



Assessing degradation; a comparison of mapping, monitoring, modeling and indicator based approaches

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A crucial step in combating degradation in semi-arid areas is to determine which parts of the land are being degraded. Many approaches exist that are used to do this. Within the DESIRE project, mapping, monitoring, modeling and indicators were all used to provide information on where degradation is occurring, or what level of risk there is for it to occur. All these different methods are based on different assumptions, and therefore provide results that have different type of information content. By comparing the assumptions underlying the methods, as well as the results of the methods, it is determined to what extend the different types of information can be compared and to what extend these different sources provide information that in combination provides a fuller picture of the degradation problems that exist.