OBSERVATIONS

The urbanization process is a recurring theme in local and national policies, as it is seen as a key driver of economic growth. However, the way urban areas are defined and measured varies greatly from one study to another, making it difficult to compare different sources. This study aims to quantify and map urbanization in Andalusia, a region known for its rapid urbanization, using three different datasets: CLC, MUCVA, and CULitoral. The study area includes the whole of Andalusia and three specific regions: the Aljarafe, the Andalusian coast, and the Aljarafe region.

RESULTS: URBAN AREAS IN ANDALUSIA

- Total surface of Andalusia: 87,610.9 km²
  - CLC: 160.8 km² (0.2%)
  - MUCVA: 16.6 km² (0.02%)
  - CULitoral: 16.1 km² (0.02%)

RESULTS: URBAN AREAS IN THE COAST

- Total surface of the coast: 4,639.5 km²
  - CLC: 17.6 km² (0.37%)
  - MUCVA: 16.6 km² (0.36%)
  - CULitoral: 14.0 km² (0.30%)

RESULTS: URBAN AREAS IN THE ALJARAFE REGION

- Total surface of the Aljarafe region: 468.5 km²
  - CLC: 5.7 km² (1.21%)
  - MUCVA: 5.4 km² (1.16%)
  - MPAljarafe: 9.4 km² (2.03%)

CONCLUSIONS

The analysis for the whole of Andalusia showed a moderate convergence between the three datasets. Differences are more noticeable in the Aljarafe region and along the coast, reflecting the complexity of urbanization patterns in these areas. The study highlights the importance of using multiple datasets to accurately quantify urbanization, as each dataset has its own strengths and limitations. Further research is needed to improve the accuracy and reliability of urbanization measurements, especially in areas with rapid and complex urban development.