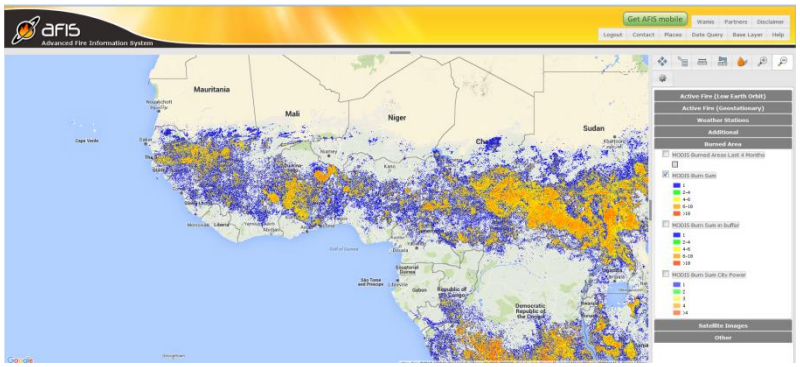
AFIS: Real Time Fire Information For West Africa

Real-time rapid detection of wild fires, prediction of fire danger index and the reporting of this information proactively to users is a crucial component to mitigating the damage caused by this environmental hazard to natural resources, conservation areas and national infrastructure.

In the West African region, wild fires are a persistent problem with many areas experiencing a high annual fire return frequency.

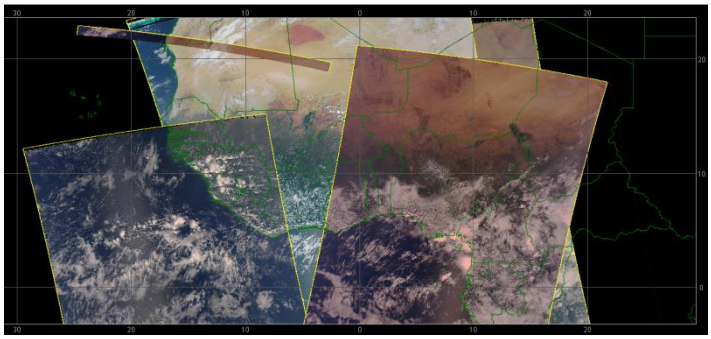


13 year Fire revisit in West Africa www.afis.co.za www.westafrica.afis.co.za

In partnership with the CSIR in South Africa, the University of Energy and Natural Resources in Sunyani, Ghana has installed a direct broadcast reception station and is processing Level 0 MODIS and VIRS data to produce real-time fire detection products for the West African Region.

The active fire products are ingested into AFIS (The Advanced Fire Information System) and then distributed in real time via a live web viewer, the AFIS mobile app or for high risk areas and infrastructure via mobile text messages (SMS) to specific users anywhere in the region.

The area covered by the DB Station extends from Cameroon to Senegal.



Further, the team in Ghana, led by Dr Amos Kabo-bah and his young team of developers, will be creating an online portal for the distribution of other products that will be produced by their reception station.

The Ghana UENR station will be networked with the direct reception station at the CSIR in South Africa and the reception station at RCMRD in Kenya to support AFIS as the continental fire monitoring and alerting system.