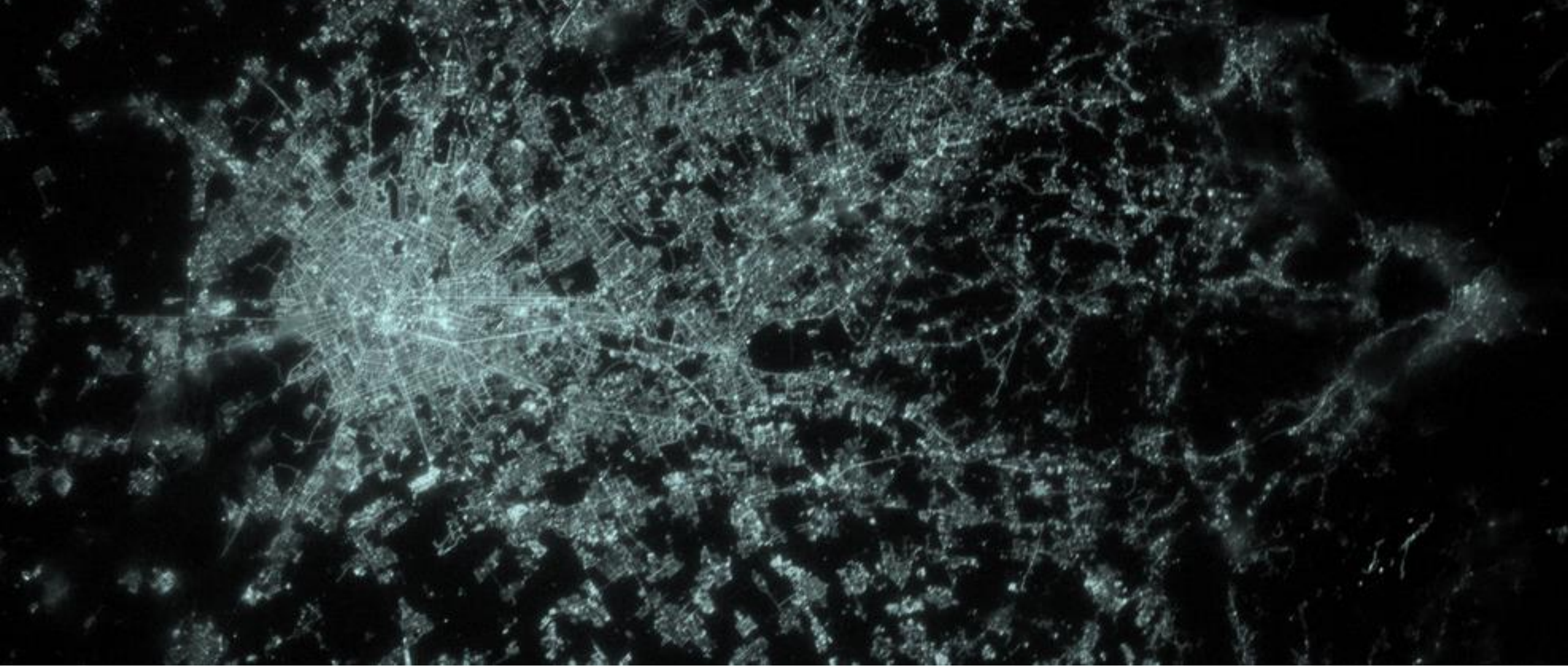


Luxembourg, Ministére du Developpement Durable et des Infrastructures
23 April 2015

Alessandro Balducci
Politecnico di Milano

What European Territory do we want?

Three points

- ✓ What the emerging literature says about urbanisation
- ✓ The research project on post-metropolitan development we are conducting in Italy as a case-study
- ✓ A vision of Europe not only should not be territory blind but also change the view of the urban

POST- METROPOLIS - REGIONAL URBANISATION (SOJA 2011)

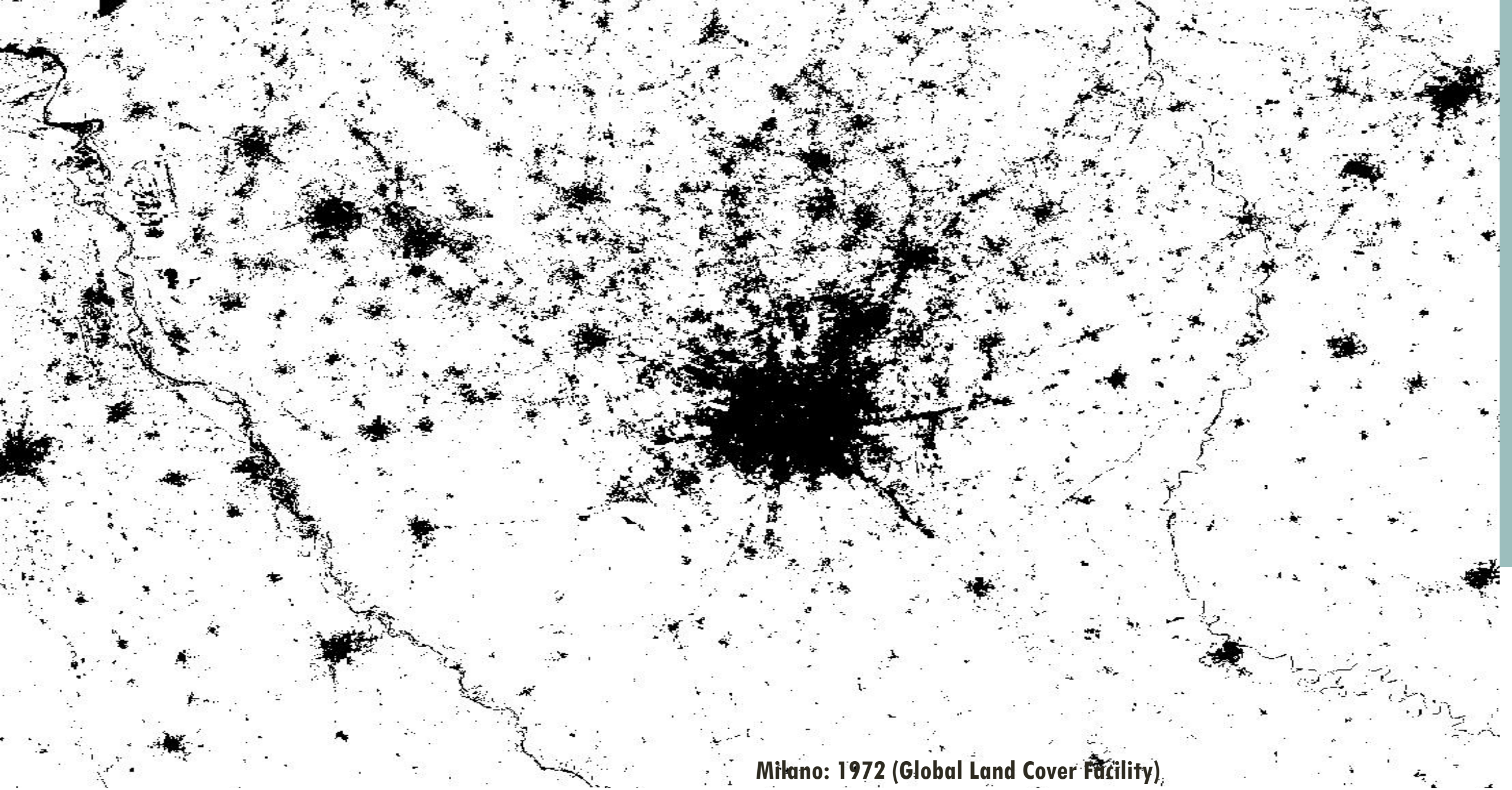
- ✓ the flattening of the gradient of urban density;
- ✓ the progressive erosion of the boundary between urban and suburban;
- ✓ the homogenization of the urban landscape as well as an increasing differentiation and specialization of the suburban.
- ✓ the disappearance of significant differences in lifestyles between urban -suburban, the emergence of different (sub) urban ways of life;
- ✓ the combination of new forms of decentralization and recentralization,
- ✓ the emergence of a new urban form, a polynuclear, densely reticulated and intensive information
- ✓ The emergence of a new urban question: spatial justice, environmental question…

PLANETARY URBANISATION (BRENNER 2013-14)

- ✓ a process of capitalist urbanisation is taking place, that involves the so-called realm of non-urban, that obliges to reframe both theory and practices of the urban
- ✓ Implosion- explosion: "society is completely urbanised"
- ✓ If the urban is everywhere, the question of citizenship cannot be linked to a traditional model of the city, place based and local

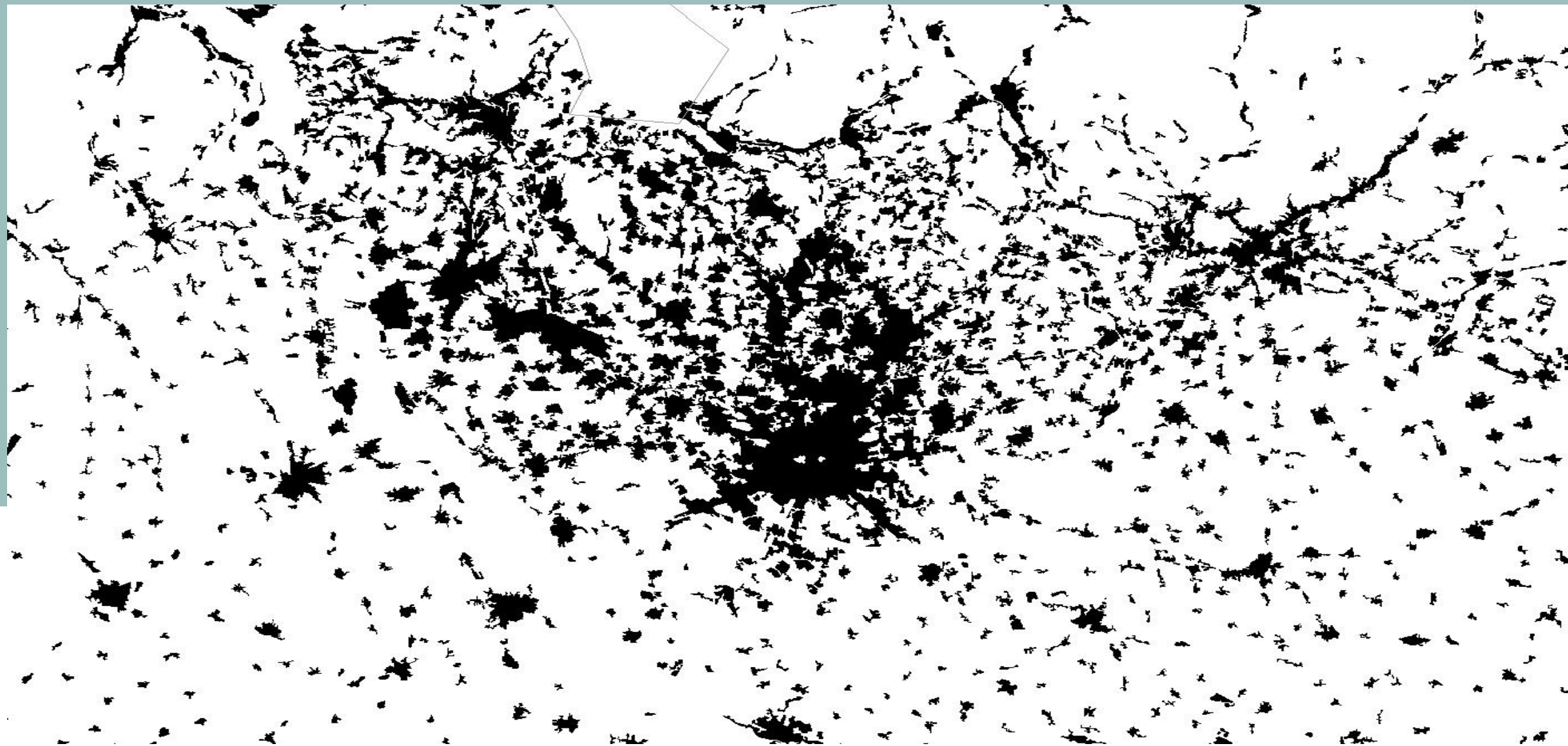
SUBURBANISATION (KEIL ET AL., 2011)

- ✓ Suburban as a neglected space/ suburban as the emerging form of contemporary urban
- ✓ Suburbanisation as the outcome of new interactions between novel rationalities: strategies of growth, practices of collective consumption, residential expansion, preservation of environment and landscape.
- ✓ suburban, is therefore, per se, not just the field of rescaling of traditional social and environmental question, but the heart of new political tension, if not the space for excellence of the accumulation of tension

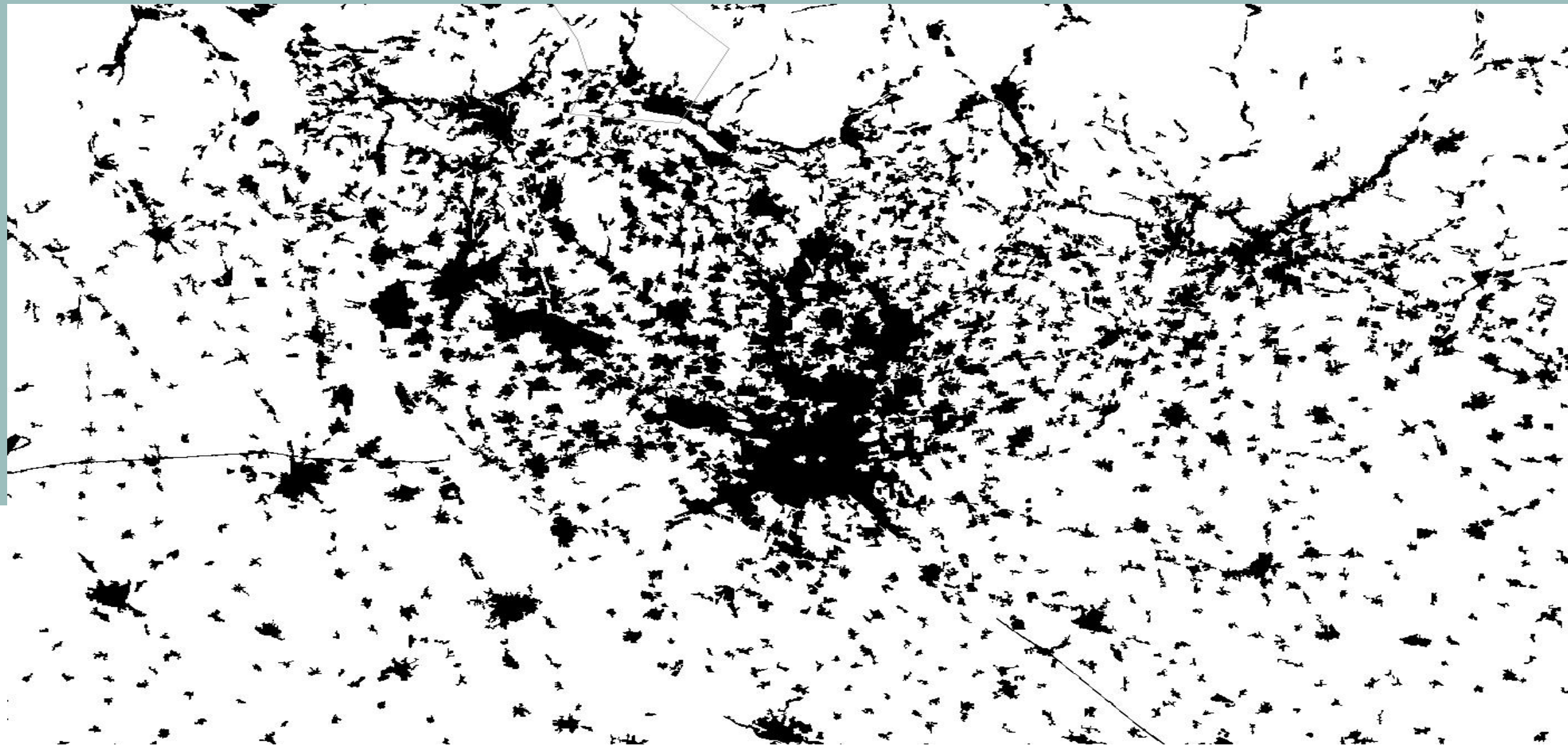


Milano: 1972 (Global Land Cover Facility)

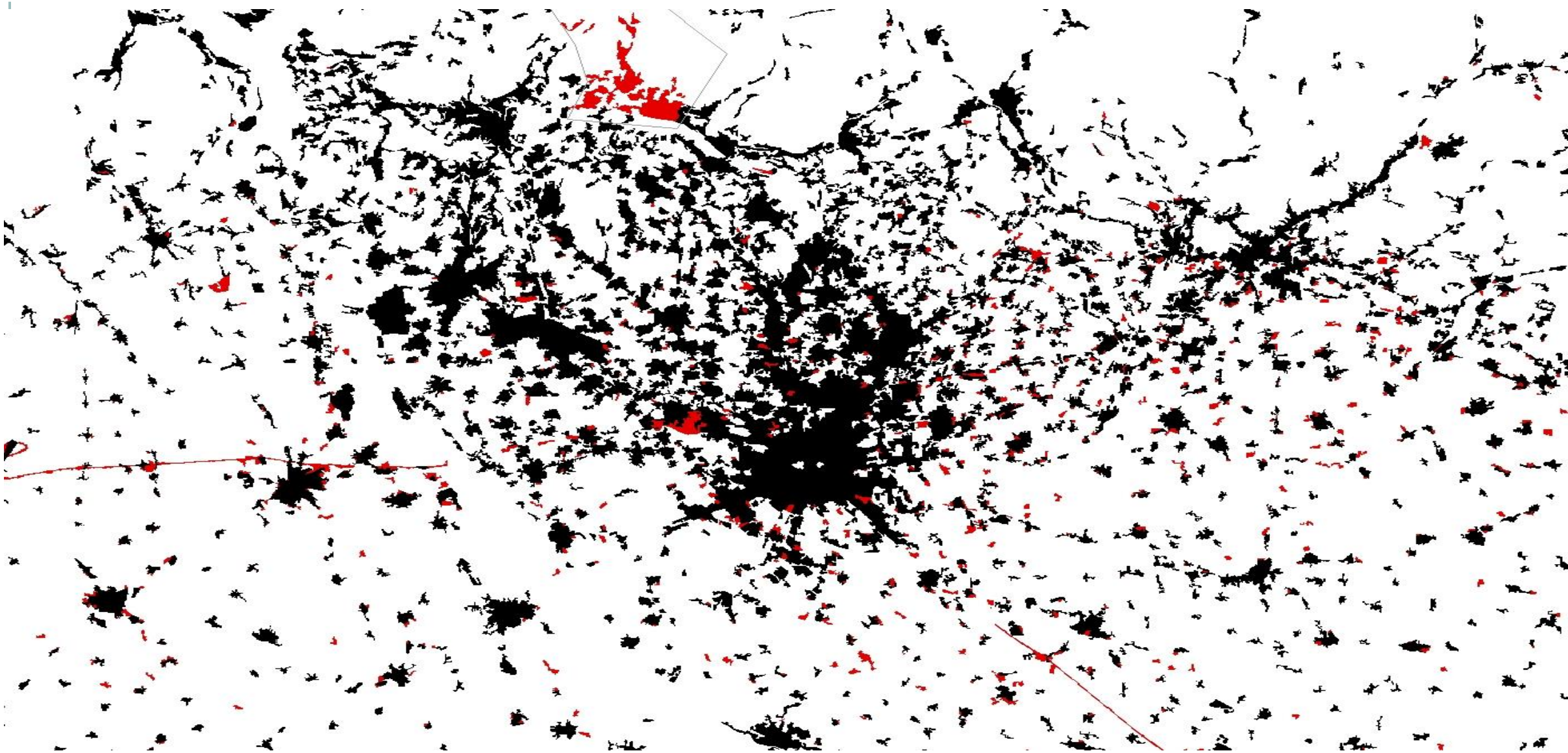
Milan: CLC artificial surfaces, 1990

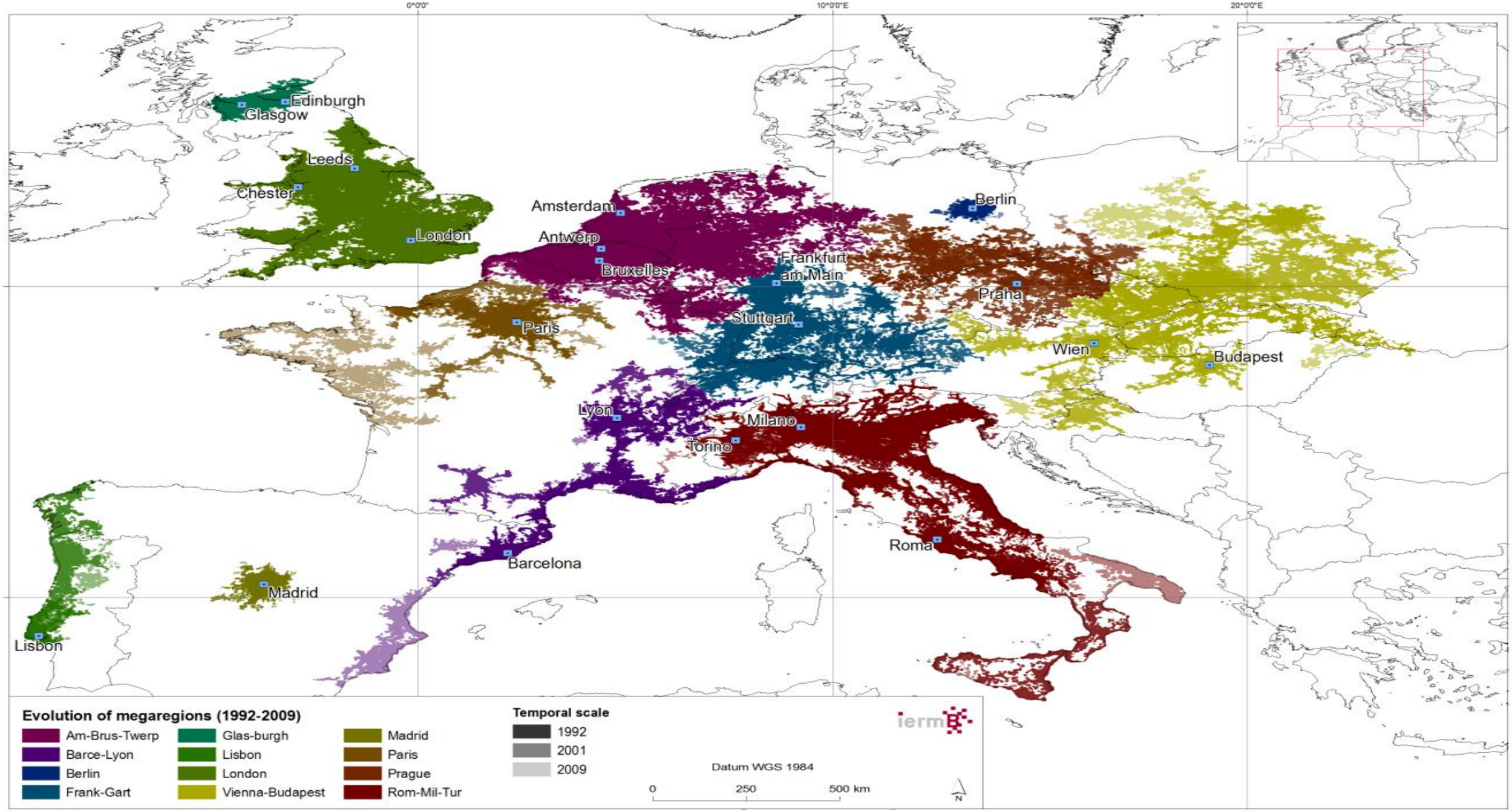


Milan: CLC artificial surfaces, 2006



Milan: CLC artificial surfaces, 1990 - 2006

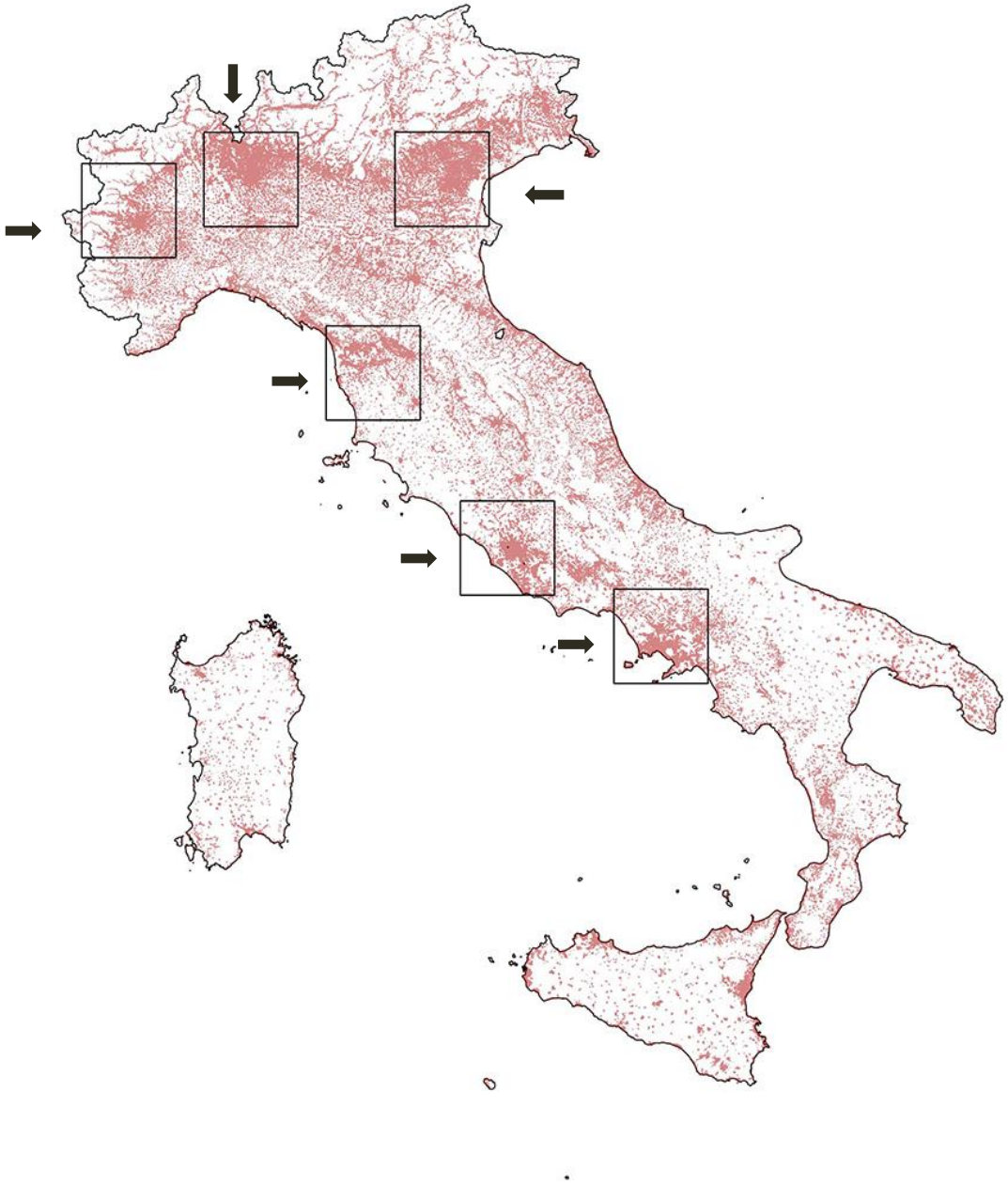


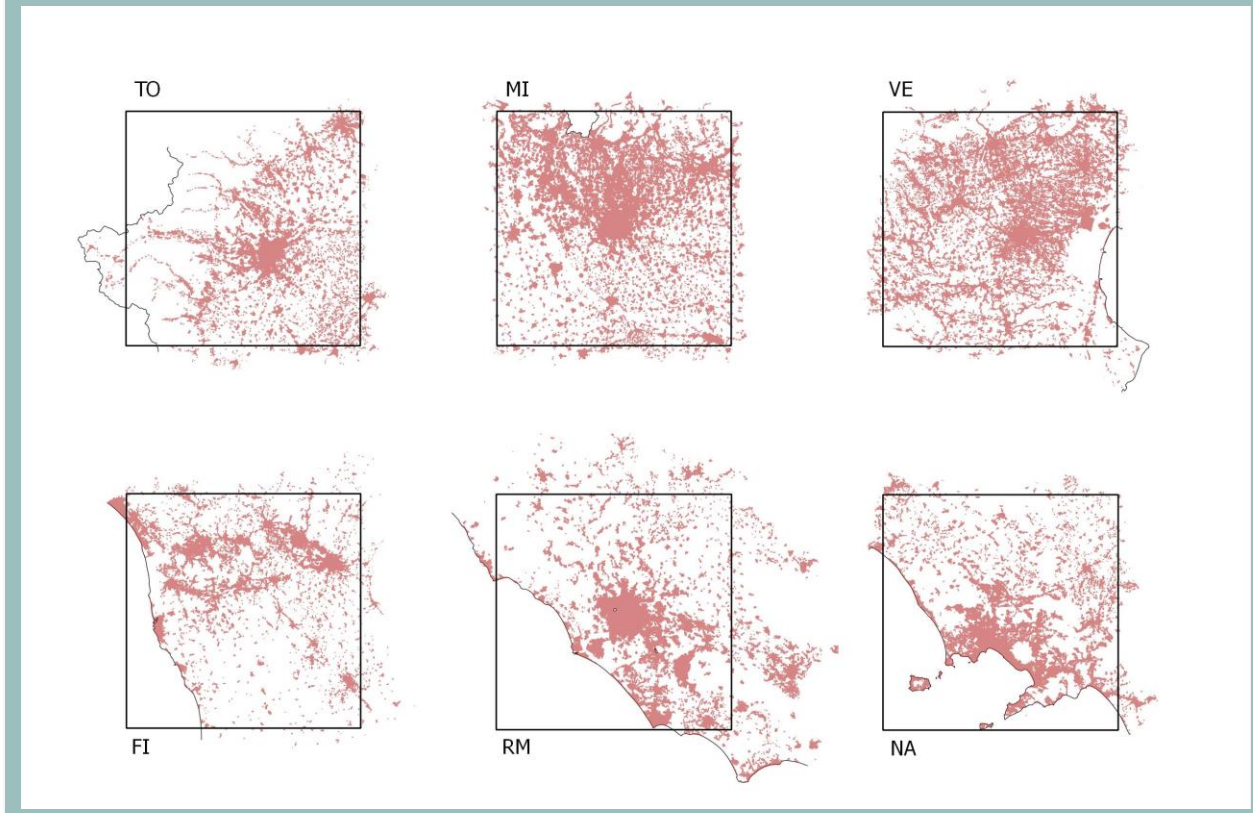

0°0'0"
10°0'0"E
20°0'0"E
Edinburgh
Glasgow
Leeds
Chester
London
Amsterdam
Antwerp
Bruxelles
Frankfurt am Main
Stuttgart
Paris
Berlin
Praha
Wien
Budapest
Lyon
Milano
Torino
Roma
Barcelona
Madrid
Lisbon
Evolution of megaregions (1992-2009)
Am-Brus-Twerp
Barce-Lyon
Berlin
Frank-Gart
Glas-burgh
Lisbon
London
Vienna-Budapest
Madrid
Paris
Prague
Rom-Mil-Tur
Temporal scale
1992
2001
2009
Datum WGS 1984
0
250
500 km
N
iermb

THE *MEGA-CITY-REGION*

".. A series of anything **between 10 and 50 cities and towns**, physically separate but functionally networked, **clustered around one or more larger central cities**, and drawing enormous economic strength from a new functional division of labor. These places exist both as **separate entities**, in which most residents work locally and most workers are local residents, and as a **parts of a wider functional urban region** connected by flows of people and information carried along motorways, high-speed rail lines and telecommunications cables.."

(Hall, Pain 2006)

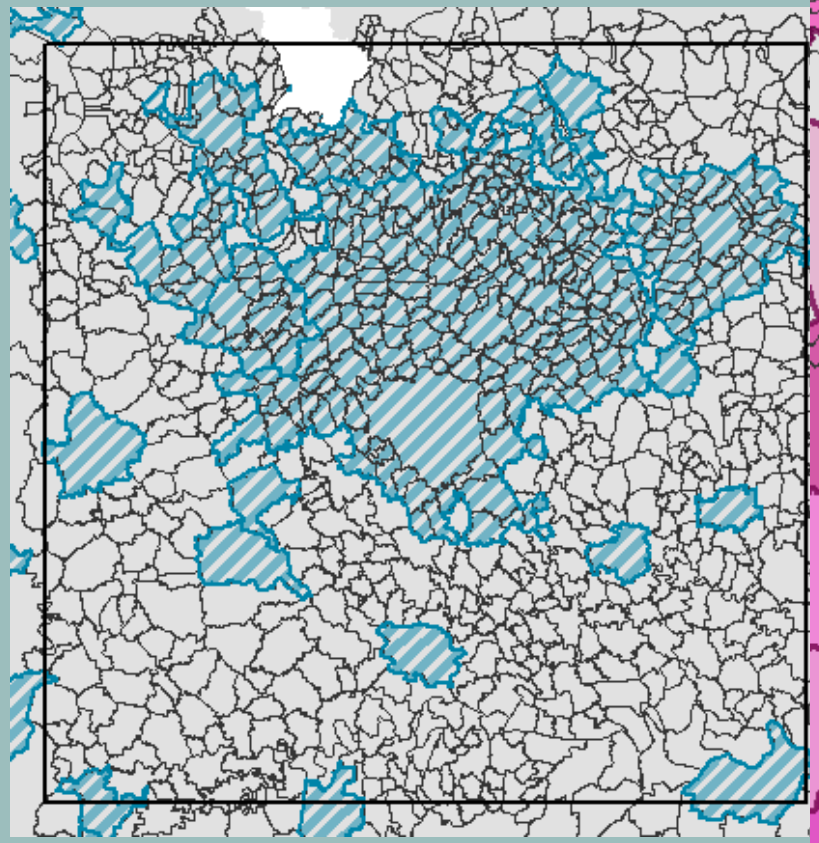


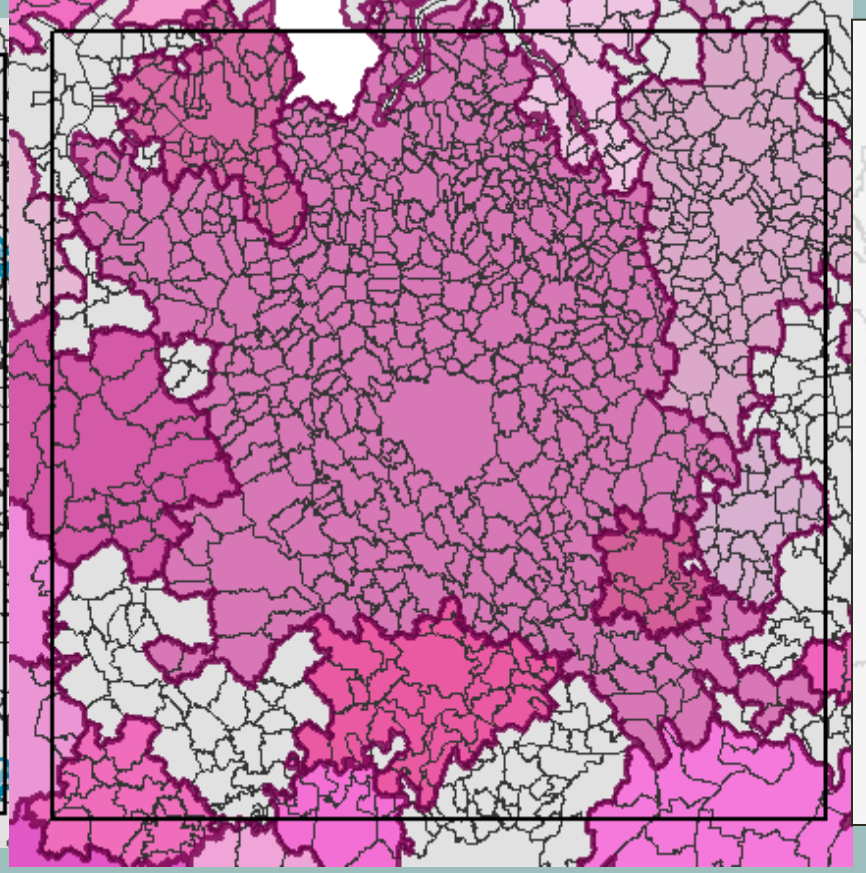


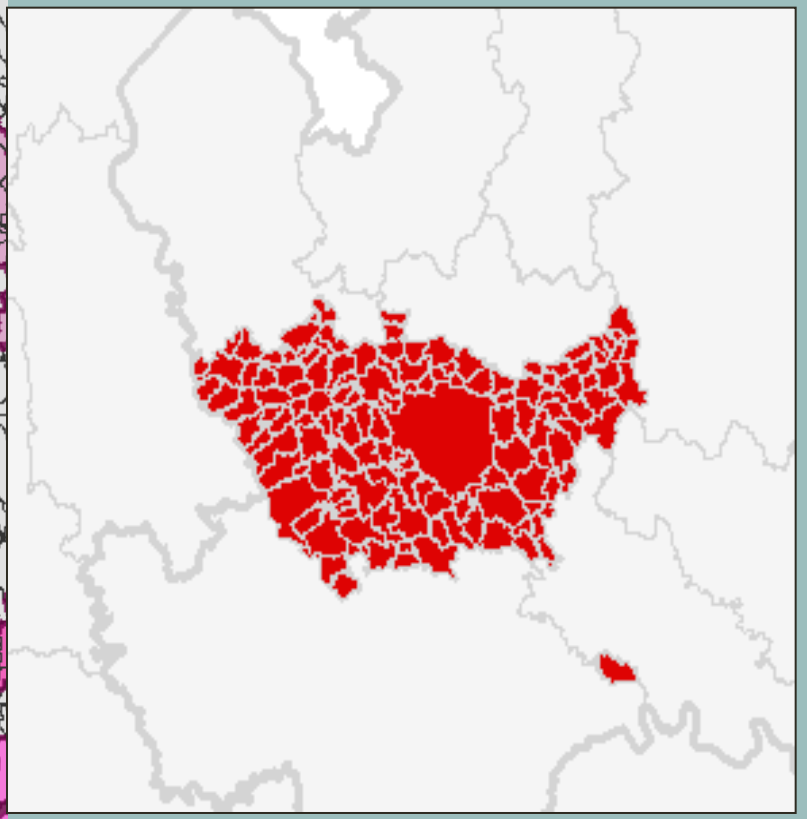
100X100 KMQ «SQUARES»

6 main cases + 3

An Atlas with 500 indicators from different sources





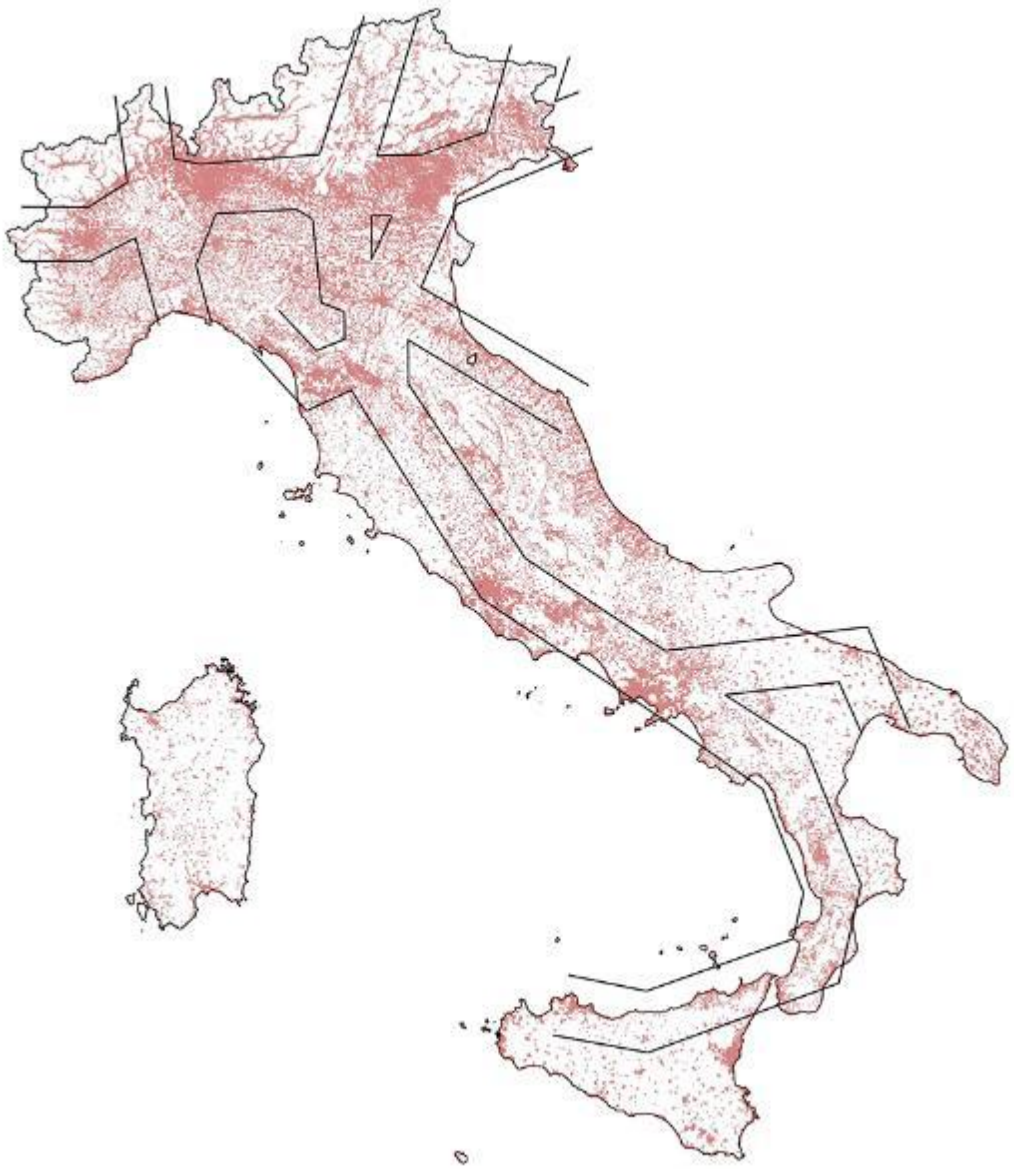


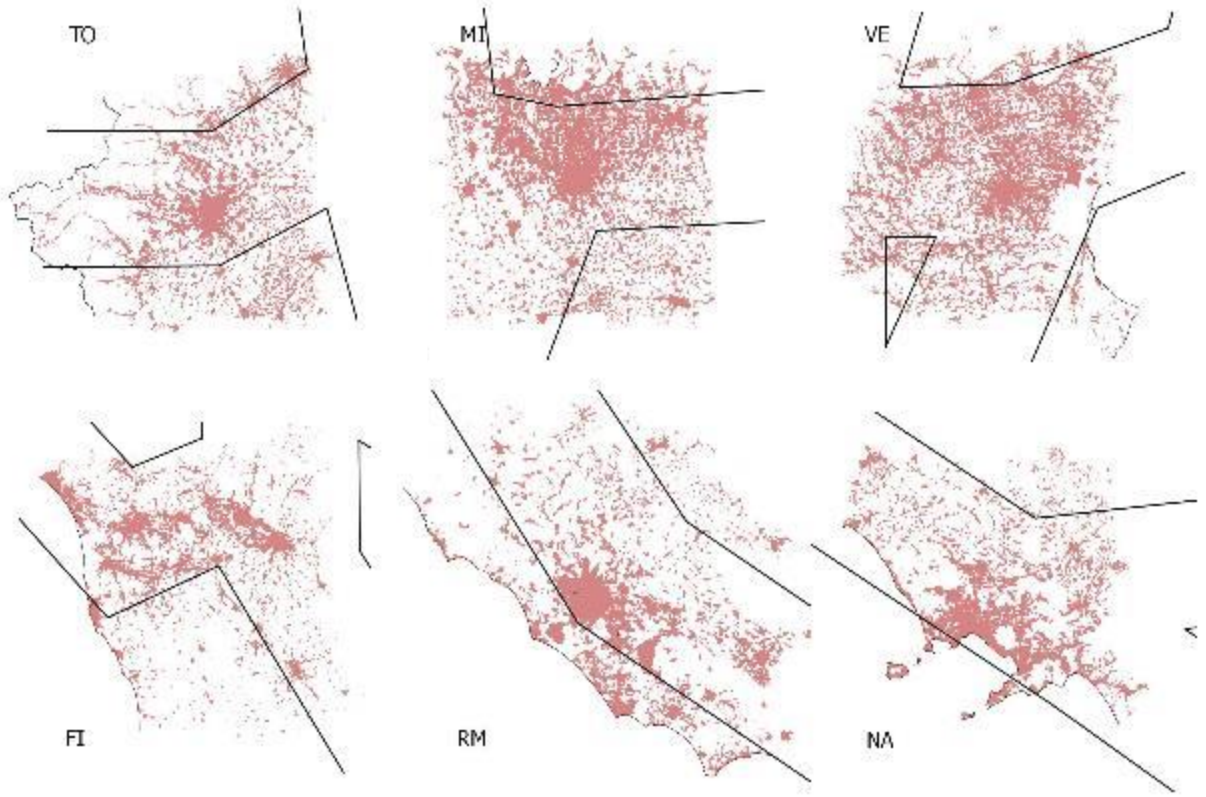
MORPHOLOGICAL URBAN AREAS FUNCTIONAL URBAN AREAS METROPOLITAN CITY BOUNDARIES

SOURCES

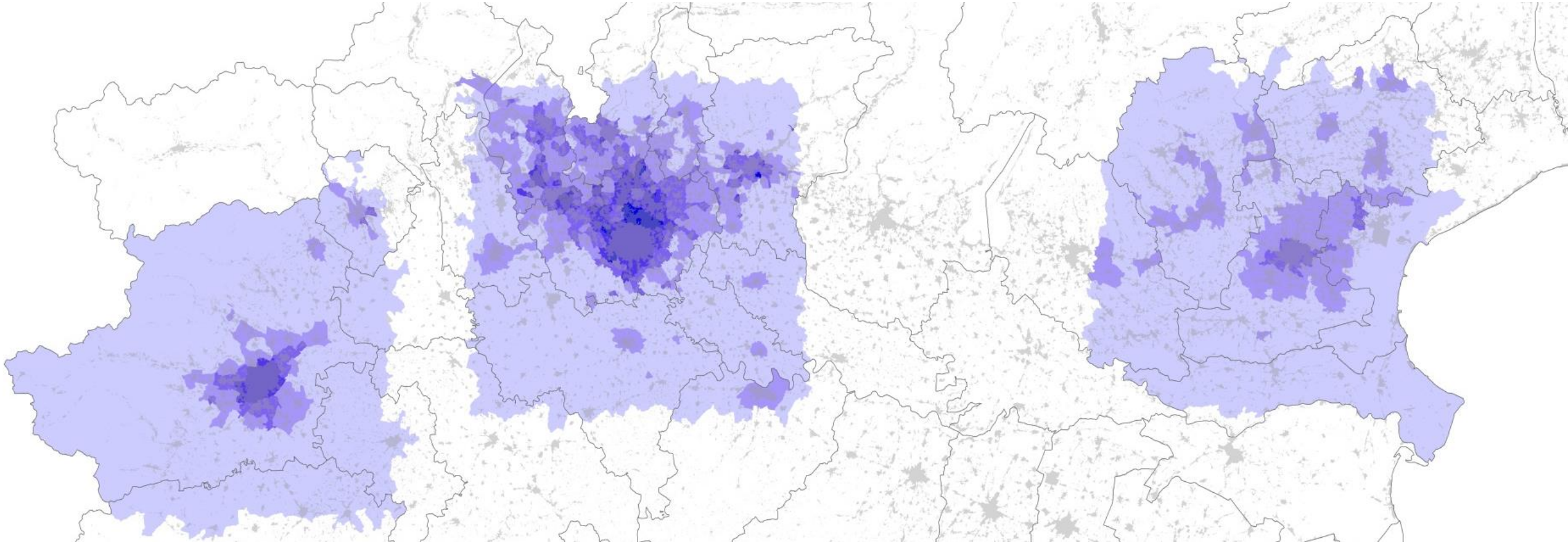
Istat + Database ESPON http://database.espon.eu/db2/

Administrative geography fails to cope with processes of regional urbanisation

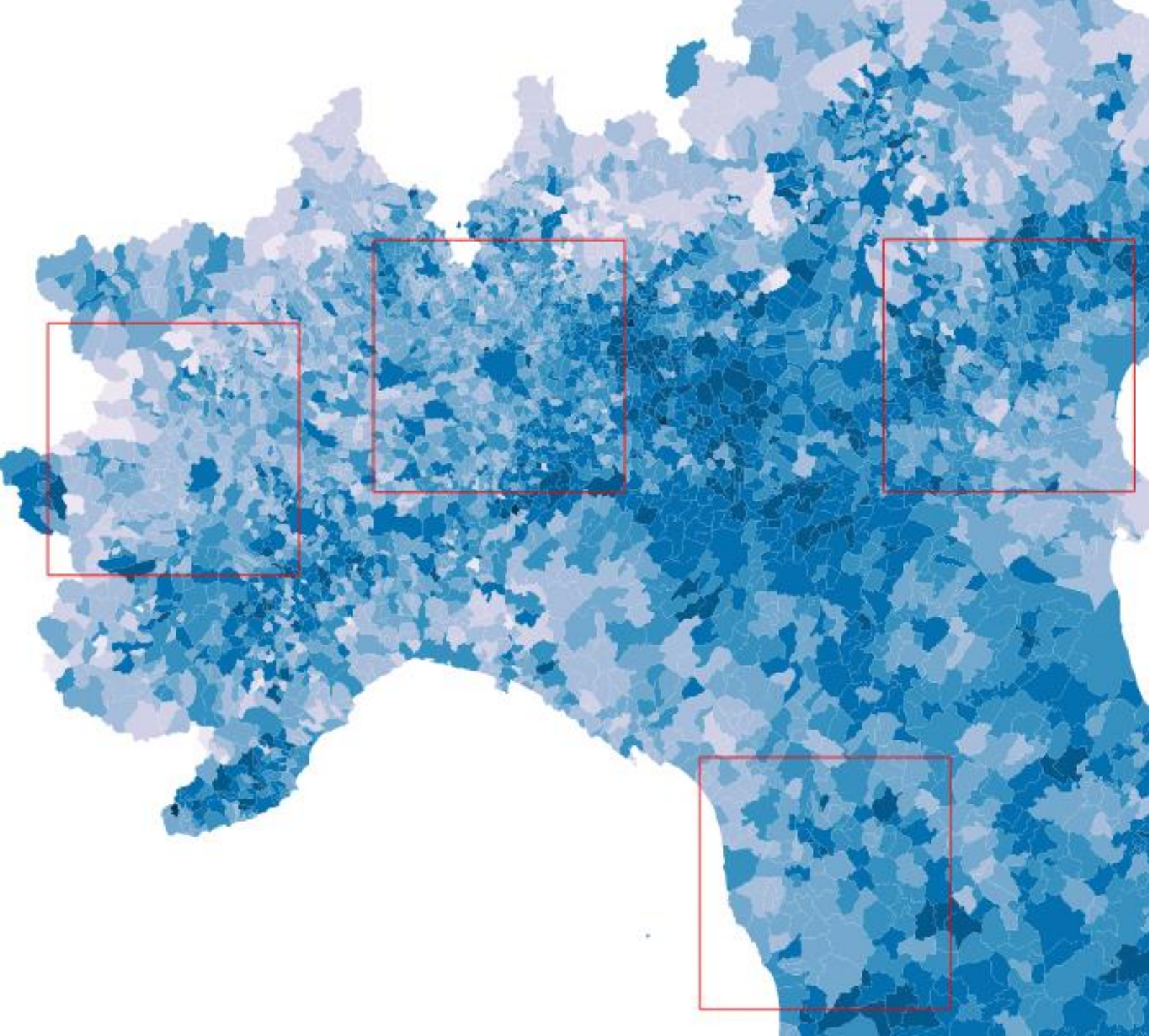




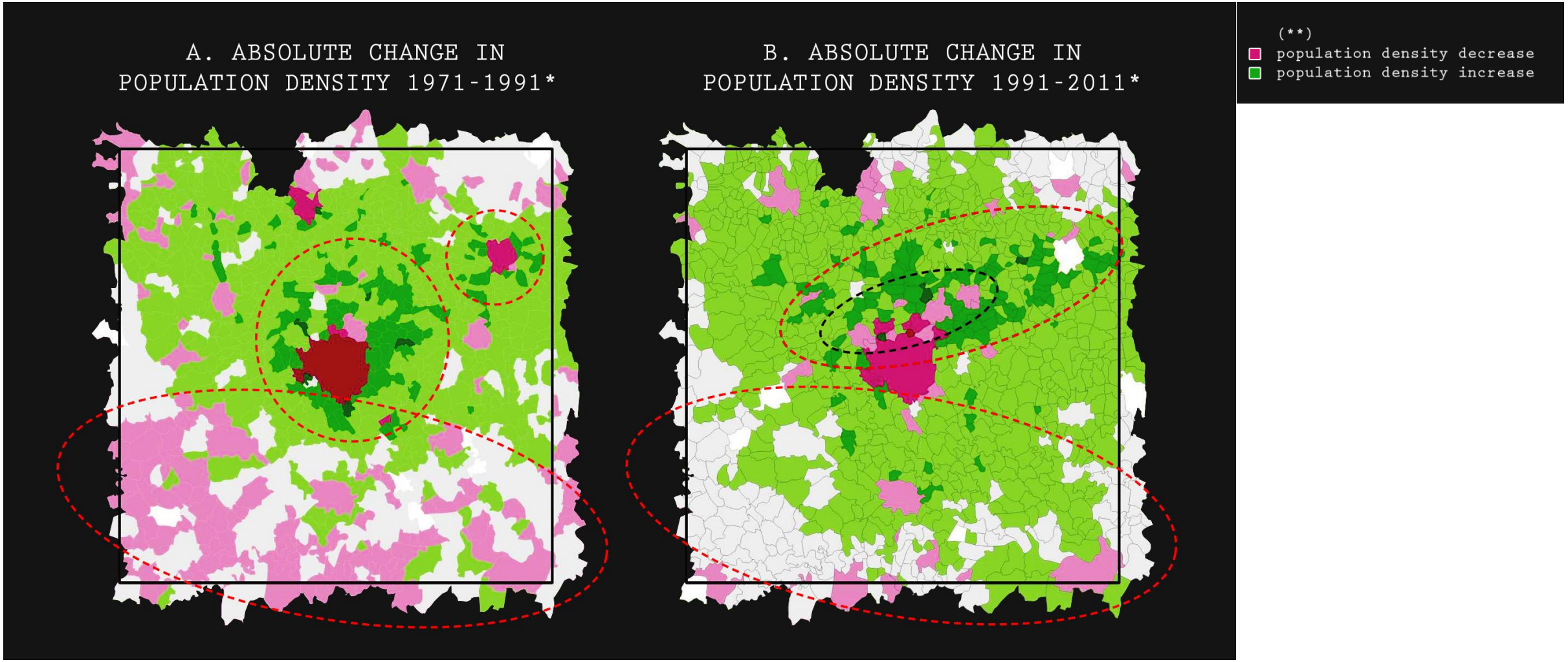
CORRIDORS



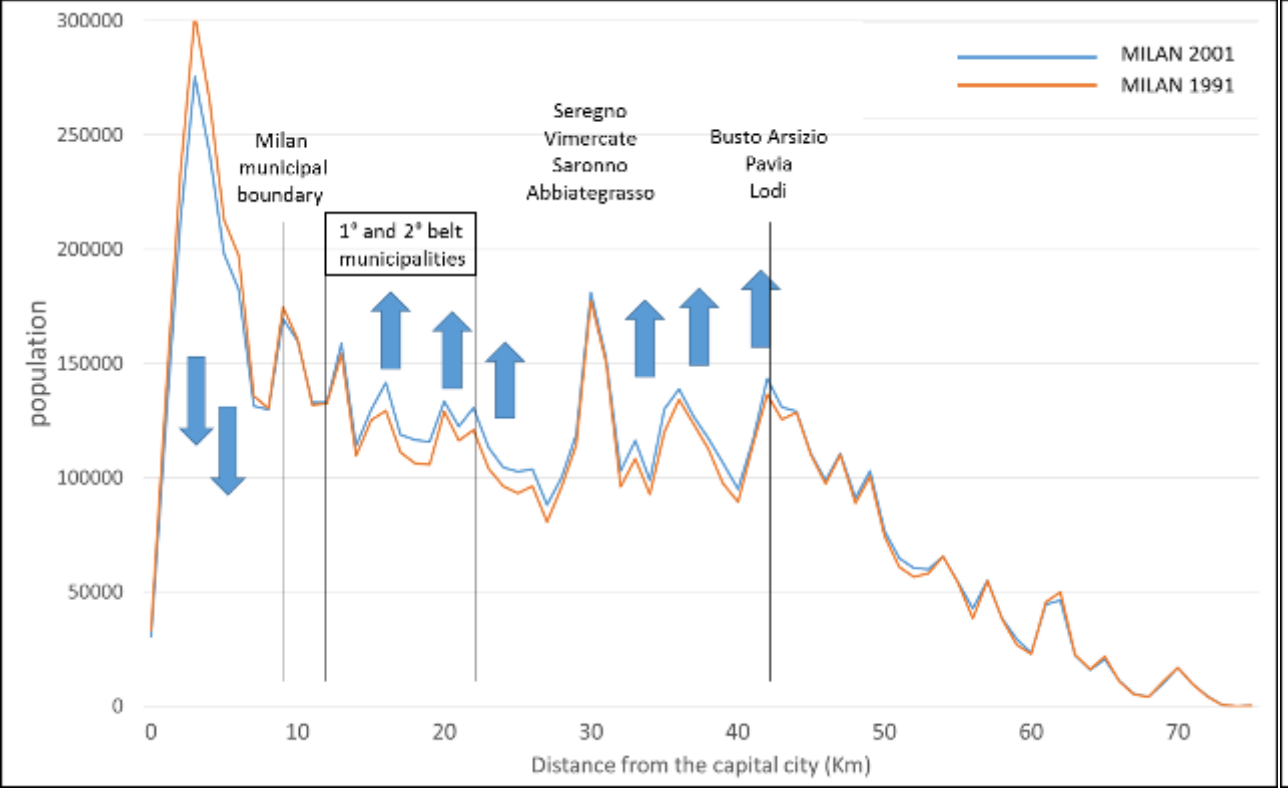
LAND CONSUMPTION

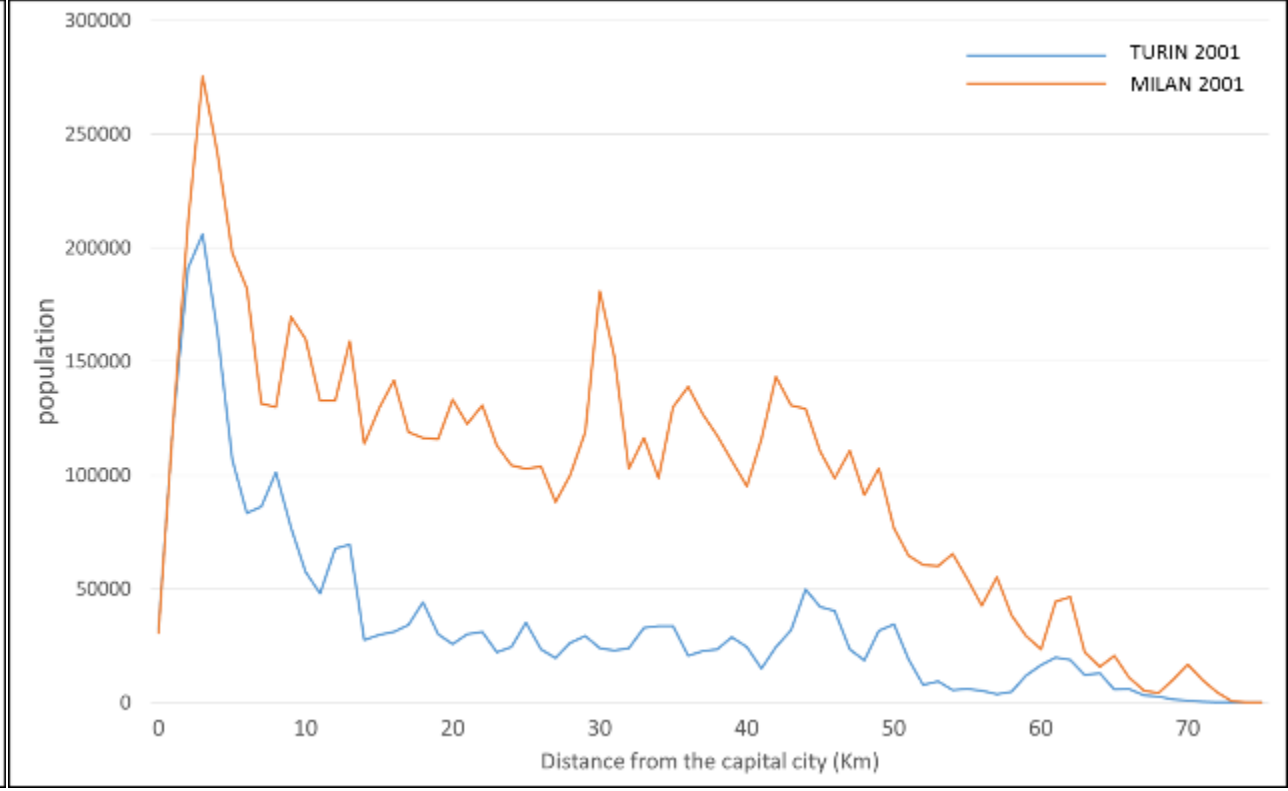


% OF IMMIGRANTS

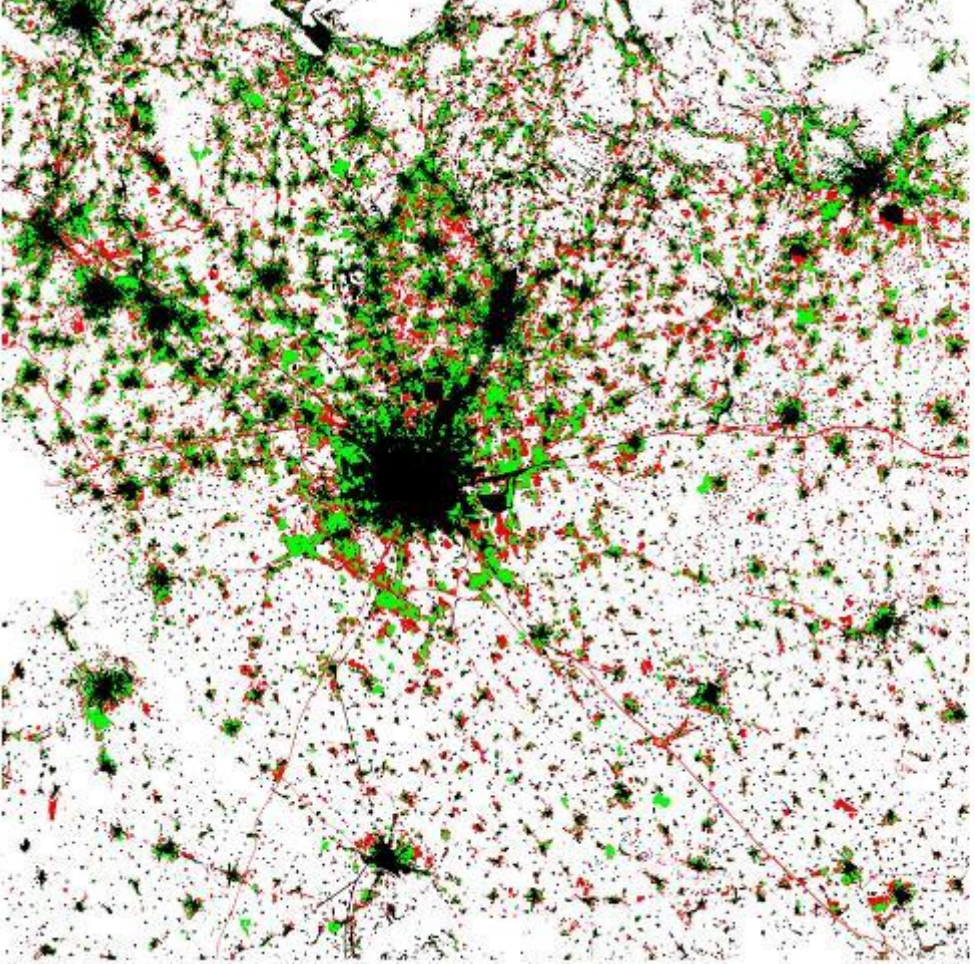


DENSIFICATION


MILAN 2001
MILAN 1991
Milan municipal boundary
1° and 2° belt municipalities
Seregno
Vimercate
Saronno
Abbiategrasso
Busto Arsizio
Pavia
Lodi
population
Distance from the capital city (Km)
300000
250000
200000
150000
100000
50000
0
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70


TURIN 2001
MILAN 2001
population
Distance from the capital city (Km)
300000
250000
200000
150000
100000
50000
0
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70

DENSITY

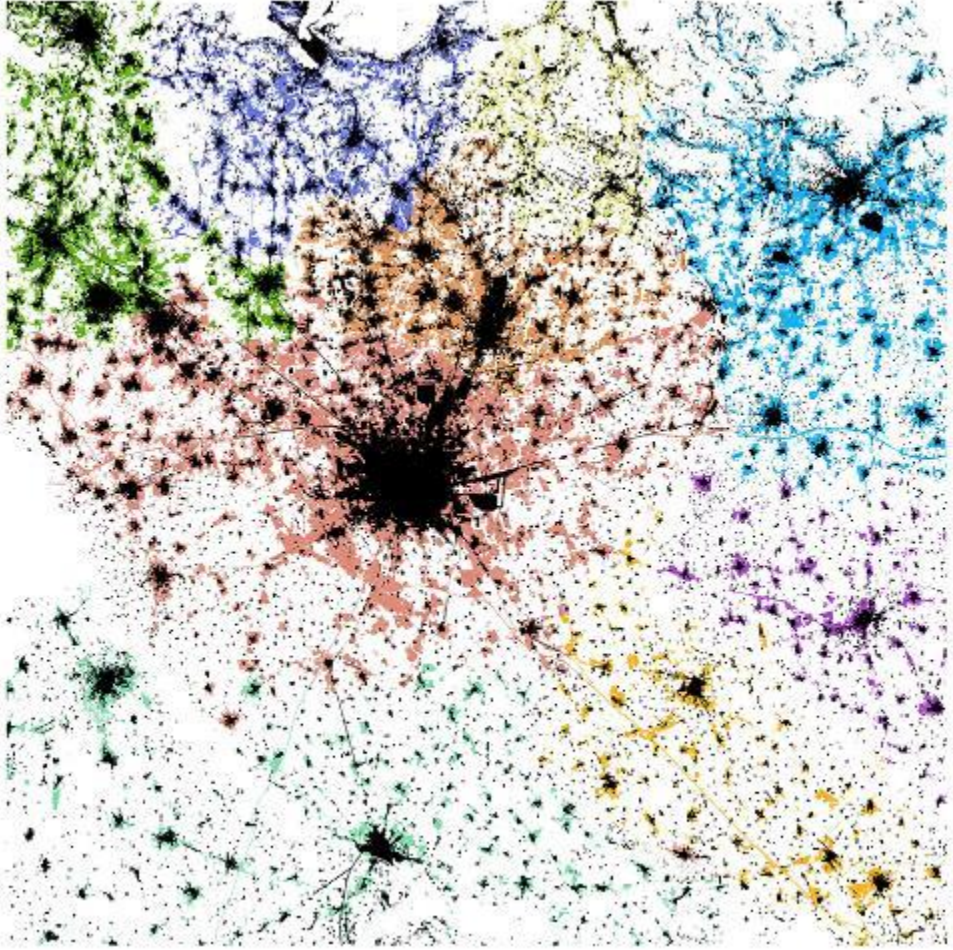


URBAN GROWTH

1955

1980

2012

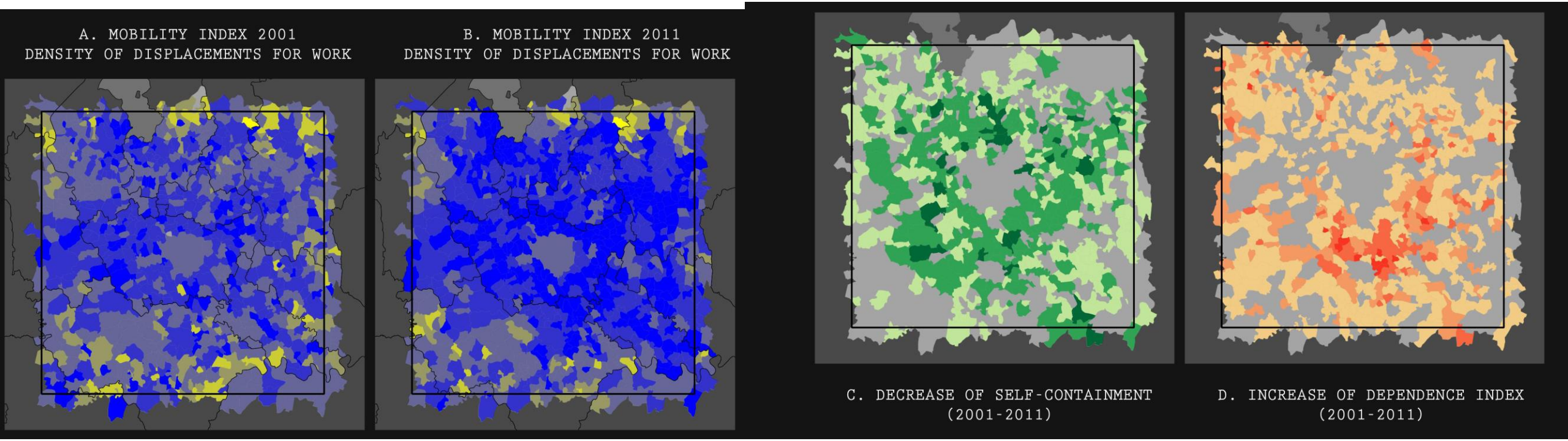


URBAN GROWTH 1955-

POLYCENTRIC PATTERN FILTERED BY PROVINCIAL BOUNDARIES

1955

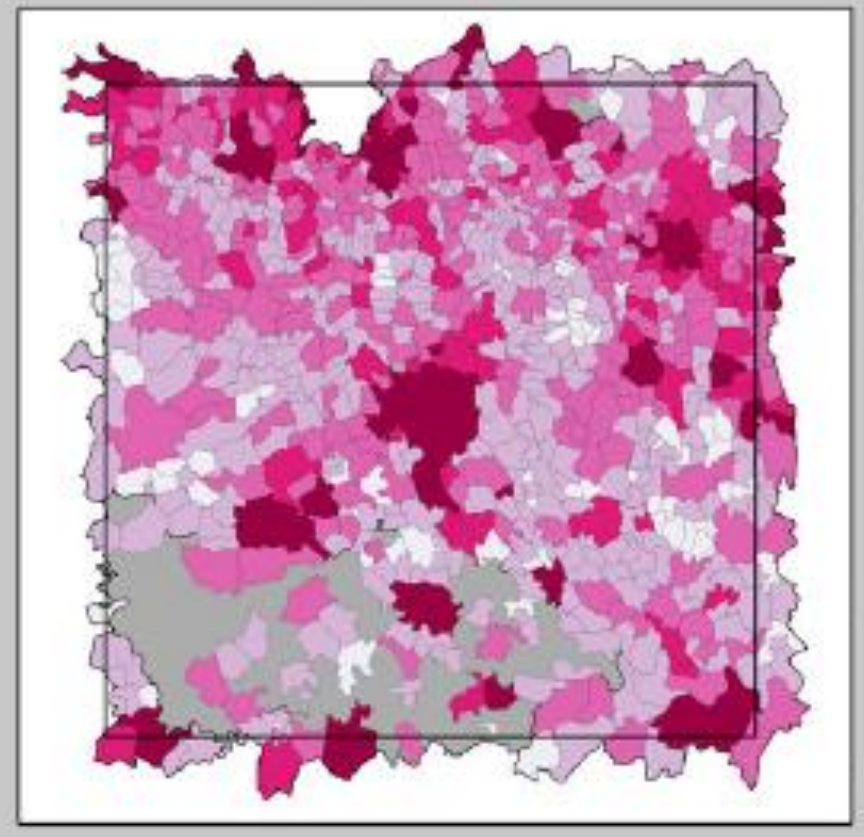
✓ A NEW TERRITORIAL PATTERN



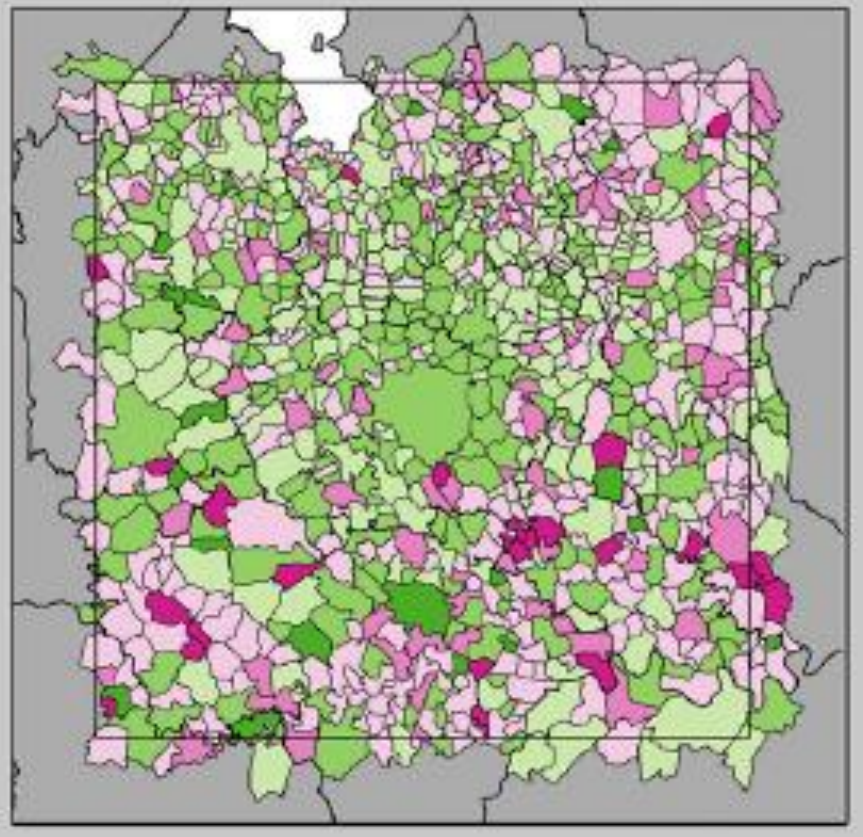
MOBILITY

SOURCES

Istat + Database ESPON http://database.espon.eu/db2/



C. HOUSING RISK INDEX 2012

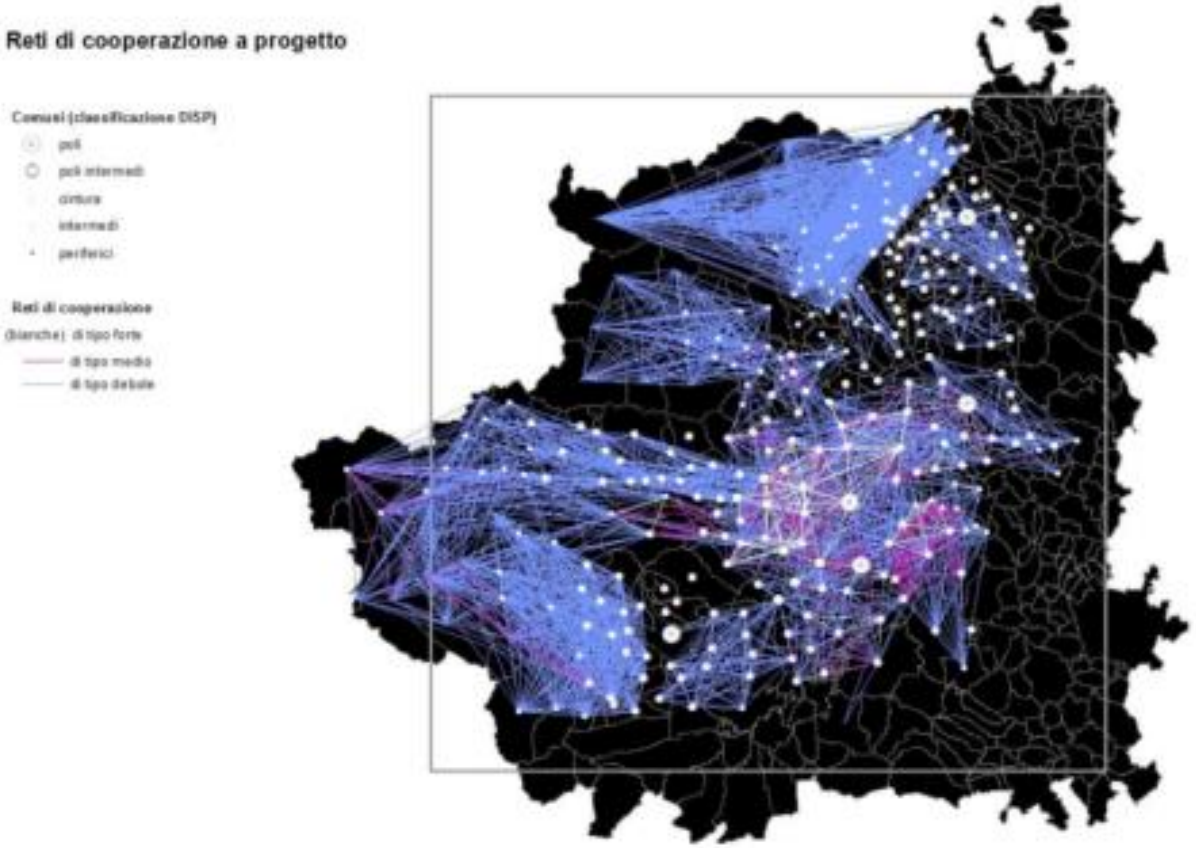


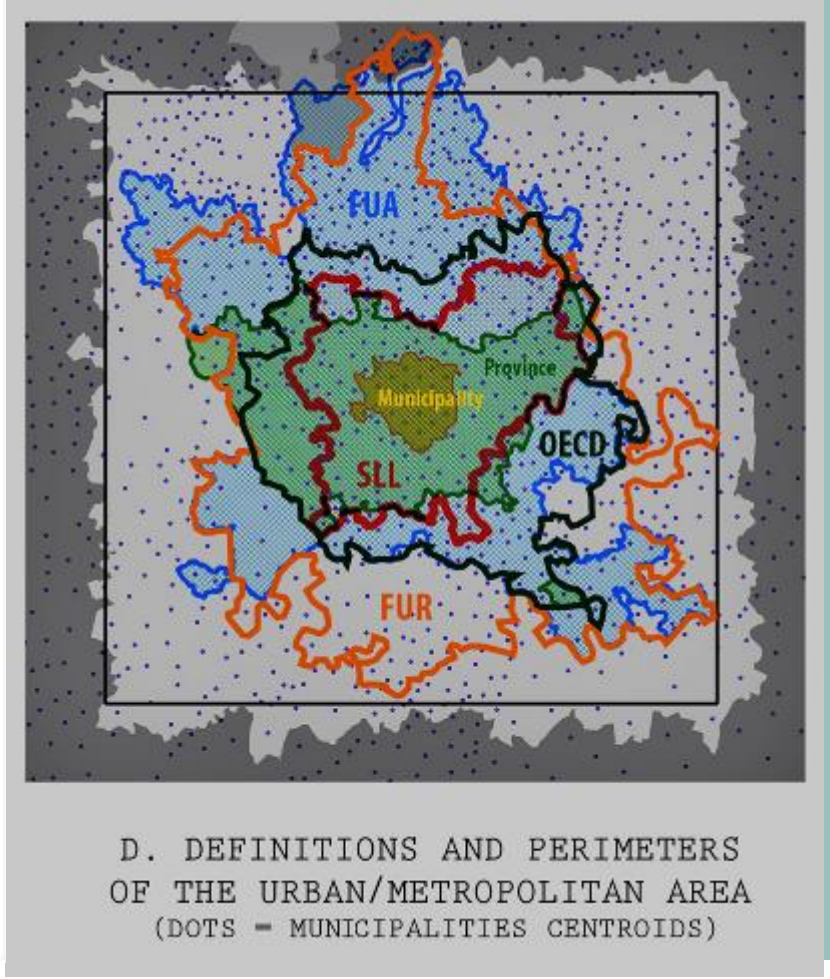
D. CHANGE IN HOUSING DEPRIVATION INDEX BETWEEN 2001 AND 2011

(A) 0-1	(B) % points	(C) index	(D) % points
0 - 0.27	-11.3 - -1.2	0 - 0.025	< -5
0.27 - 0,31	-1.2 - 2.1	0.025 - 0.05	-5 - -1
0,31 - 0,36	2.1 - 4.2	0.05 - 0.075	-1 - 0
0,36 - 0,42	4.2 - 6.2	0.075 - 0.1	0 - 1
9,42 - 0,51	6.2 - 11.1	0.1 >	1 - 5
0,51 - 0,66	11.1 - 100	no data	5 >

SOCIAL ISSUES

Governance





D. DEFINITIONS AND PERIMETERS
OF THE URBAN/METROPOLITAN AREA
(DOTS = MUNICIPALITIES CENTROIDS)

NEW GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- ✓ The territory “in between” is not in between any more
- ✓ The former suburban space is the space where change is happening but there is not attention and focus on it
- ✓ There are interesting processes of transformation which should be sustained in the extended urban space:
  - ✓ Decentralised production of energy
  - ✓ Re-naturalisation of impermeable spaces
  - ✓ Development of new forms of sustainable mobility
  - ✓ Development of alternative housing models
  - ✓ Development of a new decentralised economy from new manufacturing to shared office space
  - ✓ New relations between producers and consumers
  - ✓ New role of agriculture
  - ✓ New opportunities for closing cycles
- ✓ Governance cannot attempt to include in a new perimeter the urban region which is expanding constantly and work only on cooperation and networking

- ✓ **A European spatial vision should change the concept of city adopted and look at regional urbanisation as the most important territorial phenomenon**