



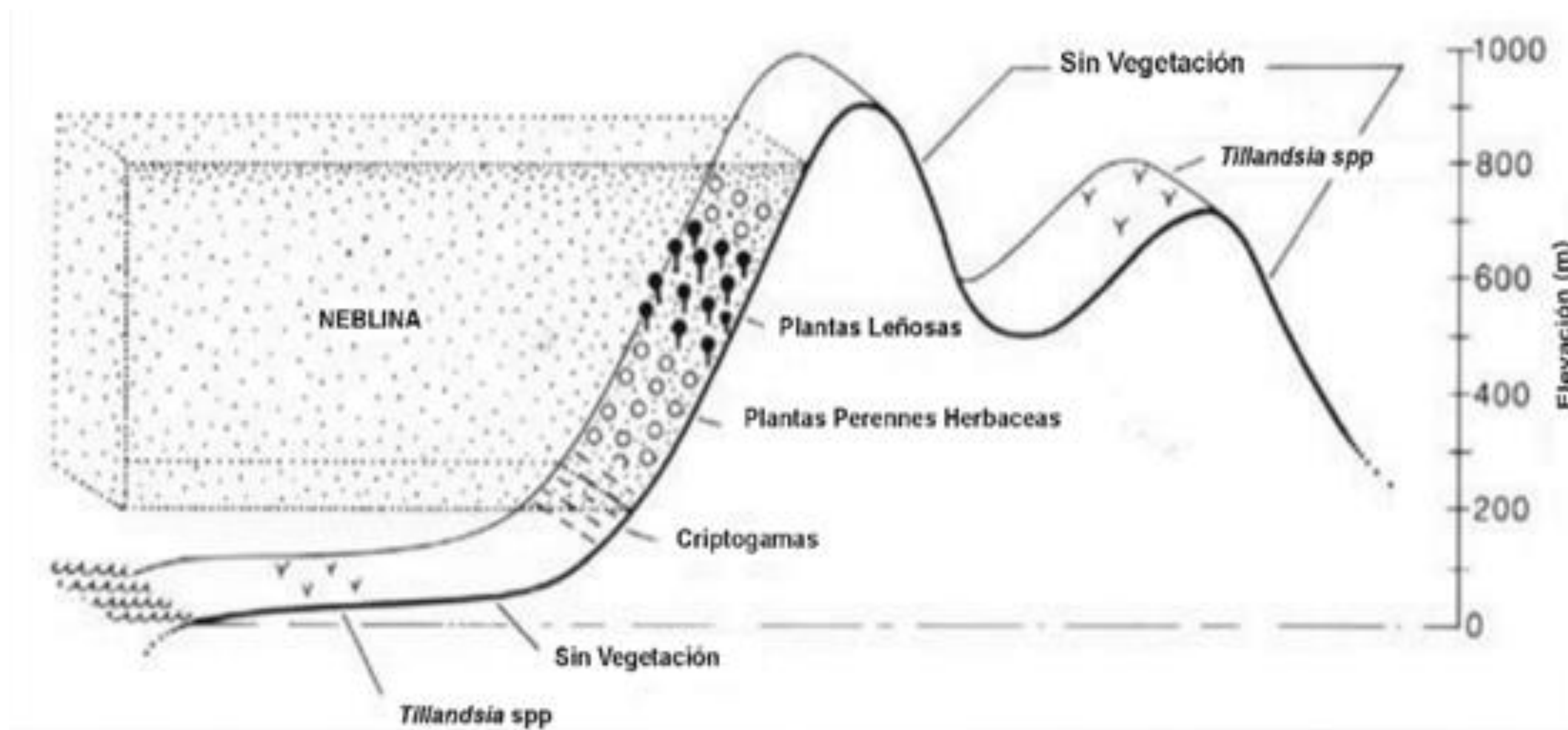
From *lomas* to invasion: A huge loss of biodiversity and green areas on the slopes of Lima

Author: Camila Sattler
Presenter: Nicole Heise
Ficus Peru



Lomas

Lomas are a stationary ecosystem that exists due to the humidity of the Pacific Ocean brought by the winds towards the Andean foothills. Humidity condensation allows the development of flora that attracts fauna



Source: Mendoza 2006 (Quoted Dillon 2003, quoted Rundel et al. 1991)



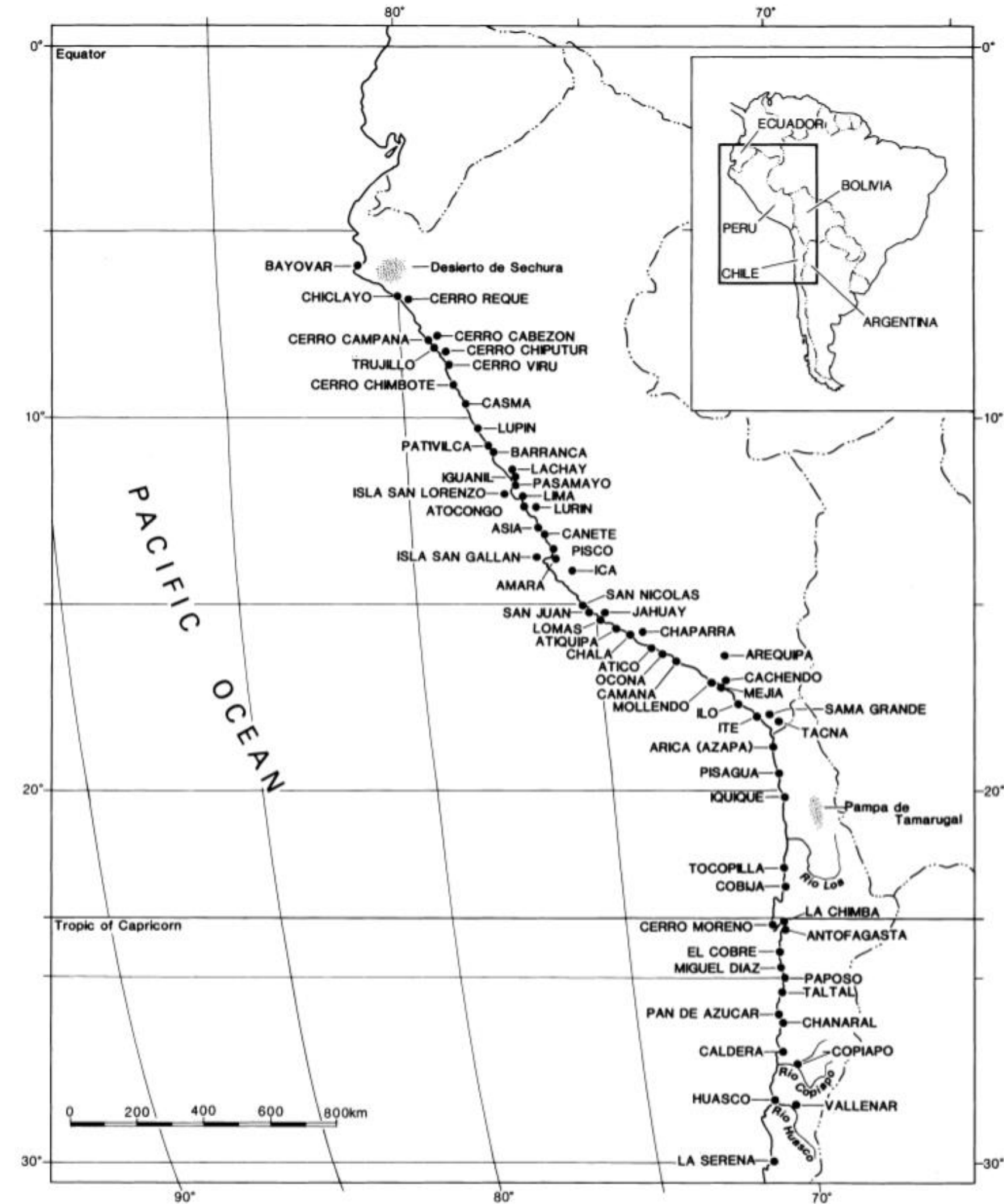
Lomas

- Are a unique fragile ecosystem with high biodiversity and endemism.
- Play a part in mitigation and adaptation to climate change through ecosystem services.
- Are the biggest green area in Lima, a city located on the desert.
- Urban expansion and change of land use have reduced their area.
- Lomas are an opportunity for local dwellers and the city.



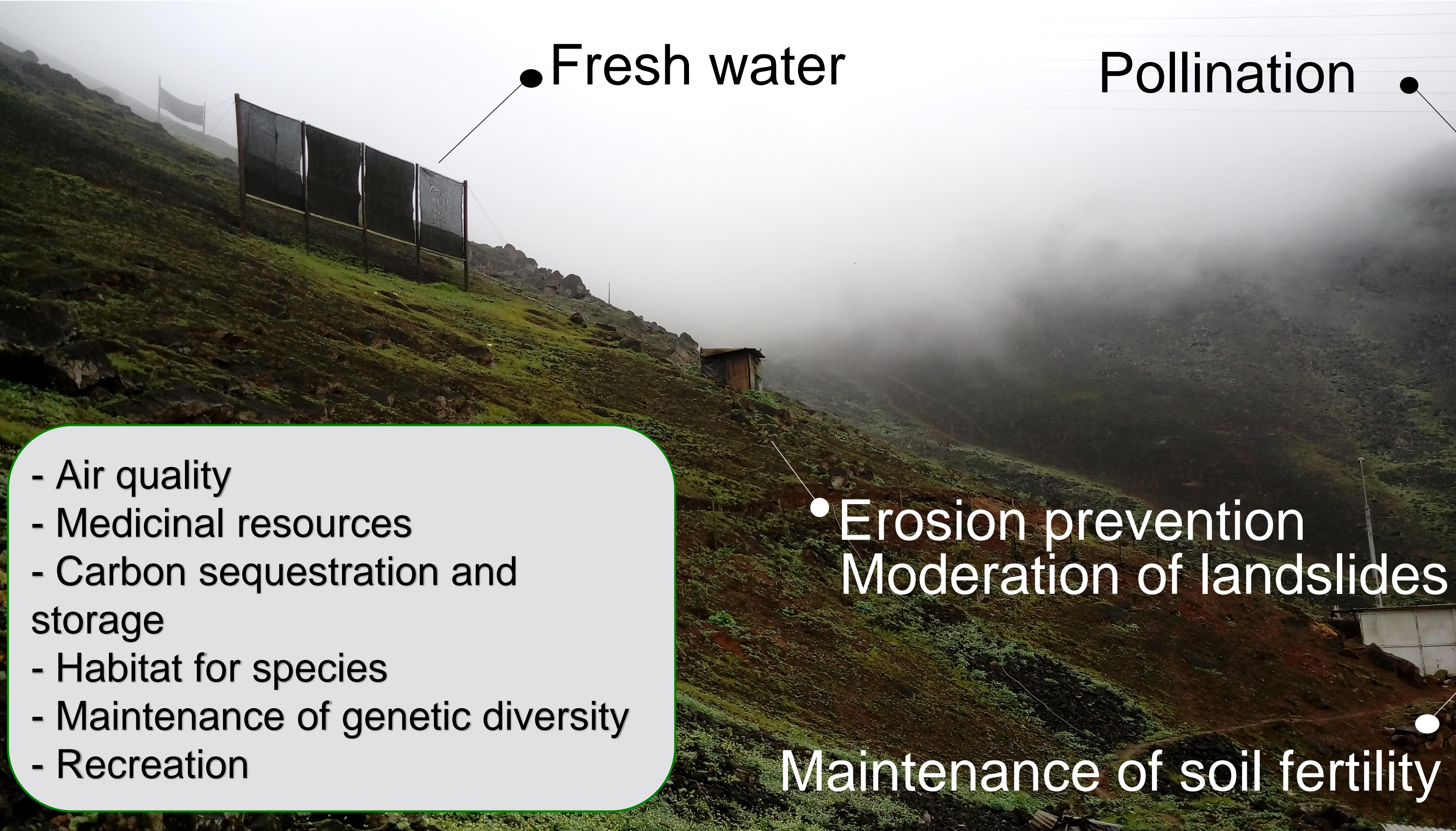
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Fragile ecosystem with high biodiversity and endemism





Ecosystem Services



● Fresh water

Pollination ●

● Erosion prevention
Moderation of landslides

Maintenance of soil fertility ●

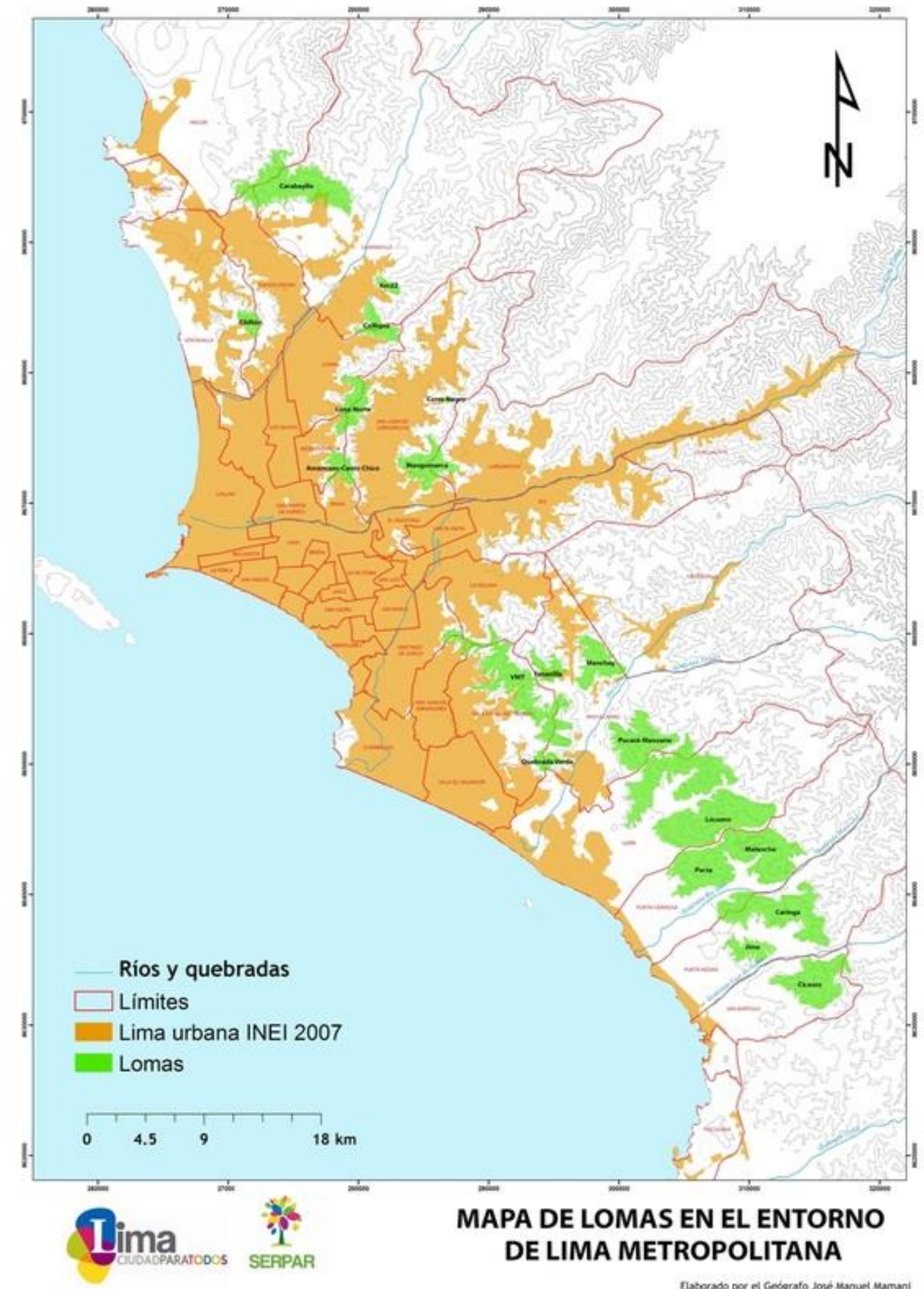
- Air quality
- Medicinal resources
- Carbon sequestration and storage
- Habitat for species
- Maintenance of genetic diversity
- Recreation





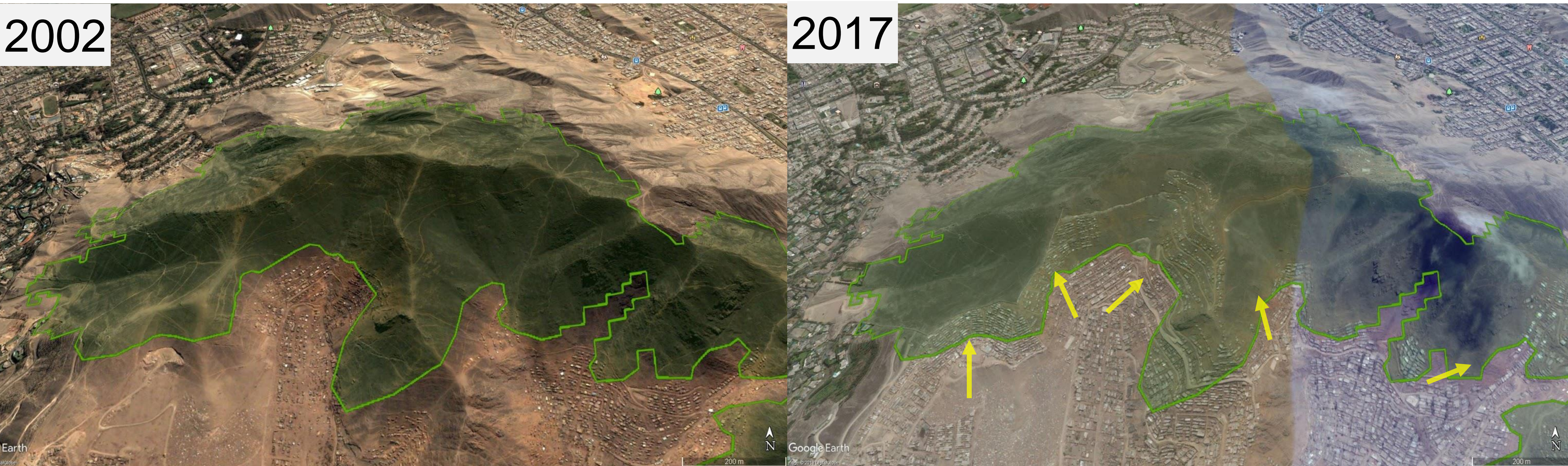
Lomas in Lima

- Lima only has 3,25 m² of green areas per habitant.
- There are 22 000 hectares of lomas in Lima
- 20 lomas in Lima could be future “parks”



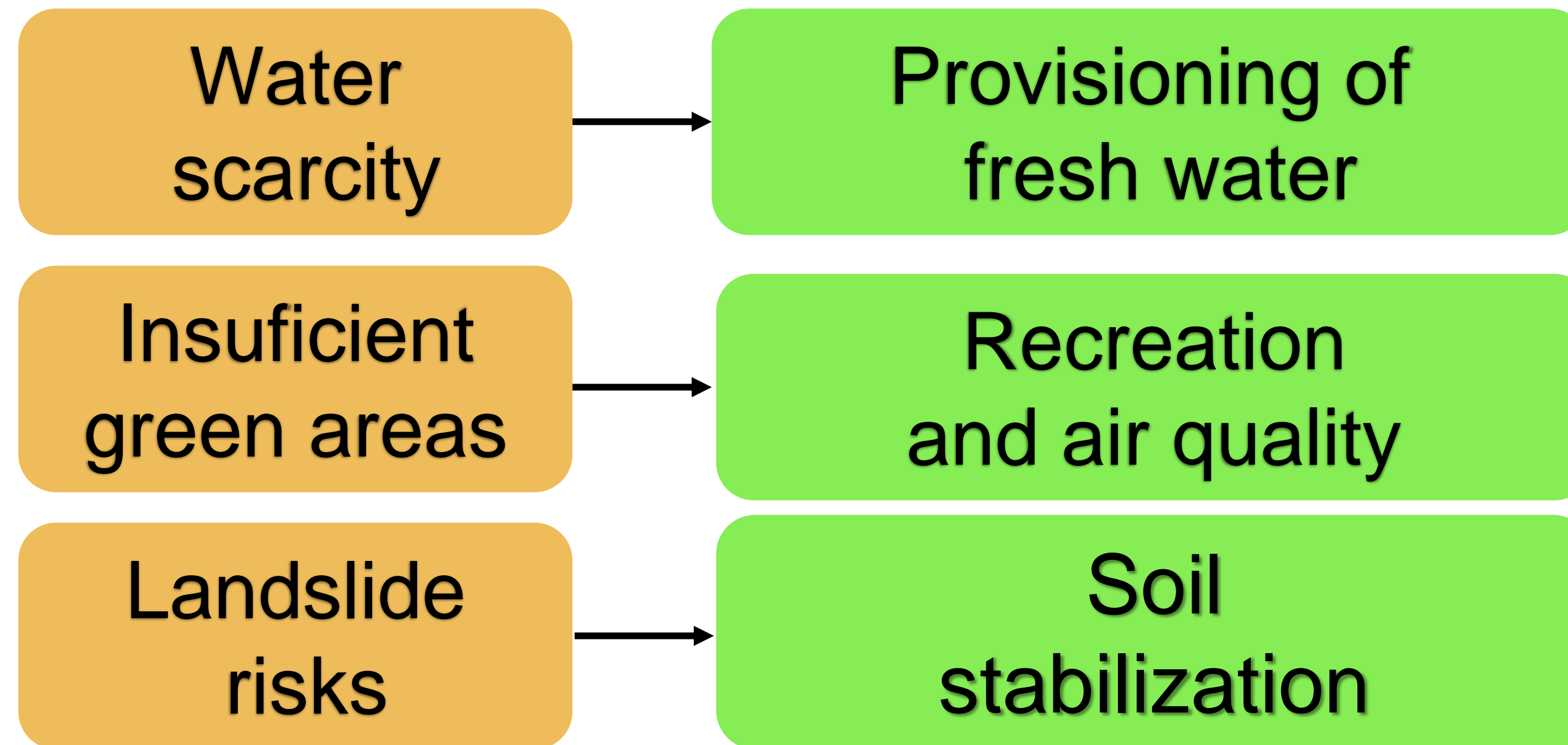


Urban expansion and change of land use





Lomas as an **opportunity** for the city and local dwellers





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Ficus's work for the slums and lomas



Photo: Camila Sattler



Photo: Ariana Loli





Challenges

- Los Lomas are not an ideal place to live, but they continue to be occupied informally due to the demand for housing.
- Invasions are carried out through organized crime groups that local actors prefer not to deal with.
- Local dwellers are interested in their conservation but have other priorities like getting basic services.
- Local activists ask to make this a protected natural area but there is no political decision to carry it out. Furthermore, some local governments are involved with the criminal organizations that carry out the invasions.