Downloading a vegetation index time series in SEPAL

Contact

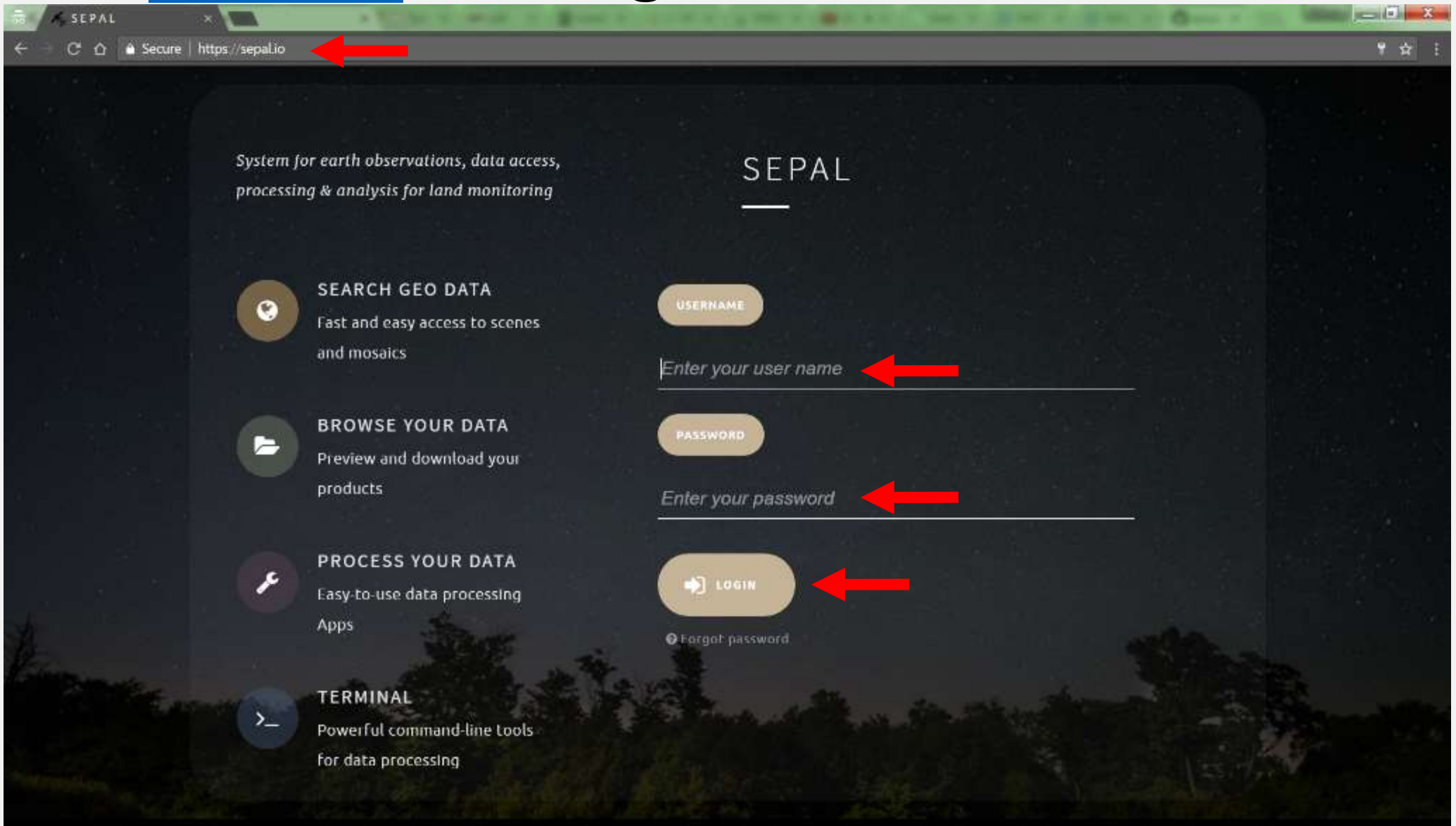
erik.lindquist@fao.org

yelena.finegold@fao.org

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

SEPAL
SYSTEM FOR EARTH OBSERVATION DATA ACCESS, PROCESSING & ANALYSIS FOR LAND MONITORING

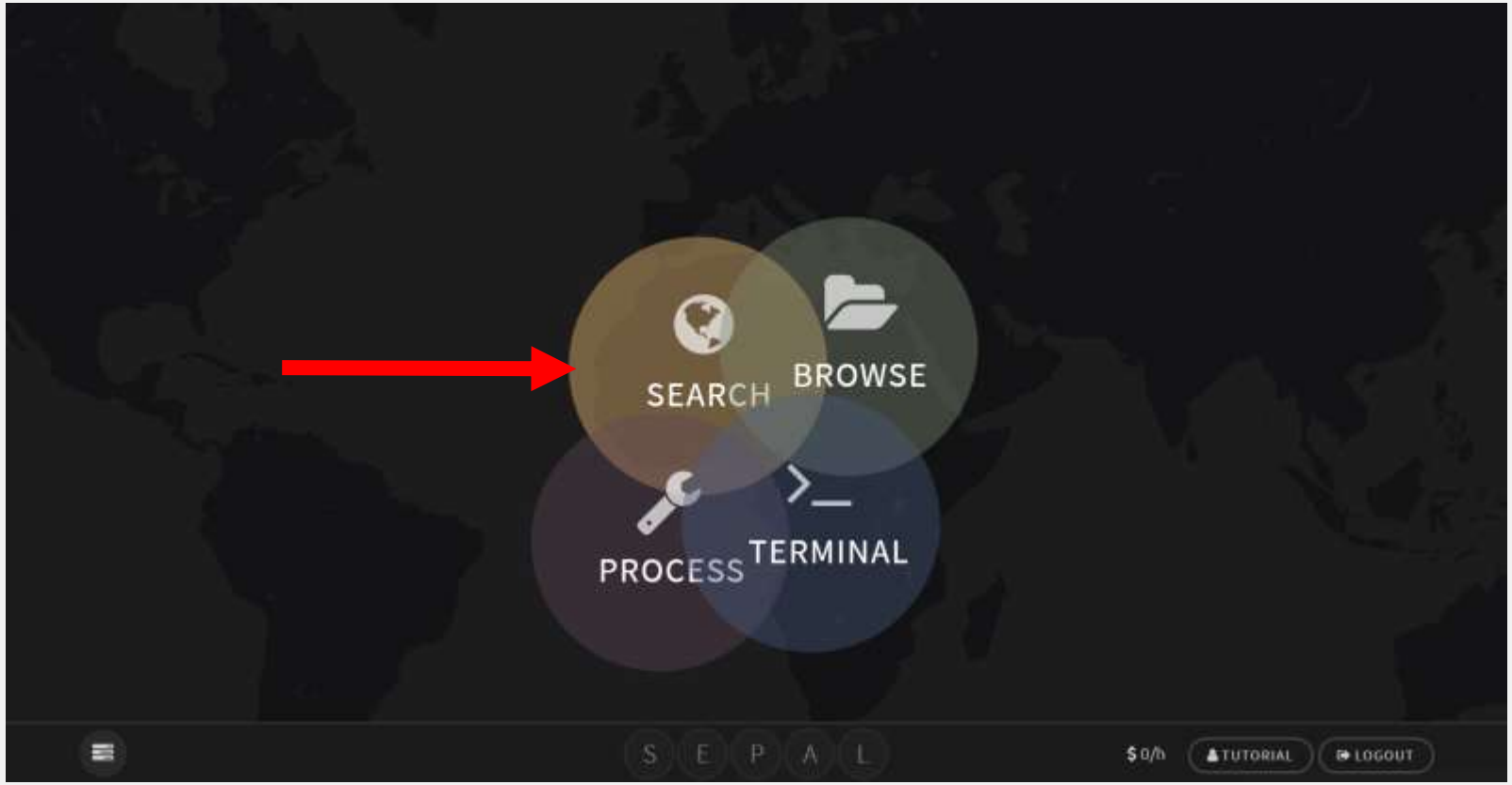
Go to sepal.io and login



Start the SEARCH tab

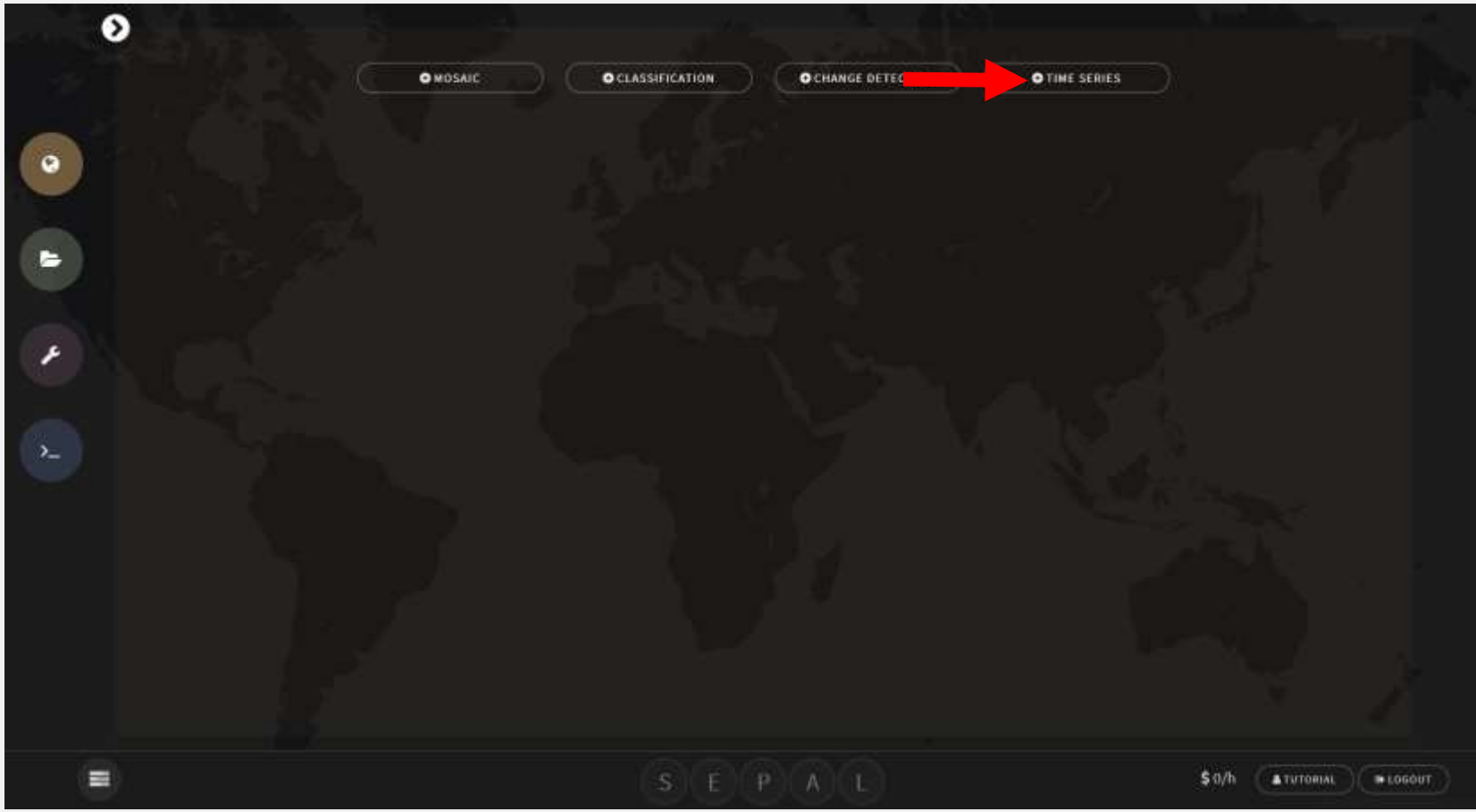
There are four fields in SEPAL

SEARCH	for imagery and creating mosaics
BROWSE	through your personal folders and visualize your data
TERMINAL	to access all the command line possibilities of the LINUX server
PROCESS	access pre-loaded tools and chains of processing



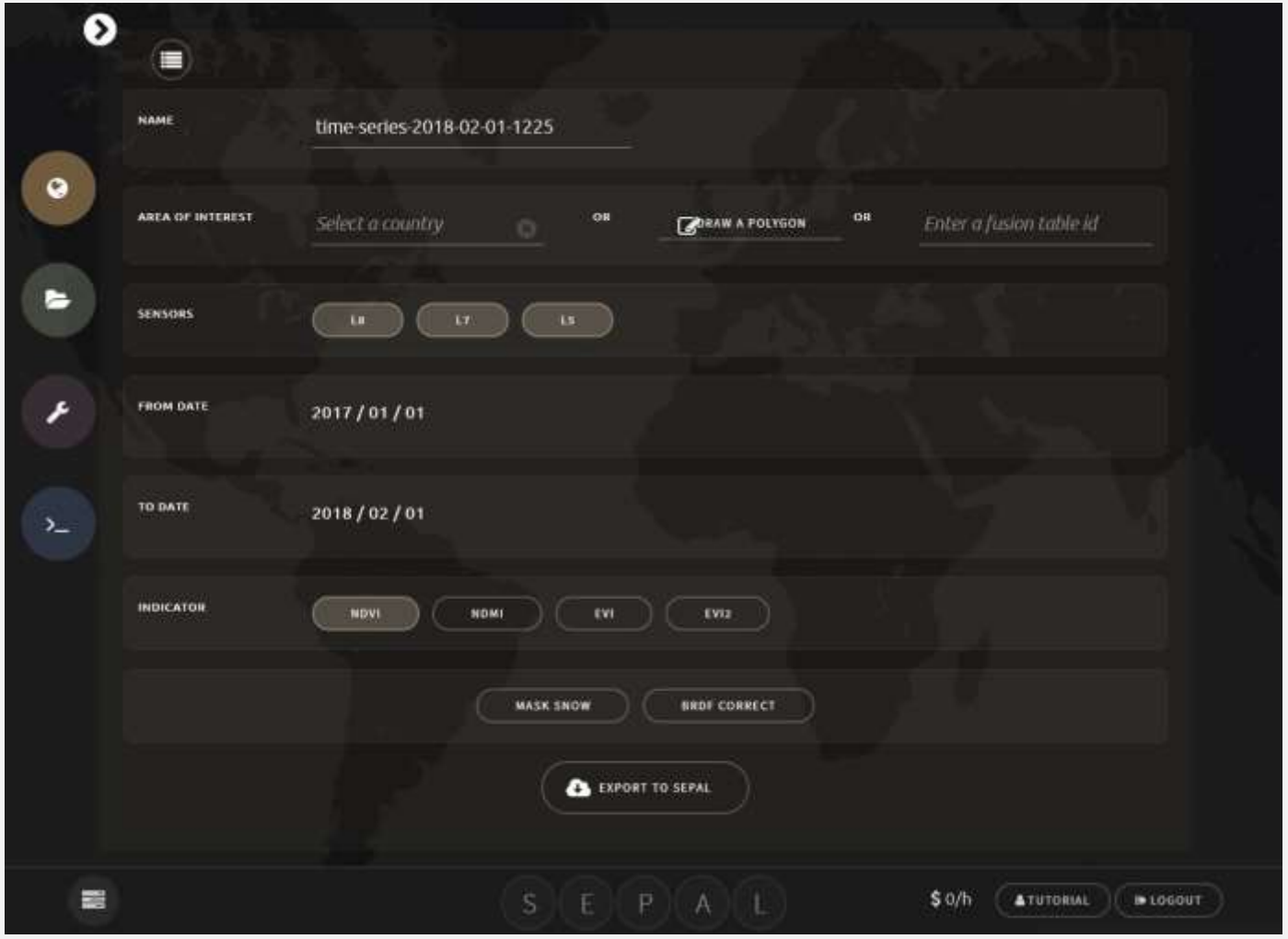
Use SEPAL to create a time series stack

- Use the time series module to create an time series stack for an area of interest



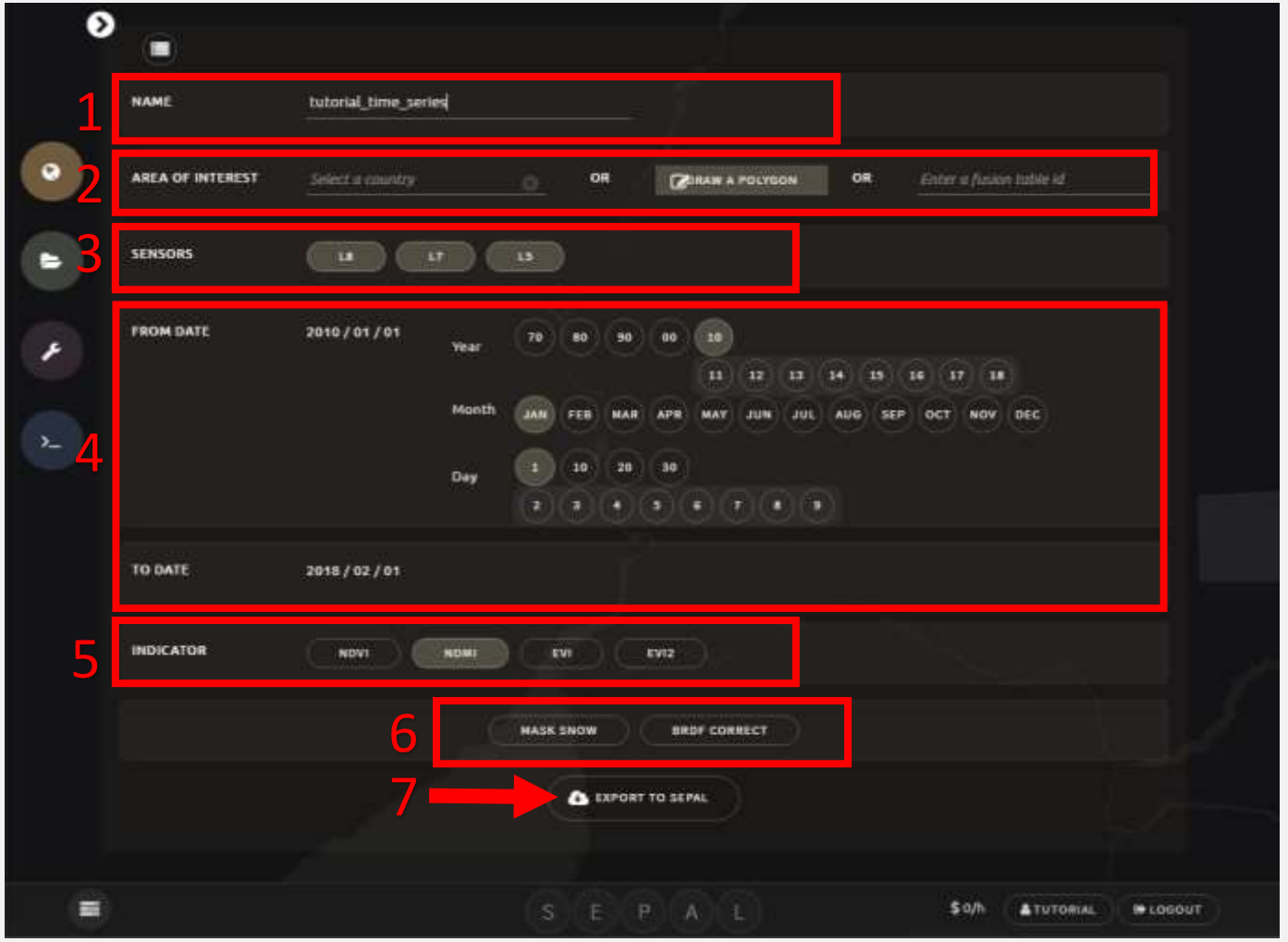
Use SEPAL to create a time series stack

- The time series tab creates a stack of images for the chosen indicator and time span for the area of interest.
- In the result each band in the image represents a unique date

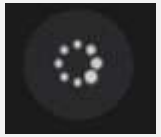


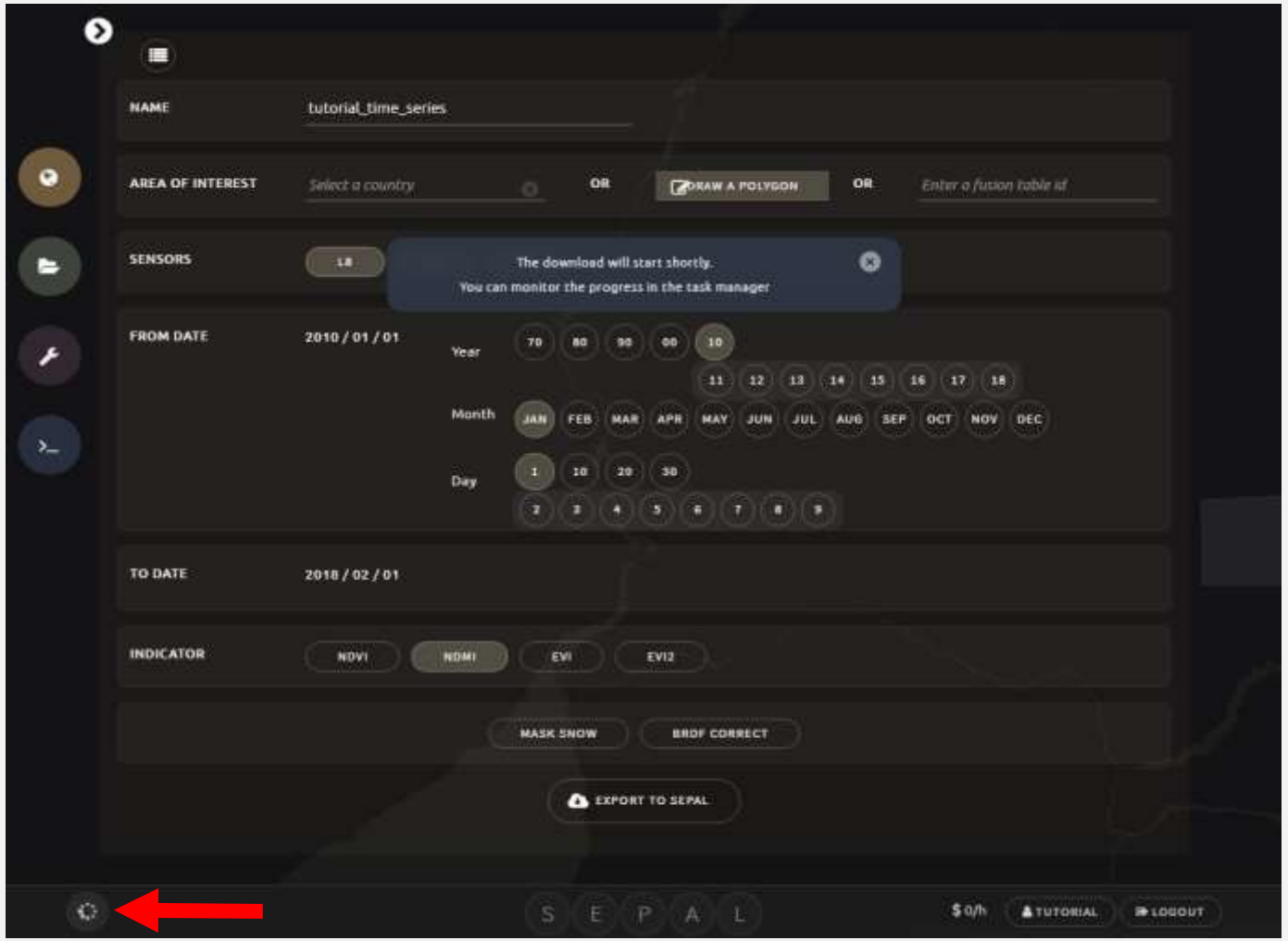
Use SEPAL to create a time series stack

1. First give the time series a custom name, this will be the name of the folder in the downloads folder where you can find the downloaded time series
2. Country boundaries, a custom polygon or a fusion table ID can be used as the area of interest.
3. Landsat 5, 7 and/or 8 can be included in the time series
4. Choose the 'from' and 'to' dates. The time series will start at the from date and end at the to data
5. The indicator is the vegetation index that is calculated for each date.
   - NDVI= normalized vegetation index
   - NDMI= normalized moisture index
   - EVI= enhanced vegetation index
   - EVI2= enhanced vegetation index (2 bands)
6. Options to mask snow and correct for view and illumination angle effects using BRDF
7. The final step is to export the time series stack to SEPAL



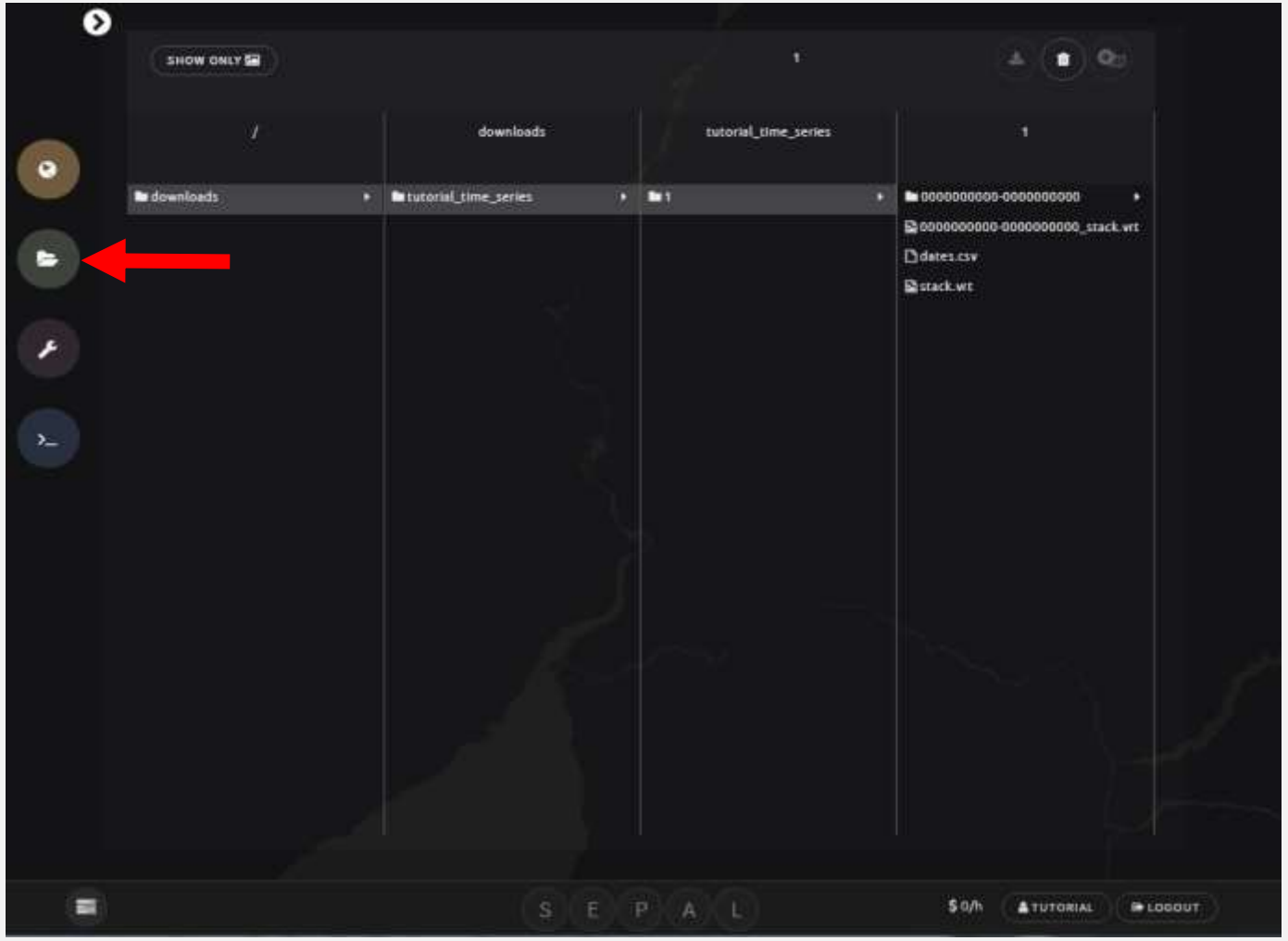
Use SEPAL to create a time series stack

- Once the download is initiated you can monitor the progress of the download by clicking on the spinning wheel 
- The time series stack will download into the download folder in your SEPAL account



Use SEPAL to create a time series stack

- When the download is complete the time series stack is saved as a .vrt file in the downloads folder in a folder that has the same name specified in the download parameters (1)
- The two main outputs are stack.vrt and dates.csv
  - stack.vrt stores the vegetation index for each date in the bands
  - dates.csv stores the date corresponding to each band



Run a times series analysis on the stack

- The data is ready for time series analysis
- Start a large instance in the terminal, time series analysis is very heavy.
- Choose an instance with more CPUs and less memory, such as the c4.4xlarge.
- Running a larger instance saves time, depending on the size of the area, with a smaller instance the same process can take days to complete.