

# Application des modèles du feu/outils pour le prévenir, gérer et atténuer les risques d'incendie dans un climat changeant

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PREMIER ATELIER SUR LES  
INCENDIES DE FORET ET  
CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE

*11 et 12 Janvier 2016,  
Hôtel Casablanca - Dar el Beida (Alger)*



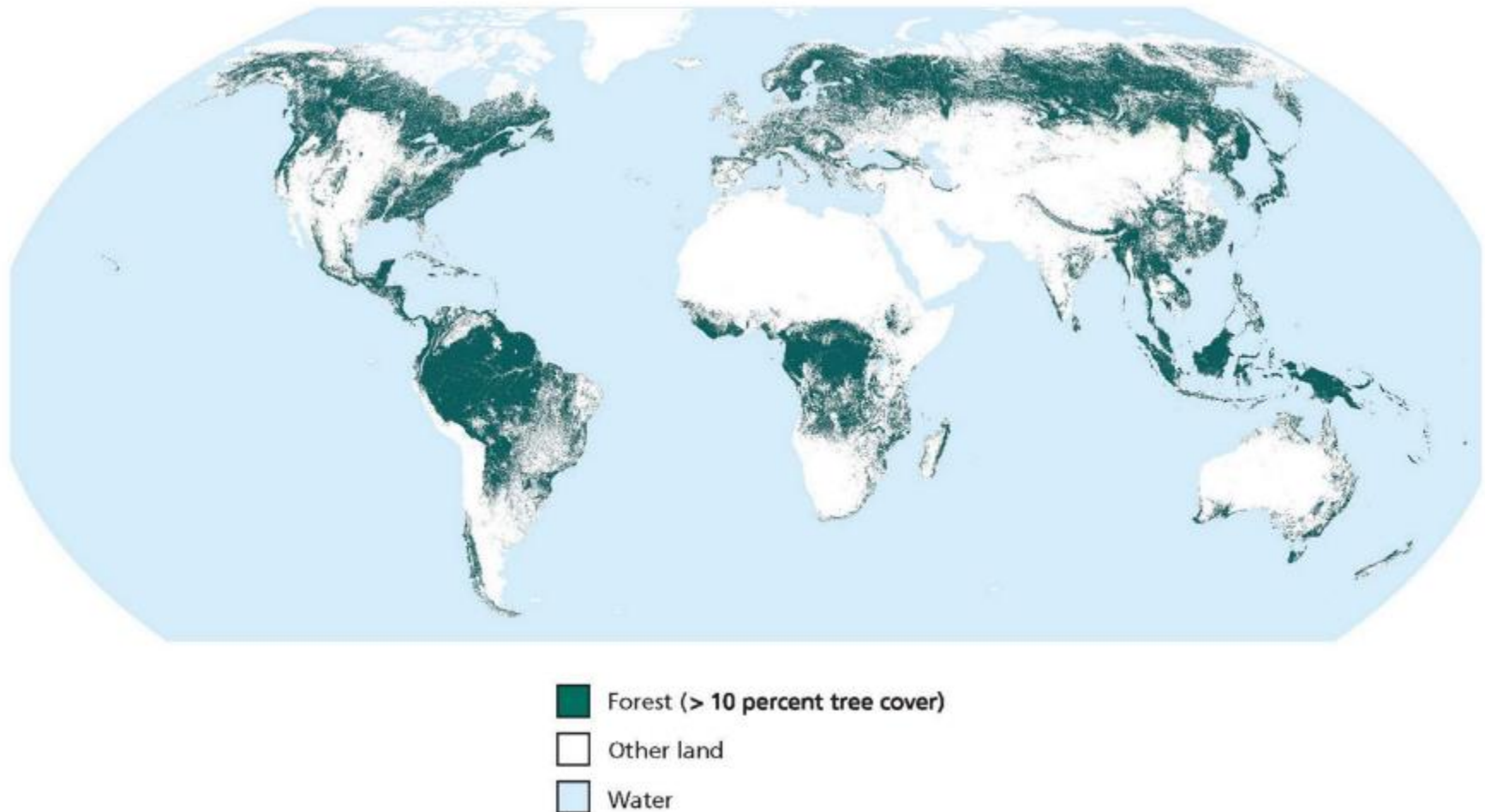
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3. Comment faire face au changement climatique
4. Options d'atténuation et adaptation dans le secteur forestier
5. Modèles pour prévenir, gérer et atténuer les risques d'incendie



# Les forêts au niveau global

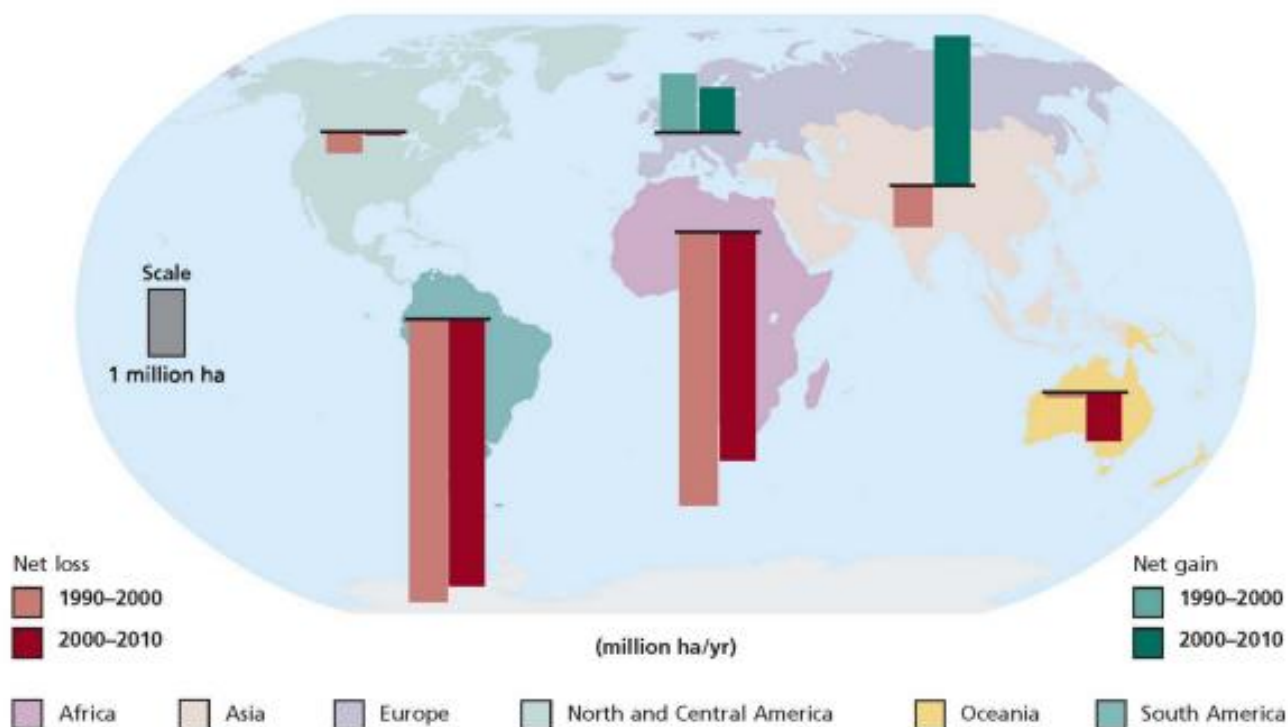


- Forests comprise  $\approx 4$  billion ha (30% of land surface, 434 billion m<sup>3</sup>)
- 89% natural (36% primary and 53% modified)



# Les forêts au niveau global

Change 1990 – 2010



- Greatest forest loss in low-income, low-latitude countries
- Average annual net loss:  
Brazil – 3.1 million ha  
Indonesia - 1.9 million ha
- Average annual net gain:  
China – 4.0 million ha

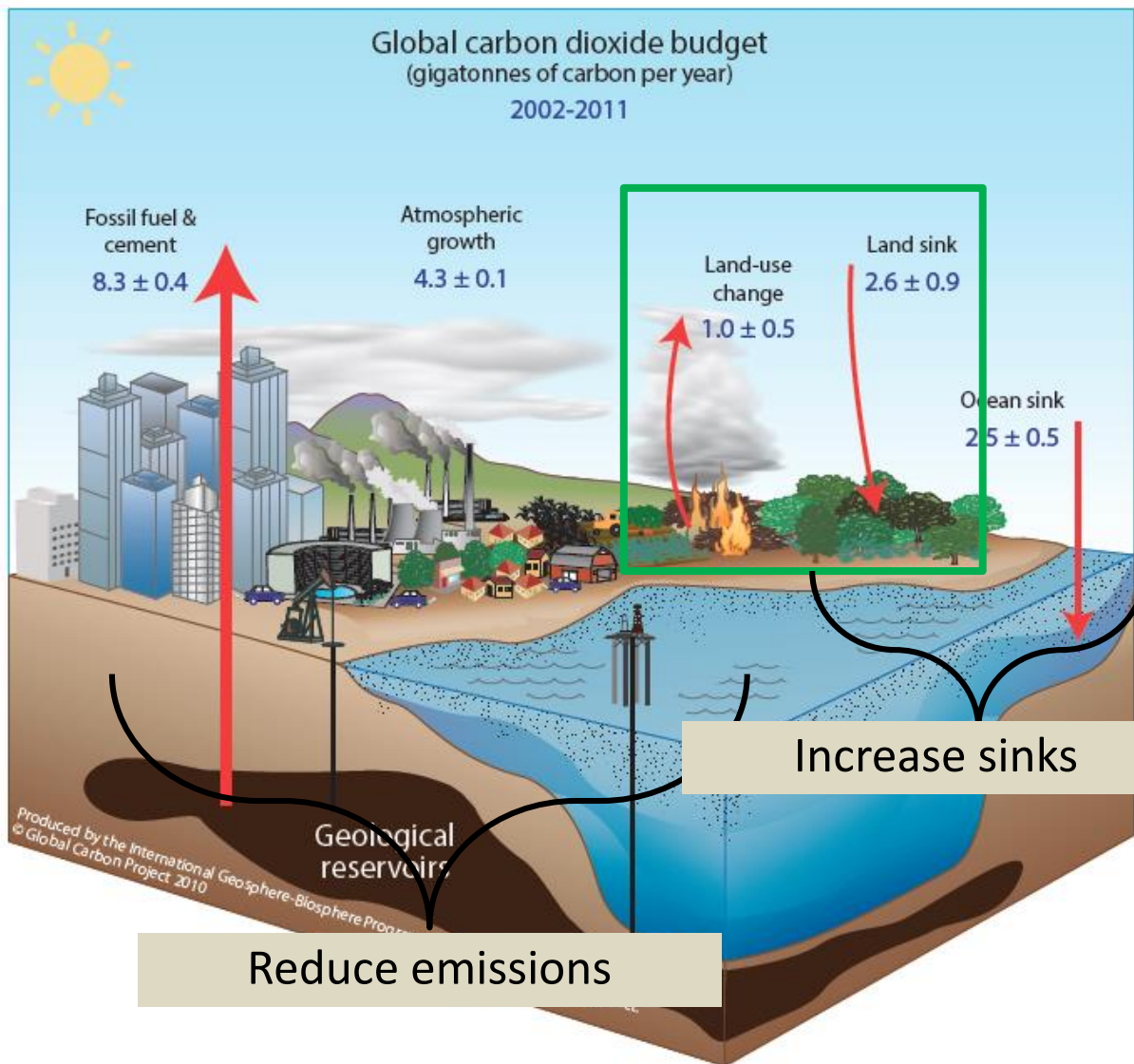


# Implications en raison de changements dans la couverture forestière

- ✦ Forests: both large sources and sinks of carbon
- ✦ The global forest sector:
  - Emissions from deforestation  $\approx 1.6$  Gt C/yr
  - Equivalent to 20% of anthropogenic GHGs
- ✦ Forests affect and are affected by climate change
  - Outcome determines mitigation/adaptation potential



# Implications en raison de changements dans la couverture forestière



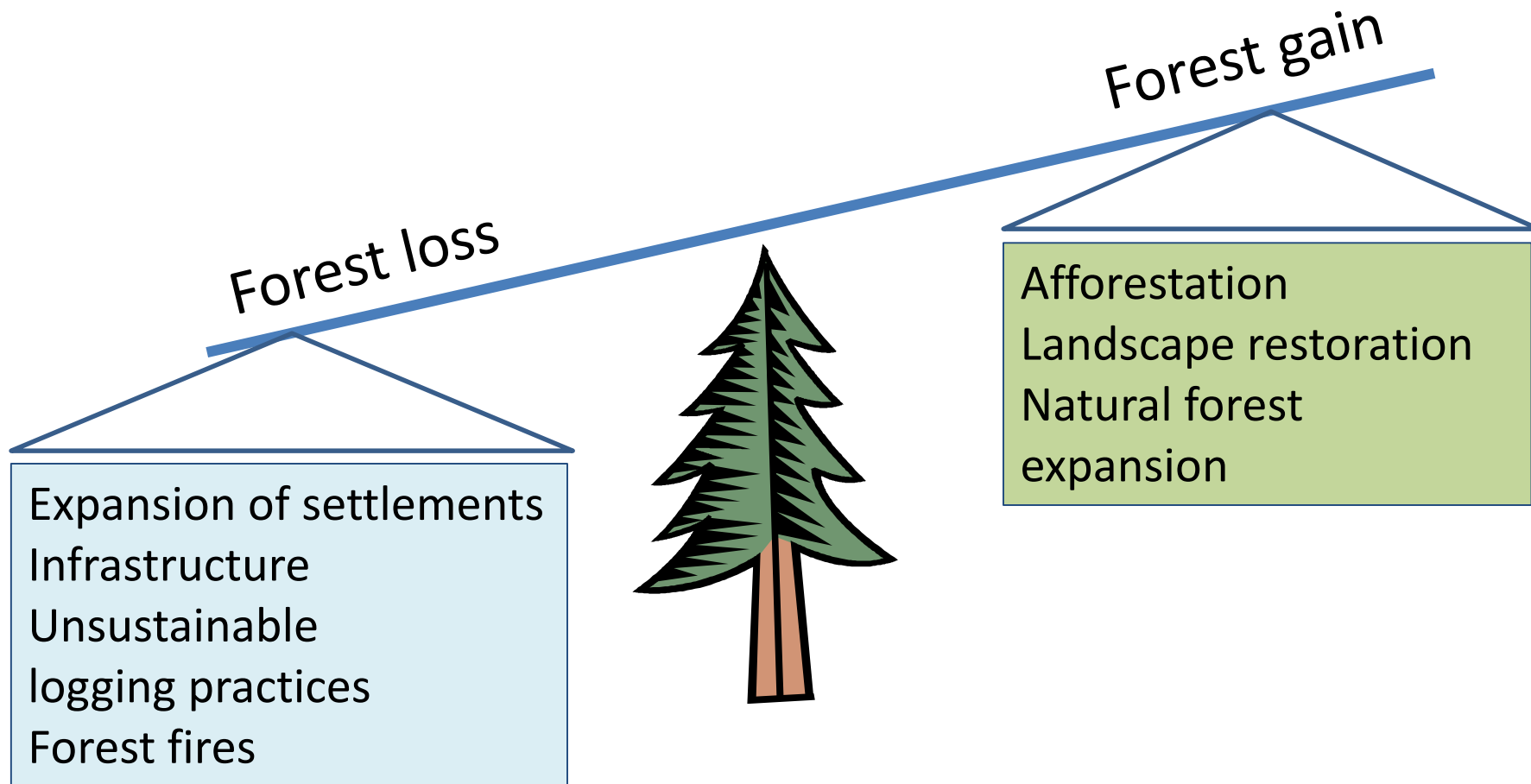
✧ Less than half of human emissions stay in atmosphere

✧ Mitigation = reduced emissions and/or increased sinks

✧ Forests/forestry can have significant impacts on future atmospheric C concentrations



# Implications en raison de changements dans la couverture forestière





# Feux de forêt

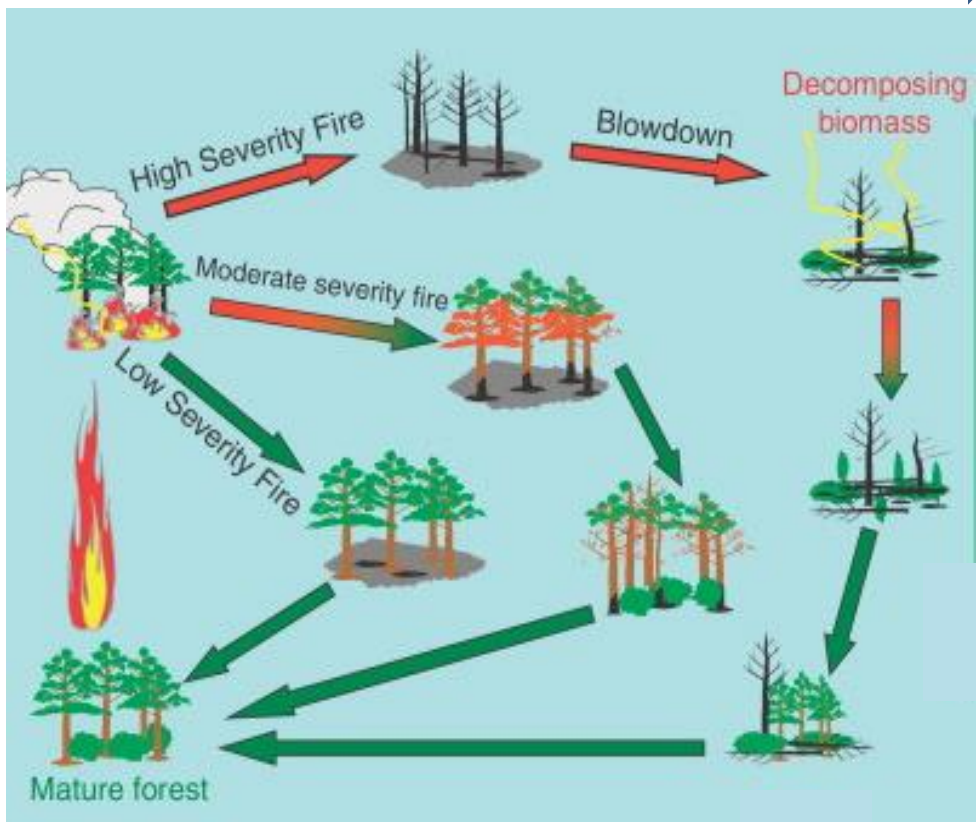
Wildfire has the potential to reverse C storing

Forest degradation

Decrease of site-level and landscape scale C

C source

C sink



- Degradation
- Deforestation
- Soil erosion
- Decrease of biodiversity

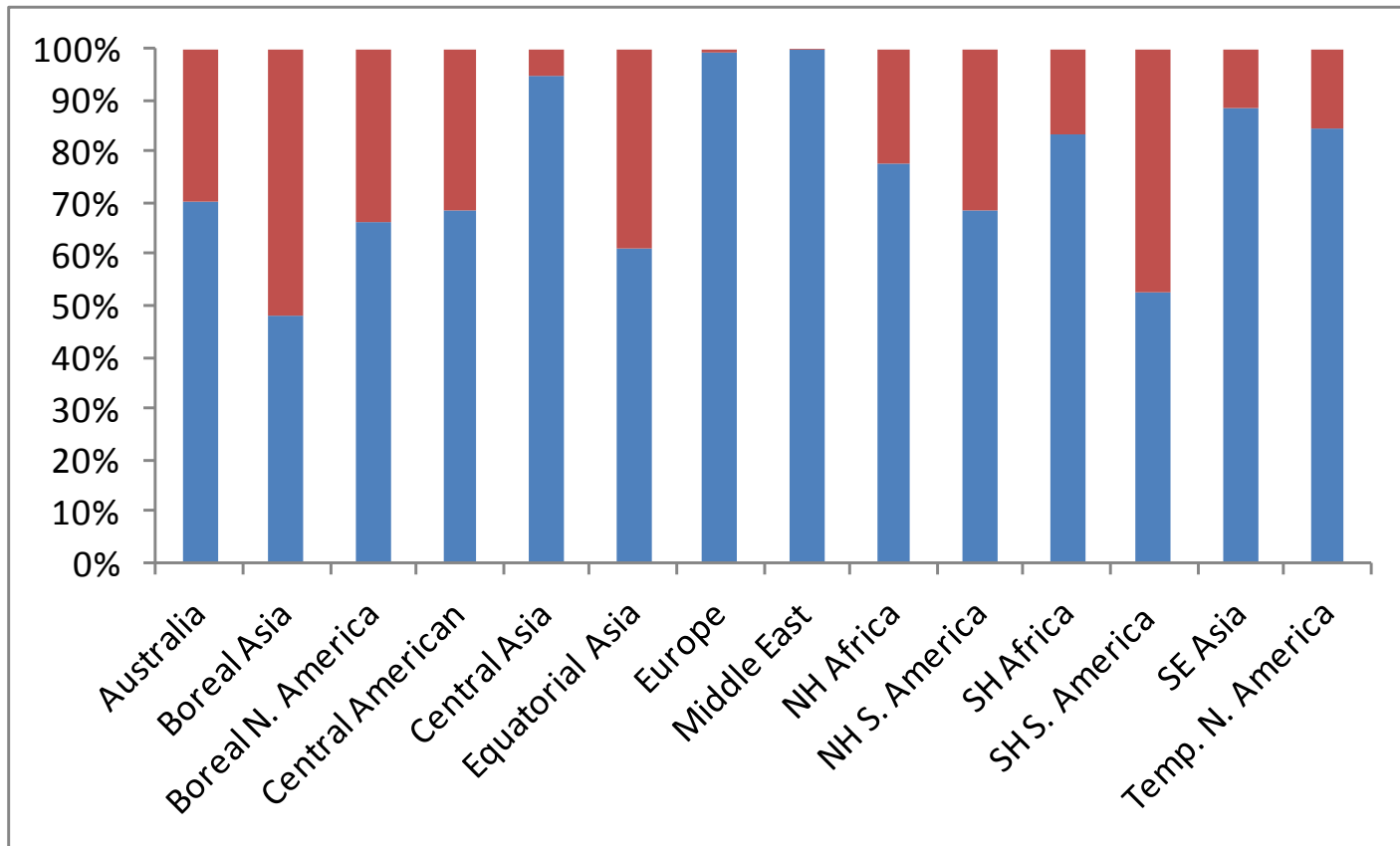
Regeneration, Forest Recovery



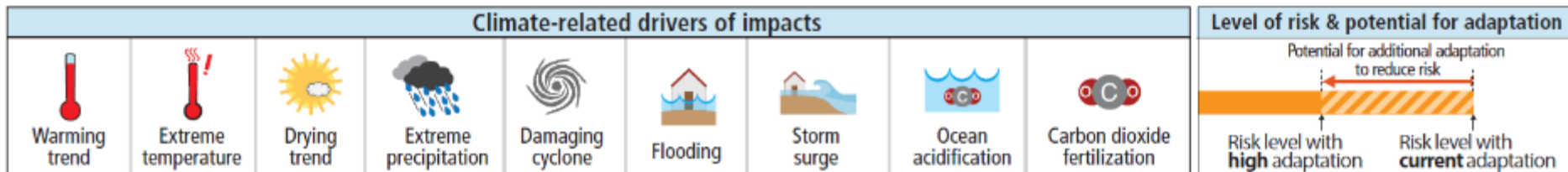


# Les émissions d'incendie

**CO, CH<sub>4</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> gasses for the period 1900-2000 from forest fires (red) and anthropogenic emissions (blue)**

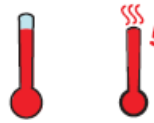







# Les changements climatiques et les forêts



## KEY GLOBAL RISK

Reduction in terrestrial carbon sink: Carbon stored in terrestrial ecosystems is vulnerable to loss back into the atmosphere, resulting from **increased fire frequency** due to climate change and the sensitivity of ecosystem respiration to rising temperatures (medium confidence)

Climatic drivers	Timeframe	Risk & potential for adaptation		
		Very low	Medium	Very high
  	Present			
	Near term (2030–2040)			
	Long term 2°C (2080–2100)			
	4°C			



# Le changement climatique et les forêts: les impacts (à court terme)

## Increased productivity

- CO<sub>2</sub> fertilization
- Higher temperature (inc. growth rate)
- Nitrogen mineralization
- Longer growing season
- Range expansion



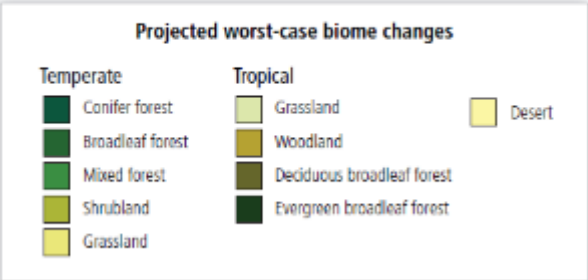
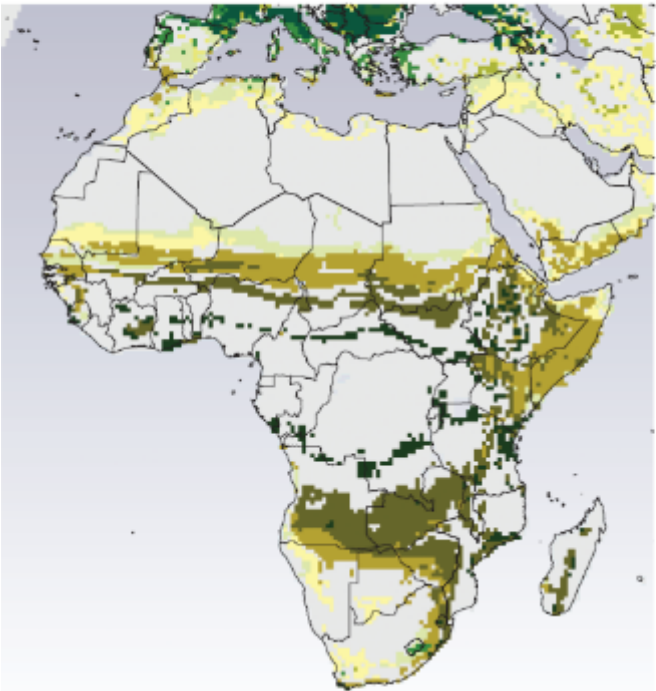
## Increased disturbance

- Size/severity of forest fires, wind damage, floods
- Rate/severity/range of native insect and disease impacts
- Invasive species
- Feedbacks

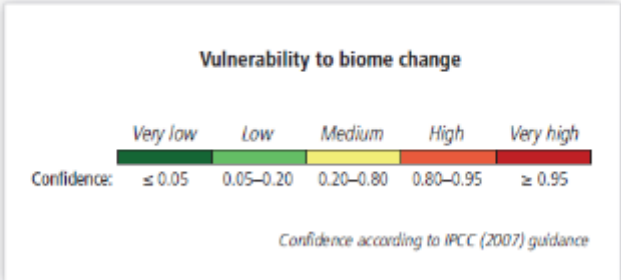
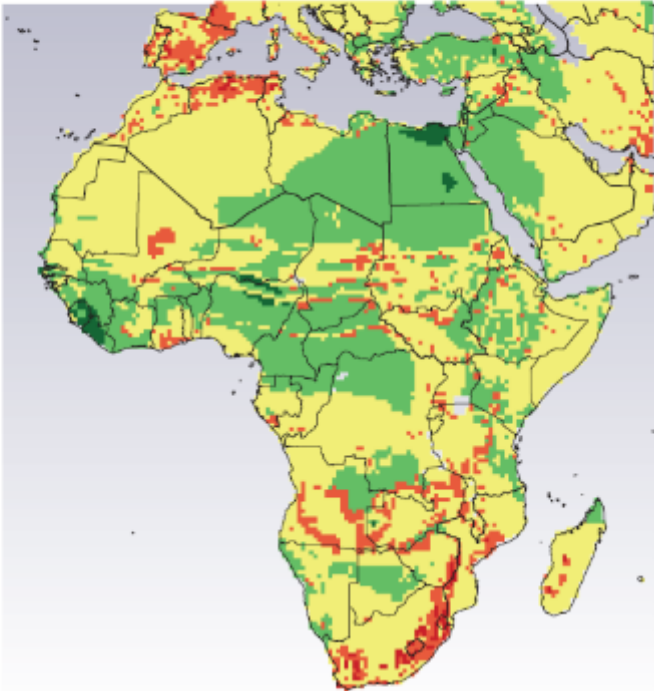


# Le changement climatique et les forêts: les impacts (à long terme)

(a) Projected biome change from the period 1961–1990 to 2071–2100

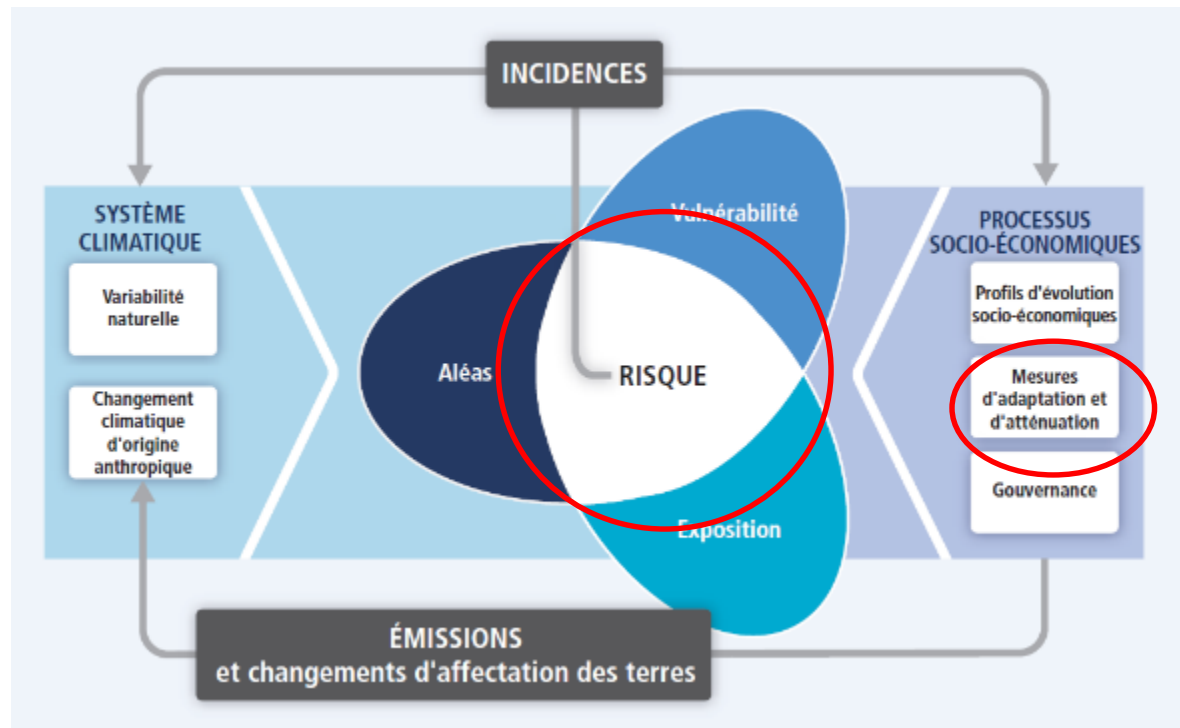


(b) Vulnerability of ecosystems to biome shifts based on historical climate (1901–2002) and projected vegetation (2071–2100)



# Comment faire face au changement climatique

Le risque d'incidences liées au climat découle de l'interaction entre des aléas climatiques et la vulnérabilité et l'exposition des systèmes anthropiques et naturels



Les changements qui touchent à la fois le système climatique et les processus socio-économiques, y compris l'adaptation et l'atténuation, sont les principales causes des aléas, de l'exposition et de la vulnérabilité



# Comment faire face au changement climatique

- **Atténuation:** actions contre le réchauffement mondial d'origine humaine visant à en atténuer ou prévenir les conséquences possibles;
- **Adaptation:** démarche d'ajustement au climat actuel ou attendu, ainsi qu'à ses conséquences. Dans certains systèmes naturels, l'intervention humaine peut faciliter l'adaptation au climat attendu ainsi qu'à ses conséquences.



# Comment faire face au changement climatique

Important to assess the impacts of climate change and the prospects for adaptation in such area

**MITIGATION**



**ADAPTATION**



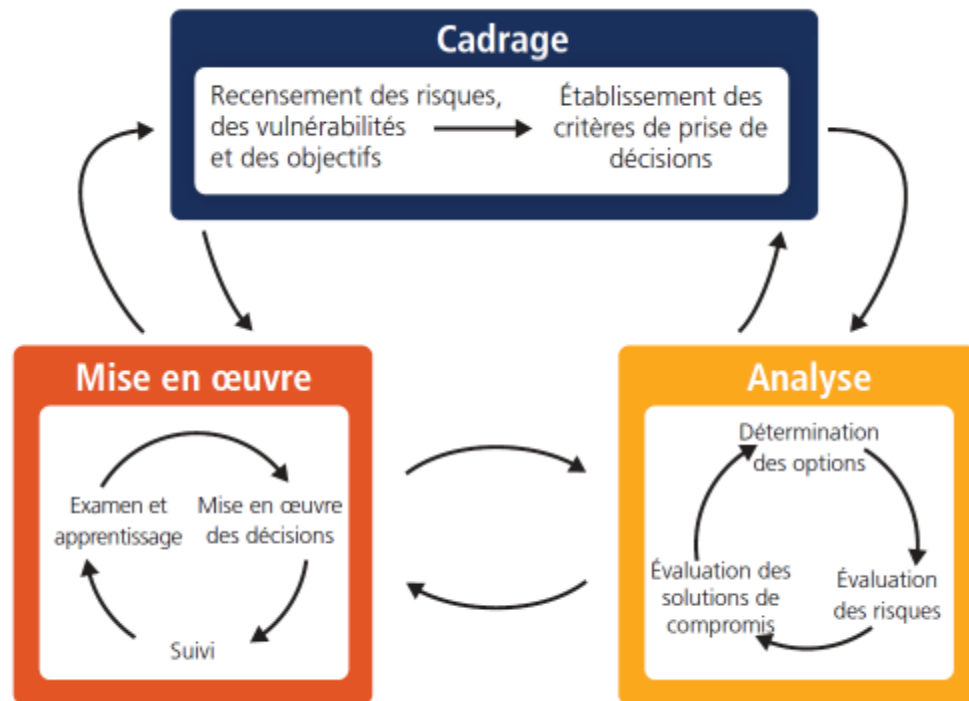
- 1. DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT**
- 2. INCREASE RESILIENCE**





# Contexte de la prise de décisions

1. **Connaissant la situation (baseline)**
2. Entreprendre un processus de **prise de décision** pour la gestion des risques
3. **Mettre en œuvre des actions d'adaptation et d'atténuation**, avec des implications pour les générations futures, les économies et l'environnement



# Les options d'atténuation dans le secteur forestier

Mitigation options in the forestry sector may be categorized as those that

## (1) Maintain (or increase) forest area

- Avoid emissions from deforestation or forest degradation
- Increase afforestation

## (2) Increase stand/landscape level carbon density

- Species selection, reduce residue burning, increase conservation areas, protect against disturbances (fire, pests, diseases)

## (3) Reduce fossil C emissions through product substitution and bioenergy

- Longer-lived products, recycling, biofuels

# Les options d'adaptation dans le secteur forestier

## Adaptation options in the forestry sector

(1) Maintain forest ecosystem health and productivity, increasing resilience in the short and long term

- Addressing forest insects, diseases, and disturbances
- Controlling invasive species
- Adjusting silvicultural practices to establish forests that are more tolerant of future climate conditions

(2) Adaptation and Protection from Wildfire

- Reduction of fire hazard and restoration of fire-resistant conditions
- Improvement of land use planning
- Implementation of fire safe practices around homes and other development
- Recovery planning and implementation to reduce erosion and watershed damage

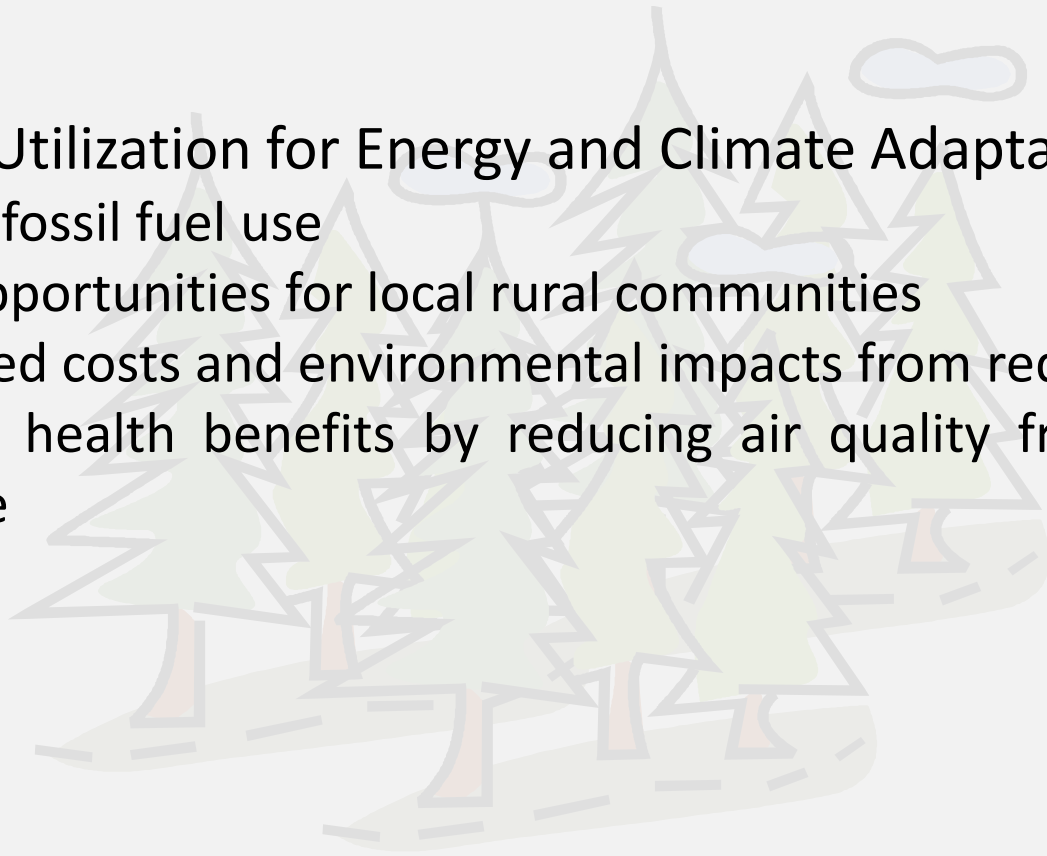


# Les options d'adaptation dans le secteur forestier

## Adaptation options in the forestry sector

### (3) Biomass Utilization for Energy and Climate Adaptation

- Avoid fossil fuel use
- Job opportunities for local rural communities
- Avoided costs and environmental impacts from reduced landfill
- Public health benefits by reducing air quality from both wildfire smoke



# Modèles pour prévenir, gérer et atténuer les risques d'incendie dans un climat changeant

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Policies that successfully increase the forest protection against natural disturbance agents **may reduce** net emissions from forest lands

*(Richards et al., 2006).*



**Wildfire prevention as mitigation strategy and adaptation option**



# Les options d'adaptation dans le secteur forestier

## National Strategy for Adaptation to Change Climate (SNAC) 2014



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE  
E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE

Grey	Green	Soft
Identify indicators for climate change impact monitoring	Fuel management	Early warning systems
Improve efficiency in fire prevention, management and education	Selection of fire-resilient or fire-tolerant species	Territorial planning
Innovation and research	Creation of low fire risk zones in strategic areas	Identification of areas more susceptible to severe forest fires



# Modèles pour prévenir, gérer et atténuer les risques d'incendie dans un climat changeant

## Tools

### Fire danger

IFI (Integrated Fire danger Index)

(Sirca et al., 2006)



## Main Applications

- daily/seasonal fire danger forecast
- fire danger projections with future scenarios

### Fire spread and behaviour

FARSITE, FlamMap, RANDIG

(Finney, 2003)



- fire behaviour and spread simulation
- fire spread and behaviour projections using future scenarios
- assessing fire risk mitigation strategies (prescribed fires, fuel reduction, etc.)

### Fire emissions

FOFEM (Reinhardt, 1997)



- analysis of fuel consumption
- smoke characterization
- Fire emission mitigation



Input	Aims/applications	Time windows	Input data reliability
Historical data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retrospective analysis</li> <li>• Calibration/validation</li> <li>• Weather – FD - fire occurrence relationship</li> </ul>	From hourly to yearly	****
Short term forecast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active fire-fighting</li> <li>• Near real time simulations</li> <li>• Day-to-day strategies</li> <li>• Prescribed fires</li> </ul>	from hourly up to 7 days	***
Seasonal forecast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium term fire management strategies at local-regional scale</li> <li>• Fuel management plans</li> </ul>	From monthly to season	**
Climate projections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long term fire regime and fire impacts estimation</li> <li>• Regional-global policies</li> </ul>	10 up to 100 years	*



# EFFIS – Fire Danger Forecast

The fire danger forecast module of EFFIS generates daily maps of 1 to 6 days projected fire danger level in EU using weather forecast data.

PERIOD: from 1st of March to 31st of October

DATA: meteorological forecasted data received daily

## From Meteo-France

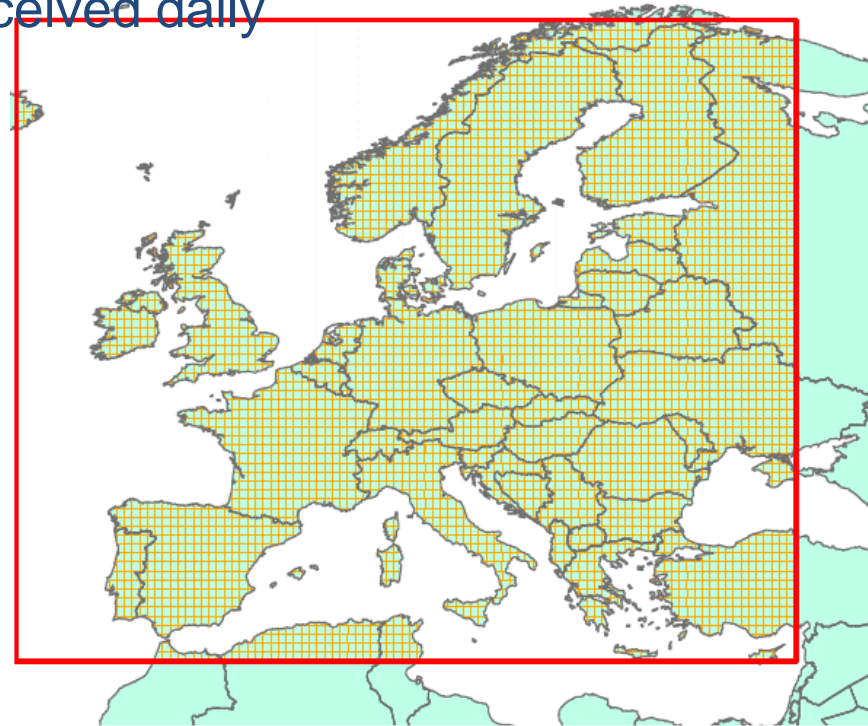
- Spatial resolution of 10km
- Forecast up to 4 days

## From DWD (Deutscher Wetterdienst)

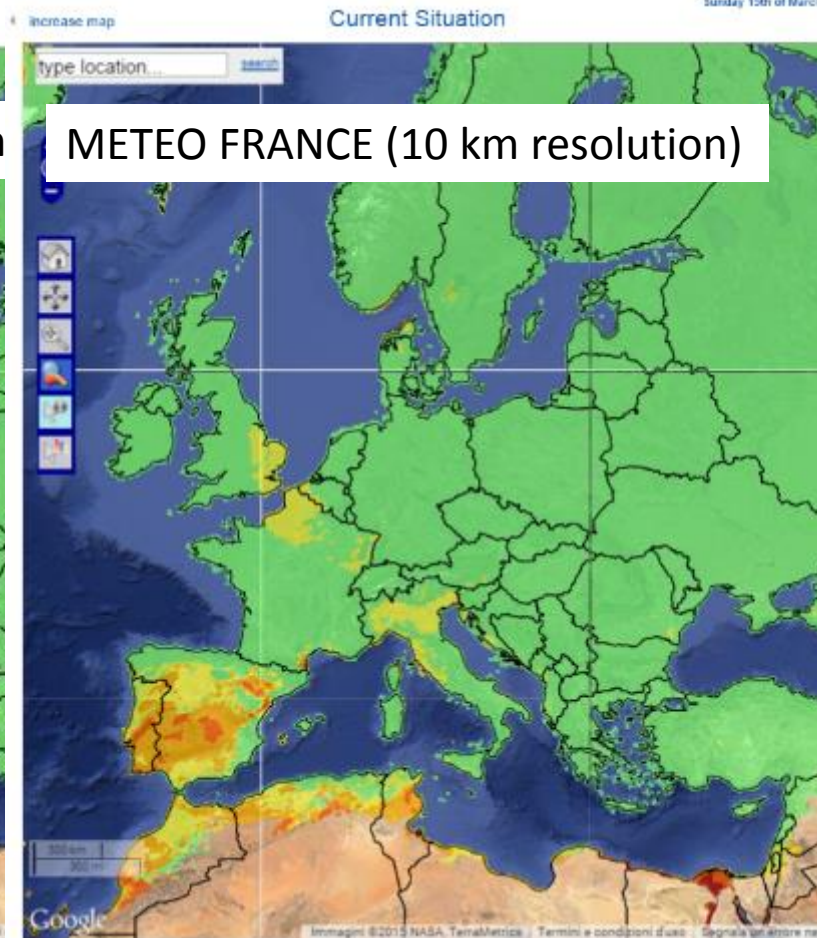
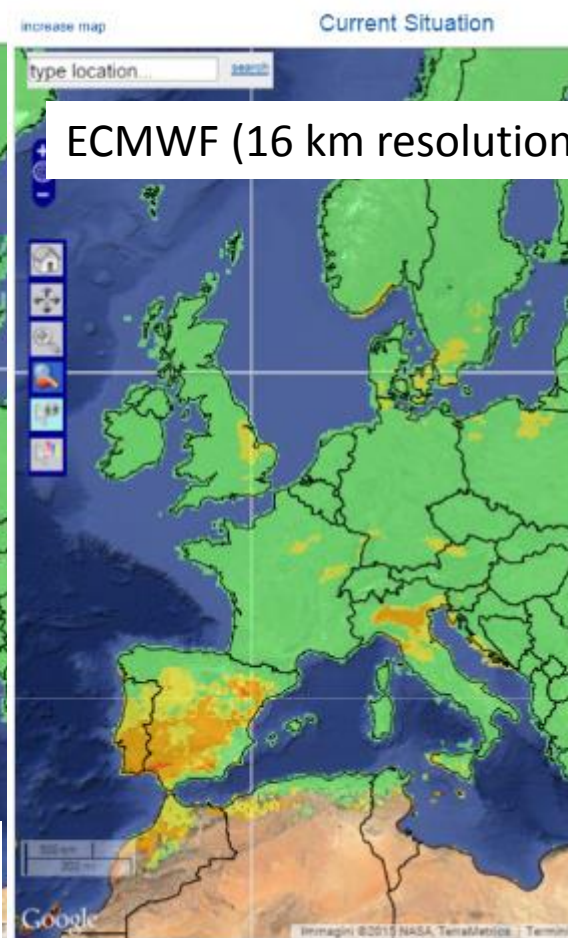
- Spatial resolution of 25km
- Forecast up to 7 days

## From ECMWF

- Spatial resolution of 16km
- Forecats up to 8 days



# EFFIS – Fire Danger forecast for 16/03



## Fire Danger Forecast

- Very Low
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very High

<http://forest.jrc.ec.europa.eu/effis/applications/current-situation/>



# EFFIS: Long-term fire weather forecast

Seasonal forecast of temperature and rainfall anomalies

Service started in June 2013

Seasonal forecast maps showing temperature and rainfall anomalies that are expected to prevail over European and Mediterranean areas during the **next 2 months**.

The set of 2 months shown will be updated monthly during the fire season. Normally within the first week of each month a forecast for the next 2 months will be made available.

The maps are based on the [ECMWF](#) (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts) Seasonal Forecasting System named S4 (System 4) and are provided to EFFIS users as **experimental products**. S4 anomalies of temperature and rainfall are estimated from the mean deviation of the seasonal forecast from the model climate. The maps highlight the areas which are expected to be colder/warmer and dryer/wetter (than normal) over Europe and Mediterranean countries, with an **obvious linkage to potentially higher forest fire danger**.



# EFFIS: Long-term fire weather forecast

**ECMWF** (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts)  
Seasonal Forecasting System named S4 (System 4)

- the most recent ECMWF seasonal forecast system
- includes 51 member ensembles
- consists of 7-month forecasts initialised on the first day of every month
- resolution of  $\sim 79$  km (T255L91)
- coupled with an ocean model with a horizontal resolution of  $1^\circ$
- initial perturbations provided by Singular vectors and an ensemble of ocean analysis

*Spessa et al., 2015*



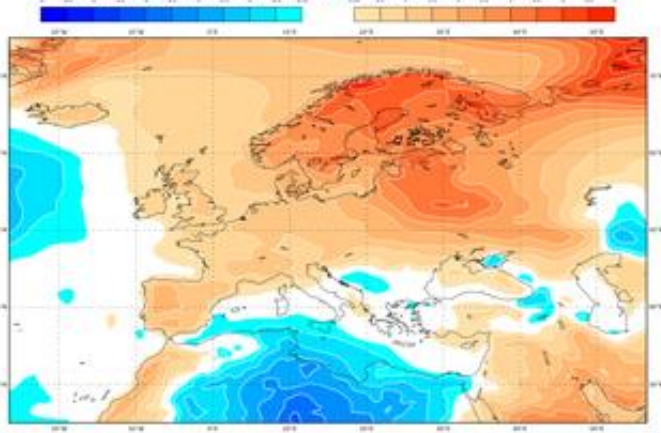


## Temperature

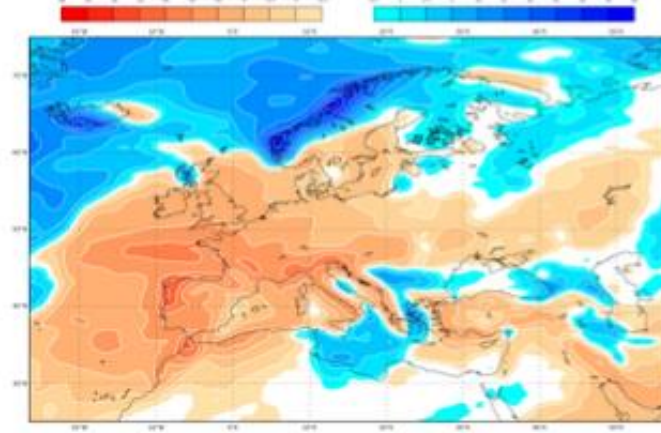
## Rainfall

MARCH 2015

Seasonal Temperature (T2m) Anomalies valid for (1st) month: March 2015  
based on ECMWF Seasonal Forecast System (S4) initiated on 1 March 2015  
Estimated deviation (anomaly) of the mean from model climate in Celsius degrees



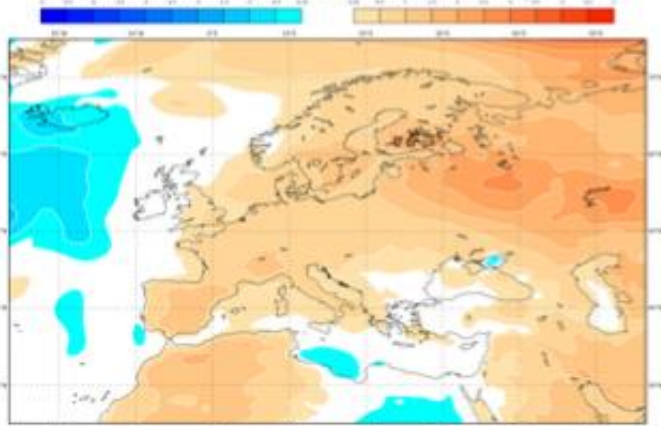
Seasonal Rain Anomalies valid for (1st) month: March 2015  
based on ECMWF Seasonal Forecast System (S4) initiated on 1 March 2015  
Estimated deviation (anomaly) of the mean from model climate in millimeters (mm)



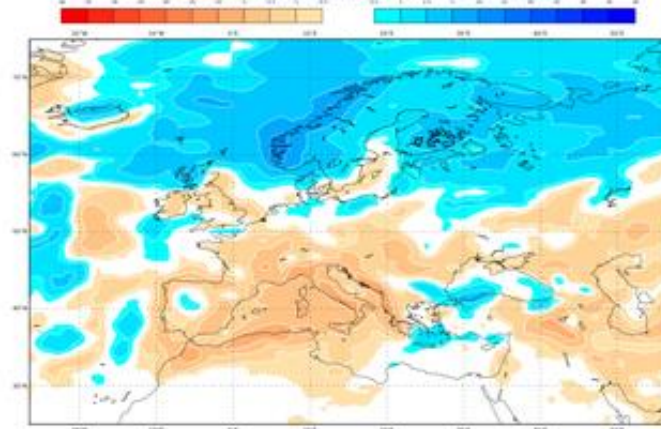
Seasonal forecast of temperature and rainfall anomalies

APRIL 2015

Seasonal Temperature (T2m) Anomalies valid for (2nd) month: April 2015  
based on ECMWF Seasonal Forecast System (S4) initiated on 1 March 2015  
Estimated deviation (anomaly) of the mean from model climate in Celsius degrees

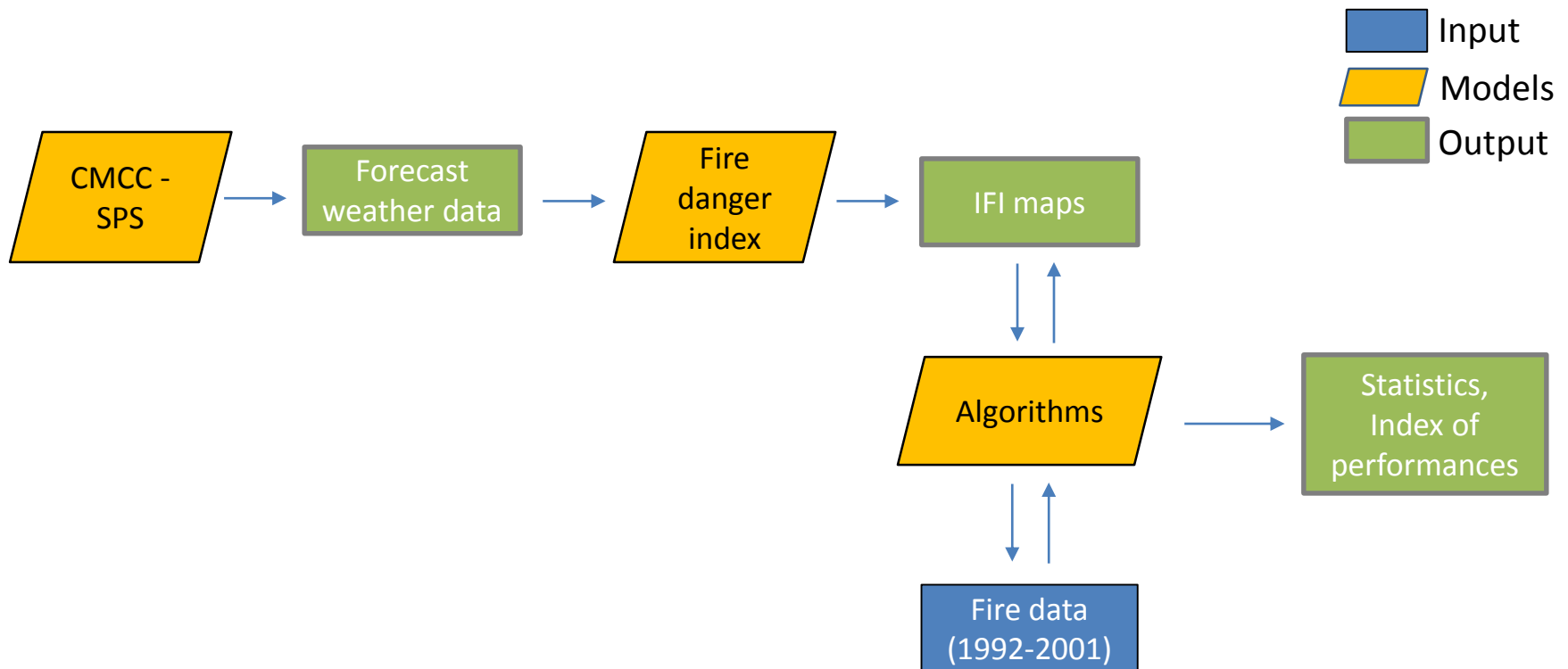


Seasonal Rain Anomalies valid for (2nd) month: April 2015  
based on ECMWF Seasonal Forecast System (S4) initiated on 1 March 2015  
Estimated deviation (anomaly) of the mean from model climate in millimeters (mm)



# Seasonal fire danger forecast @ CMCC

Evaluation of the CMCC Integrated Fire Danger Index (IFI) for estimating the seasonal fire danger forecast in the Euro-Mediterranean area starting from the CMCC seasonal climatic forecast system



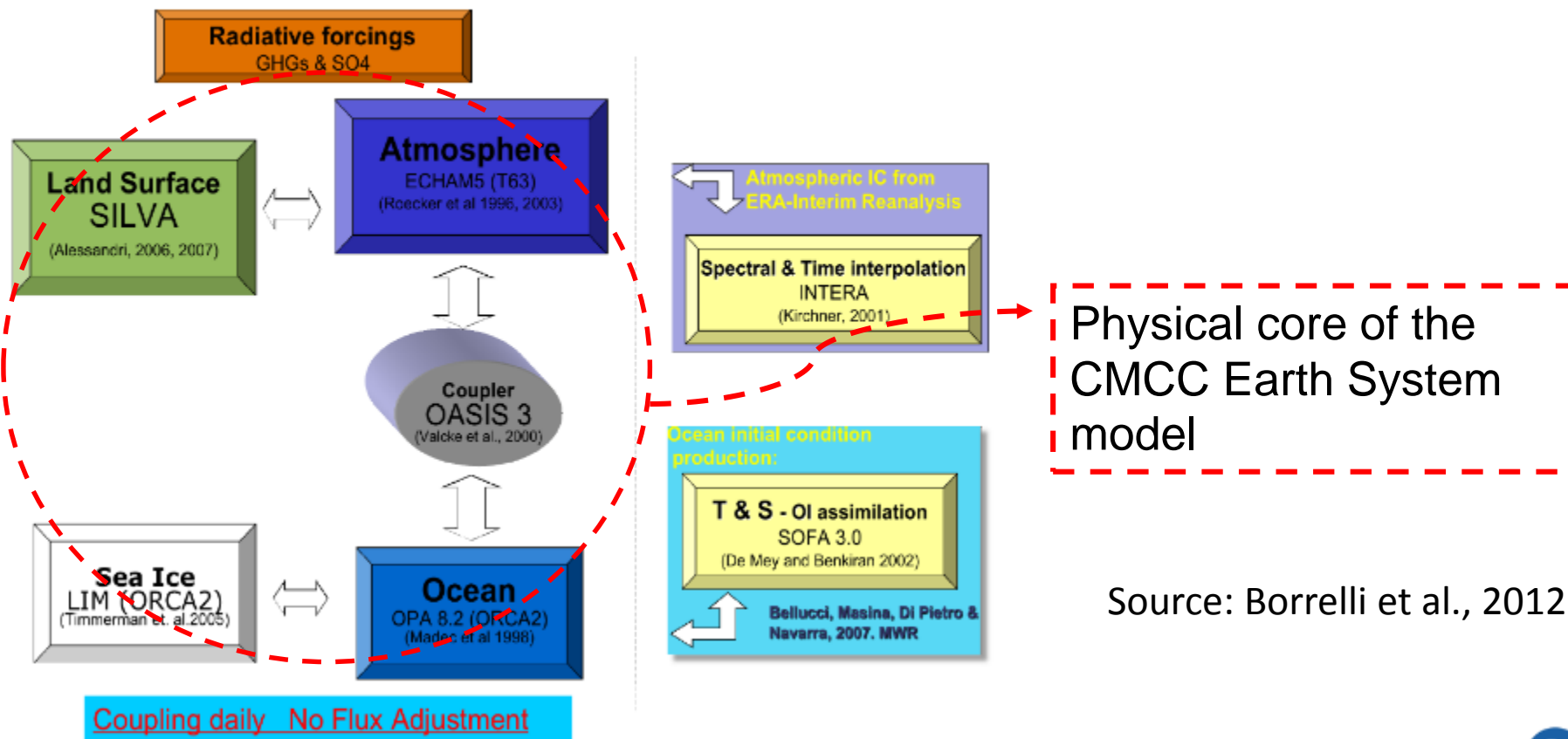


# CMCC-SPS: CMCC Seasonal Prediction System

Evolution of the system described in Alessandri et al. (2010)

T106 resolution ( $\approx 1$  degree)

The coupled Model components

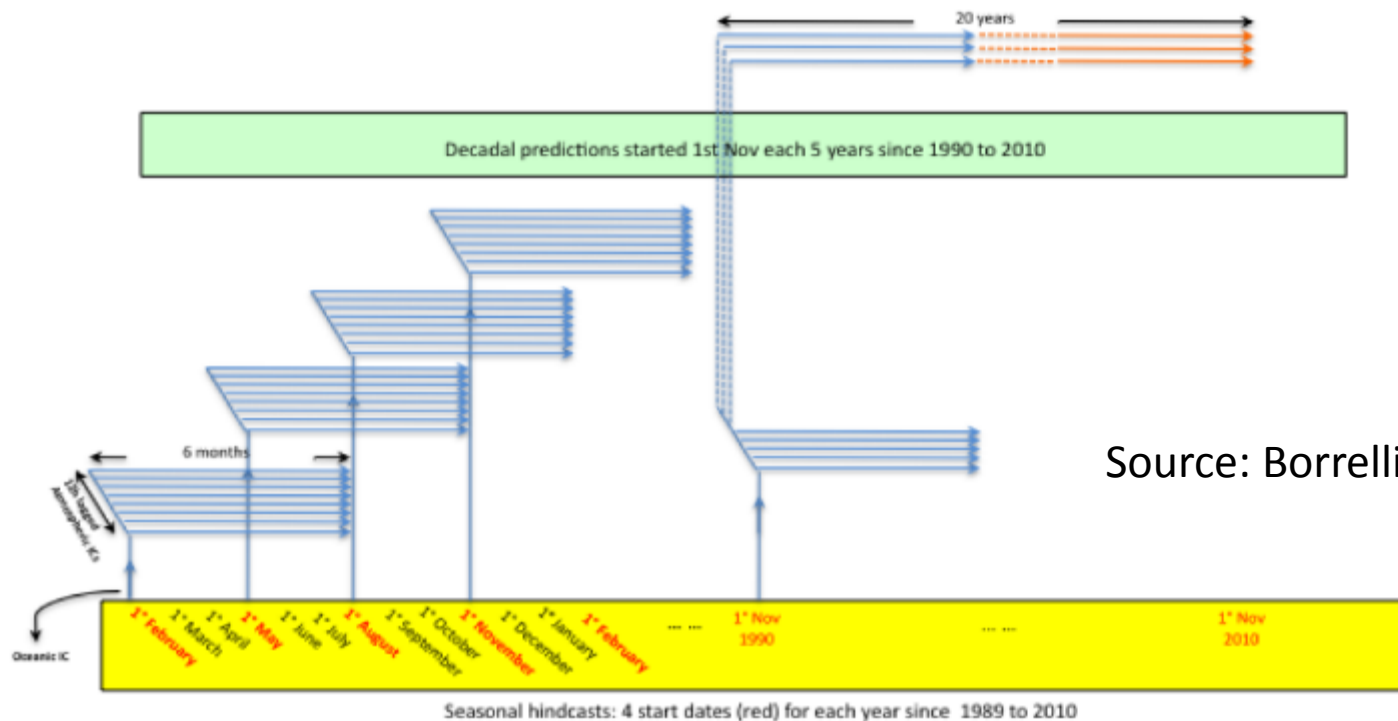


Source: Borrelli et al., 2012



# CMCC-SPS: Experimental setup

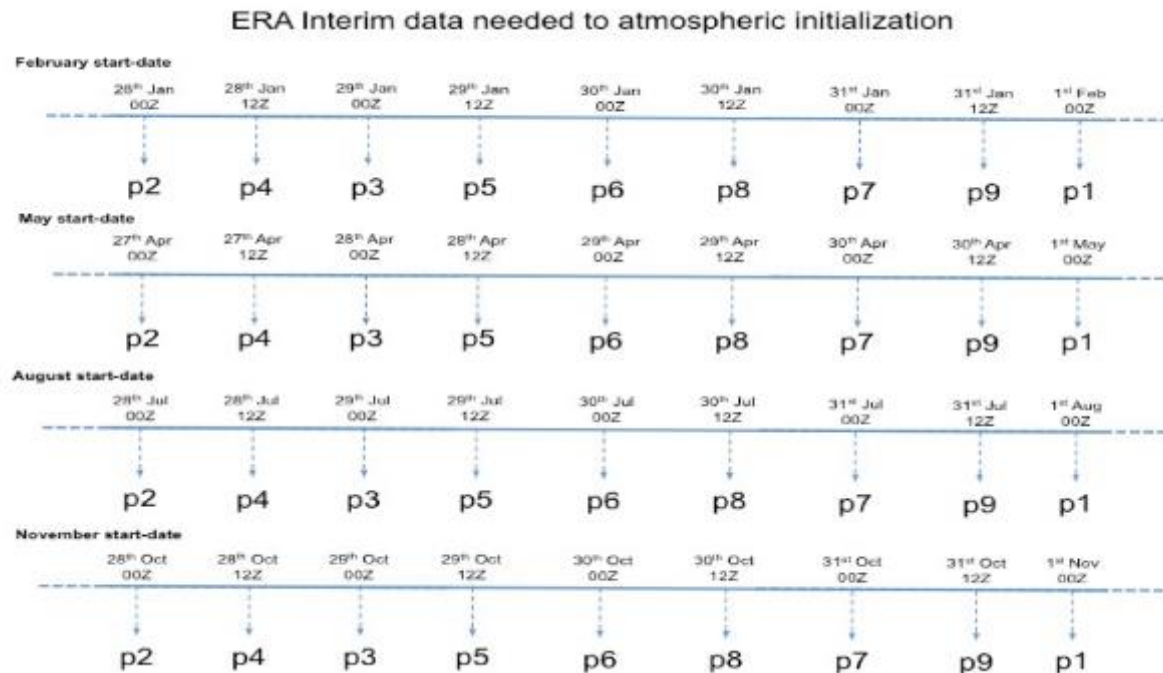
- ❑ A set of retrospective forecasts (hindcasts) from 1989 through 2010.
- ❑ Every year, the model is initialized at 4 different startdates (February 1st, May 1st, August 1st, November 1st) and then integrated for 6 months.
- ❑ For each start date, an ensemble of nine perturbed atmospheric initial conditions (ICs) was prepared



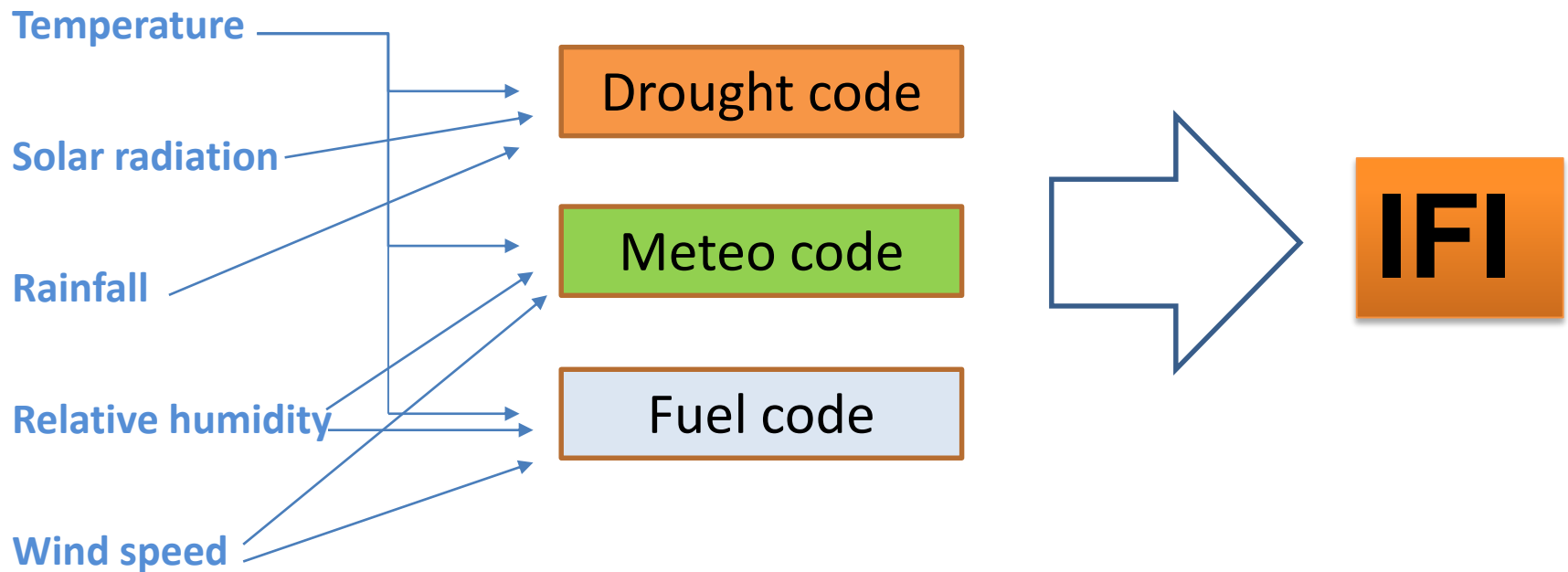
Source: Borrelli et al., 2012



- ❑ The atmospheric conditions are perturbed by imposing restart files saved every 12 hours during the 4 days preceding the start date
- ❑ 9 different initial states from which the SPS evolves are obtained, producing a probability distribution of the forecast



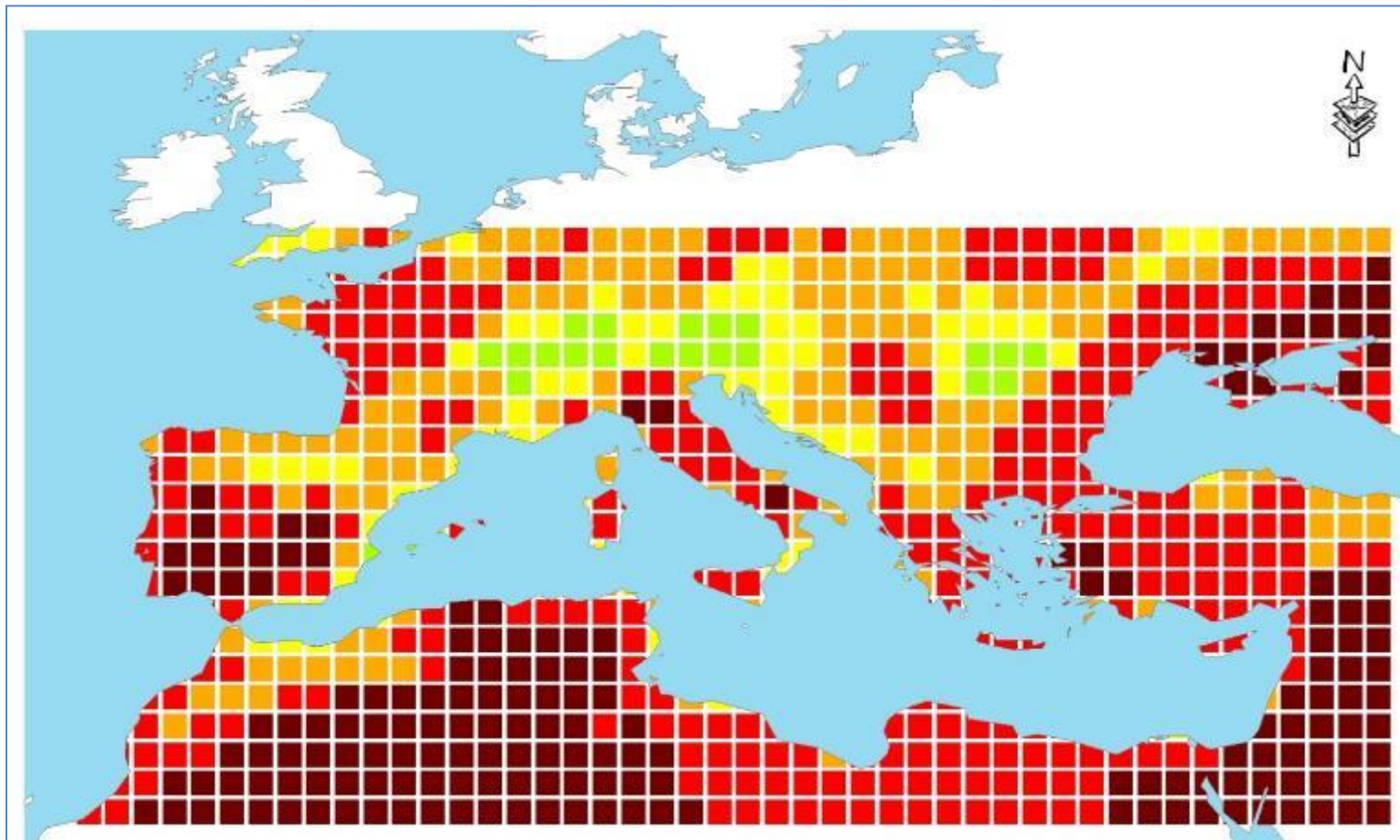
# Integrated Fire Danger Index (IFI)



Source: Sirca et al., in preparation



# IFI – SPS OUTPUT

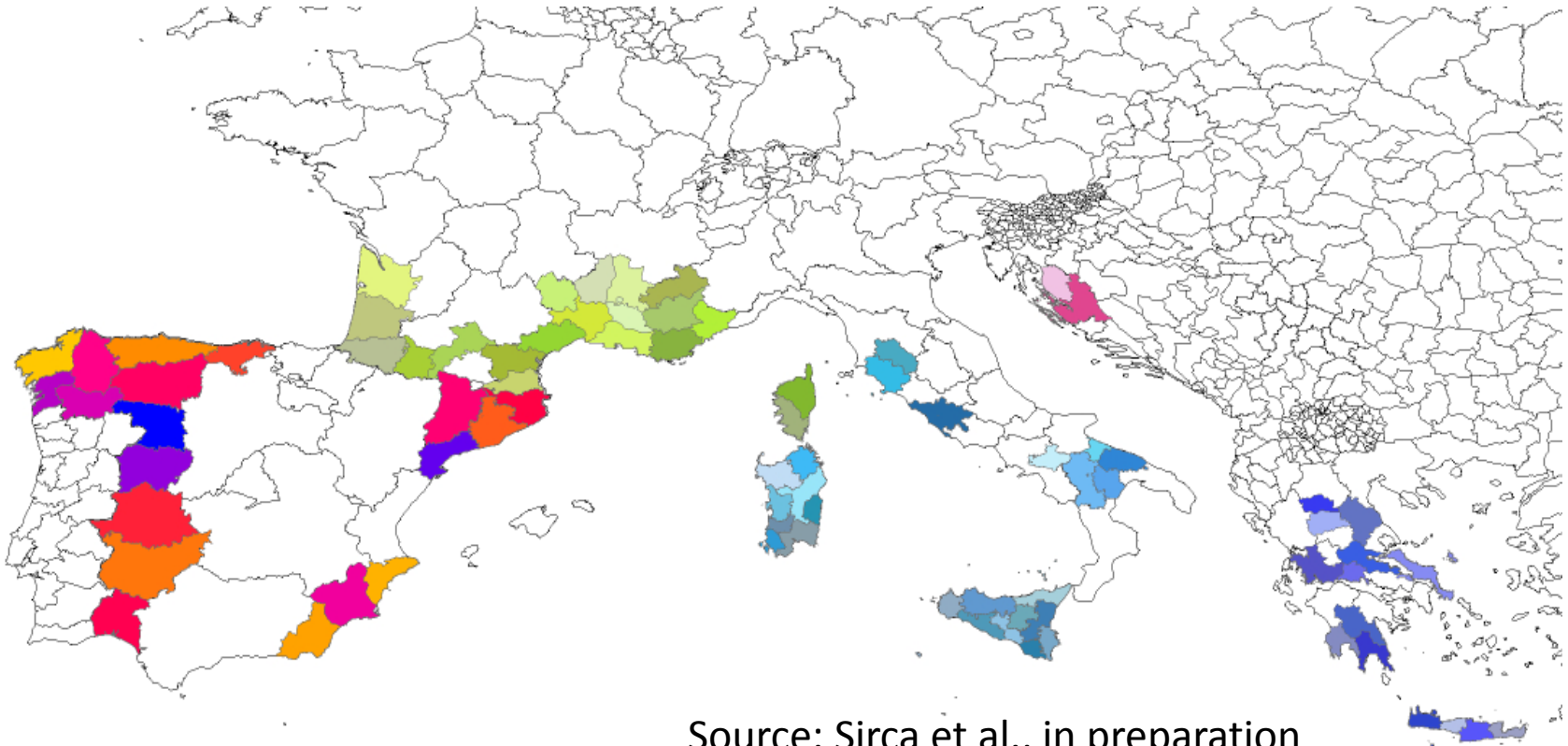


Source: Sirca et al., in preparation



# Fire data for the validating analysis

67 hot spot areas (fire number and burned area data)  
(source: JRC, Sardinia CFVA, Database Promethée, Generalitat de Catalunya)

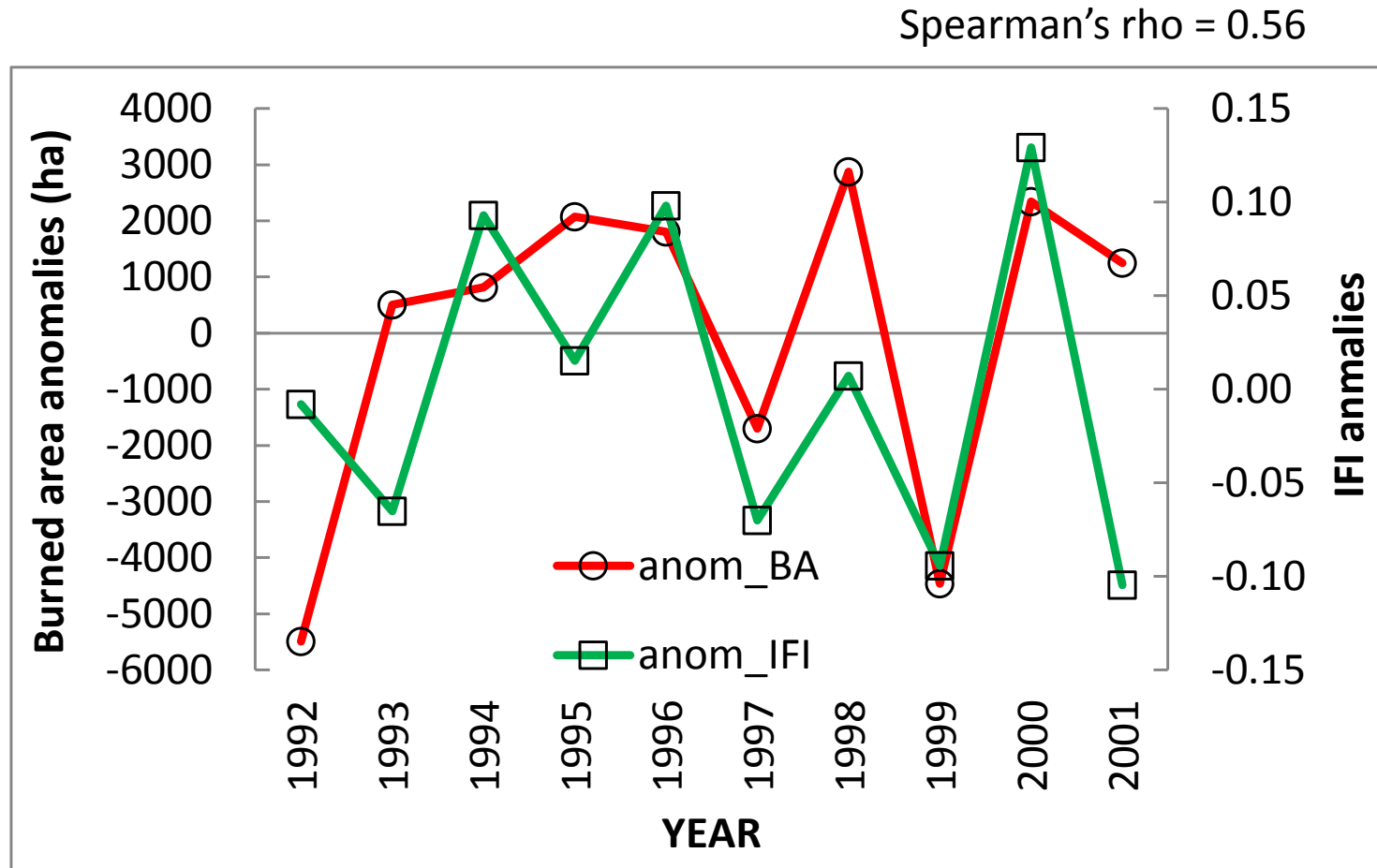


Source: Sirca et al., in preparation



# Predictability of interannual fire occurrence

## IFI and burned area anomalies

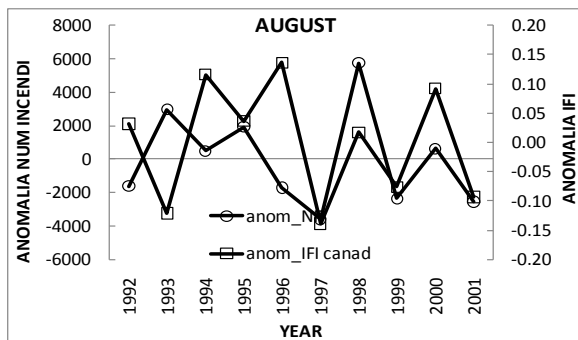
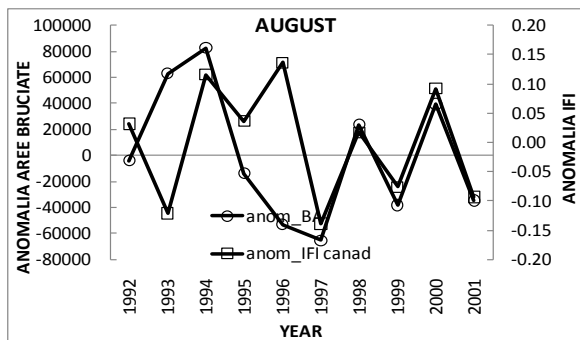
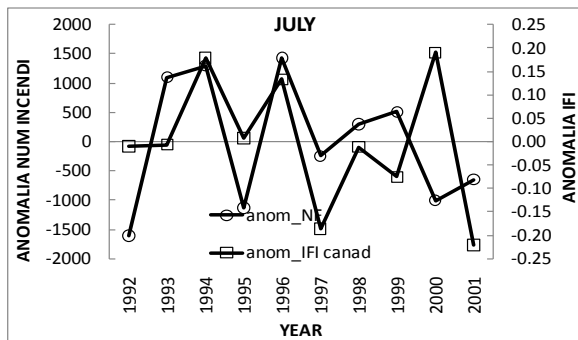
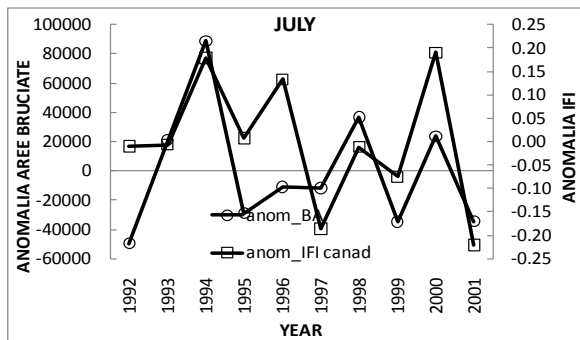
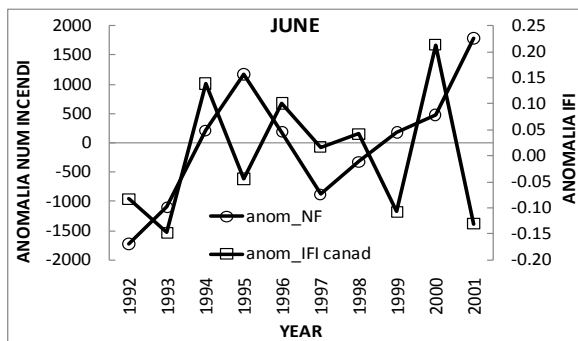
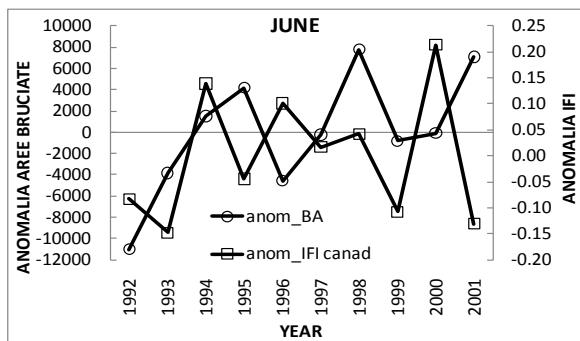


Source: Sirca et al., in preparation





# Inter-annual monthly anomalies of fire occurrence and IFI



Spearman correlation coefficients at monthly scale

	<b>BA</b>
<b>MAY</b>	<b>0.03</b>
<b>JUN</b>	<b>0.08</b>
<b>JUL</b>	<b>0.58</b>
<b>AUG</b>	<b>0.29</b>
<b>SEP</b>	<b>0.68</b>
<b>OCT</b>	<b>-0.14</b>



# Modèles pour prévenir, gérer et atténuer les risques d'incendie dans un climat changeant

## Tools

### Fire danger

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(Sirca et al., 2006)



- daily/seasonal fire danger forecast
- fire danger projections with future scenarios

### Fire spread and behaviour

FARSITE, FlamMap, RANDIG

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- fire behaviour and spread simulation
- fire spread and behaviour projections using future scenarios
- **assessing fire risk mitigation strategies** (prescribed fires, fuel reduction, etc.)

### Fire emissions

FOFEM (Reinhardt, 1997)



- analysis of fuel consumption
- smoke characterization
- Fire emission mitigation

## Main Applications

# Overview of risk

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- Risk is the chance that “something bad will happen”
- Combines likelihood with effects
- It is an expectation
- Developed for disaster management and insurance where uncertainty is high (large wildfires)
- Units are expectations (\$, area, things, people, etc)

Source: Ager 2013, Master PIROS - UNISS



# Quantifying risk for wildfire management

**Wildfire risk = probability of a fire of a specific intensity x the loss at that intensity**

Often called *expected loss*

Let...  $p(f_i) =$  Probability of **burning** intensity level  $i$       “Exposure”

$R(f_i) =$  Response for intensity  $i$       “Susceptibility”

$E(L) =$  Expected loss      “Risk”

$$E(L) = \sum_i p(f_i) * R(f_i)$$

We sum over  $i$  because fire can arrive at many intensities at a particular location



# Risk Assessment versus Mitigation

## Assessment:

- Map risk factors and how they contribute to overall exposure risk

## Mitigation

### – Changing the expected outcome:

- Reduce wildfire probability  $P(f_i)$
- Reduce fire intensity  $f_i$
- Change the response function  $R(f_i)$  to reduce susceptibility, minimizing the impact of fires



Source: Ager 2013, Master PIROS - UNISS



# Why not just mitigate without an assessment?

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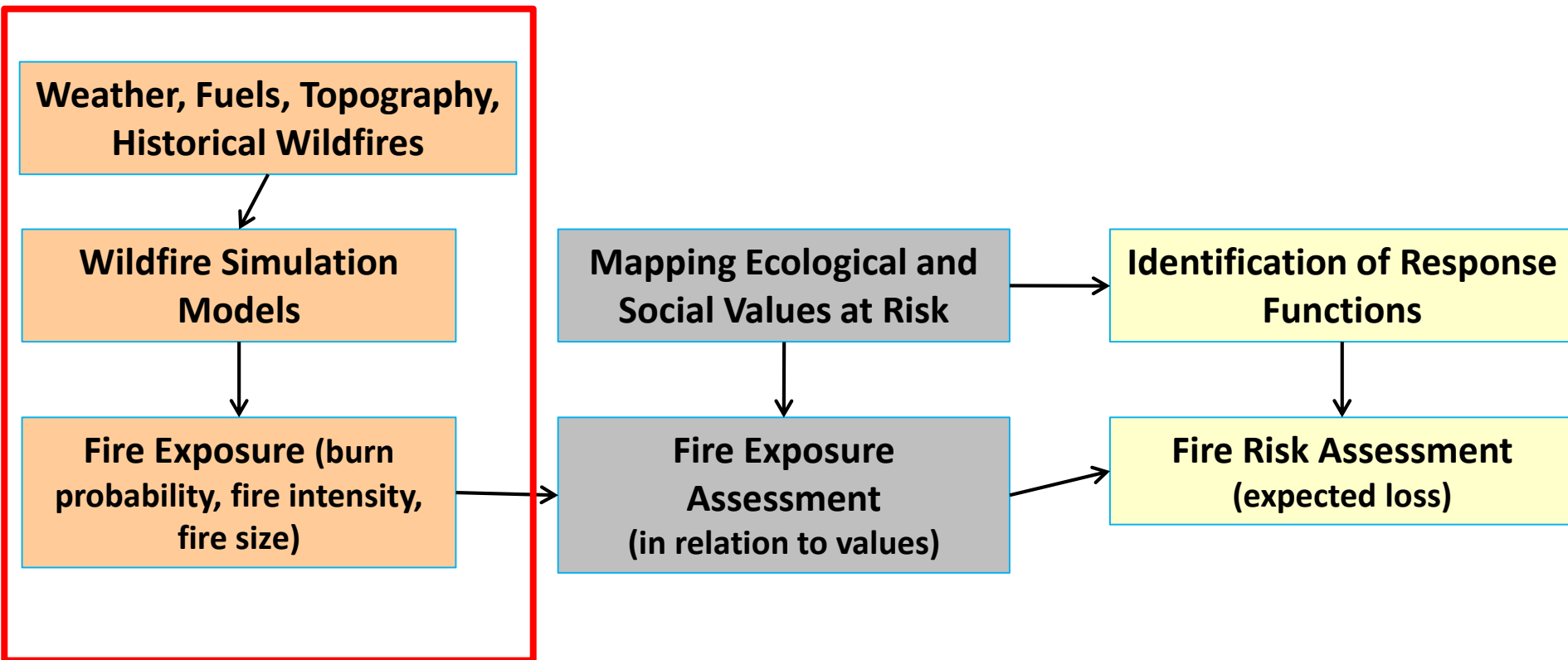
Risk assessments help

- Identify the drivers of risk
- Identify leverage points
- Treatment strategies
- Cost effectiveness
- Prioritize activities

Source: Ager 2013, Master PIROS - UNISS



# Wildfire Risk Assessment Framework

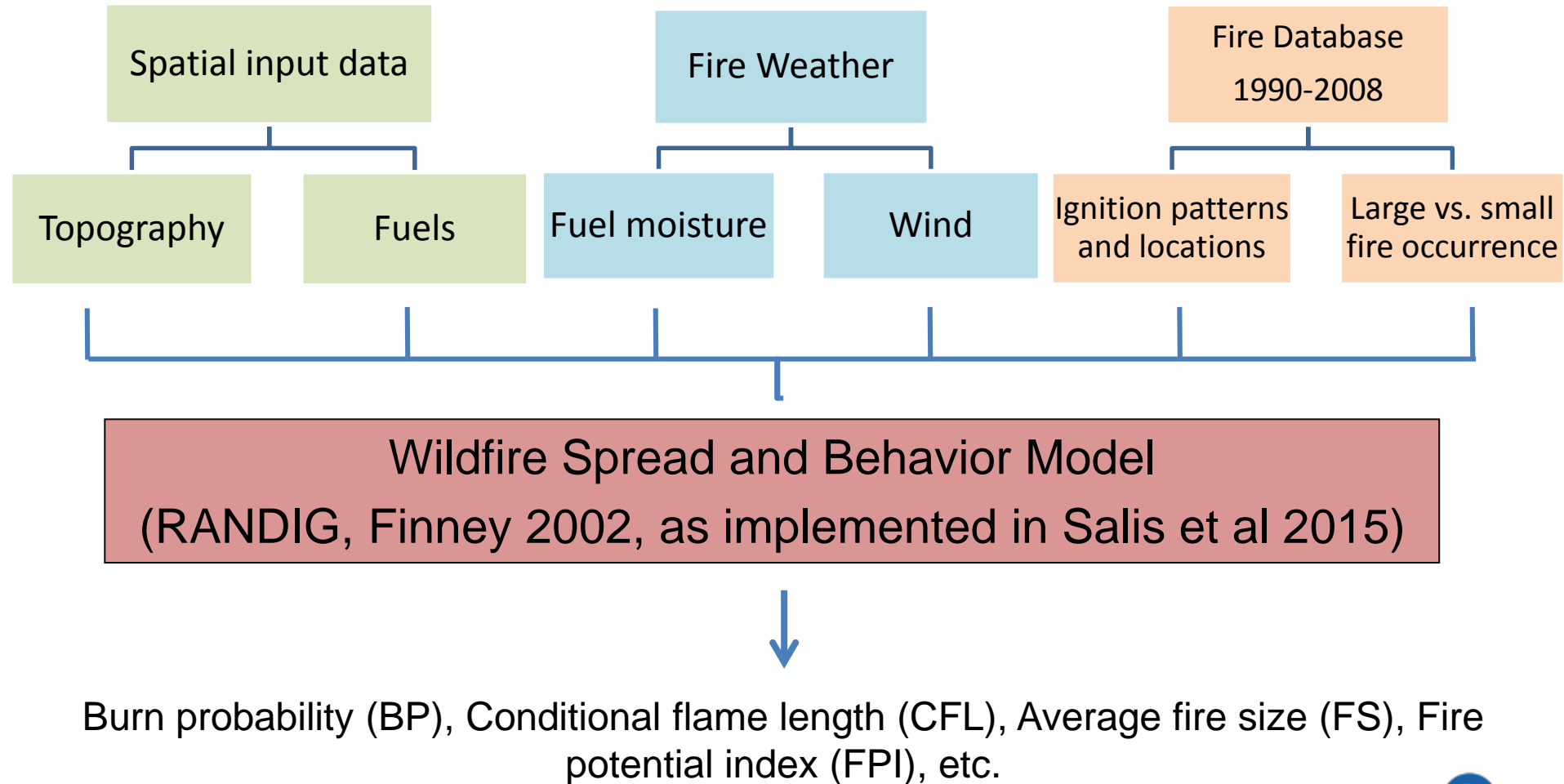


*A case study from Sardinia island, Italy*



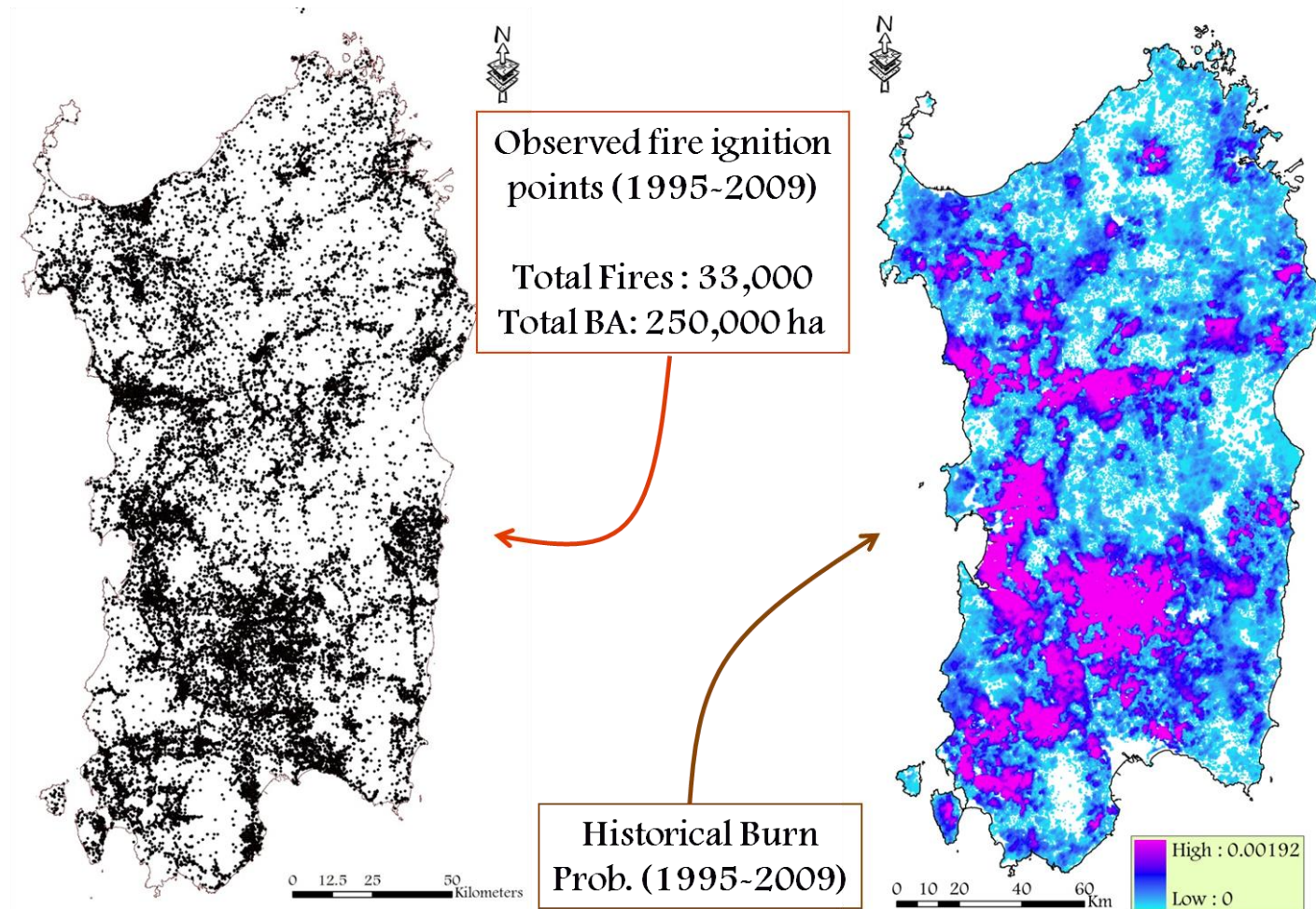


# “Assessing exposure of human and ecological values to wildfire in Sardinia, Italy”



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## Identification of areas characterized by high fire risk exposure



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## Identification of areas characterized by high fire risk exposure

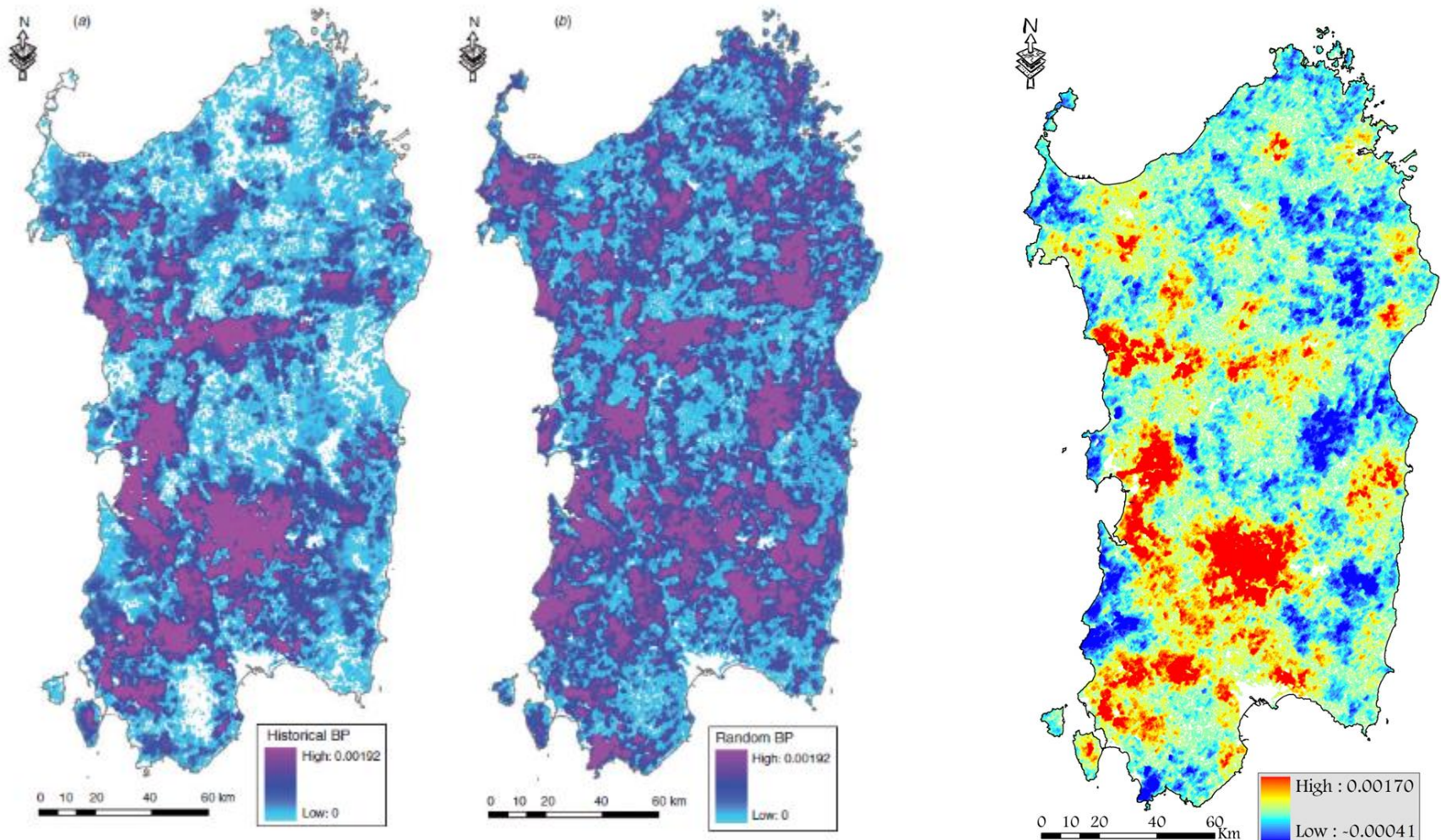
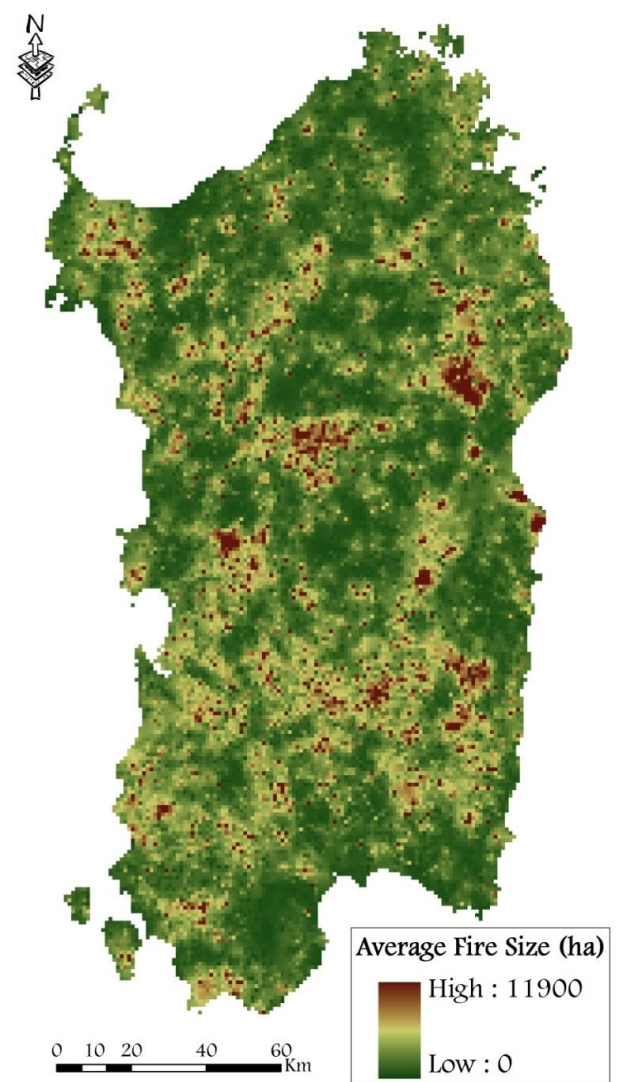
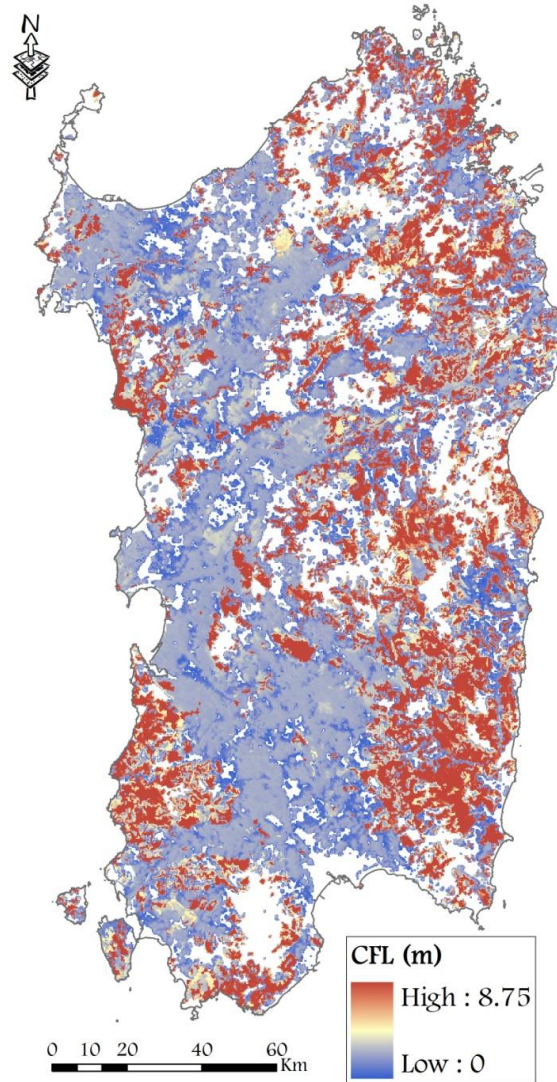
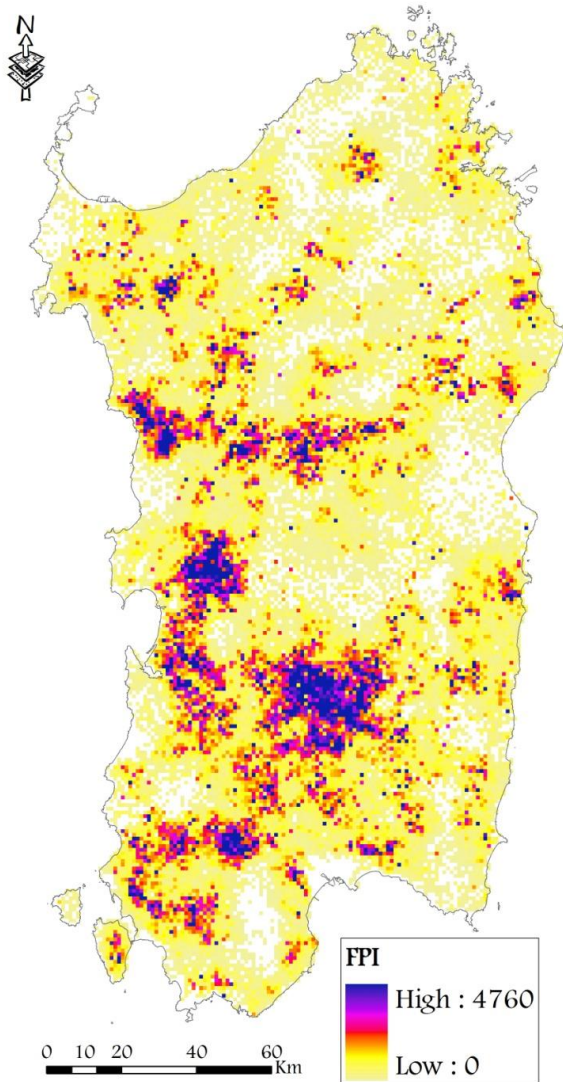


Fig. 9. Burn probability maps with ignition locations sampled from the historical grid (a) and randomly selected (b).

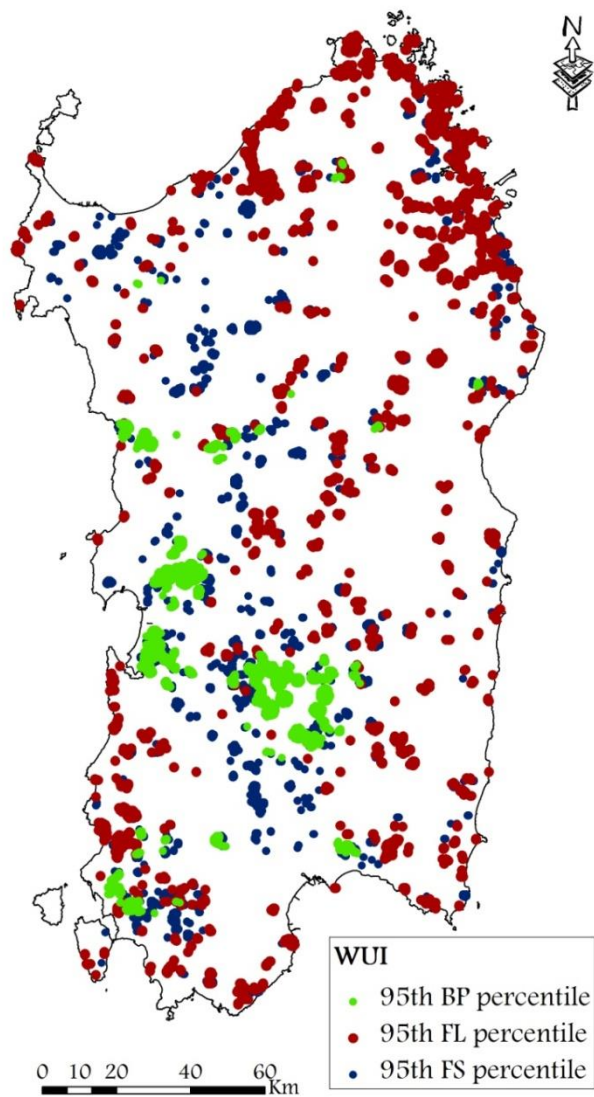




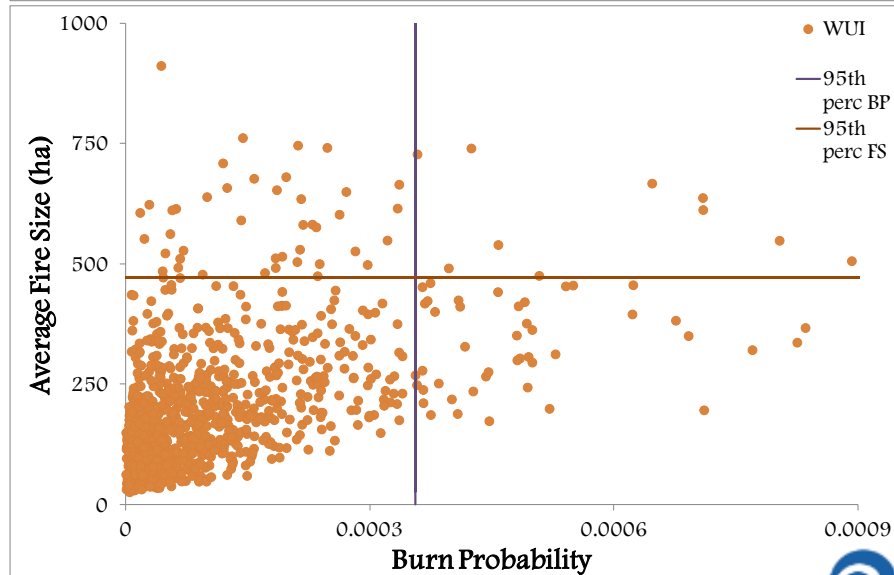
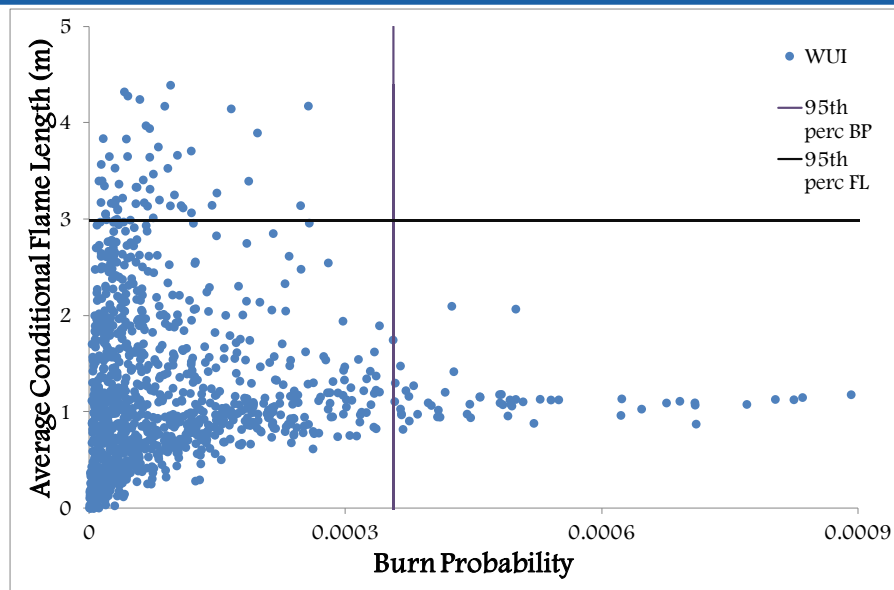
# “Assessing exposure of human and ecological values to wildfire in Sardinia, Italy”



# “Assessing exposure of human and ecological values to wildfire in Sardinia, Italy”

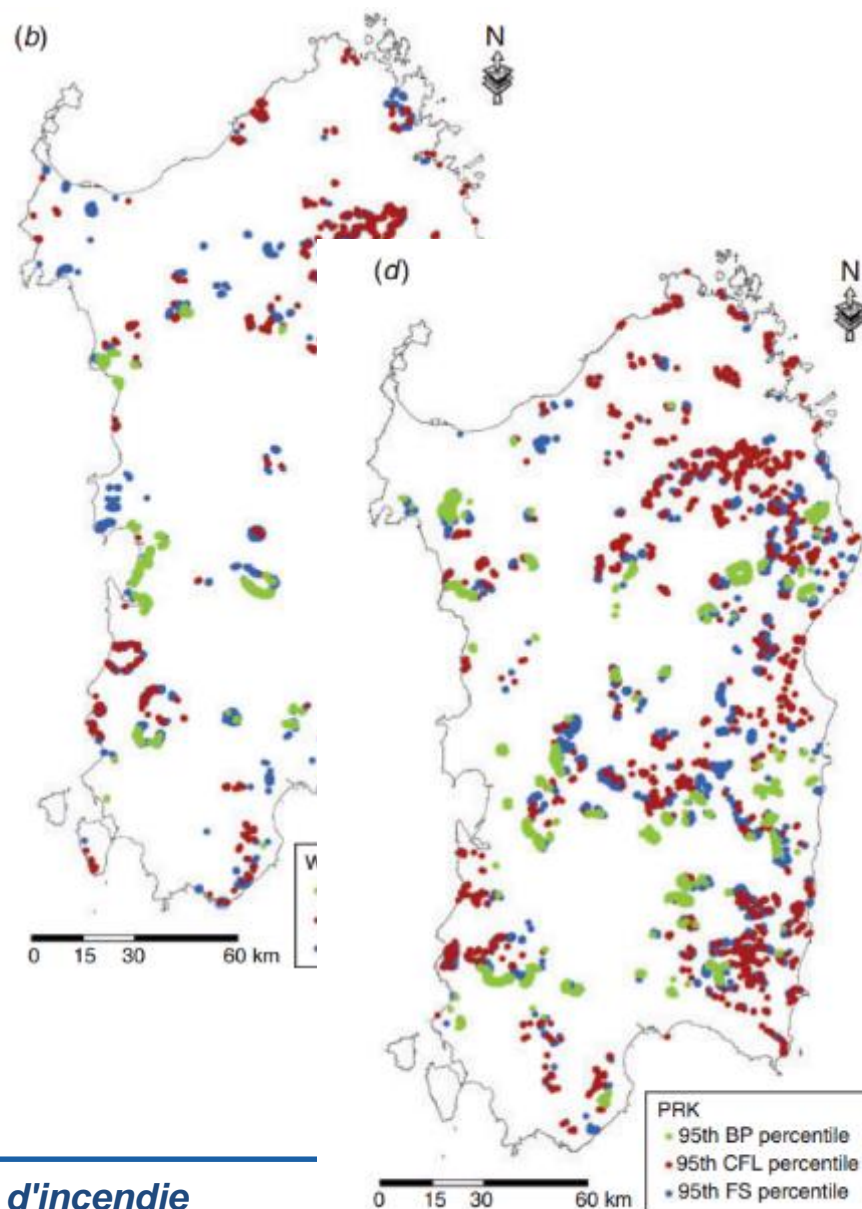
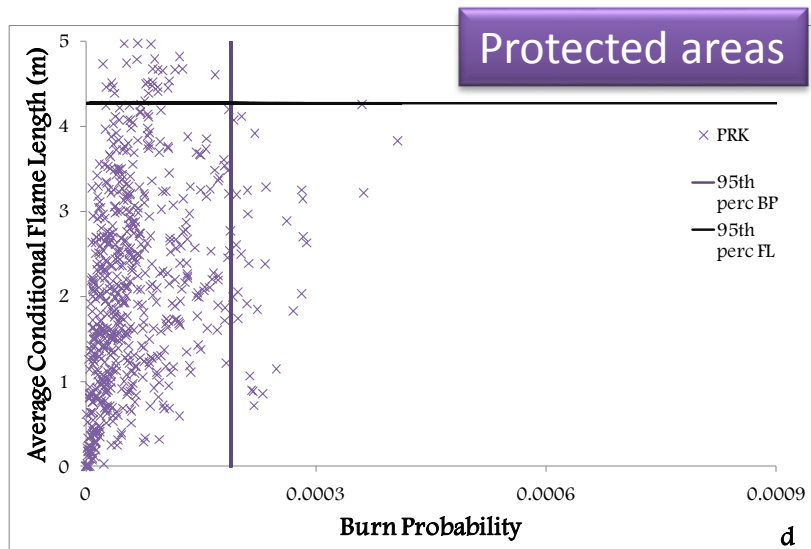
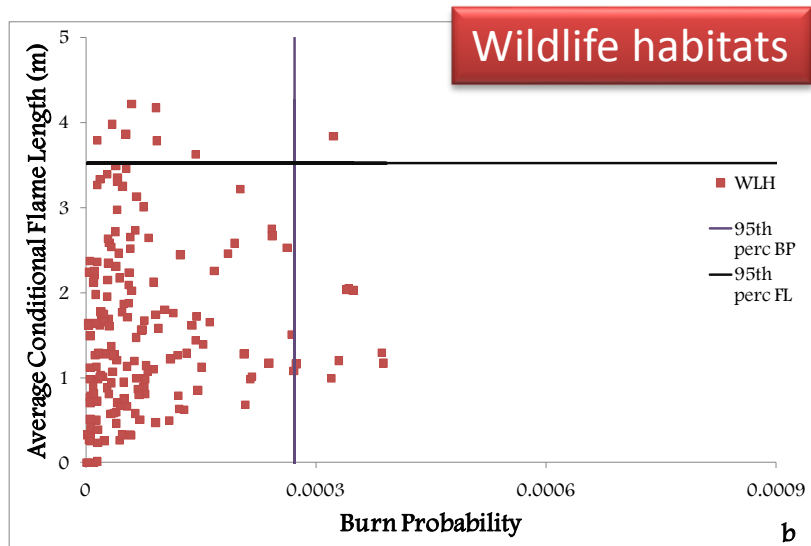


WUIs

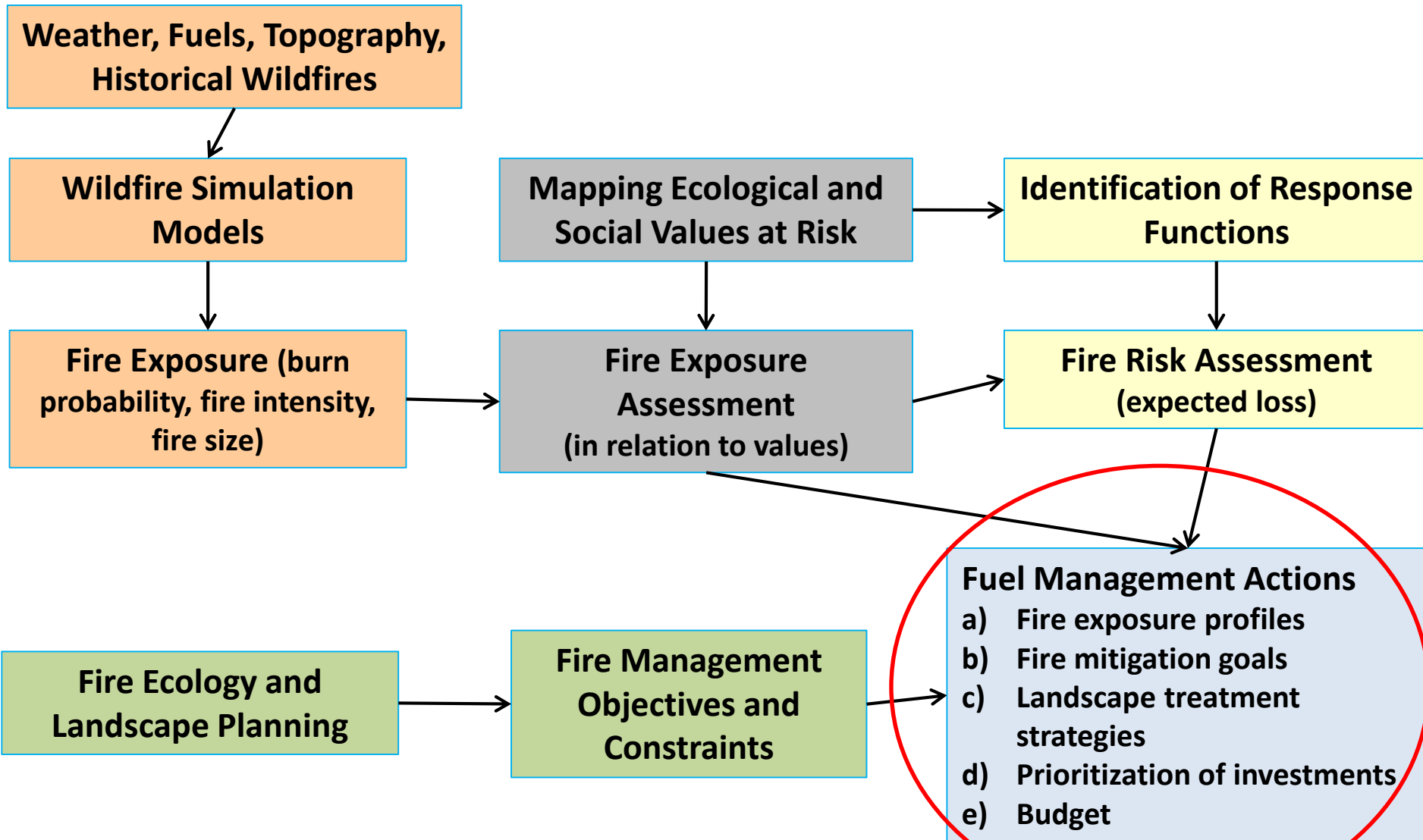




# “Assessing exposure of human and ecological values to wildfire in Sardinia, Italy”



# Wildfire Risk Assessment and Fuel Management Framework





# Fuel Management Strategies

There are many fuel management strategies

Restoration of fire adapted forests

Protection from fire



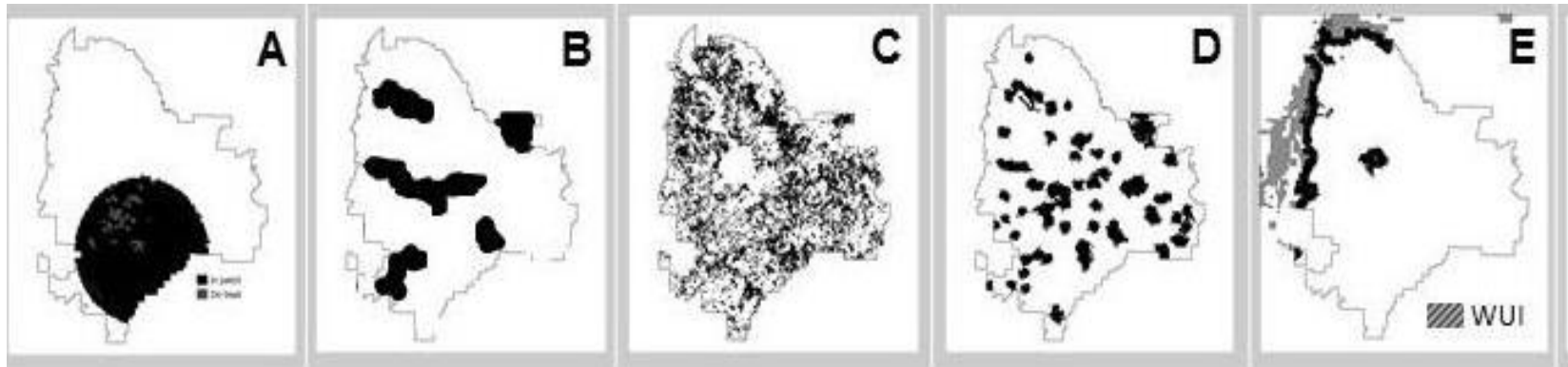
Low hazard  
fire  
containers

Strategic  
Restoration

Treatment  
optimization  
model

Dispersed  
fuel breaks

Focused  
defensible  
fuel breaks



Black areas represent treatment units

Source: Ager 2013



# Fuel Management Strategies

## Fuel management techniques

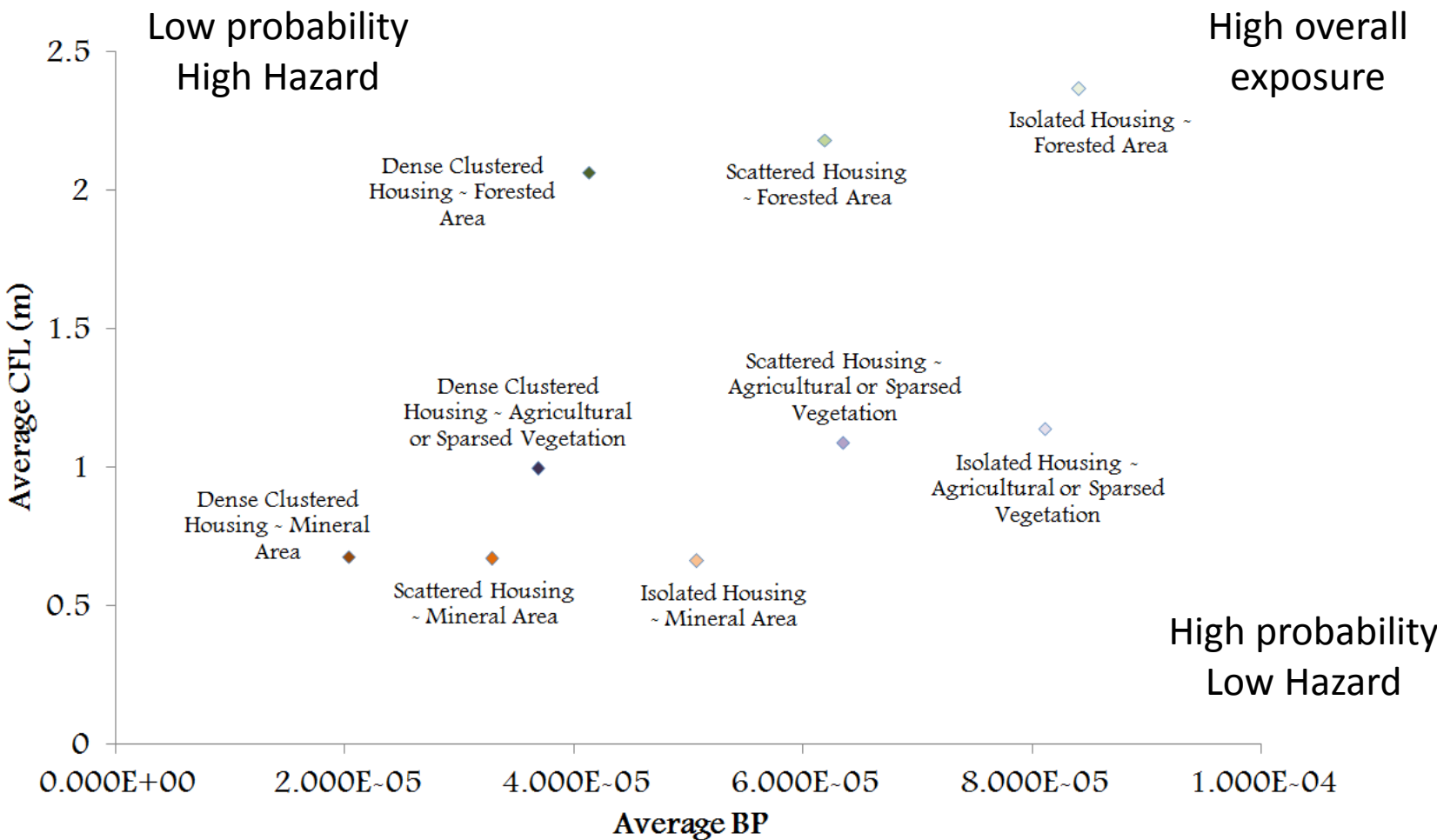
- Prescribed burning
  - **Intentional ignition of fuels for specific management purposes**
- Mechanical treatments
  - **Pruning, thinning**
- Controlled grazing
  - **allowing farm animals to graze a field for a brief period of time**

- Reduces spread rate and intensity
- Facilitate suppression and containment
- Reduces escape rate



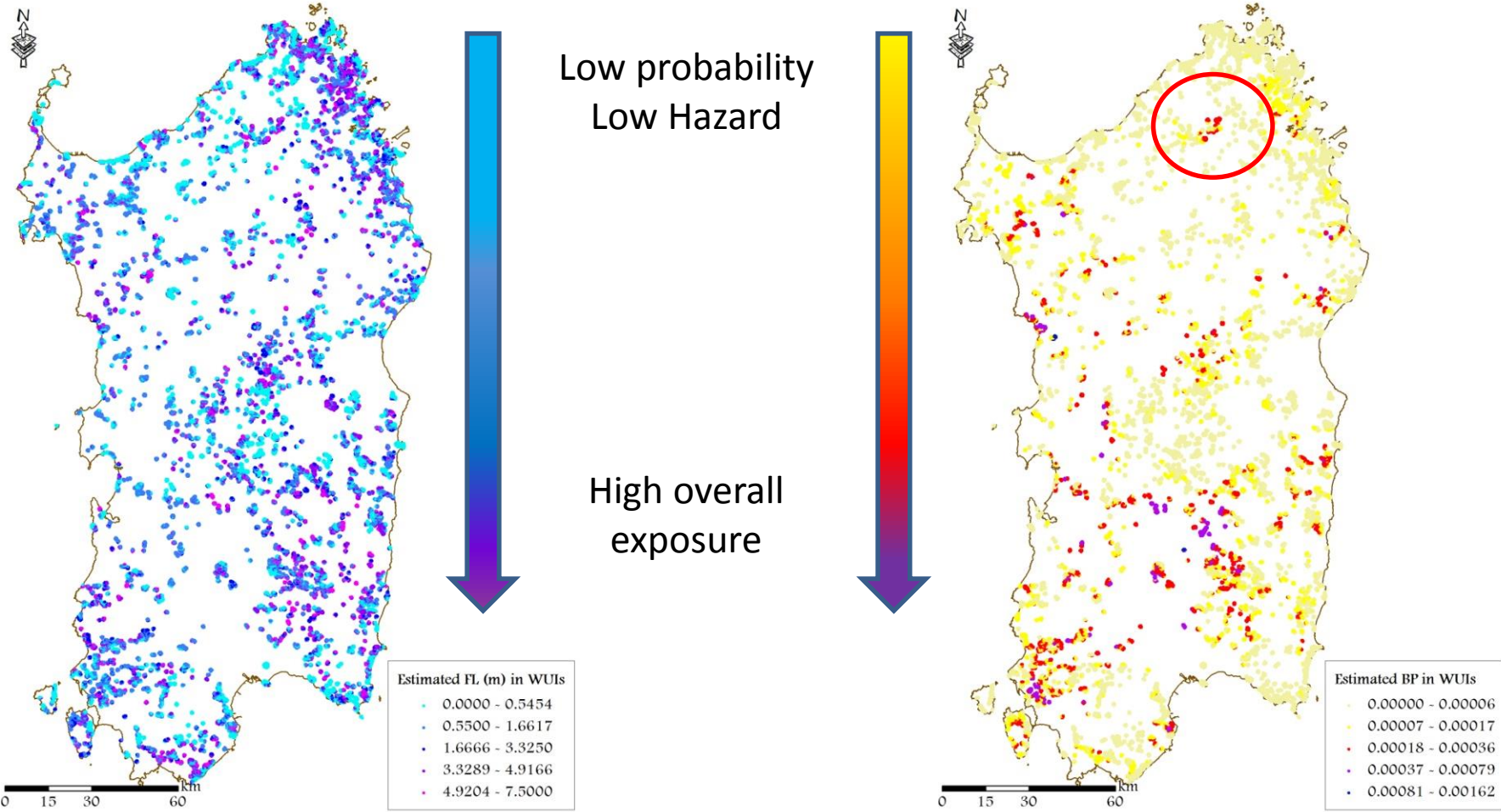
# Wildfire Risk Assessment and Fuel Management Framework

## Prioritize fuel management based on exposure plots



# Wildfire Risk Assessment and Fuel Management Framework

## Prioritize fuel management based on exposure plots





# Fire Risk Management in Sardinia

(Salis et al., in prep.)

## SIMULATIONS

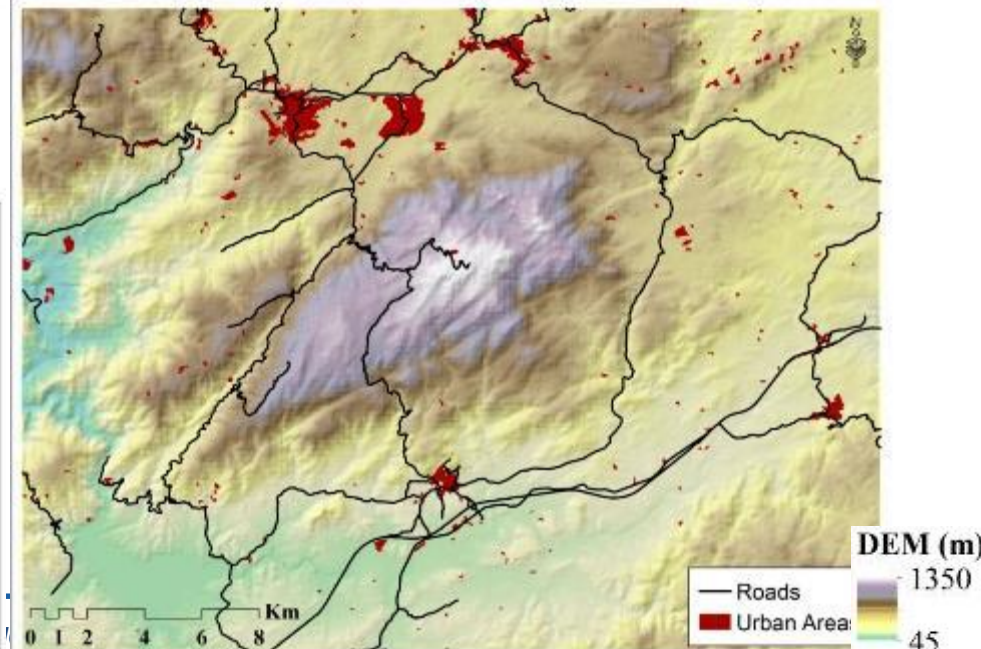
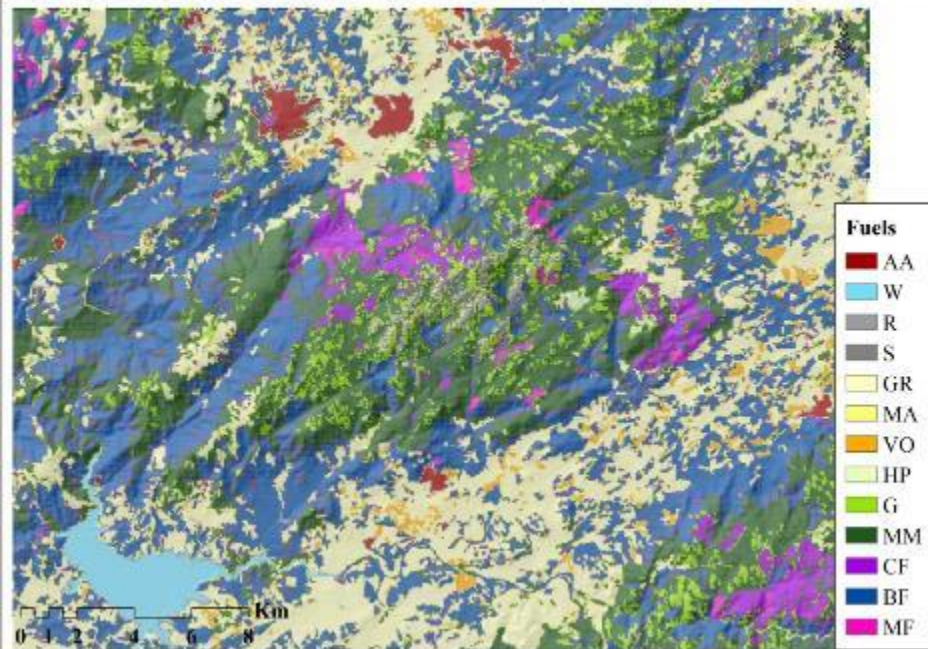
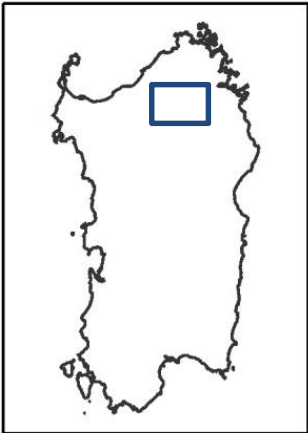
Randig, MTT algorithm (Finney 2002)

Data resolution: 50 m over 700 km<sup>2</sup> (North Sardinia)

Simulation of 25,000 fires, randomly sampling from historical conditions

Diverse treatment strategies and intensities tested, with the goal of minimizing BP and FPI

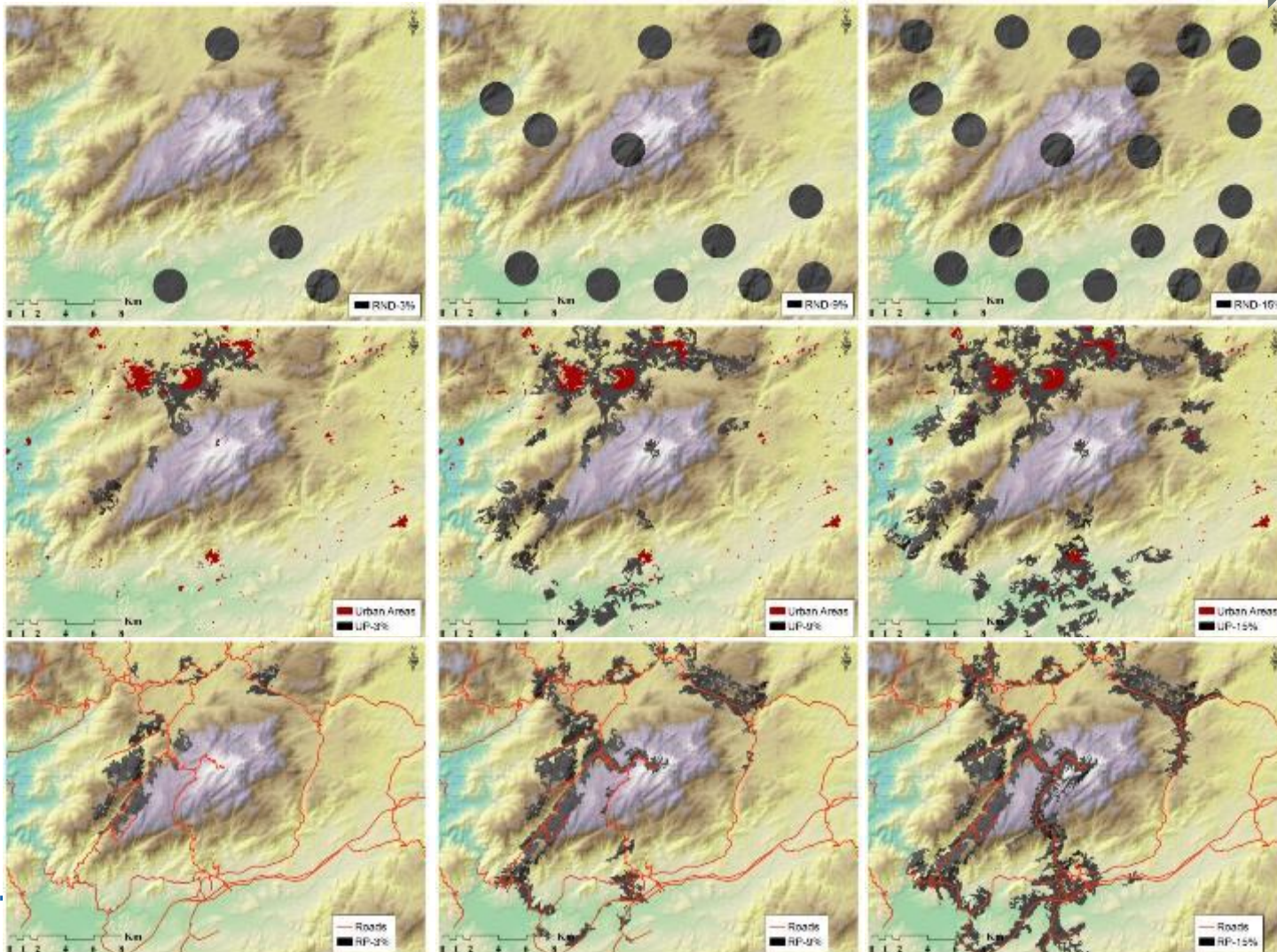
Treatment strategies created in GIS environment coupling spatial values and fire exposure outputs



# Fire Risk Management in Sardinia

(Salis et al., in prep.)

Area Treated, Cost, Risk reduction,  
Teams, Time , Work



**No Priorities:  
Random Areas**

**Priority: Urban  
Protection**

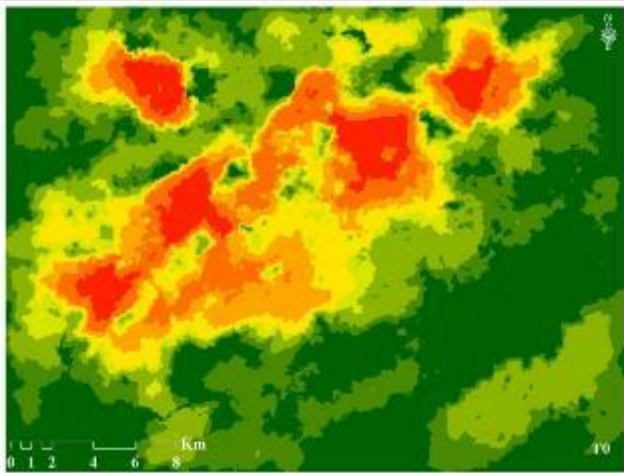
**Priority: Road  
Protection**



# Fire Risk Management in Sardinia

## No Treatment

(Salis et al., in prep.)

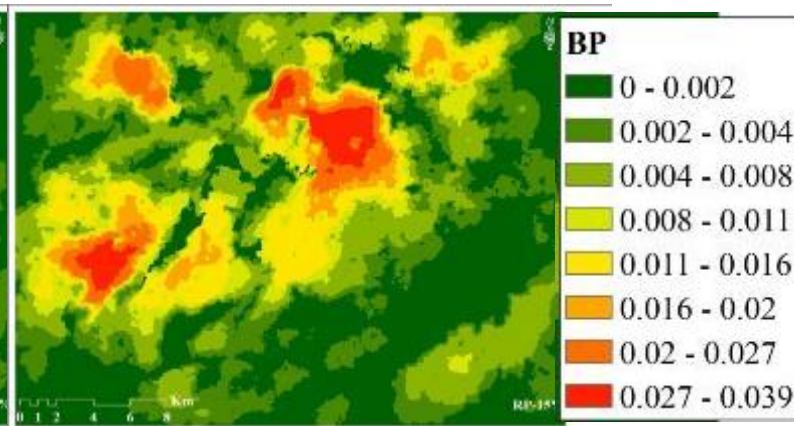
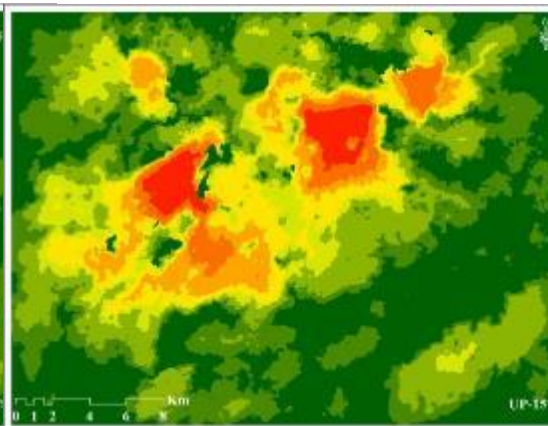
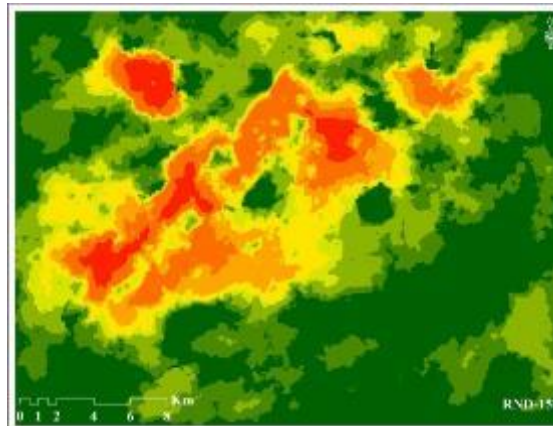


Spatial variation in burn probability (BP) with the diverse fuel treatment strategies

## Random

## Urban Protection

## Road Protection





# Modèles pour prévenir, gérer et atténuer les risques d'incendie dans un climat changeant

## Tools

### Fire danger

IFI (Integrated Fire danger Index)

(Sirca et al., 2006)



### Fire spread and behaviour

FARSITE, FlamMap, RANDIG

(Finney, 2003)



### Fire emissions

FOFEM (Reinhardt, 1997)



## Main Applications

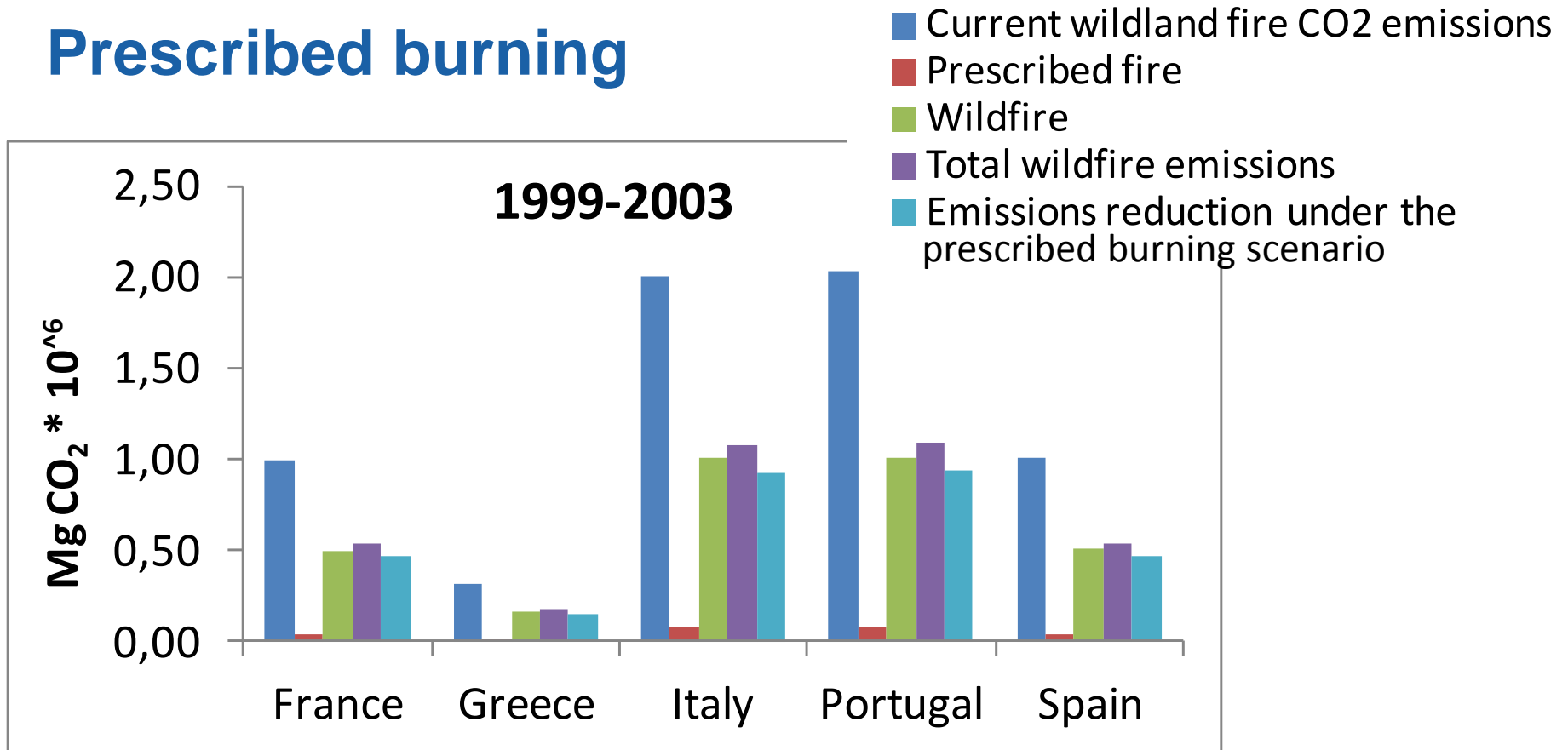
- daily/seasonal fire danger forecast
- fire danger projections with future scenarios

- fire behaviour and spread simulation
- fire spread and behaviour projections using future scenarios
- assessing fire risk mitigation strategies (prescribed fires, fuel reduction, etc.)

- analysis of fuel consumption
- smoke characterization
- Fire emission mitigation

# Fire Emission Mitigation Strategies

## Prescribed burning

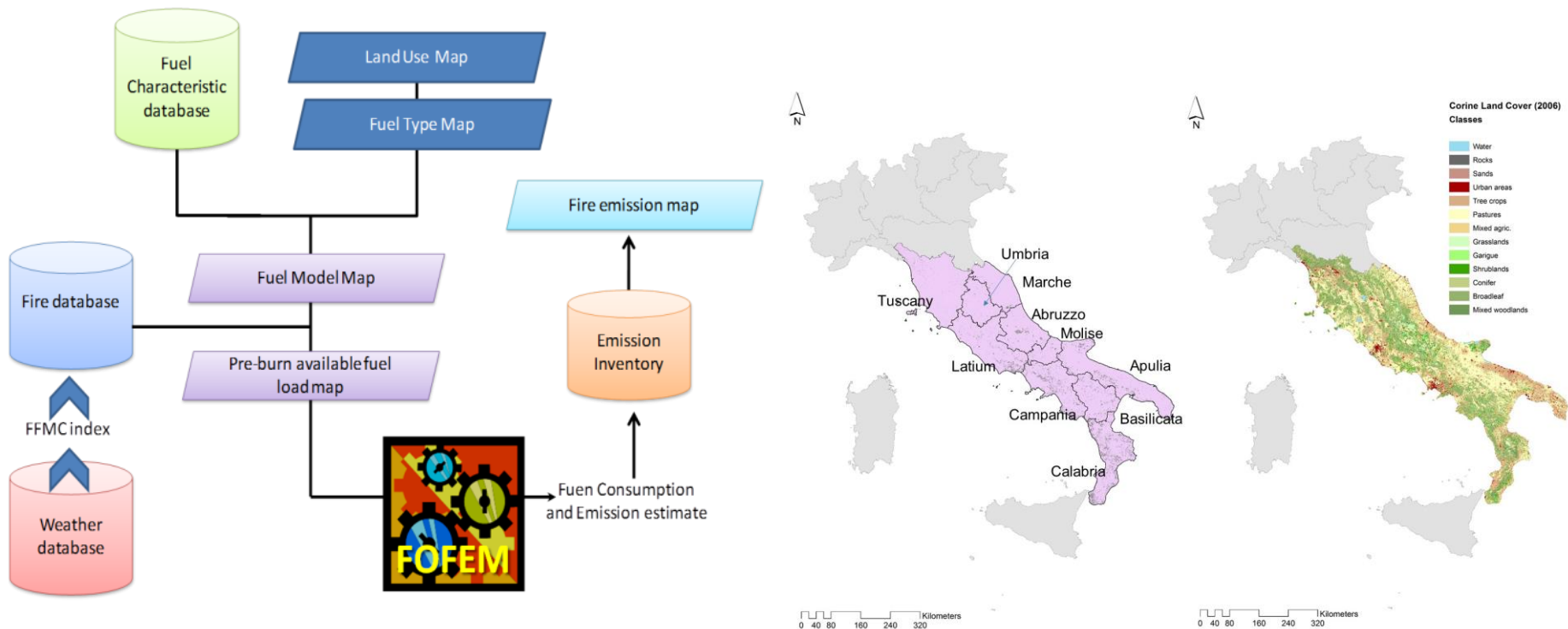


46% Emissions reduction

Source: Narayan et al., 2007



Potential of fuel management practices evaluation in mitigating emissions from forest fires, also taking into account the carbon loss by treatments and fires under the treatments



*Pro*

PB is ap  
equal to  
and unc  
20% fue

It is ass  
-80% re  
and her  
-30% re

*Herbaceous*

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It is assumed  
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*Shrub fu*

It is assumed  
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*Area  
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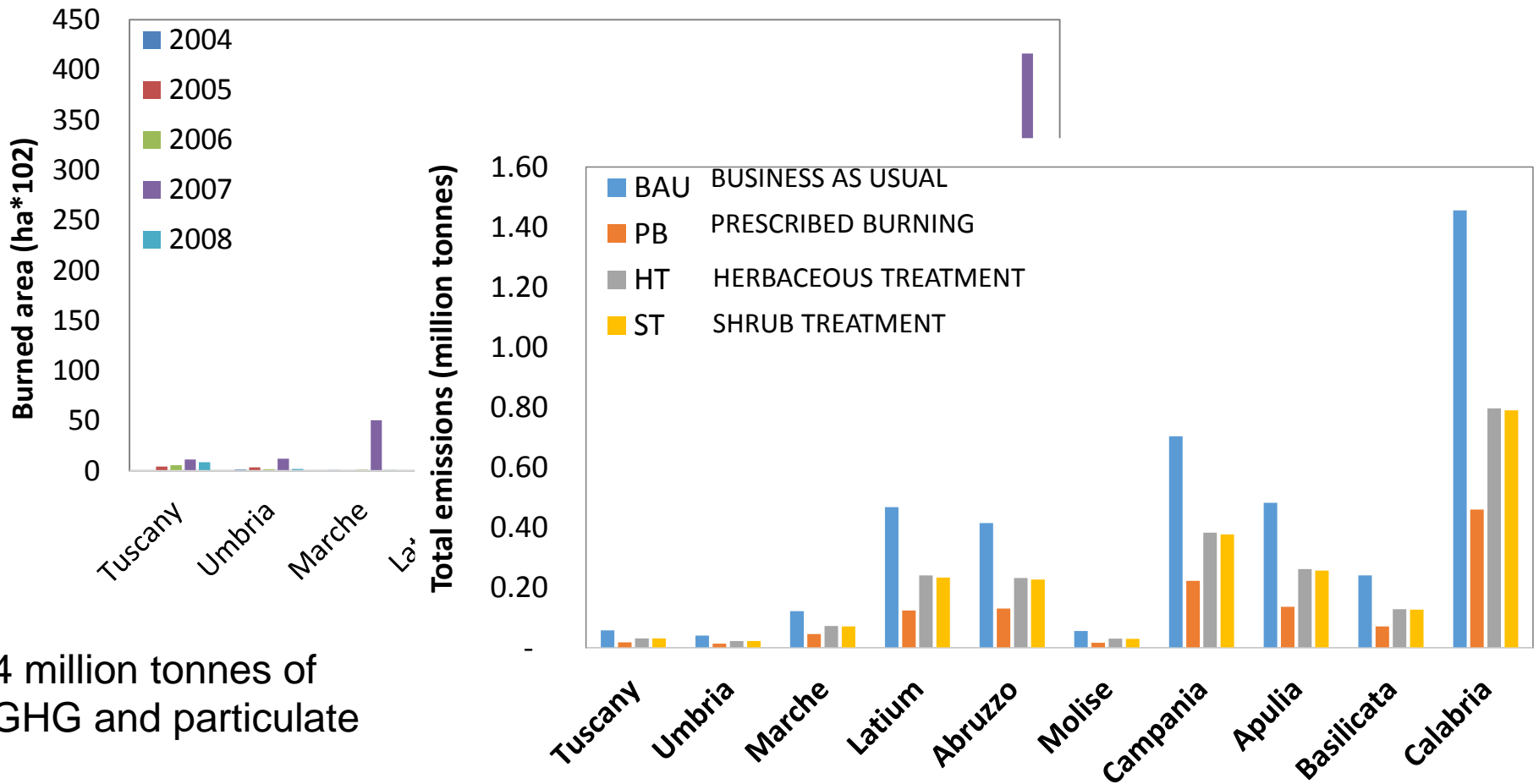
*Duff and crown fuel  
consumption*

It is assumed that the consumption of duff, live tree foliage and branches depends on the burn severity: the % of combusted fuel is determined according to the fuel moisture group.



# Fire Emission Mitigation Strategies

(Bacciu et al., in prep.)



4 million tonnes of GHG and particulate

PB reduction -> 2.8 million tonnes

HT/ST reduction -> 1.8 million tonnes



## Final remarks

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1. Impacts of climate change are **extremely varied** between and within regions
2. **Regional risk assessment** is essential and needs the contribution of the different sectors
3. Adaptation options need to be developed at **regional/local scale** based on detailed *Climate Resilience Studies*



شكرا

Merçi

Thanks

Valentina Bacciu, Michele Salis, Donatella Spano  
Costantino Sirca, Alan Ager, Mark Finney, Bachisio Arca

