



LDN IN KYRGYZSTAN

- Population: 6 591 600 people (2020)
- Total area: 19 995 000 ha
- Gross domestic product: 7.74 billion USD (2020)
- Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use: 13.51% of GDP (2020)
- Poverty (% of population below national poverty line): 25.3% (2020)
- Key biodiversity area: 4.7%

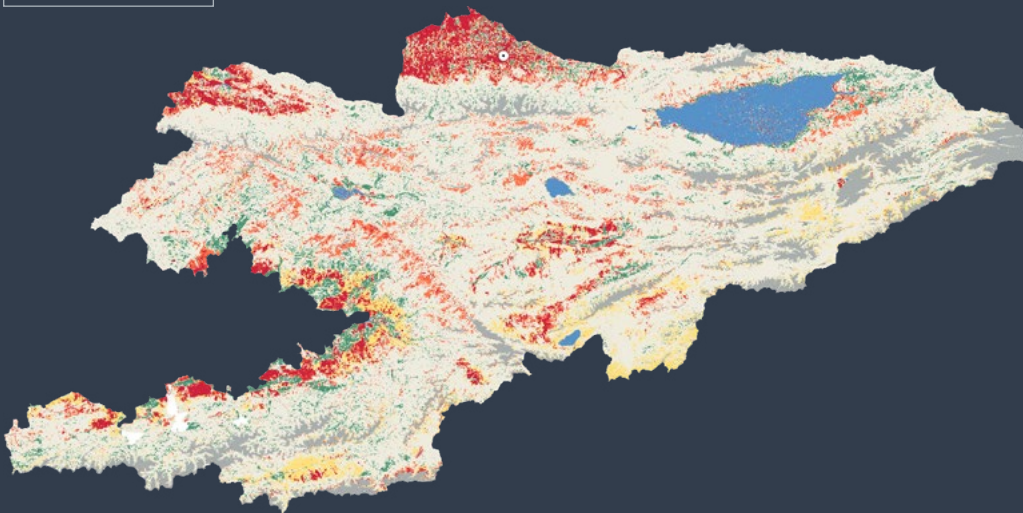
The Kyrgyz Republic is a mountainous country located in Central Asia. Mountaintops are covered with snow and glaciers which play a crucial role in the streamflow regimes of the main river systems of the region. Climate change is affecting glaciation and runoff, with direct implications on freshwater supply, irrigation and hydropower potential. High altitude pastures and grasslands cover most of the country and their health is crucial for people’s lives and livelihoods. Kyrgyz mountains are also home to the largest wild walnut forests in the world, considered the centre of origin of the walnut. Unsustainable agricultural and forestry practices and climate change are the key drivers of land degradation in Kyrgyzstan.

LAND PRODUCTIVITY DYNAMICS (LPD) (2001–2020)

Most of the country shows stable productivity (73 percent). However, there are 3.5 million ha (20 percent) that show **declining** or **stressed** productivity in the period between 2001–2020. Most of these areas correspond to grasslands (2.9 million ha) while 250 000 ha correspond to cultivated land, making up to 26 percent of the croplands with **declining** or **stressed** productivity. Most of these areas also show negative precipitation trends in the same period which are probably associated to the decline in productivity.

- Declining
- Early signs of decline
- Stable but stressed
- Stable
- Increasing
- No data
- Water

200 km



Source: UN. 2020. Map of the World [online] <https://www.un.org/geospatial/>, modified with Google Earth Engine Application developed for the region. <https://projectgeffao.users.earthengine.app/view/reu-ldn-assessment>

LPD COMPARED TO REGION

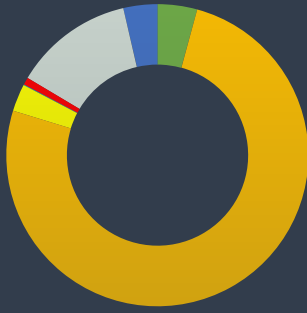
Percentage of area



18 DOCUMENTED SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT (SLM) TECHNOLOGIES AND APPROACHES IN WOCAT DATA BASE



1 459 332 334 TONNES OF SOIL ORGANIC CARBON

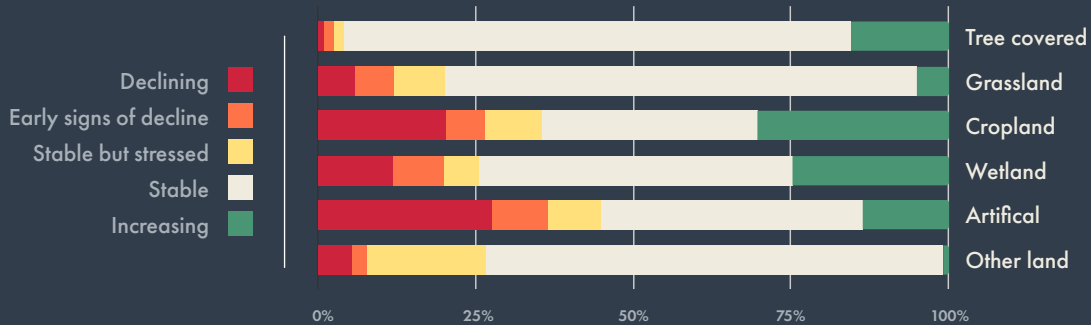


LAND COVER (2019)

76 percent are **grasslands**, followed by 13 percent other lands and 4 percent **tree covered** lands.



DISTRIBUTION OF LPD CLASSES FOR LAND COVER



MONEY ALLOCATED BY THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) THROUGH THE SYSTEM FOR TRANSPARENT ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES (STAR)

Total STAR allocation for GEF 6 and GEF 7 cycles in millions of dollars



SOME STEPS FORWARD TO ACHIEVE LDN IN KYRGYZSTAN

Kyrgyzstan has set national voluntary [LDN targets, established an LDN baseline](#), and formulated associated measures to achieve LDN. National experts from the LDN working group reported that the default 7-category legend of land cover maps is not enough for monitoring degradation in the country. They also emphasized the importance of monitoring not only changes in the quantity of vegetation productivity but also their quality. Geobotanical and soil surveys that are currently being carried out by the State Design Institute for Land Management «Kyrgyzgiprozem» can provide valuable information for this end. Together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the institute has been digitizing maps of the country’s agricultural land, including pasture resources, which need to be integrated into a national LDN decision support system.

National LDN targets aim at improving management of grasslands, forests and agricultural land, with special focus on reducing and avoiding the degradation of pasturelands, through implementation of rotation systems and better infrastructure. According to an analysis of the [Economics of Land Degradation Initiative](#), making changes towards sustainable land management in Kyrgyzstan, including pasture rotation, training and capacity building, fencing, seed provision, and infrastructure investments, alongside favourable weather conditions, can generate increases in yield of up to 5 percent. Lessons learnt and on-going activities from GEF supported projects such as [CACILM](#) have also contributed to enhance national capacities, strengthen the enabling environment for LDN and upscale climate-smart agricultural practices in degraded production landscapes.

Note: This factsheet is part of the publication «Overview of land degradation neutrality (LDN) in Europe and Central Asia» and all the sources of the presented data here is available and explained in Further Resources.

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