

# South Africa invests in concentrated solar power

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 03 May 2016 at 08:06:12 UTC

Sentinel-1 CSAR IW acquired on 04 November 2019 from 03:51:31 to 03:51:56 UTC

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 04 November 2019 at 08:11:21 UTC

Sentinel-3 OLCI FR & SLSTR RBT acquired on 04 November 2019 at 08:13:30 UTC

Sentinel-3 OLCI FR acquired on 08 November 2019 at 08:09:46 UTC

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Keyword(s): Renewable energy, infrastructure, solar power, open-pit mine, RSA, South Africa

[2D Layerstack](#)

Fig. 1 - S3 SLSTR (04.11.2019) - S5,S3,S2 colour composite - Kathu solar park is located in the Northern Cape province of RSA.

[2D view](#)

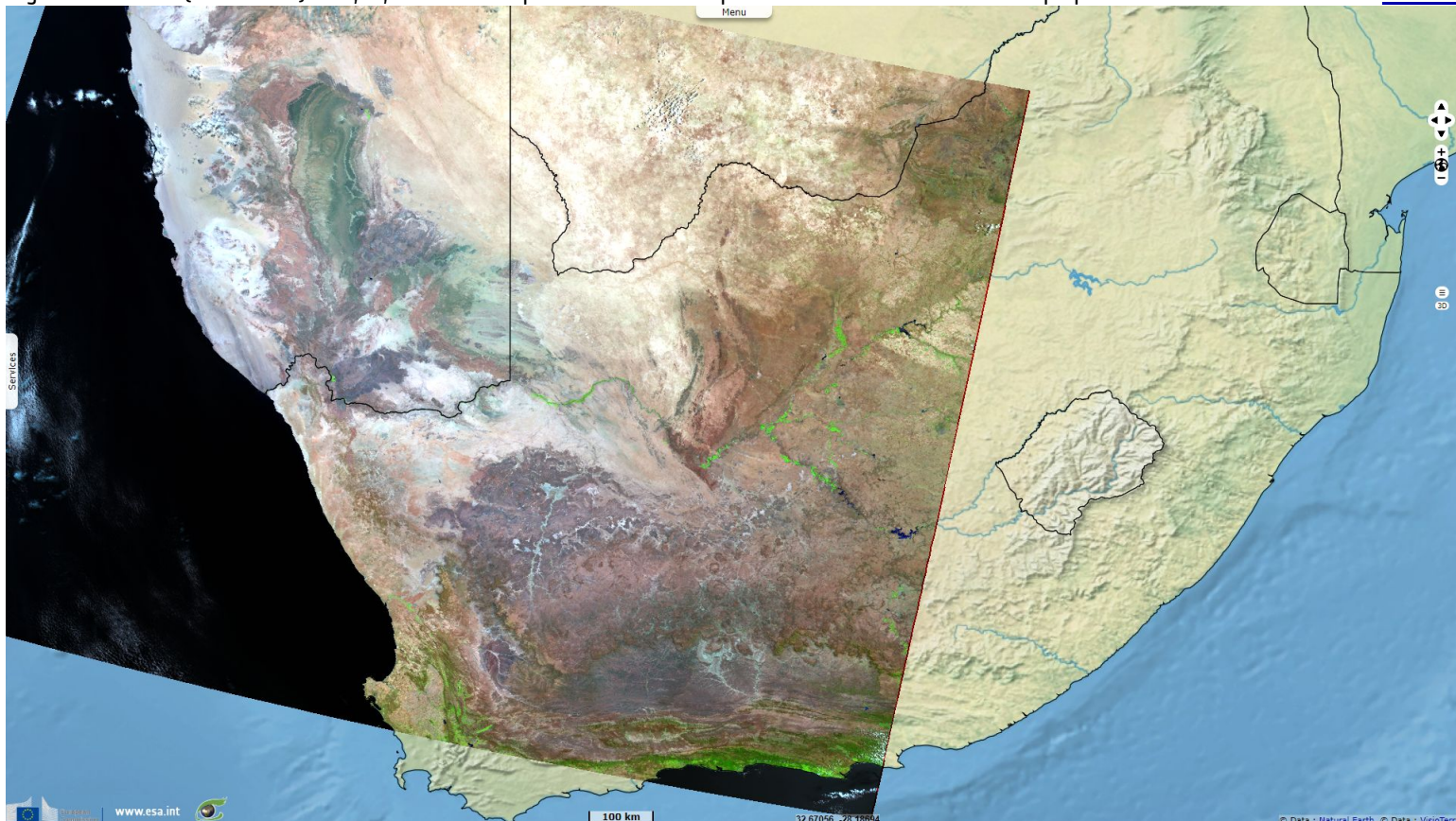


Fig. 2 - S3 OLCI (04.11.2019) - 10,6,3 natural colour - It lies in the warm Kalahari Desert, one of the sunniest places in the world.

[2D view](#)

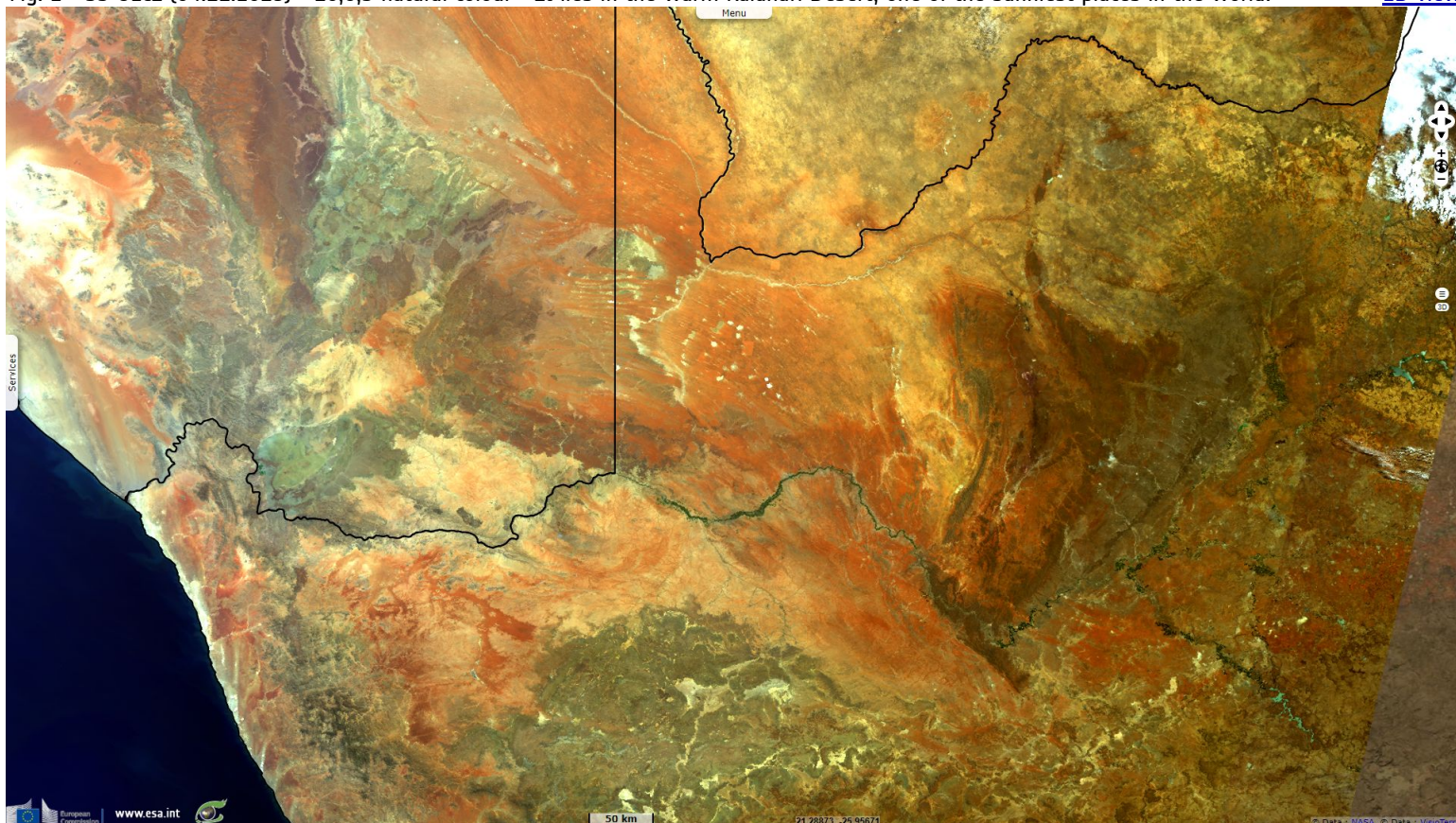




Fig. 3 - S2 (03.05.2016) - 4,3,2 natural colour - Kathu sits next to some of the world's most biggest iron open pit mines. [2D animation](#) [2D view](#)

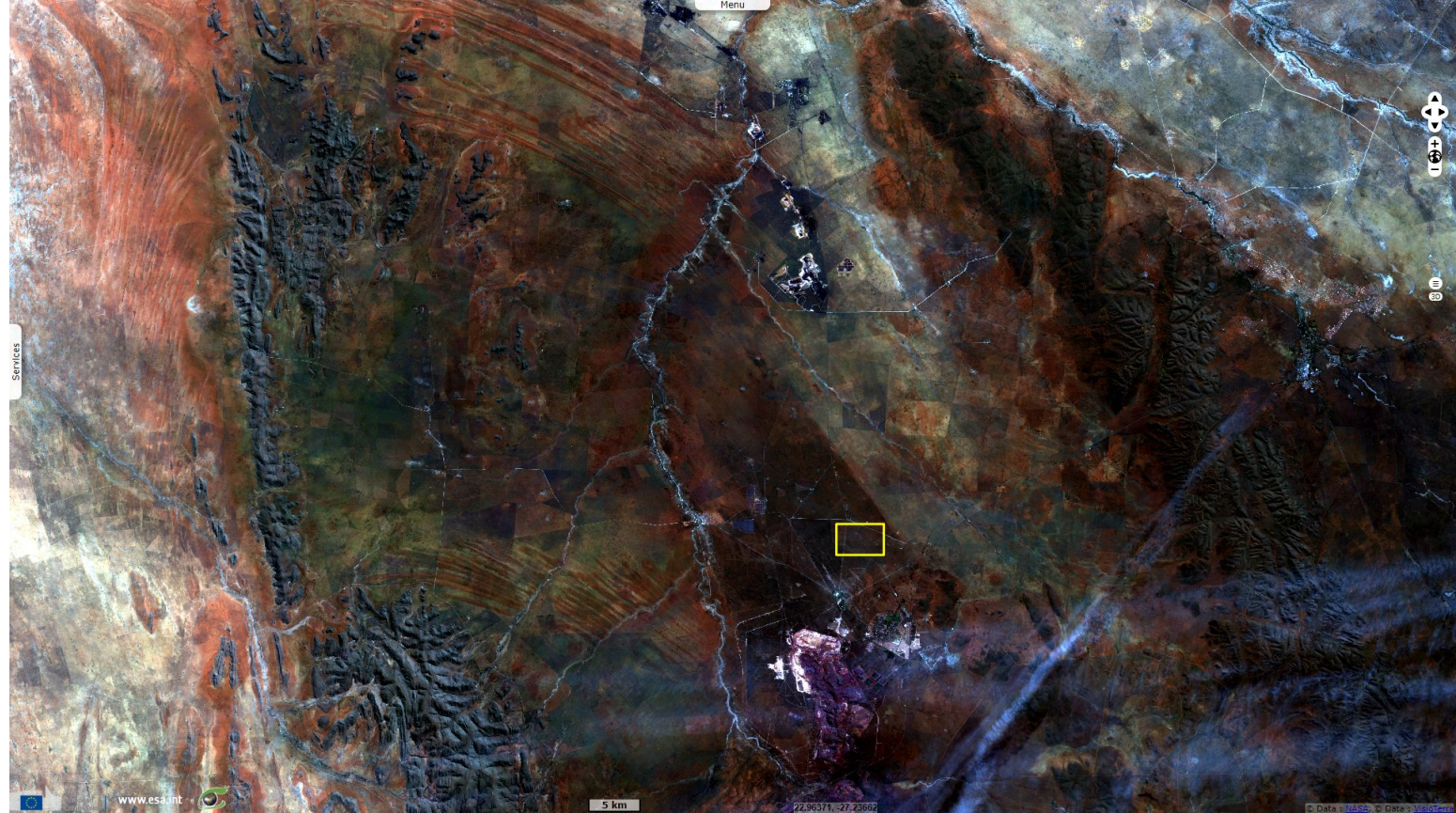


Fig. 4 - S1 (02.11.2019) - vv,vh,vv colour composite - This "5 km<sup>2</sup> mirror" uses 384 000 of 4 m-high parabolic reflectors. [2D view](#)



South Africa is still heavily dependant on coal from which it produces 80% of its electricity.















Fig. 5 - S2 (04.11.2019) - 4,3,2 natural colour - It has a capacity of 100 MW and full-load molten storage capacity of 4.5 hours. [2D view](#)



This parabolic-trough system doesn't focus the sunlight into a solar power tower but into a nearby absorber pipe.

*The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Space Agency or the European Union.  
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