



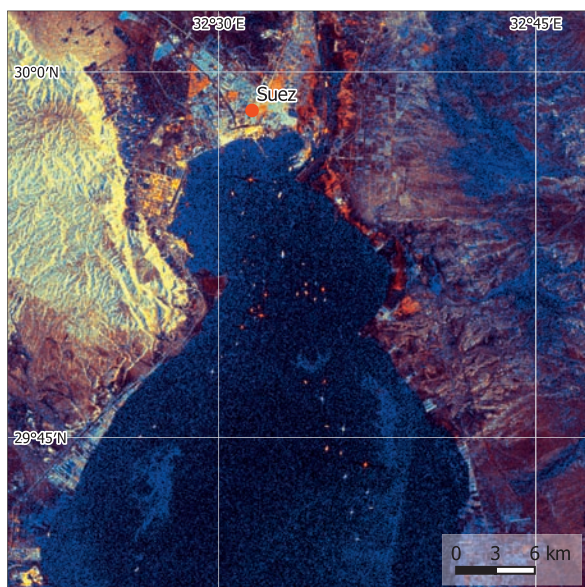
## Suez Canal, Egypt

The Suez Canal is an artificial waterway connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea. Opened in 1869, the canal dramatically shortened the maritime route between Europe and Asia, allowing ships to avoid the lengthy and hazardous journey around Africa. The canal's strategic location has made it a vital link between the East and the West, contributing significantly to global commerce.

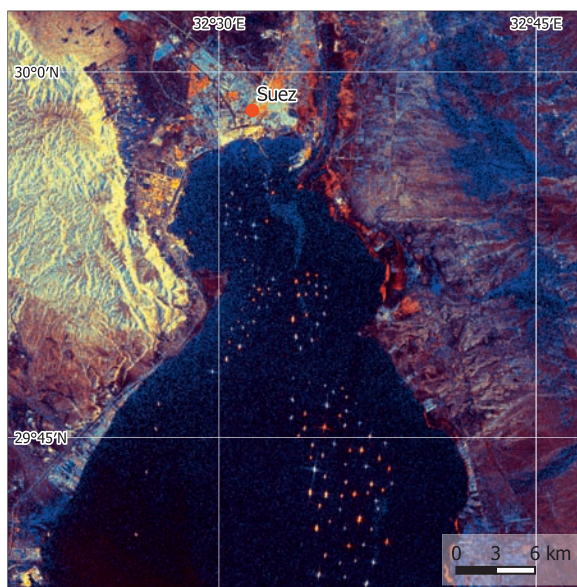
In March 2021, the Ever Given, a container ship measuring 400 metres in length and capable of carrying over 20,000 containers, ran aground in the southern section of the canal due to adverse weather conditions. This led to the temporary closure of the canal, causing a significant disruption to the global supply chains. Optical and radar satellites captured the Ever Given, blocking the entire canal, and the traffic jam caused by the accident for ships waiting at the entrances to the canal.



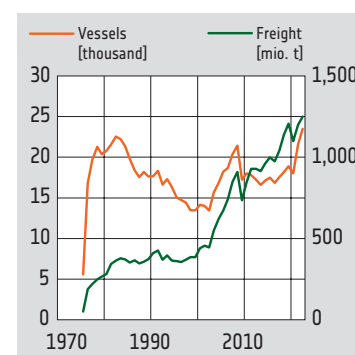
7. Suez, Egypt, with the southern end of Suez Canal, on 2021-03-29. The true colour satellite image shows the container vessel Ever Given stuck in the canal, blocking all traffic. Data: Sentinel-2.



8. Radar image of Suez, Egypt, with the southern end of Suez Canal on 2021-03-21. The image shows normal traffic through the canal and only a few waiting vessels. Data: Sentinel-1.



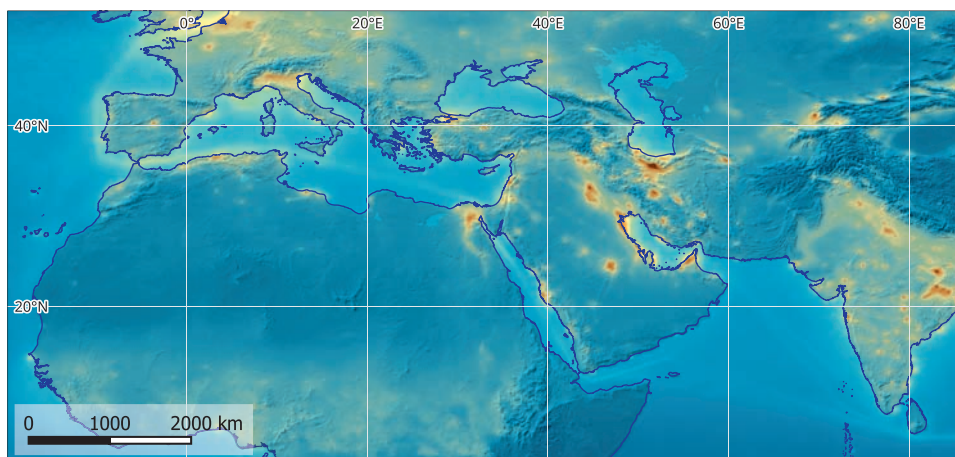
9. Radar image of Suez, Egypt, with the southern end of Suez Canal on 2021-03-27. A traffic jam has built up due to the blocking of the canal. Data: Sentinel-1.



10. The increasing importance of international traffic is reflected by the development of the transport of goods through the Suez Canal. At the same time, the number of vessels passing the canal has changed much less, because larger vessels have been used.



11. The Ever Given, a container vessel of the Evergreen shipping company. With its length of almost 400 metres it is one of the world's largest container ships and can transport more than 20,000 standard containers.



12. Total column concentration of  $\text{NO}_2$  in the Mediterranean region measured by the TROPOMI sensor onboard of Sentinel-5P.  $\text{NO}_2$  is produced by combustion processes in industry and traffic. The combustion gases of ships are visible as a faint band of  $\text{NO}_2$  around the Iberian peninsula and continuing eastwards.

