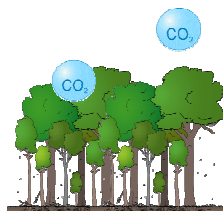


JRC activities on LULUCF

Giacomo Grassi, Roberto Pilli, Viorel Blujdea
JRC, European Commission

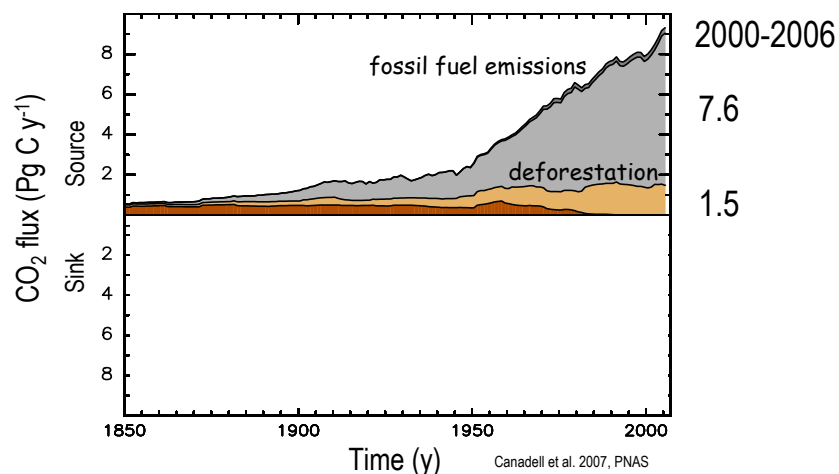


Structure of the presentation:

1. Why LULUCF is important?
2. How LULUCF is included in UNFCCC/ Kyoto Protocol?
3. The role of JRC on LULUCF

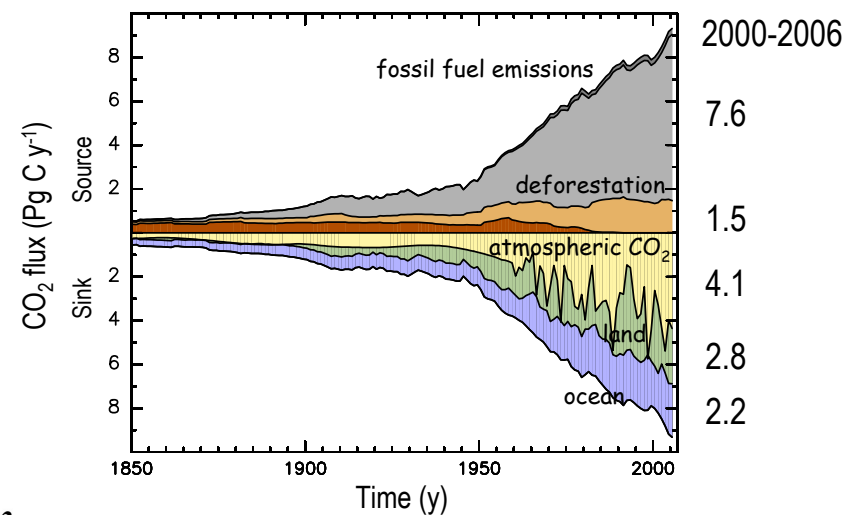
1. Why LULUCF is important ?

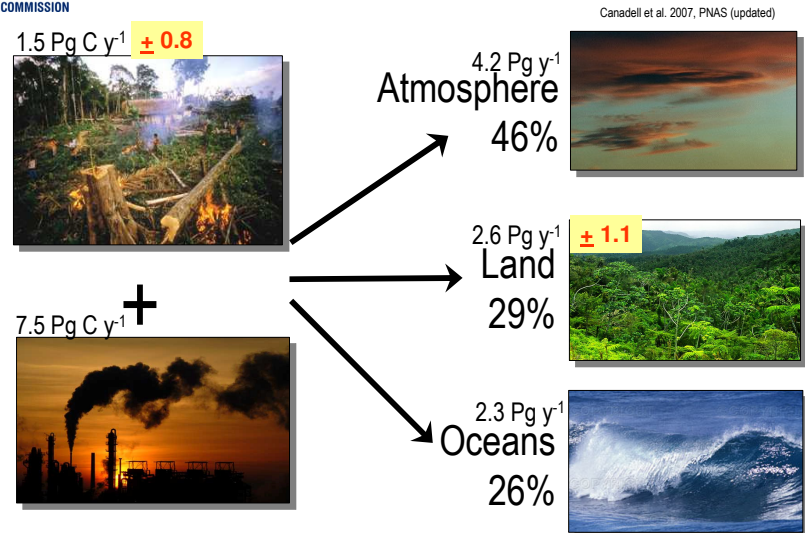
Is part of the cause



LULUCF: ~35% of historical emissions
~15% of current emissions

... but is also part of the solution





In EU-27, forests currently absorb some 10% of total GHG emissions (but a similar amount of non-CO₂ GHG is released from agriculture)

The mitigation potential of LULUCF can be described in terms of:

1. **C Sink** (afforestation, reforestation, sustainable management)
2. **Reduction of emissions** of GHG (conservation of C stock in forests)
3. **C Substitution** (renewable source of energy replacing fossil fuel, wood replacing more carbon-intensive products)

Even if it is clear that LULUCF will not provide “the” solution to climate problems, in the short term its contribution is considered important for “buying time”.



LULUCF has been, and will be, a key element in climate negotiations

2. HOW LULUCF is included in UNFCCC / Kyoto?

Reporting = inclusion the estimated values in standard tables

Accounting = how the reported values is used to meet a commitment

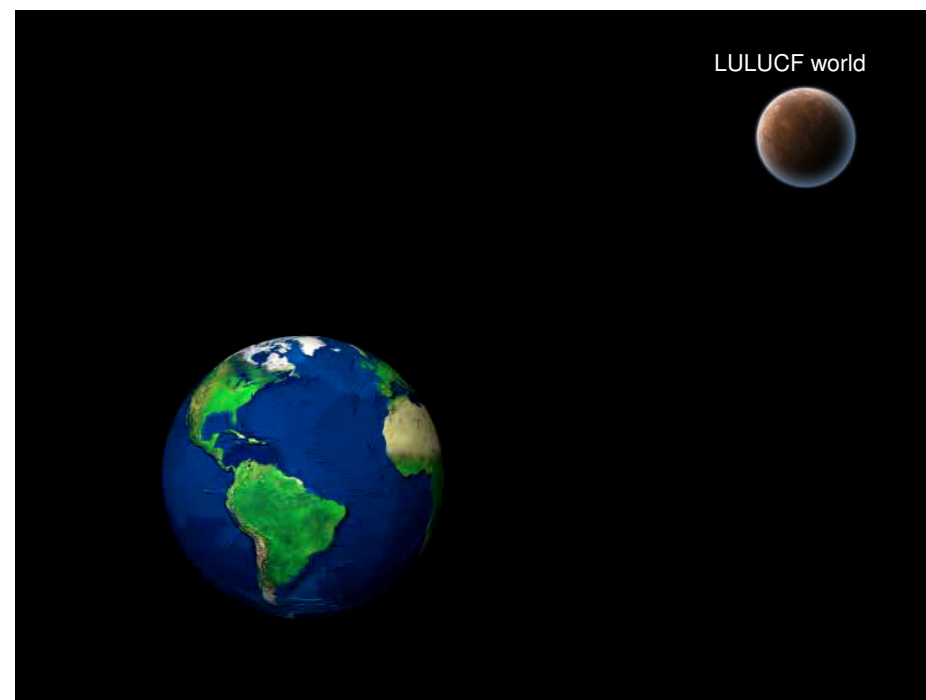
Under UNFCCC (reporting): 6 land use categories: forest, cropland, grasslands wetlands, settlements, other lands (all emissions/removals included)

Under KYOTO (reporting + accounting)

Patchy and complex system (reporting very different from UNFCCC):

- GHG from new forests and deforestation since 1990 must be accounted
- GHG from forest management (on forest existing in 1990) may be accounted, but only up to a “cap”+ number of specific exceptions and rules
- CO₂ from croplands and grasslands may be accounted, relative to 1990

Complex and illogic LULUCF rules were the “price” to pay to have Kyoto



3. Role of JRC on LULUCF

- 1) Contribution to the EC GHG inventory and support to UN review of GHG inventories
- 2) Support to ongoing negotiations: LULUCF PROJECTIONS and JRC LULUCF ACCOUNTING TOOL
- 3) Modeling forest carbon stock changes

Roberto

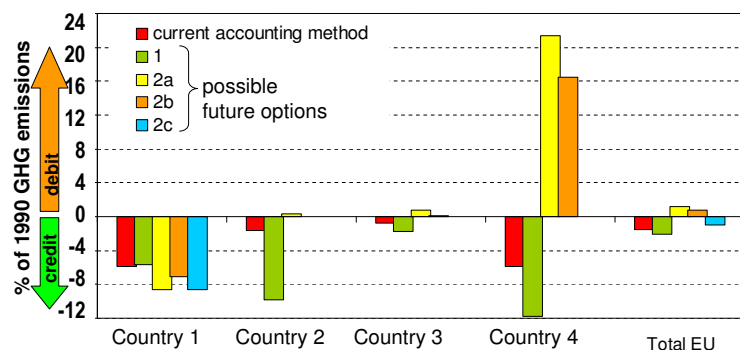
1) Contribution to the EC GHG inventory

- Quality Assessment/Quality Control of GHG inventory in the LULUCF sector
 - Support to the UNFCCC review process.
 - Work complemented by efforts for improving / harmonizing the measuring / reporting of emissions and removals from LULUCF, through:
 - Organization of technical workshops
 - Development of “AFOLU DATA”
- (http://afoludata.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/public_area/home)

2) Support to ongoing negotiations

LULUCF accounting rules can make a difference

“reference level”: a level of CO₂ removals by forests against which future removals will be compared



EU countries: reference level for forests set based on business-as-usual projections

