

## **Geospatial Technologies For Sustainable Development.**

Dominic Njue<sup>1\*</sup> and Benson Kipkemboi Kenduiywo<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>Department of Geomatic Engineering and Geospatial Information Systems, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, P.O Box 62000 (00200), Nairobi, Kenya

### **ABSTRACT**

Over the years, the use of Geospatial technologies in realizing development has gained immense application in numerous sectors. Sustainable development ensures that while the current generation is meeting its needs, the ability of the future generation to use the same resources to satisfy their needs is uncompromised. Various tools and techniques have been used by nations across the world to meet the global targets outlined in the United Nations charter on sustainable development goals. These goals are targeted at eliminating most of the pertinent problems that face the developing countries such as extreme poverty, hunger, clean water and sanitation and life on land. The Rio+20 declaration advocated for the use of geographic information science, satellite remote sensing data, global positioning systems and geospatial technologies as means of actualizing the action plans for sustainable development. Comprehensively understanding the environmental conditions and their dynamism in space is one of the surest ways to addressing global challenges of sustainable development. The extensive applications and the availability of Geographic Information System (GIS) and satellite data have made it easier to understand the relationships between the core environmental variables and space, increasing the ability to make smart decisions on developmental issues. This paper reviews the current geospatial technologies that are particularly useful in guiding countries towards achieving the sustainable development goals. It includes GIS and Remote Sensing technologies and how they have found use in tackling problems related to poverty, food security, agriculture and environmental health. The paper also discusses future trends in the use of GIS and Remote sensing data in addressing sustainable development challenges.

**Keywords:** GIS, Sustainable Development, Remote Sensing, Environment, Technology, Food Security.

**E-Mail:** [mugo.dominic@students.jkuat.ac.ke](mailto:mugo.dominic@students.jkuat.ac.ke) and [bkenduiywo@jkuat.ac.ke](mailto:bkenduiywo@jkuat.ac.ke)