

## Landsat Helps Bolster Food Security

*"A vision  
to observe  
Earth for  
the benefit  
of all..."*

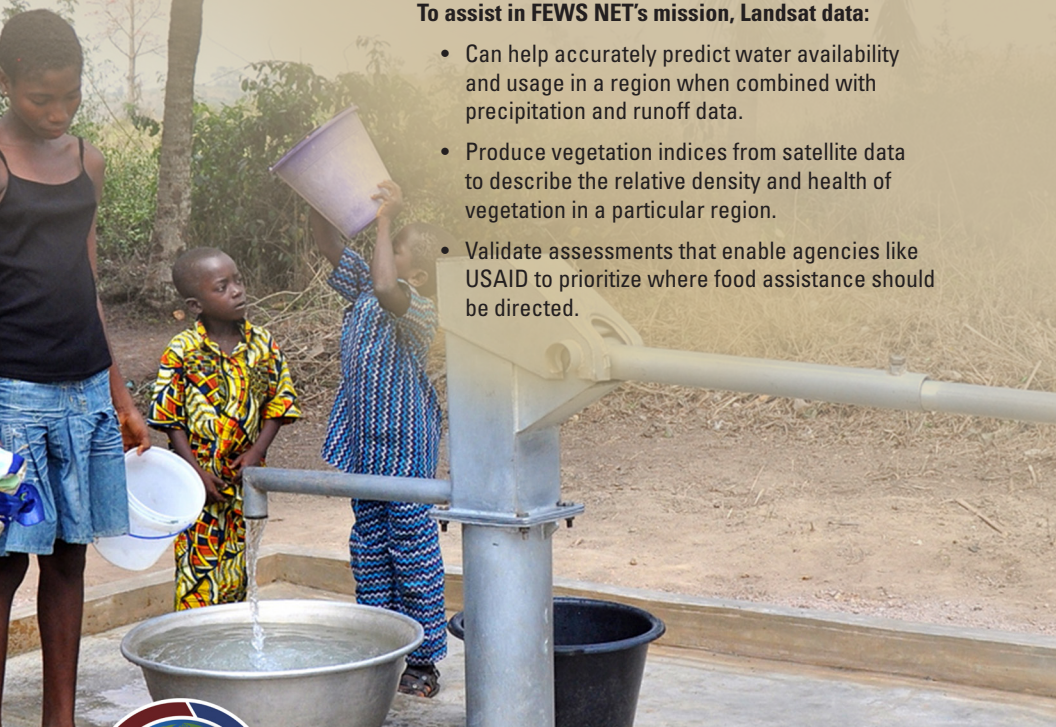
Interior Secretary  
Stewart Udall, 1966

Landsat's ability to capture Nature at its most unforgiving moments has become a valuable asset to decision makers across the world facing food insecurity in their homelands.

Remote imaging of Earth's natural resources is a critical component of the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) project started in 1985 by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). That effort relies extensively on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and other federal agencies to get timely, accurate data to participating countries in Africa, Central America, and Central Asia for the early detection of agricultural drought and to mitigate famine.

### To assist in FEWS NET's mission, Landsat data:

- Can help accurately predict water availability and usage in a region when combined with precipitation and runoff data.
- Produce vegetation indices from satellite data to describe the relative density and health of vegetation in a particular region.
- Validate assessments that enable agencies like USAID to prioritize where food assistance should be directed.



A vision to observe Earth...  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

September 21, 2016  
Washington, D.C.

Water • Agriculture • Forests • Climate • Hazards • Ecosystems • Energy  
<http://eros.usgs.gov/Udall50thAnniversary>