



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

**WaPOR**

FAO's portal to monitor Water  
Productivity through Open-access  
of Remotely sensed derived data

# Validating WaPOR data

Marloes Mul – Associate professor of Water Resources Management

IHE Delft Institute for Water Education



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the  
Netherlands



International Water  
Management Institute



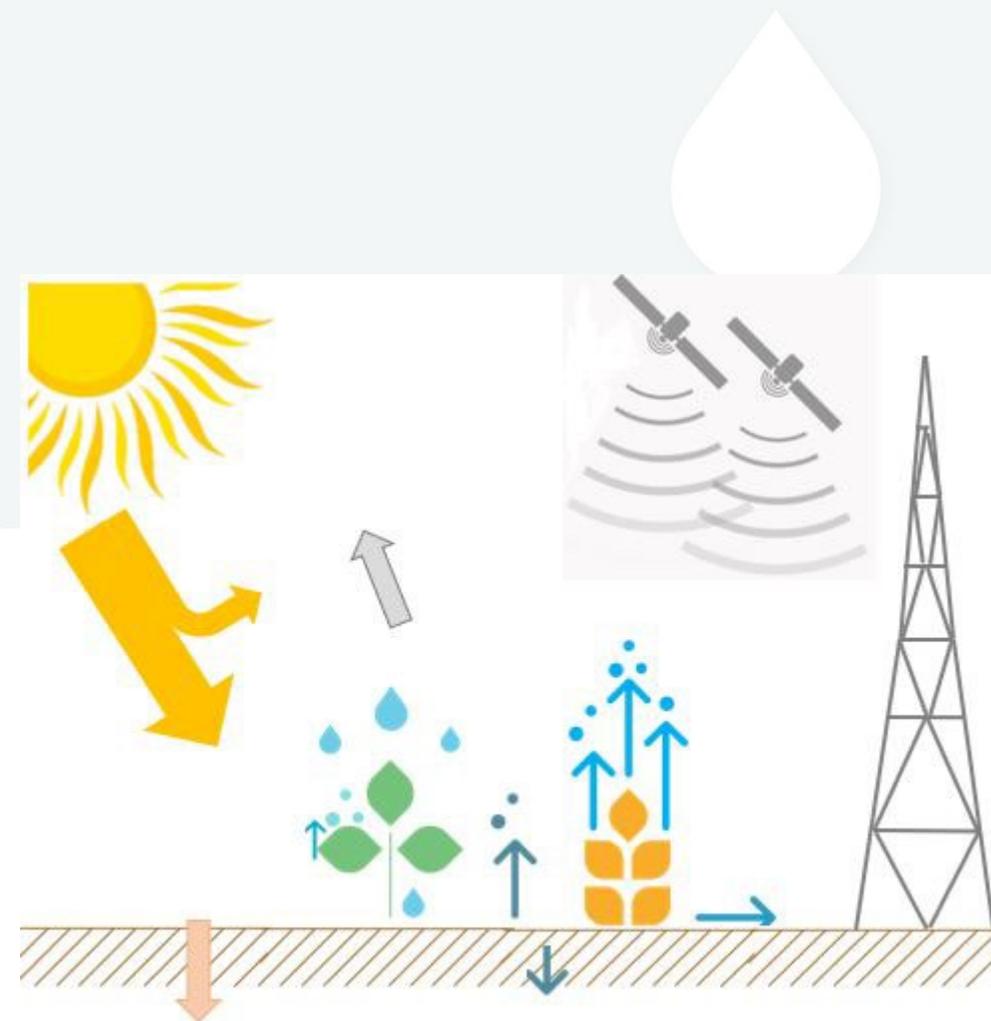
Institute for  
Water Education  
under the auspices of UNESCO



# WaPOR data validation

## Type of validations

- Validation against ground stations (PCP, RET and AETI)
- Comparison to auxiliary data
  - water balance (PCP, AETI)
  - yield (NPP)
  - $k_c$  (RET/ AETI)
- Comparison with other data products:
  - Eg MODIS, GLDAS, GLEAM, literature

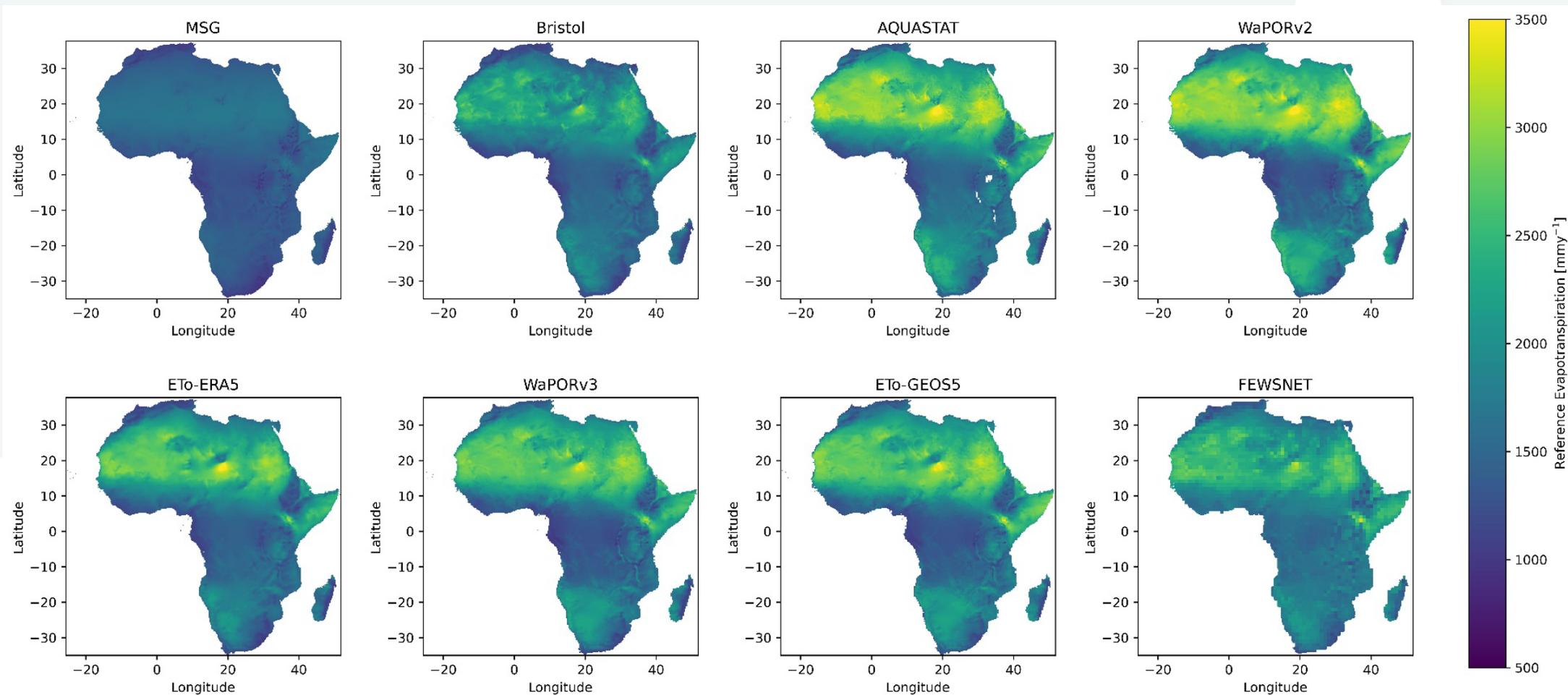


# Validation data overview

WaPOR layer	In-situ data	Temporal resolution*	Auxiliary data
Reference ET	Weather station data (incl humidity, solar radiation, windspeed, temperature)	Daily or more frequent	
Actual ET	Eddy covariance, lysimeter, Bowen ratio, Scintillometer, surface renewal, advection-aridity, combinatory method ( <a href="https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-27-4505-2023-supplement">https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-27-4505-2023-supplement</a> )	Daily or more frequent	Field or section scale soil water balance, catchment water balance
E (open water)	evaporation pan	Daily or more frequent	
T	Eddy covariance (ET partition), sapflow	Daily or more frequent	
NPP	Eddy covariance	Daily or more frequent	Seasonal biomass production, yield (and crop type coefficients)
RSM	Soil moisture measurements	Daily or more frequent	Field or section scale soil water balance

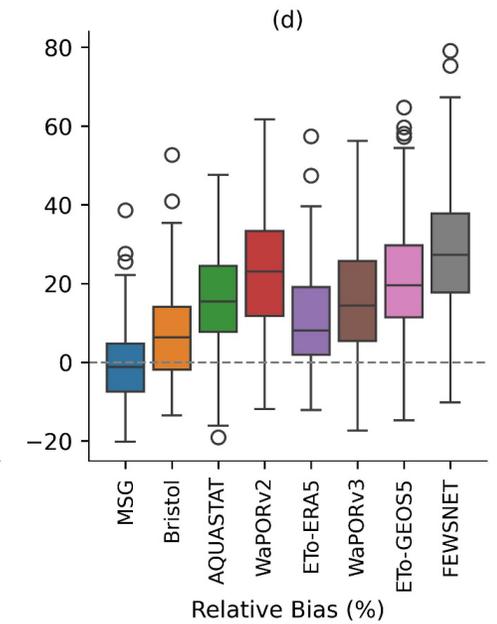
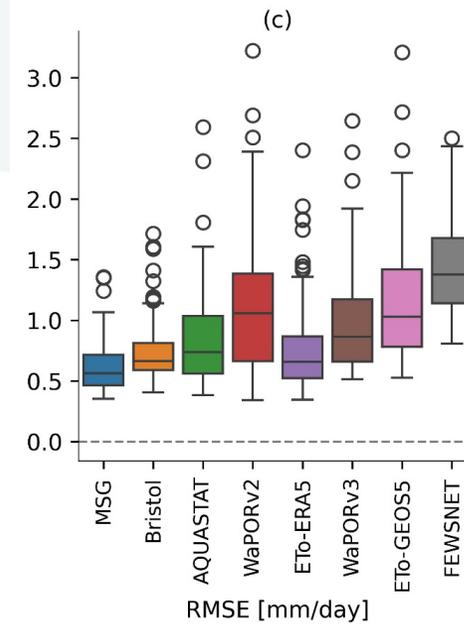
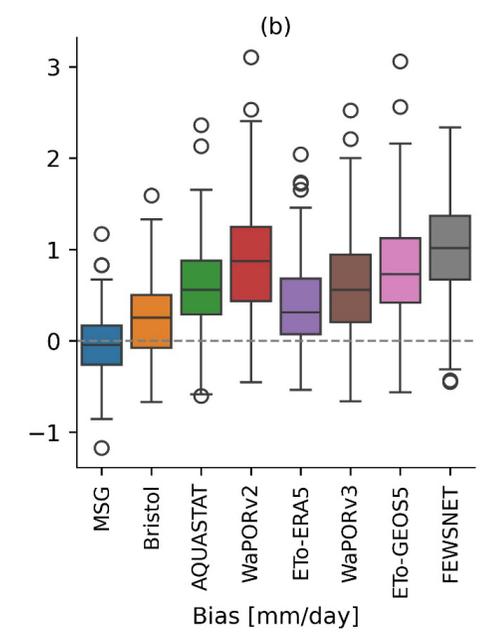
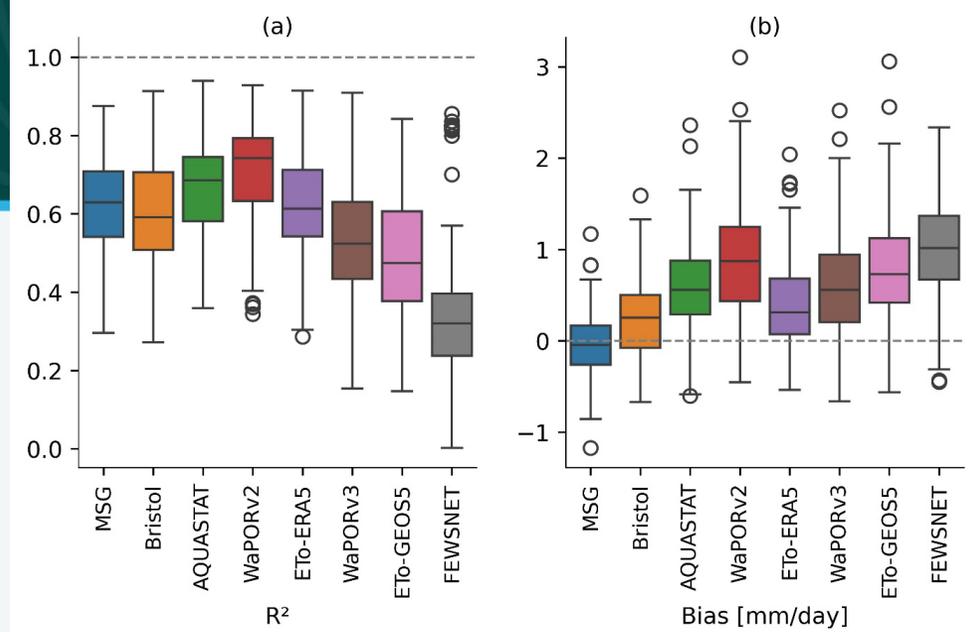
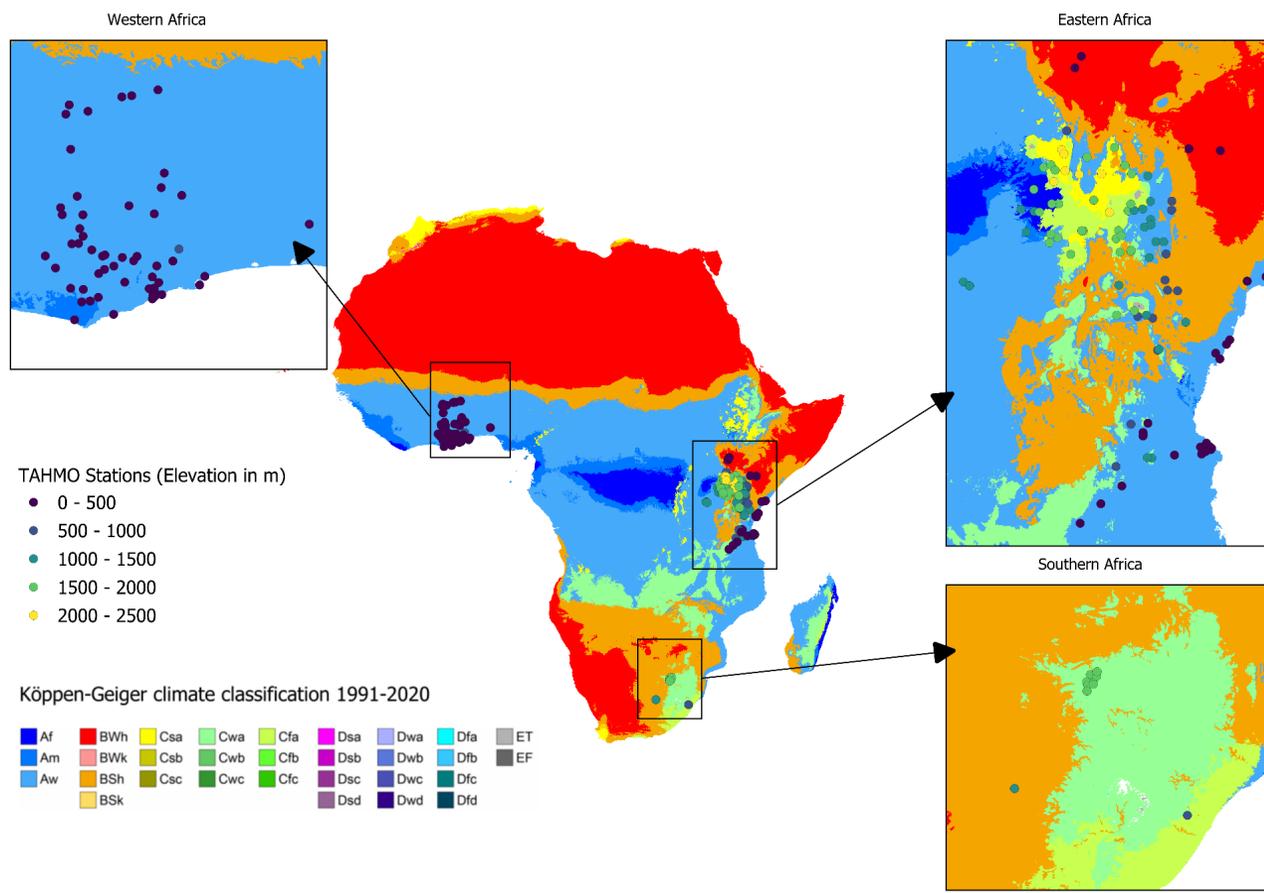
# WaPOR RET data validation

## Comparison different products



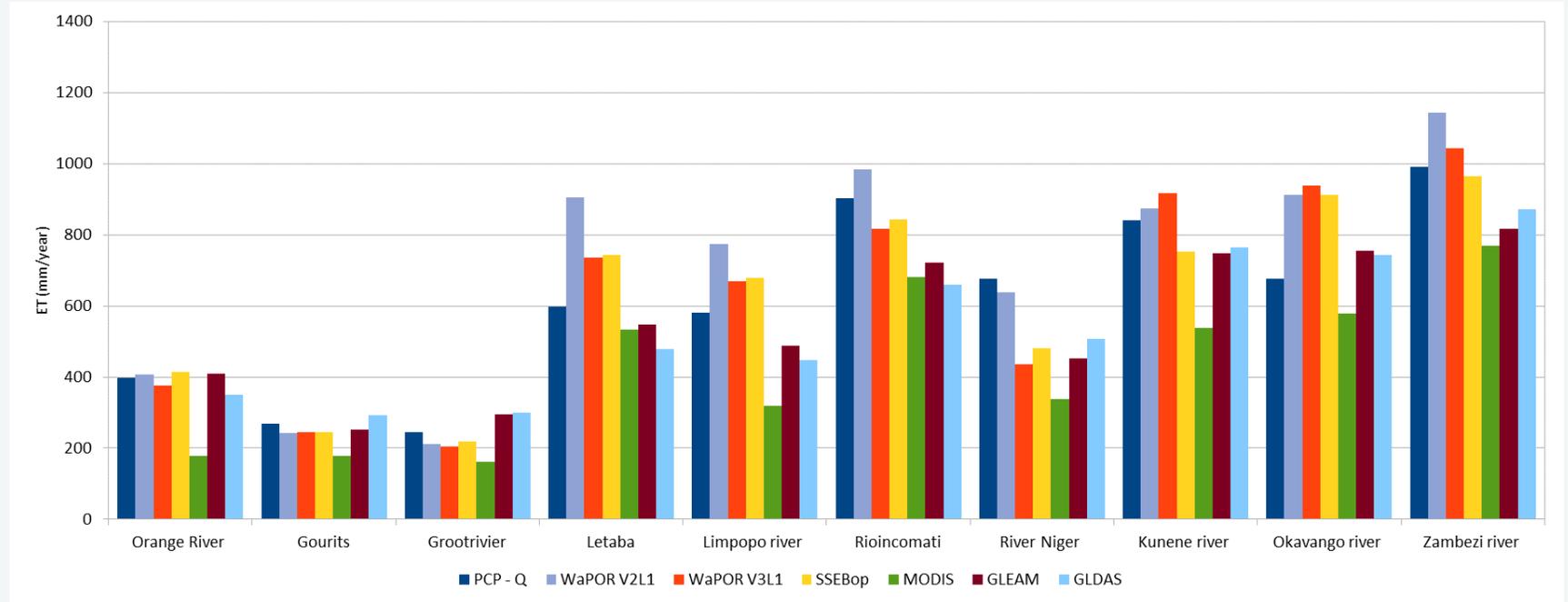
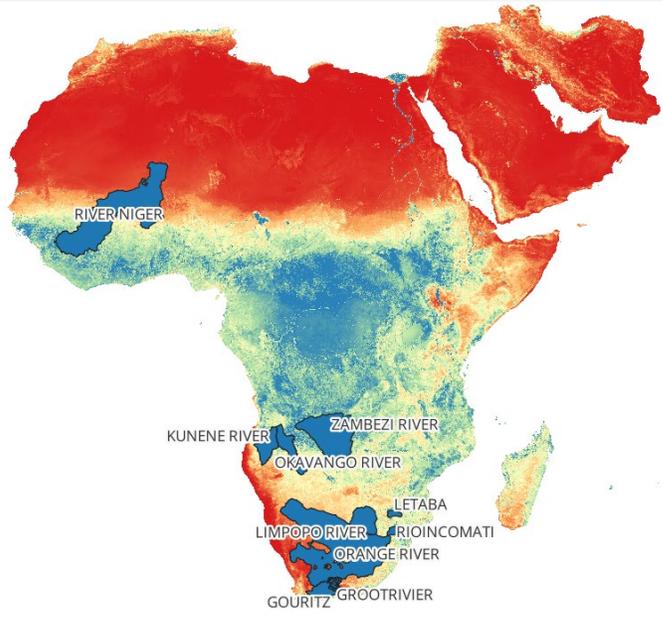
# WaPOR RET data validation

## Tahmo 165 climate stations



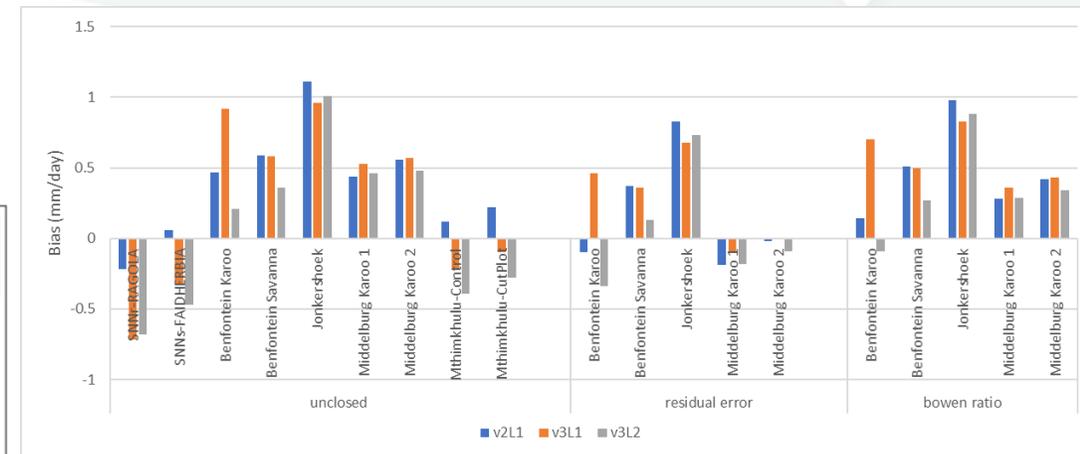
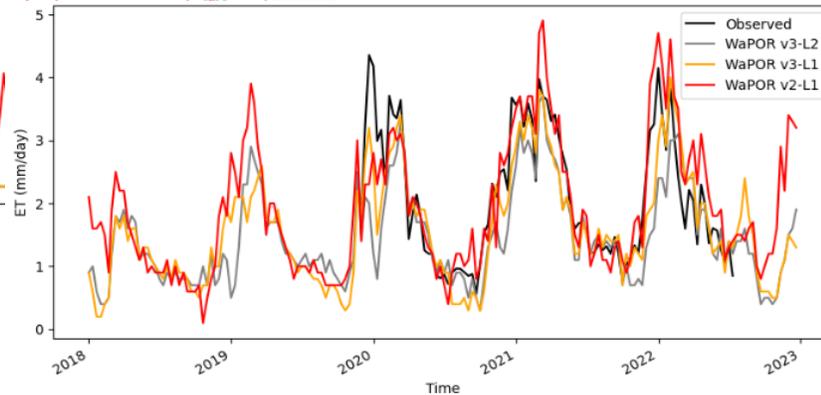
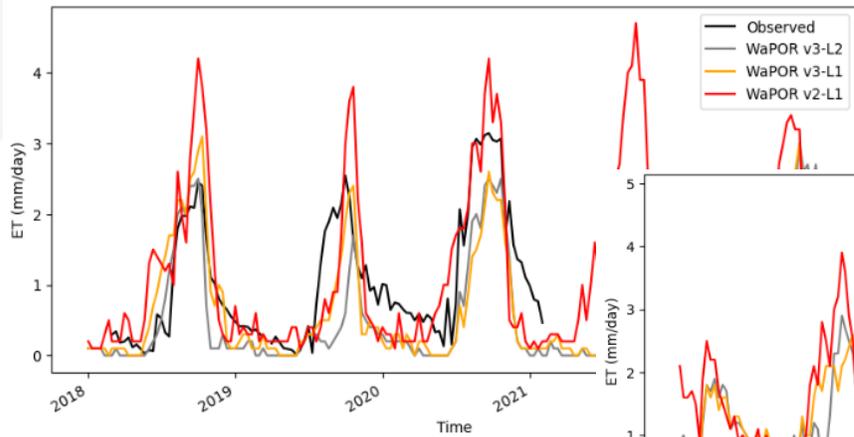
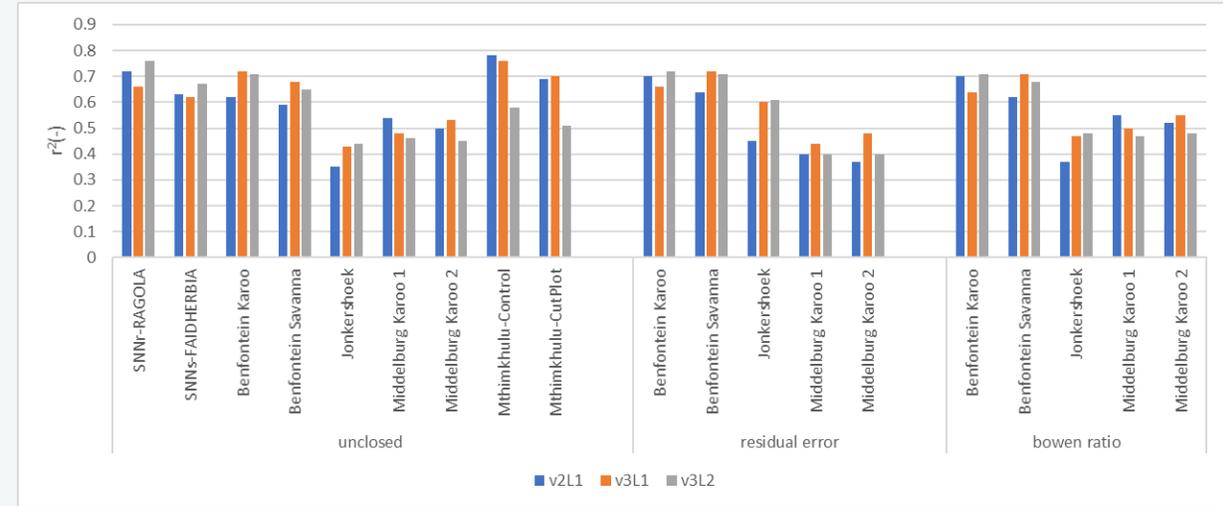
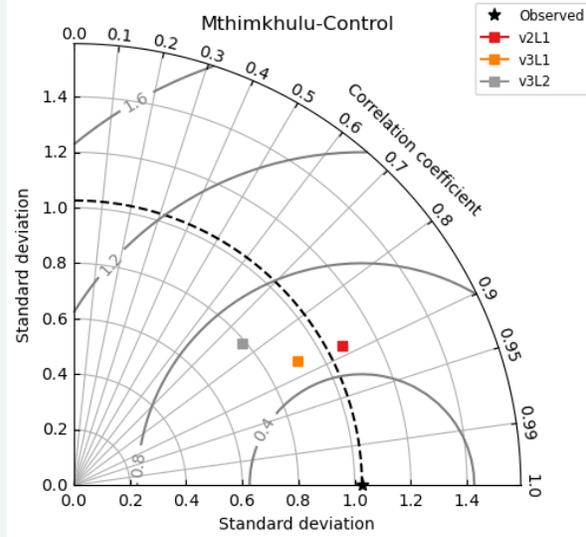
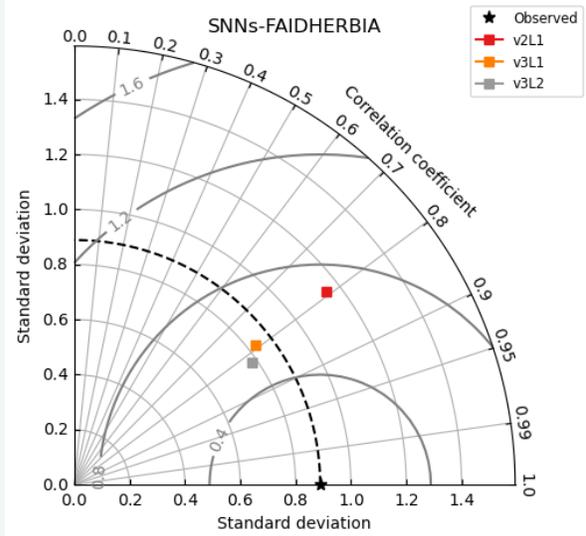
→ Spatial resolution

# Water balance (AETI validation)



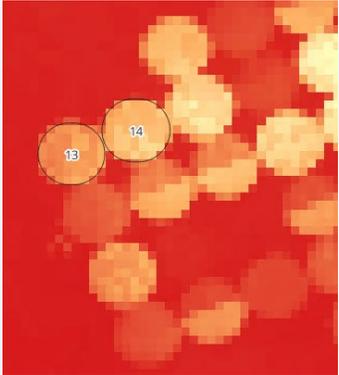
	P-Q	WaPOR v2L2	WaPOR v3L1	SSEBop	MODIS	GLEAM	GLDAS
<b>Mean</b>	618	585	638	628	428	554	524
<b>Weighted average</b>	614	515	560	571	365	522	500
<b>r<sup>2</sup></b>		0.81	0.80	0.78	0.84	0.85	0.89
<b>Bias</b>		33	20	10	-190	-64	-96
<b>Rel bias</b>		5%	3%	2%	-31%	-10%	-16%

# AETI validation with EC stations

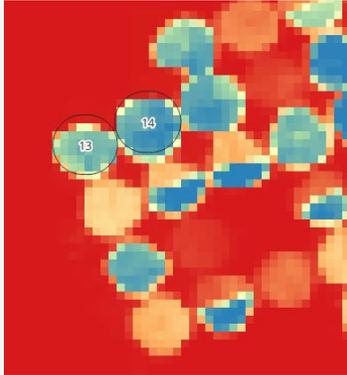


# AETI in cropland

WaPOR V2 –L2 AETI (mm/yr)



WaPOR V3-L2 AETI (mm/yr)



WaPOR difference V3-L2 – V2-L2 AETI (mm/yr)

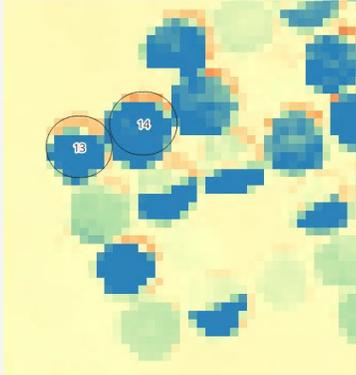
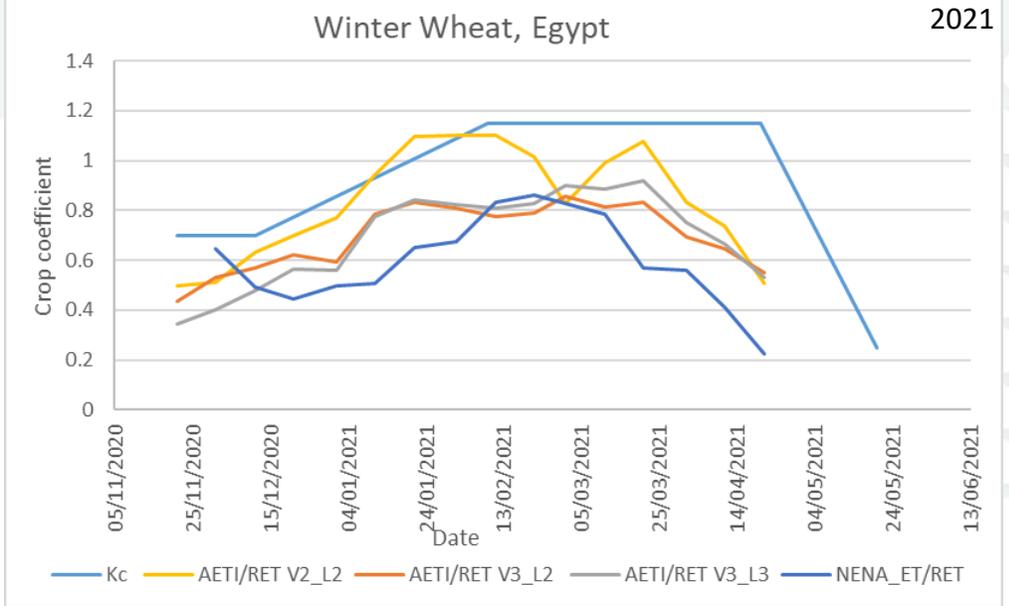
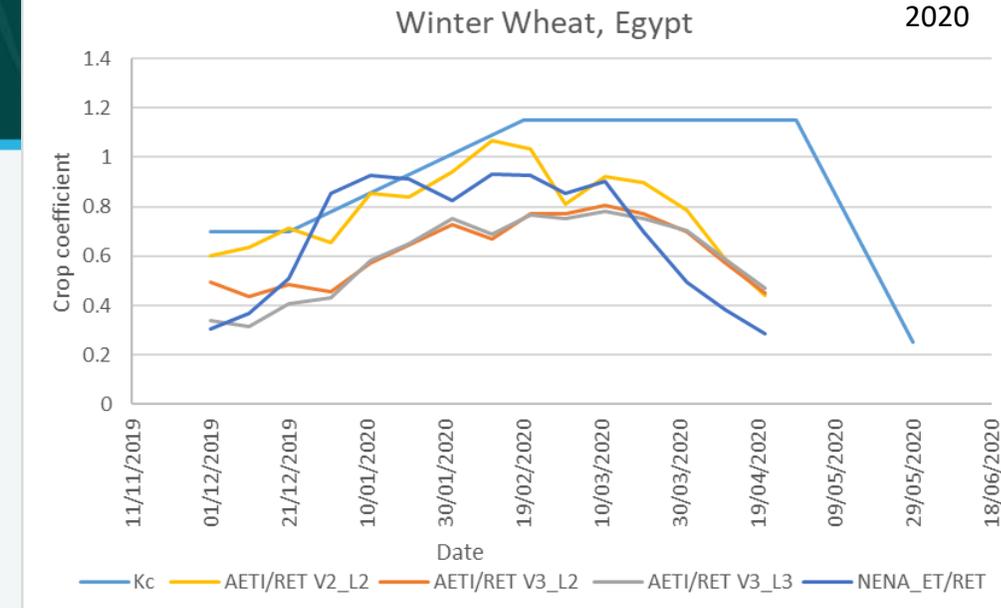
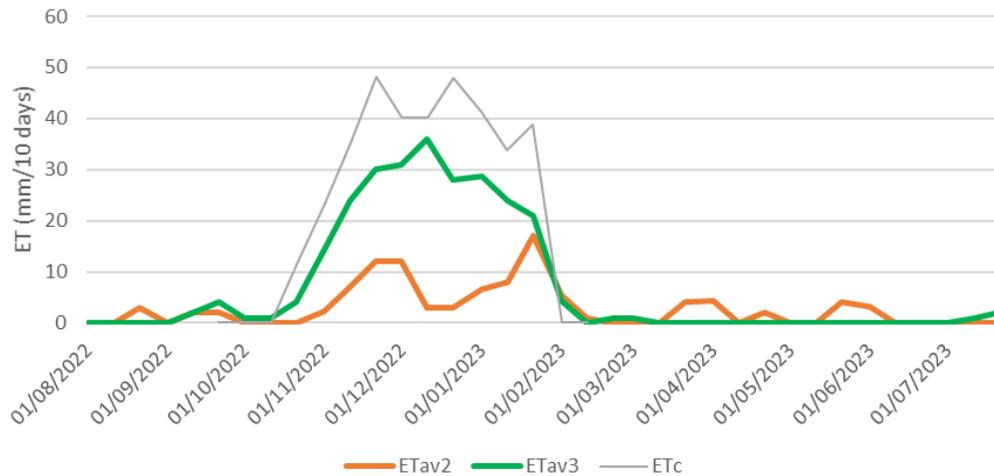


Figure 1 annual WaPOR AETI for selected centre pivots in El Oweinat in Egypt in mm/year for 2022



Crop coefficient during cropping stages (Nile Delta)

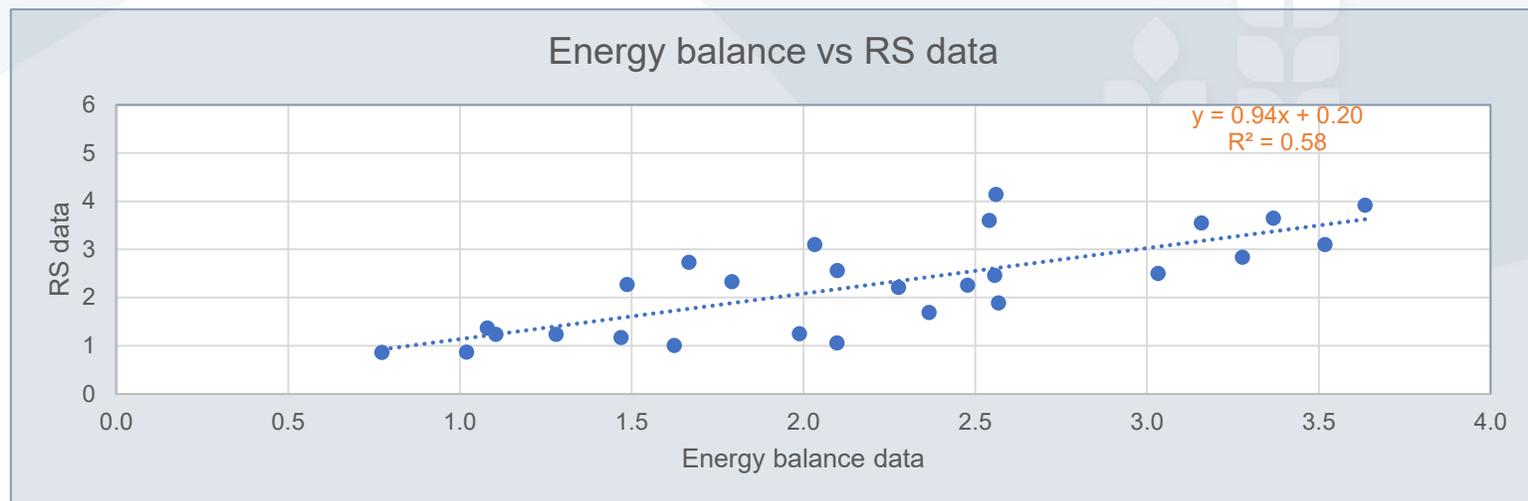
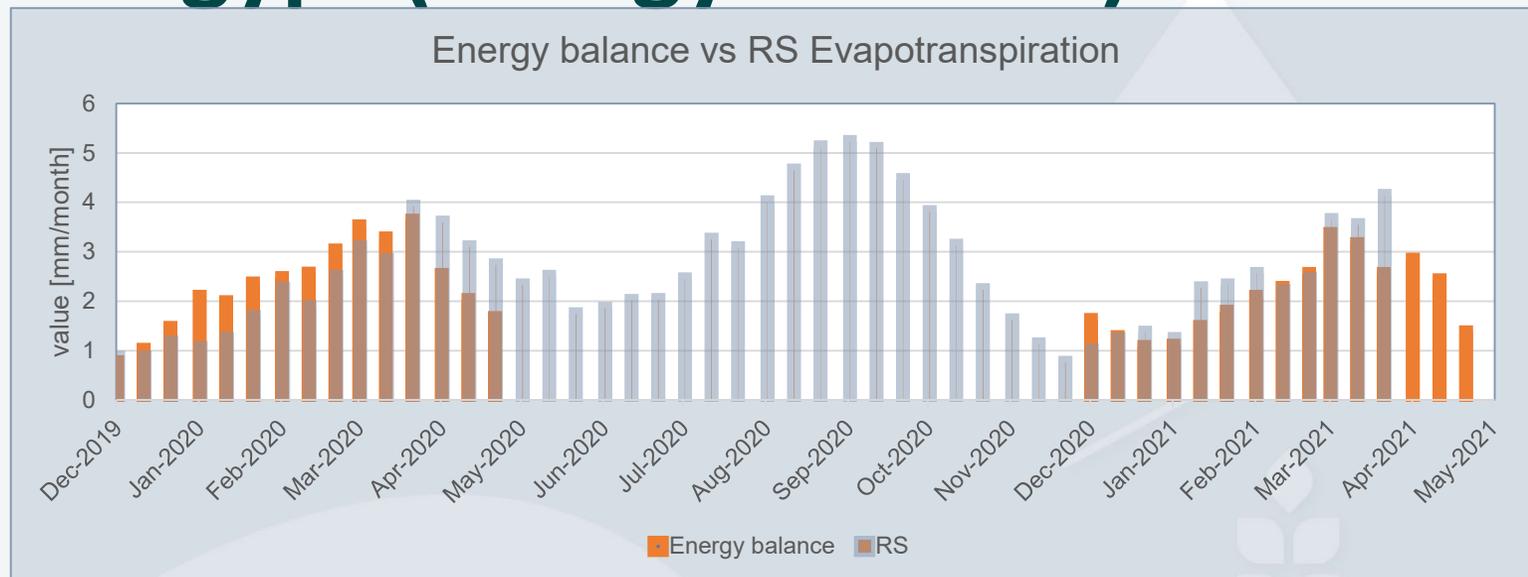
Pivot 13



Centre pivots in Egypt

# Validation Sakha station Egypt (energy balance)

Average	2.6
Number of data points	50
<b>Evaluation metrics</b>	
Pearson's correlation coefficient (CC)	<b>0.79</b>
Coefficient of determination (R2)	<b>0.63</b>
Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE)	<b>0.62</b>
Kling-Gupta Efficiency (KGE)	<b>0.74</b>
Bias	<b>-0.08</b>
PBIAS	<b>-3.1</b>
Root mean square error (RMSE)	<b>0.78</b>
Mean Absolute error (MAE)	<b>0.57</b>



# Validation data overview

WaPOR layer	In-situ data	Temporal resolution*	Auxiliary data	Data to collect if available (2018-2025)
Reference ET	Weather station data (incl humidity, solar radiation, windspeed, temperature)	Daily or monthly		Climate stations
Actual ET	Eddy covariance, lysimeter, Bowen ratio, Scintillometer, surface renewal, advection-aridity, combinatory method ( <a href="https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-27-4505-2023-supplement">https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-27-4505-2023-supplement</a> )	Daily or monthly	Field or section scale soil water balance, catchment water balance	Eddy Covariance Discharge data
E (open water)	evaporation pan	Daily or monthly		E-pan
T	Eddy covariance (ET partition), sapflow	Daily or monthly		Sap flow / Eddy covariance
NPP	Eddy covariance	Daily or monthly	Seasonal biomass production, yield (and crop type coefficients)	Yield data (regional stats or field data)
RSM	Soil moisture measurements	Daily or monthly	Field or section scale soil water balance	Field data collection



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

**WaPOR**

FAO's portal to monitor Water  
Productivity through Open-access  
of Remotely sensed derived data

This course was produced as part of the  
second phase of the WaPOR project



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the  
Netherlands

**IWMI**  
International Water  
Management Institute

**IHE**  **Institute for  
Water Education**  
under the auspices of UNESCO

