
Dataset Information:

Title	Land Use
Abstract	The FAOSTAT Land Use domain contains data collected from member countries via the FAO Questionnaire on Land Use, Irrigation and Agricultural Practices . The domain provides data on the twenty-four FAO categories of land use, as well as on additional twenty-three categories covering irrigation and agricultural practices. The data are relevant to monitor agriculture, forestry and fisheries activities at national, regional and global level. Data are available by country and year, with global coverage and annual updates.
Supplemental	Data on forest carbon stock are sourced from those reported by FAO member countries to the FAO Forest Resource Assessment (FRA).
International Standards	<p>The FAOSTAT Land Use domain is compliant with FAO Land Use classification, including the World Census of Agriculture. It is furthermore aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, both the Central Framework (SEEA CF) and the Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (SEEA AFF).• The Framework for the Development of environmental statistics (FDES 2013). FAOSTAT data can be used to compile SEEA AFF Table 4.8, “<i>Physical asset account for land use,</i>” as well as SEEA CF Tab. 5.15 “<i>Physical asset account for forest and other wooded land.</i>” They can be used to inform FDES component 2, Environmental Resources and their use, Sub-Component 2.3: Land, Topic 2.3.1: Land Use, and FDES Core set/ Tier 1 statistics (FDES Table 4.2 “<i>The Core Set of Environmental Statistics</i>”).• The Guidelines of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in terms of land use categories. FAOSTAT data can therefore be used for reporting under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). <p>A mapping between the FAO, SEEA and IPCC classifications is provided within the FAO Questionnaire.</p>
Creation Date	1961
Last Update	2019
Data Type	Land use statistics
Category	Agriculture; Forestry; Fisheries
Time Period	1961–2017
Periodicity	Annual
Geographical Coverage	World
Spatial Unit	Country
Language	Multilingual (EN, FR, ES)

Methodology and Quality Information:

Methods	<p><i>Data sources</i></p> <p>Data are collected from FAO member Countries through the annual FAO Questionnaire on Land Use, Irrigation and Agricultural Practices (http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-home/questionnaires/en/).</p> <p>Missing data may be sourced from national statistical yearbooks and other official government data portals.</p> <p>Supplemental information for further gap filling may be derived from national and international sectoral studies and reports.</p>
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Forest land data

FAO Global Forest Resource Assessments (FRA) data of "Forest area" and "Carbon stock," as well as forest sub-category items "Planted forest", "Primary forest" and "Other naturally regenerated forest," are used as input to produce the corresponding annual FAOSTAT Land Use domain data (1990-2017), as follows.

- FRA 1990, 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015 data for "forest area," "primary forest" and "other naturally regenerated forest" are linearly interpolated in between FRA years. Missing data at the beginning or at the end of the time series are imputed by carrying backward or forward the nearest available FRA data. Data for "planted forest" was obtained as a difference between "forest area" and the sum of "primary forest" and "other naturally regenerating forest."
- Data for "Carbon stock" were obtained in three steps. First, "carbon stock density" data were computed as the ratio of FRA 1990, 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015 data for "carbon stock" and the corresponding data for "forest area." Then, "carbon stock density" was linearly interpolated in between FRA years. Finally, "carbon stock" data in between FRA years were computed as the product of data for "carbon stock density" and the corresponding data for "forest area."
- Forest land data ("forest area" and its three sub-categories, "carbon stock") for years 2016 and 2017, i.e., for the period following the latest currently available FRA year, were imputed as carry-forward of the corresponding FRA 2015 value. Once FRA 2020 data are released, in the year 2020, the FAOSTAT forest land data time series for years 1990-2020 will be revised by applying the interpolation rules stated above.

Irrigated land

Data on "Land area equipped for irrigation" are regularly reconciled with those published on FAO's global water information system AQUASTAT.

Organic agriculture

Data from the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) are used on a regular basis to complement data collection on "Area certified organic" and "Area in conversion to certified organic" items.

National Focal Points	The FAO Questionnaire is sent to National Focal Points in National Institutions, typically National Statistical Offices, Ministries of Agriculture or other relevant Agencies.
Data Collection Method	Land Use, Irrigation and Agricultural Practices FAO Questionnaire, http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-home/questionnaires/en/
Useful Links	http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/RL http://www.fao.org/forestry/fra/fra2015/en/

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<http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/RL>

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