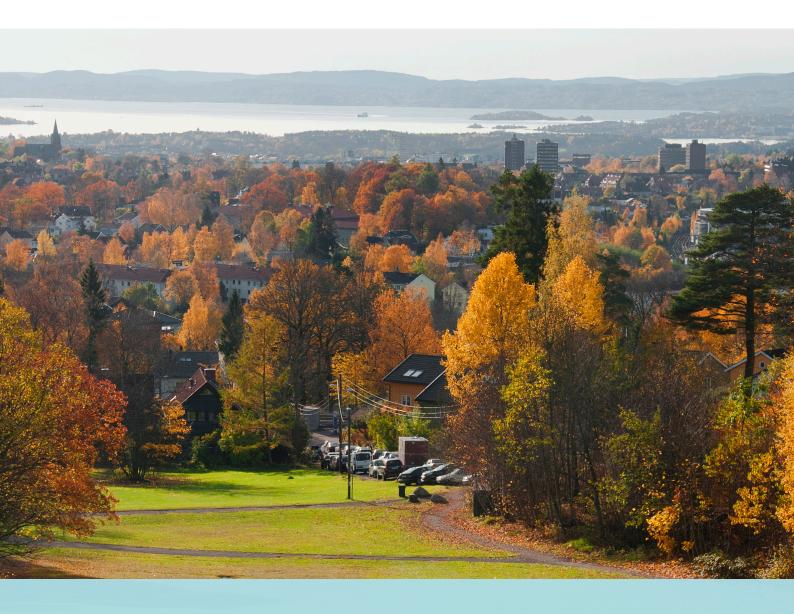
# **Country fact sheet**

# Land cover 2012



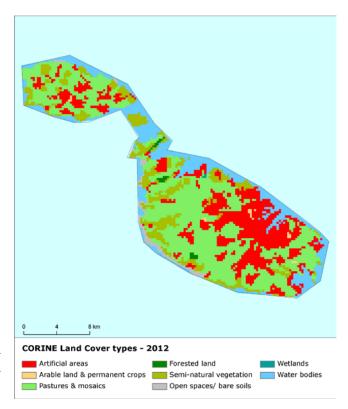




# Land cover 2012

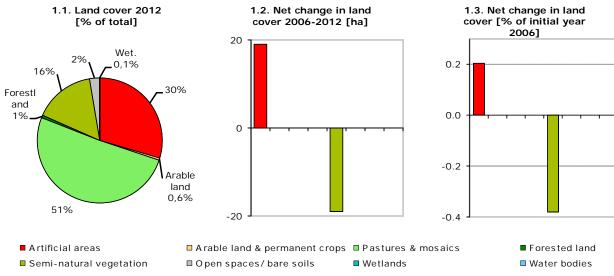
# Overview of land cover & change 2006-2012

Concerning the land cover development, there occurs no significant changes which would be detectable in the frame of the Corine CLC mapping methodology. The only exception is the formation of a dump site over former semi-natural land, which was observed north-eastern from capital city of Valletta. This conversion is located just beside the location of similar conversion, which was observed during the previous period 2000-2006. Also that one was the only conversion in the period 2000-2006 in the country. This development in last two mapping periods means a stabilization compared to period 1990-2000, during which some land cover development, represented mostly by urban sprawl had been observed in Malta.



Note: The results presented here are based on a change analysis of 44 land cover types mapped consistently on a 1:100.000 scale across Europe over more than decade between 2000-2006-2012 - see Corine land cover (CLC) programme for details

Number of years between CLC2006-CLC2012 data for Malta: 6



Summary balance table 20	006-2012	2							
	Artificial areas	Arable land & permanent crops	Pastures & mosaics	Forested land	Semi-natural vegetation	Open spaces/ bare soils	Wetlands	Water bodies	TOTAL [hundreds ha]
Land cover 2006	93	2	160	2	50	8	0	0	316
Consumption of initial LC	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Formation of new LC	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Net Formation of LC	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Net formation as % of initial year	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Total turnover of LC	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Total turnover as % of initial year	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Land cover 2012	93	2	160	2	50	8	0	0	316

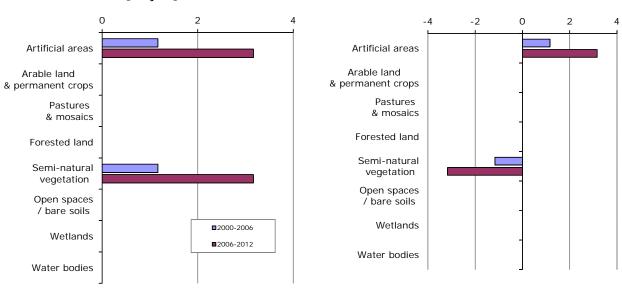
# Land cover trends comparison 2000-2006 vs. 2006-2012

2.4. Annual land cover change [ha/year, % of total area]

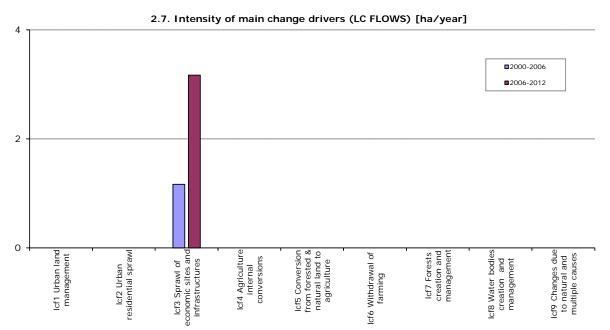


# 2.5. Annual turnover of LC types [ha/year]

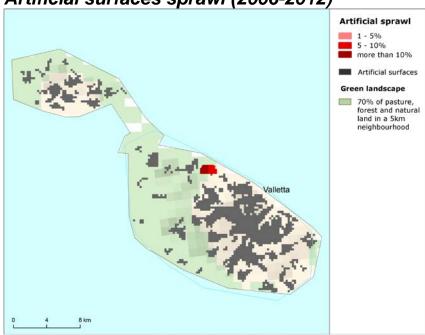
# 2.6. Net annual change of LC types [ha/year]

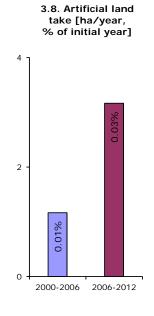


Summary trend figures	2000-2006	2006-2012	
Annual land cover change [ha/year]	1	3	
Annual land cover change as % of initial year	0.00%	0.01%	
Land uptake by artificial development as mean annual change [ha/year]	1	3	
Agricultural land uptake by urban and infrastructures development as mean annual change [ha/year]	0	0	
Net uptake of forests and semi-natural land by agriculture as mean annual change [ha/year]	0	0	
Net conversion from pasture to arable land and permanent crops as mean annual change [ha/year]	0	0	
Forest & other woodland net formation as mean annual change [ha/year]	0	0	
Dry semi-natural land cover net formation as mean annual change [ha/year]	-1	-3	
Wetlands & water bodies net formation as mean annual change [ha/year]	0	0	



# Artificial surfaces sprawl (2006-2012)

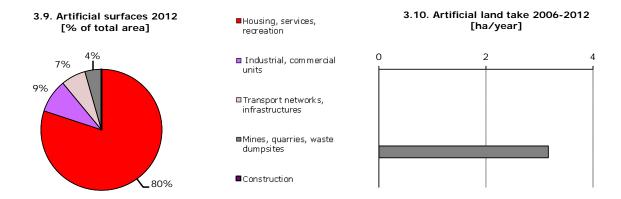


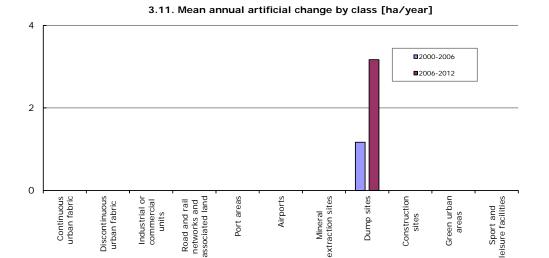


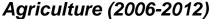
# **Dump site extension near Valletta**

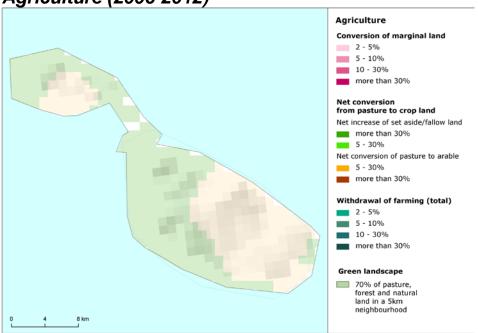
Compared to the previous period, the area of urban land extension is larger, however, as well as in the 2000-2006, it is also represented by only one change polygon, located north-east from the capital city of Valletta. Also the character of this conversion is the same, which means a conversion of semi-natural vegetation to dump site.

This development means slowdown of the certain artificial development, which was observed in the country during the period 1990-2000.





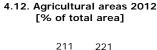


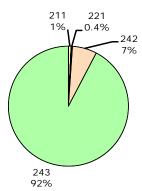


# No changes in agricultural land

The agricultural land of Malta consists predominantly of agricultural land with significant areas of natural vegetation and, to a lesser extent, of complex cultivation patterns, with only negligible share of arable land and vineyards.

No changes of agricultural land have been detected in the frame of the CLC 2006-2012 change mapping.







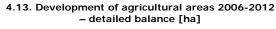
 241 Annual crops associated with permanent crops
 242 Complex cultivation patterns

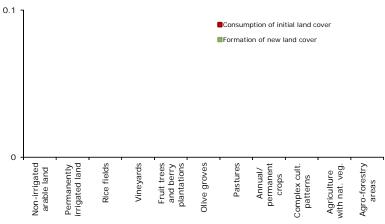
■ 223 Olive groves

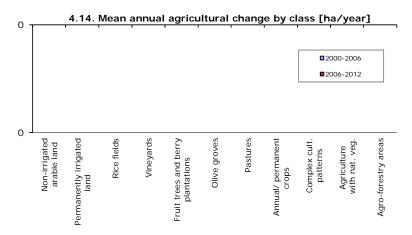
■ 231 Pastures

= 2 12 complex calification patterns

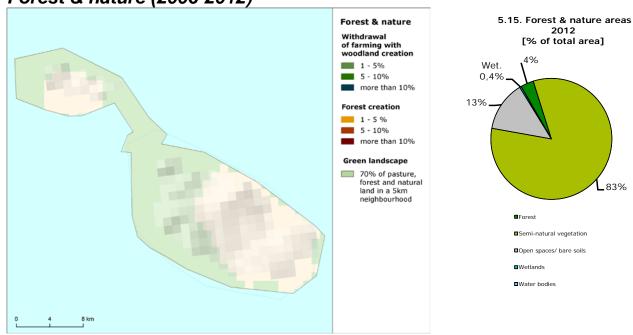
243 Agriculture land with significant areas of natural vegetation244 Agro-forestry areas





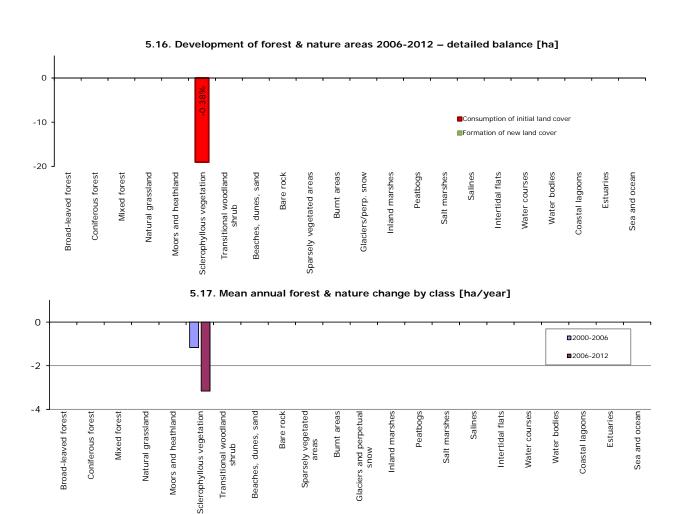






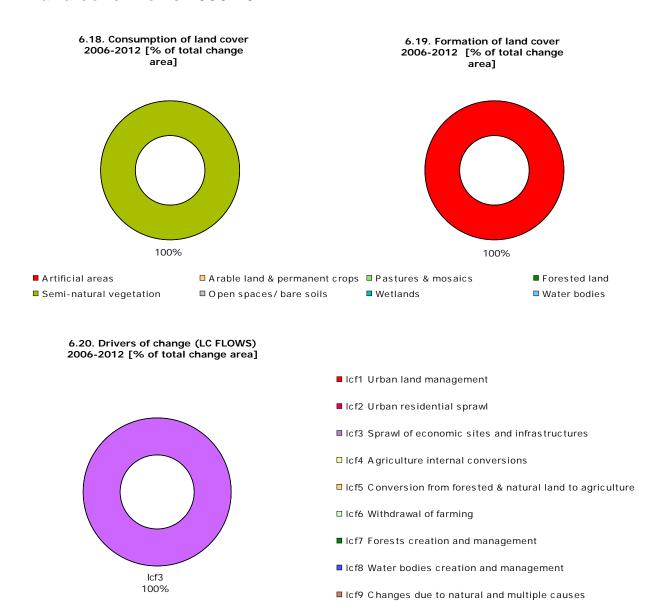
# Consumption of semi-natural land by dump site

Natural areas in Malta are characterised by dominant share of semi-natural vegetation (represented by sclerophyllous vegetation), followed by sparsely vegetated areas. The only change of natural land cover which has been observed during 2006-2012 is circa 20 hectares uptake of sclerophyllous vegetation area by extension of a dump site near the capital city Valletta. Similar uptake in the same location had been observed also in previous period, however, its extension was smaller – 7 hectares.



# Annex: Land cover flows and trends

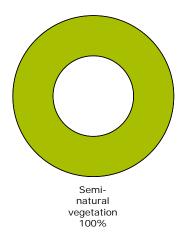
# Land cover flows 2006-2012



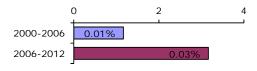
# Artificial areas

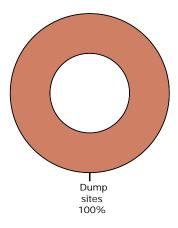
# 7.21. Consumption by artificial land take 2006-2012 [% of total]

# 7.22. Formation by artificial land take 2006-2012 [% of total]

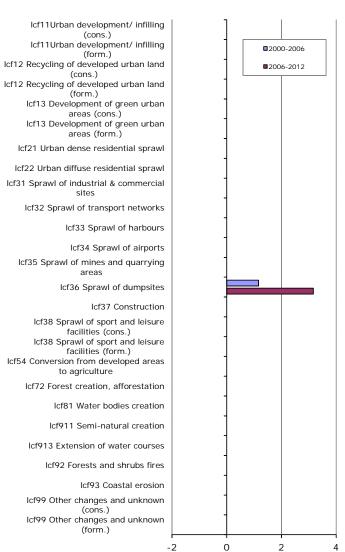


7.23. Net formation of artificial area [ha/year, % of initial year]





7.24. Artificial development by change drivers (LC FLOWS) [ha/year]



# **Agriculture**

8.25. LC consumed by agriculture 2006-2012 [% of total]

8.26. Formation of agricultural land from non-agriculture 2006-2012 [% of total]

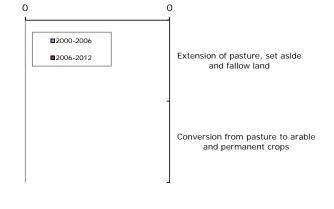
8.27. Consumption of agricultural land by non-agriculture 2006-2012 [% of total]

8.28. Formation of non-agricultural land from agriculture 2006-2012 [% of total]

# 8.29. Main annual conversions between agriculture and forests & semi-natural land 2006-2012 [ha/year]

# Conversion from forest to agriculture Conversion from dry semi-natural & natural land to agriculture Conversion from wetlands to agriculture Withdrawal of farming with woodland creation Withdrawal of farming without significant woodland creation

# 8.30. Mean annual conversion between arable land and pasture [ha/year]



9.31. Mean annual agriculture internal

### conversions [ha/year] and other LC types [ha/year] lcf411 Uniform extension of lcf13 Development of green urban areas set aside fallow land and pasture lcf412 Diffuse extension of set lcf2 Urban residential sprawl aside fallow land and pasture ■2000-2006 lcf3 Sprawl of economic sites and lcf421 Conversion from arable **2006-2012** land to permanent irrigation infrastructures perimeters lcf511 Intensive conversion from forest lcf422 Other internal to agriculture conversions of arable land lcf512 Diffuse conversion from forest to lcf431 Conversion from olives agriculture groves to vineyards and orchards lcf521 Intensive conversion from semilcf432 Conversion from natural land to agriculture vineyards and orchards to olive groves **2**000 - 2006 Icf522 Diffuse conversion from semi-**2**006 - 2012 lcf433 Other conversions between vineyards and natural land to agriculture orchards lcf523 Conversions from agriculturenature mosaics to continuous agriculture Icf441 Conversion from (cont. agri. cons.) permanent crops to permanent irrigation lcf523 Conversions from agriculture-nature mosaics to continuous agriculture perimeters lcf442 Conversion from (cont. agri. form.) vineyards and orchards to non-irrigated arable land lcf53 Conversion from wetlands to agriculture lcf443 Conversion from olive groves to non-irrigated arable land lcf54 Conversion from developed areas to agriculture Icf444 Diffuse conversion from permanent crops to arable land lcf61 Withdrawal of farming with woodland creation lcf451 Conversion from arable land to vineyards and lcf62 Withdrawal of farming without orchards significant woodland creation lcf452 Conversion from arable land to olive groves lcf81 Water bodies creation lcf453 Diffuse conversion from arable land to lcf913 Extension of water courses permanent crops Icf461 Conversion from pasture to permanent lcf92 Forests and shrubs fires irrigation perimeters lcf462 Intensive conversion from pasture to non-irrigated Icf93 Coastal erosion arable land and permanent crops lcf463 Diffuse conversion from pasture to arable and Icf99 Other changes and unknown (agri. cons.) permanent crops lcf99 Other changes and unknown (agri. lcf47 Extension of agroform.) forestry

0

0

9.32. Mean annual conversions between agriculture

0

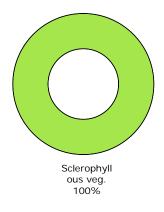
# Forest & nature

10.33. LC consumed by forest & nature 2006-2012 [% of total]

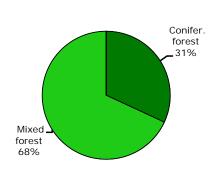
10.34. Formation of forest & nature land from non-forest /nature 2006-2012 [% of total]

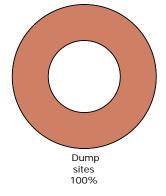
10.35. Consumption of forest & nature land by non-forest/nature 2006-2012 [% of total]

10.36. Formation of non-forest/nature land from forest & nature 2006-2012 [% of total]

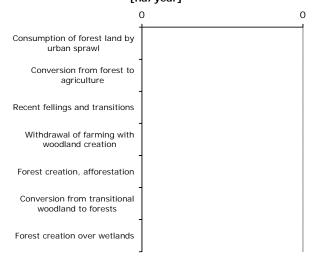


10.37. Forested land 2012 [% of total area]





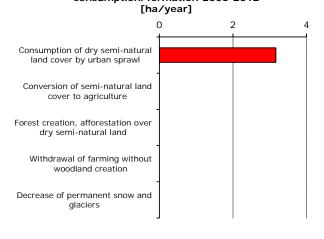
10.38. Main trends in woodland & forests consumption/formation 2006-2012 [ha/year]



# 11.39. Dry semi-natural areas 2012 [% of total area]



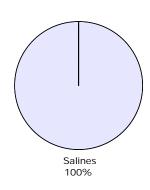
11.41. Wetlands & water 2012 [% of total area]



11.40. Main trends in dry semi-natural land

consumption/formation 2006-2012

### 11.42. Main trends in wetlands & water consumption/formation 2006-2012 [ha/year]



Consumption of wetlands by urban sprawl

Conversion of wetlands to agriculture

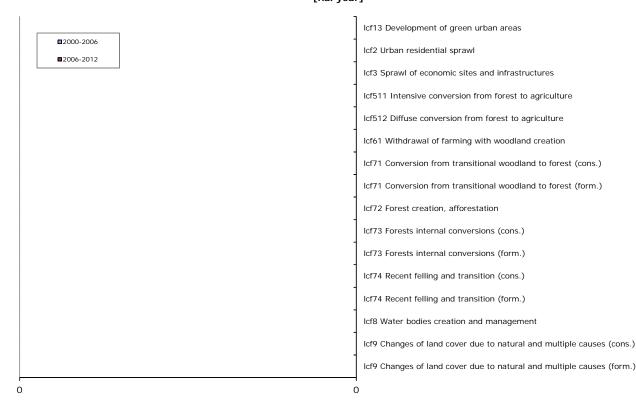
Forest creation and afforestation over wetlands

Withdrawal of farming without woodland creation

Net water bodies creation

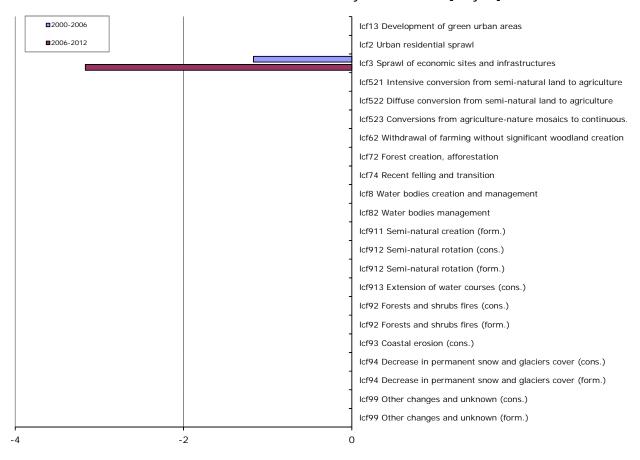
Net wetlands creation

# 11.43. Mean annual conversions of forest & other woodland [ha/year]



11

### 12.44. Mean annual conversions of dry semi-natural LC [ha/year]



### 12.45. Mean annual conversions of wetlands and water LC [ha/year]

