

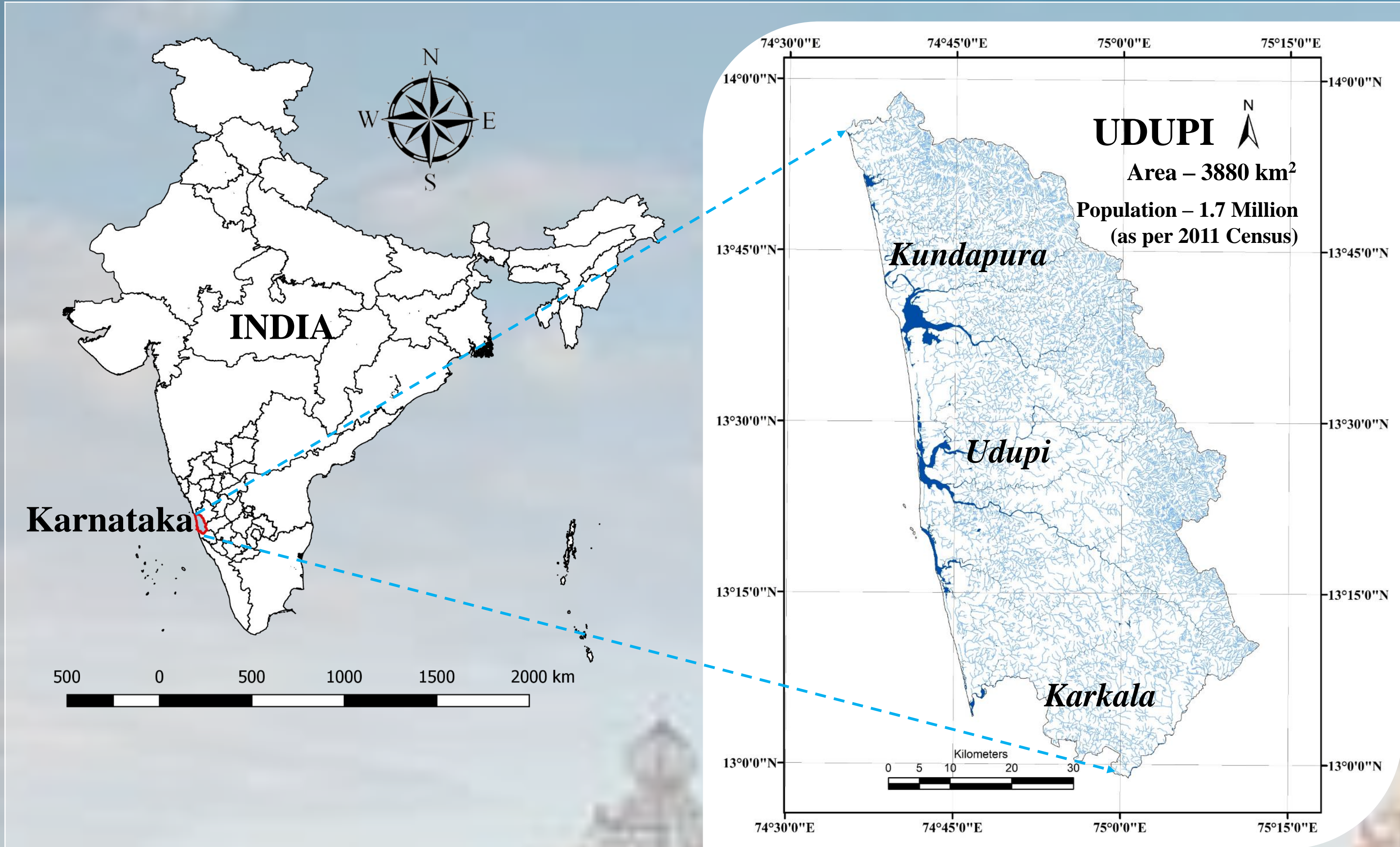
Landscape dynamics in Udupi District- Ecologically fragile and culturally vital

MADHUMITA DEY, BHARATH SETTURU & RAMACHANDRA T V
ENERGY AND WETLANDS RESEARCH GROUP, CES, IISc



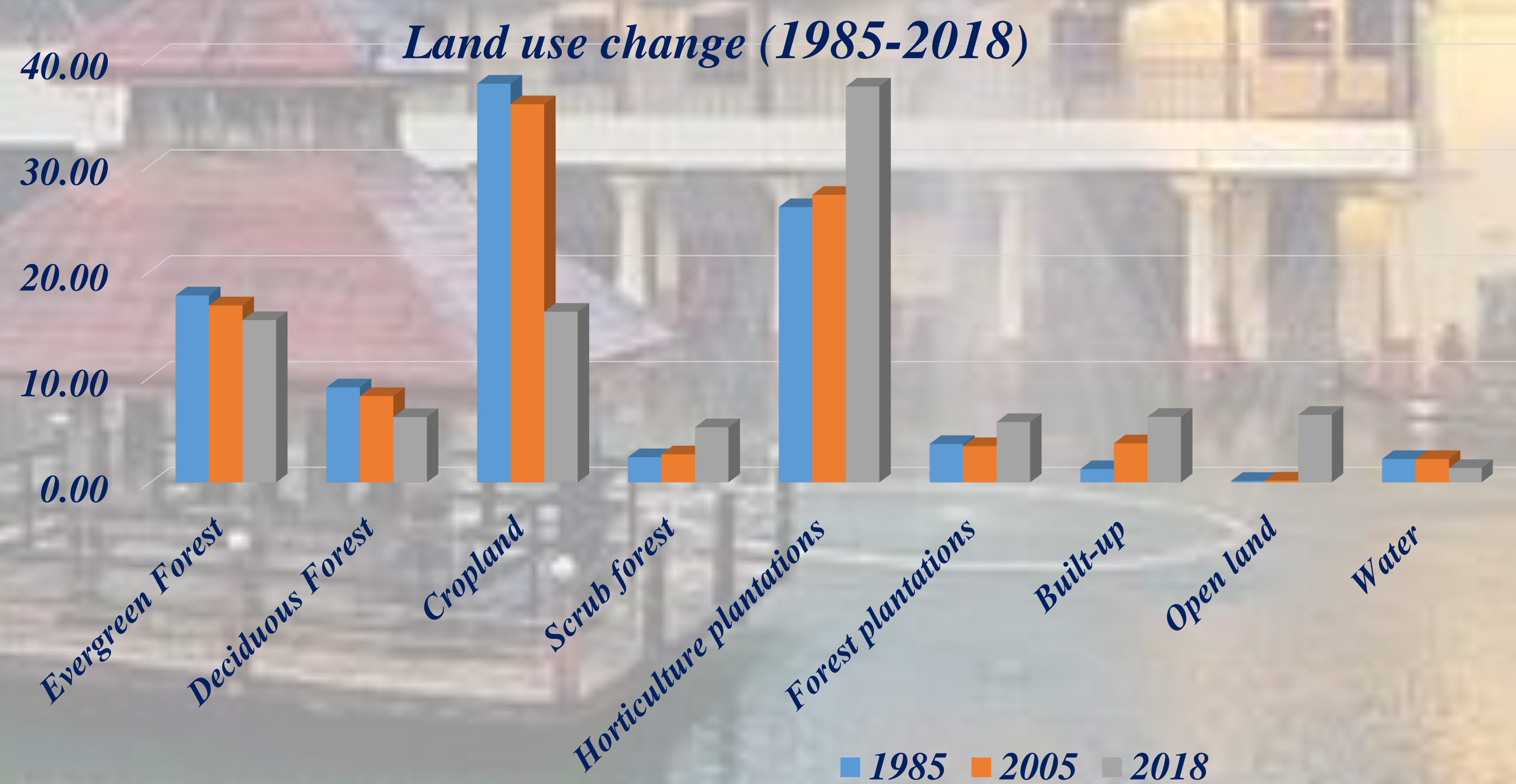
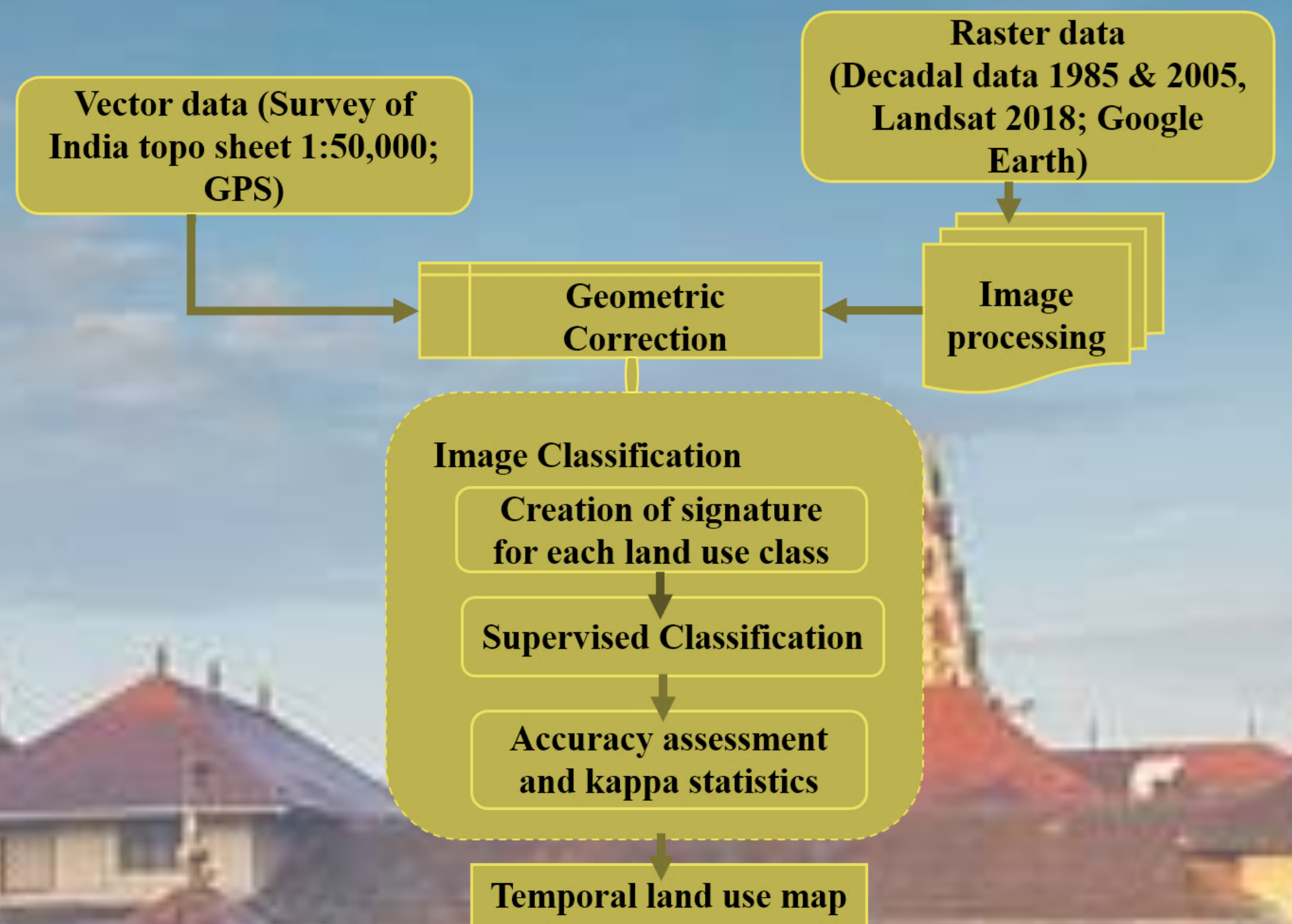
HIGHLIGHTS

- Decline of evergreen forest from 17.68% (1985) to 15.35% (2018).
- Further erosion of forest will lead to water scarcity, landslides and unproductive soil and loss of horticulture production.

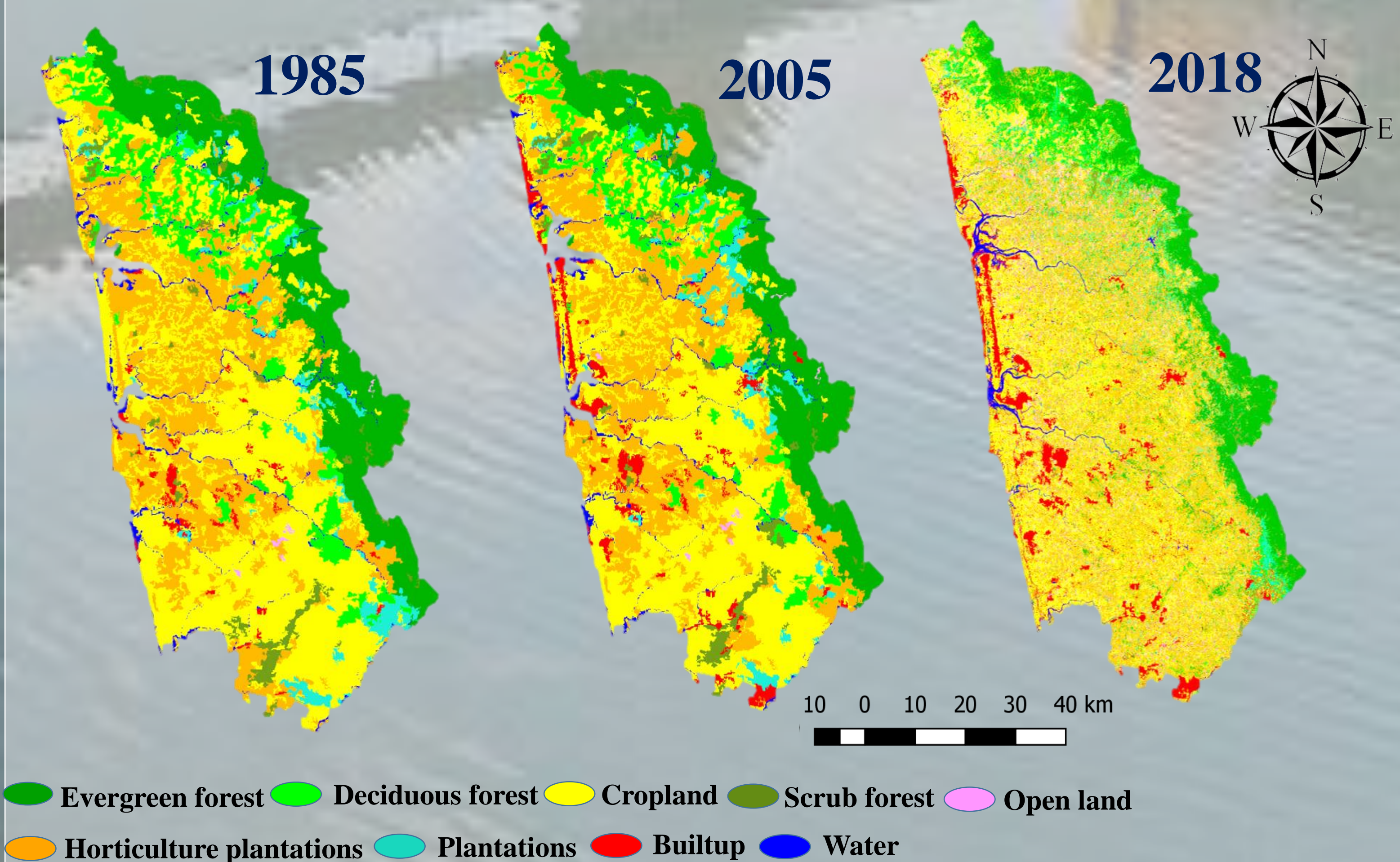


- The Udupi district is popular for temples, beaches and sanctuaries enclosed with thick diverse forest cover and wildlife.
- The place is culturally rich with Krishna temple, nava Durga temples, Ganesha etc. and thus called "Temple town".
- 'Mookambika' wildlife sanctuary consists of endemic flora such as *Dipterocarpus indicus* (Dhuma), *Poeciloneuron indicum* (Balige), *Calophyllum tomentosum* (Surahonne), *Hopea parviflora* (Kiralbhogi) etc and endemic fauna like spotted deer (*Axis Axis*), Indian hare (*Lepus nigricelis*), python, King cobra, sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*) etc.
- Perennial river Gurupura, a part of Netravathi, flows through it.

METHOD



LAND USE ANALYSES OF UDUPI



RESULTS

- Temporal land use analyses show a decrease in the evergreen forest cover from 17.68% (1985) to 15.35% (2018).
- Areas under human habitation have increased during the last decades from 1.26%(1985) to 5.72% (2018).
- Analyses shows increase in horticulture crops such as arecanut, coconut, cashew, rubber from 26.02% (1985) to 37.41% (2018) has led to decrease in agricultural activities to 37.41% (2018).

