

United Nations International Conference on  
Space-based Technologies for Disaster Risk Management  
“Best Practices for Risk Reduction and Rapid Response Mapping”  
22-25 November, Beijing

# **Towards a rapid, multi-scale assessment of earthquake vulnerability**

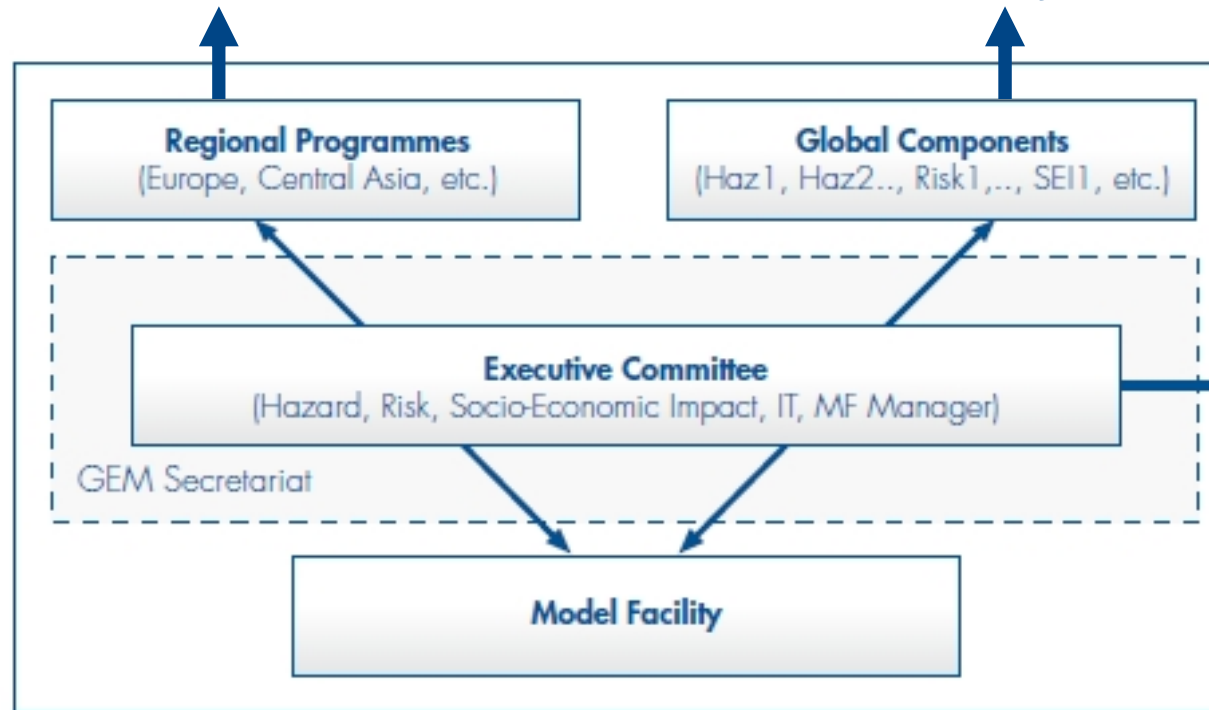
based on satellite remote sensing and omnidirectional imaging

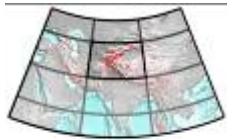
M. Wieland, M. Pittore, S. Parolai, J. Zschau  
GFZ Potsdam, Section 2.1 Earthquake Risk and Early Warning



## Earthquake Model Central Asia (EMCA)

## Inventory Data Capture Tools (IDCT)

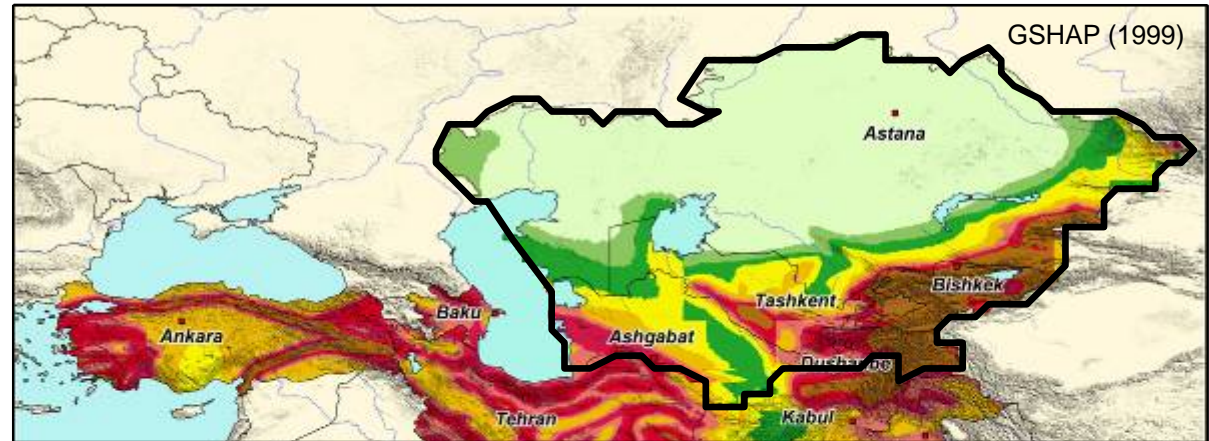




# EMCA

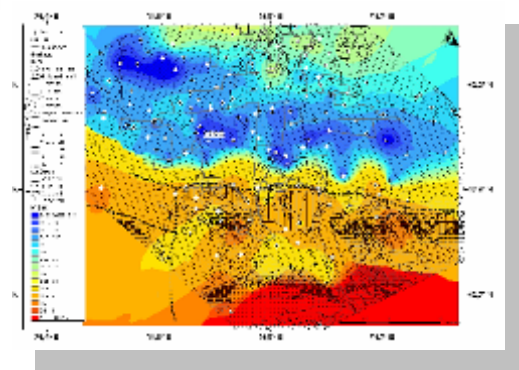
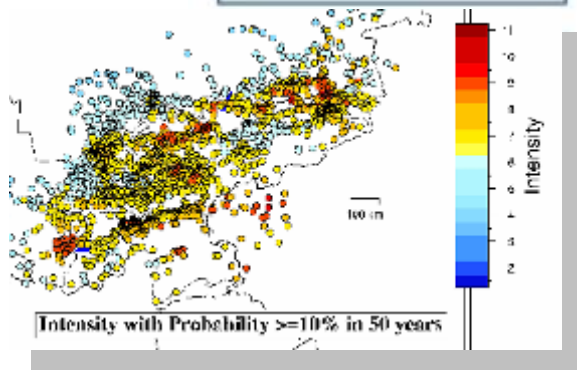
EARTHQUAKE MODEL CENTRAL ASIA

Coordinated by GFZ Potsdam  
[www.emca-gem.org](http://www.emca-gem.org)



**Seismic Risk**

**Seismic Hazard**



**Exposure**



**Vulnerability**

Type of Structure	Vulnerability Class
reinforced concrete	1
brick masonry	2
adobe masonry	3
stone masonry	4
unreinforced masonry	5
unreinforced masonry with RC floors	6
unreinforced masonry	7
reinforced concrete	8
reinforced concrete	9
reinforced concrete	10
reinforced concrete	11

## Motivation

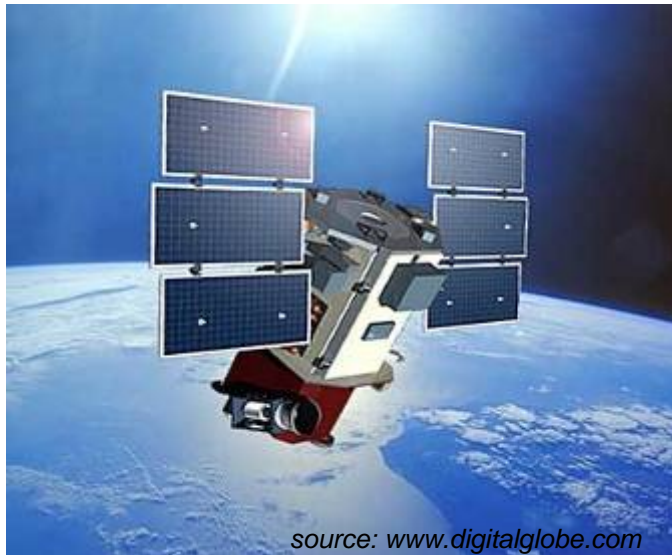
- **Seismic vulnerability of buildings** is a key component in risk assessment.
- Best results come from a thoroughly (outside and inside) assessment of a building by experts, **but:**



- **Inventory data** is often out-of-date, spatially fragmented or highly aggregated.
- **Need for new approaches** to estimate building inventory and thus vulnerability in a rapid, standardized, comparable and scalable way.

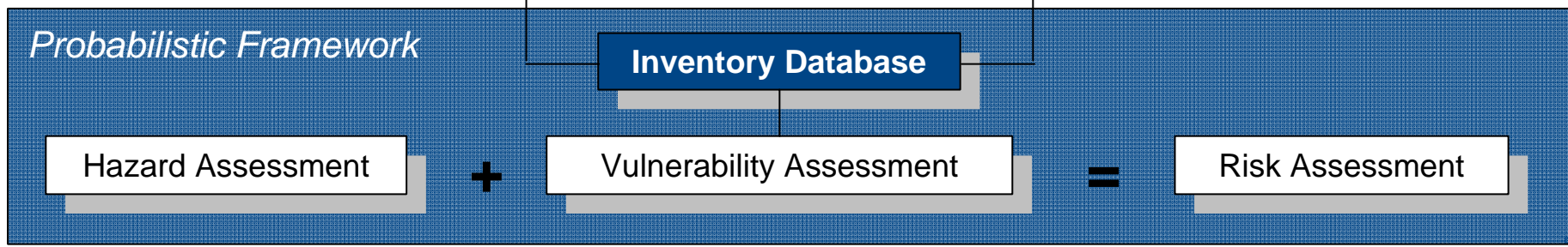
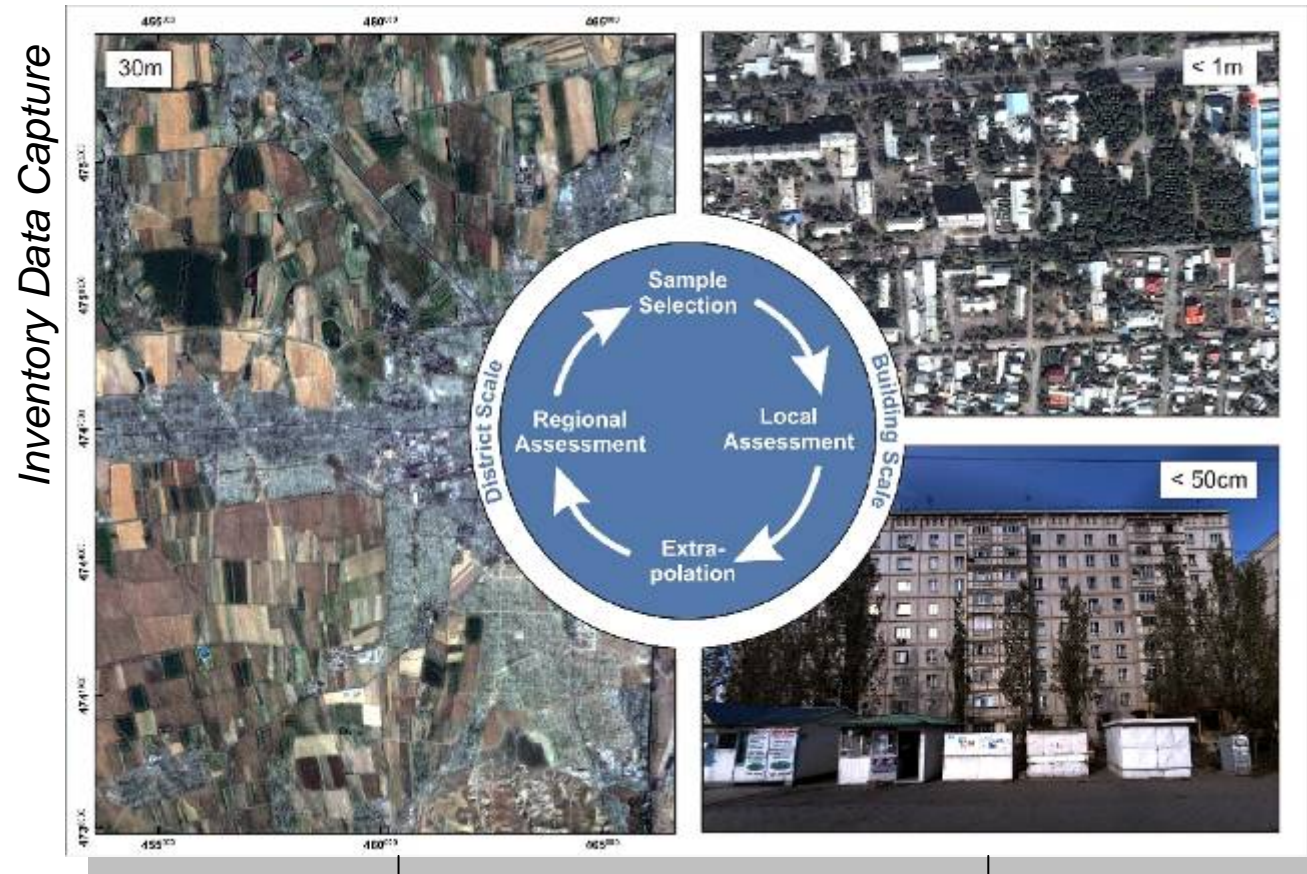
## Vision

- A **rapid visual survey** can lead to a reasonable first assessment over broad areas.
- By coupling remote sensing (topview) with omnidirectional imaging (streetview), this could be done in an optimal way (in terms of time and resources).



- **Open-source** tools, **low-cost** data sources.
- **Globally applicable** on regional and local scale.

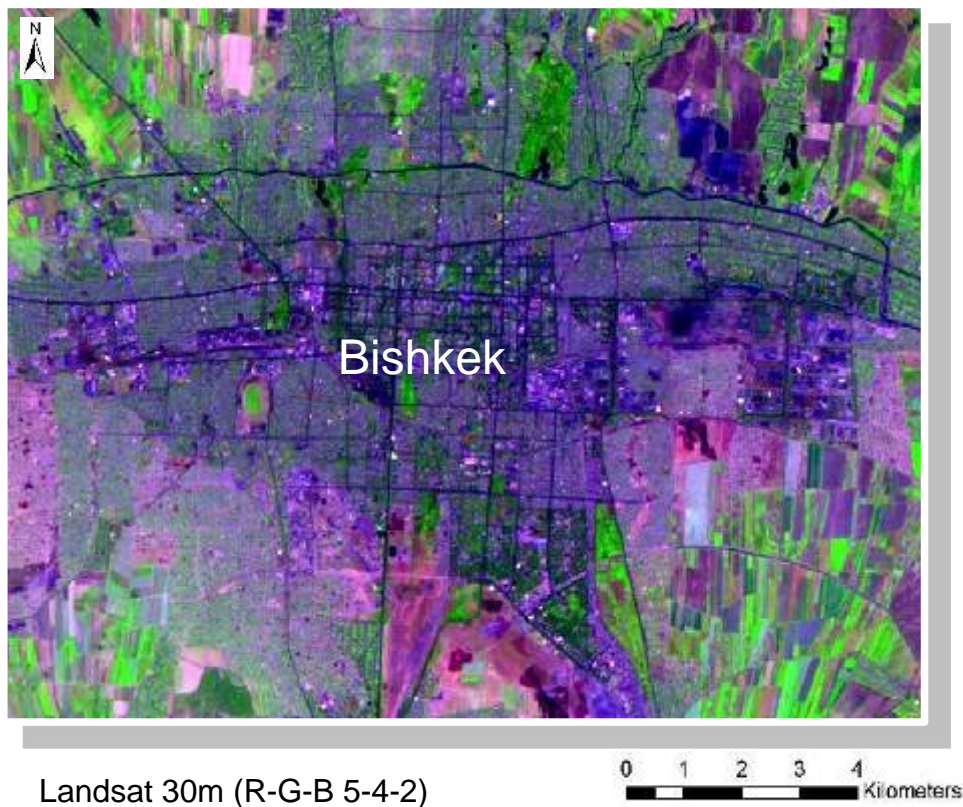
## Overview of the approach



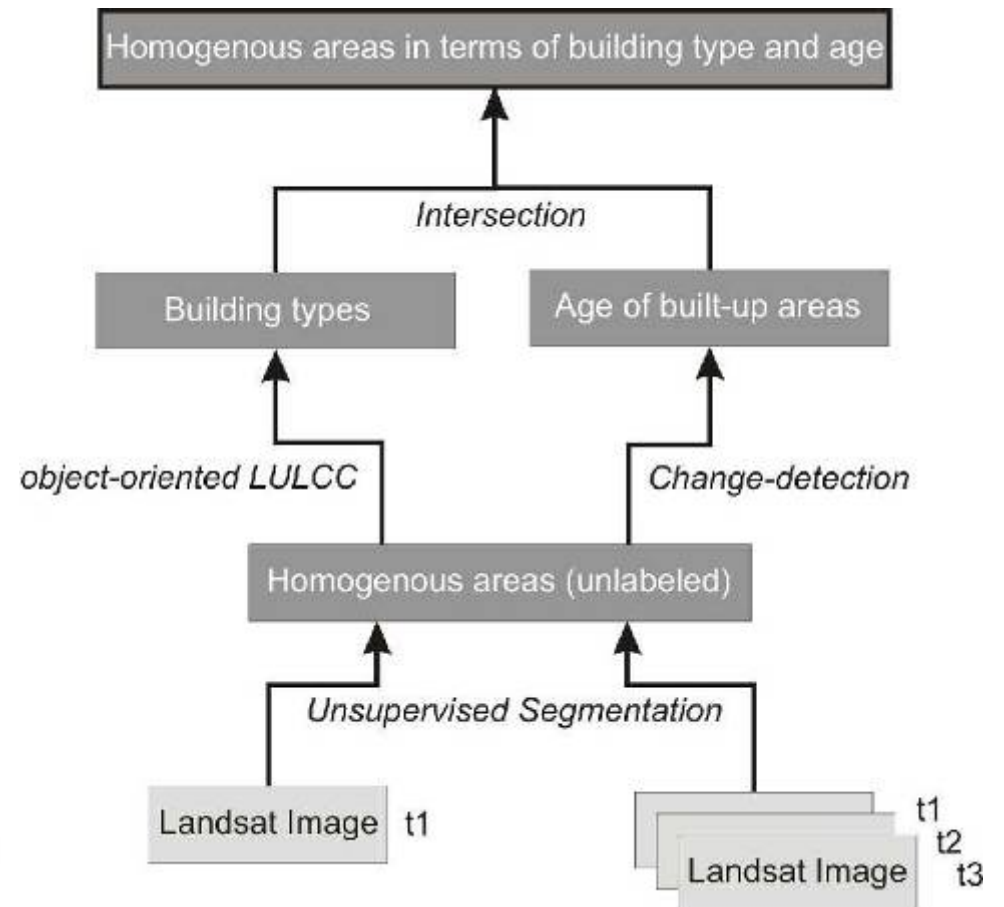
## Analysis of medium-resolution satellite images

### Stage of Stratification

#### *Pixels*



### Workflow / Results

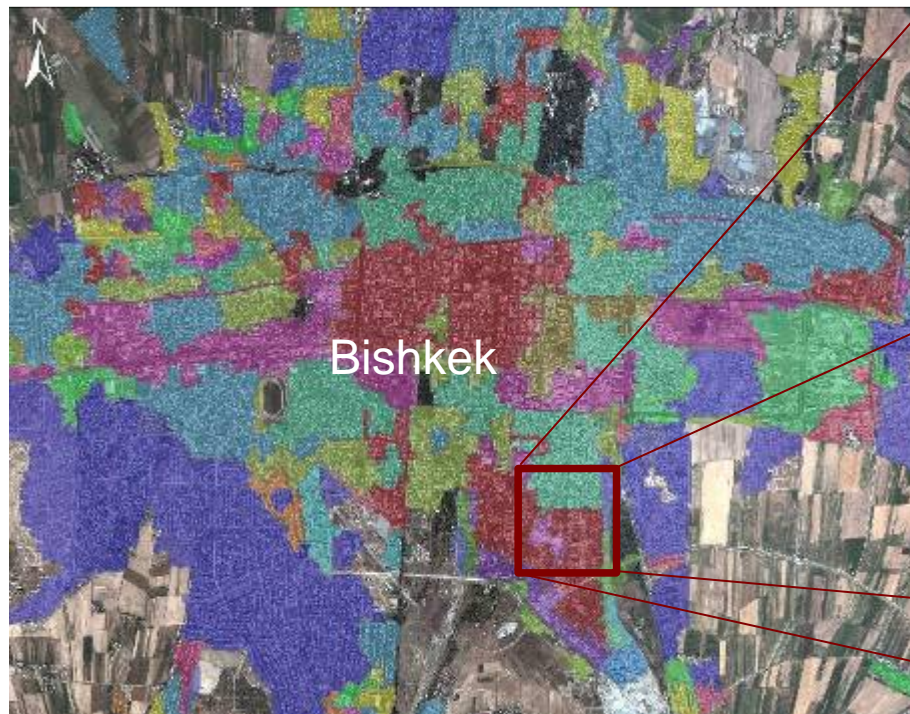


*Pixels* → *Segments* → *Thematic classes* → *Urban Structure Types*

## Analysis of medium-resolution satellite images

### Stage of Stratification

### Urban Structure Types



0 1 2 3 4  
 Kilometers



Urban Structure Type: 10  
 Type: 3-6 storey brick, concrete, panel  
 Age: built before 1977

0 125 250 375 500  
 Meters

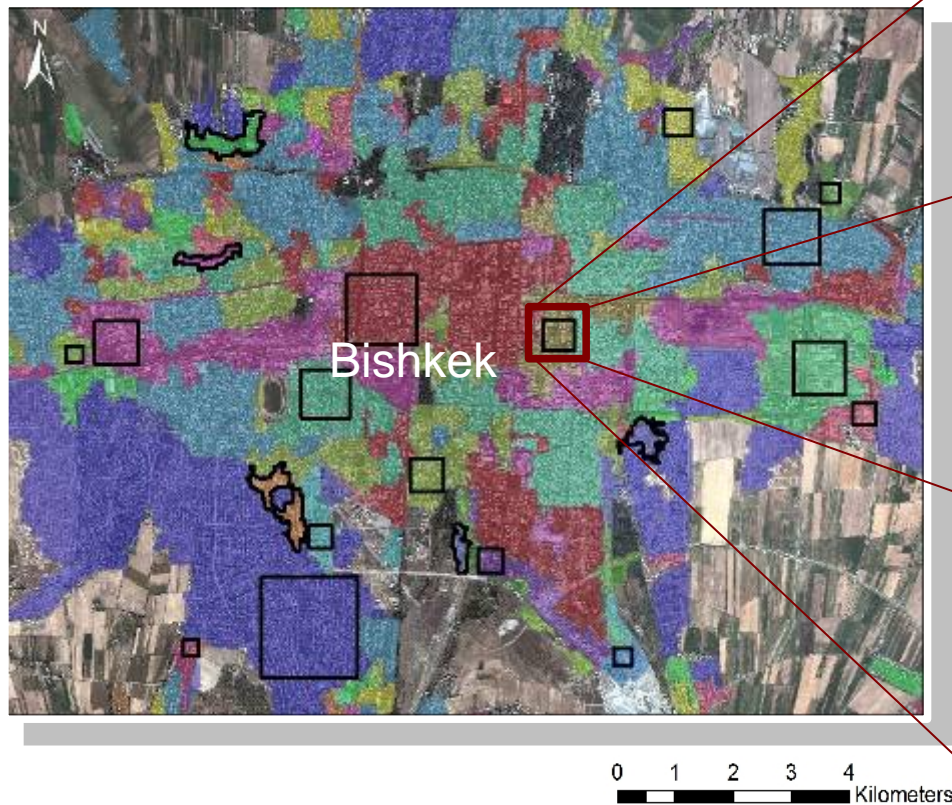
Urban Structure Type: 16  
 Type: industrial, commercial  
 Age: built before 1977

Urban Structure Type: 8  
 Type: 1-2 storey masonry, brick  
 Age: built between 1994 and 2009



## Stratified sampling and analysis of high-resolution satellite images

*Sample areas*



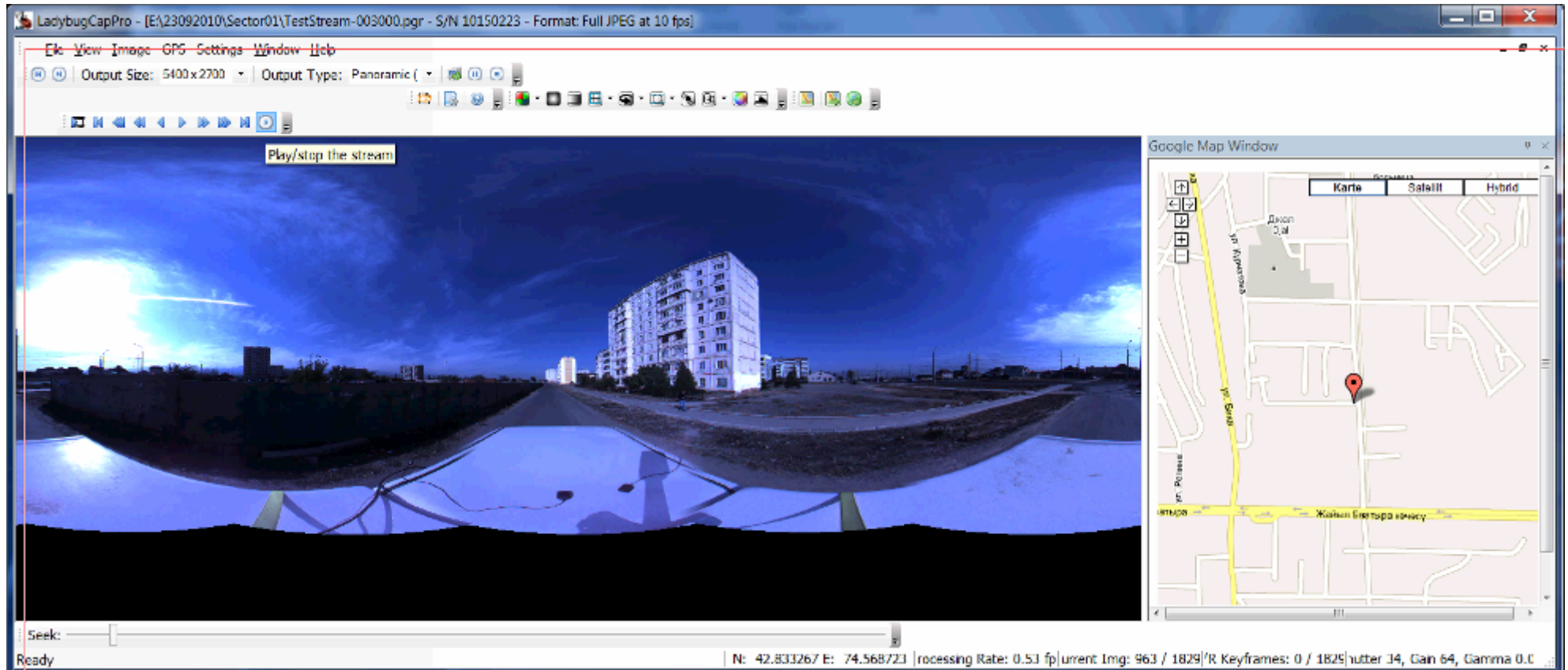
*Extraction of building footprint and location*



Quickbird R-G-B (3-2-1)

*Building shape, area, roof-type, roof-color/-material, etc.*

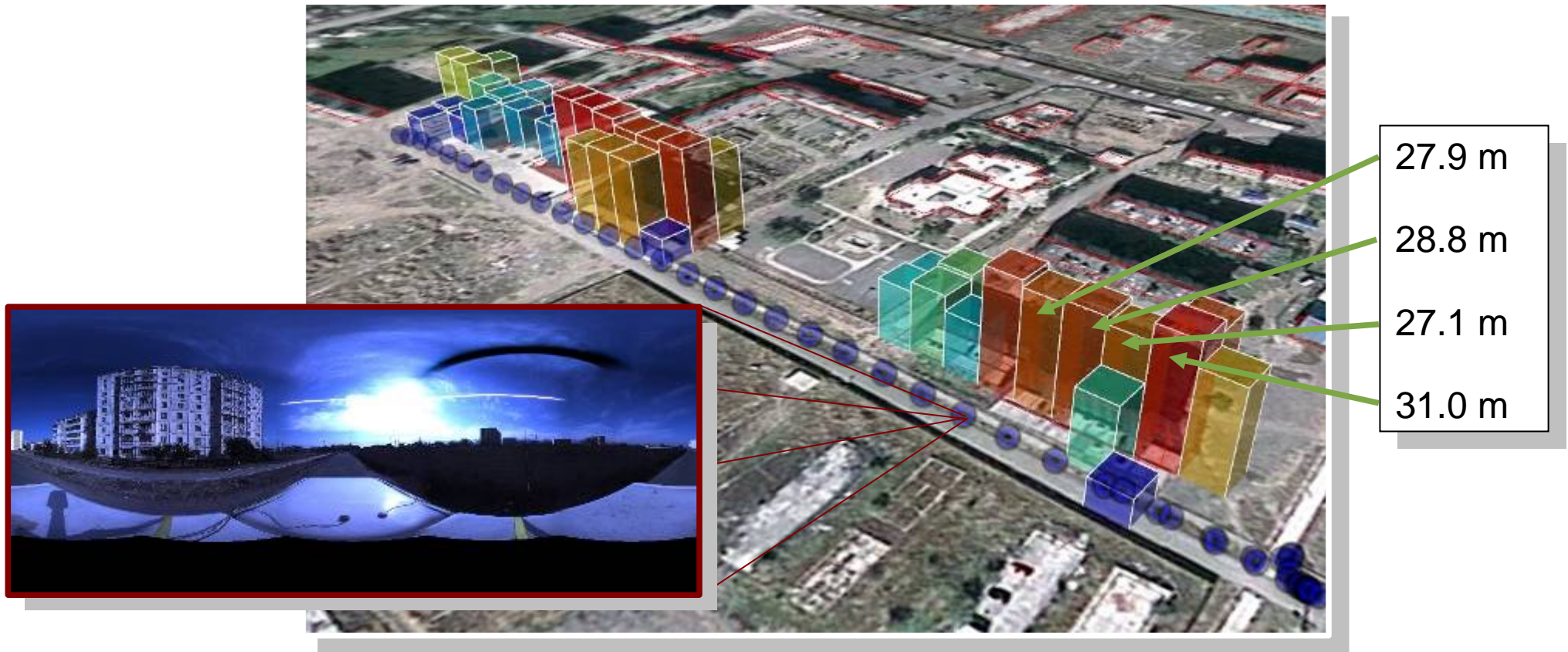
## Acquisition and analysis of high-resolution omnidirectional images



Omnidirectional image stream (Bishkek 2010)

## Acquisition and analysis of high-resolution omnidirectional images

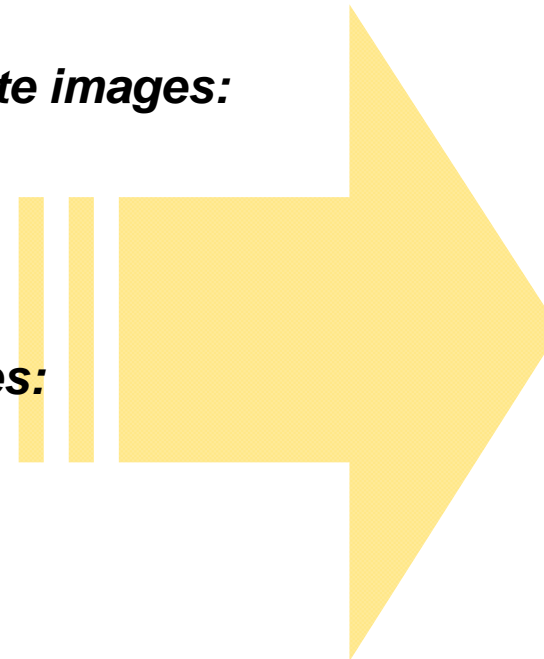
*Automated height measurement from 3d-points*



*Vertical shape, soft-storey detection, no. of windows, etc.  
+ manual image interpretation by local (+global) experts from civil-engineering*

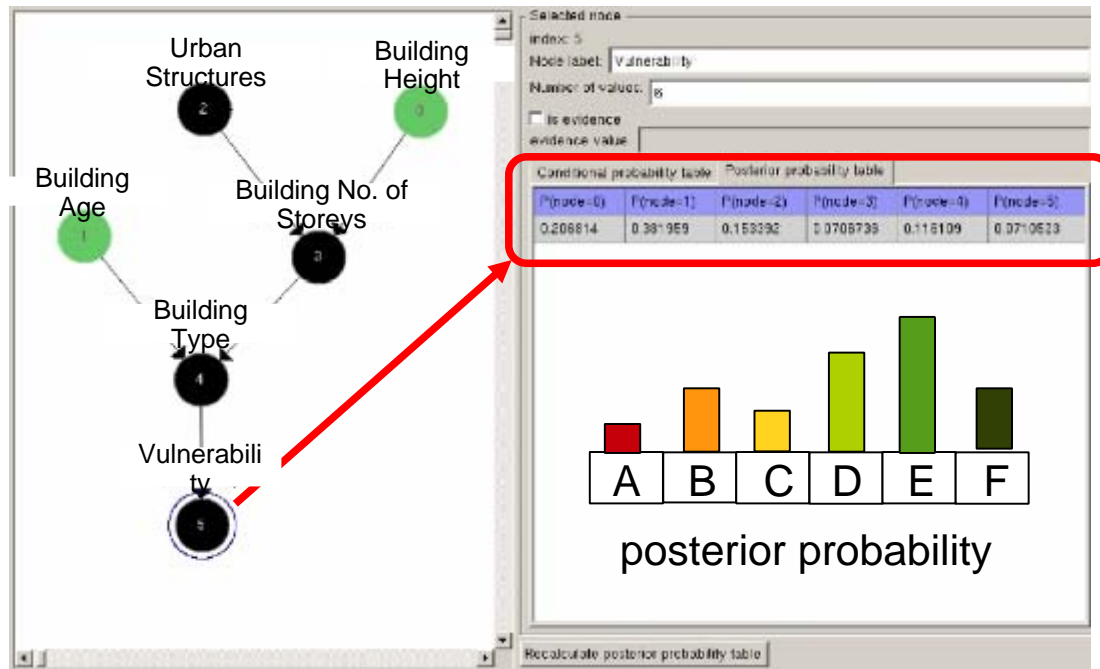
## Data integration

- **Priors from medium-resolution satellite images:**
  - Estimated Age
  - Land-Use / Land-Cover
  
- **Information from high-resolution satellite images:**
  - *Building footprints*
  - ...
  
- **Information from omnidirectional images:**
  - *Estimated Height of Structures*
  - ...
  
- **Priors from manual data entry:**
  - Expert knowledge
  - Ancillary data



**VULNERABILITY**

## Vulnerability estimation (EMS-98): Bayesian Network



Age: 1994-2009  
 No. of storeys: 9  
 Type: 5-9 storey,  
 concrete, panel, frame  
**Vuln: E**



## Conclusion

- › Stratified **sampling** using remote sensing helps to focus local analysis.
- › Omnidirectional imaging: **fast** deployed, **easily** operated.
- › **Feature extraction** from multiple image sources proved successful.
- › Bayesian approach to **data integration** seems promising.
  
- › Approach is **scalable**, flexible and transferable.
- › Acquisition **time and costs** could be significantly reduced.
  
- › Need to further strengthen the use of **open source** GIS and RS software.
- › Need to improve **geo-data access** already in the pre-disaster phase.
- › Global initiatives need interaction with **local experts**.



Thank you for your attention!