

Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., referee comment RC2  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2021-98-RC2>, 2021  
© Author(s) 2021. This work is distributed under  
the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License.



## Comment on **essd-2021-98**

Anonymous Referee #2

---

Referee comment on "An update and beyond: key landscapes for conservation land cover and change monitoring, thematic and validation datasets for the African, Caribbean and Pacific regions" by Zoltan Szantoi et al., Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2021-98-RC2>, 2021

---

The article is very relevant in that it is an update to a previous data production effort by the same author and his colleagues aimed at addressing the lack of up-to-date data for natural resource managers in developing countries.

The methodology as described looks very sound and easy to understand but I was wondering why the authors did not use the Landsat surface reflectance product but rather the Level 1 product. An explanation in the text would be useful. It would also be useful to specify the image dates of images used for the mapping in Table 1. This will help inform others who would want to replicate the methodology know which acquisition windows to explore for image data selection. Similarly, the independent map validation and accuracy assessment look sound, making the datasets very useful for effective site-specific assessments and monitoring

The Discussion Section mentions the direct relationship between population growth and pressure on land but the authors did not present any analysis with empirical data from the pilot countries to that effect in the text. It will be useful to support this claim with data associated with the pilot countries

I noticed a number of typos and grammatical forms that have to be revised before the final publication