



Global mapping of land degradation Is it possible?

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Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Joint Research Centre



- 1. WAD Initiative
- 2. Land Degradation Definition ... Concept
- 3. Implementation of the concept

Land system productive capacity contextual information

4. Status and needs





1. WAD Initiative





WAD Initiative













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Coordinated by JRC In collaboration with UNEP, FAO and an extensive global network of experts





Why a new Atlas?

Holistic and <u>global</u> approach to LDD > agreed assessment concept

Bring indicator reporting/use further

Baseline assessment of Land Degradation and Desertification (LDD)

Foundation for economic valuations

Policy implementation

Fill a long gap ...







2. LD Definition ...

Concept



[Definition framework (DSD WG1)

 a) Desertification is best to be treated as an extreme case of land degradation, which is expressed in a persistent reduction or loss of biological and economic productivity of lands that are under use by people whose livelihoods depend on this productivity, yet the reduction or loss of this productivity is driven by that use.

Land

= terrestrial bio-productive system also used by humans that comprises:

- abiotic elements (**soil**, rainfall, ...) and
- biotic elements (all biodiversity -- <u>soil biota</u>, vegetation) and
- all interactions (ecological, hydrological processes, that operate within the system)



[Definition framework (DSD WG1)

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a) Desertification is best to be treated as an extreme case of land degradation, which is expressed in a <u>persistent reduction or loss of biological and economic productivity</u> of <u>lands</u> that are under use by people whose livelihoods depend on this productivity, yet the reduction or loss of this productivity is driven by that use.

...loss of biophysical/biological and economic productive capacity of the land (*ES equilibrium*) that is under use ...

= terrestrial bio-productive system also used by humans that comprises.

- abiotic elements (soil, rainfall, ...) and
- biotic elements (all biodiversity -- soil biota, vegetation) and
- all interaction (ecological, hydrological processes

that operate within the system,







+ <u>no agreed methodology</u> to address these biophysical and socioeconomic interactions in an integrated way at regional to global scales and to link these to ESS

... but science made progress

(what we can do!)





Land tenure

. . .





- There are a <u>limited number of issues</u> that either alone or in combination drive land degradation; issue and issue pathways provide a global level linkage of land degradation (*Geist and Lambin, 2005-2006*) >
- Land use represents the exploitation of the ecosystem and defines the services that the ecosystem should provide; it interfaces with the local character of land degradation (MA and DDP, Nachtergaele F., 2010, Reynolds et al., 2010)
- There are lots of variables and indicators to describe (partly) these aspects; they can be integrated through adapted stratifications to explain cause-effect of observed changes in land-system productive capacity (UNCCD, E. Abraham, Zucca et al.,)
- The <u>dynamics in the land-system productivity</u>, biological or economical, is a fundamental aspect of land degradation (various accepted definitions)





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III.1. Natural Environment

Sustainable Land Management Solutions

III. 1.a. Aridity and Drought

III.1.b. Vegetation Cover Change

III 1. c. Water Availability Change

> III.1.d Soil Slipping Away

IV. Land Degradation III.3.b Forestry

III.3.Cropping and changing cultivated use

III.3. Land Use

III. 2.b. Human movements and migrations

III. 2.a. Earth's growing population

III.2. Human Environment

III.3.d Pollution



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JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

World Atlas of Desertification (WAD)

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Desertification Atlas Mapping

Report on "An assessment of Land Productivity Dynamics - towards a valuation of Land Degradation in the EU"

User Login

User Name

Password

Remember Me

cherlmi

.....

Welcome to WAD Portal

A new World Atlas of Desertification (WAD) is being compiled under the coordination of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The WAD will be available as both a published reference atlas and an online digital information portal.

This website will be developed as a digital atlas interface. At first, access will be restricted to the official working groups, but gradually more and more public content will be added.

The new World Atlas of Desertification will be built on recent scientific progress. It aims to be a pragmatic exercise and an example of how to implement up-to-date concepts and robust approaches for assessing and mapping land degradation and desertification.

The World Atlas of Desertification is expected to be the foundation for better addressing and including desertification and land degradation in strategies that address food security, resource efficiency, energy and emissions schemes, development and poverty reduction.



http://wad.jrc.ec.europa.eu

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3. Implementation of the concept

a. Land System Productive capacity

b. Contextual information









SLE = estimated SLE calculated as 2 times the standard deviation from the barycenter under the NDVI curve

L = the lag (in days),

- *N*= number of years
- 365 = is the number of days in the year





Original article

Addressing the complexity in non-linear evolution of vegetation phenological change with time-series of remote sensing images

(2013)

E. Ivits*, M. Cherlet, S. Sommer, W. Mehl Ecloin Research Center, Institute for Environment and Sostanaulity, Land Resource Management Unit, Vio E. Fermi 1, 21027 Issue, Italy



SPOT VGT NDVI





2002 2003 2004

2005 2006

L

I







Phenological and productivity variables



MBD SBD MXD

0%

Jan.

2010)

Phenological parameters:

MED Dec.

SED

SBD = Season Begin Day. SL = Season Length. MXV = Maximum Value of the vegetation index. MXD = Maximum Day. SBV = Season Begin Value of the vegetation index.



European Commission

W 1 120 W 110 W 100 W 80 W 70 W 80 W 70 W 80 W 50 W 40 W 30 W 20 W 10 W 0 10 E 20 E 30 E 40 E 50 E 60 E 70 E 80 E 50 E 100 E 110 E 120 E 130 E 140 E 150 E 160 E 170 E 180 Variability of Vegetative Growing Season Length Based on Growing Season Length as calculated from GIMMS NDVI '81-'06

> Joint Research





AVHRR NDVI – GIMMS NDV AVHRR NDVI – MERIS FAPAR AVHRR NDVI – SPOT NDVI GIMMS NDVI – MERIS FAPAR GIMMS NDVI – SPOT NDVI MERIS FAPAR – SPOT NDVI

no. of positive correlation events no. of negative correlation events

 $\Sigma = 6$

Legend

6 positive correlation events 0 negative correlation events

5 positive correlation events 1 negative correlation events

4 positive correlation events 2 negative correlation events

3 positive correlation events 3 negative correlation events

4 negative correlation events 2 positive correlation events

5 negative correlation events 1 positive correlation events

1,500

2,000 Kilometers

1.000

500

K. Lewinska, 2010)

6 negative correlation events 0 positive correlation events



Satellite ts based methodology





2. Satellite ts based methodology











decreasing productivity early signs of decline stable, but stressed stable, not stressed increasing productivity

©JRC, 2014

Land system productive capacity dynamics ('99-'13)

Based on annual/seasonal growing period NDVI sum 1km SPOT data 1999-2013: long term tendency 1kmSPOT data 2008-2013: current performance

> 540 observations on +- 150 M points on land !! ecosystem functioning stratification seasonality mask seasonal productivity (where season) yearly productivity (where no season) [PBL}



An Assessment of Land System Productivity Dynamics in Europe (1982-2010)

declining productivity early-signs of decline stable, but stressed stable, not stressed increasing productivity

Agriculture' accounts for 35% of the declining areas

Kilometers

500

1.000

Forests and semi natural vegetation account for 50% of all areas where landproductivity is increasing

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% of EU land in each Land Productivity category

1.5%5.6%7.9%7.9%70.2%14.9%

decreasing productivity early signs of decline stable, but stressed stable, not stressed increasing productivity



>> Put this in context and relate to biophysical and socio-economical land degradation issues

Evaluation of dynamics of land-system (surface) conditions through spatial stratifications:

- 1. drought
- 2. soil processes
- 3. land management (fires)
- 4. land use change
- 5. land take



Convergence of evidence!

Translation to ecosystem service change (case studies)







Looking at causal pathways: <u>aridity & drought</u>








Aridity variations (F. Micale et al., 2013)



World drought frequency, duration, and severity for 1951-2010

Jonathan Spinoni,* Gustavo Naumann, Hugo Carrao, Paulo Barbosa and Jürgen Vogt Joint Research Centre, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Climate Risk Management Unit, Ispra (VA), Italy



Number of stations per continent used by GPCC to compute global monthly precipitation grids

Table 1. Classification used for SPI by McKee et al. (1993).

SPI value	Class
SPI ≥2.0	Extreme wet
$1.5 \le SPI < 2.0$	Very wet
$1.0 \le SPI < 1.5$	Wet
-1.0 < SPI < 1.0	Normal
$-1.5 < SPI \le -1.0$	Dry
$-2.0 < SPI \le -1.5$	Very dry
$SPI \le -2.0$	Extreme dry

Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) >> negative anomalies







Drought hot spots in the periods 1951–1970, 1971–1990, and 1991–2010.



Global ecosystem response to climatic anomalies

Classification of Ecosystem Change Types by spatio-temporal analysis of co-varying SPEI and FAPAR anomalies Combined EOF analysis (1982-2011)



Looking at causal pathways: drought



Correlation between FaPAR and SPEI (1982-2010)

Climate effect on biomass productivity changes

.....> add to the evidence base - don't exclude!)







Looking at causal pathways: <u>agriculture</u>



68.7% of Africa has vegetation with seasonality of which 20,6% falls within the cropmask (C. Van Cutsem 2014) with LPD class distribution in legend





2.500 Kilometers

1.250



Derived from dataset of Ramankutty (2008) (0.5 degree)



Derived from dataset of Ramankutty (2008)





Continent/Region	Increased area [km²]	Decreased area [km ²]	
Africa	3.517.626	343.743	
Asia	2.124.133	1.774.110	
Australia	141.912	206.172	
Europe	55.850	334.003	
North America	275.720	1.379.779	
South America	2.121.663	931.581	
Oceania	50.583	0	



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50 km

50,000 km2 of natural vegetation converted to agriculture each year

White Nile Irrigation Scheme – pre expansion 1975 And after construction 2000 (images Landsat)



Source A. Brink , C. Bodart et al. JRC









Land use & change





Double growing seasons



Single growing seasons









Looking at causal pathways: population









Some details (Nigeria)



















Linking to ecosystem Services



'quantitative' linking to Ecosystem Services

Land use system	Provisioning ESS	Regulating/Supporting ESS
Agriculture (IA,RA)	Agricultural ProductionForest Production	 Climate & Air Regulation Carbon Sequestration Habitat & Biodiversity Preservation Groundwater Recharge Dune Fixation
Rangelands (R1-R3)	Rangeland ProductionForest Production	
Rangeland/Agriculture (R/A)	Agricultural ProductionForest ProductionRangeland Production	







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4. Status and needs





Land degradation is process: Land degradation is a local phenomenon:

Land degradation is of global importance:

Satellite time series data = observations:

"Field' data:

time sequence – repetitive observations needed high enough detail (resolutions ok, but time span...)

scale <> detail <> time span

all ok, available, but do we believe them?

multiple sources, no spatial continuum, frequency? But we tend to believe them!





Land degradation assessment:

Now:

- ✓ agreed concept
 - global variables (processing and valuation)
- ✓ stratifications (global scales, some are 'rough', some themes are missing)
- ✓ start to implement the stratified analysis
- \checkmark case studies to show integration of local data
- ✓ start to link to economic valuations

Future:

- complete analysis
- model cause-effect relations
- Ink to models of function losses and climate change
- link to biodiversity issues




Need:

- global land <u>use</u>/change data at adequate scales
- agreed method(s) for comparability for satellite based or other source
- agreed sources for socio-economic information (onsite and off-site)
- in-situ monitoring efforts for validation and hotspots / accessibility of data
- Allow to fully document process interactions > better modeling > anticipation
- "need for SLM" rather than LD





Distribution of European Farmland Birds assessed by remote sensing derived phenology and productivity and relationship to climate



the species matrix on

Phenology.

the species matrix on

climate.

Alpine North Alpine South Atlantic Central Atlantic North Boreal Continental Alpine South Interview Atlantic Central Atlantic North Atlantic

indices and on the significant climatic variables.

Ţ	P Axis 1	P Axis 2	C Axis1	C Axis2
Eigenvalues	0.251	0.120	0.172	0.122
Species-environment correlations	0.756	0.750	0.937	0.533
Cumulative % of variance of species data	31.8 %	47.0 %	21.8 %	37.2 %
Cumulative % of variance of species environment relation	66.2 %	97.9%	56.6 %	96.6%
Sum of all canonical eigenvalues	3	7.9%		30.4 %
F-ratio / significance	21	8/0.001	14.	8/0.001
P: Phenology C: Climate				





Mapping Land Degradation and Sustainable Land Management Opportunities



Rangelands

grazing pressure and marginalisation

integrating and any commercian strate 12

Soil

slipping away

.... we can stop it



Thank you

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Michael Cherlet Alan Belward DG JRC

Michel Massart DG ENTR



- Copernicus is the <u>Earth Observation flagship</u> of the European Union
- An <u>integrated Earth Observation system</u> which combines space-based and in-situ data with Earth System Services
- A source of information for policymakers, scientists, business and the public at large
- A <u>user-driven</u> programme of services for environment and security





The objective of Copernicus is to develop operational services, following the example of meteorology, but for other domains such as:



- Emergency management
- Air quality monitoring
- Land monitoring
- Ocean & sea monitoring ...

In addition, science is needed to create and continuously improve operational services

pernicus





	Sentinel 1 – SAR imaging All weather, day/night applications, interferometry	2014	
	Sentinel 2 – Multispectral imaging Land applications: urban, forest, agriculture, Continuity of LANDSAT, SPOT,	2015	
	Sentinel 3 – Ocean and global land monitoring : ocean color, vegetation, sea/land surface temperatur altimetry	re, 2015	
	Sentinel 4 – Geostationary atmospheric Atmospheric composition monitoring, trans-boundary pollution	2017	
the second	Sentinel 5 – Low-orbit atmospheric Atmospheric composition monitoring (S5 Precursor launch in 2014)	2014, 2019+	







Services monitoring Earth systems



Land



Marine



Atmosphere

Horizontal services



Emergency



Security



Climate Change







- Long term and reliable provision of products and services
- Sustainability of the provision for downstream applications
- Delivery of fully validated products and services
- Centralized services leading to Scale Economies



Data Policy













- COPERNICUS: a public good. The goal is to provide <u>free and open access</u> to data and information with minimum restrictions
- Need to distinguish between data policy for Sentinel satellite, Contributing missions, and Copernicus service products
- Security restrictions may apply





Land Service - Global

Objective:

Support to specific EU policies at international level and support to EU commitments under international treaties and conventions

Support to GMES-Africa



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opernicus



Land Service - Global

Objective: supporting specific EU policies at international level and supporting EU commitments under international treaties and convention

Monitoring in Near Real time global systematic biophysical parameters





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Land Service - Global

Objective: supporting specific EU policies at international level and supporting EU commitments under international treaties and convention

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Monitoring in Near Real time global systematic biophysical parameters

- Vegetation Dynamics LAI, FaPAR, Dry Mapper Product ...
- Energy Budget Albedo, Land Surface Temperature ...
- Detection Products Water bodies, Burnt Areas ...



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Variable	Temporal Coverage	Temporal resolution	Spatial coverage	Spatial resolution	Sensor	Timeliness
LAI/FAPAR/FCover	1999 – present	10 days	Global	1km	SPOT/VGT	3 days
NDVI/VCI/VPI	1999 – present	10 days	Global	1km	SPOT/VGT	3 days
Dry Matter Productivity	2009 – present	10 days	Global	1km	SPOT/VGT	3 days
Burnt Area	1998 – present	1 day	Global	1km	SPOT/VGT	3 days
TOC Reflectance	2013 – present	10 days	Global	1km	SPOT/VGT	3 days
Surface Albedo	1999 – present	10 days	Global	1km	SPOT/VGT	3 days
Land Surface Temperature	2009 – present	1 hour	Global	0.05 °	ΣGeo	1 day
Soil Water Index	2007 – present	1 day	Global	0.1 °	Metop / ASCAT	1 day
Water bodies	1999 – present	10 days	Global*	1km	SPOT/VGT	3 days







Implementation of a Hot Spot monitoring component

- Objective : To support development projects and specific monitoring
- Portfolio : i.e. Land cover and land use mapping ...
- Sector : Biodiversity conservation (protected areas and national parks, Rural development (land administration – land degradation), Infrastructure (road network – impact assessment) ...

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Implementation on request from EU institutions















The views expressed on this website are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the European Commission.

(Credits: UNHCR / ESA-S. Corvaja)

Bringing Sentinel-2 into focus

FOCUS EVENT

European Space Expo 07 June 2014 - 15 June 2014 Prague, Czech Republic

http://www.copernicus.eu

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	EAGLE Working Group
	e Events
The Copernicus programme comprises satellite-borne earth observation, in-situ data and a services component that combines these in order to provide value	📫 Land use cases
added information essential for monitoring the earth's environment.	Partners
The Copernicus land monitoring service provides geographical information on land cover/land use and on variables related to vegetation state and the water cycle. It supports applications in a variety of domains, such as spatial planning, forest management, water management and agriculture and consists of the	Publications
above four main components.	- Technical library
	Partners
	European Commission

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Thank you !

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