# Community Based Watershed Research

Rebecca Boger Brooklyn College

#### **Scientist Needs**

#### Useful datasets

- Temporal and/or spatial
- Acquisition of new data
- •QAQC
- Standardized data collection
- Data submission, compilation and integration
- Publications essential, particularly for untenured faculty

### **Other Collaborator Needs**

#### TEACHER/STUDENT

- Curriculum/classroom ready
  - Doable costs, time, fulfills standards, etc.
- Relevant and engaging for students
- Flexible for types of projects and interests

#### COMMUNITY

- Include community partner interests and needs
- Products of research potentially useful for management decisions

### Watersheds

#### Integrating context for varied research

- Quality and quantity of water
- Spread of diseases, e.g., malaria
- Agriculture

#### **Research Framework: SWAT**

Soil and Water Assessment Tool • River basin, watershed, scale model Developed to predict the impact of land management practices on water, sediment, and agricultural chemical yields Designed for large, complex watersheds with varying soils, land use, and management conditions over long periods of time



#### SOFTWARE UPDATES

| <ul> <li>ArcSWAT (8/20/2010)</li> <li>Version 2009.93.5 for SWAT 2009 and ArcGIS 9.3 SP1</li> </ul> | Jan 04-08,<br>2011 | <b>2nd I</b><br>Ho C |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Recommended "Do"s and "Don't"s for ArcGIS and ArcSWAT (9/13)                                        |                    | SWA                  |
| • SWATeditor (8/20/2010)                                                                            | Feb 07-11,         | SWAT                 |
| Version 2009.93.5 for SWAT 2009; Companion to ArcSWAT                                               | 2011               | Adva                 |
| <ul> <li>SWAT2009 available for download</li> </ul>                                                 |                    | SWAT                 |
| SV                                                                                                  |                    | 2011                 |
|                                                                                                     |                    |                      |

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS / NEW ITEMS**

| Jan 04-08,<br>2011 | 2nd International SWAT-SEA<br>Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
|                    | SWAT Workshops, College Station, TX                        |
| Feb 07-11,<br>2011 | SWAT for Beginners<br>Advanced Data Processing for ArcSWAT |
|                    | SWAT for Advanced Users                                    |
|                    | 2011 SMAT African Markshan                                 |

http://swatmodel.tamu.edu/

#### Minimum datasets for SWAT

- Digital Elevation Model (DEM)
  Land use/land cover (LULC)
  Soils
- Meteorological data, especially temperature and precipitation
- Many connections with GLOBE materials
  - Leverages off existing infrastructure

# Example: Nigeria









# Meteorological Data

#### • Data Loggers

- Variety of air and soil sensors
- Continuous datasets
- Graduate students and teachers download data and send via email
- GLOBE students supplement and enhance datasets



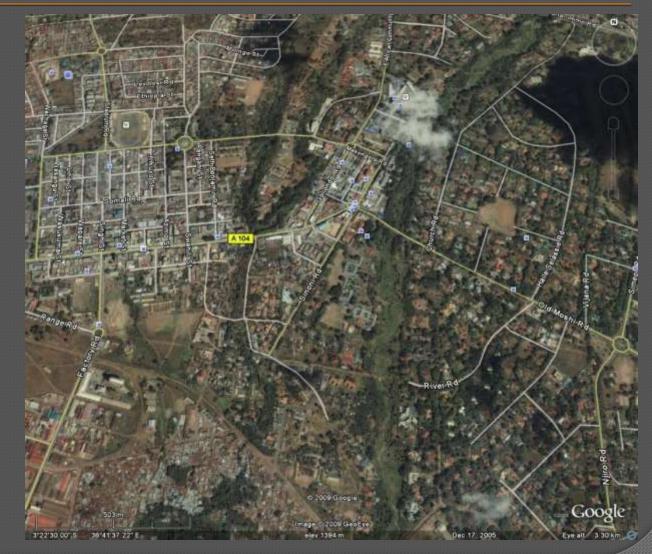


### Community Involvement and Capacity Building

• Teacher Workshops and field campaigns Development of new and adaptation of materials for African context Student research – flexible approach allows for diverse environmental data collection to be put to use OPutting GLOBE and other materials into meaningful local/regional context

# Workshop/Field Campaign May 2010

Where do you think mosquitoes breed around here?

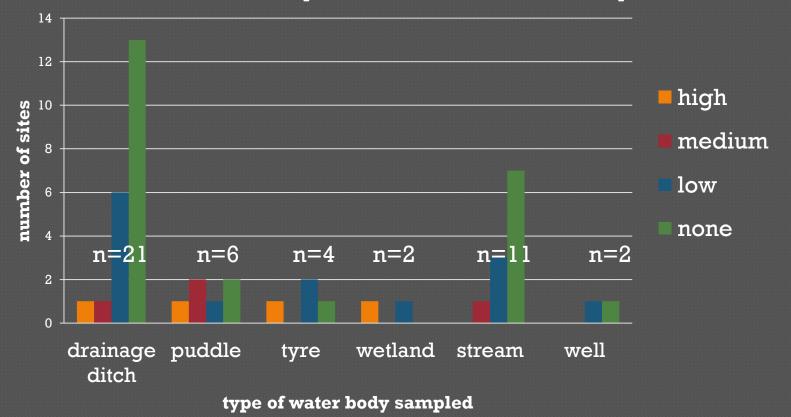


## Osogbo Workshop Format

| Day     | Activity                                                                  | Science Process                                                                                               |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1       | Introduction to materials;<br>learning data collection<br>techniques      | Asking questions, making<br>predictions and hypotheses<br>Developing sampling strategy<br>and field logistics |
| 2, 3, 4 | Divided into two groups<br>and sampled in urban<br>and rural environments | Data collection                                                                                               |
| 5       | Group discussion,<br>graphing and mapping                                 | Data analysis and synthesis, interpretation                                                                   |
| 6       | Student and teacher presentations                                         | Communication of results                                                                                      |

#### Results

#### Water Body and Larvae Density



#### Impacts on Teachers

• "Initially before this exercise, I used to have the impression that all these things we are doing in sciences are not practicable... it is not real. Even when I was in secondary school, I used to think that all we are doing is magic... But going through these exercises makes me know and believe that all we are doing is practicable, that we can equally derive an hypothesis, prove it and even put it into law."

# Applications

Watersheds/water resource needs are everywhere
Types and data availability varies greatly around the world
Can be adapted to the needs and research interests of students, teachers, scientists, and communities

# Implementation

#### CLASSROOM

- Varied student research
  - LULC, meteorological, soils, phenology
  - GLOBE and other protocols
- Relevance: water, health and food – develop new or adapt existing
- Cost of classroom equipment varies, but mostly inexpensive
- Data loggers in strategic places

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Workshops
- Field campaigns
- Online where possible