# Social values and attitudes and multifunctional soil use

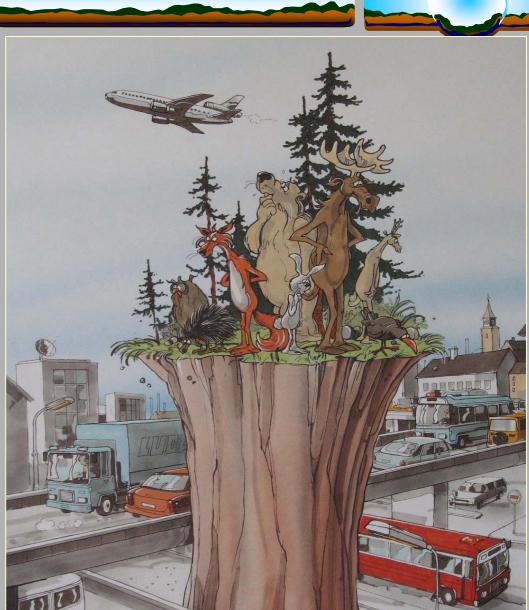
SENIOR LECTURER

Comaž PRUS

University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical faculty

CENTLER FOR SOIL AND

EN VERONIVIENTAL SCIENCE



The background illustration: Swedish environmental protection agency, S-171 85 Solna, Sweden

Helming K., Wiggering H. (Eds.): Sustainable development of Multifunctional Landscapes

#### Prus T. (Eds.):

Vrednotenje zemljise kot podpora prostorskemu planiranju (Land evaluation as support to spatial planning)

Gore Al:

Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit

# THE EFFECTS OF HUMAN SPECIES

- Fast increasing of population
- Adaptation in physical sense
- Changing own environment

(human species : fusion (fermentation) fungus)

THE REAL POWER WOULD BE

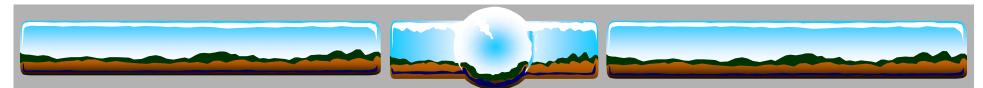
- ADAPTATION of mind
- **REGULATING OWN ENVIRONMENT**

#### ECOLOGY / ENVIRONMENT

• people dealing with environmental protection often call themselves ecologists

• Ecology is a (biological) discipline dealing with interrelations (including competition) between individuals of a species, different species and their relations to the environment.

• So most of ecological statements or principles are actually principles of (human) environmental protection



#### ECOSYSTEM / HABITAT

#### ECOSYSTEM

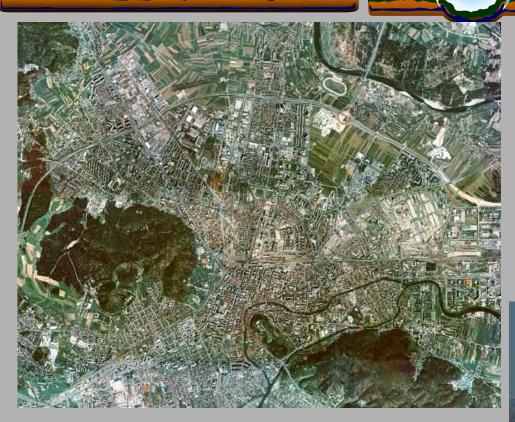
#### HABITAT

# Not living part Living part SOIL rock weathering & plants remains decomposition



### habitat for reed

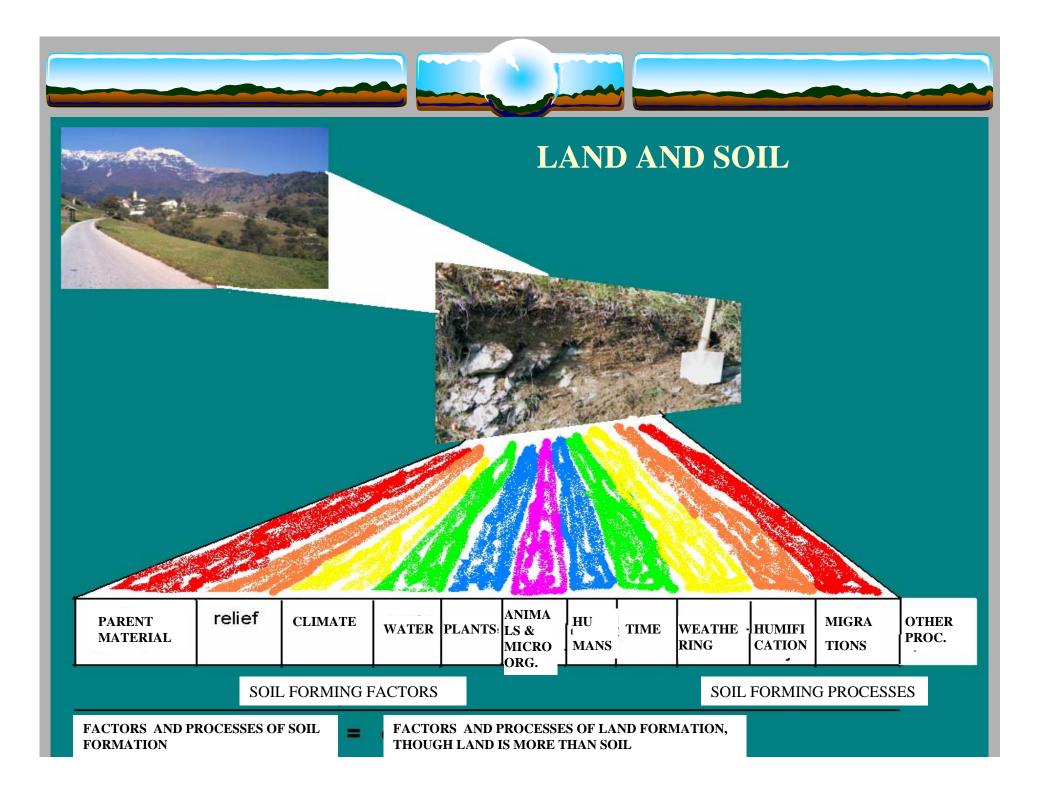
We are usually not able to take the whole ecosystem into the consideration so habitat is more practical because of it's visualization

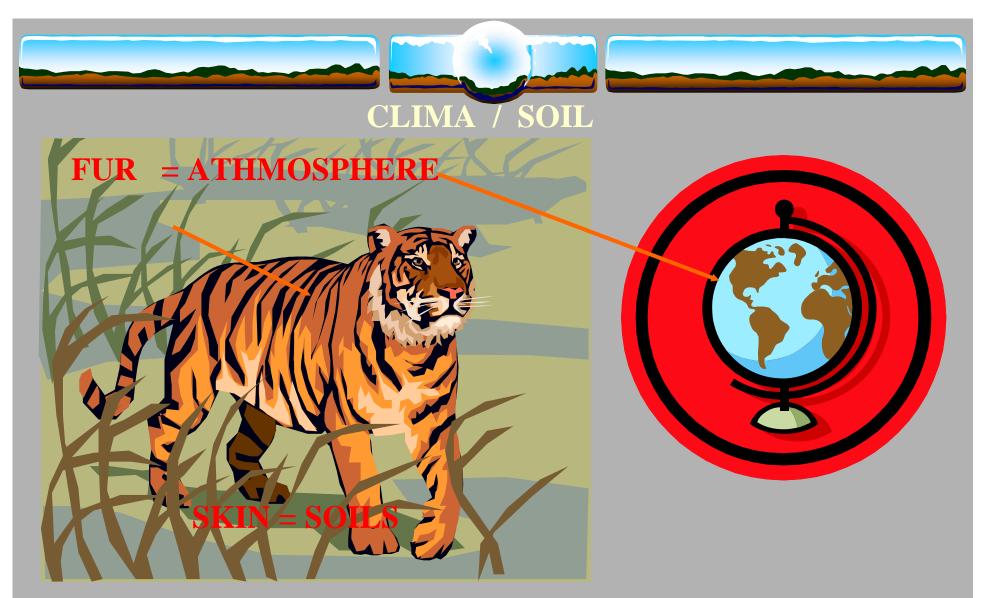


Cold-warm, wet-dry, low-high, cultural –urban (even dump areas) VARIOUS HUMAN HABITATS

HUMAN SPECIES HAS A GREAT ADAPTATION CAPACITY TO PHYSICAL CONDITIONS





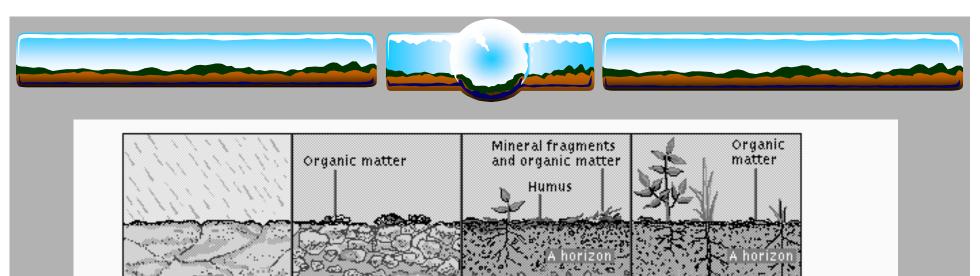


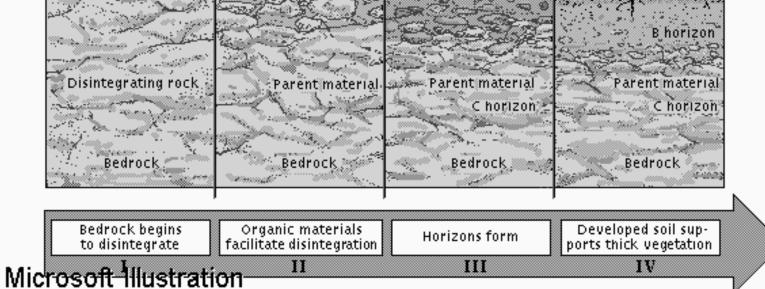
### BOTH ARE VERY THIN COMPARING VITH THE BODY VOLUME AS WELL AS VULNERABLE



Credit: U of A Extension & Pedosphere.com

Soils are the upper part of the Earth' surface, capable to support plants with nutrients, water and physical stability. They are a three dimensional phenomena visible only with energy input (digging or augering and walking (carrying field equipment))





Usually it is possible to distinguish certain stages of development Soils are not just sediment or weathering products. Soils properties were the basic criteria for different land use. The primary differentiation of land use has been done between forests and agricultural/arable land. Further more and more land was needed for agriculture so the criteria drop. We have traces of cultivation also on very shallow and stony soils.

When the cities started to grow a new competition has been induced. At the middle of 19. century Thomas Malthus presented a theory of discrepancy between food production and increasing human population.

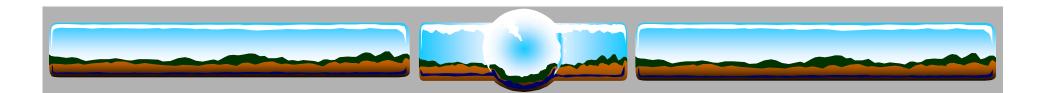
That did not happen, but that does not mean that ancient, medieval and even new history passed without food shortage. Many reasons were for that but sudden climate changes were the reasons for that – mostly due to volcanic eruptions. The hunger period in Ireland for exp. Is a complex of climate change (small ice age 1550-1850) political decisions (the removal of people from Scotland to Ireland), social traditions (early marriages) and



the dependence on one single crop – potato as well as on single variety of that crop. Due to relatively wet and warm summer Phytophthora strike with full power. In next few years died because of starvation and undernourishment one million of people.

#### More examples are cited in **Core Al**: **Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit**

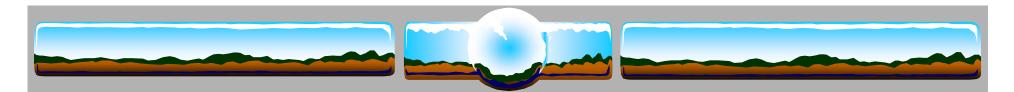
chp 4: Climate and civilisation



#### Pressures to land use

- Changing importance of (classic) agricultural and forestry production (food /energy)
- Ecological goals related to land use and land use planning (exp. Wetland / ameliorated agricultural land)
- Climate change with increasing probabilities of extreme weather events (floods, droughts, storms)
- Changing public perception of land use (farmer as a nurser of land / farmer as a mass producer & land owner : land tenant; Lost credibility!!!!)

A new paradigm is needed!



Sustainability

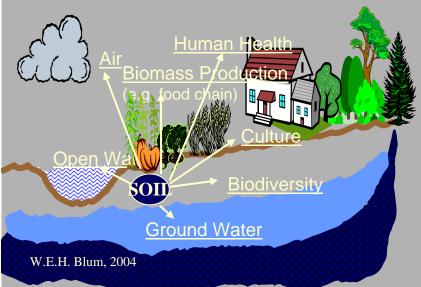
• The use of renewable resources may not exceed their regeneration rate

• The use of renewable resources may not exceed their substitution rate

• The release of harmful substances may not exceed the capacity of natural systems to absorb and compensate

#### MULTIFUNCTIONALITY

• of soils as a vital media, part, resource etc.

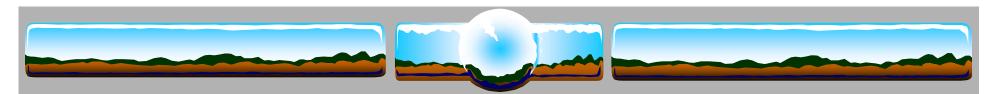


• multifunctionality of land

#### OR

multifunctionality of sectors for exp.: Agriculture ( agronomy)
Forests (forestry)
Urban areas (civil engineering)
CAN SECTORS BEHAVE MULTIFUNCTIONAL ???

(Think about periods of disturbance, repeating of disturbance, monocultures,....)



#### THE VALUE OF LAND & SOIL

- Land as common good, given by God and is not transferable
- Land as finite recourse in extent has become an issue of competition – land is an economic asset like labour and capital Land is a target and desire for ownership The property market is expanding - a biiiiig business **Investments in land as a speculative object** • Multifunctionality makes multiple values Some of them are exchange or sales values, some are not (presence of pure air, no noise,...)
- Price is the parameter to express the value of an object or a property

Price expressed in money is the generally accepted mean to compare values on the market.

Market <u>price</u> designates what a property might be sold at a <u>specific period</u> in time

<u>Value</u> designates the land's <u>intrinsic worth</u> as compared to other parts of land

Factors affecting land value and price

• Expected income

• Tradition, prestige, aesthetics, social and environmental importance

• Speculation value

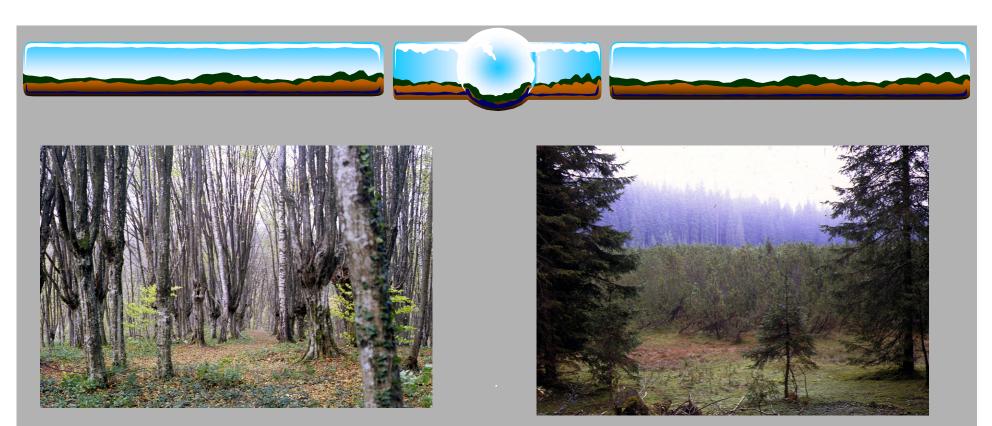
In the rural sector the value of land is determined by production potential of land (crops, timber, cattle raising,....

Good soil (fertile, enough deep and in a flat level) can be used for different purposes, other have a limited choice of land use (wineyards on slope, asparagus on sandy soil,....)

Generally in rural areas the land prices remain low, and in urban and peri-urban are high. The shift from agricultural to urban results in higher prices.

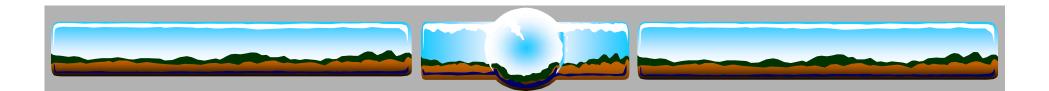
This can result also in unlimited and uncontrolled construction so physical planning and zoning is a measure to avoid that process.

PLAN (LAND USE PLAN) : urban, agricultural, protected, .... (too) many criteria visual effects / measurable data



visual effects / measurable data emotional / rational





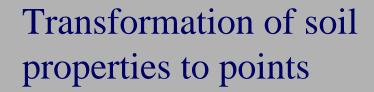
HOW GOOD /IMPORTANT ARE SOILS IN A CERTAIN AREA FOR PRIMARY LAND USE (NATURE COSERVATION, FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE) ?

Many possible approaches:

Land evaluation (crop oriented)

Land capability classification (zonation; yes/no)

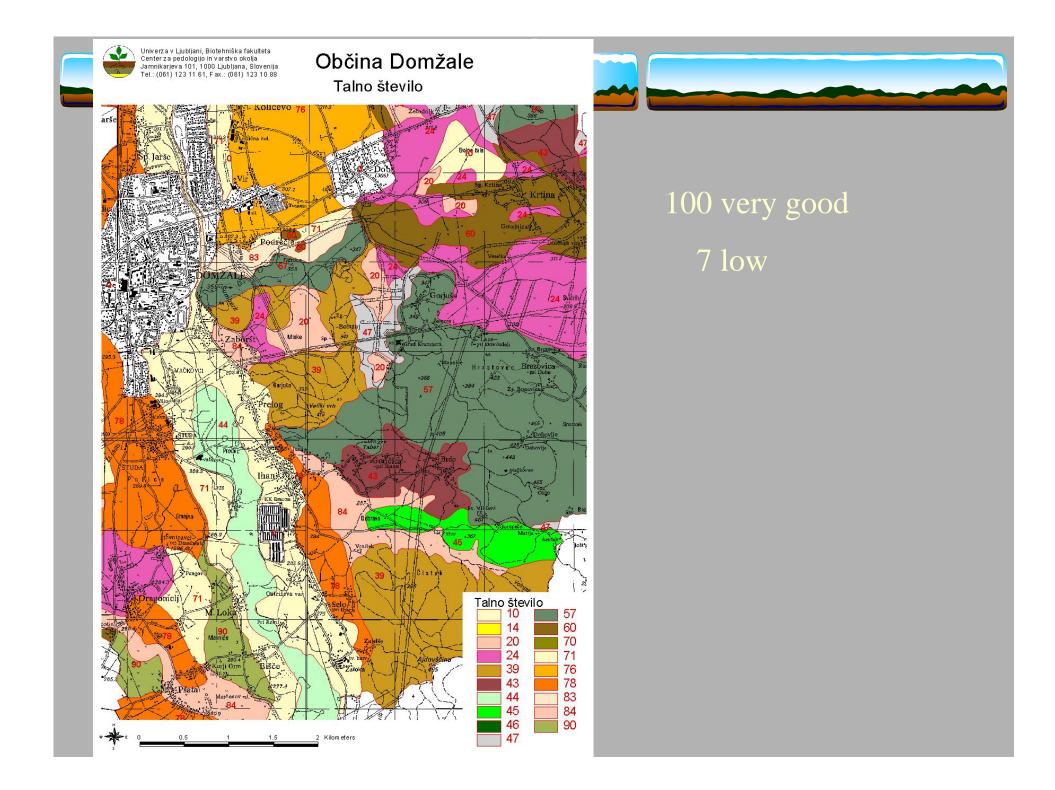
"Bodenschatzung" (allows models development)

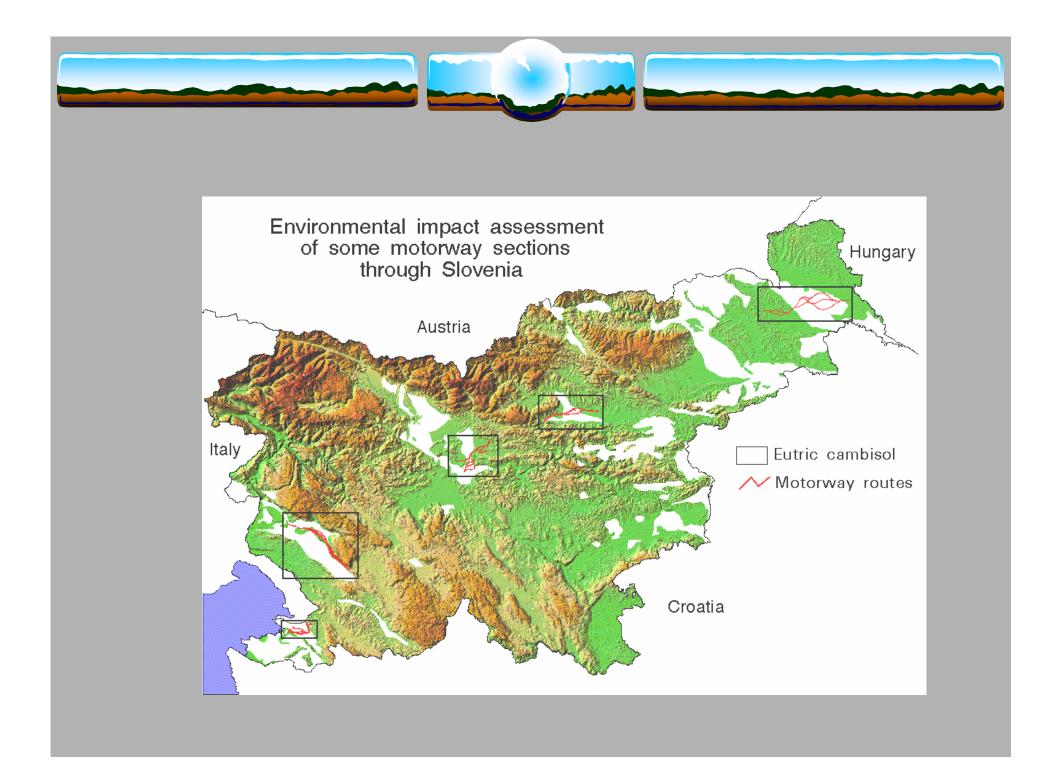


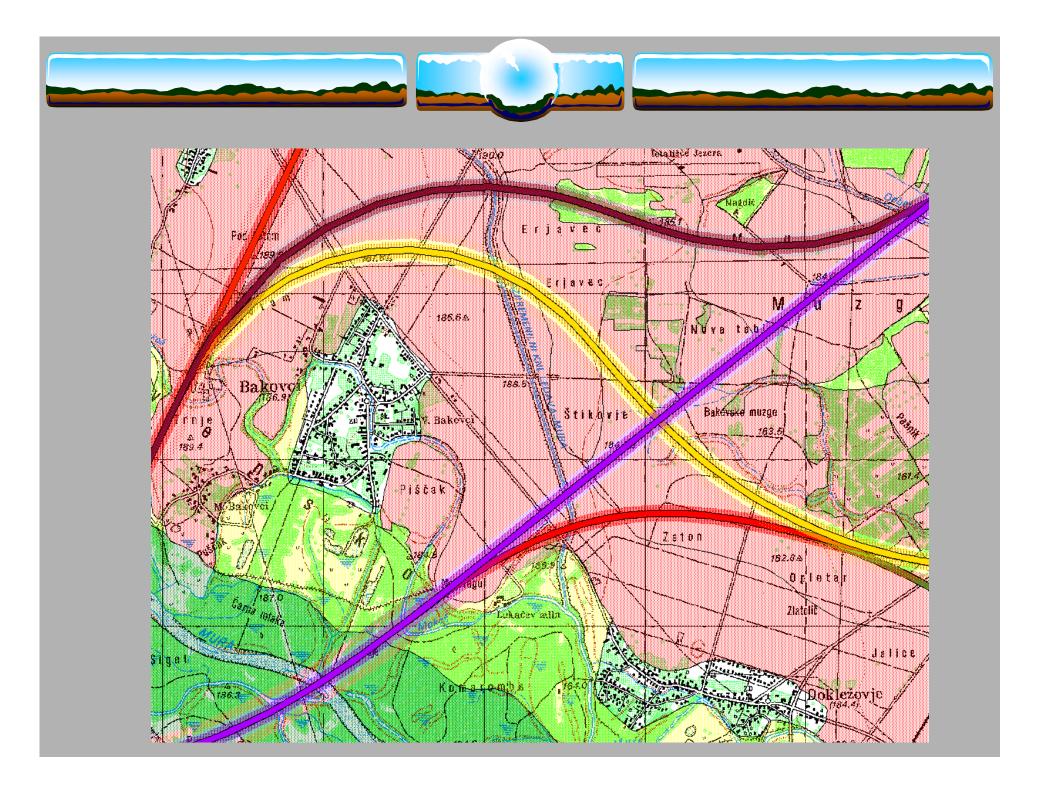
by applying a common and well known method, which is slightly adapted from county to country.

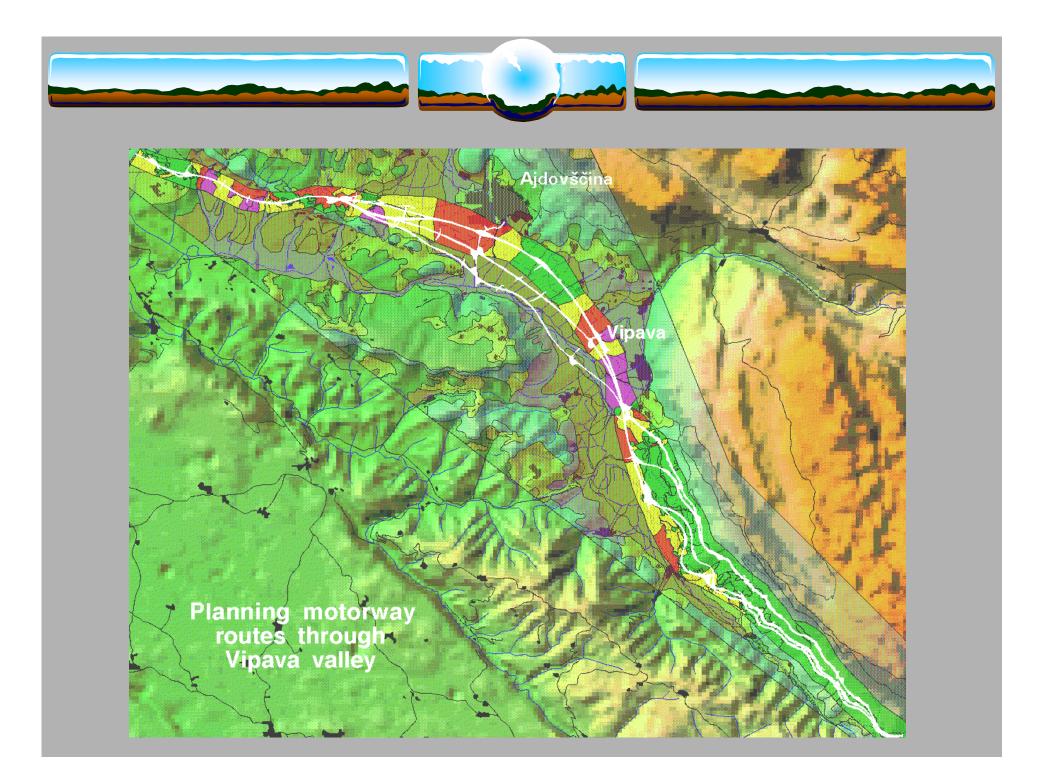
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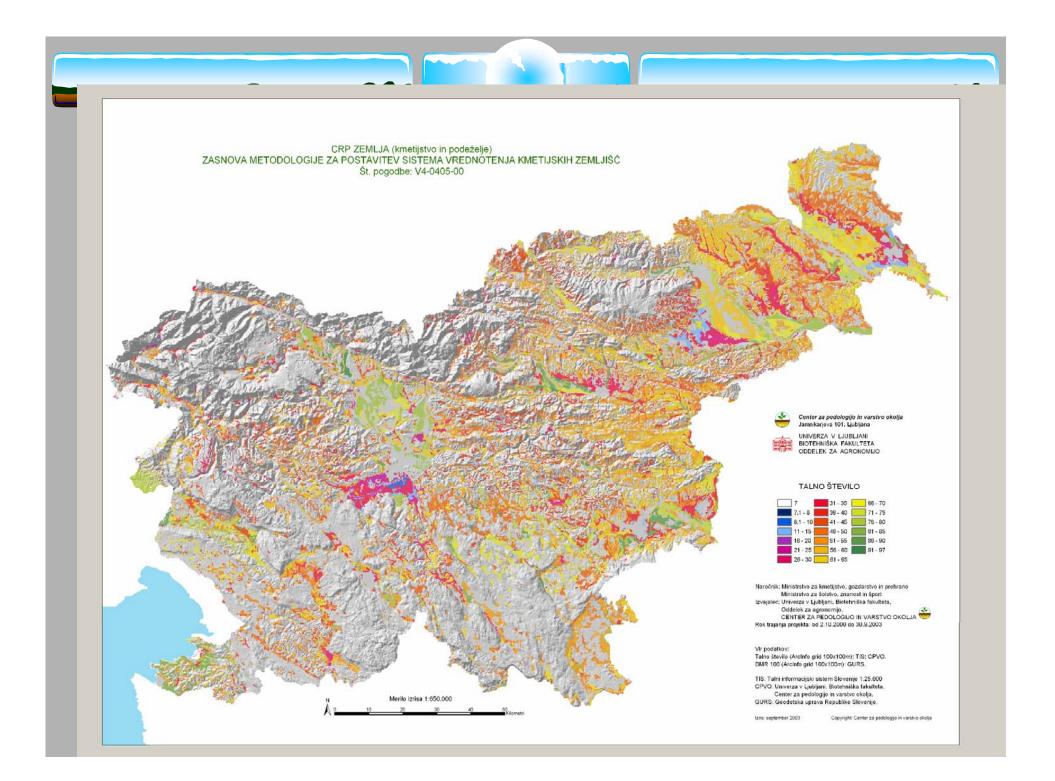
e 1: Ackerschätzungsrahmen (Bodenkundliche Kartieranleitung, S. 308)

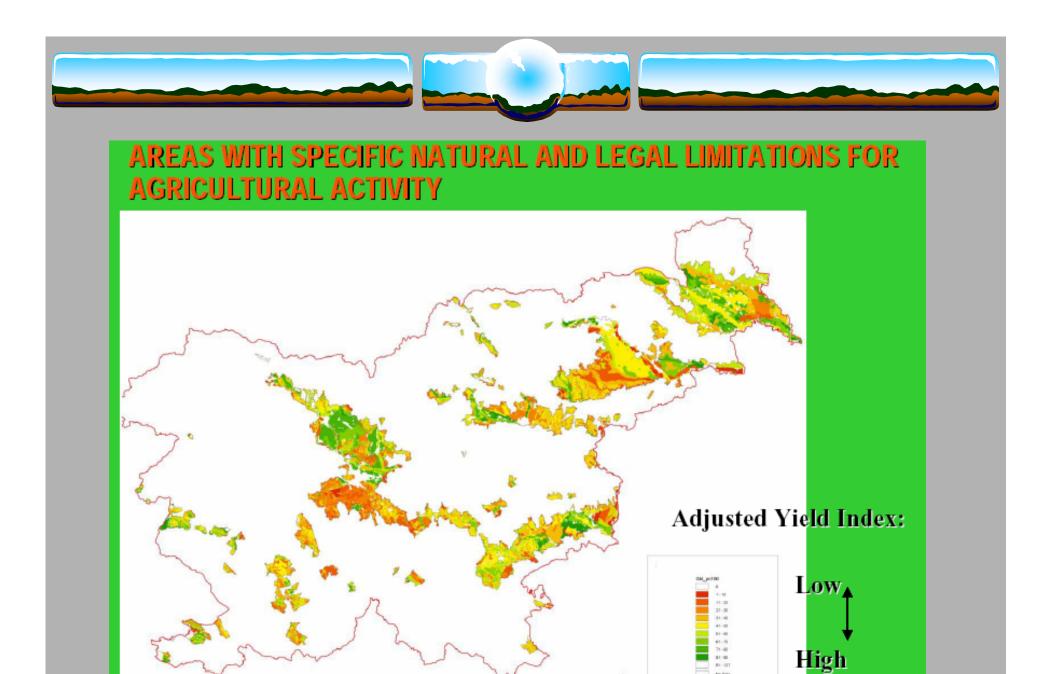












Adjusted Yield Index (Bodenpunkte) (McRae and Burnham, 1981: Land Evaluation)



## Deus ex machina ????