

Background:

Data and analyses on mountain agriculture



Expo Milano, Mountain week, 04/06/2015

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**Mountain agriculture represents
18% of agricultural holdings,
15% of utilised agricultural area and
15% of agricultural workforce in Europe**

- 1) Multifunctionality
- 2) Pluri-activity
- 3) Extensive low input and low output farming systems
- 4) Oriented towards specific productions of high quality
- 5) A generally high environmental compatibility
- 6) A high product quality
- 7) Closely inter-related to other economic sectors, such as agro-food industry and tourism
- 8) Work productivity is on average lower by 28% in mountain areas compared to less favoured areas and by 40% compared to low lands
- 9) Semi-subsistence farming in some areas like Carpathians

...State:

- Direct payments
- Agro-environmental measures/compensatory allowances
- Program for rural development
- Regional contributions

...Family:

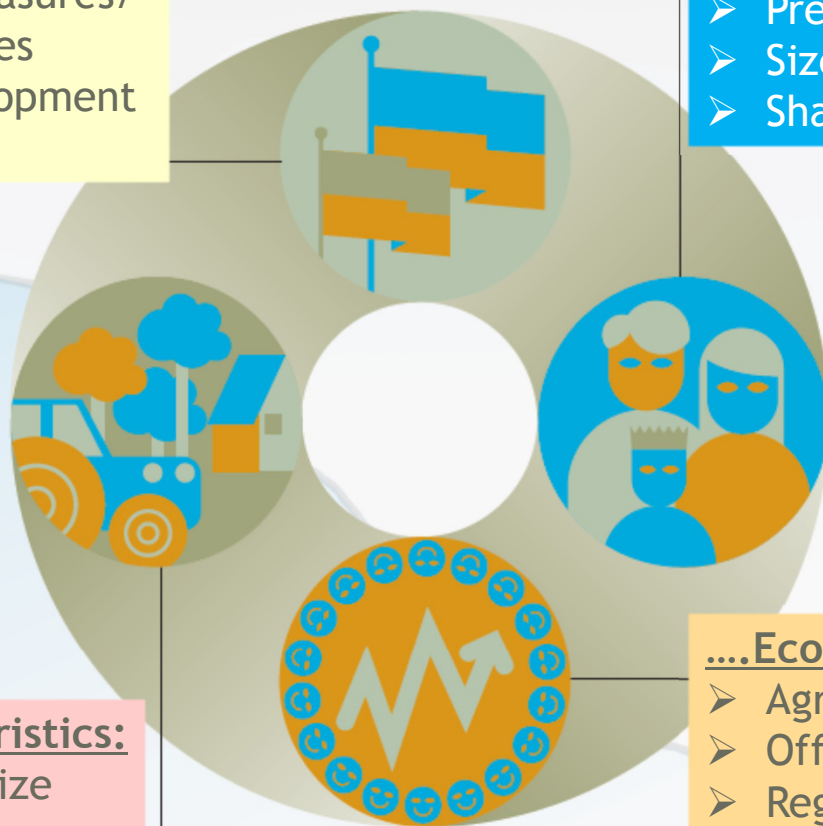
- Education and age of farmer
- Presence of successor
- Size and status of family
- Share of non-family work force

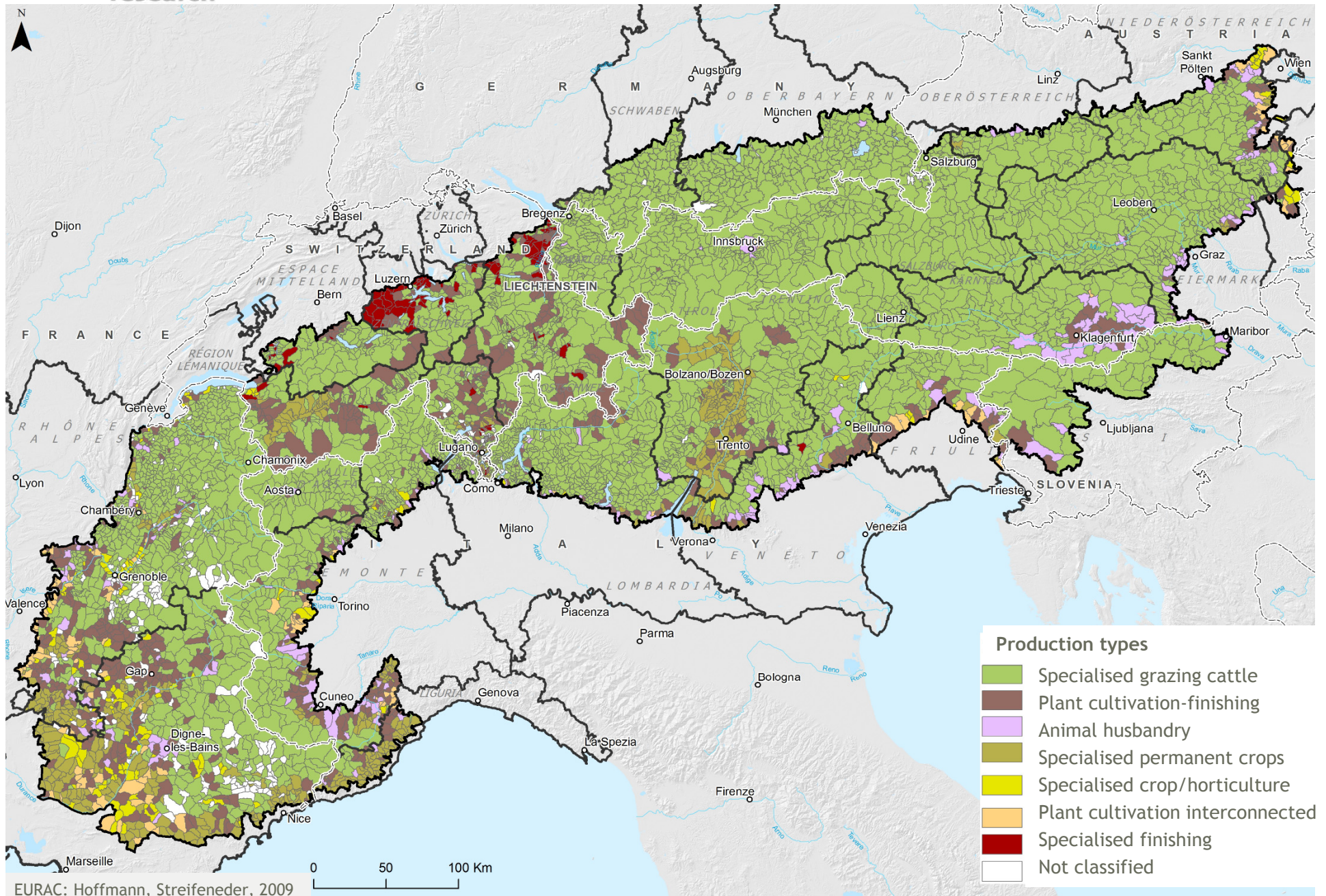
...Farm-specific characteristics:

- Location, Topography, Size
- Production type
- Full-/Part-time farming
- Inheritance law
- Specilisation/Diversification

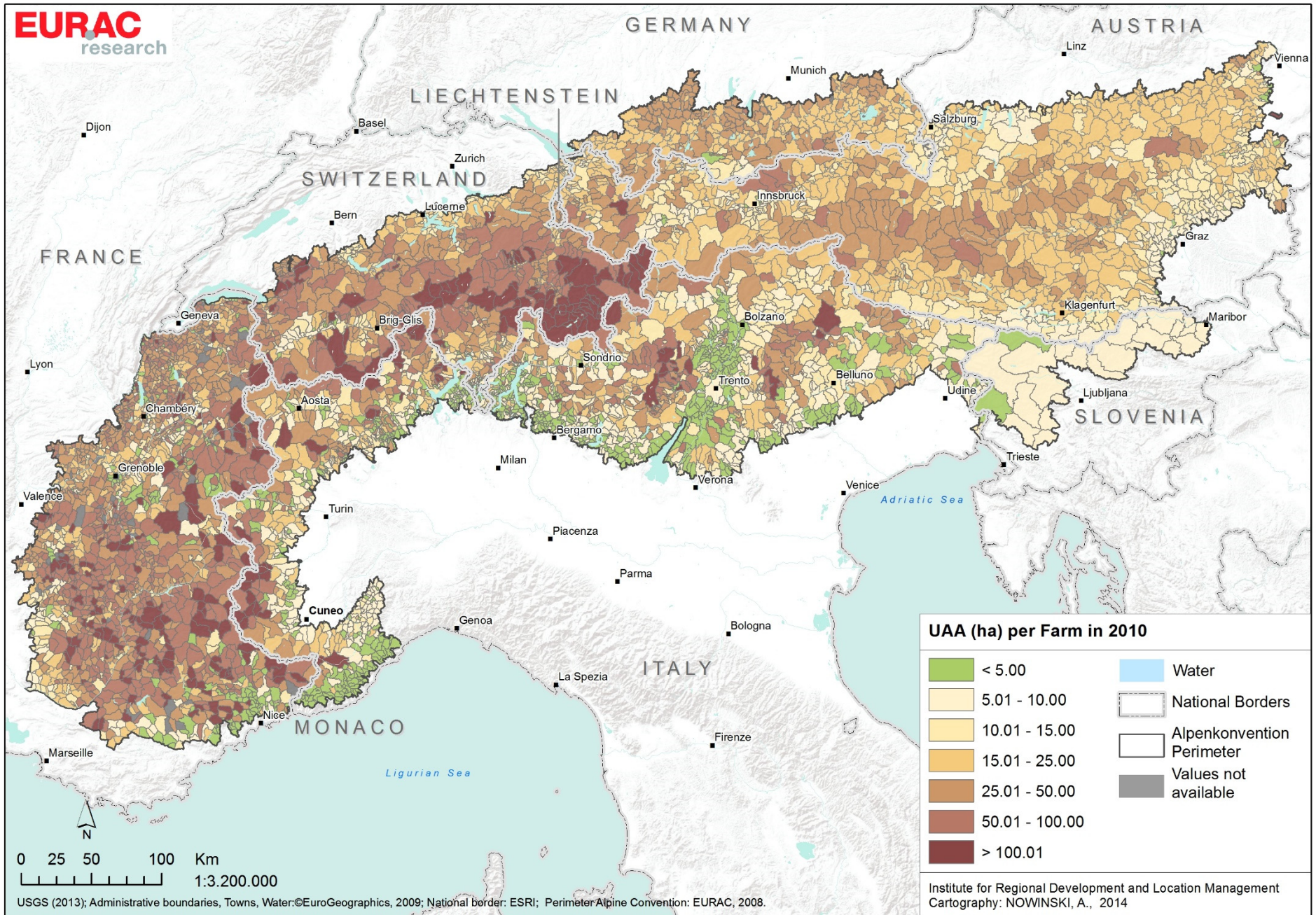
...Economy and Society:

- Agricultural income
- Off-farm activities
- Regional labour market
- Tourismintensity
- Product prices and costs
- Population density
- Social environment

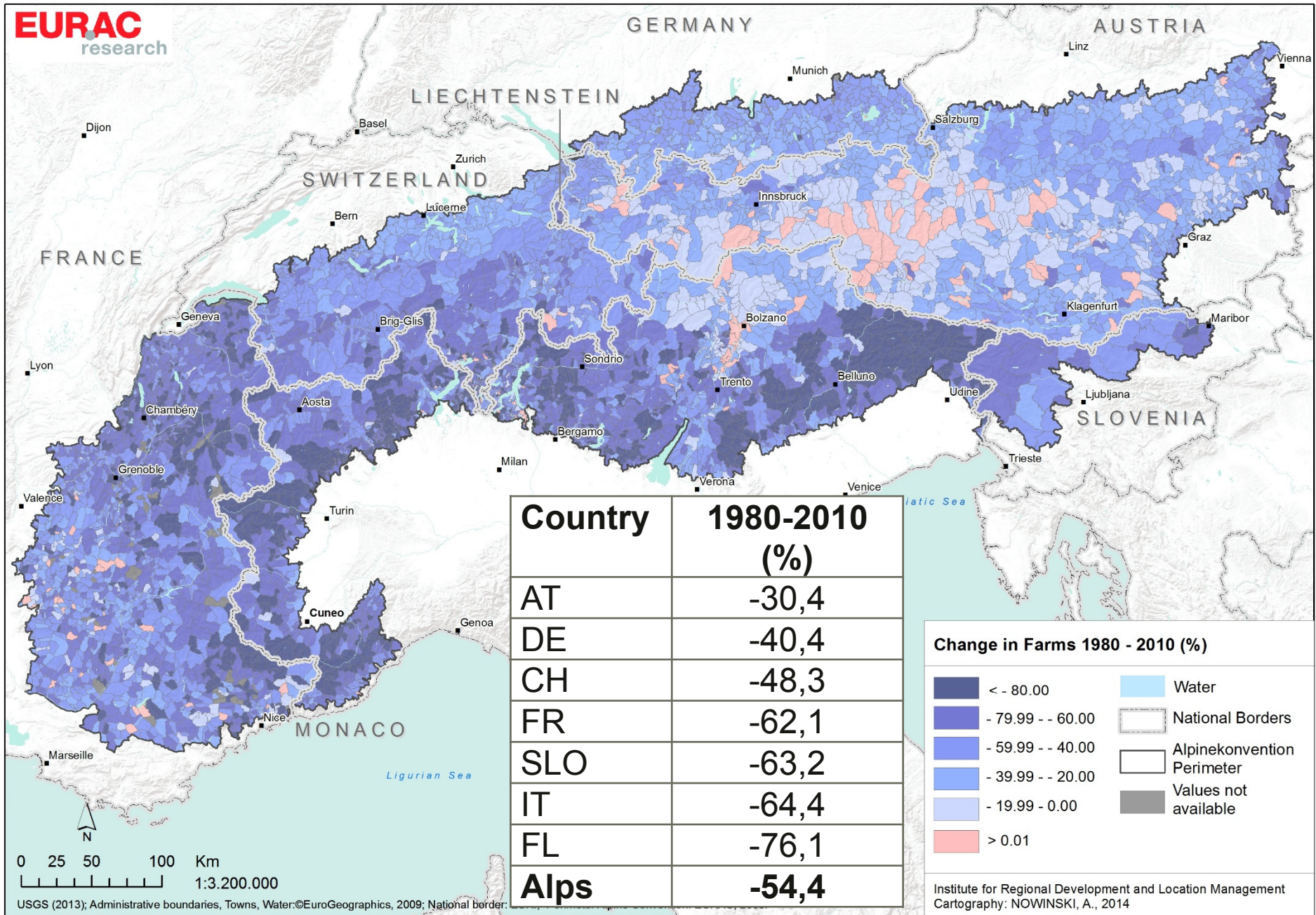




Size of farms 2010

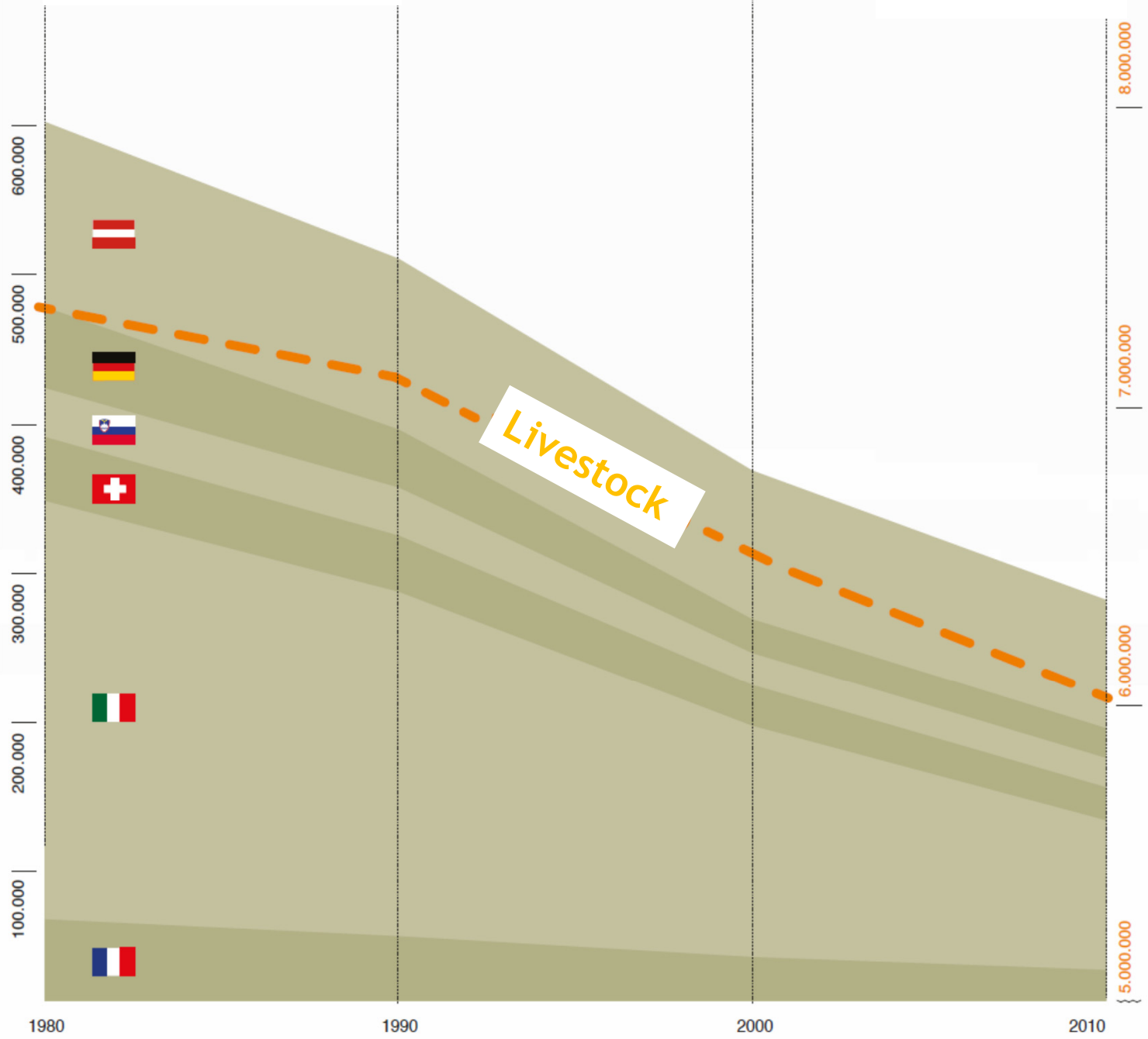


Farm abandonment rate 1980-2010

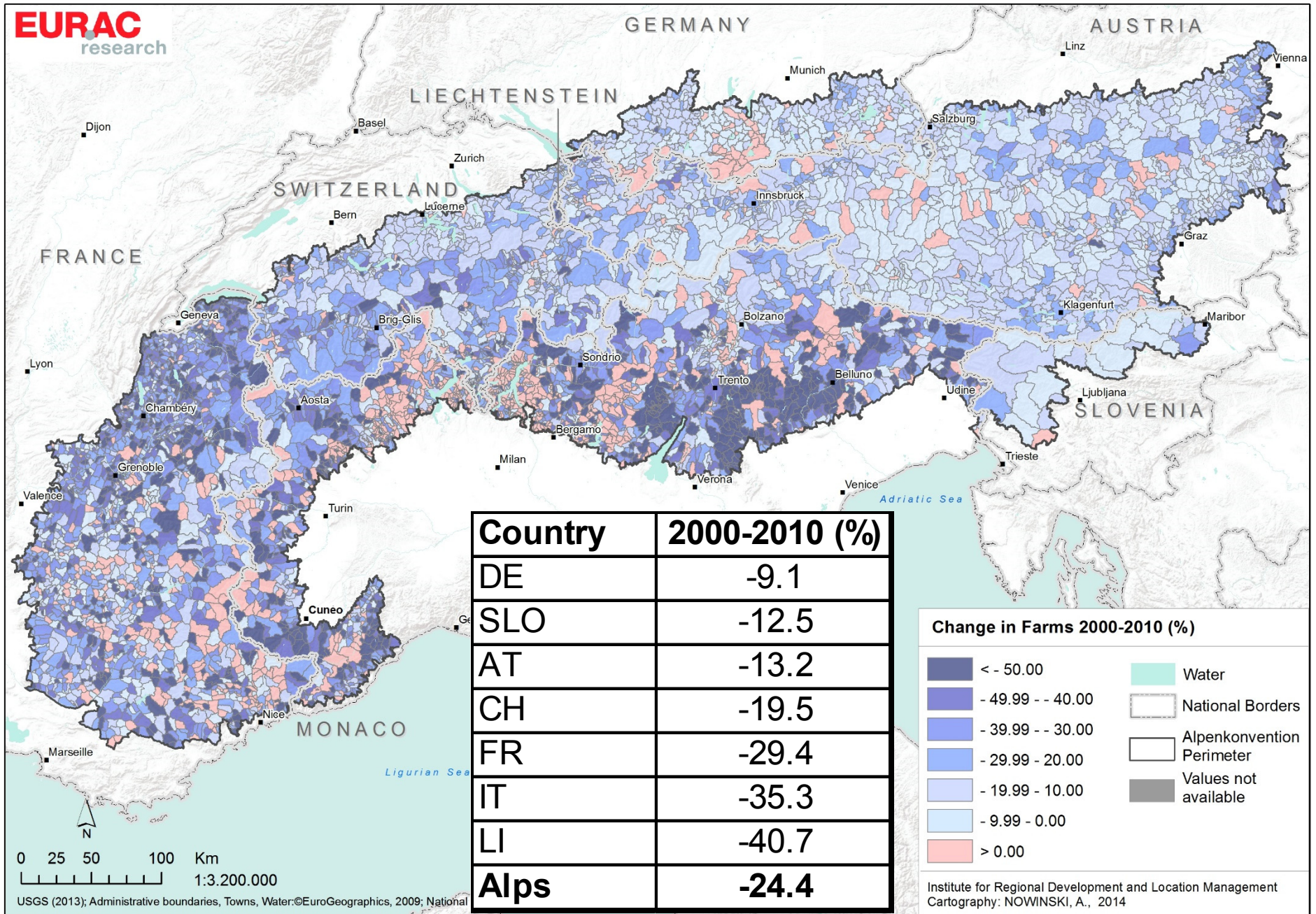


Number of farms

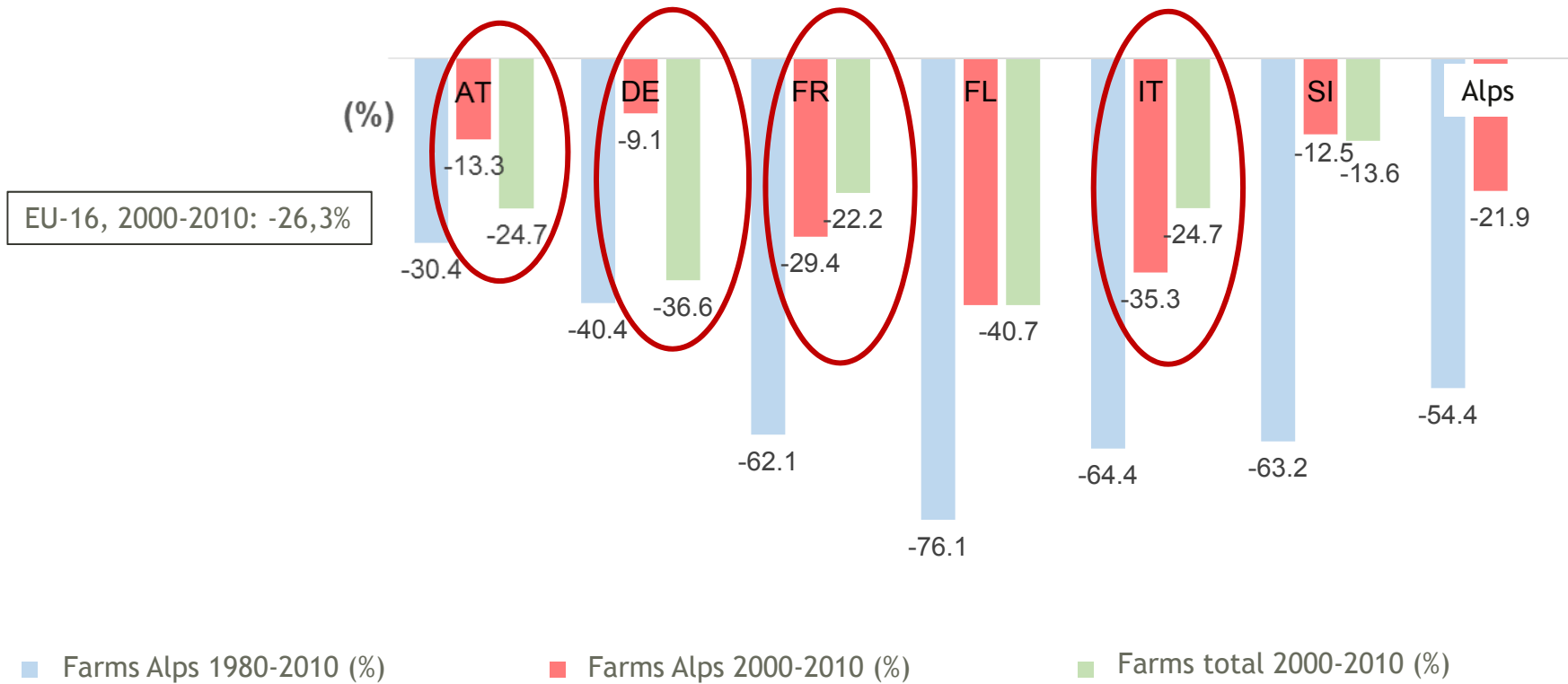
Livestock



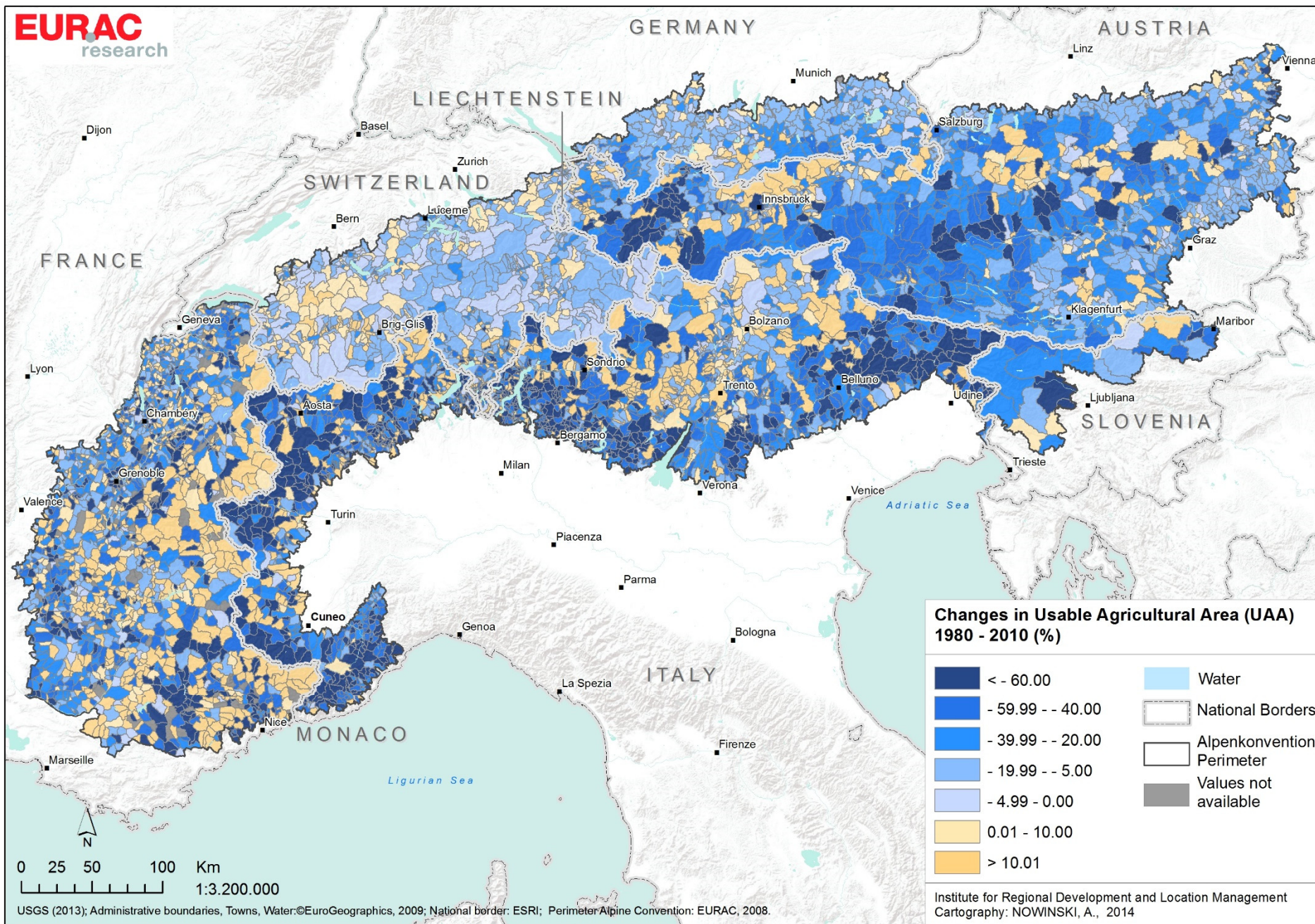
Farm abandonment rate 2000-2010

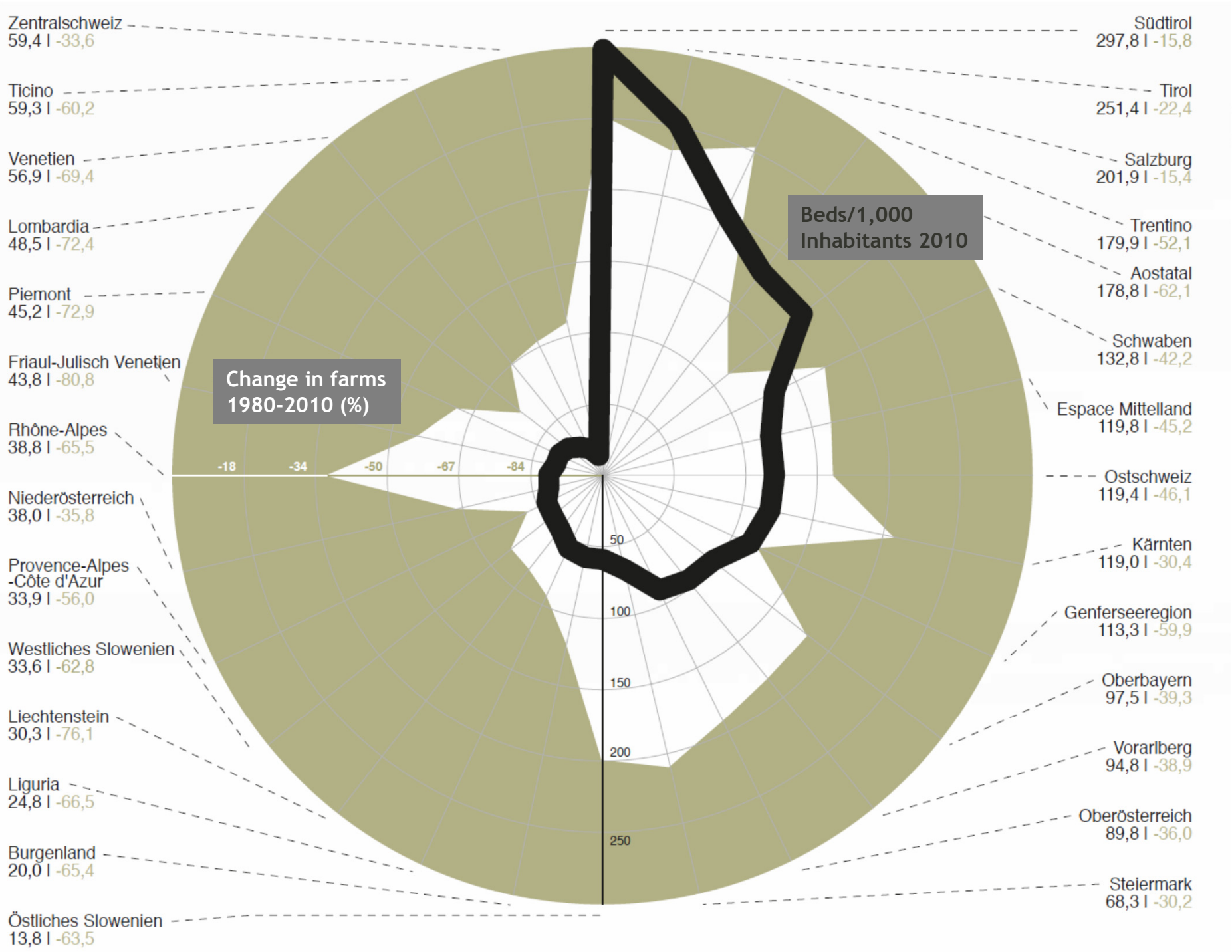


National change in farms per decade

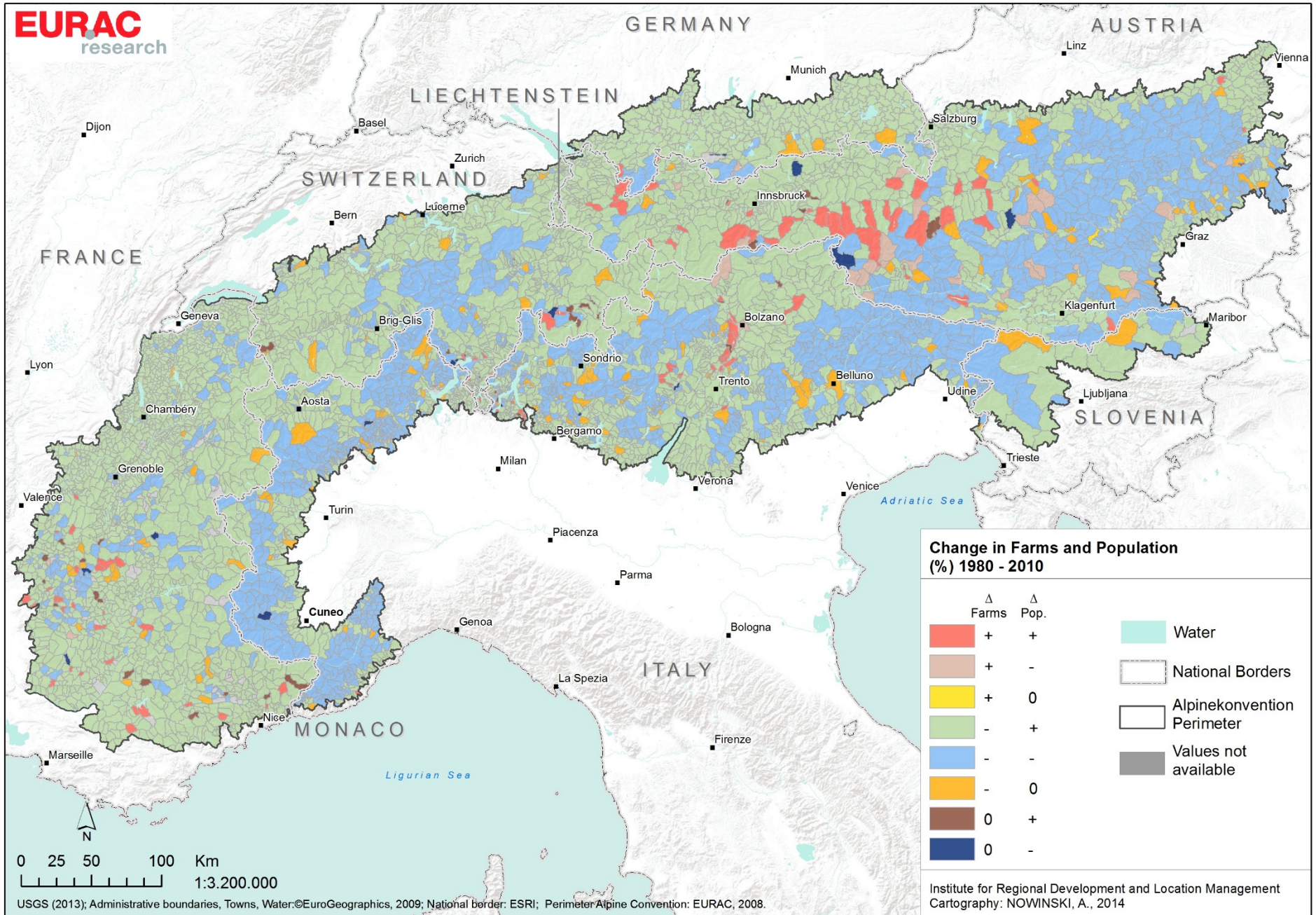


Utilized agricultural areas 1980 - 2010





Development farms and inhabitants 1980 - 2010



Risks and challenges	Needs, opportunities, solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climate change (uncertainty of impacts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adaption through climate smart agriculture
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Limits in contribution to Food Nutrition Security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sustainable intensification of agricultural practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Overaged farmers, generation change and abandonment of agricultural activity threatening decentralised vibrant rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Incentives for early farm succession and non family farm accession, ➤ Retaining and attracting young people, job creation, facilitation of start-ups (part-time farming)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New rural areas: land use conflicts between intensive agriculture, public health, renewable energies, tourism etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Coordination of the development, spatial and targeted planning (vision, sustainability/ resilience aims, indicator-based monitoring)

Risks and challenges	Needs, opportunities, solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Abandonment of biodiversity/ecosystem-relevant utilised agricultural areas and high nature value areas (HNV) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Targeted and planned maintenance of qualitatively important and specific forms of extensive land-use (permanent grassland, meadows) to guarantee multifunctional services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increasing demand for multifunctional, ecosystem services and provision of public goods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adaptation of multifunctional services to societal demand
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lacking or inappropriate agro-political measures and integration of mountain farming in agro-political instruments (prevailing focus on quantity) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Spatial-specific and geographically targeted policy measures (focus on quality, environmental-friendly and cultural landscape aspects)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cut of public support and compensatory allowances and agro-environmental measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Targeted support through the evaluation of site disadvantages based on specific farm site indicators (land register of farms)

Risks and challenges	Needs, opportunities, solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conflicts with wildlife, return of the large predators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Search for solutions for a coexistence => protection of herds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Intensive, conventional and not up-to-date farming practices (e.g. tie-stall housing systems) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Extensive, authentic, organic and modern farming practices (e.g. cooperative loose-housing systems stables)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ High potential for organic farming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Incentives and promotion of organic farming

Risks and challenges	Needs, opportunities, solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Insufficient use of the potential of horizontal and vertical cooperations and regional added value partnerships => <i>agriculture and tourism, low use / marketing of regional products in accommodations</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Creating appropriate incentives, legal and financial measures for cooperative and collective initiatives and actions ➤ Diversification: Agrotourism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Urban-rural partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Contracting agriculture, formalised cooperation between clients and farmers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Inadequate use of the marketing potential for Alpine quality products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Development of an Alpine label for mountain products and alpine pasture products (best practice CH)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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Sources Statistics

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