

EVALUATION OF ANTALYA KEPEZ URBAN FOREST AND ITS ENVIRONMENT IN THE FRAMEWORK OF URBAN EXPANSION MODELS

Sıla BALTA and Meryem ATIK
Akdeniz University Faculty of Architecture Department of Landscape Architecture



INTRODUCTION

Urban forests are defined as urban forest areas that have settled on lands suitable for natural forest vegetation formation, have remained in or around cities, or have been preserved, or have been afforested, at a distance that can be directly or indirectly benefited by the urbanites, and in such a way that the existing ecosystem can continue to exist.

Considering that forest areas, which can offer natural, cultural and visual values and various recreational uses together, provide positive contributions to the users in physical and mental terms, the importance of planning and designing these areas without harming them with the least intervention and meeting the wishes of the users becomes evident.

The interaction between humans and the natural environment, which has increased with the spread of cities, has increased the damage to the natural environment. As a result of the misuse of land during the spreading process, important habitats such as fertile agricultural lands, wetlands and forest areas have begun to transform into uses such as settlements, roads and industries. While forests are included in non-urban areas in terms of land cover, they have remained in different urban-rural regions and tended to be included in a new model. Here, forest areas are seen as important as they are the regions that determine the progress of the city, but if the right protection and management decisions are not taken, the city begins to take place in the rural areas.

STUDY AREA

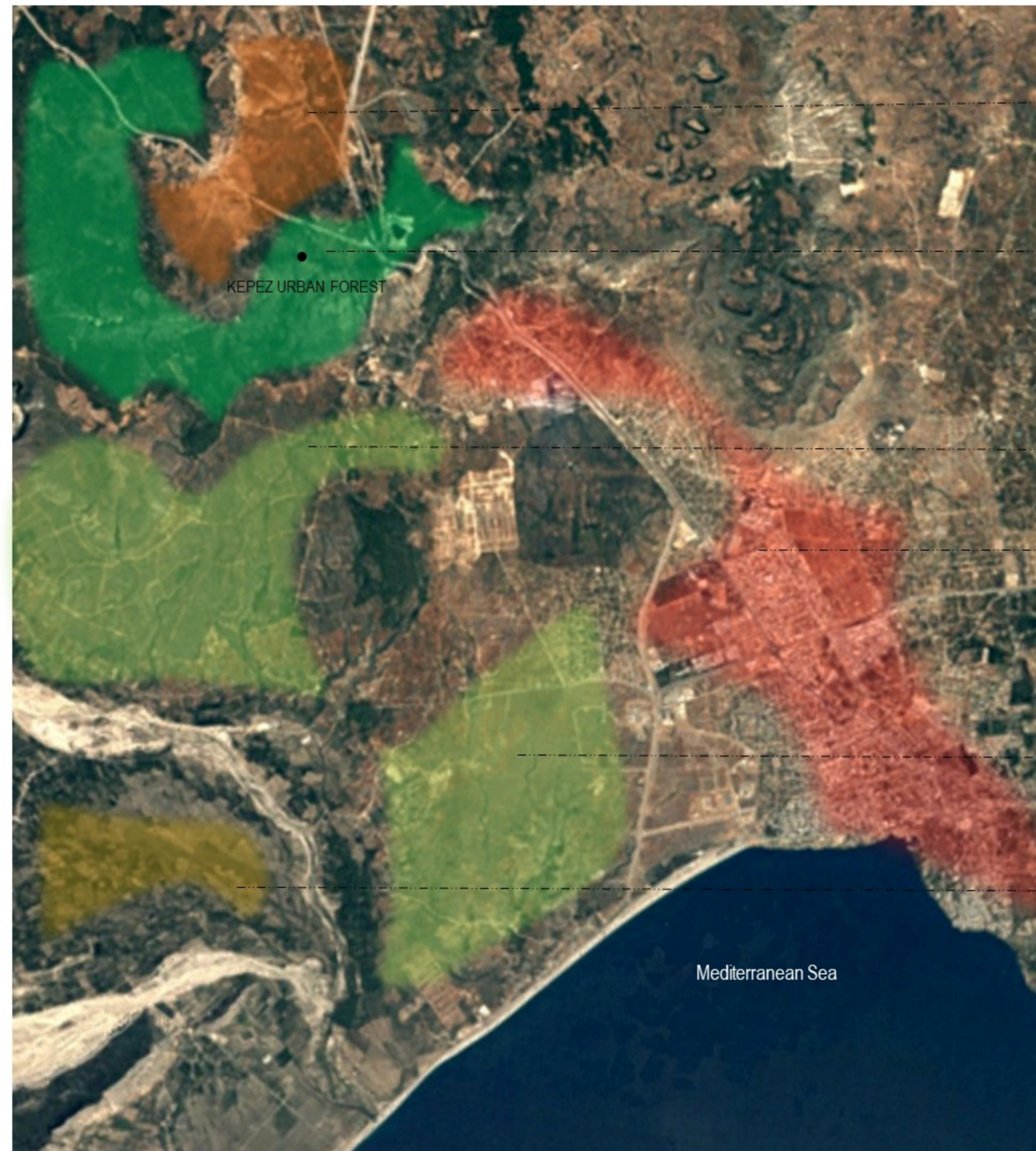
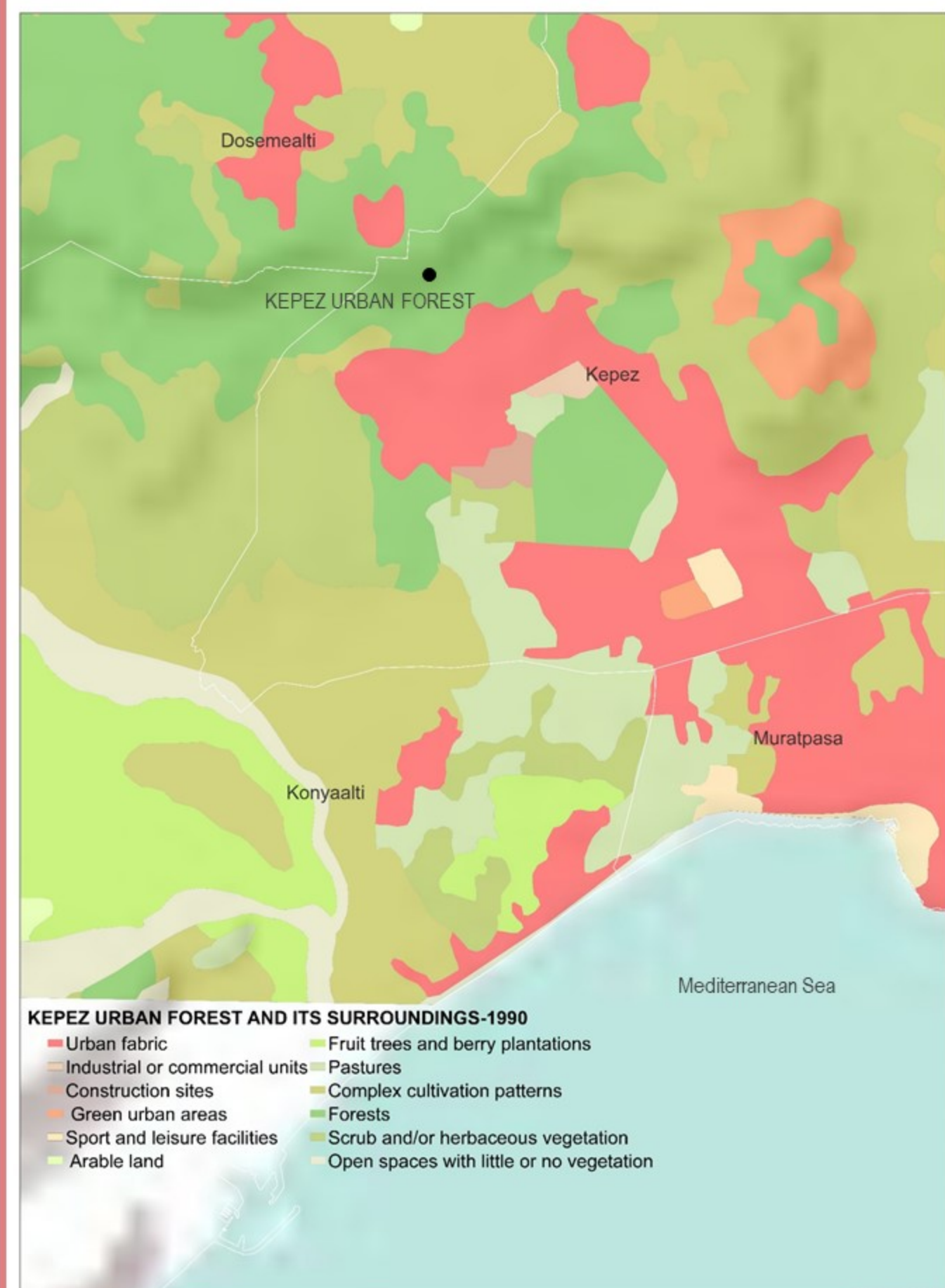


Kepez Urban Forest, which has an important function in terms of urban open-green areas in Kepez district, is one of the big recreational green areas of Antalya. In order to evaluate the study area correctly, the urban, semi-urban, rural and natural areas in and around the urban forest are also included in the maps.

Kepez Urban Forest, which is used as a recreation area, has taken on the role of the lungs of Antalya. In addition, it has managed to attract the attention of tourists with its extraordinary view and plants.

LAND USE LAND COVER DETECTION

1990

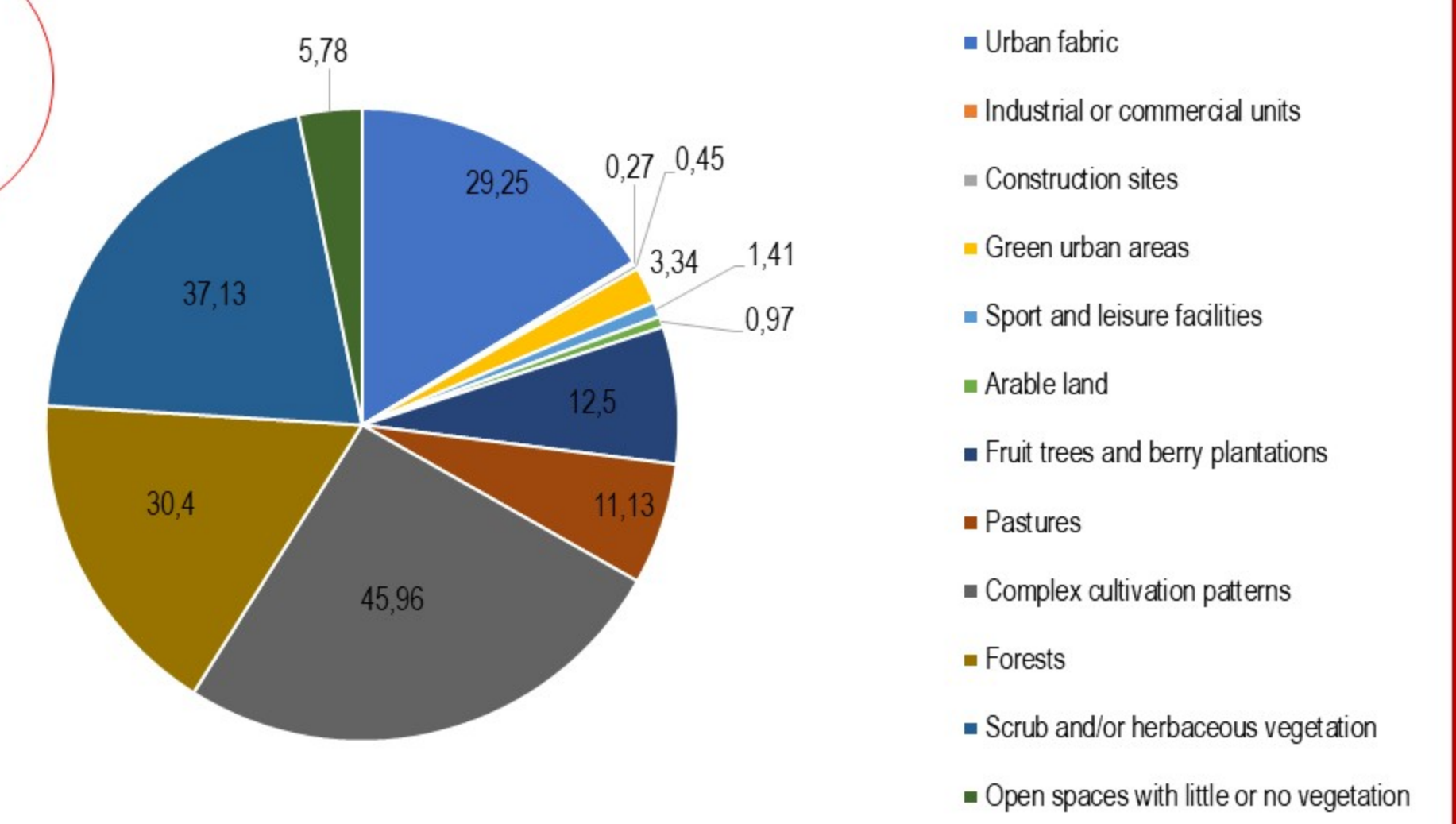


URBAN EXPANSION MODELS

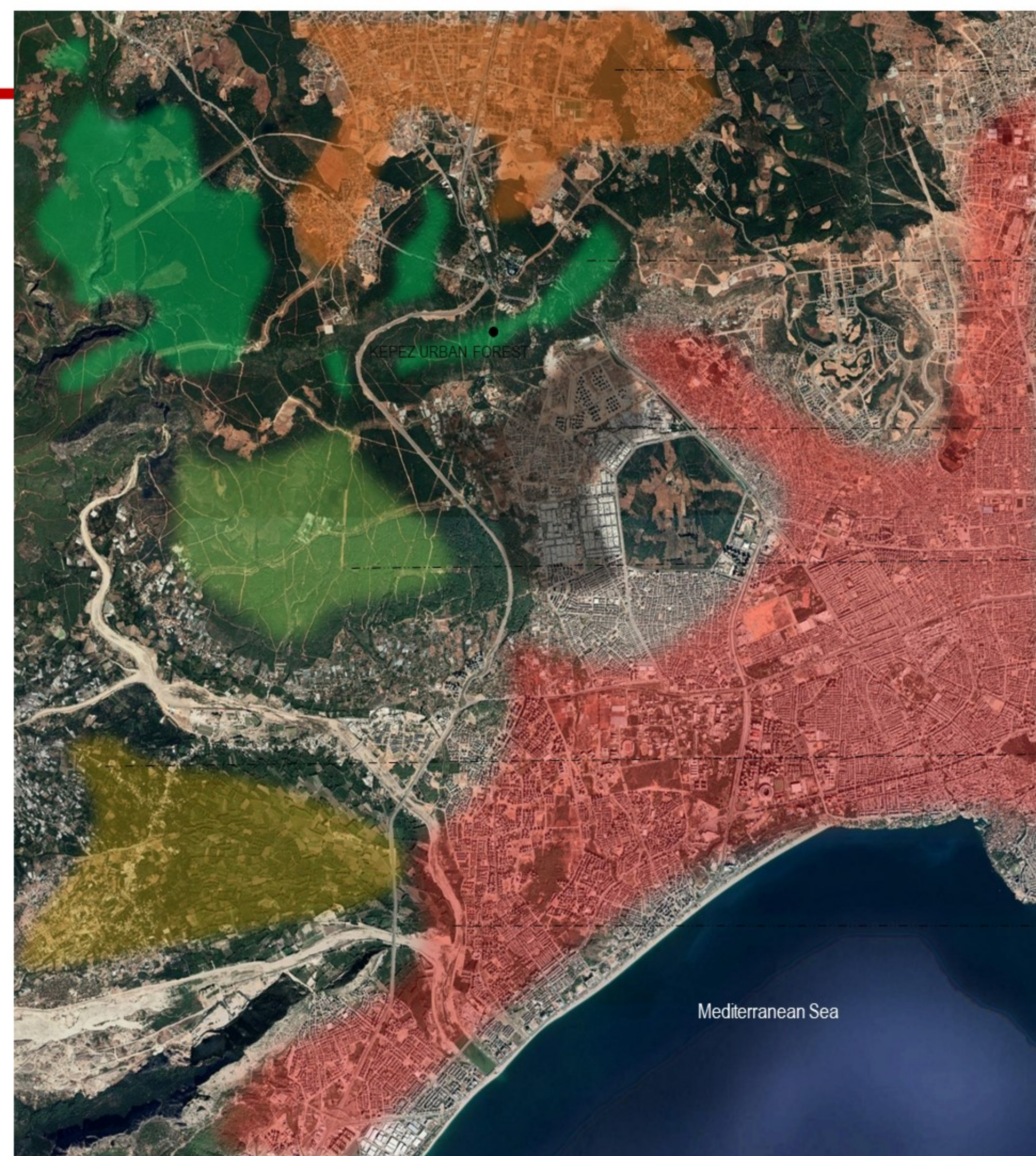
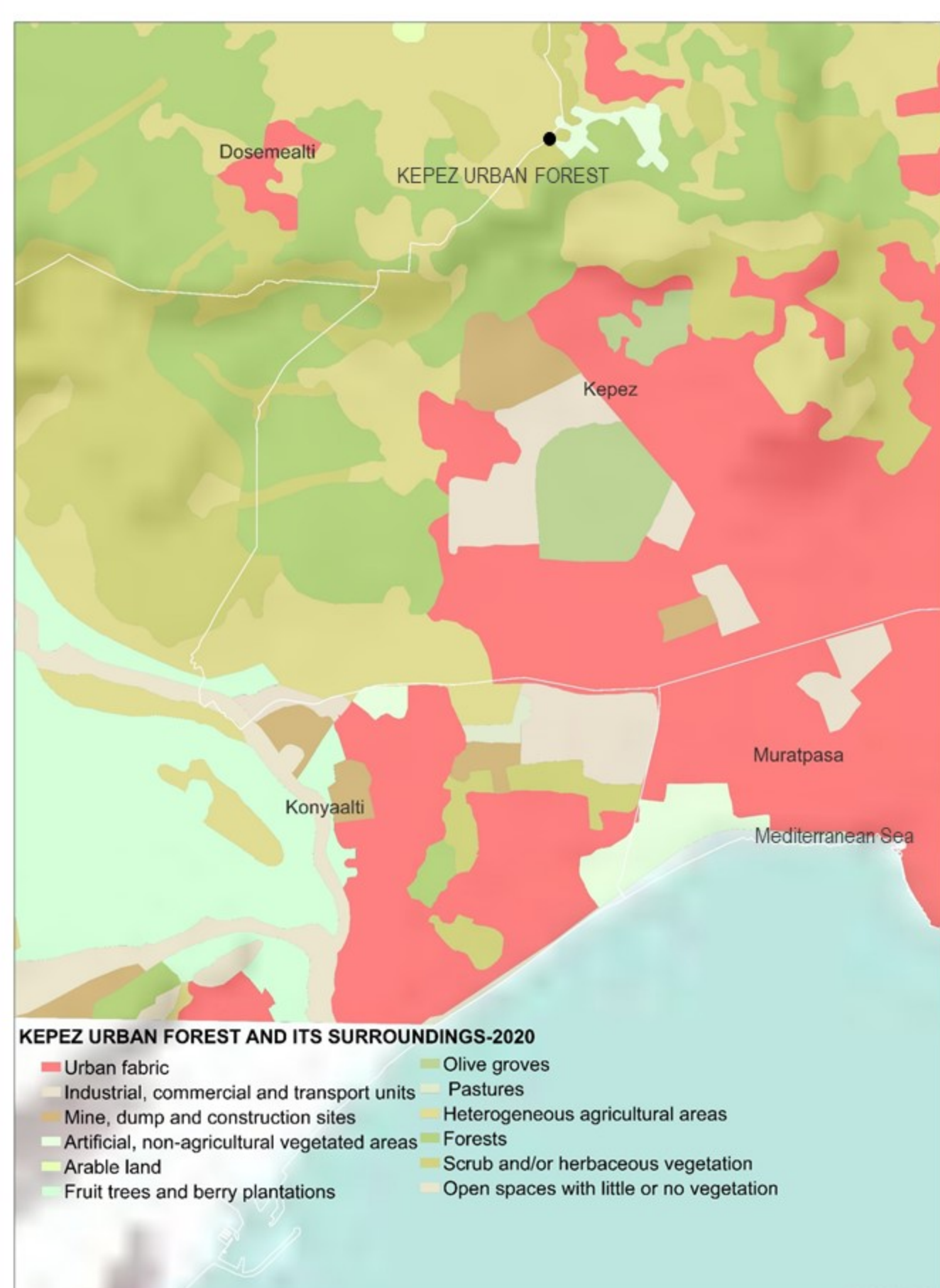
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In 1990, it is seen that it continues to exist as a whole with the presence of natural areas around the urban forest, which is located between the urban area and the rural area. The urban forest, which has almost the same size as the urban areas in the evaluated period, shows the natural landscape characteristics between the natural areas and the rural area.

LAND USE PATTERN IN 1990



2020

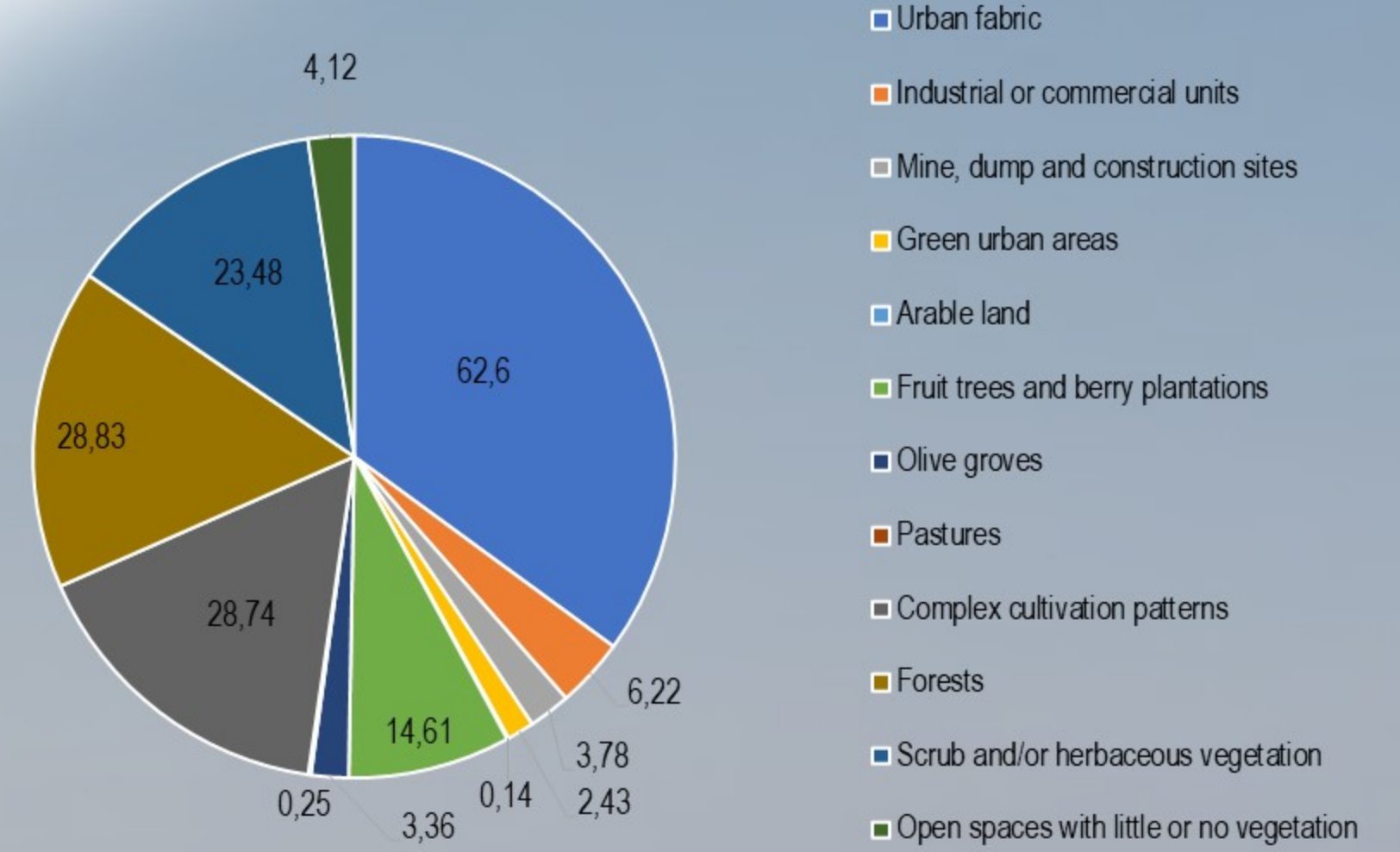


By 2020, the forest structure, which is located between the urban and rural areas, has begun to show the characteristics of urban sprawl patterns. The rural area, located in the north of the forest, now shows suburban features and grows, and as the city spreads from the coast to the interior, it is surrounded by periphery uses.

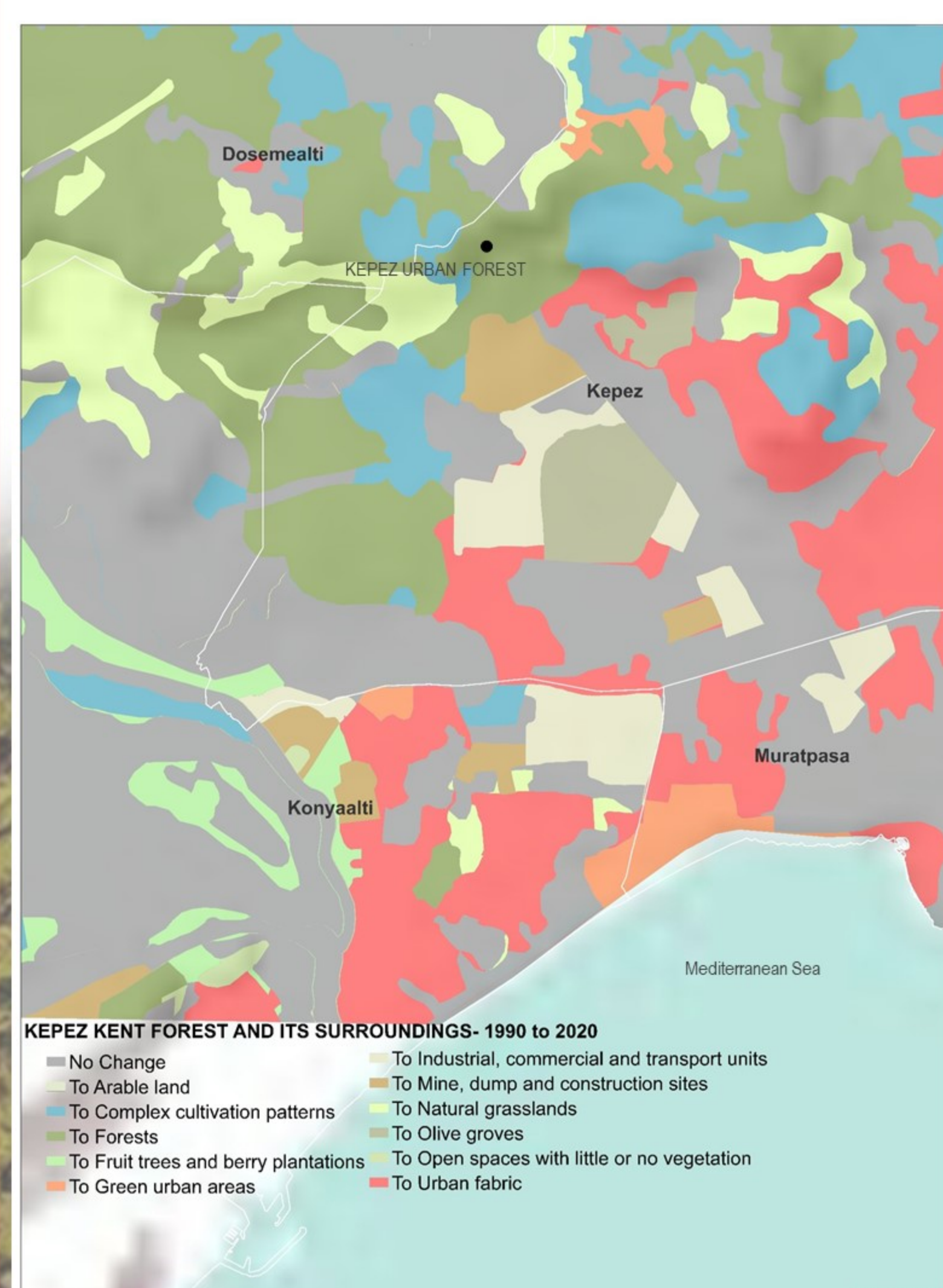
Especially the mining areas and industrial areas that started to take place in the periphery have changed the character of the region. Kepez Urban Forest is used as an area for recreational activities for the city. It also includes area uses such as concert and theater areas, open-air exhibitions, country restaurants, theme parks, picnic areas.

Since 1990, urban fabric located around the forest has increased by 33.35 km², while a decrease of 1.57 km² has been observed in forest texture.

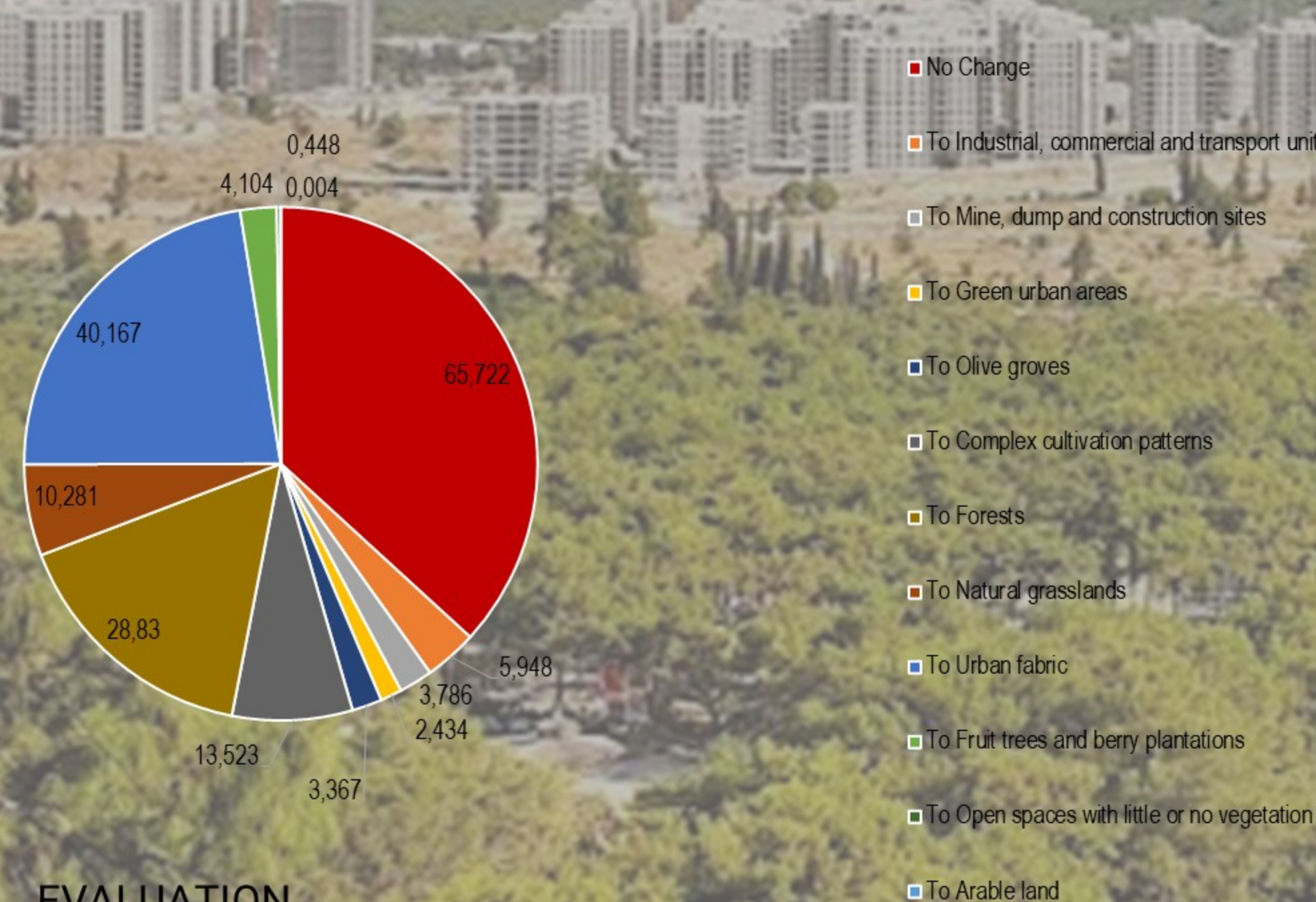
LAND USE PATTERN IN 2020



1990 to 2020 LAND USE CHANGE



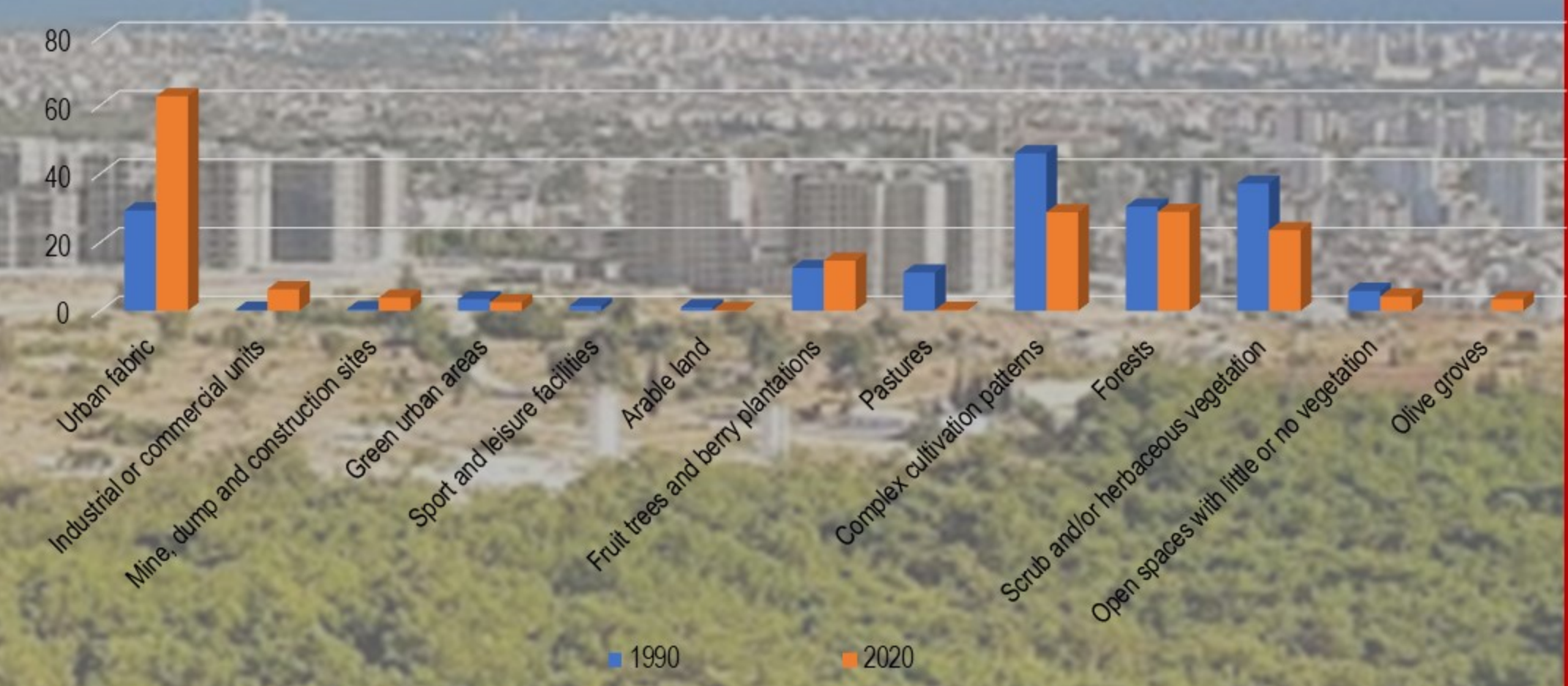
CHANGE OF LAND USE PATTERN FROM 1990 TO 2020



EVALUATION

The rapid development of tourism in the city of Antalya, especially in recent years, has led to the rapid urbanization problem. This causes a rapid decrease in open-green areas in the study, it was provided to reveal the change faced by Antalya Kepez Urban Forest and its surroundings as a result of the transformation of urban sprawl models over time and the emergence of new intermediate models between urban-rural-natural areas. In this context, it has been seen that Antalya Kepez Urban Forest is a natural area between the city and the countryside, resulting in the character of the intermediate models that emerged as a result of urban sprawl in a 30-year period. One of the trends in diffusion has been the growth from large cities to small towns and rural settlements. This situation is seen mainly towards rural areas close to the city for Turkey. Secondary residences, manufacturing and industrial activities are the driving forces here. Another trend concerns changes in urban areas. Metropolises have started to show different growth trends in regions such as the urban core, residential areas around the city and rural fringes. With the increasing urban uses around Kepez Urban Forest, it has started to show fragmentation and has started to remain in a weak position to stop the spread.

LAND USE PATTERNS



In the 30-year period, the urban forest and the surrounding area of 40 km² has been transformed into an urban area, and an area of 28.83 km² has turned into a forest. Although there is a perception that the forest texture is increasing, fragmentation is observed as a result of the change in land use in Kepez Urban Forest.

It is thought that the reason for this change is the new buffer zones created by the sprawl areas around the city and the changes in the characters of the areas.