



A rapid geospatial assessment has been conducted to assess the extent of sand encroachment in the eastern province of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Sentinel-2 images were used to detect the loose sand and dunes in 2018 and 2023. The extent of loose sand and sand dunes in 2018 was subtracted from the 2023 data to extract the additional area under sand and sand dunes. This map identifies the region's vulnerable areas as their presence is causing damage to cropland and settlements.

Source: United Nations. 2020. Map of the world [online]. [Cited July 2022]

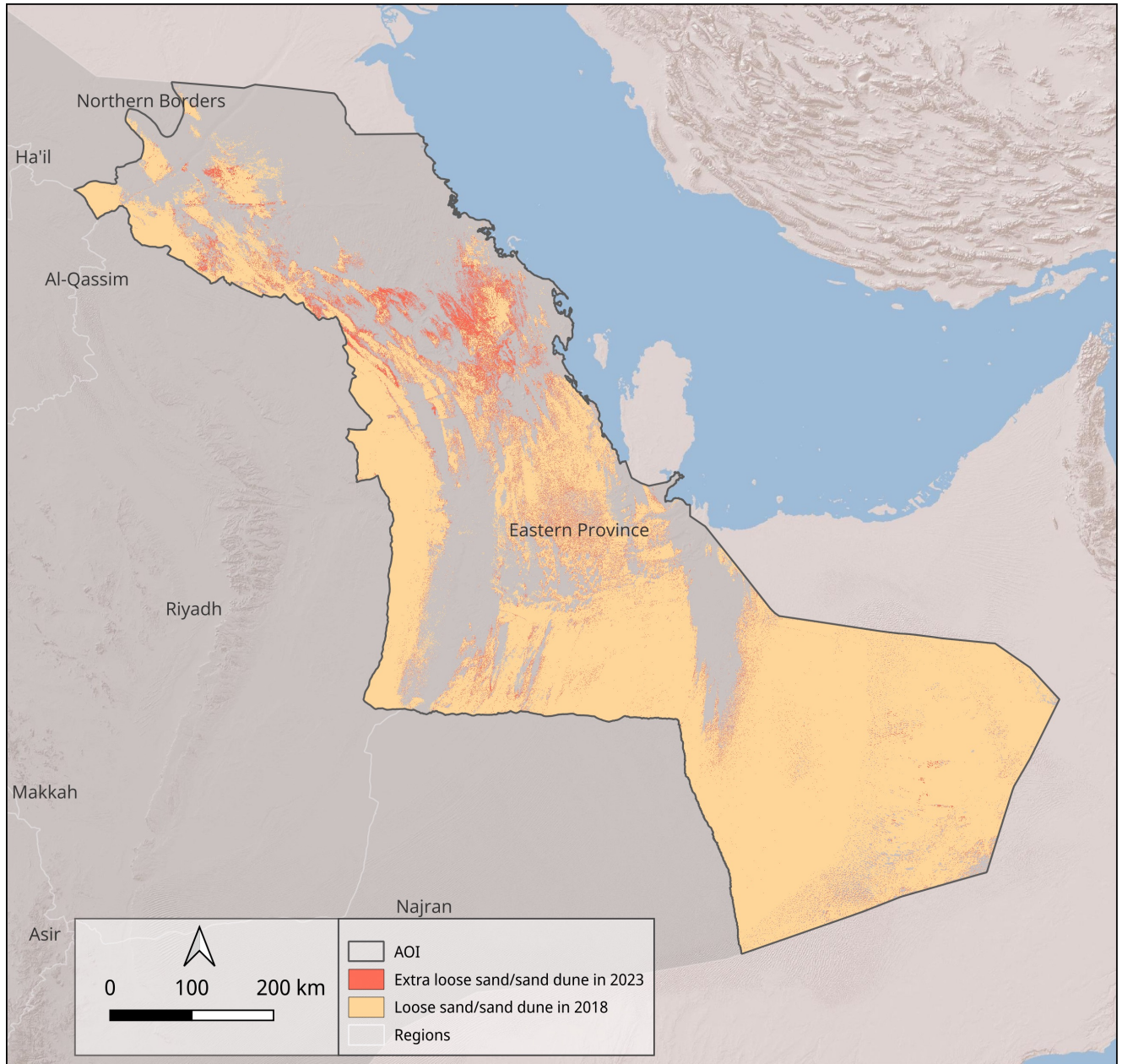


Figure 1: Extent of sand encroachment in the eastern province of Saudi Arabia (2023)¹

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