrow$  all year round

### Geospatial AI activities:

- Navigating GeoAl: Plotting the course for future education May 30<sup>th</sup> Al for Good Summit
- Ongoing episodes on GeoAl Discovery
  - Foundation Models
  - GeoAl and Education
- GeoAl Challenges related to the SDGs
  - Sponsor, Problem statement owner, Participant







Accelerating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

30-31 May 2024 Geneva, Switzerland

