**“How did the SDView Grant help me in this project?**

The study was carried out to map and create an inventory of small water bodies in the Limpopo River Basin using remotely sensed data and multispectral water indices. The SDview grant has been instrumental in remote sensing data acquisition to validate estimates of water bodies in my study watershed. Due to the large study area, full validation with independent high resolution data is not only costly but is also not possible for the entire watershed. Therefore, the grant was used to purchase representative GeoEye high resolution imagery to cross compare the results obtained though multispectral water indices. This was necessary, since the commonly used indices such as Normalized Difference Water Index (NDWI) and Modified Normalized Difference Water Index (MNDWI) are affected by clouds, shadows, ice, and snow that could  lead to over or underestimation of the extent of small water bodies. GeoEye’s resolution is high enough to provide a good indication of the true nature of classified objects as well as identifying validation objects with good confidence using photo-interpretation techniques. Additionally, with high resolution data, it is possible to accurately capture the edges of these water bodies and accurately estimate their areas. The edge corrected results can further be used to adjust for area estimation of other waterbodies in the study watershed, thus improving accuracy.