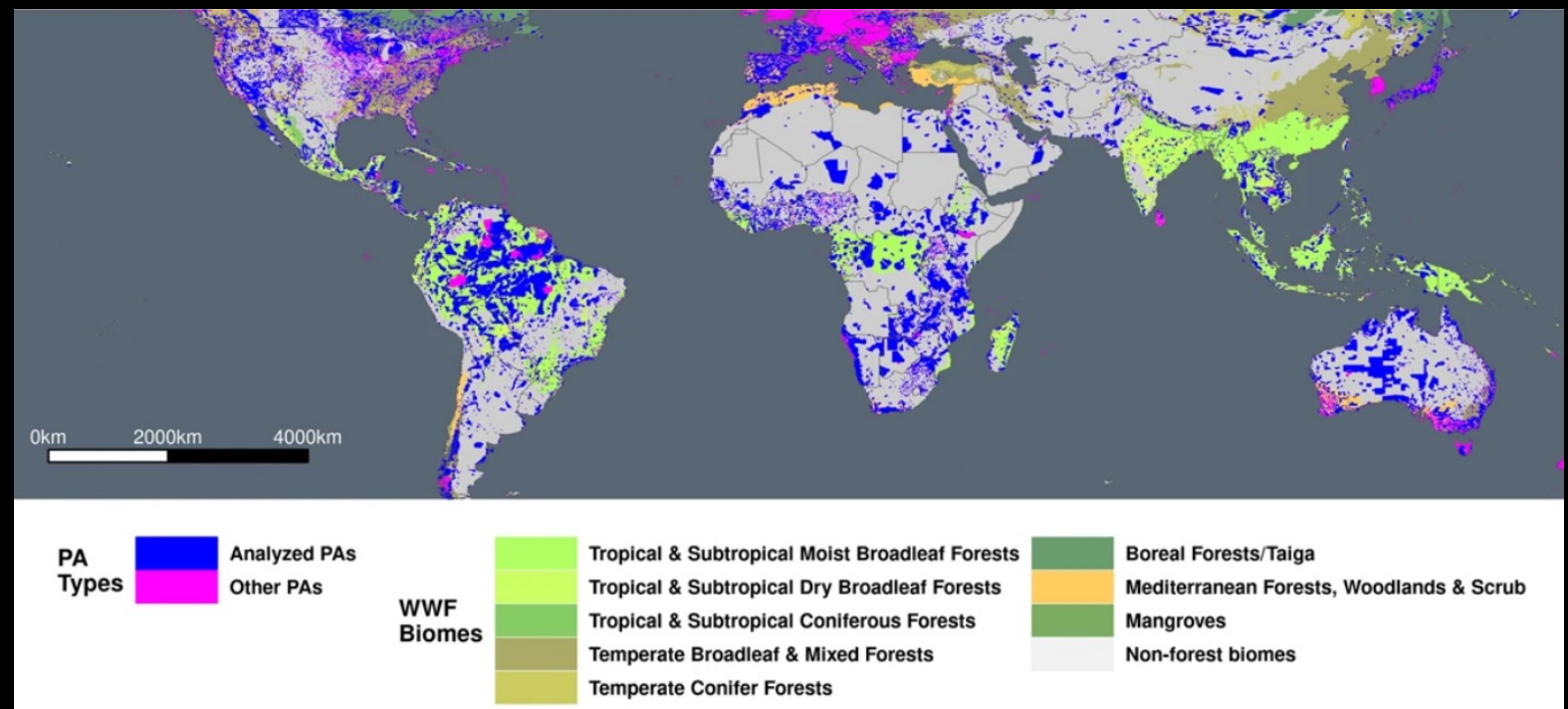


GEDI Data Show How Forest Conservation Affects Climate Change

A team of Goddard & UMD scientists just used 400+ million lidar samples from NASA's GEDI mission to estimate the carbon stock of all protected terrestrial woody areas.

Forest conservation has been a priority for decades, but protected areas weren't typically created to mitigate climate change. Since that time, research has shown what a huge impact forests have on stabilizing Earth's climate.

These higher Carbon stocks are primarily from avoided emissions from deforestation and degradation in PAs compared to unprotected forests. This total is roughly equivalent to one year of annual global fossil fuel emissions. These results underscore the importance of conservation of high biomass forests for avoiding carbon emissions and preserving future sequestration.



The total carbon attributed to protected-status forests is roughly equivalent to one year of annual global fossil fuel emissions.