DOMINANT LANDCOVER TYPES

Definition

This layer was created for Environmental Accounting purposes during the development of the EEA/EUROSTAT projects on Integration of environmental accounts in coastal zones and in 4 CEEC carried out by ETC/TE in 2003. The Dominant Landscape Types are defined by reclassification of the smoothed values of CORILIS analysis (neighborhood analysis of the major land cover types) and splitting the new classes by a predefined elevation breakdown.

Methodology and results

1) Geostatistical analysis of CLC using CORILIS smoothing methodology: CLC data was generalized by crossing it with a regular grid of 3x3 km resolution and then smoothed using a search radius of 20 km. The smoothing algorithm uses the Gaussian function to weight data in the neighborhood. The smoothed features can be aggregated by simple addition. The schema below shows the reclassification of smoothed CLC classes into five major land cover types:

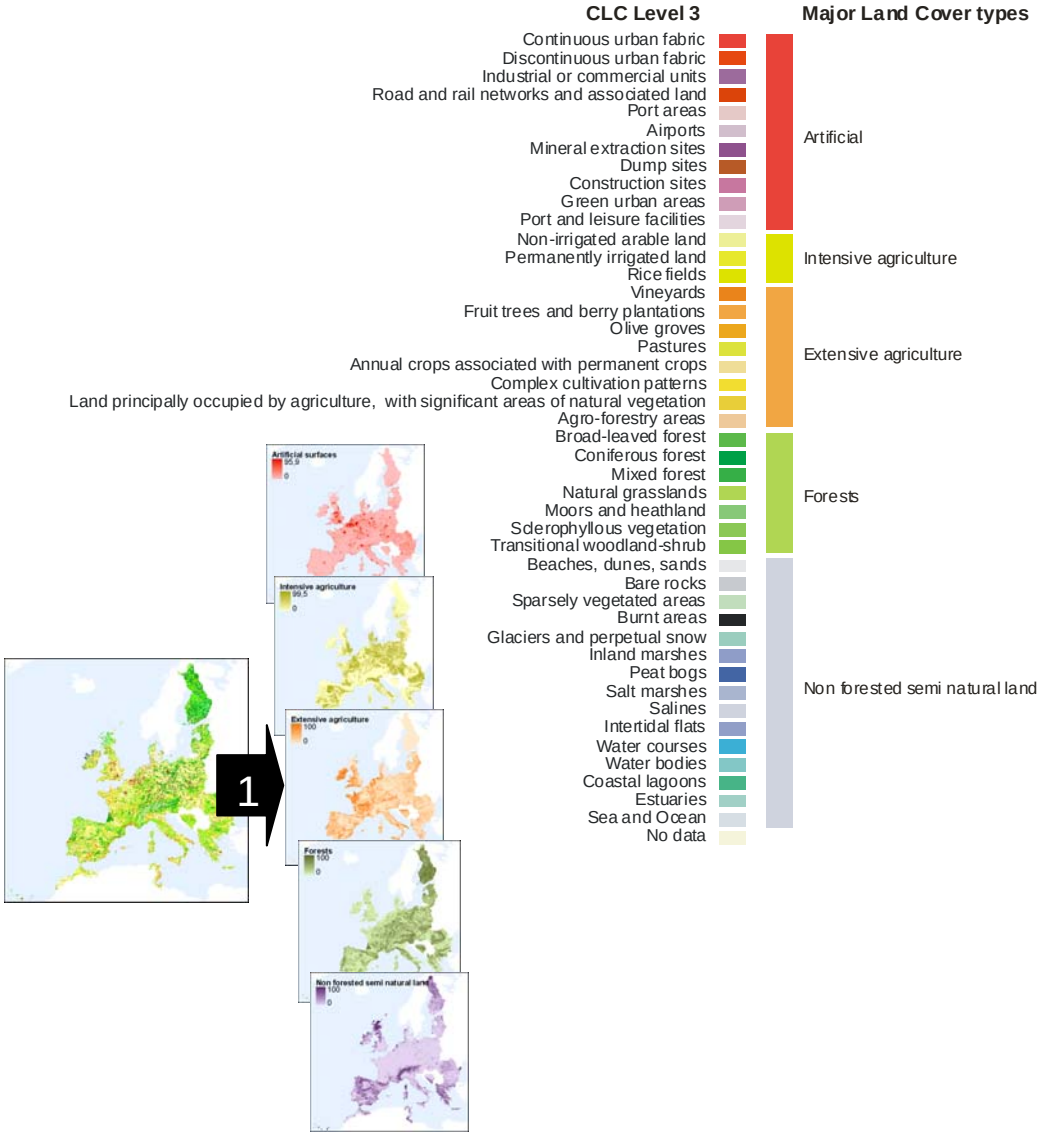

Figure : Grouping of smoothed land cover classes into major land cover types.

2) Reclassifying smoothed features into Dominant Landscape types. The criterion Vn > mean + standard deviation was used to assign dominant character to smoothed features. Vn is the smoothed value of class n in a given cell of the map. A different mean + std dev was computed for each Sea Catchments (see map below). As co-dominances can exist a supplementary criterion is needed in order to give priority to one class in front the others. This hierarchical criterion is based on the theoretical assumption drafted in the left table.

	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2	C3
Artificial							
Intensive agriculture							
Heterogeneous agriculture & Pasture							
Forests							
Shrubs and other seminatural land							

Dominant LC character of the type
Possible co-dominance, considered as secondary
No co-dominance is possible

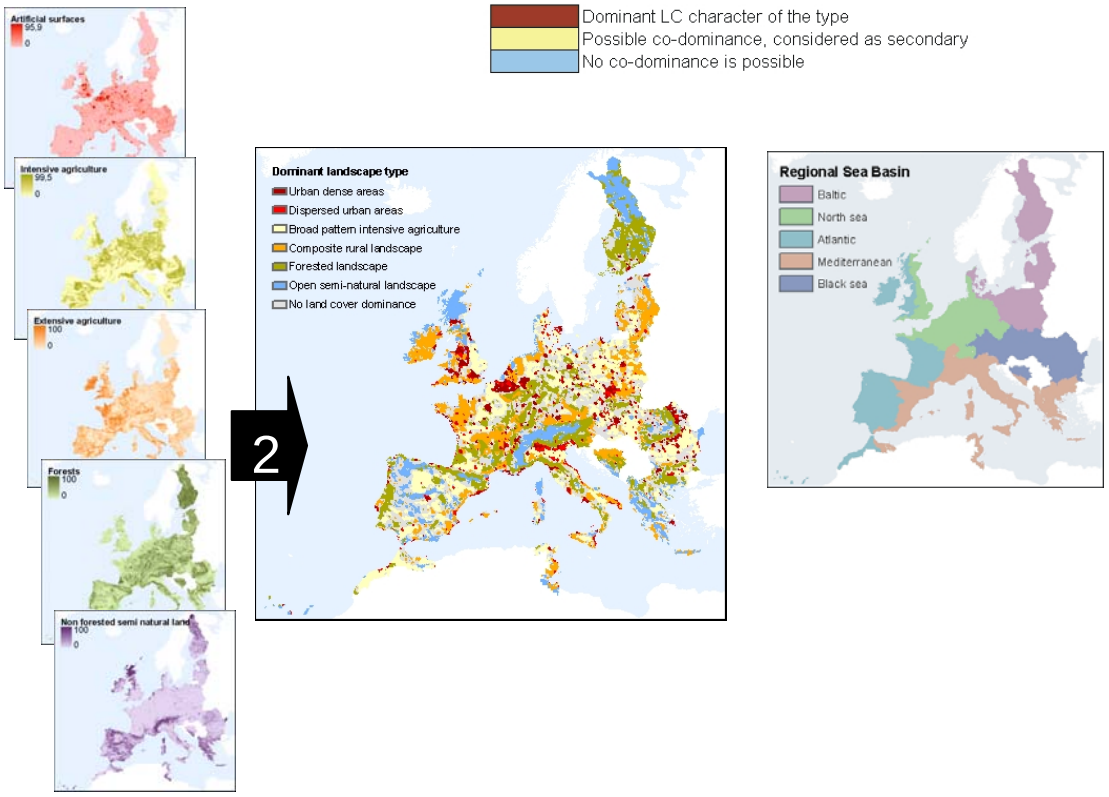

Figure: Reclassification of CORILIS values. The table shows the criteria used to give priority when co-dominances existed.