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Changes in the Period

Land Use / Land Cover

OF GLOBALIZATION
Conclusion

In this paper a texture analysis is used in order to derive a settlement mask from Landsat thematic mapper images. By means of visual interpretation this mask was further subdivided into the classes residential, industry/commerce, transportation, urban greens and water. As a sample application two satellite images, one from 1968 and one from 1999, covering the Greater Vienna region were analysed. A comparison of the resultant settlement masks makes it possible to highlight where changes have taken place.

It is also possible to integrate the settlement mask with any kind of socio-economic data. This kind of data are usually only available on an aggregated level, especially outside large cities, e.g. on a census unit or municipality level. The areas tend to increase as one moves further away from large cities, distorting the spatial reference of the statistical data. As an example the settlement mask was integrated with population data to show how land use per capita has changed in different municipalities over time.

References


A historical trajectory of land use and land cover change in the Sierra de Lacandón National Park, Guatemala

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Abstract

This paper presents a historical trajectory of land use and land cover change in the Sierra de Lacandón National Park, Guatemala. The data come from a selected literature review on the topic and fieldwork by the author in 1998 and 1999. Enhancing the geographical and historical scope of the research by combining LUC and migration research highlights how changes in the human and physical geography in one place and time may lead to LUC in another place and time.

Key Words: internal migration, deforestation, Guatemala, LUC, Latin America.

Introduction

What historical events and processes preceded the outcome of small farmer deforestation and deforestation in the Sierra de Lacandón National Park, Guatemala (see Fig. 1)? In recent years, virtually all deforestation has occurred in the tropics, and no place more rapidly than in Central America (FAO 1997). Forest clearing tends to be accelerated in remote agricultural frontiers where migrant farmers are escaping poverty to seek land for subsistence (Carr 2001). To study farmer land use once they have settled in the frontier tells us something of the direct cause of forest clearing. But it tells us little about the historical political, ecological, and economic factors that caused migration to the frontier in the first place, and that constrain farmers to manage land extensively once on the frontier.