Technical innovations in Global Desert Locust Early Warning



Keith Cressman



### major transboundary pests

# Early warning systems



in progress Caucasus

Caucasus & Central Asia (since 2010)

emergingRed Palm Weevil (2017)Fall Armyworm (2017)

# a swarm of **Desert Locust**

a swarm the size of Vienna eats the same amount of food in 1 day as everyone in Austria + Switzerland

# Desert Locust

Schistocerca gregaria





20% of the Earth's land surface



# irregular recessions & plagues (1860–2017)

# **\$ 570 MILLON** CONTROL OPERATIONS (2003–2005)

# **\$ 3.3 MILLION**

#### ANNUAL COST PREVENTIVE CONTROL (10 COUNTRIES W+NW AFRICA)



# climate change impacts



★ more rapid maturation

★ more frequent outbreaks ★ new invasion areas

# more Desert Locusts !













# information flow

FOR AREA-WIDE PEST MANAGEMENT



# Innovations





### eLocust3

- handheld data logger
- data transmission by satellite
- navigate to vegetation without Internet





### **Dynamic greenness**

- MODIS-derived
- on-demand delivery by GEE
- new: dryness & soil moisture





### GIS analysis

- open-source
- use team communications to provide training & support

# SUCCESSFUL

area-wide pest management

- ✓ meet & adapt to users' needs
- ✓ keep it simple but powerful
- ✓ issue clear & well-targeted outputs
- ✓ provide sufficient training & support
- ✓ give feedback & motivation
- ✓ develop partnerships & networks
- ✓ always innovate sensibly





R O N E S





D





#### extensive survey



### LONG-DISTANCE DRONE to find green areas within vast desert



# ADDITIONAL EXTENSIVE SURVEYS from field base camp

### intensive site inspection





## **CONTROL DRONE** sprays locust infestations



- Learn from world's oldest migratory pest early warning system
- Appropriate innovation can lead to success
- Adapt & apply to other area-wide pest management

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