

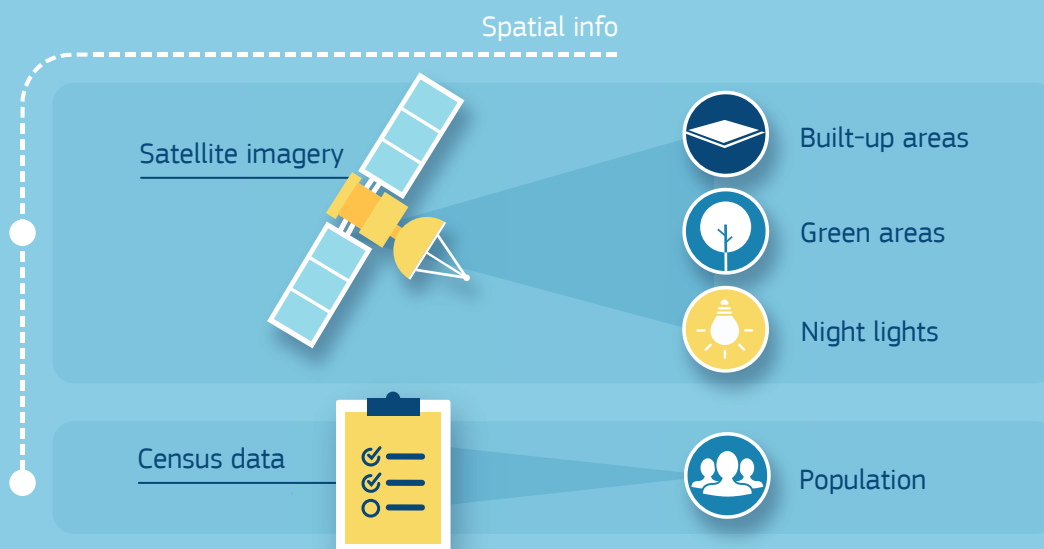
Mapping human presence on Earth

The Global Human Settlements Layer (GHSL)

*Framework of data and tools to improve our collective knowledge
about the human presence on Earth*



The most **complete**, **consistent**, **global**, **free** and **open** dataset
on human settlements – from the village to the megacity



What can it be used for?

To know where and how people live

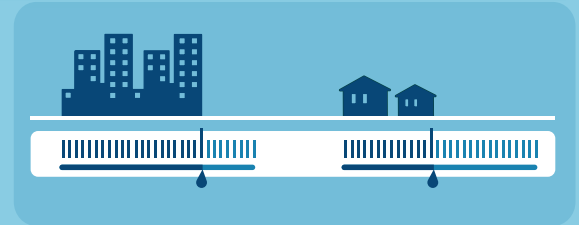


To map the growth of settlements over time



To know the characteristics of settlements

To measure the size of settlements



Monitoring the implementation of international frameworks

Key findings

There are many more settlements than we think

Built up has globally increased by 150% since 1975

Urban areas occupy an area equal to half the size of Europe 28



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21 - CMP11



UNISDR
The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



UN World Conference on
Disaster Risk Reduction
2015 Sendai Japan

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



For further information
and to explore the GHSL:
<http://ghsl.jrc.ec.europa.eu>



European
Commission

GEO GROUP ON
EARTH OBSERVATIONS

GHSL is the core dataset for
the GEO Human Planet Initiative