



ASIA-PACIFIC
SPATIAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS
— SOUTH AUSTRALIA —

Postgraduate Student Award

Winner: Sofanit Araya

Sofanit was conferred with a Doctor of Philosophy from The University of Adelaide on 8 January 2018. Her PhD research involved developing a new methodological framework to estimate Plant Available Water Holding Capacity (PAWC), through remote sensing, in the South Australian agricultural region. PAWC determines the maximum amount of water that can be stored in the soil. Consistent soil information is required in management of issues such as food production and climate change. Previously, because field measurements were difficult and time consuming, the availability of high resolution PAWC maps was limited. Sofanit successfully demonstrated the strong potential of multi-temporal remote sensing data for estimation of soil PAWC, providing unprecedented spatial detail, which will allow for faster, easier and more efficient soil mapping to create high resolution soil maps and improve agronomic management decisions.