



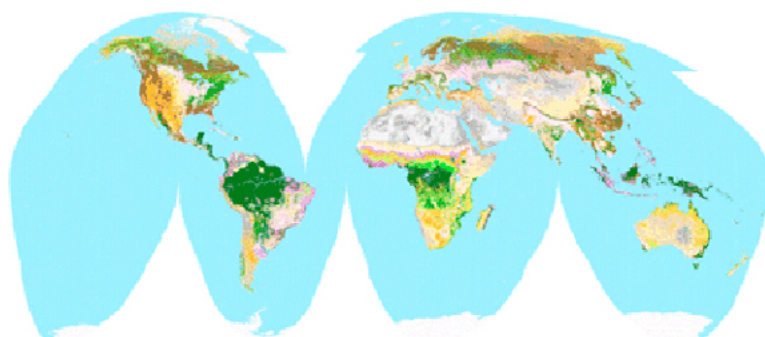
Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

GLOBAL LAND COVER 2000

In collaboration with a network of partners (30 research teams) from around the world, the Global Vegetation Monitoring (GVM) unit of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) compiled a harmonized global land cover classification for the year 2000 (GLC2000) database, using data acquired by the SPOT4 Vegetation instrument.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project was carried out to provide accurate baseline landcover information to the International Conventions on Climate Change, the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Ramsar Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.



GLC2000

Furthermore, the GLC2000 database has been chosen as a core dataset for the Millennium Ecosystems Assessment. This means in particular that the GLC2000 dataset is a main input dataset to define the boundaries between ecosystems such as forest, grassland, and cultivated systems. In this project more than 30 research teams have been involved, contributing to 19 regional windows, each mapped by local experts for an accurate classification based on local knowledge.

Each regional partner used the Land Cover Classification System (LCCS) produced by FAO and UNEP, which ensured that a standard legend was used over the globe. This hierarchical classification system allowed each partner to choose the most appropriate land cover classes which best describe their region, whilst also providing the possibility to translate regional classes to a more generalised global legend.