

GLP Draft Session 3: Global land use research and datasets. From historical land-use to human appropriation of biomass.

Short description:

In the field of global land cover and land use, accurate and spatially explicit information on land use has been frequently identified as a major data gap, especially with regards to agricultural land use. Several attempts are being made at the moment to link statistics and satellite information to map current agricultural land use for integrated modelling purposes. Based on a workshop hosted by the Institute of Social Ecology in Vienna, we compare existing, spatially explicit global land-use datasets, e.g. those by Navin Ramankutty/Chad Monfreda, by MNP (Klein Goldewijk et al. 2007) and Social Ecology Vienna (Erb et al. 2007) as recently published in *Journal of Land Use Science* (JLUS 2(3), 2007), but also other datasets concerned with global land use (such as, for example, irrigation). We explore strengths, limitations, and complementarities of these existing datasets. It will discuss potentials and necessities for improving global land use data and will thus elaborate on the different requirements and applications of land use data in the context of integrated land science