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### **Land Use Change in China**

Support for monitoring land use change in China has been provided to our institute by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, primarily for two major efforts. Our research team is responsible for Zhejiang, Fujian and Taiwan provinces of East China for one project. The land use of the three provinces was interpreted using TM imagery for three dates: 1987, 1996 and 2000. Based on land use maps of the three time periods, the land use change can be characterized using GIS software.

Because urbanization of the Yangtze River Delta is expanding rapidly, we are involved in an ongoing effort to describe land cover and land use change in the area. The Yangtze River Delta includes Shanghai, middle and southern Jiangsu Province, as well as northern and eastern Zhejiang Province of East China. It is one of most economically developed areas of China. The land use was interpreted from TM imagery for four dates 1984, 1995, 2000 and 2003.