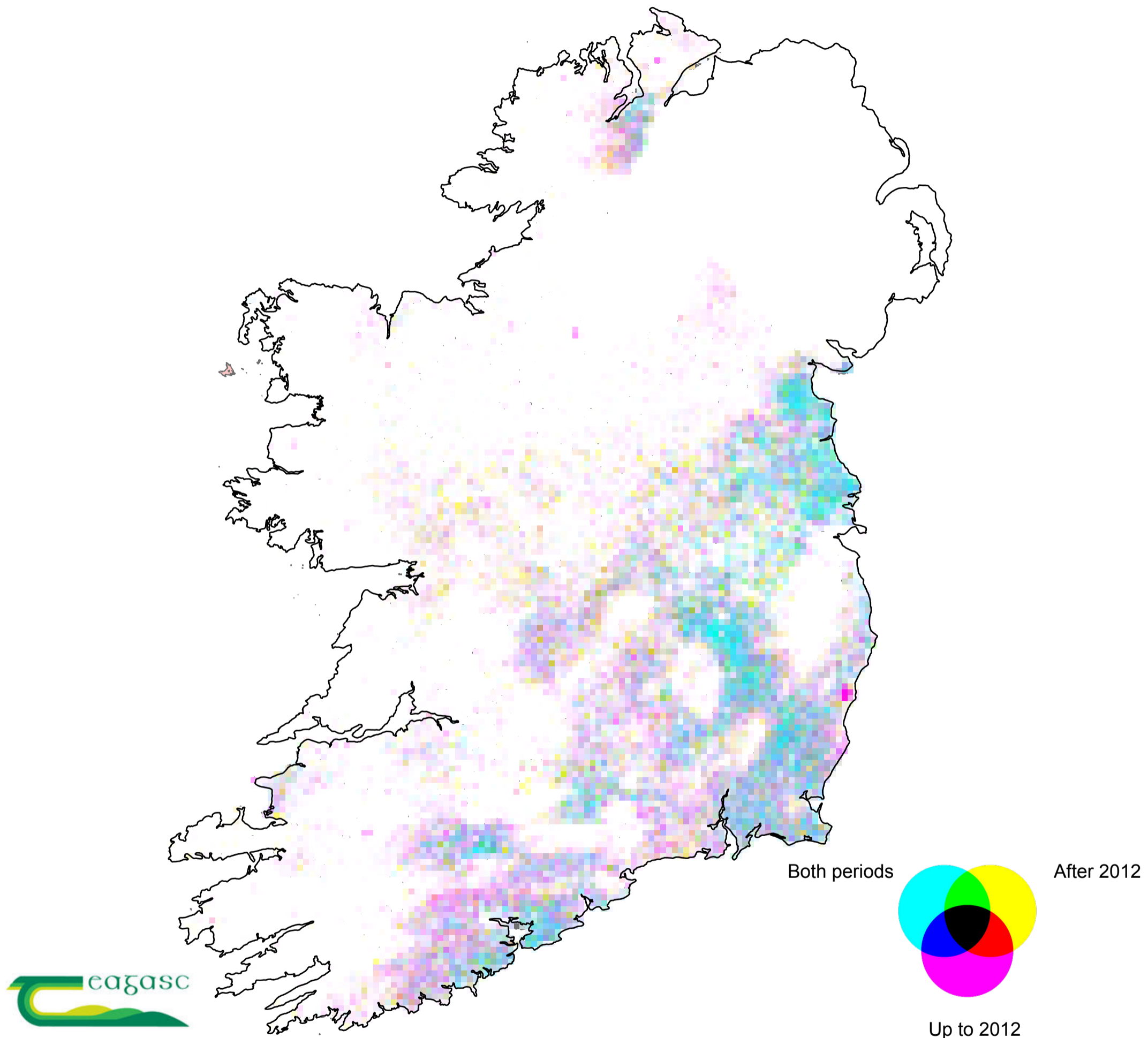


A recent history of cropland in the Republic of Ireland



In a 2016 paper (Zimmermann et al, 2016, Land Use Policy) the cartographer looked at the history of croplands in Ireland in the period 2000 to 2012. The study used annual data from the Land Parcel Identification System to assess land use dynamics and could show that despite the geographic area of cropland being relatively stable, areas constantly changed between grassland and cropland, doubling the area that was at under cropland at least once.

The current map extends the timeframe to 2016, splitting land in three categories. Land that has been cropland at least once in the period 2000 to 2012 and 2013 to 2016, land under crop at last once in 2000 to 2012 but never after, and land that was at least one under crop in the period from 2013 to 2016 but never before. The original field based data is generalised into a 2500 m grid. Other than simply showing the majority category in each cell, however, the map takes advantage of the Cyan Magenta Yellow colourspace to display the share of all three variables in each cell. The lightness of the cell colour indicates the overall cropland share .

Projection: Irish National Grid