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Outlines

- Soil consumption and land take affect humans and human activities
 - Health issues
 - q Well-being
 - q Food security



Agricultural calendar, Pietro Crescenzi (1233-1320)



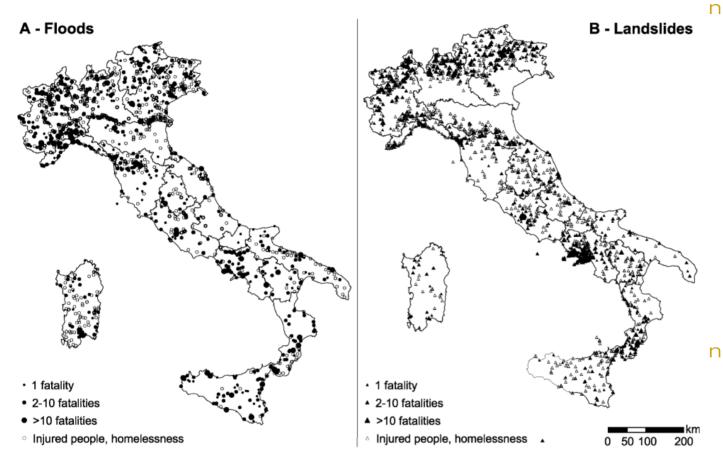


Soil contamination





Geohydrological risks



> 45,000 fatalities in 2580 flood and landslide events, between 1300 and 2002 (Guzzetti et al, 2005) > 450,000 landslides recorded (APAT, 2007)

Guzzetti et al, 2005





Well-being













Food security

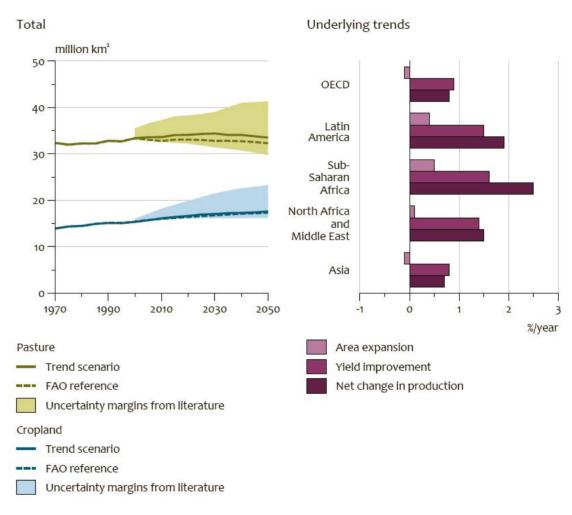
- To guarantee long-term food security for European citizens and to contribute to growing world food demand (COM(2010) 672 final)
 - Food security as the necessary conditions to have physical and economic access, in socially acceptable ways, to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life
 - n already threatened at global scale by land degradation processes, e.g. desertification
 - n by competition for energy crops
 - n and, in densely populated and industrialised areas, by soil consumption, mainly by sealing





Global trends

- Increasing global demand for land
 - Food
 - Fibers
 - q Energy
- Slower growth of crop yield rates
- h Higher pressure on natural environments



van Vuuren and Faber, 2009





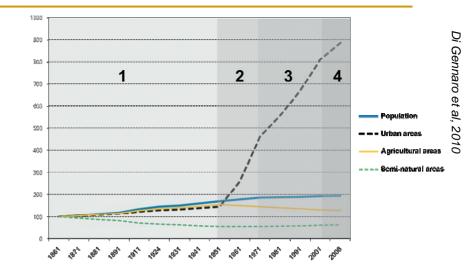
Local trends

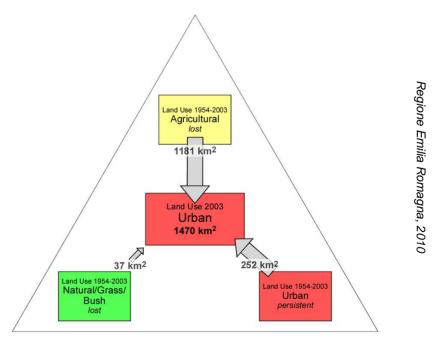
n Present

- Agricultural land
- Forests and natural grassland
- q + Urban

n Future

- New expansion following global trends?
 - Where?
 - n How?
 - n Consequences?



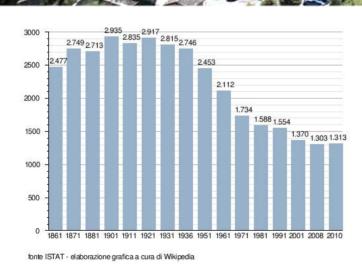






n Fiumalbo (MO)

- q 2012
- q Early 1900'ies









Concluding

- Soil provides numerous services through its functions
- Soil functions may be mutually exclusive
- Preserving as many as possible, to preserve our common future







Challenges for the governance of soil consumption

- Soil is a limited resource, fertile soils even more limited
- Countryside and town are both human environments in mutual relationships
- Protect soil to preserve our common future



Ambrogio Lorenzetti (1290-1348): The Allegory of Bad and Good Government, Siena, Palazzo Comunale









