

“Remote sensing and malaria” workshop, University of Pretoria, 29-30 June 2015

In preparation for COP21 in Paris in December, the Embassy of France in Pretoria, the French Research Institute for Development (IRD) and CNES jointly organized with the University of Pretoria a scientific workshop on the use of satellite earth observation techniques for the monitoring and prevention of malaria.

Organised on 29 and 30 June 2015 at the University of Pretoria, this event brought together representatives of French agencies (CNES, IRD, UMR Space Dev, Université Paul Sabatier in Toulouse), South Africa (UP Centre for Sustainable Malaria Control, SANSA, the Department of Science and Technology, the National Research Foundation, the Medical Research Council, the Limpopo Province Malaria Control Programme, the National Department of Health), scientists from the Southern Africa region and the Indian Ocean (Madagascar Pasteur Institute, University of Zimbabwe, National Institute of Health of the Ministry of Health of Mozambique, *Clinton Health Access Initiative* Swaziland).

The objective of the workshop was to explore the potential of a programme called '*Remote sensing for malaria control in Africa*', or ReSMaCA, initiated between French laboratories and the malari research center at UP.

The workshop was labeled a side-event to the COP21 and the conference "Our common future under climate change" organized in Paris in July. Mr. Jean-Marc Châtaigner, Managing Director of IRD, was invited to present the keynote address at the opening session and was able to broadly present the climate issue and the role of the IRD on the subject in the areas of environment, health and agriculture in particular. His presence strengthened the visibility and impact of the workshop, in which 60 scientists and a few journalists (RFI and 702 radios, newspapers City Press and News 24) attended.

Following the conference, on Monday 29 June, Ambassador of France to South Africa, Her Excellency Elisabeth Barbier, received all the participants at the French Residence for a cocktail function during which Prof Anton Ströh, Vice-Principal of the University of Pretoria, praised scientific cooperation between France and South Africa.

- Read the University of Pretoria's [report](#) on the workshop.
- Read media coverage [here](#).