Review of: "Cloud-based geospatial services for building capacity and safeguarding heritage in climatically marginal landscapes"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Paper reports on research and development culminated in development and dissemination of the very useful toolsets based on Google Earth Engine and very instrumental for decision makers in multiple parts of the world. Results and source code are shared on GitHub, which makes it accessible for the researchers and practitioners globally. Reviewer would like to tale a chance and congratulate manuscript Authors with very interesting results that have practical applications.

However, there are few questions that with no doubts can be addressed by Authors.

Specifically:

1.When GEE introduced for the first time in manuscript Section-1 it is probably worth to mention that this cloud-based service provides access to remotely sensed big data acquired since 1985.

BTW (Gorelic et al, 2017) paper represents a very comprehensive GEE review and is worth it to be cited:

Noel Gorelick, Matt Hancher, Mike Dixon, Simon Ilyushchenko, David Thau, Rebecca Moore,
Google Earth Engine: Planetary-scale geospatial analysis for everyone,
Remote Sensing of Environment,Volume 202,2017,Pages 18-27,ISSN 0034-4257,https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2017.06.031.(https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0034425717302900)

2. In the section describing Tool A3 when referenced to code lines 36 and 166 respectively paper readers would probably benefit of including screen-shorts with this lines of source code with color or other highlights and comments what should be changed and how?

3. In section 3 (Discussion) statement on limitations of the GEE technology as proprietary is questionable. That should be referenced to the JavaScript only since GEE fully support Python that is rich with variety of libraries and in terms of for example machine learning it will significantly exceed QGIS and GDAL capabilities. TensorFlow-GEE integration could be a good sample. It is listed later in text - but probable limitations should be noticed for the JavaScript interface, not entire GEE as a system (SaaS, DaaS).

Overall impression of the paper is very good. I enjoyed reading this paper and recommend it for publication in journal.