WS: Land system change impacts on European landscapes



Are there common features in land cover and pattern changes in Mediterranean peri-urban areas?

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Research funded by the French National Research Agency via the DAUME project n° ANR-2010-STRA-007-01.



Context

- Artificial land: + 3.4% in Europe 2000-2006
- Peri-urban areas grew 4 times faster than continuous urban ones

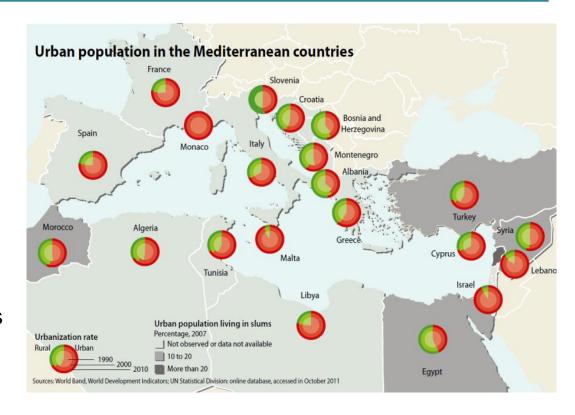


- Attraction to the cities and loss / fragmentation of agricultural areas
- Extension of peri-urban settlements in natural areas with fragmentation / loss of ES

EEA (2010). The European environment state and outlook. Land Use.

EEA (2006) Urban sprawl in Europe, the ignored

EEA (2006). Urban sprawl in Europe, the ignored challenge, EEA report 10.



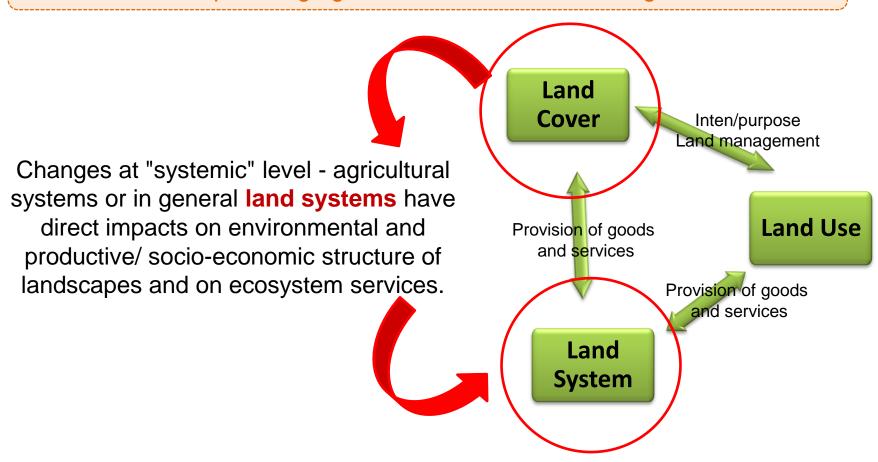
In the Mediterranean:

- urbanization increase more rapidly than population growth
- cities growing with the fastest rate
- High (agro)-ecosystems vulnerability



Me Land cover and system changes

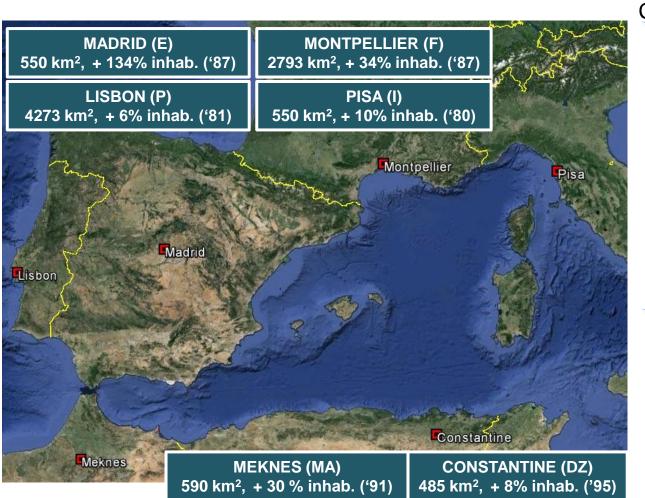
Focus on **peri-urban areas** as **agri-urban systems** fulfilling relevant functions, providing agro-environmental and feeding services

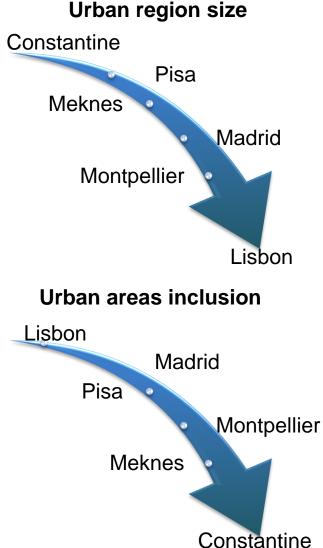


Verburg et al. (2009). J Env Manag, 90: 1327-1335



Case studies







Materials and methods

Land cover changes

- Between the '80s and the '10s
- Landsat images / MultiSpect, ArcGis
- Large land cover classes

Choice of the year/date:
30 m resolution,
maximum crop cover,
disturbance

Semi-supervised classification based on different bands / field

Land cover pattern changes

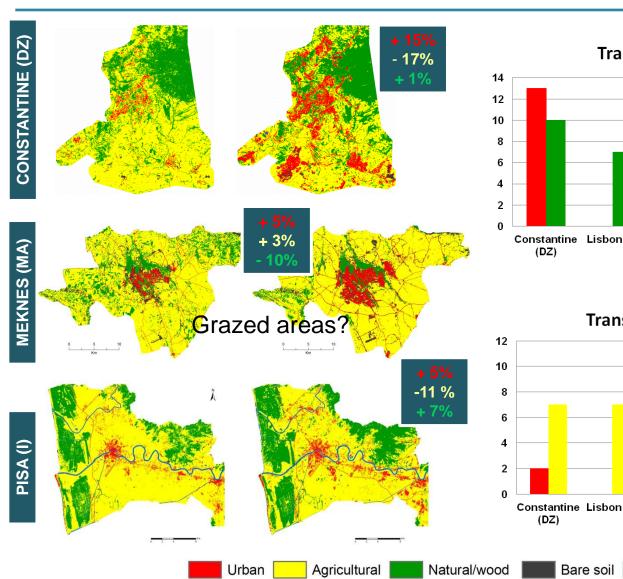
- Classes and landscape metrics / Fragstat
- Use of the moving windows / diversity indexes

PD, ED, LPI, CIRCLE_CV, IJI, SHDI, AI

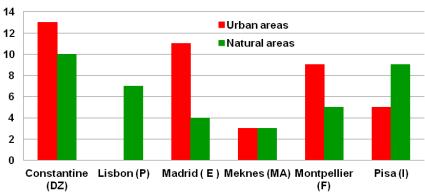
Distribution of different land cover classes per window size

Lu & Weng (2013). Int J Rem Sens, 28: 823-870 Bailey et al. (2007). Ecol Indic , 7: 692-709 Zhang et al. (2012). Prof Geog , X: 1-15

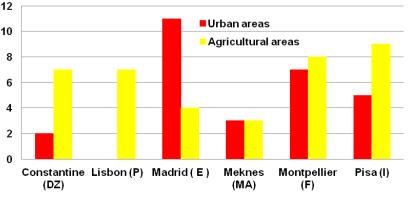
Daume Land cover changes (1985 – 2011)



Transitions from agricultural areas (%)



Transitions from natural areas (%)



Water bodies



Land pattern changes





me Discussion and conclusion

Trends in land cover changes

Trends in land pattern changes

- No differences between North and South of the Mediterranean
- Results affected by the case study
- Limits of Landsat data

Common loss of agricultural and increase of the natural areas

Direct (proximity) and indirect (distance) impacts of urbanisation

Fragmentation (agricultural areas) and compaction (urban & natural areas)

Use of SPOT data → land use changes







