Priority areas - critical review

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priority areas

- Art 2 (7):"priority areas" means areas where there is decisive evidence, or legitimate grounds for suspicion, that one or more soil degradation processes exceeding the level of risk acceptability referred to in Article 6(2)(b) is occurring or is likely to occur in the near future;
- Art 6 (2)(c): Member States shall identify priority areas on their national territory, at the appropriate level and geographical scale, that exceed the levels of acceptability established in point (b)

action progammes

- Art 8 (1):…Member States shall, in respect of the priority areas identified …draw up, at the administrative level and geographical scale that they consider appropriate, an action programme…

Delineation of priority areas

- Despite Annex 1: no explicit guideline for delineation of priority areas
- If not comparable – will it be left to individual member states though?
- measures to be taken – with respect to delineated area?
- reporting?

Annex 1

Common elements for the identification of areas at risk of erosion

- **soil typological unit (soil type)**

soil map of Austria

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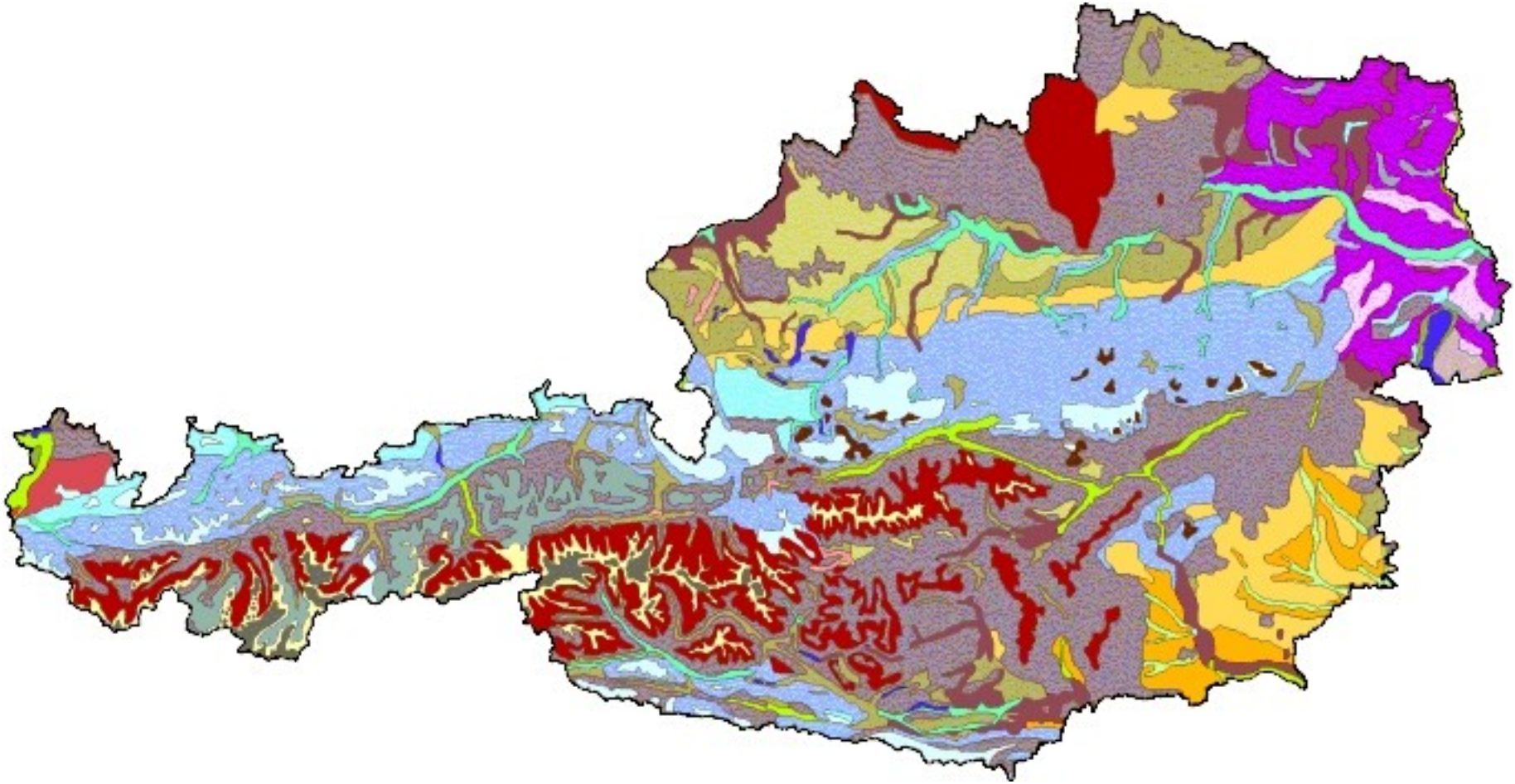

Corporate Soil Competence

STU´s

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			FAO - UNESCO,* version 2.0	Österreichische Bodensystematik 1969	Österreichische Bodensystematik 2000	World Reference Base for Soil Resources 1998 (Auswahl) Referenz-Bodengruppe(n)/ Untereinheiten
1						
2						
3						
4		Ch	Haplic Chernozem	Paratschernosem	Carbonatfreier Tschernosem	Chernozems/ siltic, haplic
5		Ck	Calcic Chernozem	Tschernosem	Carbonathaltiger Tschernosem, Carbonathaltiger Brauner Tschernosem	Chernozems/ Kastanozems; chernic, calcic, siltic, vermic, haplic
6		Ec	Cambic Rendzina	Eurendsina, Pararendsina; verbraunt, teils Braunlehm	Rendzina, Kalklehm-Rendzina, Pararendzina mit allen Subtypen; verbraunt	Leptosols, Cambisols/ lithic, gleyic, rendzic, mollic, calcaric, eutric, haplic
18		Po	Orthic Podzol	(Typ.) Podsol	Podsol, Staupodsol und alle Subtypen	Podzols/ gleyic, stagnic, histic, umbric, skeletic, haplic
19		Rc	Calcaric Regosol	Kulturrohboden aus kalkhaltigem Material	Carbonathaltiger Feinmaterial-Rohboden, Carbonathaltiger Kultur-Rohboden	Arenosols, Regosols/ leptic, anthropic, gleyic, calcaric, eutric, haplic
20		Sm	Mollic Solonetz	Solonetz, teils Solontschak-Solonetz	Solonetz, teils Solontschak-Solonetz; aggradiert	Solonetz, Solontschak/ vertic, gleyic, salic, mollic, gypsic, calcic, stagnic, humic, haplic
21		Wd	Dystric Planosol	(Typ.) Pseudogley, Stagnogley, Hangpseudogley, Reliktpseudogley; oligotroph	Typischer Pseudogley, Stagnogley, Hangpseudogley, Haftnässe-Pseudogley; Reliktpseudogley, carbonatfreie Varietäten	Planosols/ gleyic, luvic, umbric, albic, dystric, haplic
22		We	Eutric Planosol	(Typ.) Pseudogley, Stagnogley, Hangpseudogley; eutroph	Typ. Pseudogley, Stagnogley, Hangpseudogley, Haftnässe-Pseudogley, Reliktpseudogley, carbonathaltige, teils auch carbonatfreie Varietäten	Planosols/ gleyic, luvic, albic, eutric, haplic
			Water body	See		
		r	Rock outcrop	Anstehendes Gestein, Gletscher		

22 STU‘s on national level

but:

50 – 60 units per survey area, more than 200 areas!

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soil survey areas

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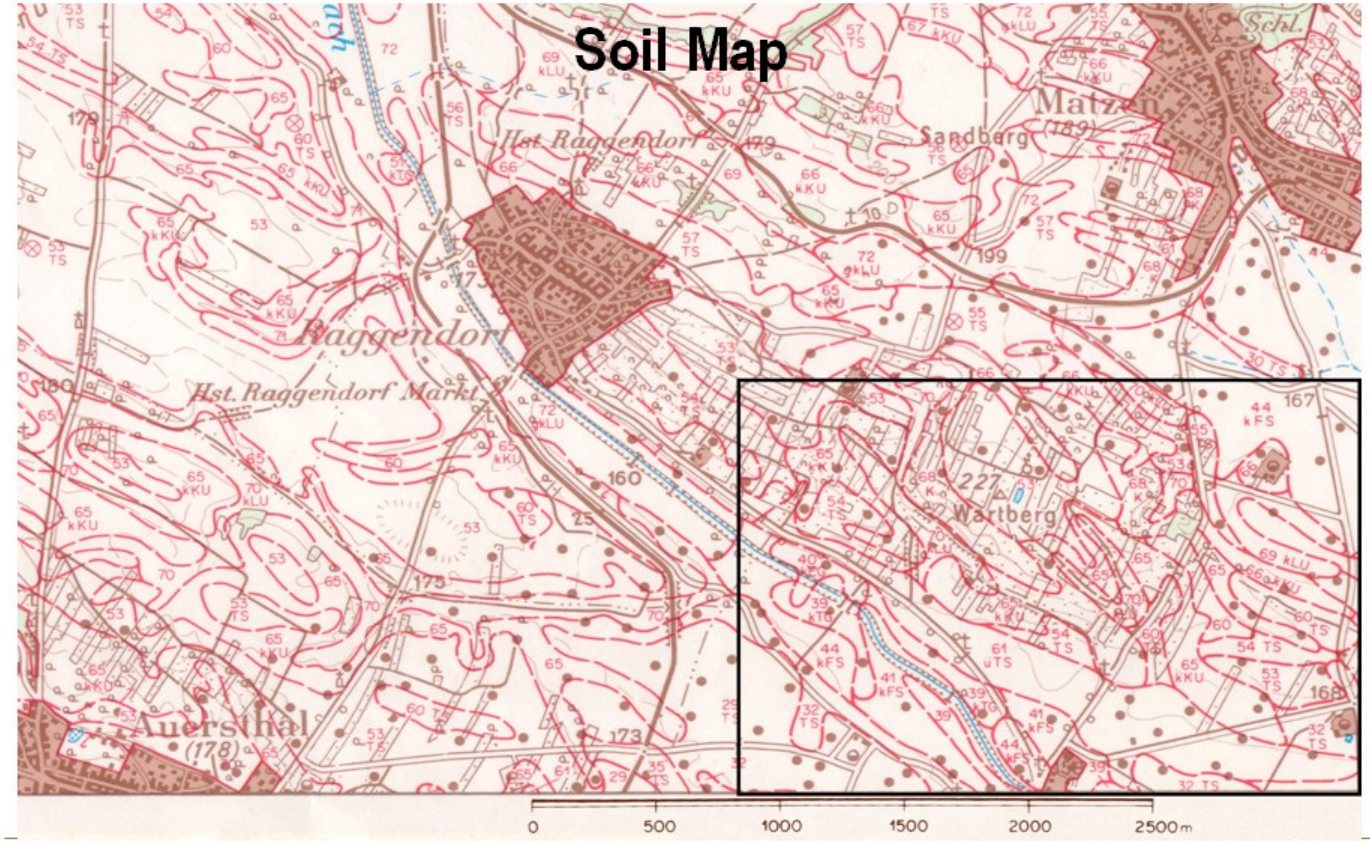
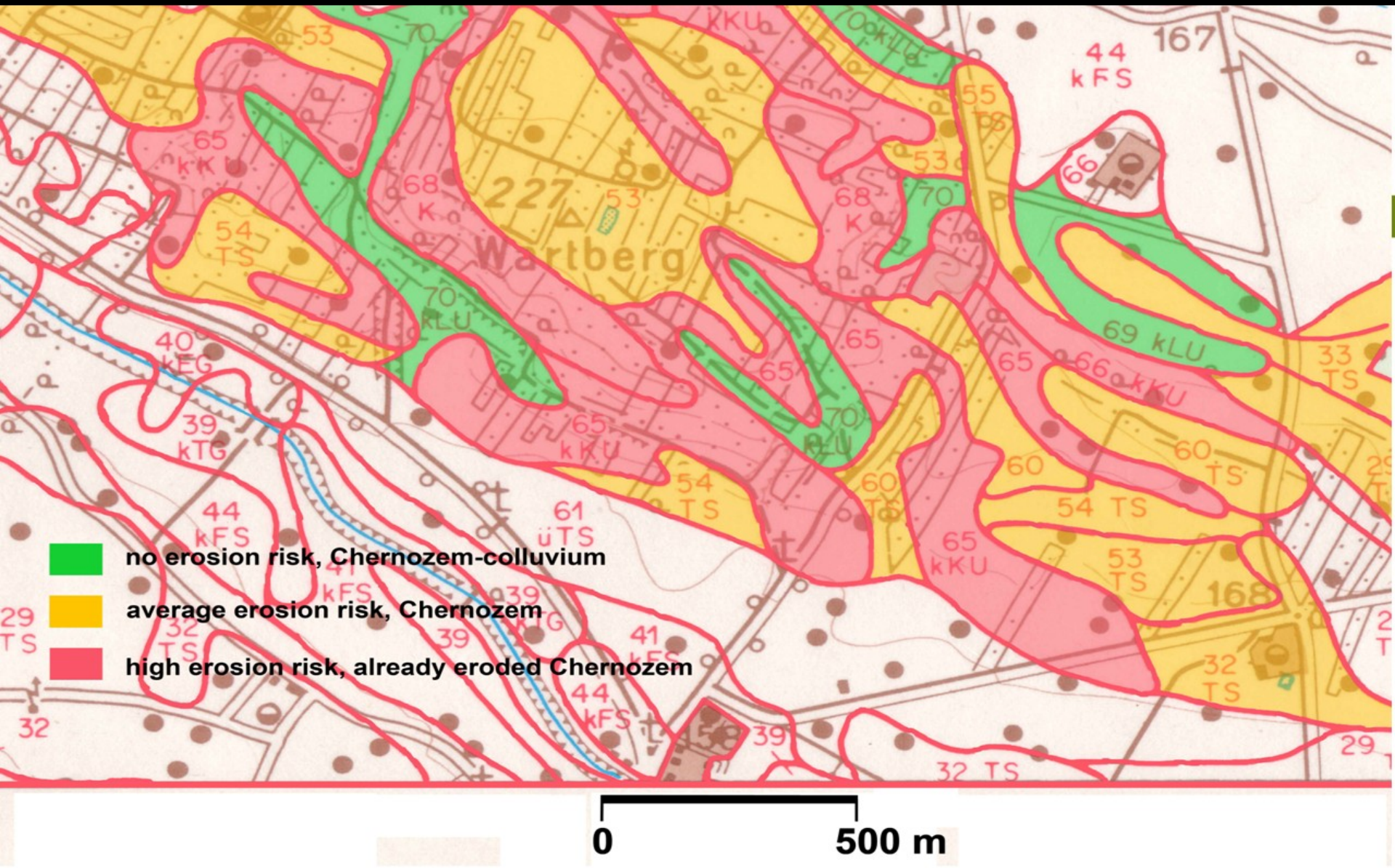
Indirect instructions what has to be taken into consideration:

University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna
Department of Forest- und Soil Sciences



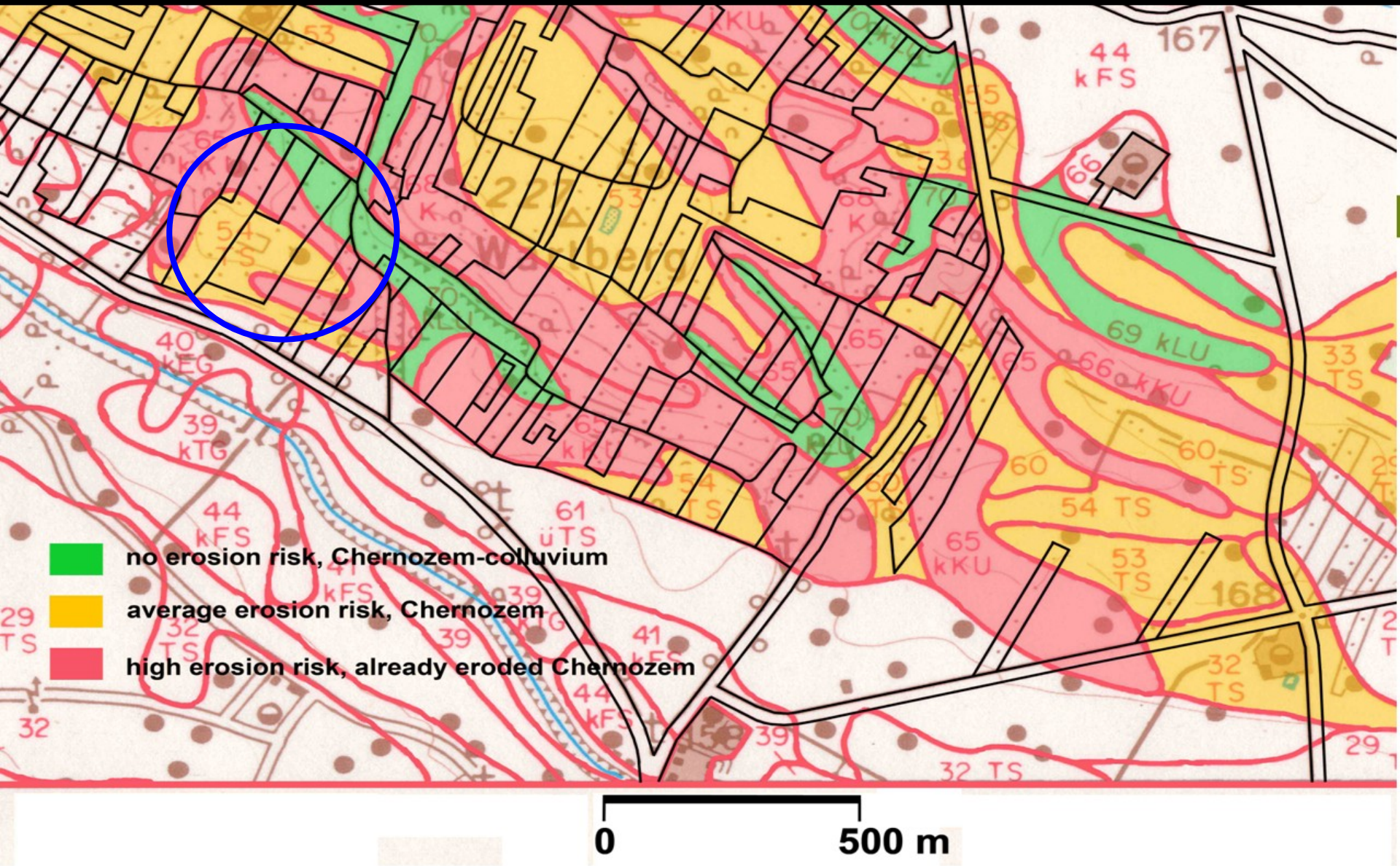
Ref.: Österreichische Bodenkarte 1:25.000, AGES reprocessed by Wieshammer-Zivkovic M.F.


no erosion risk, Chernozem-colluvium
average erosion risk, Chernozem
high erosion risk, already eroded Chernozem
0
500 m

Annex 1

Common elements for the identification of areas at risk of erosion

- land cover
- land use


no erosion risk, Chernozem-colluvium
average erosion risk, Chernozem
high erosion risk, already eroded Chernozem
0
500 m

Single plot

no erosion risk

high erosion risk

average erosion risk

150 m

priority areas – small scale

Possible consequences:

- further mapping action
- overlay of soil maps and land register contents
- resulting in a spatial pattern of priority areas at the plot level all over the country
- measures on a similar scale as priority areas – at the plot level?
- administration of measures at this level - time consuming and cost - intensive

priotity areas – big scale

Possible consequences:

- individual allocation to priority area problematic – may be even counter productive (exclusion from subsidy programs, sanctions?)
- no positive effect concerning soil protection!
- big scale may only give an overview to raise the awareness (are data sufficiently available in all of the MS?)
- Overlapping of threats!

Annex 1 - parameters

- not all parameters suitable from a scientific point of view, e.g.
- erosion:

  hydrological conditions, agro – ecological zone
- decline of organic matter:

  soil typological unit
- partly due to the incomplete citation from the original publication by the ESB

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