# VISIONS OF LAND USE TRANSITIONS IN EUROPE Marion Bogers, Alterra Wageningen UR

Coordination Meeting, DG Research & Innovation, Brussels, 23 October 2012

**VOLANTE** 







# Collaborative Project (large scale integrating project) under the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme of the European Commission's DG Research & Innovation

#### Running from 2010 – 2015; 14 partner institutions

Alterra	Lead Partner – DLO Wageningen UR	The Netherlands
UEDIN	Edinburgh University	United Kingdom
UNIKLU	Institute of Social Ecology	Austria
VUA	VU University Amsterdam	The Netherlands
PIK	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research	Germany
UCPH	Copenhagen University	Denmark
EFI	European Forest Institute	int.
CNRS	CNRS Grenoble	France
Aegean	University of the Aegean	Greece
UNIBUC	Bucharest University	Romania
JRC	JRC-IES	int.
UBER	Humboldt University Berlin	Germany
NERI-AU	National Environmental Research Institute	Denmark
PROSPEX	PROSPEX bvba (SME)	Belgium







#### **VOLANTE:** Future oriented

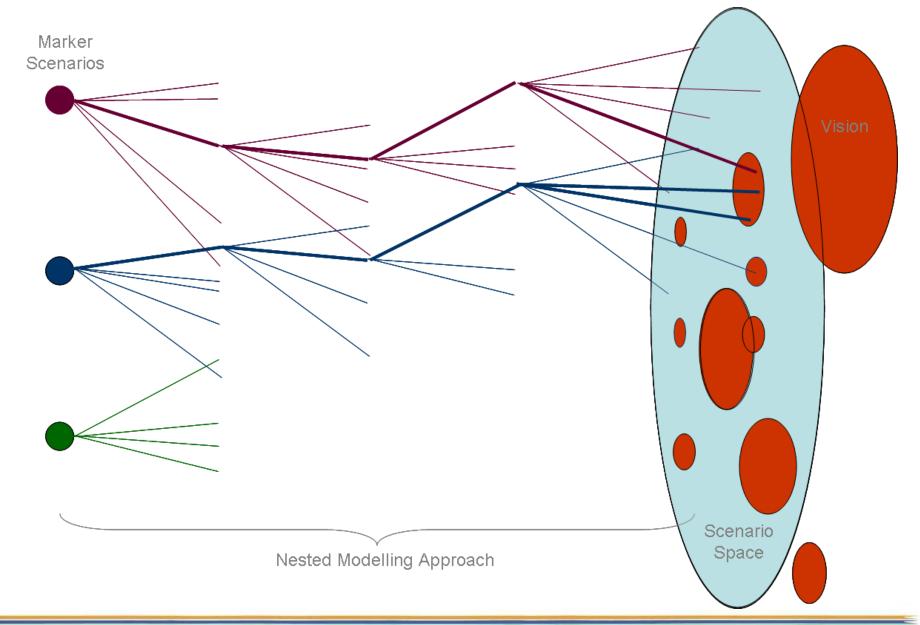
#### Aiming to:

- Identify clear visions of European policy and land management
- Reduce the large variation in possible land use scenarios for the future to a manageable set
- Identify crucial points of no return both in history and in potential future
- Identify and evaluate policy options for the various landscapes of Europe and for shorter and longer term perspectives, to achieve desired futures
- Focus on a Roadmapping workshop where prominent decision makers and stakeholders interactively discuss the conclusions of this evaluation
- Result: Roadmap for Future Land Resources Management in Europe

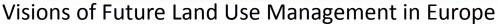








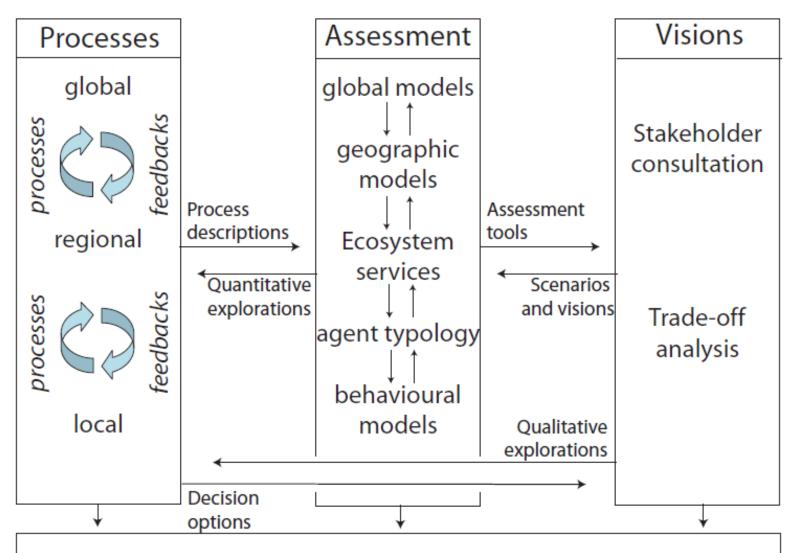




Coordination Meeting, DG Research & Innovation, Brussels, 2 October 2012 www.volante-project.eu





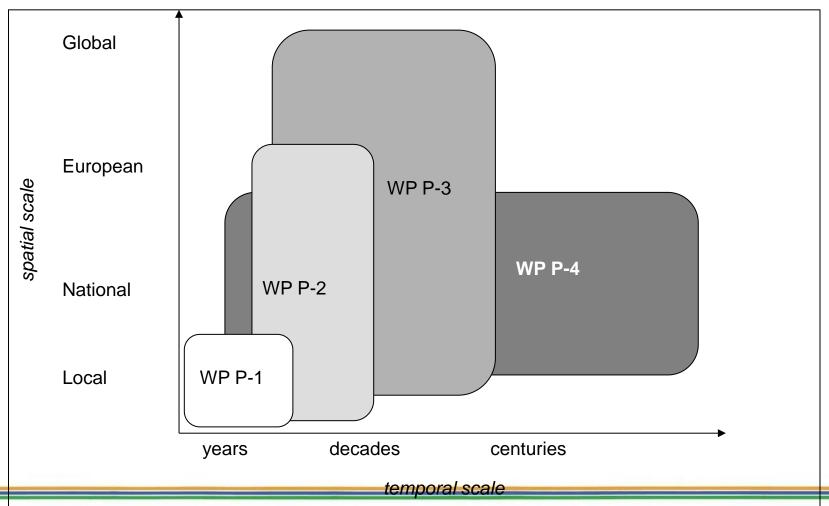


Roadmap of pathways to sustainable land management





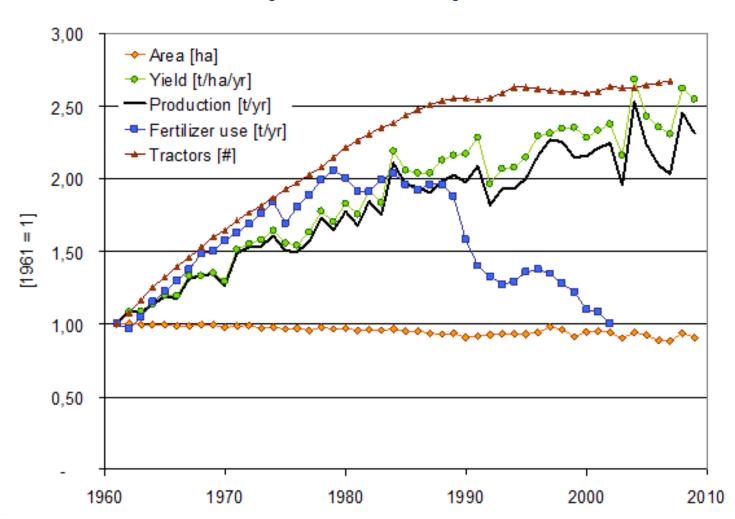








# Processes: Focus on Land Use Intensity and Land Use Functions Example: cereal production EU-27



Rounsevell, Pedroli *et al*. (2011), *Land Use Policy* 29: 899-910









# **Indicators for Land use intensity**

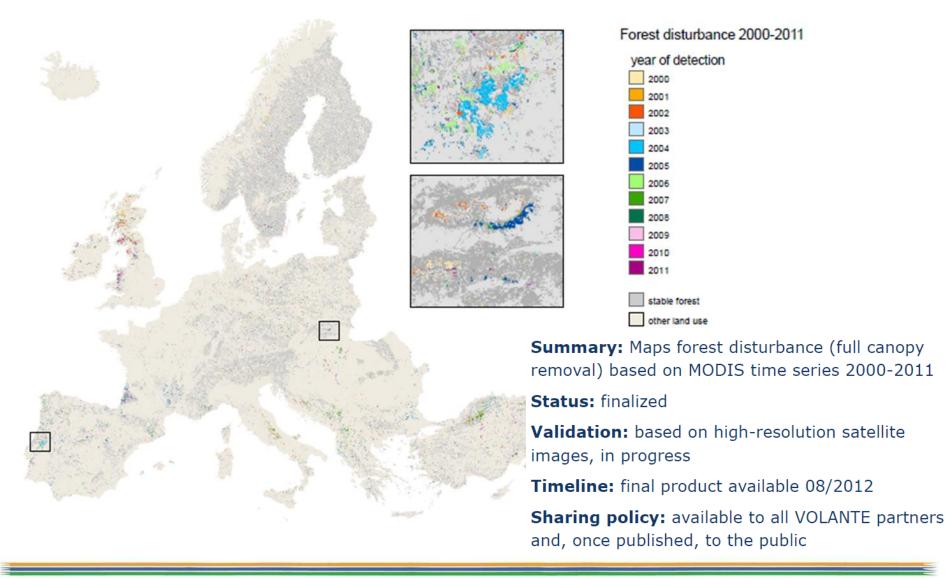
Forestry indicators	Agriculture indicators	Integrated indicators
<ol> <li>Forest disturbance</li> <li>Change in growing stock</li> <li>Natural disturbances</li> <li>Forest management regimes</li> <li>Forest management intensity</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Fertilizer application rates</li> <li>Irrigated vs rainfed cropland</li> <li>Cropping intensity</li> <li>Field size</li> <li>Grazing intensity</li> <li>Grassland management regimes</li> <li>Abandonded farmland</li> </ol>	<ul><li>13. Landscape elements</li><li>14. Human Appropriated NPP</li><li>15. eHANPP</li></ul>







#### Forest disturbance









# Fertilizer application rate

**Summary:** Developed and finished fertilizer application rate indicator, which proxies for agricultural management intensity by disaggregating nitrogen application rates.

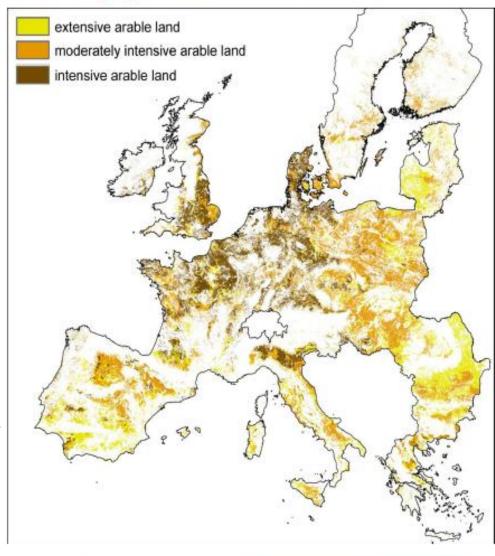
Status: Finished

**Validation:** The intensity classes are tested by reviewing the data assignment to irrigated vs. non-irrigated areas (CORINE 2000).

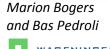
Timeline: Finished

**Sharing policy:** Results are publicly available at

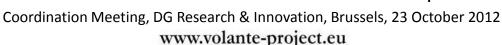
www.ivm.vu.nl/ag-intensity







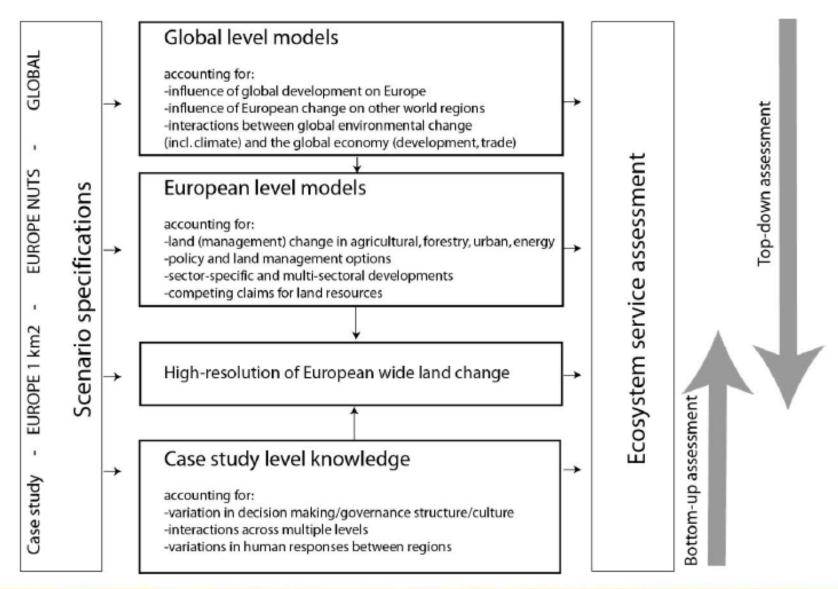








#### **Assessment methods**



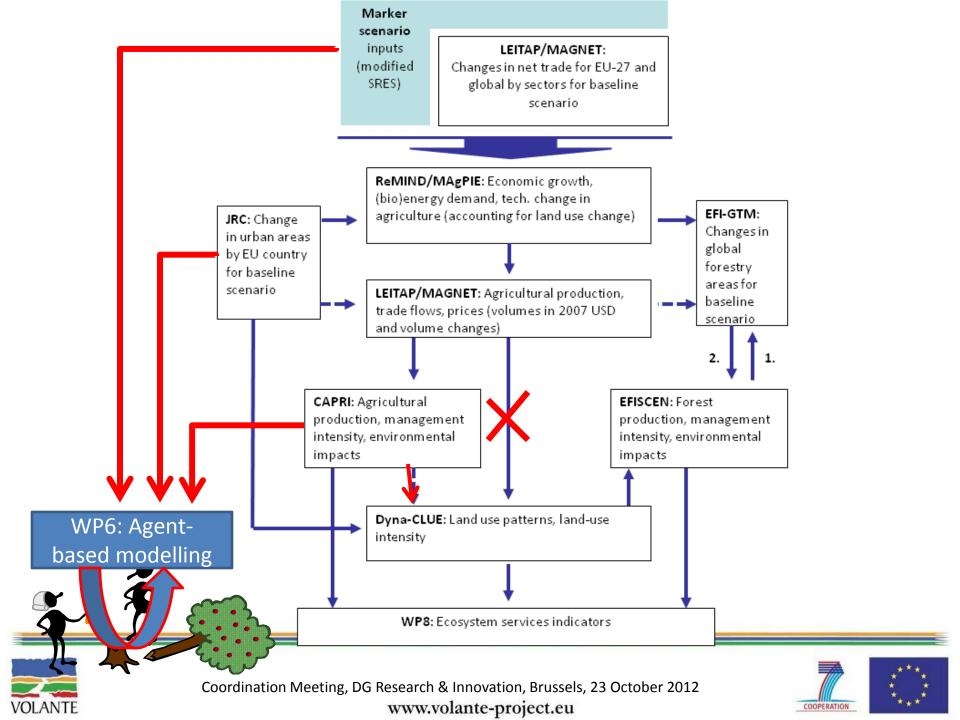




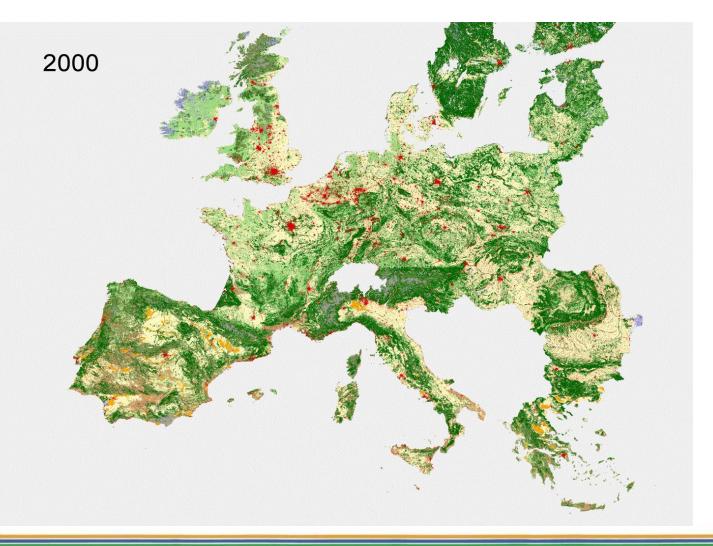








### **Example Assessment**



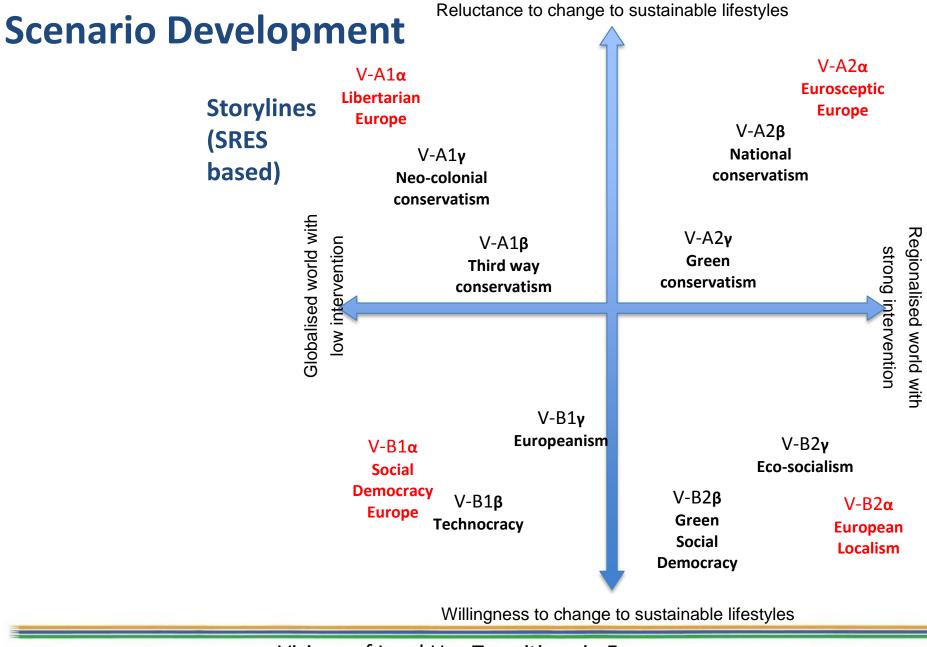
Dyna-CLUE
Resolution 1 km2:
spatial patterns of
land cover for
yearly time steps,
18 different land
cover types

Verburg & Overmars (2009), Landscape Ecology, 24(9), 1167-1181.



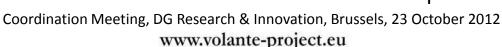
















#### **Visions**

- Roadmap towards desired land use future for Europe in 2040
  - provide a <u>synthesis</u> of the project as a meaningful set of recommendations
  - be presented and refined in high profile workshop
  - be about <u>conveying a</u>

     <u>narrative</u> of possible choices
     (and their consequences),
     supported by numbers /
     maps / graphs









#### A typology of land use futures (adapted after McDowall & Eames 2006)

#### Descriptive

"what if?"

**Forecasts** use formal quantitative extrapolation and modelling to predict likely futures from current trends.

**Exploratory scenarios** explore possible futures. They emphasise drivers, and do not specify a predetermined desirable end state towards which storylines must progress.

**Technical scenarios** explore possible future technological changes in land use systems, incl. e.g. 2<sup>nd</sup> generation biofuel crops, high precision agriculture, or large scale meat production in agroparks. They emphasise the technical feasibility and implications of different options, rather than explore how different futures might unfold.

#### **Normative**

"where to arrive?"

**Visions** are elaborations of a desirable and (more or less) plausible future. They emphasise the benefits of a specific land use future rather than the pathways through which it might be achieved.

**Backcasts and pathways** start with a predetermined 'end' point—a desirable and plausible future. They then investigate possible pathways to that point.

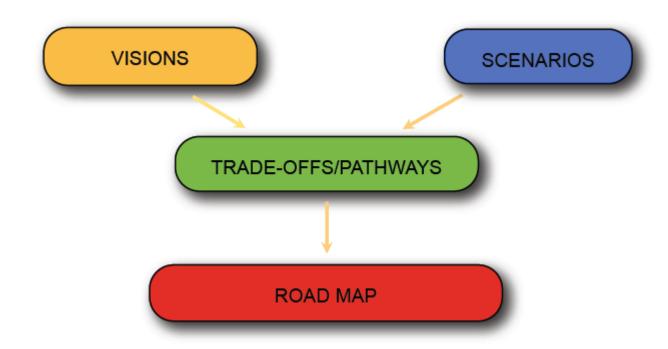
**Roadmaps** describe a sequence of measures (policy options) designed to bring about a desirable future. Specific measures are defined on the basis of evaluation of scenarios, visions and pathway exercises. Roadmaps and similar foresight methods are used to cope with uncertainty in areas with long planning horizons







# **VOLANTE** process towards roadmaps





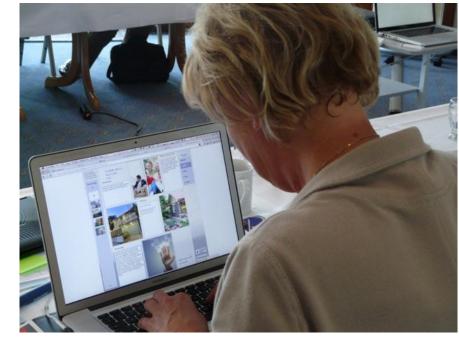




# **The Visions Workshops**

#### 4 Visions Workshops in 2012

- Primary production (agriculture, bioenergy and forestry)
- Nature, recreation and leisure
- Urban settlements and transport infrastructure
- Energy and water



Approx. 20 stakeholders in each workshop: domain experts (ngo's, private companies, governmental, research institutes; different European regions) Two days, using a number of techniques, mostly working in small groups.

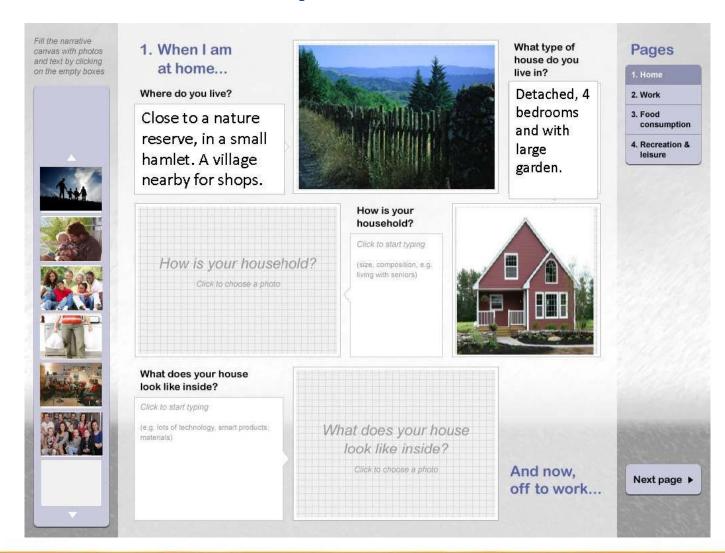
Result of each workshop: 3-5 visions on land use in Europe in 2040
The visions are *desired futures*, so what the stakeholders *want* for the future.







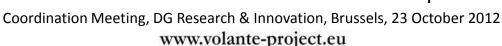
# **Example of a result**







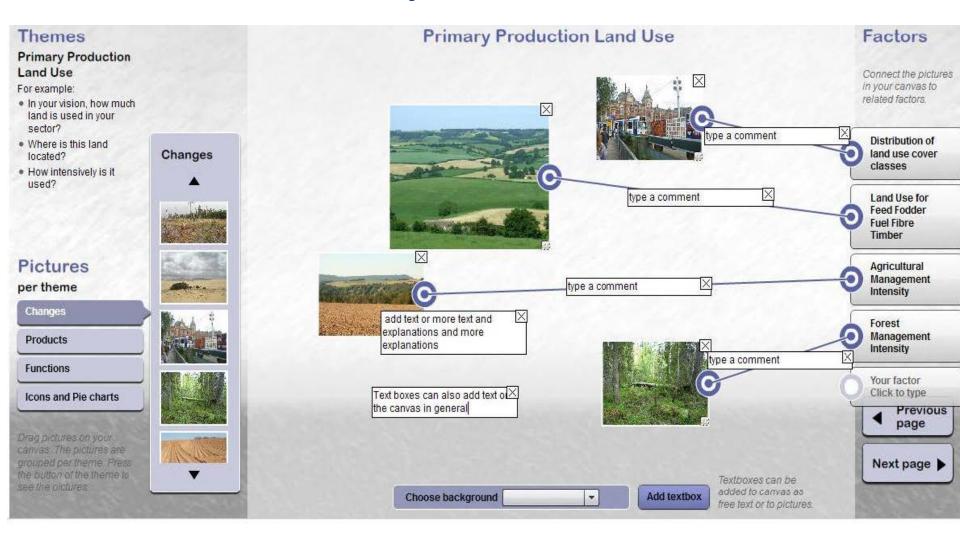




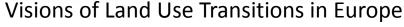




## **Example of a result**











#### One of the final visions

- Density as opposed to urban sprawl, so using space efficiently (e.g. vertical living, using brownfields)
- Polycentric development of medium sized cities, growth limited by green belts: urban sprawl would increase travel and make transport inefficient
- Social contacts and services of general interest are near
- Well planned infrastructures; intra-urban, inter-urban and interregional





# aims of the Roadmapping Process

- Produce outcomes that are
  - a) relevant for decision-makers needs and use (saliency);
  - b) credible as being the result of the application of adequate scientific methodological and empirical work; and, finally,
  - c) legitimate, since they are incorporating divergent values in a non-biased context.
- Provide optimal synthesis and integration of project results and provide the basis for knowledge transfer from VOLANTE to the identified stakeholder groups
- Decide on recommended pathways for land use development
- Create a Roadmap for Future Land Resource Management, as a meaningful set of recommendations, supported by relevant high level policy, NGO and private sector stakeholder groups
- Identify obstacles, critical factors and implementation recommendations for the Roadmap
- Produce and publish a high-impact Science-Policy Briefing on the outcomes of the Roadmapping process, including a post-VOLANTE implementation plan



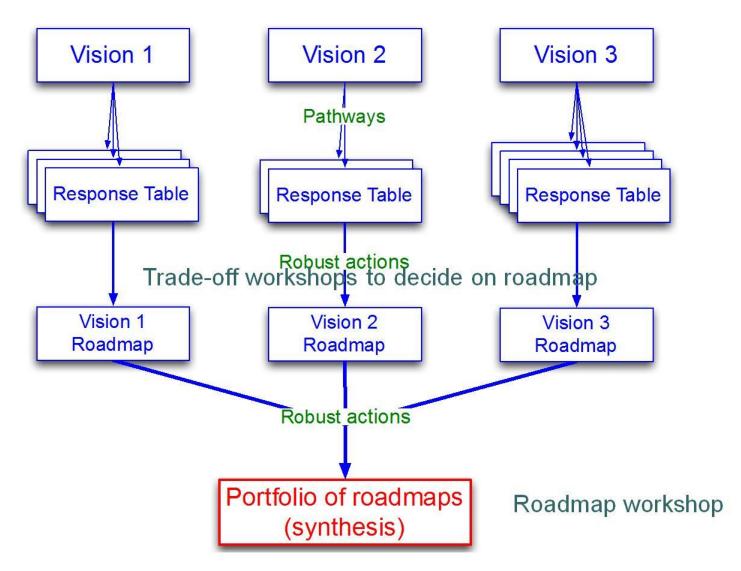




Database: Vision 1 **VOLANTE** Fixed: **NAVIGATOR** pre-defined conditions Scenario 1 Scenario 2 Scenario 3 **Pathways** Standardisation Finite set of Time actions Type Response Table (Action) Sectors/ Places Description, Indicators & Time Robust **Barriers** Current Type actions Vision 1 trade-offs between pathways Roadmap 2











#### Towards a new European landscape management paradigm for the future!









