



Mapping land take and soil sealing in the frames of Copernicus land monitoring

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Land take - context

'Land take' dominates in Europe, with artificial areas and agricultural intensification, resulting in land degradation, worsened by high fragmentation on 30% of land area. Conflicting demands on land impact significantly on the land's potential to supply key services.

Limiting 'land take' is already an important policy target at national or sub-national level. Balancing land-recycling, compact urban development, place-based management and green infrastructure will provide positive effects.

Addressing the issues raised, the European Union's (EU) 7th Environment Action Programme (7th EAP)^[2] aims to ensure that by 2020 land is managed sustainably. This commitment requires coordinated governance and integration of environmental considerations into territorial planning decisions on land use. Land policy targets would also help achieve this goal, and the **7th EAP** specifically suggests a **target of 'no net land take' by 2050**. This resonates with the UN Rio+20 Summit^[3] call for a land-degradation-neutral world in the context of sustainable development, a goal to which the EU has subscribed.

SOER 2015 — The European environment — state and outlook 2015

Copernicus programme

GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment & Security)

Copernicus is a joint initiative of the EC and ESA to develop a high-quality European Earth observation capacity. Its objective is to provide relevant information services to policy-makers and other users, particularly in relation to environment and security

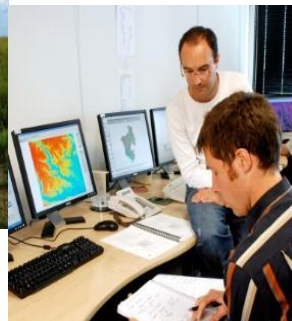
Copernicus components



- Space segment (e.g Sentinel satellites)



- In-situ observations



- Information services



Source: EEA

Copernicus land components

■ Global component

bio-physical parameters (Essential Climate Variables (ECVs), food security (Africa) etc.)

■ Pan-European component

Satellite image mosaics, CORINE land cover & changes, High Resolution layers (HRL)

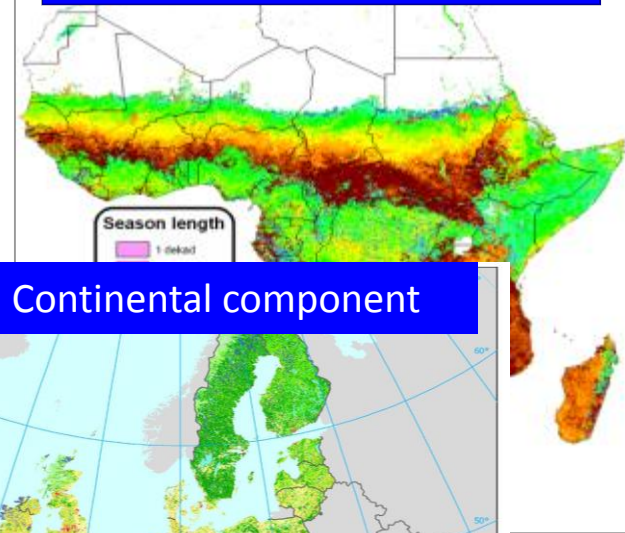
■ Local component (hot spot mapping)

Urban Atlas + HR land cover for Riparian zones / Natura 2000 areas / Coastal zones

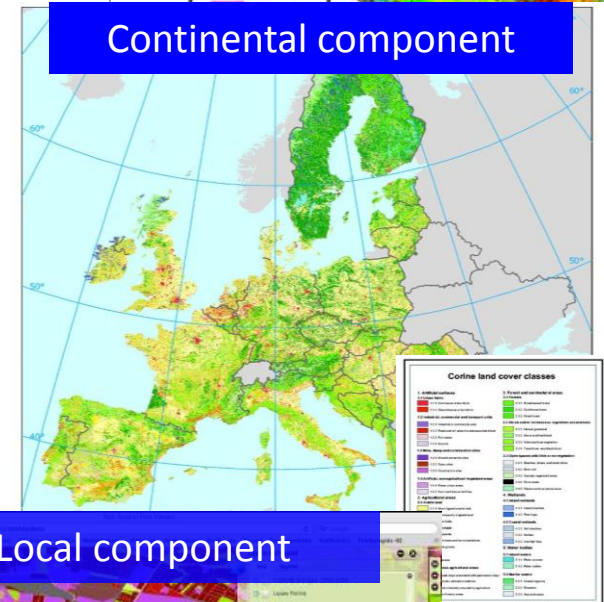
■ In-situ component

National ortho-photos, topo& thematic maps, cadastral maps, LPIS data, Eurostat LUCAS survey, ...

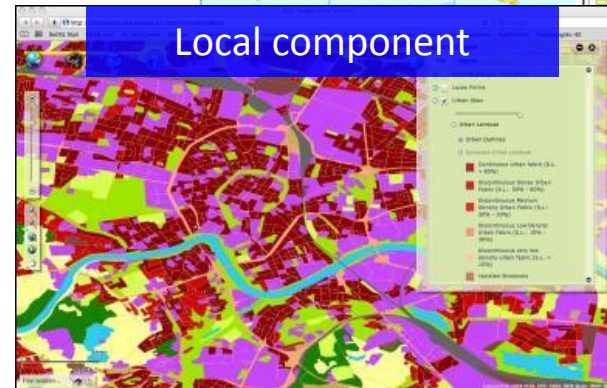
Global component



Continental component



Local component



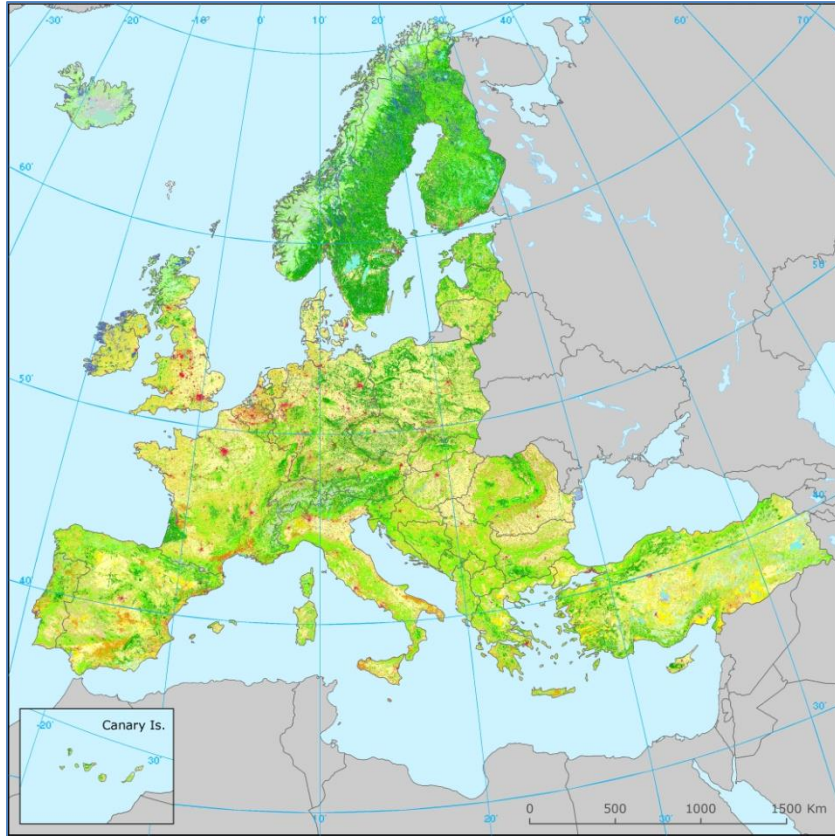
Source: EEA

Participation in National and European land monitoring

- National segment of **European CLC update & change mapping** as NRC land cover
- Verification & enhancement of **HR land cover layers**
- **National 1:50.000 scale CORINE Land Cover** mapping (CLC50)
- Working for **European Environment Agency (EEA)** as participating in **European Topic Centres** since 2001:
 - 2001-2006: European Topic Centre - Terrestrial Environment (ETC-TE)
 - 2006-2010: European Topic Centre - Land Use & Spatial Information (ETC-LUSI)
 - 2011-2014: European Topic Centre - Spatial Information and Analysis (ETC-SIA)
 - 2015- : European Topic Centre – Urban, Land and Soil systems (ETC-ULS)
- Participation in the coordination of European land cover mapping activities (methodological developments, QA/QC, training of national teams)
- Participation in the development and testing of LC/LU related environmental indicators (land take, imperviousness & change)
- Participation in the development of a **European land monitoring strategy (EAGLE** working group, **FP7 HELM** project

CORINE land cover (CLC) mapping

CORINE = Co-ordination of Information on the Environment



Purpose: To provide quantitative, consistent and comparable information on land cover

Applications: Land cover is a basic data source for environmental modelling, regional planning and orientation of the environmental policy in Europe

Mapping surface features at scale 1:100.000 based on physical characteristics

Minimum Mapping Unit (status): **25 ha**

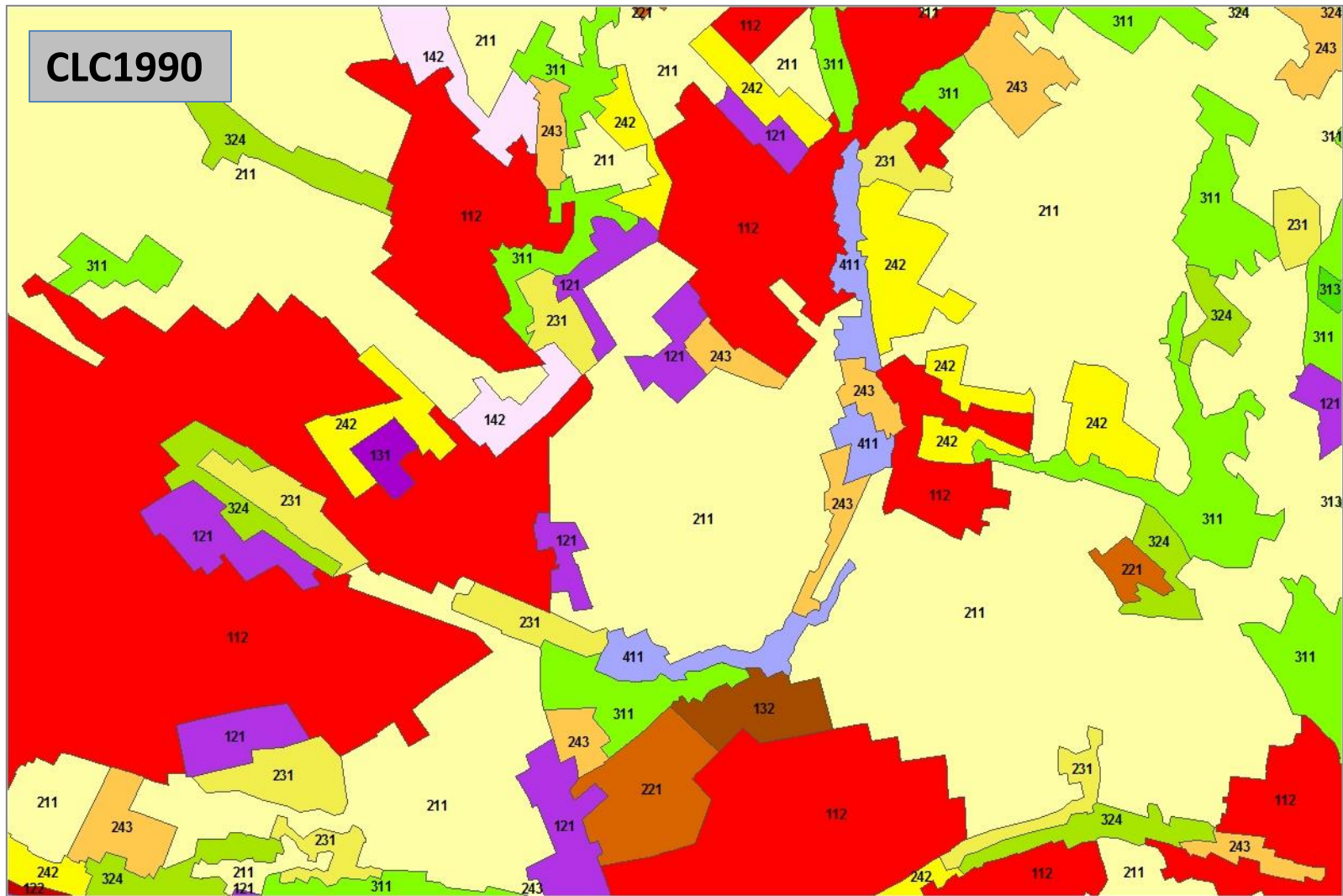
Minimum Mapping Unit (changes): **5 ha**

Minimum Mapping Width: **100 m**

Nomenclature: 3 levels, 44 classes for Europe

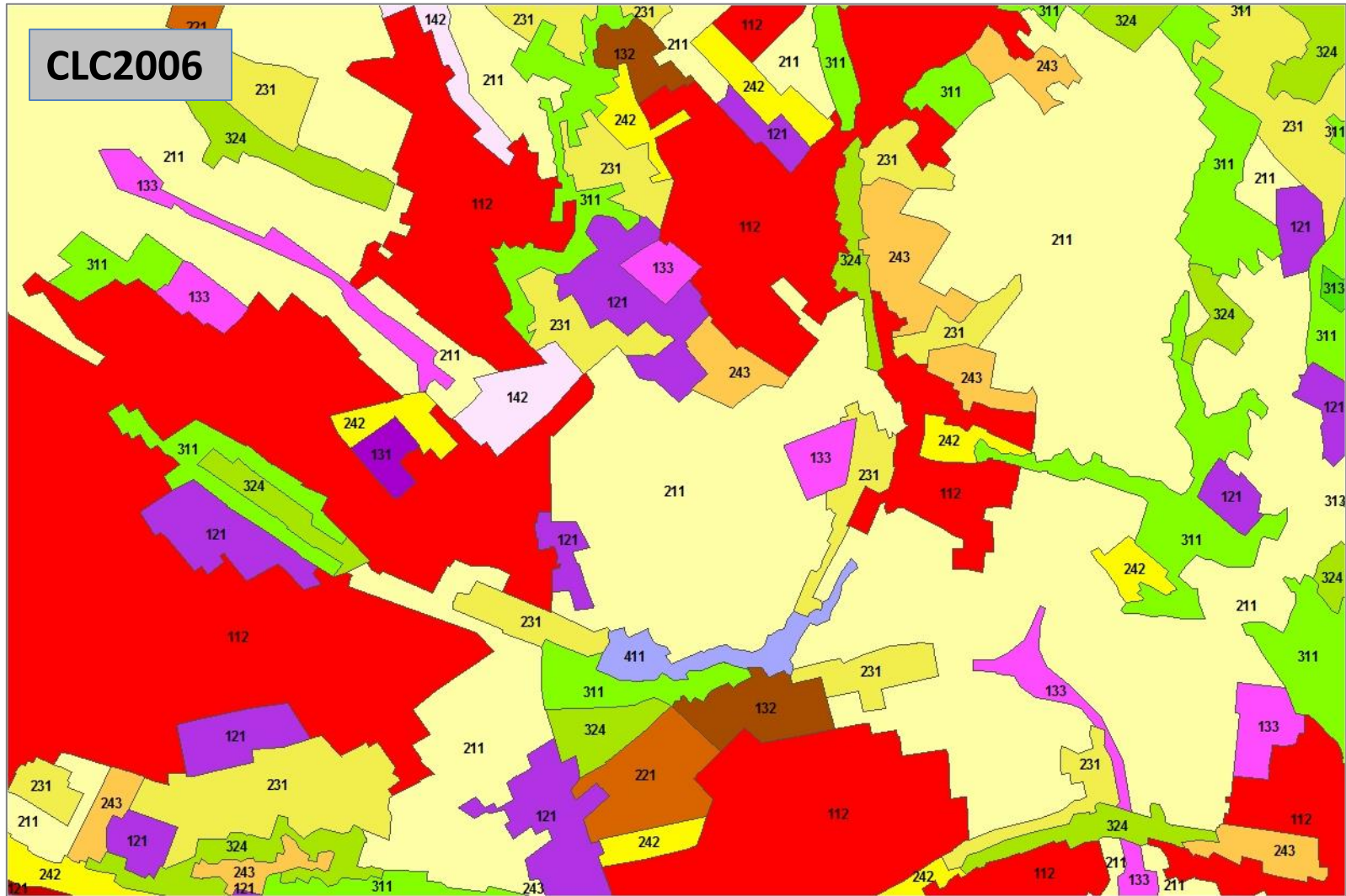
Time-series: CLC1990, CLC2000, CLC2006, CLC2012, [CLC2018](#), ...

CLC time-series (suburban area north from Budapest)

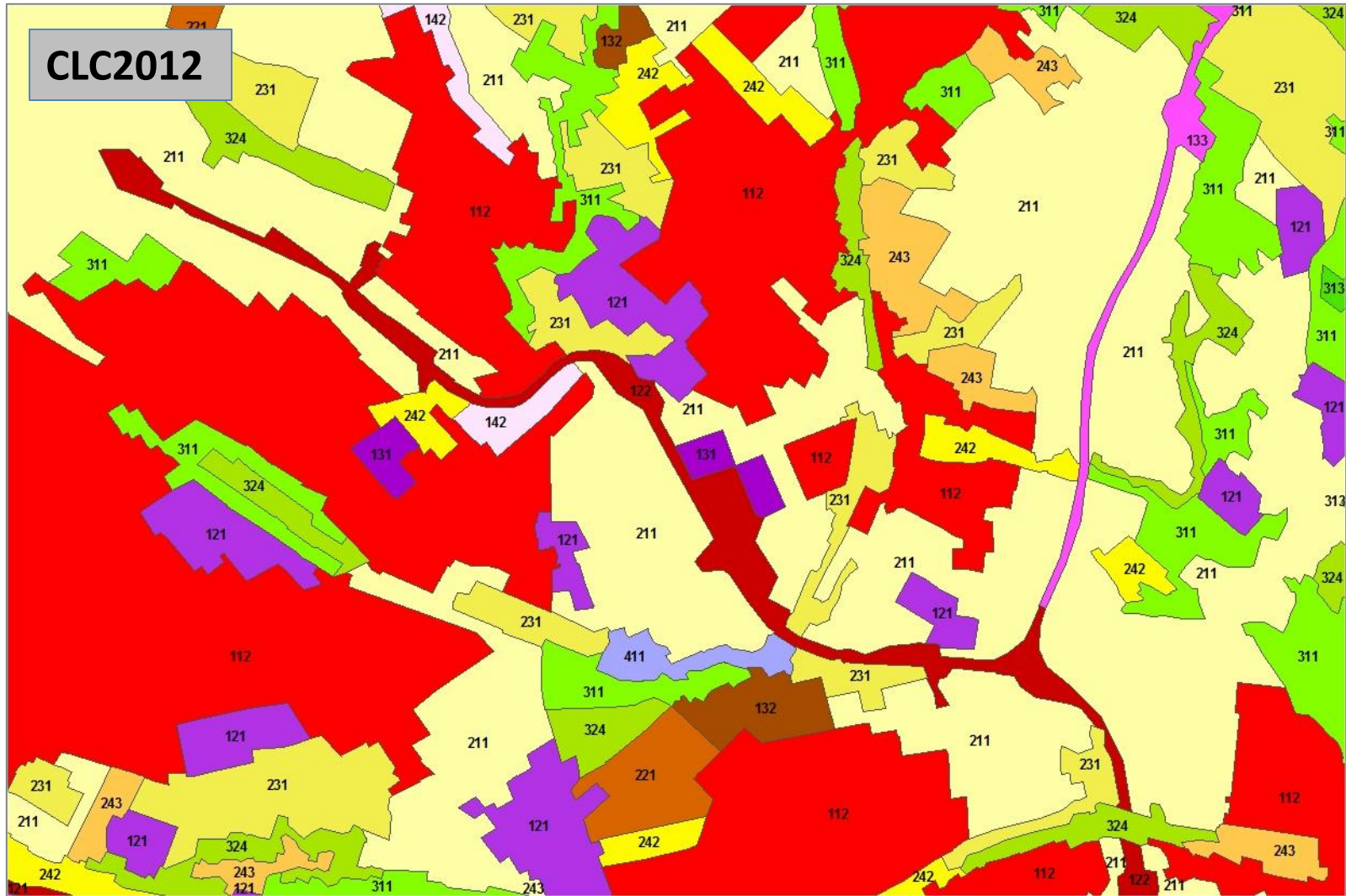


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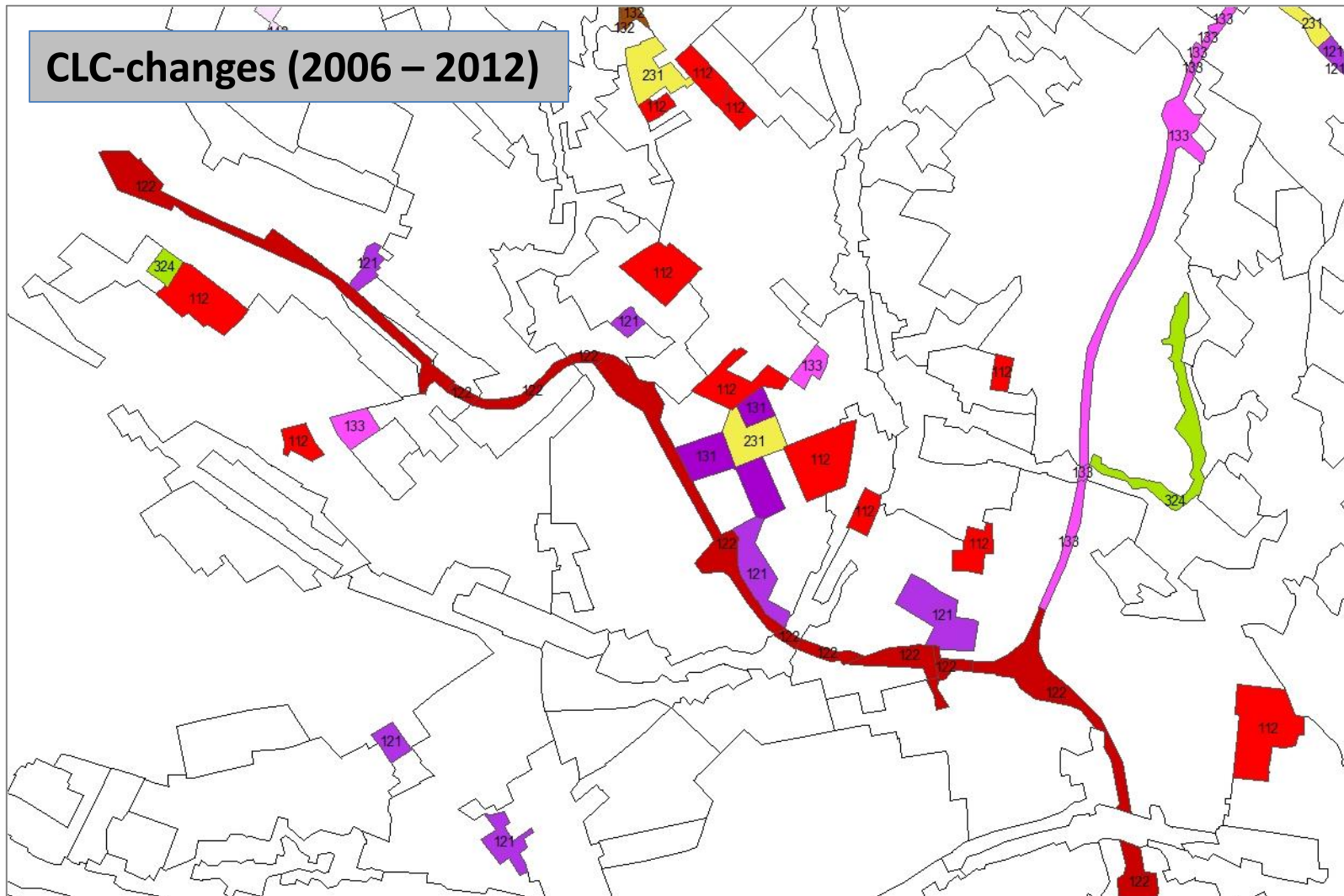
CLC time-series (suburban area north from Budapest)



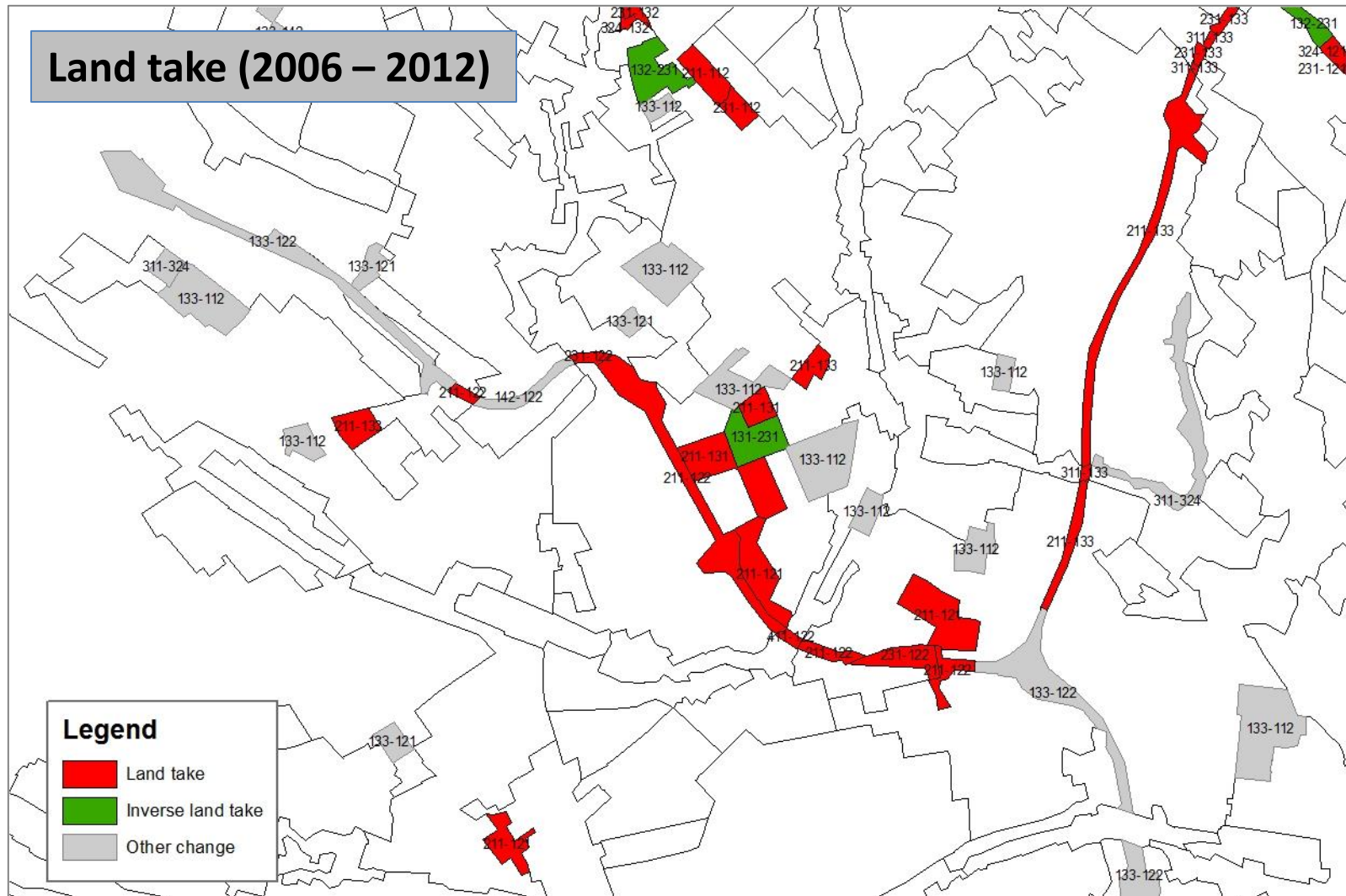
CLC time-series (suburban area north from Budapest)



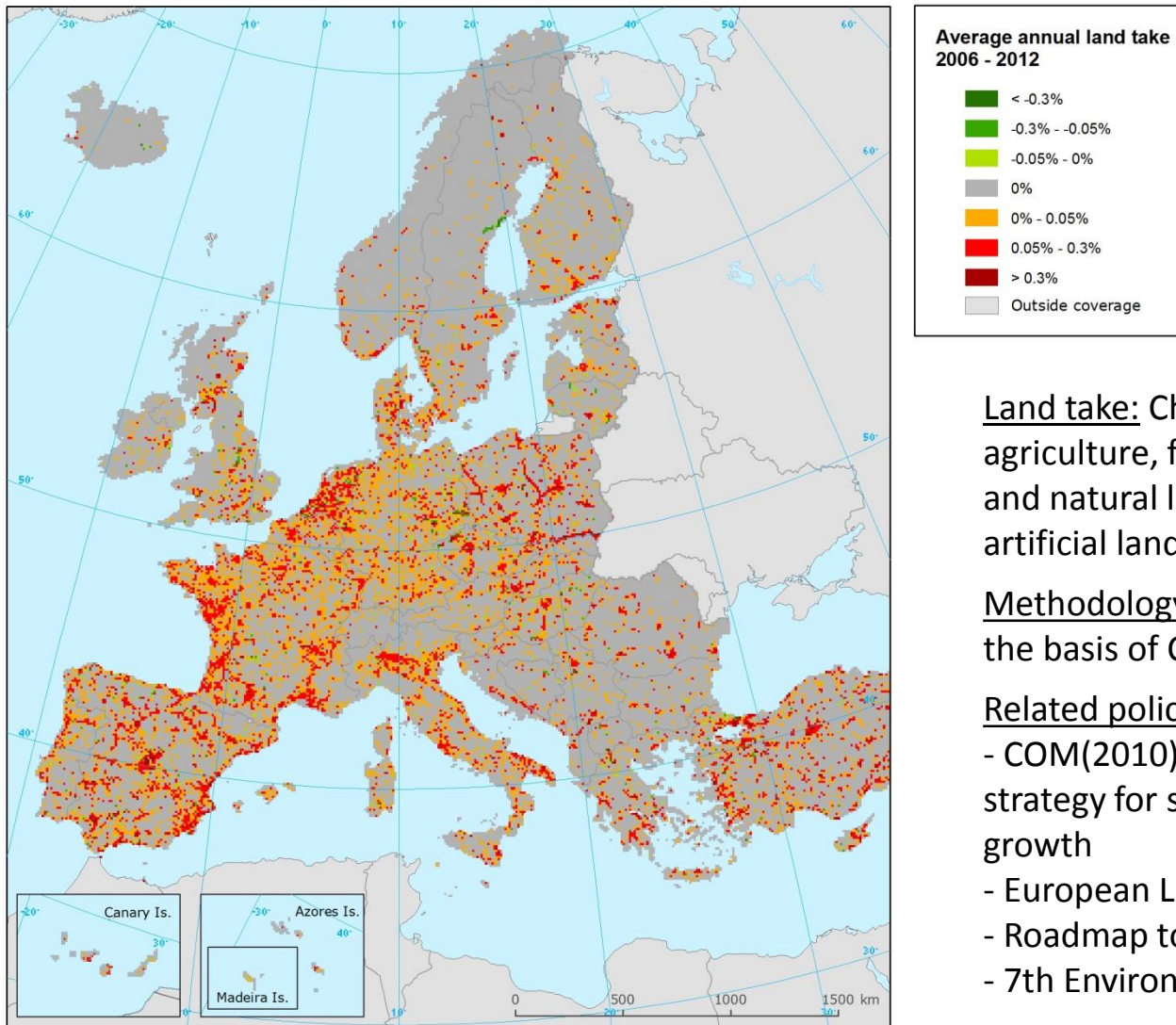
CLC-changes (suburban area north from Budapest)



CLC-changes (suburban area north from Budapest)



Average annual land take between 2006-2012 in Europe



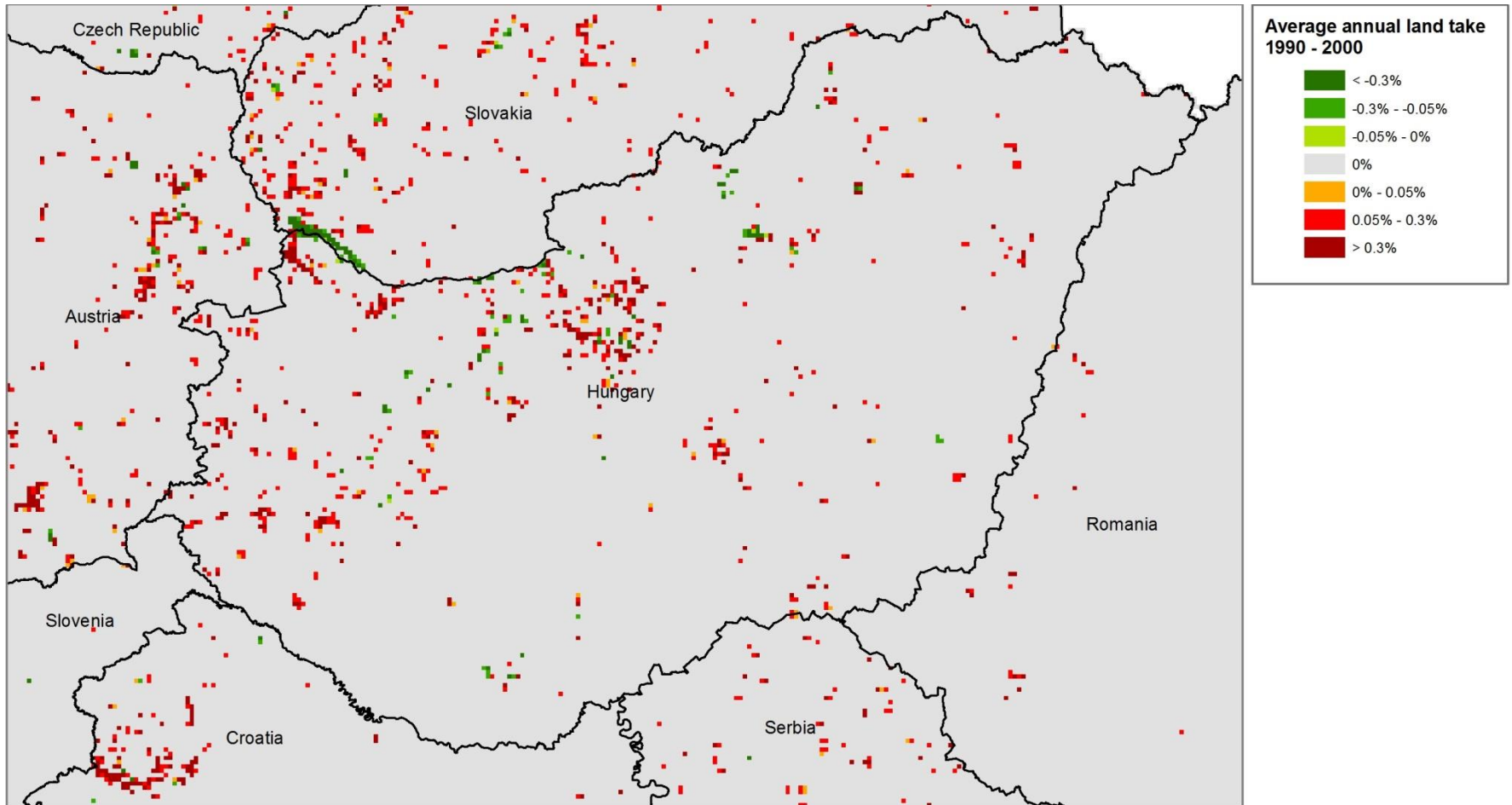
Land take: Change of the amount of agriculture, forest and other semi-natural and natural land taken by urban and other artificial land development.

Methodology: 1km grid based calculation on the basis of CLC-change data

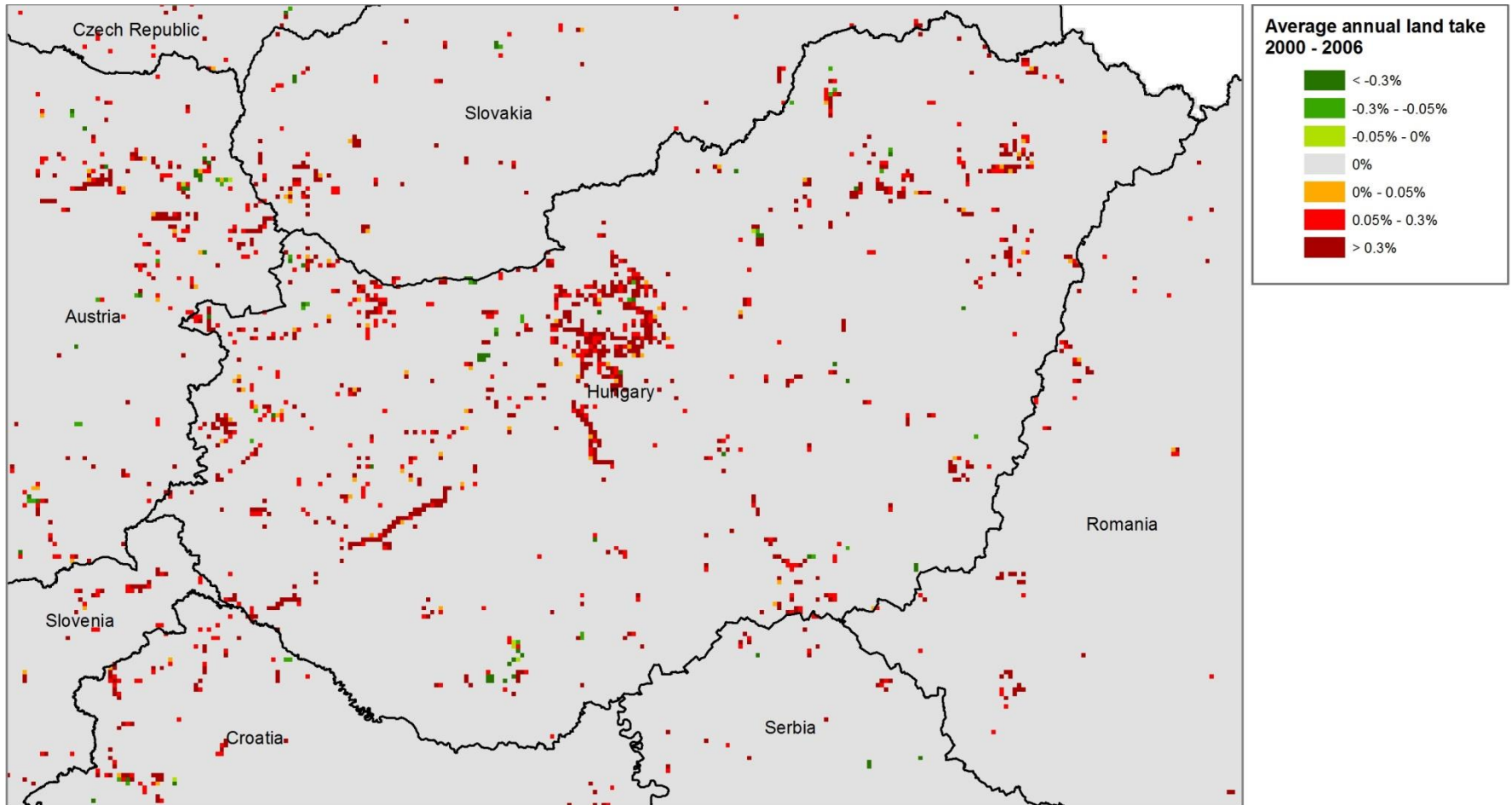
Related policy documents:

- COM(2010) 2020 final, Europe 2020: A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth
- European Landscape Convention
- Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe
- 7th Environment Action Programme
- ...

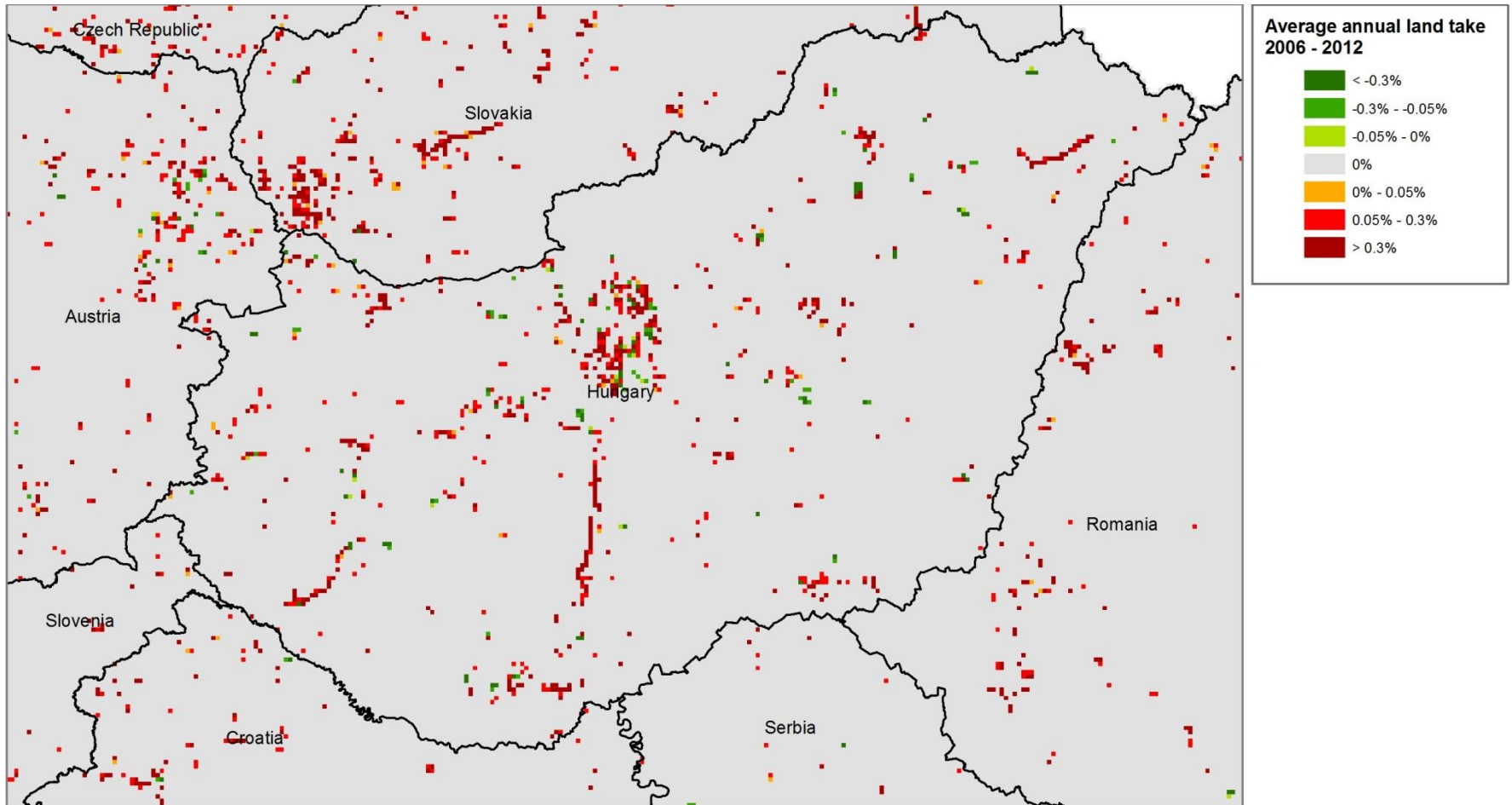
Average annual land take in Hungary and surroundings



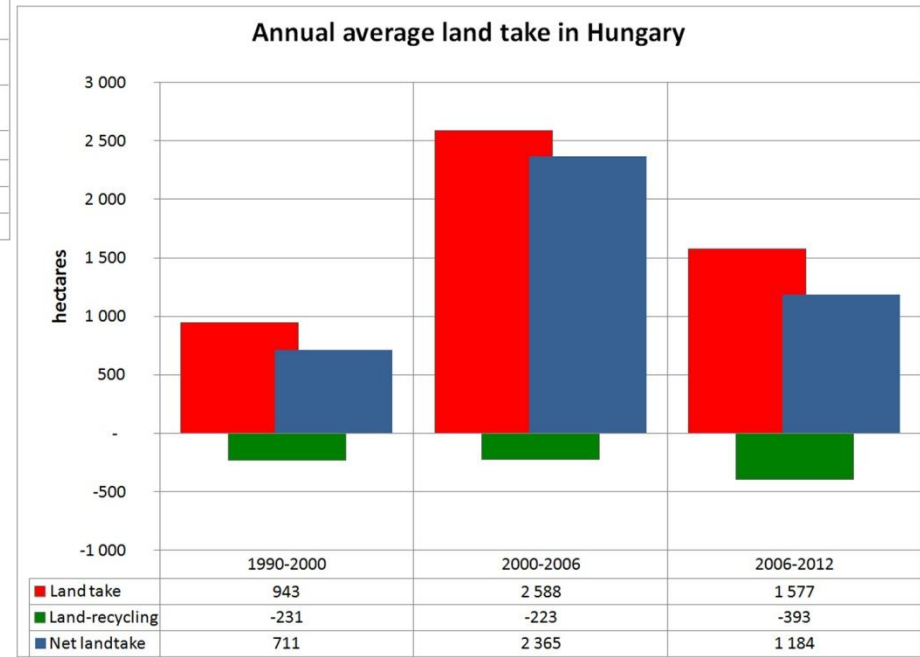
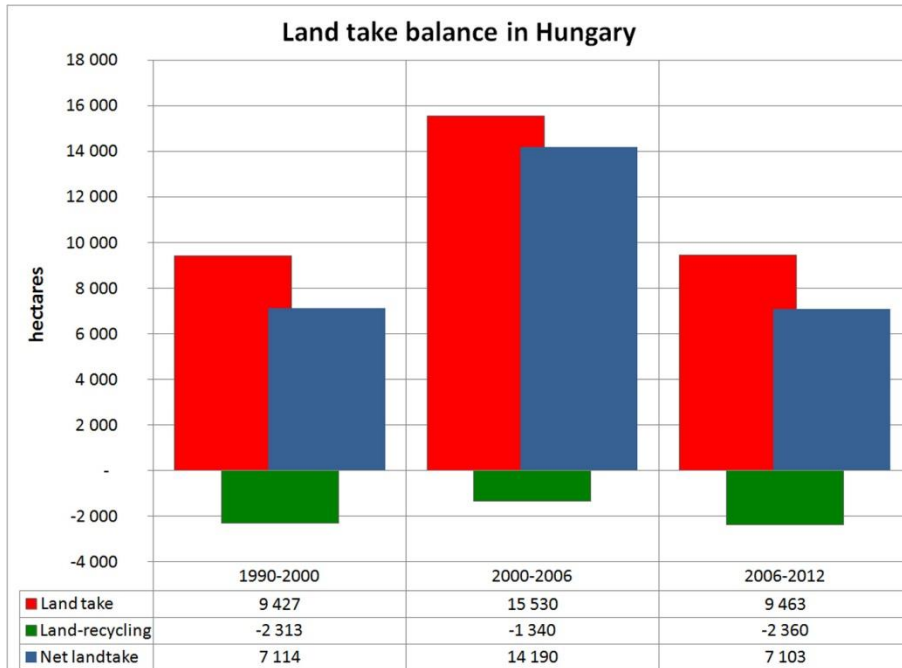
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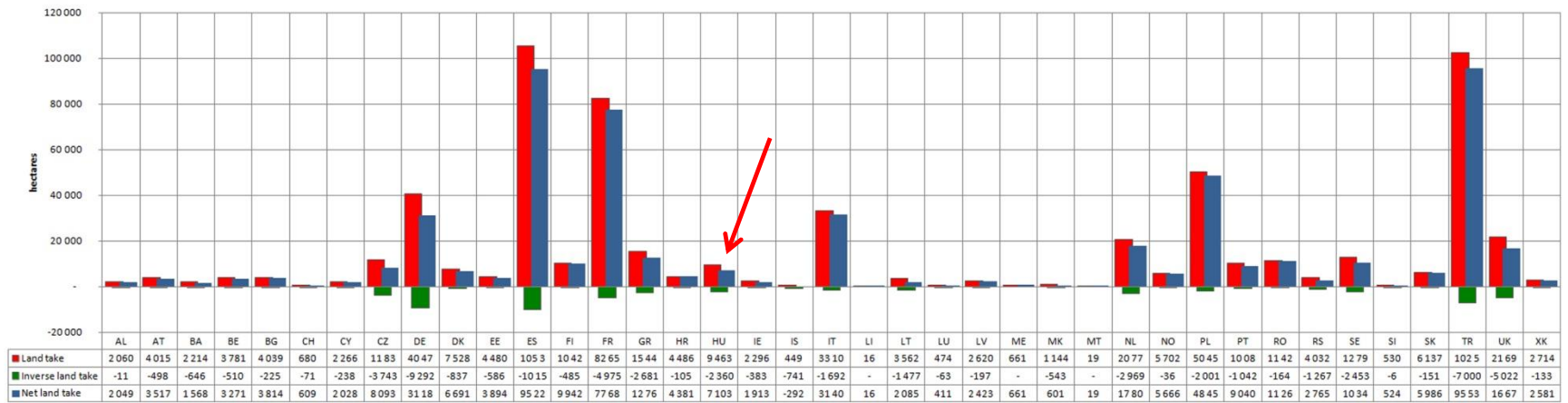


Land take balance in Hungary between 1990 - 2012

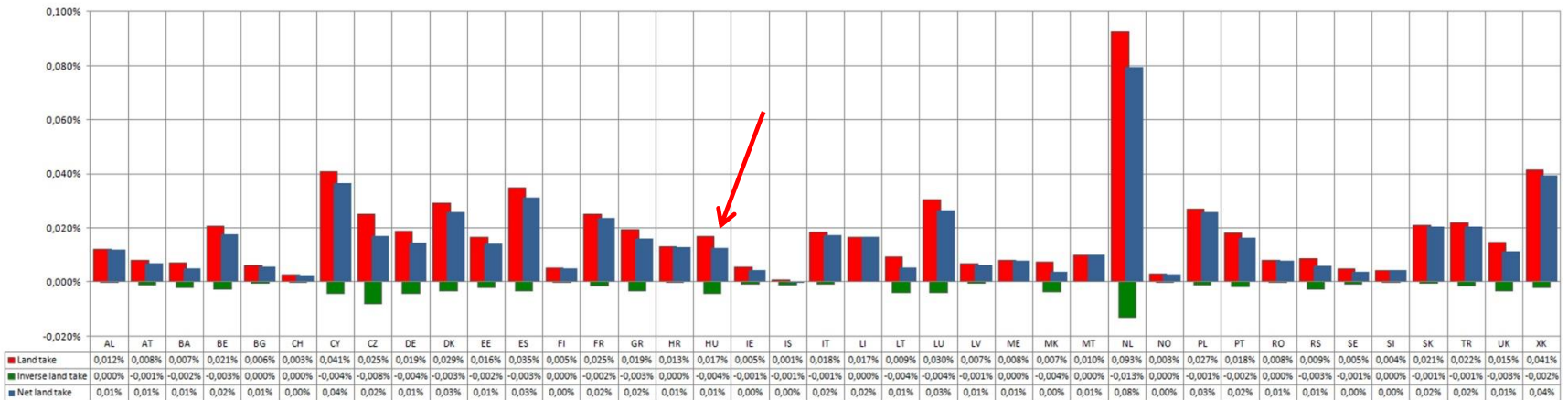


Land take balance in Europe between 2006 - 2012

Total land take in European countries between 2006 - 2012

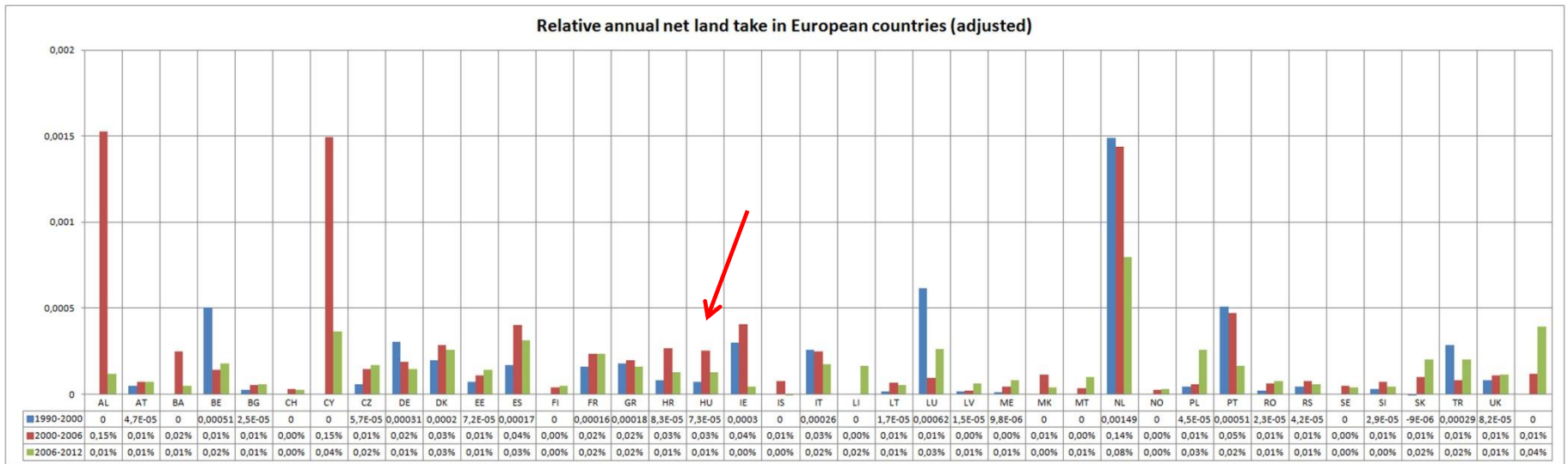
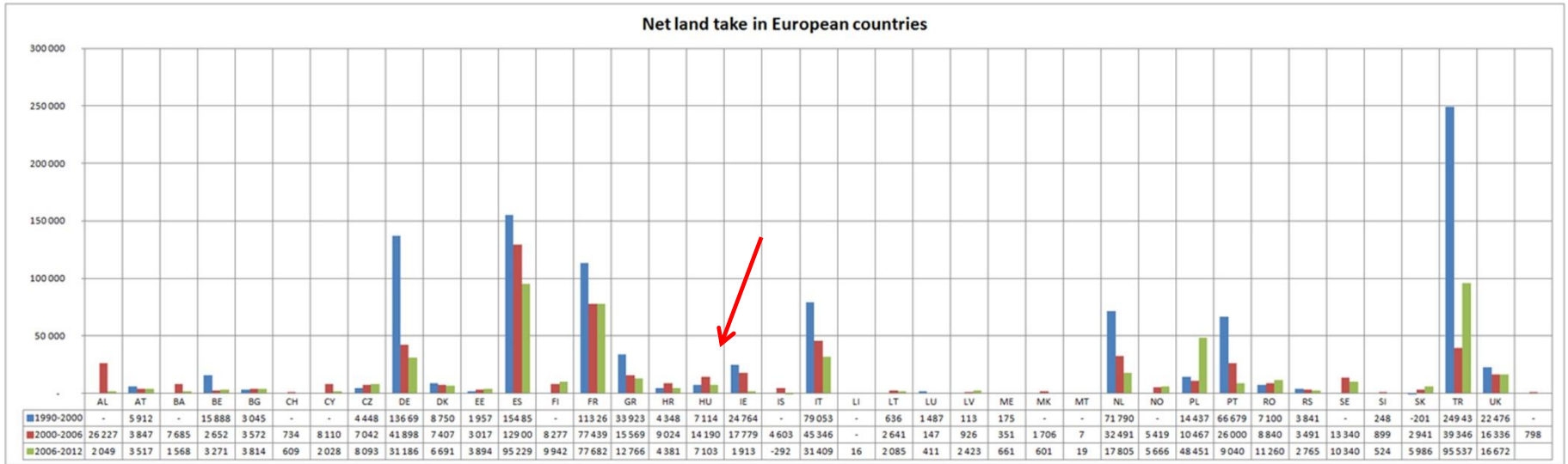


Relative annual land take in European countries between 2006 - 2012

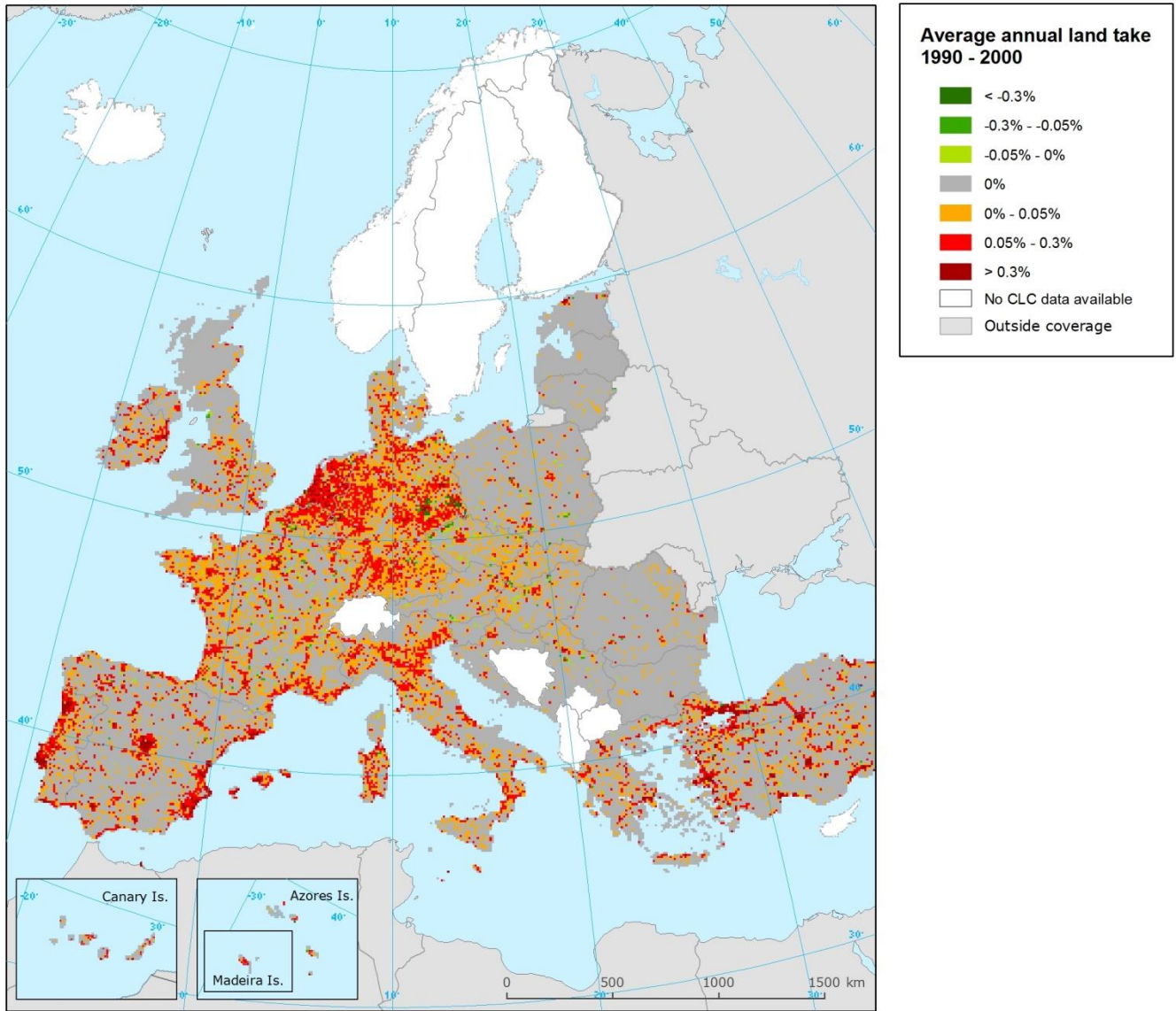


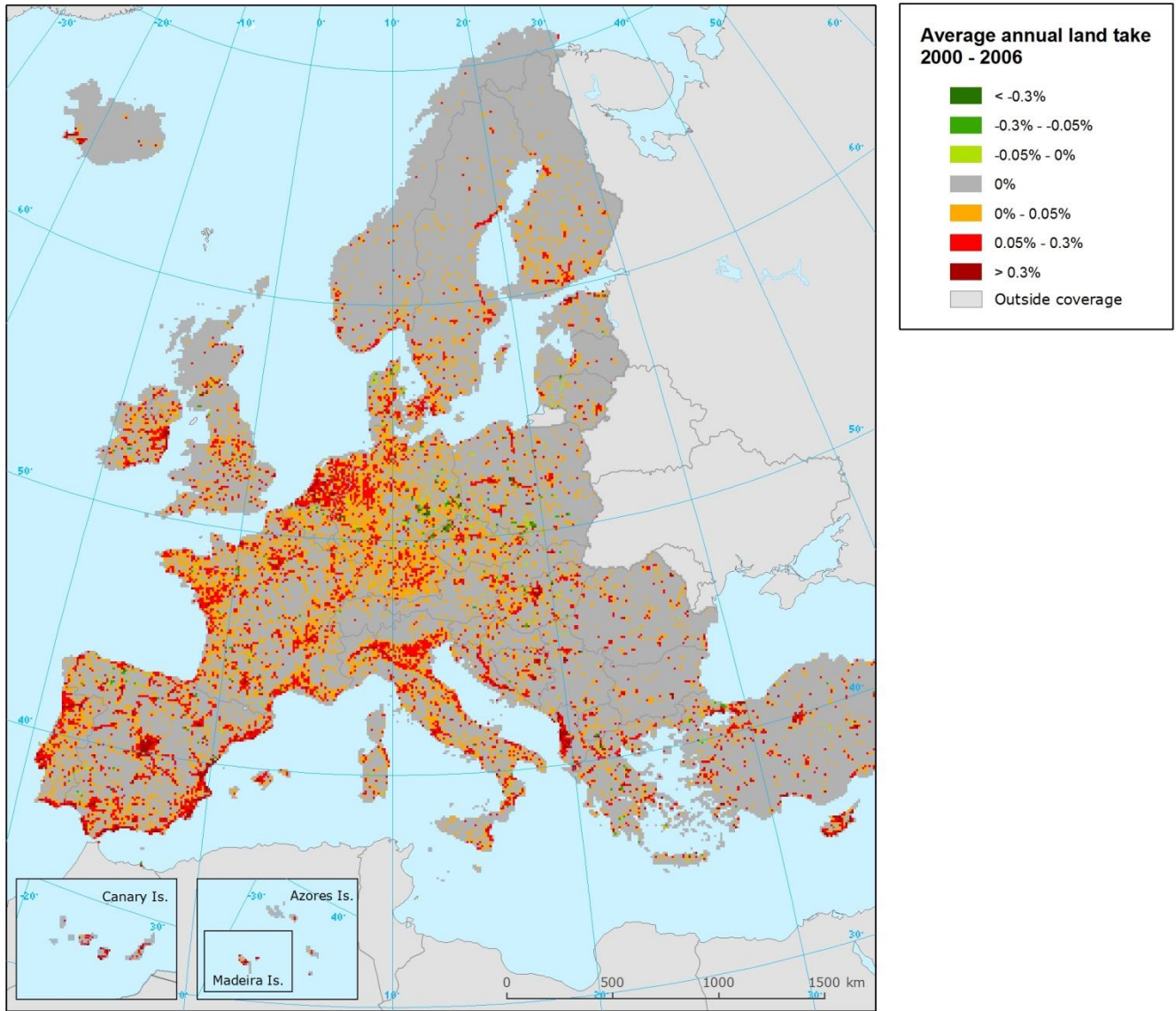
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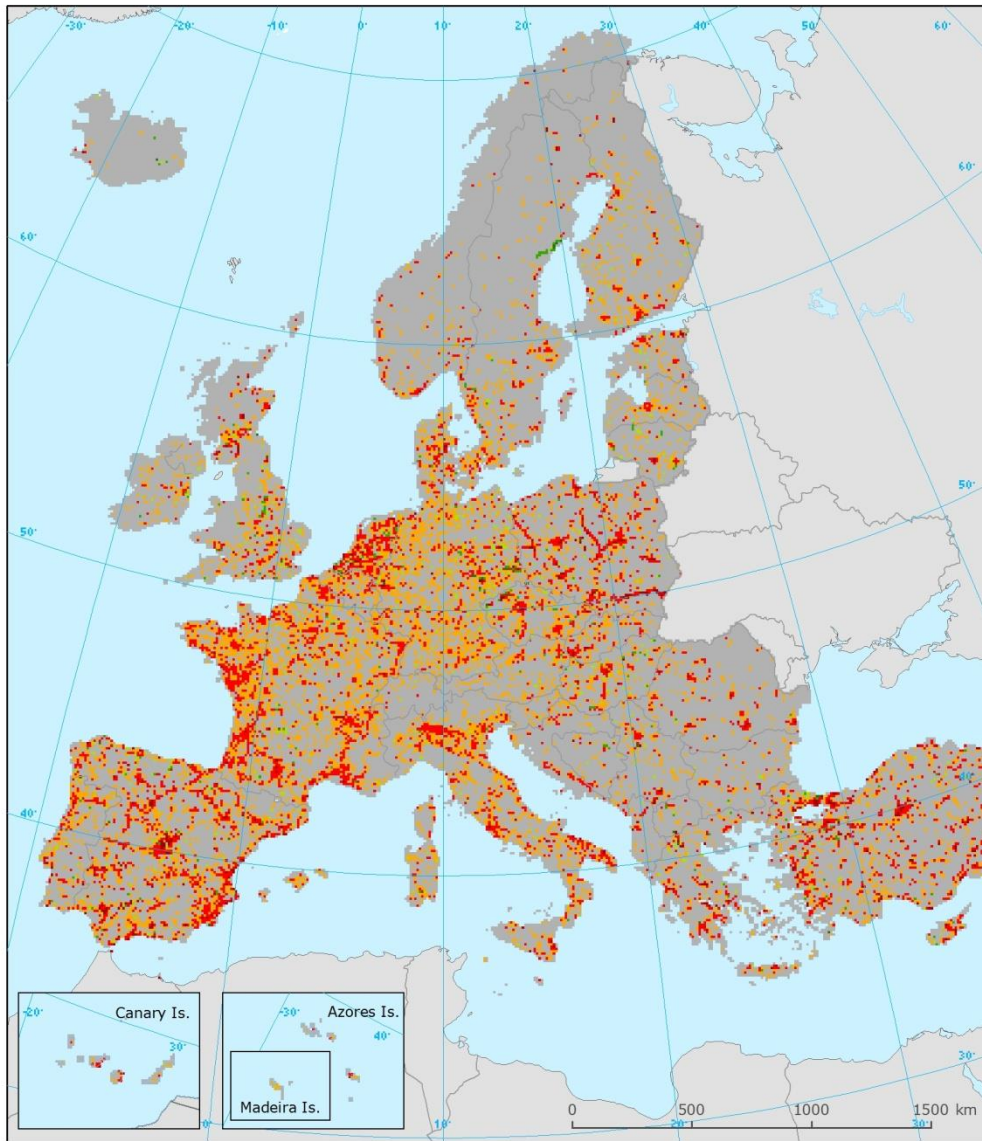
Net land take in Europe between 1990 - 2012



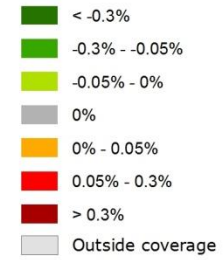
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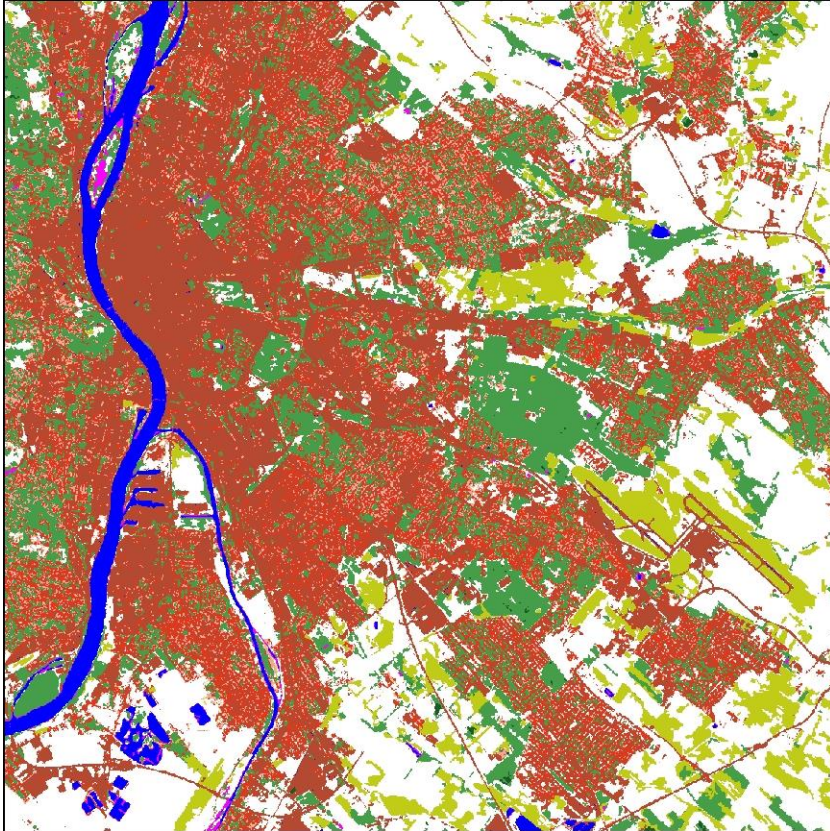




**Average annual land take
2006 - 2012**



Copernicus High Resolution Layers



5+ Thematic land cover layer (2012):

1. Imperviousness
2. Tree Cover Density+ Forest types + additional support layer
3. Natural and semi-natural grasslands
4. Wetlands
5. Permanent Water Bodies

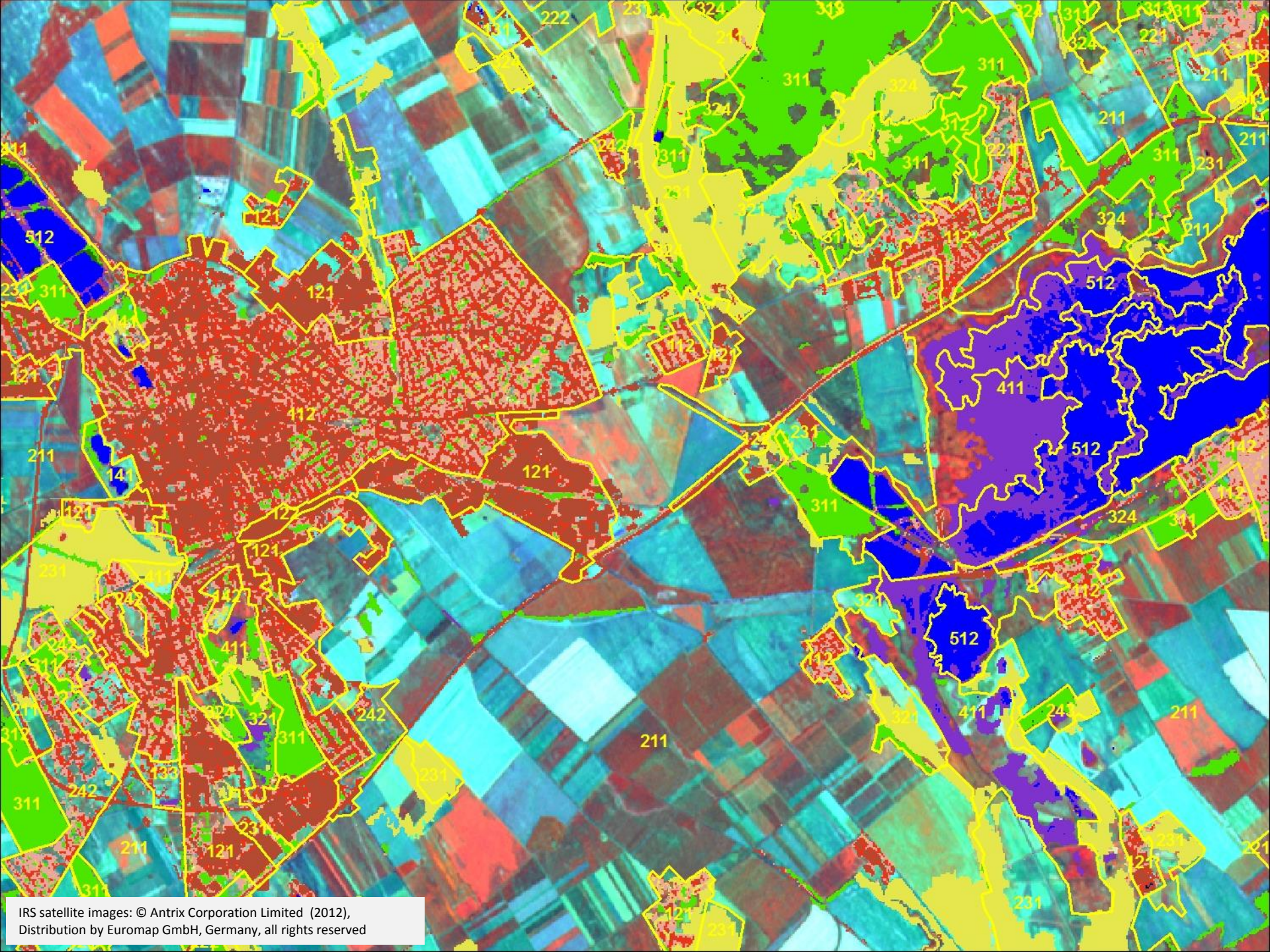
Method: Semi-automatic classification of satellite imagery

Resolution: **20m / 100m**

Minimum Mapping Unit (Forest types only): **0,5 ha**

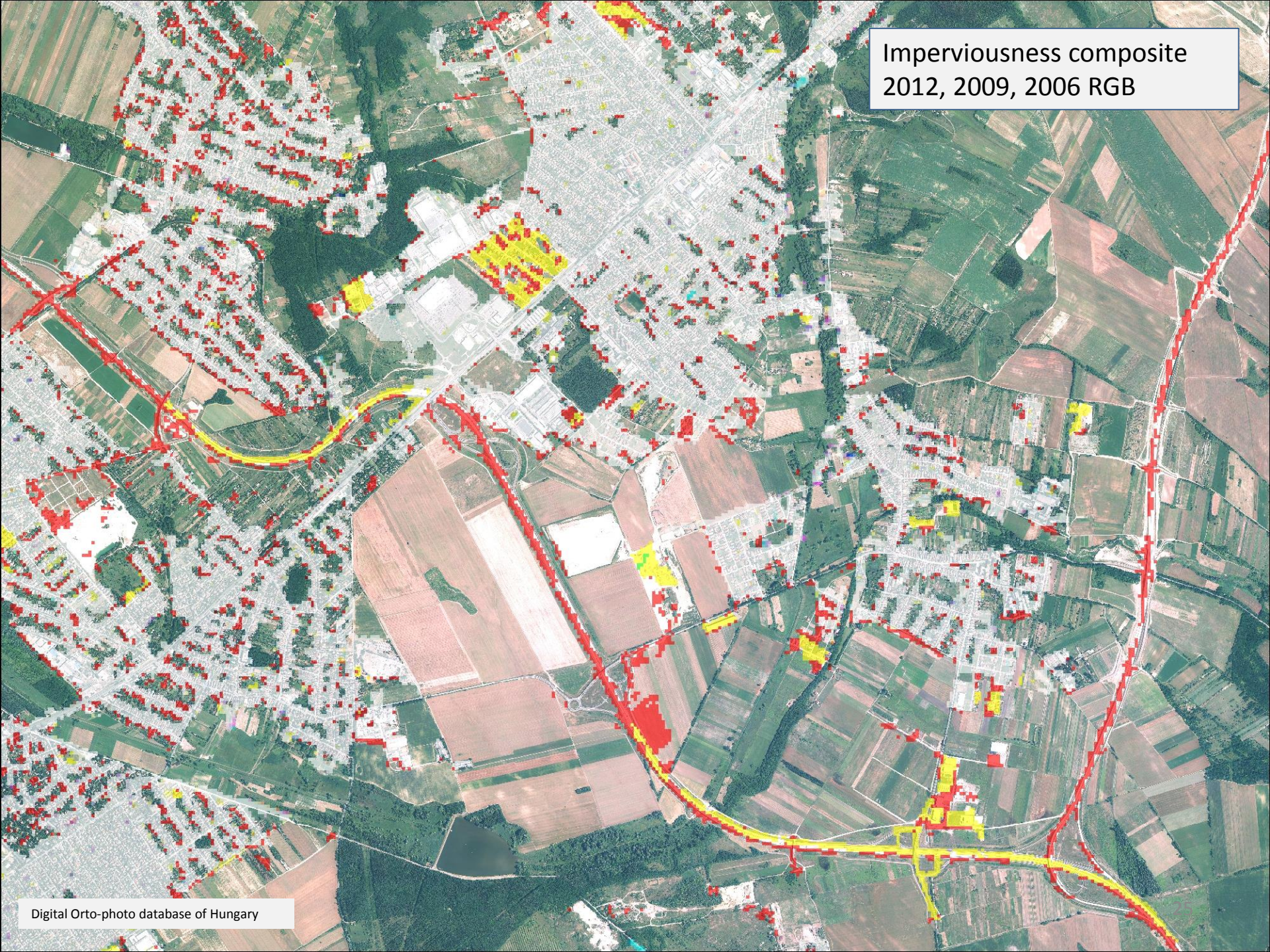
Minimum width of mapped linear elements: **20 m**

Time series: 2006, 2009 (Imperviousness only), 2012 (5+ layers), **2015, 2018...**

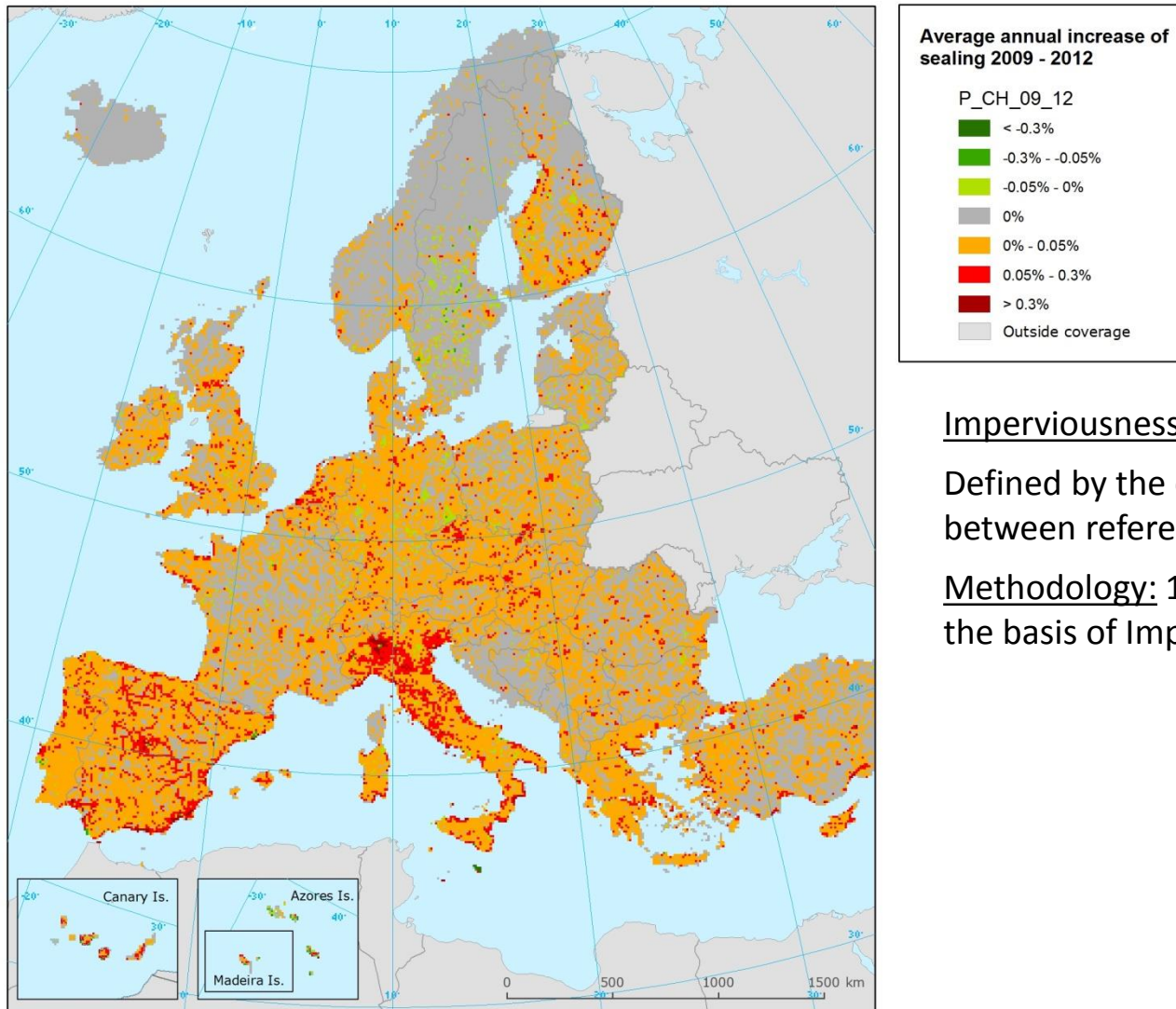


IRS satellite images: © Antrix Corporation Limited (2012),
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Imperviousness composite
2012, 2009, 2006 RGB



Average annual increase of soil sealing between 2009-2012 in Europe

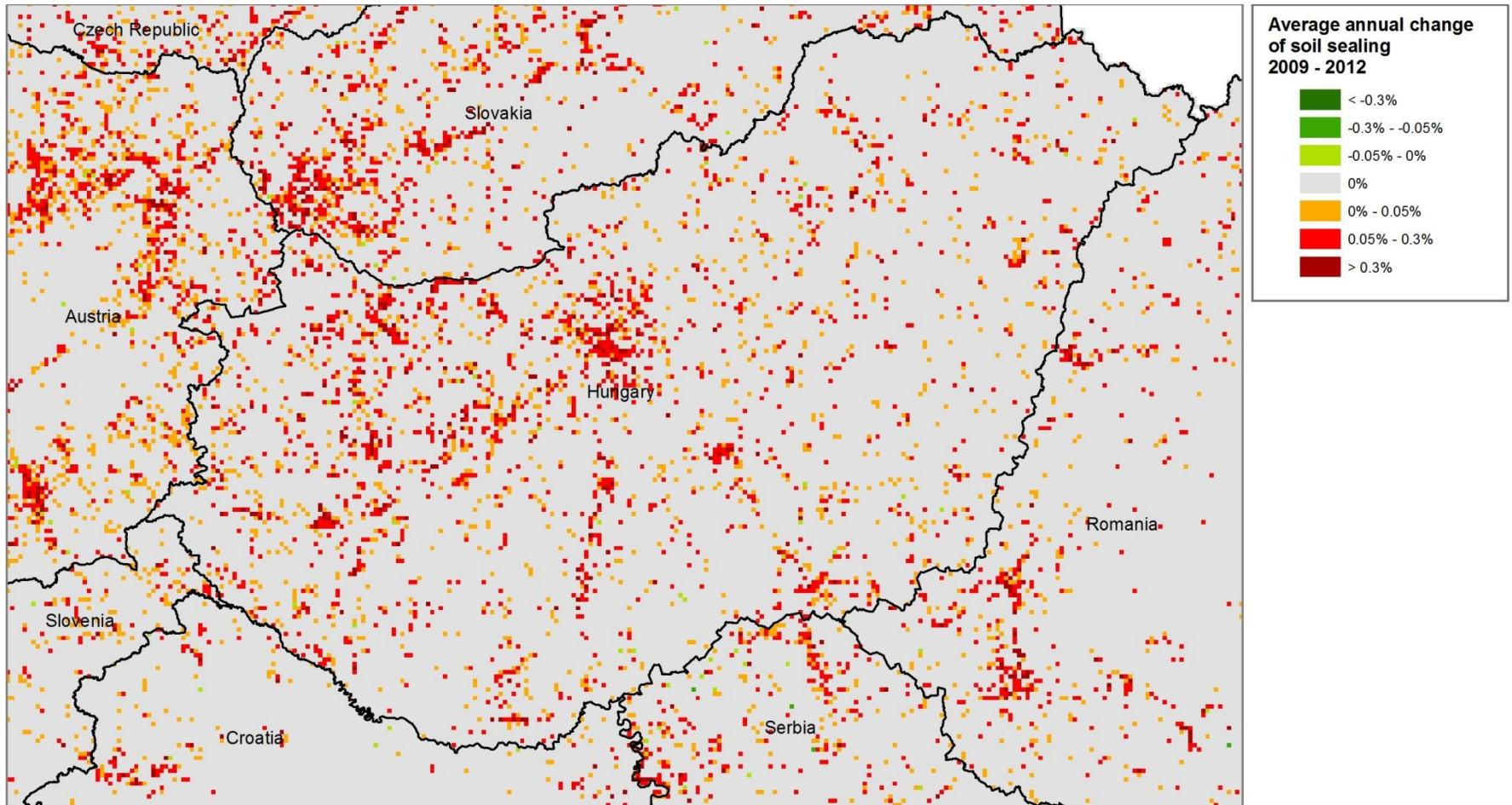


Imperviousness change indicator:

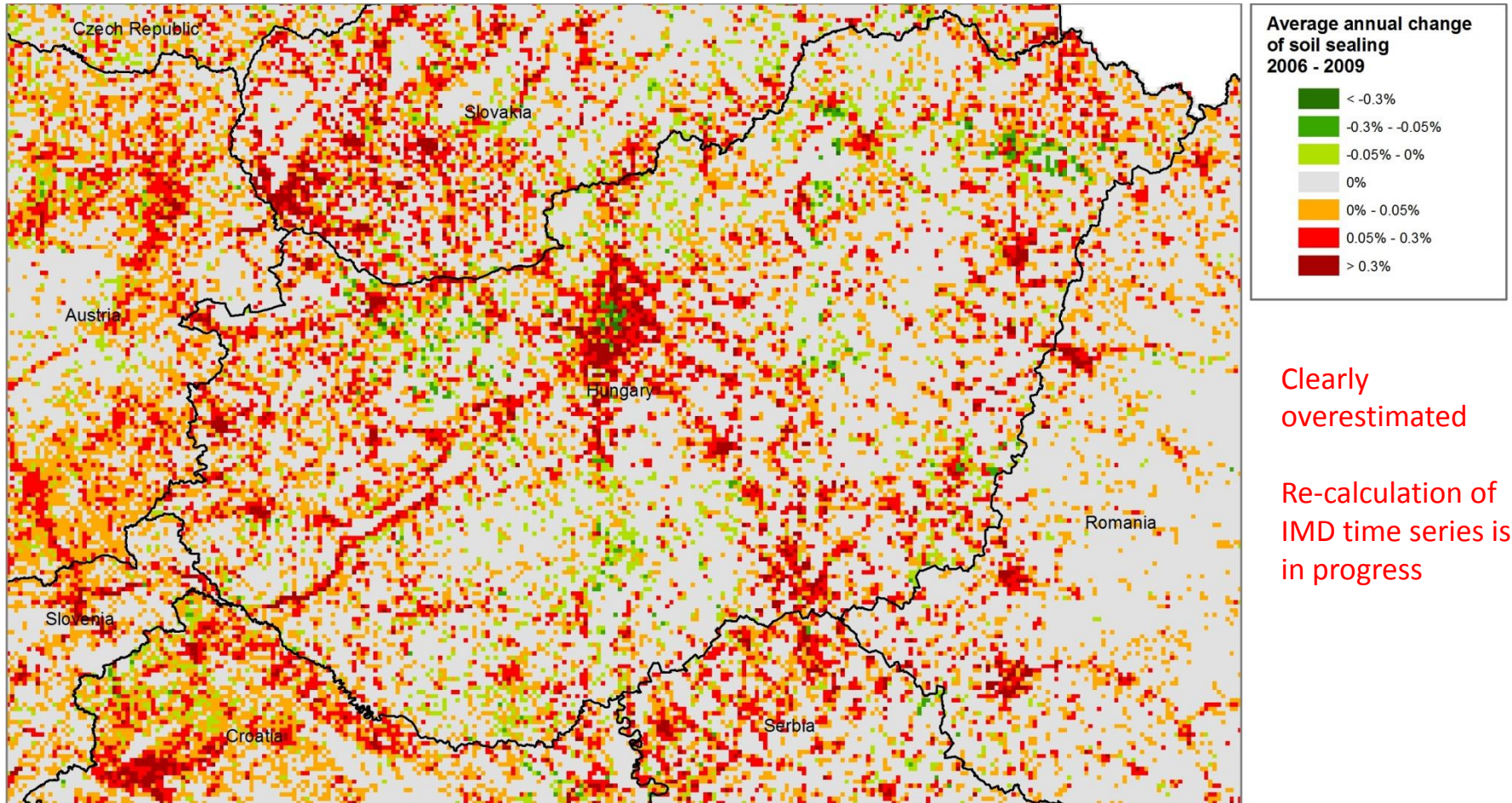
Defined by the change of soil sealing between reference years

Methodology: 1km grid based calculation on the basis of Imperviousness change data

Average annual change of soil sealing in Hungary and surroundings



Average annual change of soil sealing in Hungary and surroundings



Useful links

COPERNICUS programme: <http://www.copernicus.eu/>

COPERNICUS land monitoring (information & available data):

<http://land.copernicus.eu/>

Copernicus land monitoring data for Hungary:

<http://www.fomi.hu/portal/index.php/projektjeink/foldfelszin-monitorozas-corine>

Land take indicator:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/land-take-2/>

Imperviousness change indicator:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/imperviousness-change/>

Thank you for your attention!

Contact details:

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