

CORINE 2012

The latest release of the pan-European CORINE (Co-ORDinated INformation on the Environment) landcover dataserie **'CORINE 2012'** is now available for Ireland. The 2012 update includes three separate data products which provide significant improvements to the pre-existing 2006 dataset and now provides the most upto date national scale information on landcover and landuse in Ireland:

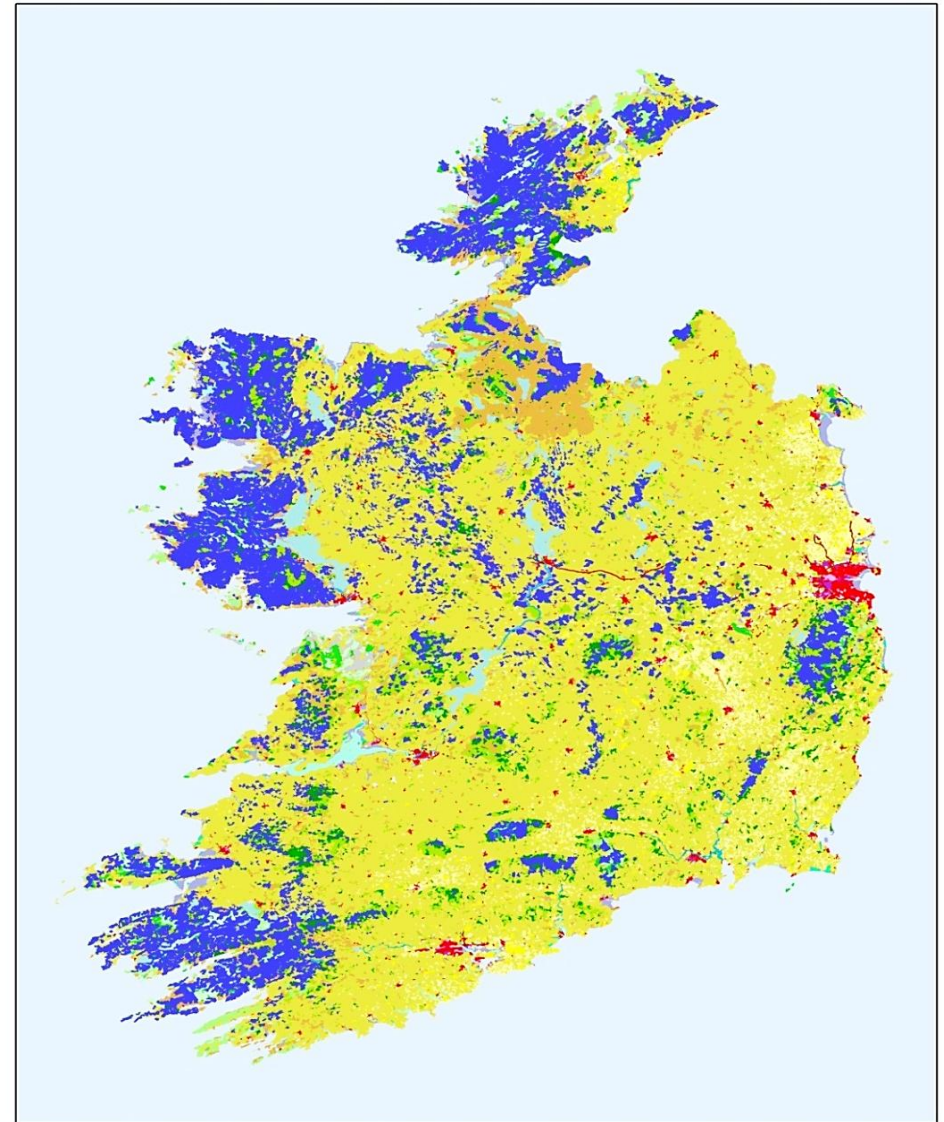
- 1. A revised 25ha 2006 CORINE landcover dataset**
- 2. A 5ha 2006-2012 CORINE landcover change dataset**
- 3. The new CORINE 2012 25ha landcover dataset**

During the production of CORINE 2012, a new, semi-automated production methodology was designed and implemented by the Irish CORINE team. This approach utilised national in-situ geo-spatial information on agriculture, forestry and water bodies from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), the Forest Service, Coillte and the EPA. These data sources were used alongside remote sensing based interpretation of satellite imagery to extensively revise the 2006 CORINE dataset, improving the spatial delineation (boundaries) of landcover features and also their internal thematic classification.

The 2006-2012 change dataset then mapped any changes >5ha within the reference period of 2006-2012, also making use of up to-date national in-situ vector data. The change dataset was integrated into the revised 2006 dataset to produce the new 2012 landcover 'update' dataset. By revising the 2006 dataset first then mapping changes on from this dataset, accurate statistics on landcover change were produced whilst at the same time ensuring that revisions undertaken on the 2006 dataset were carried through to the 2012 dataset.

The Irish CORINE dataserie is significantly improved from 2006 onwards and the dataserie is also now aligned to and compatible with the most current and authoritative national landuse data available. It is envisaged that future iterations of CORINE will continue this process through referencing updated data from these sources. All three datasets and the associated project report can be viewed online or downloaded via the EPA's GEOPORTAL site:

<http://gis.epa.ie/Home>



The CORINE 2012 25ha landcover dataset for Ireland



Key Points:

2006 Revision:

- ❑ Improved spatial delineation of landcover boundaries - now reflects national vector data.
- ❑ Classification of landcover features based on information from in-situ data and satellite imagery.
- ❑ Total number of polygons significantly reduced by 3,700 (16.73%)
- ❑ Area of arable land revised down from 7.32% to 5.15% of national area (na).
- ❑ Agriculture as a whole revised upwards by 1.42% na
- ❑ Wetlands, Forestry/semi-natural and Water classes revised downwards

2006- 2012 Changes

- ❑ Dominated by cyclical land management practises such as arable-pasture rotation (38.45%) or clearfelling and re-planting of forestry (37.61%).
- ❑ Largest landcover ‘type’ change was due to afforestation on both pasture (11,50ha / 8.32%) & peatland (3,656ha / 2.64%).
- ❑ Minimal new construction but significant completion of existing construction sites, esp. completion of motorways (3,295 ha / 2.38%)

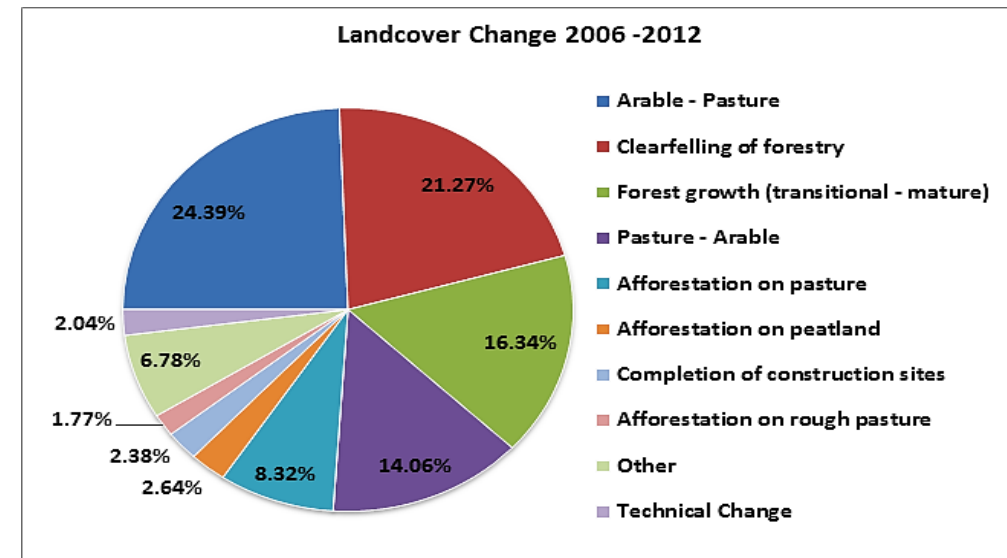
CORINE 2012

- ❑ Improvements in 2006 carried through to 2012 dataset.
- ❑ Now aligned to key national landuse data e.g. Land Parcel Information System (LPIS).
- ❑ Future CORINE updates will benefit from this alignment.

Access data at: <http://gis.epa.ie/Home>

CORINE Level 1	Pre-Existing CLC 2006 % National Area	Revised CLC 2006 % National Area	CLC 2012 % National Area
Artificial Surfaces	2.29	2.45	2.49
Agricultural Areas	66.83	68.25	68.13
Forest and semi-natural areas	12.06	11.37	11.49
Wetlands	16.52	15.79	15.75
Water	2.29	2.14	2.14

Summary of existing 2006, revised 2006 and 2012 Level 1 landcover statistics.



Summary of 2006 -2012 landcover changes