



LDN IN ARMENIA

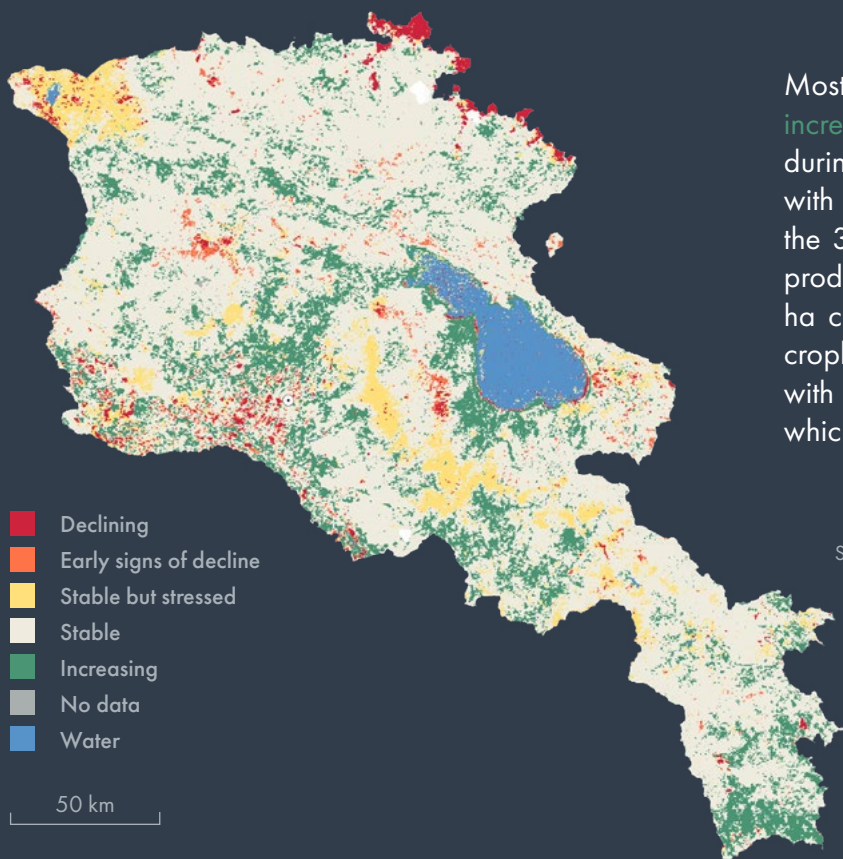
- Population: 2 963 234 people (2020)
- Total area: 2 974 300 ha
- Gross domestic product: 12.65 billion USD (2020)
- Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use: 11.71% of GDP (2020)
- Poverty (% of population below national poverty line): 26.4% (2019)
- Key biodiversity area: 33.6%

Armenia is a landlocked country in the South Caucasus. After gaining independence from the former Soviet Union, a very difficult socio-economic situation developed in Armenia, with a current high level of poverty. Land privatization has led to excessive land fragmentation and a small average farm size. Most of the country (87 percent) is mountainous with a vertical zonation of diverse landscapes. Armenia is hotspot of biodiversity in the region, facing human and climate induced land degradation. Water erosion affects most forest and croplands across the country.

LAND PRODUCTIVITY DYNAMICS (LPD) (2001–2020)

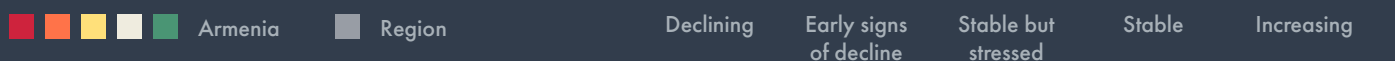
Most of the country presents stable (71 percent) or **increasing** (18 percent) land productivity dynamics during 2001–2020, showing lower levels of areas with **declining** productivity than the region. From the 327 000 ha presenting **declining** or **stressed** productivity in the country (11 percent), 240 000 ha correspond to grasslands and 71 000 ha to croplands. Both land covers present 30 000 ha with more severe and long term declining category, which may be exacerbated by the negative trends in precipitation affecting the country.

Source: UN. 2020. Map of the World [online] <https://www.un.org/geospatial/>, modified with Google Earth Engine Application developed for the region. <https://projectgeffao.users.earthengine.app/view/reu-ldn-assessment>



LPD COMPARED TO REGION

Percentage of area

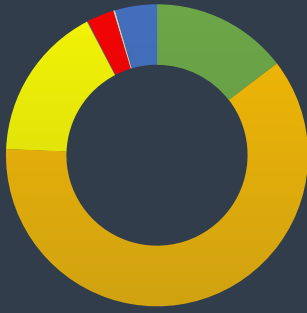


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DOCUMENTED SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT (SLM) TECHNOLOGIES AND APPROACHES IN WOCAT DATA BASE



347 765 396 TONNES OF SOIL ORGANIC CARBON

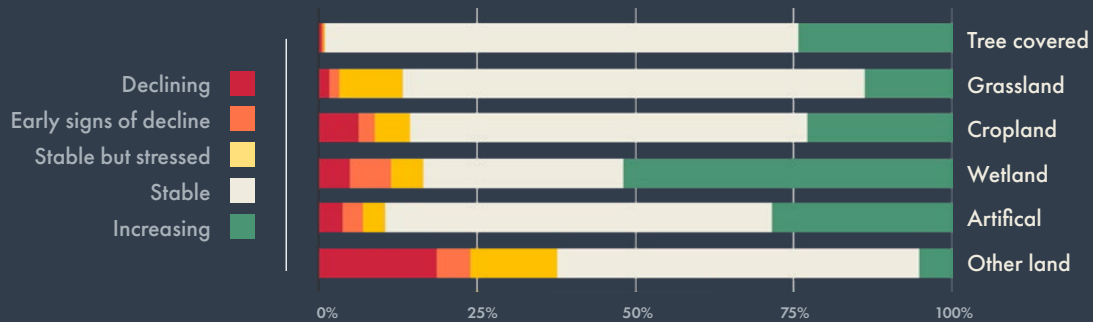


LAND COVER (2019)

61 percent are **grasslands**, followed by 17 percent **cropland** and 15 percent **tree covered** lands.



DISTRIBUTION OF LPD CLASSES FOR LAND COVER



MONEY ALLOCATED BY THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) THROUGH THE SYSTEM FOR TRANSPARENT ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES (STAR)

Total STAR allocation for GEF 6 and GEF 7 cycles in millions of dollars



SOME STEPS FORWARD TO ACHIEVE LDN IN ARMENIA

Armenia identified 5 actions to achieve LDN targets:

1. Better legislation and policy
2. Improved land used for crop production,
3. Expanded forest plantation in degraded lands
4. Forest management and stop deforestation
5. Better condition and use of grasslands

In 2018 Armenia reported to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification 1.67 percent of area degrading. However, aridization and soil erosion puts a higher proportion of the country lands in risk of degradation. The country has made significant attempts to combat land degradation. The Armenian Soil Information System ([ArmSIS](#)), launched in 2020, represents a steppingstone in the assessment of soil resources to guide effective and knowledge-based policymaking to achieve LDN. In 2021 a Food and Agriculture Organisation-Global Environment Facility Project to support the national efforts to achieve Armenia LDN targets through sustainable land management and restoration of degraded landscapes has started. New monitoring frameworks and integration of data will help obtain better estimations of SDG 15.3.1.

Note: This factsheet is part of the publication «Overview of land degradation neutrality (LDN) in Europe and Central Asia» and all the sources of the presented data here is available and explained in Further Resources.